

Volunteers Needed to Implement Plan

Our Lake Management Plan

You probably didn't hear that big sigh of relief just before Christmas but it occurred nonetheless. Your board of directors finished the Caribou Lake Management Plan and mailed 168 copies to everyone in the Caribou Lake watershed about that time and with great relief. We hope you share in our pride with the results of our efforts and are as pleased with the plan as we are. Presumably every one of you received your copy and read it from cover to cover.

Actually we'll be happy if you give it some of your time and look through it. The first sections of the plan provide background and history surrounding our lake related to water quality and to the lake experience – what do we see, feel, enjoy etc. sitting on our docks, riding in our boats, fishing, walking or skiing on the lake, hiking on nearby trails... you get the idea.

The two major sections of the plan concern 17 "focus areas" for attention and management to protect and improve water quality and lake experience. These are worth your effort to look them over. We define aspects of each focus area of interest or concern and then we identify and describe goals, objectives and action items for each. There are lots of thoughtful and challenging ideas in these sections. We finish the plan with suggestions for "Action Teams" to take on responsibility for action items and with appendices including very interesting information on lake history, invasive species and wildlife. We encourage you to consider participation or leadership on an action team or two. And let a board member know of your interest. It is going to take the efforts and support of many of us with a vested and serious interest in our goals to implement this plan. A complete copy of the plan is on our association website.

We have discovered one error in the text. It is on page 5 in the sentence "...the State owned lands held in trust for the Cook County school district amount to 54%...". The revenues from such land holdings throughout the State are actually held in trust for the benefit of all public schools in Minnesota, as we indicate in a later section on page 22.

We have heard numerous compliments on the plan from various sources - its overall quality and thoroughness are frequently mentioned. We have delivered copies to people we think have - or should have -

Lake Management Plan (Continued)

an interest including County Commissioners, Planning and Zoning, Soil and Water, and County Highway departments, local contractors, developers and realtors, Lutsen Township Supervisors, the local paper and Minnesota Waters newspaper and others who helped us in this effort such as Karen Evens, Dave Stark and Biz Clark of the Coalition of Cook County Lake Associations.

We should also acknowledge the very important STAR Grant for \$3000 that we received from Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program of the DNR to fund lake water quality sampling during the summer of 2008 and the cost of preparation and distribution of the lake management plan. The cost of all of this work to our association was something less than \$200.

Thanks to Bob Reid for coordinating this effort.

The Lake and Watershed Need Your Help!

Lake Stewardship Conservation Projects

This is something new we have added to our website. On the main page menu you will find "Lake Stewardship Conservation Projects." This is a link to projects going on in your neighborhood to improve and beautify the world around us. We urge you to visit and/or make a submission.

Please submit a couple of photos of your project with a brief description, date and your name. If you choose to have visitors also include project location.

Submit information to Barb Vaughan at vansham@comcast.net she will enter information and a few photos. The goal here is to share your work and inspire others! Go to our website to view the first project submitted by Jesse Neihart:

"Native Forb Seeding and Planting". Contact Jesse with questions.



White Pine Seedlings

Woody Debris Only!

Lake Gravel Pit Slash Disposal

This site opened last Memorial Day Weekend Meeting May 24, 2008. Cook County has secured a lease from the U.S. Forest Service for the Caribou Lake Gravel Pit for the sole purpose of slash management & disposal. In turn Cook County is hereby providing the use of this facility, at no cost, as a courtesy and convenience to the residents of the immediate area specifically for this purpose.

Both Cook County and the Caribou Lake Property Owner's Association (CLPOA) understand and agree to the provisions regarding the use of this facility in a "Memorandum of Understanding for Caribou Lake Gravel Pit Slash Disposal." To view the complete memorandum go to our website. Remember woody debris only! **Slash pit is open May - Nov 2009.**

CLPOA Needs Your Help

Call for Volunteers

There will be many opportunities for Caribou Lake property owners to volunteer:

- Nominations committee for CLPOA Board of Directors of Directors will be formed in the coming months. Those interested in becoming Board Members should contact President Bill Dunn.
- Those interested in helping implement the new Lake Management Plan. Volunteers will be sought at the Spring Meeting or anytime before or after. Work on the LaMP can be done while at lake or when you are away. It will take the collective energy of many to help improve and protect the lake for many generations to come.

Mark Your Calendars

- **Spring CLPOA Meeting – Sat, May 23**
9:45 to 12 Noon. Lutheran church in Lutsen (by post office)
- **Annual Fall CLPOA Meeting – Sat, Sep 5**
(time and location to be established)
- **6th Annual Caribou Lake Boat Flotilla and Regatta**
Saturday, July 11, 2009 2:00 pm



Meet at the Public Access for a leisurely cruise around the Northwest Bay. We'll picnic at the access after the regatta. Bring a snack or desert to share and your own drinks. Decorate your boat and celebrate summer with your Caribou Lake neighbors. Questions: Call Jon Westby 218-663-1097 Lutsen 612-374-2245 Minneapolis

More Loon Nests on Caribou?

Loon Rafts / Platforms

Caribou Lake, temperature 72 degrees, sun setting on the horizon, a loon calling – what could be a more beautiful setting? The last three years the only loon nest area on Caribou has proved unlucky. Either high waters or predators have prevented the loons from having chicks per Pat Vaughan. Pat watches the loons and reports the data to the Minnesota Loon Watcher Program and the MN DNR Loon Monitoring Program. He recently learned of the loon program at Mantrap Lake in Nevis, MN and contacted Lyle Laske, who oversees this program, and found that they sell loon rafts. After he consulted



with the CLPOA Board they approved the purchase of two of these rafts. The Big Mantrap Lake loon nesting program, with the help of many property owners,

began in 1990 with rafts crafted per the model in the the MN DNR Woodworking for Wildlife book. They have continued to develop rafts for nesting loons and have been perfecting them for over 20 years. Mantrap Lake Association has about 18-19 nesting loon on their lake each year. The plans for their latest model will be in the 2009 DNR Woodworking for Wildlife. Loon nesting rafts are set out immediately the day the ice goes out and removed three weeks after the chicks hatch so that the natural beauty of the lake is not impaired. Sheriff Mark Falk has approved a permit for the rafts so they will be placed on Caribou. One near Portage Peak and the other near Bigsby Lake about 30' from shore. Please keep back at least 100' from the rafts and then keep a watch out for, hopefully, more loon chicks this summer!

Mantrap Lake loon program website:
<http://www.freewebs.com/mantraplake/loonnestingrafts.htm>

Reminder to Slow Down in Shallow Areas

Effective Mixing Depth by Engine Size	Horsepower	Mixing Depth
	10	6 feet
	28	10 feet
	50	15 feet
	100	18 feet

Wright, O. David and Wagner, Kenneth J. (1991). *Power Boats on Shallow Lakes: A Brief Summary of Literature and Experience on Lake Mohegan*. Lakeline, December 1991.

CLPOA Website: <http://www.minnesotawaters.org/index.php?uberKey=1253>

Or go to: Minnesota Waters website <http://www.minnesotawaters.org/>

Click on Lake and River Groups > C (for Caribou) > click on Caribou Lake Property Owners Association