

Update and News from Your Waukewan Shore Owners Association

August 15, 2011

Here is an overview of the action and monitoring programs, collaborative efforts, and project activities that we have underway or have recently completed. A heart-felt “Thank You” to the members and their families who continue to give their time and treasure to get results that benefit the Lake Waukewan watershed.

- **Treatment and Remediation of Run-Off:** Run-off—water flowing over the land or in streams—carries a significant amount of sediment, nutrients and pollutants into the lakes. Treatment involves creating earthen structures that slow and disperse flows so that natural processes can take over.
 - Monkey Pond Remediation: Following testing last fall by DES arranged by us, WSOA in collaboration with the Town of Meredith and Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Association submitted a preliminary proposal to clean up Monkey Pond using funding from the federal Clean Lakes Program. If the final proposal is accepted, work could begin next year.
 - Evaluation of Treatment Sites: WSOA members worked with scientists to identify and prioritize potential locations for treatment structures elsewhere in the watershed.
 - Overland Treatment of Storm Water Run-off: WSOA worked with NH Lakes Association, the Town of Meredith and neighborhood associations to enable the construction of demonstration projects that control and treat storm water before reaching the lake.
- **Volunteer Lake Host Program:** WSOA members provided volunteer staffing and funding to monitor the boat ramp on Lake Waukewan as part of NH Lakes Association’s program to educate boaters and check boats for invasive species. WSOA maintains an information kiosk at the ramp.
- **Conservation Easements and Acquisitions:** Sustaining undeveloped land in the watershed is crucial to preserving the legacy for future generations. WSOA members and supporters demonstrate teamwork, leadership, and collaboration with other groups to achieve meaningful results.
 - **Spear Property Acquisition:** About year ago, WSOA signed a purchase agreement for the Spear property on the Snake River. This followed a successful fund-raising effort thanks to the generosity of many WSOA members. WSOA worked with officials in the Towns of Meredith and New Hampton and both towns also pledged critical funding support. In order to place this land into conservation, WSOA conducted a clean-up of a dumpsite on the property. After the sale was completed, WSOA transferred the property to the Town of New Hampton under permanent conservation protection also granting the Town of Meredith a conservation stewardship easement to ensure that this land will be protected in perpetuity.
 - **New Conservation Acquisition:** This month WSOA also worked collaboratively with the property owner, other conservation organizations, and government officials to submit a grant proposal to enable permanent protection of another high-priority parcel in the Lake Waukewan watershed. In the months ahead WSOA will be involved in raising the matching funds that the grant requires and in supporting the transaction process. WSOA looks forward to sharing details with you about this exciting project.
 - **New Conservation Easements:** WSOA is working with property owners, other regional, state and national conservation organizations, and state and local government officials in a meaningful collaborative way to secure permanent protection of other parcels in the watershed. Our efforts include outreach and education to landowners on the benefits and value of a conservation easement as well as pro-active efforts to complete transactions.

This fall the WSOA board of directors will be sharing updates with you about these project efforts along with news of new action and monitoring programs that WSOA and our members will be initiating. CRB