CEDAR LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

CEDAR LAKE HABITAT PROJECT

The Cedar Lake Habitat project is a cooperative lake habitat improvement project with the DNR, Star Prairie Fish and Game, and Cedar Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District. The plan is to install 500 fish cribs, with 268 installed to date. A chapter 30 permit has been approved to install the cribs in water depths of 12 to 20 feet and in colonies of 20 or more cribs to create offshore habitat similar to a weedbed. Material and equipment cost will be split by Star Prairie Fish and Game and Cedar Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District. The DNR will provide additional labor and expertise. The overall goals of the project are:

1. Improve sportfish populations through addition of numerous fish crib colonies
2. Monitor success through routine lake monitoring, treaty assessment and creel surveys.

The importance of structural cover as a component of fish habitat and resulting fish production has been well documented.

LAKE DISTRICT PARTNER AWARDED

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress has awarded our partner Star Prairie Fish and Game with the 2010 Wisconsin Conservation Club of the year award at their annual meeting in Lake Geneva Wisconsin. This is the second time they have been given this award. Among the many activities sited were:

- Senior Pontoon Ride (over 100 senior citizens participating)
- Fish crib installation partnered with Cedar Lake District
- Helping to maintain McMurtrie Preserve
- Helping to maintain Cedar Bay Landing
- Clean up on Ice on Cedar Lake
- Removing/Replacing marker buoys on lake

We would like to thank our partner Star Prairie Fish and Game and congratulate them on this award.

AG ENTERPRISE AREA

The Wisconsin State Legislature has created new legislation designed to preserve farmland and protect water quality in the state. The legislation is intended to create what are called Agriculture Enterprise Areas. Initially there is a limit of two hundred thousand acres statewide and no more than fifteen areas over a period of two years. The local governments of Alden, Farmington, Somerset and Star Prairie have cooperated to apply to the state to be part of this pilot program and have an area of 10,300 acres designated. The focus of the application is in what includes much of the Cedar Lake and the Squaw Lake Watersheds. Although there is considerable competition in other areas of the state, there is considerable optimism that our local petition will be accepted. Brad Johnson, on behalf of the Cedar Lake District Board has submitted a letter of support for the program. Anyone who has questions relating to this program can contact Alden town chairman Brad Johnson at 715-755-2170.

2009 CEDAR LAKE FISH SURVEY

Cedar lake was surveyed in the spring of 2009 using fykenets and electrofishing gear to assess the health and status of the fishery. The survey was conducted by the DNR and led by Marty Engel, Senior Fisheries Biologist. The results showed a resurgence of the walleye and panfish populations highlighted as follows:

- The adult walleye population is estimated at 5.3/acre as compared to 2.1/acre in 2004.
- Panfish poplation, especially bluegill and black crappie have blossomed in the past several years, aided by a 10 bag limit and the installation of 268 fish cribs to date.

The summary of fish species collected include:

Species	*No. caught*	*Max size*
Walleye	1780	27.2"
Northern Pike	57	36.7"
Muskellunge	93	43.7"
Largemouth Bass	58	17.7"
Smallmouth Bass	26	17.7"
Bluegill	135	8.5"
Black Crappie	14	11.3"
Yellow Perch	668	10.8"

See back for ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE.

GOOD NEWS REPORT AT ANNUAL MEETING

Because of the determination and hard work of former Cedar Lake commissioner Jack Hayes, Buzz Sorge from the DNR, and Bill James of the US Army Corps of Engineers, The Cedar Lake Study Grant was awarded and is underway.The Engineer Research and Development Center - Eau Galle Aquatic Ecology Laboratory had a very successful field season last year and will be reporting findings during the annual meeting in August. In particular, they found that the most important source of phosphorus to the lake during the summer is from the bottom sediment. While this phosphorus stimulates algal growth, the good news is it can be controlled. The lab and the Wisconsin DNR will continue to explore control of phosphorus originating from the sediment in order to improve water quality in the lake. You will not want to miss Buzz and Bill's report at the August 7th annual meeting of the Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District.

WATERCRAFT INSPECTION

The Beaver Creek Citizen Science Center has received a DNR grant to help coordinate watercraft inspection programs (also known as Clean Boats/Clean Waters) in the west central region of Wisconsin. Cedar Lake is one of 16 lakes participating in this three year project. Hired field technicians and volunteers will inspect watercraft and educate the public at various boat landings. The goal of the program is to protect our lakes from the consequences of aquatic invasive species in our waters.

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ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

August 7, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.
Village of Star Prairie Community Center
207 Bridge St Star Prairie, WI

- Lake Study Update, Buzz Sorge WI DNR
- Secretary's Minutes
- Chairman's Report
- Project Spending Approval
- Public Input
- Lake Study Update, Bill James U.S. Army Corps Engineers
- Treasurer's Report
- Budget Hearing
- Election of Officers

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