

Waseca Lakes Association

NEWSLETTER

Web Site: wasecalakes.org



Summer 2004 Edition

August meeting to review current Projects:

Attend the August 30th meeting to comment on the status of ongoing WLA projects including storm water management, water monitoring, and shoreline improvements. We will also review the current recommendations for the Clear Lake trail.

Two shoreline improvement projects were completed on Clear Lake this summer using DNR matching grants.

West shore of Clear Lake



East shore of Clear Lake



If you live on an area water body, you have an opportunity to make a direct impact on water quality by improving the shoreline stability and water filtering capacity with native plants. Please contact the WLA or Heather Baird of the DNR 507 362-4223 if you are interested.

Upcoming Events

August

▪Monday, August 30th, 7:30pm at the county highway building. WLA meeting to review ongoing or future activities including water monitoring, storm water management, shoreline improvements.

September

- Thursday, September 16th, WLA booth at SROC open house 4-8:00 pm.
- Monday, September 27th, WLA meeting 7:30pm at the county highway building..
- Thursday, September 30th, 7pm at the High School Little theatre. City-County public hearing on Clear Lake road and trail.

WLA Board for 2005

President: Duane Rathmann 835-2373
V. President: Joel Groebner
Sec/Treas: Angela Knish
Director: Mike Connor
Director: Dale Schons
Director: Dave Baldini

Did you know you can download this newsletter from our web site using the newsletter tab at wasecalakes.org



Thank You Current WLA Members

The WLA is not a lakeshore owners association, but a broad based organization where membership signifies a commitment to the goals of the WLA which is to “maintain and improve the water quality of the Waseca lakes for all users”. Efforts to date are a long term storm water diversion plan, shoreline improvement projects on Loon and Clear Lakes, a water monitoring program, education on the use of non-phosphorus fertilizer and keeping grass clippings off of the streets, and annual lakeshore clean up.

Gary Abraham	Bill & Cindy Groh	Ron Purcell
Dick & Carol Arnold	Gerald & Kathryn Gustafson	Gyles & Carol Randall
David Baldini	Tom & Nyla Hagen	Duane & Cheryl Rathmann
Bruce & Dawn Barrie	Kent & Julie Harrell	Trudi Ann Remund
Robert & Connie Barrie	Greg Hicks	Bill & Mona Ripka
Bob Baumler	Bill & Dorothy Hintz	Jon & Rosalie Rongstad
Manny & Pat Beckmann	Bob & Judy Hoffman	Al Ruhland
Alice Bennie	William & Patricia Hoversten	Jerry Rutledge
Perry & Renata Berg	Howard & Deb Hoyme	Mary Lou Sahlstrom
Robin & Jane Bluhm	Irene Jeddelloh	Richard & Barbara Sankovitz
Bumps Brown	Bob & Gwen Johnson	Tom & Gretchen Sankovitz
Jean Byron	Kal Kiesler	Dale Schons
Robert & Lois Chaffin	Bill Korteum	Bernie Swenson
Barbara Cliff	Jerry & Verna Kuhn	Sally Takala
Bob Connors	Henry & Phyllis Lewer	Bill & Nancy Tuttle
Brad & Trudi Connors	Bruce & Jean Ann Lundholm	Jennie Welna
Mike Connors	Jan Marg	Ken & Helena Wendland
Liz Corchan	Kelly Miller	Richard & Elaine Westrum
Dave & Sue Cullip	Joan Mooney	George & Sharlene Winegar
Gary & Laurie Deml	Larry & Cheryl Neid	Don Wynnemer
Loren & Pamela Erickson	Chuck & Barb Noble	Jim Zimmerman
William Fitzsommons	Hank & Gladys Olson	Cannon River Watershed
Boyd Fuller	Gordy & Julie Oslund	First National Bank
Bernie & Ann Gaytko	Rob Panuska	Sportsman Stop
Dick Goetz	Mike Peters	Terrace Mixers Club
Joel Groebner	Bud Priebe	Waseca County News

Clear Lake Trail Update

Why a Trail? Public response from a city survey (Blandin evaluation) and a county planning and zoning survey (Region 9) indicated a desire for recreational trails. This has led to the proposed trail in conjunction with the improvement of Clear Lake Drive. Here are some of the early concerns of the trail and how revisions recommended by the public advisory committee may alleviate those concerns.

WLA Position: Has always been to uphold the goals of the WLA which is to “maintain and improve the water quality of the Waseca Lakes for all users”.

Advisory committee: Two WLA members who have been involved in the storm water efforts, Dale Schons and Duane Rathmann, were asked to participate in the 16 member public advisory committee. After approval at the June WLA board meeting, we accepted and participated in weekly meetings with the goal of lobbying for changes that would improve water quality, minimize the impact on shoreline and private property, and advance the ongoing storm water management program. Our opinions were personal and not intended to represent the WLA membership. Committee recommendations will be discussed at the September 30th public hearing.

Concern	Original Plan	Revised Plan
Tree Removal	Before an accurate count was made, some had estimated that over 800 trees might be removed.	With movement of the road away from the shore, but within the current right of way, 60 trees removed is the current estimate. About 30 of those 60 trees would have to be removed for a new road even without a trail.
Shoreline Disruption	Shoreline disruption and filling in on the lake along steep shoreline was estimated by some to be as much as 10 acres.	Following DNR recommendations, filling in the steep slopes of the west shoreline was averted by re-designing the trail route from Clear Lake park away from the west shoreline via the fair grounds and water treatment marsh joining the shoreline at the NW side of the lake. Lake fill should be limited to shoreline along highway 14.
Roadway width	Curbs on each side of the 26 ft roadway plus an 8 ft trail with 2 ft clearance on both sides takes up too much room; 38 ft total.	After realizing that a road without curbs would use more total width due to the clear zone requirements and ditches, the plan remained the same. Curbs act to slow down traffic and offer safety to trail users separated from the road on an adjoining raised trail.
Water Runoff	Shoreline disruption and curbs would cause more water runoff.	Shoreline disruption should be limited to highway 14. Water diverted from the roadway at strategic curb cuts and planted areas offer an opportunity for better water filtering than currently occurs.