

the Watershed

Volunteers Are Committed To District Plans

Our District is fortunate indeed. In a world where most people are not infused with a deep sense of community responsibility, a core group of individuals is emerging and stepping up into positions of authority and utility. In addition to caring for their own personal needs, these men and women are devoting time — some of them up to 20 hours a month — and their professional abilities in order to help with District projects.

For example, the District is embarking on a bold new plan to make Lost Lake, its watershed and the surrounding ecosystem viable in the long term. We are investing in new measurement equipment that will facilitate baseline and progressive data collection. These data will aid us in assessing and improving the quality of the lake water. We are investing in an experimental shoreline preservation bed that contains plantings and contour techniques that will serve as a model for shoreline property owners to emulate. We have approved plans that will allow for a 500- point comprehensive mapping of the sediment distribution in the

lake. This will provide valuable scientific data that will be useful in holding down costs when expensive lake dredging becomes an issue.

Since the challenges associated with managing our 88-acre man-made lake are formidable, we have retained the services of a highly qualified lake management expert, Mr.

Joe Rush of JadeCo. His knowledge and network of government and private sector contacts have been invaluable in preparing us for the work to be done.

However, none of this would be efficient, cost-effective or even possible were it not for the volunteers. They are willing to do whatever it takes to make District plans work. Over time, volunteers will save the District thousands of dollars and conse-

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Get in the Groove! Become a District volunteer. Call us at 815.652.2006 today.

Education Is Key For Lost Lake's Future

Living in an area surrounded by a lake is a goal sought by many a homeowner. The obvious advantages of having a place to fish, beaches to visit or a chance to go for lazy a paddleboat ride are activities clearly enjoyed by all of us at one time or another.

With these advantages also comes responsibility. Each of us, whether we live on the

lake or inland, must understand that we are all part of the ecosystem with a direct link to the future viability of the lake. Those who live along the shoreline are its custodians. Each individual owner is responsible for his or her portion. Proposals are in the making that will be part of an outreach program to educate shoreline lot owners

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the Watershed is a periodic publication containing information relevant to our District constituents. Contact *the Watershed* at thewatershed@rcdinfo.com

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Did You Know...

- The RCD was formed by the New Landing and Lost Nation POAs to manage the Lake and its ecosystem ?
- The Land-To-Water ratio in Lost Lake's Watershed is 100:1 ?
- The RCD stocks the Lake with hundreds of fish of many varieties ?
- Tall shoreline plantings are an effective goose control technique ?
- Inexpensive owl decoys are also effective in deterring goose gatherings ?

RCD Board

Marty Portner, Pres.
Dan Dummett, V.P.
Bill Piper, Treasurer
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One Vacancy Pending

www.rcdinfo.com

Security, Sound, Solidarity Topics Of Talks

Change is happening rapidly here in Lost Lake. A momentum has been building in response to individuals and groups that seem to have good ideas for the future of Lost Lake . Talks between the presidents of the Lost Nation and New Landing POAs and the RCD have resulted in worthy goals that can be accomplished in partnership.

Plans are being solidified to share the cost and responsibilities of security in the Lost Lake Community and RCD property. The RCD Campgrounds and Beaches are favorite meeting places for individuals, most of whom are law-abiding and peaceful. The RCD board is considering making these areas and all RCD facilities more secure for our constituents through a cooperative partnership with the POAs.

The Lake Court Center is a popular meeting place for private

and public groups. Meeting attendance is on the rise and frequently it is impossible for everyone to hear the proceedings.



Entrance signs remind us that Lost Lake is a unifying landmark.

The existing Public Address System is inadequate for this job, so the RCD is investigating low-cost upgrade paths in partnership with the POAs.

It is important now that all organizations work together to bring about stability yet at the same time support efforts to make reasonable changes. The RCD is pleased to be involved with the POAs in a spirit of cooperation.

The RCD hopes to carry this positive momentum into the future.

Volunteers

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quently help to keep your taxes low. Some volunteers have become certified in the use of sample gathering techniques by participating in State-sponsored training programs. Others participate in goose control programs and other wildlife management efforts.

The volunteer work of the Lost Lake Fishing Club, the Lost Lake Social Committee and the RCD Lake Management Committee just to name a few have contributed greatly to the success of District projects. They are also the source of fresh ideas for lake improvement and beautification pro-

grams which they back with action and enthusiasm.

However, our volunteer pool constantly needs new members to make it strong and provide for backup relief when there are conflicts. We therefore ask that you do your part for the cause. As little as 2 hours of your time per month can make a big difference. Please call **815.652.2006** to become a volunteer today!

"In addition to caring for their own needs and the needs of their families, these volunteer men and women are devoting time ... in order to help with District projects."

Education

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with respect to their role in the formal plan for the future of the lake. A stable and aesthetically pleasing shore line is a major component of the District's plans.

Lost Lake is everyone's responsibility. Part of the Lake Management program involves outreach to neighbors in our watershed. Our plan is to show them how contributions that they are making to the lake's ecosystem have subsequent effects on the users of the lake. It is important that we

make friends with owners of upstream farming and livestock operations in order to partner with them to reduce nutrient contributions that flow into Lost Lake, especially after a significant rain event.

When we are all aware and empathetic, we can become better lake citizens. The more we know about how to maintain the things that we have control over, the better off we and future generations will be when we enjoy the activities that only our lake can provide.