

the Watershed

Lake Management Progress Promising

The LMC continues to evolve, having drafted a Mission Statement and goals to be reviewed by members and finalized in February's meeting. Our mission statement is comprised of the following goals:

* To preserve, protect and restore water quality, biotic diversity, scenic beauty, and wildlife habitat in the **Clear Creek Watershed**.

* To foster cooperation between citizens, agencies, organizations, private interests and governments concerned with preserving, protecting and restoring the **Clear Creek Watershed**.

* To facilitate citizen participation in **Clear Creek Watershed** preservation, protection and restoration activities.

* To advocate actions that preserve, protect and restore the natural beauty of the **Clear Creek Watershed** and its waterways.

* To educate citizens about sources of water pollution and pollution abatement issues in the **Clear Creek Watershed**.

* To review public policy and practices that threaten the ecological integrity of the Clear Creek Watershed and recommend policies and practices for its protection, preservation and restoration.

* To encourage the adoption of local management plans that preserve, protect and restore the **Clear Creek Watershed**.

An organizational structure has been proposed to support these goals and lake management planning. Six Program Managers' positions have been defined along with an overview of each Manager's responsibilities. The six are Fish Stocking, Voluntary Lake Management, Fish Barrier, Wildlife, Lake Shore Stabilization and Dredging Program Manager positions.

The following individuals have stepped forward and volunteered to be Program Managers as follows:

Joe Olliges	Fish Stocking
Ron Berger	VLM
Frank Durkin	Wildlife
Steven Larry	Fish Barrier

Ray Lundeen has volunteered to research grants for the LMC and also become part of a committee that the RCD is forming to research grants in an effort to reduce

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RCD Fee Structures Changed; Kudos To Committee !

In 2006, RCD President Marty Portner ordered a comprehensive review of the fee structure policy in order to look for opportunities to fine-tune the fees charged for such things as boat stickers, campground usage and Lake Court Center rentals.

In December of 2006, a citizens committee was formed to review the fees and to present recommendations to the RCD board for consideration. District members Sue Hill, Harold Stromberger, Dan Nicolini and Sharene Bruckner studied the issues and presented their rec-

ommendations to the board at the February 2007 regular meeting. The RCD is delighted to announce that the committee's recommendations are now official RCD policy after a unanimous board vote on February 1, 2007.

Lake Court Center Rental Fees are now as follows: \$50 for a four-hour or less for private rental (plus \$10 if the renter requires setup the evening before the event). Private rentals for more than 4 hours are now reduced to \$100.

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the Watershed is a periodic publication containing information relevant to our District's constituents.

Contact *the Watershed* at thewatershed@rcdinfo.com

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Did You Know...

- Any voting member of the District can apply to the County to be a RCD District trustee ?
- The RCD needs applicants to fill a soon-to-be vacated board member position ?
- The RCD routinely partners with the groups within the district on community projects ?
- Any guest of either POA should obtain a guest pass before boating on the lake ?
- The Lost Lake Fishing Club contributes manpower, time and fresh ideas to the District on a regular basis ?

RCD Board

Marty Portner, Pres.
Dan Dummett, V.P.
Bill Piper, Treasurer
Herb Hill, Secretary
Betty Lou Finn, Member

Becky Breckenfelder
Administrative Manager

www.rcdinfo.com

IEPA Chooses Lost Lake For Advanced Sampling Program

The Illinois EPA conducts a monitoring program that consists of about 50 inland lakes statewide annually. This analysis allows them to diagnose lake problems and develop best management practices for the public lakes of Illinois. Illinois EPA collects physical (temperature/dissolved oxygen profiles and water clarity), chemical (phosphorus, chlorophyll, suspended solids), and sediment data. The sampling period is during the summer starting in May and ending in October. One sample date is selected per lake per month in May, June, July, August, and October. All of this information is collected and assessed for the Integrated Water Quality Report.

Lost Lake has been chosen for sampling this year because as a Tier III volunteer lake the IEPA uses the data collected for their statewide water quality assessments. The IEPA would like to check for any quality control issues with

laboratory analysis or sampling protocols. This is standard procedure anytime they use outside data for EPA assessments. In addition to getting double the amount of chemical and physical data for the lake, they also survey the lake for aquatic macrophytes, shoreline erosion, and sediment chemistry. A report of their findings will be provided after all of the data is compiled. All this is free to the District!

This will result in a huge cost savings in our projected expenditures for the LMC programs. This also enhances our ability to seek **grant money** as it puts Lost Lake in a position to dovetail other programs with the data collection, saving money and **reducing your taxes**. Thanks to our consultant Joe Rush of JadEco and chairman Jerry Sellers for their persistence. Their efforts are paying large dividends long before we had anticipated them to!

Lake Management

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your tax bill by exploiting the RCD's governmental status. The LMC is fortunate to have these men as part of our organization!

We have received the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) results from the recent lake shocking on October 3, 2006. This report may be found on the RCD website, www.rcdinfo.com. It is currently being analyzed by the Fishing Club and LMC consultant Joe Rush to make stocking recommendations for FY 2007. The sediment survey will be available from Illinois Lakes Management on or before 2/15/07 and will help the LMC and Fishing Club determine where to place structures in the Lake. The Nature Conser-

vancy advised us that the IDNR has completed their study of **Clear Creek** and as soon as they get the full report, they will share it with us. Indications are that **Clear Creek** has a good fish diversity. Expediting the formulation of a **Clear Creek Watershed Committee** continues to be an LMC priority.

The RCD and the LMC would welcome your participation in helping us meet our goals. Come share your talents and energies in making the **Clear Creek Watershed** the best that it can be. Please call Becky at the RCD office to find out how you can volunteer to help the Lake and its ecosystem continue to be a model for other Lake Communities. Two hours a month is all that it takes to make a lifetime of difference! Call **652.2006** today to get started.

Fees

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All other fee-related policies regarding the use of the LCC remain the same.

Fees for annual boat stickers have been rescinded. However, any district boat owner that wishes to use the convenient boat racks for boat storage between uses will now pay a \$7 annual fee. Anyone who obtained a 3-year boat sticker will be given the choice of a credit towards the boat rack fee or a refund in full of the remaining two discounted years (\$12). Fee for the campgrounds remains the same. No new fees were contemplated or recommended by the committee.

The RCD would like to thank the members of this committee for their dedicated work in getting the job done. This is an example of how you can make a difference in setting RCD policy through a systematic, orderly and peaceful process. The RCD stands ready to work with all other members in order to affect change in RCD policy for the good of the whole District. Our door is open to all District members. Call Becky at the RCD office at **652.2006** to find out how you can affect positive and reasonable change in the District through participation in committee activities.