

LOST LAKE RCD – Lake Management



LAKE DREDGING: IMPLEMENTATION

The RCD Board wishes to thank the residents of the Lost Lake Conservancy Taxing District for approving the Referendum to further the Long-Range Plan for dredging our lake. Since this Plan began, the RCD Board focused on addressing and answering three fundamental questions: Where were we; Where did we want to go; and How do we get there?

ACTION PLAN

Being guided by the work performed during the planning stages and the recent passage of the Referendum, the RCD Board, at the November 12th Regular Monthly Board Meeting, adopted the Bond Ordinance that authorized the issuance of General Obligation Bonds. Anyone interested in buying one or more of the bonds are invited to contact Mr. John Vezzetti, with Bernardi

Securities at (815) 587-8972 before December 31st because they may begin selling the bonds as early as mid-January.

WORK PLAN –

WINTER THROUGH SPRING

During the next several months, the RCD Board will create an Implementation Plan geared toward completing the lake dredging before year's end 2021. The Board will continue to work with our subject matter consultants throughout this process (JadEco Lake and Natural Resources and Wendler Engineering). The short-term goal of the RCD Team will be to prepare and issue respective Requests for Proposals: one for the construction of the permanent silt basin and the other for lake dredging. Working in combination with the Long-Range Dredging Plan, the Board will also expand its efforts to look beyond the immediate challenge of lake-dredging by searching for opportunities to minimize the amount of silt entering our lake in future years. Over the next few months, the Board will be reviewing potential partnering opportunities with The Nature Conservancy (Nachusa Grasslands) as well as neighboring streamside landowners to form a Priority

Watershed Partnership. We are all interested in promoting water quality projects to improve the conditions within the surrounding watershed. By combining our efforts, our projects and partnership would be more attractive to grant agencies.

The Illinois EPA is a known funder of large projects geared at improving water quality. Lost Lake and its potential partners may be considered for Section 319 Financial Assistance Program which focuses on prioritizing certain watersheds throughout the state each year. If an applicant is able to apply for funding during the year that a geographic area is prioritized, there would be a better chance of being awarded grant funding. The priority year for the Clear Creek watershed is 2022, and grant applications are due August 1, 2021. Assuming that the Partnership applies for a 319-grant application, it would need to be submitted by August 1 to have the best opportunity for funding projects in the watershed.

The Board remains committed to serving the best interests of the community. We always look forward to any input. Please continue to visit our website for project updates.

- Andy Warcaba, RCD Vice-President

*Thank
You!*

The dredging of our lake and the establishment of the silt basin retention area has been a major goal of the RCD. I want to thank the RCD Board, staff, and consultants who helped develop this plan. Also, a much appreciated thank you to the community who supported the referendum and the RCD's vision of enhancing our lake for the future. Respectfully,

- Bill Winebaugh, RCD President

In October, the RCD stocked 200 walleye, 400 small-mouth bass, and 250 perch in Lost Lake.

-Becky Miller, RCD Administrative Manager