A partnership between citizens, Waushara County, local lake associations, and the Center for Watershed Science and Education (UW Stevens Point)
Overall Project Framework

Develop lake management plans for all lakes in Waushara County with public access

Why?
Who We Are
The Process
Ways to Participate
Why Plan?

- Correct past problems, preserve or improve current conditions, provide for the future
- Reduce conflicts
- Allow for proactive responses
- Incorporates actions from a variety of responses
- Increasing required for WDNR grants
- No cost to lake group
Who We Are

• Waushara County & UW-Extension
  Logistical and technical support
  Publicity, information
  Support implementation

• UW-Stevens Point
  Technical input
  Identify and invite speakers
  Document ideas and goals of the group in a lake plan
  Facilitate planning sessions

• Residents and lake users
  Create goals to achieve your vision of the lake
  Support implementation of the plan, become active
The Planning Process

Plan to Plan

Identify issues

Develop goals, objectives and action items

Implement Plan

Collect and analyze data

Monitor and evaluate
The Planning Process

- **Meeting 1**
  - Background
  - Overview of process
  - Develop vision
  - Set schedule

- **Meeting 2-4**
  - Topic-specific
  - Input from specialists
  - Develop goals and action strategies

- **Plan Adoption Follow-up**
  - Lake Association/District
  - Town
  - County
  - State

- 4 monthly meetings
- 4 online surveys
- Facilitation provided
  - Presentations by local experts and officials
  - Review available data and resources
Typical Plan Chapter Topics:

Aquatic Plants

❖ In Lake
❖ Near-Shore
❖ Invasive
Typical Plan Chapter Topics: Shoreland and Near-shore
Typical Plan Chapter Topics:
Fish, Habitat, and Lake Levels
Typical Plan Chapter Topics: Recreation
Typical Plan Chapter Topics:
Water Quality and Watershed
Typical Plan Chapter Topics: Communication
Fishing and Recreation

Lake Emily residents enjoy many different recreational opportunities on the lake. Based on survey results, the most popular recreational activities on Lake Emily included fishing, enjoying scenery, walking, motor boating, and swimming/snorkeling. Because Lake Emily is one of only three lakes in Portage County that is big enough to allow a wake, the lake is heavily used for motor boating, waterskiing/tubing, etc. Conflicts with the different activities can easily occur; recreational needs and uses on the lake will likely continue to increase as populations and development in the area increases. To help alleviate some of the conflict among uses, no-wake hours were put into place on Lake Emily. The majority of survey respondents indicated that the no-wake hours are working on the lake and wish to keep them in place, but there is some confusion regarding who must obey the no-wake hours.

Healthy lake ecosystems are valuable natural resources for all lake users. It is important to maintain a good fishery so that anglers and families are able enjoy the fishery on Lake Emily, as fishing is the top recreational activity on the lake and is valued by lake users. Survey respondents felt that the quality of fishing in Lake Emily was average and perceived that fishing had stayed the same or declined in recent years. Survey respondents perceived the decline in quality fishing was due to heavy recreational use of the lake and overfishing.

Vision: Provide recreational opportunities for lake users while providing safe conditions and protecting a healthy lake ecosystem.

Goal 7: Preserve the water quality and habitat on Lake Emily and safety of Lake Emily users while allowing for a variety of recreational opportunities.

Objective 7.1: Provide recreational opportunities to enjoy Lake Emily while minimizing conflicts between users and protecting lake water quality and habitat.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Lead person/group</th>
<th>Start/end dates</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide aCourtesy Code handout explaining no wake rules - share with park users, place at boat landing, share with riparians</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>WDNR, UWEX Lakes, UWSP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continue to take “neighborly approach”, kindly explaining the no-wake hours with users of the lake</td>
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<td></td>
<td>UWEX Lakes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keep parking lot size the way it is and do not expand boat launches</td>
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<td>Portage County Parks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explore/find out how firework debris/residue affects water quality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UWSP, UWEX Lakes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Ways to Participate

- Take each of 4 online monthly surveys
- Attend planning sessions
- Review meeting notes & presentations online
- Receive info by email or Facebook
- Send us pictures of your lake to illustrate the plan!
Contact Information

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