

the Watershed

President's Update by Steve Larry, RCD President

By the time you start reading this, we should be looking at spring in our near future and we pray we are not looking at an overly wet one, at least not the likes of last year. The RCD, along with the ULLPOA and LLUD have put some preventive measures in place if we do have heavy rains. This includes the good work the POA and LLUD have done on Indian Creek Bridge (aka Babbling Brook) to stabilize the bridge and adjacent shoreline; the rip rapping of some of the most exposed shoreline by the RCD, ULLPOA and private property owners; the testing of all materials associated with the restora-

tion of the dam to insure they will continue to operate up to DNR specifications; and the refurbishing of RCD docks that allows them to "float" more readily with changing water levels.

Since we are referencing stabilization, one last reminder to those of you who may be sitting on the fence trying to decide if you will or won't take advantage of the **Shoreline Stabilization Rebate Program, sign-up ENDS APRIL 1st, 2010!** If you are not signed up and committed (that is getting the actual work completed by May 31, 2011) by that date, you will not be eligi-

ble to receive what has been an average of about \$2200/property owner to help stabilize your shoreline. By now you have seen what can be done and can compare it to what you are risking by not doing it. So if you are interested, contact the RCD Office.

We have also been working through the budgeting process for Fiscal 2011 which begins June 1. To that end, each Director is submitting their proposed budget expenditures and will be part of the decision making process to put the final numbers together. There will be a different look to our budget

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

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Did You Know?...

- **Boat Sticker Applications will be arriving in your mailbox soon—If you are not registered or don't receive anything by March 31st, please call the office at 815 652-2006.**
- **The end of March is the target date for the boards on the dam to be replaced.**
- **The next Watershed Planning Mtg. is March 9 at noon at the LCC. These meetings are open to the public.**

Benches, Volunteers by Betty Lou Finn, Secretary

As of this writing, it seems like summer is a long way, but we are working hard to see that everything is ready when the time comes. The benches for the fishing pier at the dam have been ordered, and will be in place in time to catch the BIG ONE. The memorial plaques have been ordered

and will be installed once the benches are in place.

Regarding our volunteers in January, we want to recognize Don Finn for the use of his handy utility trailer and Charlie Moore for helping Don pick up the tables in Rockford. Frank Durkin was our standby helper—and it is

always great to have a STANDBY. Water testing is ongoing and Parnell Thibert, Bill Wurtz and Ray Lundeen will now be in the boat during testing—Jim Proper will be inside. Thanks, Jim, for all of the time you spent in that boat! Jerry Skyles, Frank Durkin and Judie Leonard will be standbys.

Thank you, Jerry Sellers, for helping me obtain this information.

If you know of volunteers that have given their time to the RCD, please let me know. I want all volunteers to be looking forward to our picnic some time in the summer, with more information forthcoming.

President's Update, (continued from page 1)

as our goal is to create one that reflects truer operating costs and maximize reserves for unforeseen expenditures as well as funding sources for projects, both big and small.

Rebecca Olson is writing a formal request for additional EPA (319) Grant Funding for a proposed Silt Containment Project at the site of Schings Park and the tributary of Indian Creek and the Watershed Planning Committee is growing in numbers of participants. This in and of itself is a major step towards the restoration of the watershed, the lake and land that affects over 10,000 acres surrounding us.

As a final note, it has been discovered that the old earthen dam belongs to the **RCD**. As a short history lesson, this "peninsula" used to extend across the lake, and was opened up to create the lake that exists today. The original developers did nothing with the property as far as replatting it to attach it to existing property. At one point, Ogle County "made it part of lot 122" just to have it adjoin "real property" to account for it. When that lot was re-platted in 2005, the actual survey points were located and the peninsula was

***You can
do your part to make***

Lost Lake



**A Phosphorous Free
Community...**

***If you fertilize, use a
phosphorus-free fertilizer
on your Lawn!***

again left standing on its own but at the time, no one paid much attention to it. Since it is now officially part of the lake, it legally falls under the ownership of the **RCD**. How this was discovered is by the inquiry of a committee headed up by Glenn Baldwin that has been formed to look into opportunities for using, cleaning up and/or stabilizing the peninsula. Members of that committee include: Frank Durkin, Darrell Jordan, Dave Nelson, Jerry Skyles and Tim Spelde. So now you have the "rest of the story" as a long time radio commentator would say.

One last reminder as we head into Spring, we are a "Phosphorus Free Community". So as you plan your fertilizing and landscaping program, please use non-phosphorus fertilizers! They are readily available and are just as effective as others. If you use a service to apply your lawn fertilizers, you can request they honor our program.

DNR Survey of Lake, Tim Spelde

Last fall's survey of the lake by the DNR was one of the best surveys we have ever had. During the survey, two 9-pound walleye were surveyed and placed back into the lake. The shad population is down from previous years, partly because of the flood. The DNR applauded our stocking efforts and recommended that we continue this important program. All interested parties can view this document on the web at www.rcdinfo.com or contact me for more information.

STABILIZATION in 2009-2010: Durkin & West Beach Shorelines



Frank & Carol Durkin and east end of the RCD's West Beach Shorelines, Stabilization IN PROGRESS...



Durkin and West Beach Shorelines, COMPLETE!