

Waseca Lakes Association

NEWSLETTER

Web Site: wasecalakes.org



Summer 2003 Edition

Meeting Notice

Monday, June 30th at Loon Lake Park.
6 pm: Weeding on the 2002 planting.
7 pm: Picnic served at Loon Lake shelter. Tour the 2002 and 2003 shoreline improvement projects.

Calendar of Events

- Monday, June 30th: One last weeding will be conducted on last years shoreline planting along Loon Lake Park at 6 pm next Monday, prior to the 7 pm picnic at the shelter.
- Friday, July 4th: Lakefest beginning with boat parade at 11:30 am.
- Wednesday July 23 – Sunday, July 27, Waseca County Fair. Be sure to visit the WLA booth.

Clear Lake and Residential Water Survey

We have seen a great response of over 500 surveys returned. The surveys will be analyzed by a graduate student at Mankato State with the help of the CRWP. The results will be utilized by Bolten and Menk and will be incorporated in their final report on a lake management plan for Clear Lake. A preliminary lake management plan report was presented to the city council on June 17th by Bill Douglas of Bolten and Menk.

2003 Loon Lake Shoreline Project Completed

Volunteers installed improvements on the southern shore east of the landing near the former Waseca Mutual building during the last couple of weeks.



Bulrush growth at 2002 planting.

Join the Boat Parade

Line up your boat at the north shore at 11:00 am for the parade at 11:30 am on July 4th. Grand prize receives \$150 and mayor trophy, with 100, 75, 50 and 25 dollars for first through fourth places. Call Brad Connors at 835-3259 with any questions. Any type of boat can enter.



Clear Lake Trail and Road Meeting

Waseca county highway engineer Jeff Blue brought us up to date on the proposed Clear Lake road and trail project at the WLA April meeting. In general, the project is proceeding with the following timeline:

1. May 2003 – Request for proposals from consulting firms due.
2. June 2003 – County board and city choose a consulting firm.
3. July 2003 to March 2004 – Preliminary surveying and design.
4. April 2004 – Preliminary design complete.
5. April 2004 – Public meeting to display preliminary design.
6. May 2004 – Begin right of way discussions with landowners.
7. June 2004 to March 2005 – Consultant to draft final set of plans.
8. April 2005 – Public meetings to review final plans.
9. May 2005 to October 2005 – Comments of final plans.
10. November 2005 – Final plans sent to state for review.
11. March 2006 – Project letting.
12. Summer 2006 – Construction.

DESIGN AND LAKESHORE PROPERTY: The design consists of a roadway with two 12' driving lanes plus a 2' gutter on each side for a total of 28'. The trail will be on the lake side of the road with a 10' trail width plus a 2' clear zone on each side. An obvious concern of lake shore owners is the additional property needed to accomplish this as the current road and shoulder ranges between 24 to 30 feet, whereas the entire new road and trail project will use 42'. Jeff indicated that every attempt will be made to accommodate property owner concerns and to protect trees and overall aesthetics.

WHAT ABOUT MY DOCK? Another concern voiced at the meeting was the rights of property owners to use their docks should their property between the trail and the waters edge be limited. After researching this issue, it is apparent the DNR waters division needs to be consulted for help on this matter as the final trail position is determined.

Some are concerned since no docks are allowed along the current trail running from Thompsons Boathouse to highway 14. This is not a proper comparison because the homeowners in that area never had lakeshore property. The entire trail and approximately 30' of property on the high ground above the trail from Thompsons Boathouse to highway 14 has always been owned by the city and was used as a cart path.

It is the intention of all parties that anyone with a current and legal dock on Clear Lake will retain that right following the construction.

IT IS STILL EARLY IN THE PROCESS: it is important to note on the timeline above that discussions with property owners will take place in 2004 once the preliminary design is complete; nothing is set in stone today. Hopefully, realistic expectations and reasonable negotiations will result in a satisfactory outcome.

