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## NEWS RELEASE

### EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL PLANNING RECEIVES STATEWIDE AWARD

Menasha, Wis.—The East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning has been selected by an independent panel of judges to receive a 2007 Wisconsin Good Government Award for its leadership of a five- county effort to implement new non-metallic mining regulations. The award, and accompanying \$1000 Community Enhancement Grant, will be presented to the Regional Planning Commission at its quarterly meeting Friday, October 26, at 9 a.m. at the James P. Coughlin Building, 625 East County Road Y, Oshkosh.

The Wisconsin Good Government Award program was established in 2003 by Green Bay-based consulting engineering firm Foth to recognize outstanding examples of intergovernmental cooperation, and innovative approaches to delivering local governmental services.

“We believe broader recognition of cooperative and innovative cost-saving efforts will help foster their growth,” said Tim J. Weyenberg, Foth chief executive officer. “Everyone in the state benefits from the improved efficiencies that result.”

Good Government Award submittals are judged by an independent panel, including: Jim Haney, president of Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce; Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice N. Patrick Crooks, and Carol Godiksen, Executive Director of the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies-Wisconsin.

East Central was recognized for its cooperative approach to planning and implementing NR 135, a statewide rule governing the permitting, operation, closure and post-closure of non-metallic mines, including gravel pits and quarries. East Central, through a cooperative agreement approved by Calumet, Winnebago, Outagamie, Shawano and Waupaca counties administers NR 135 ordinances in the region.

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The result of this multi-county cooperative effort is a consistent, efficient and cost-effective approach to implementation. Working together, East Central and the counties have minimized workload for counties' staffs, achieved consistency in plan reviews against standards, reduced fees for plan reviews and provided opportunities for advanced training and education. The awards program, established in 2003 by consulting engineering firm Foth, recognizes outstanding examples of intergovernmental cooperation, and innovative approaches to delivering local governmental services

In addition to the county winners, three Wisconsin cities received awards in the municipal Good Government Award categories. For additional information, visit [www.wisgoodgov.com](http://www.wisgoodgov.com).

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