

Section B.
Identified Areas of Concern

Clearwater Lake Area Association Identified Areas of Concern

Areas of Concern:

Hillside erosion was identified as an area of concern causing sedimentation into the lake from sluffing.

Solutions Identified:

- A possible solution identified to hillside erosion could be individual property owners planting trees, shrubs, and grasses to deter erosion.
- Individual property owners could place riprap on their shoreline.
- Educating Clearwater Lake Area Association members and property owners about the rules, regulations and who to contact. Also, let them know about any cost sharing opportunities that are available.
- Drop the lake level

Septic Systems were identified as an area of concern with regard to upgrades and compliance. Clearwater Lake is in both Clearwater County and Beltrami County. All property owners on the Clearwater County side were made to come into compliance a few years ago. It is reported that all but two property owners on the Clearwater County side of Clearwater Lake are in Septic System Compliance.

Solutions Identified:

- “Lobby the Beltrami County Commissioners, as a lake association, for adoption of stricter requirements. On the other hand, if the issue is that Beltrami County is not enforcing in-place DNR requirements, then force Beltrami County to enforce compliance.

The need for a **Governmental Committee** was identified. This committee would be a small representative group for the CLAA to represent our interests in political matters so the membership can make meaningful decisions.

Solutions Identified:

- Attend government agency and county meetings and report back so the membership can make meaningful decisions. An example would be issues concerning feedlots.

Note: A government committee was set up and work has been started with a local group attempting to set up a COLA.

Self-Policing through neighborly communication was identified as an area that could be helpful.

Solutions Identified:

- Enlighten uninformed neighbors about lakeshore volunteer programs (i.e. U of MN Extension Shoreland Volunteer Program.)
- Inform neighbors about the Clearwater Lake Area Association in an effort to increase membership participation and meeting attendance.

Fishery Concerns were identified by observation of the numbers and kinds of fish being caught in Clearwater Lake. A DNR Fisheries Survey is being conducted in July 2002.

Solutions Identified:

- Enhance spawning areas.
- Voluntary creel survey was suggested. Perhaps asking fishermen to complete a survey as they exit the public access.
- Increase the frequency of surveys.

Water Quality was identified as an area of concern for Clearwater Lake. The water quality issues involve nutritional loading, weed growth, exotics, siltation, algae bloom and oxygen deprived water.

Solutions Identified:

- Continue studies and testing through the project. When results of the studies are given to us then we need to continue by implementing recommendations.
- Use phosphorous free fertilizers
- Educate lakeshore owners about septic systems. If county agencies do not require compliance then ask for voluntary compliance of septic systems.
- Pursue government assistance with cost sharing of projects, low interest loans for projects and grants.
- Educate lakeshore owners about shore land restoration and buffer strips. Possible demonstrations regarding this.
- Continue to keep an eye on sewer and storm water run-off from city upstream.

Noise and Traffic Pollution was mentioned. This was identified as a minor concern.

Solutions Identified:

- No solutions suggested.

Environment was discussed. This concerned physical, aesthetic and social environment.

Solutions Identified:

- Improve

Education was identified as a concern. The need to inform and continue to update stakeholders is important.

Solutions Identified:

- Educate stakeholders regarding issues of lakescaping, erosion, public laws, and political issues.

Education through ongoing meeting attendance at seminars, establishment of a web page and Newsletter.