



KETTLE MORAINE LAND TRUST

Serving the Southern Kettle Moraine lakes area in Walworth County, Wisconsin

Progress Report - Delavan Lake Watershed Initiative Network February 15, 2012

Major highlights and progress of Kettle Moraine Land Trust's work to facilitate the Delavan Lake Watershed Initiative Network (WIN) since the last monthly report are described below.

1. The Outreach & Education Workgroup met on February 15th. The Delavan Lake WIN Community Awareness Day planning progressed: Roll Out the Barrel! – A WIN Win Event! Will be held from 10:00 – 6:00 on April 25th at Community Park. Speakers will be Lisa Reas of Environmental Concepts speaking on the use of native plants in lakeshore buffers; and Audrey Greene on aquatic invasive species life histories and control. Native plants appropriate for Delavan Lakeshores will be available to attendees at discounted prices. UWEX staff is working on designing a natural filter strip planting for an area at Community Park to be a demonstration site the day of the event.

Summer Tours: The Walworth County Annual Prairie Walk is potentially being moved into the watershed, tentatively at the Mound Road Wetlands. The site was toured by Education & Outreach members on Feb 8th who met with Ryan Simons and Dan Lemanski of the Town of Delavan to determine the site's potential. If the Annual Walk is held at Mound Rd. the event would raise awareness of the value of wetlands in protecting and improving water quality; and raise interest of land owners to restore wetlands in the watershed.

2. The Jackson Creek River Protection Plan required several meetings with City of Elkhorn staff, SEWRPC, and UWEX staff. Invitations were mailed out by SEWRPC to approximately 350 residents, businesses, municipalities and community groups. A press release resulted in an article about the February 22nd evening meeting in the Delavan Lake Enterprise. This meeting will result in an opportunity for individuals to share information about Jackson Creek, relay their concerns, and volunteer to serve as an advisor to help review findings and provide input to plan drafts.
3. Mississippi River Healthy Basins Initiative (MRBI) applications were due by February 13th. Currently we have received more applications than can be funded so additional funds will be requested once the application costs are developed. Qualified applications will be submitted to the NRCS state office by February 24, 2012. A radio interview regarding this

grant and the Delavan Lake WIN goals was aired by Ft. Atkinson AM 940 WFAW on February 4, 2012.

4. The Delavan Lake WIN website required significant hours to finalize the final design and build out elements of the site. Currently all planned pages are visible except for one; and one photo is yet to be added to the home page. The website planning team will review the site and suggest additional improvements when they meet on February 17, 2012.
5. A letter of commitment between WIN partners for the lake and watershed monitoring plan is in the draft stage. Progress towards implementation of the plan for this important task has been slow as the partners try to avoid duplicate efforts in the community and are considering available information about the monitoring plans of the Town of Delavan. Once a funding source for the most logical monitoring effort is confirmed this task can move towards implementation.

Upcoming DL WIN meetings:

- Delavan Lake WIN Community Informational Meeting (Jackson Creek River Protection Plan); February 22, 6:30 PM, Lake Lawn Resort Conference Center
- Delavan Lake WIN Steering Committee; February 23, 2012
- Outreach & Education Workgroup; March 28, 2012