

**Ebert and Lime Lake Management Planning Meeting**

Jan. 5, 2009

Minutes

Present: Brian Cory, Linda Dean, Amy Dean-Wojcik, Corinna Neeb, Will Neeb, George Rogers, Don Schulfer, Michael Hinrichs, Keith Eichmann, Dennis Kolbus, Martin Kubisiak, Dan McFarland (UWSP CLUE), Nancy Turyk (UWSP CWSE), Linda Stoll (UWSP CLUE)

- 1.) Linda welcomed everyone and asked those present to introduce themselves.
- 2.) Nancy opened the session with an explanation of lake watersheds including both surface and groundwater. She explained the impact of impervious surfaces and compaction of soil. The recommended goal should be to reduce runoff and increase infiltration through such practices as efficient road patterns, rain gardens and rain barrels. She then explained how nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen are transported in both surface and ground water and how they impact the growth of aquatic plants and algae.

Septic systems are also a source of nutrients for water bodies as the current minimum legal design for such systems address pathogens not phosphorus and nitrogen. Some alternatives would be to upgrade these systems to include tertiary treatment, move existing systems or require new systems be farther from the water or change to a mound system.

Exposed soil can also result in nutrients reaching the lake through runoff that carries soil particles. Once in the lake, this type of nutrient loading can have an impact for many years.

- 3.) Dan next explained “build-out” scenarios. This technique is based on current zoning and building regulations and uses such computer software tools as Community Viz and ArcGIS. The purpose of this exercise is to help people visualize what the land might look like if allowed building was to occur. If the results were not what people wanted, changes could be made to local ordinance to better reflect the wishes of the people. Information from this model could also be put into water quality models to estimate the impact of various levels of development would have on the lake. Dan went through the steps for setting up the program for both lakes and displayed the results. He then talked about management tools that could be used to achieve various development goals.
- 4.) Nancy reviewed the results of the water testing that was done on both lakes and explained the trophic scorecards. Ebert Lake’s major concern is inorganic nitrogen entering from groundwater. Lime Lake has problems with total phosphorus and chlorophyll A (a surrogate measure for the amount of algae). Inorganic nitrogen could become a concern in the future. She noted that existing vegetation in Lime Lake is the source for part of the phosphorus.
- 5.) Linda reviewed the citizen survey responses for the water quality and watershed issue questions. She noted that while response numbers were low, they still could be used to identify areas for potential education efforts.

- 6.) The planning committees chose not to break into separate groups due to the short time remaining. A general discussion was held on ways to reduce nutrient input to the lakes. A question was raised about the impact of the current design of storm water culverts that flow directly into the lakes. The group would like to revisit this issue at the next meeting.
- 7.) The next meeting was set for Tuesday, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm at the Amherst Town Hall. In preparation for that meeting and to assist with the creation of the lake planning document, the committee would like to receive questions that they could provide responses to prior to the meeting. This could be summed up and made available to expedite discussion. These questions should include potential goals and objectives for the topics discussed at this meeting as well as those for next meeting.

Respectfully,  
Linda Stoll

Information on the meetings and plan drafts can be found at the Portage County website <http://www.co.portage.wi.us/> . Access the lake information by selecting the County Info tab, then Portage County Lakes.

If you have questions about the survey or the planning process, please contact:

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