



Little Rock Lake News

Little Rock Lake Association, P.O. Box 326, Rice, MN 56367

Sept 2010 edition www.littlerocklake.org or www.freewebs.com/littlerocklakeblog

**Meetings are held at Rumors on the 2nd Saturday of the Month, 11 A.M.
Future Meetings- Oct 9th, Nov 13th, & Dec 11th**

Carp Presentation: The public is invited to a carp program sponsored by the Little Rock Lake Association. Dr. Peter Sorensen, Professor of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at the University of Minnesota will present the program on Saturday, September 25th, at 11:00AM at the Watab Township Hall, 660 75th Avenue, Sauk Rapids. Dr. Sorensen’s presentation will describe a research-guided path to carp control that has been pursued in Minnesota with some success. Little Rock Lake has a large carp population and its control is important to the Little Rock Lake Association’s efforts to clean up the lake. A key factor is learning the location of origination for the young carp. Come and learn more about this important topic. The program is free and open to everyone.

Have you created a buffer on your shoreline? If so, we’d like to know. At our September meeting, the Association discussed tracking all the shore land owners who have created buffers on their shoreline. If you are willing to share your information, we would like to know the property address, the feet of shoreline you buffered and the depth of the buffer, (from the water’s edge towards your dwelling). We feel there is a significant amount of “no mow” or planted buffers on the lake and the channel already filtering the storm water runoff and nutrients from entering the lake. Thank you for your efforts! Please email your information to graber@jetup.net or call Maureen 320-282-7113.

Would you like assistance or literature for buffer maintenance? The Little Rock Lake Association has books, web sites and literature available on native plant identification and weed identification. We have a limited supply, but the books are free for the asking. These are excellent colored, glossy photos of native plants, of our area, to assist with your buffer maintenance. Members are available to provide assistance. Again, please call Maureen 320-282-7113.

Native Buffer Program using the Initiative Foundation Grant Funding. In March 2009 the Little Rock Lake Association was awarded a \$ 5,000 grant from the Initiative Foundation. It is to be used under a cost-share, matching program, with the Soil & Water Conservation District grant funding to provide up to 75% of the costs to install native planting buffers, on shorelines, around the lake and the channel. Since August 2009, members have assisted with the design, planning, planting and maintenance of five residential buffers. These buffers total 8,378 square feet of plantings, 334 volunteer hours and used \$ 4,400 of our grant funding.

We have three additional buffers in the design and planning stages to be planted next summer. We hope to acquire some additional grant funding by next spring. A special **THANK YOU!** goes out to all those volunteers and landowners who gave their valuable time and assistance on these projects!

TMDL results: November 30th is the deadline for William Walkers to provide the preliminary TMDL information. Katie Winkelman, Benton County Soil & Water says the modeling will be complete and they anticipate a Public Stakeholders meeting will be held in December. Notification of that meeting will be printed in the local papers, sent though the mail and communicated to you by LRLA.

Membership Concerns: Last fall we had a tremendous membership drive and 75% of the land owners on the lake and channel were members. Some of you have forgotten to renew and our numbers are sliding. The TMDL study which will help us determine the next steps to clean up our lake, is an extensive study and the preliminary report is due out in November. We need to keep our membership numbers up or the recognition we're receiving will fade. LRLA has worked to hard to let that happen, so please, if your one of those who have not yet renewed your membership, send your check today so we can get back to the 75% that is so critical to continue what we've started. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. Call if some sort of arrangement is necessary. Jim Rau, membership chairman 320-253-8499.

LRLA Membership (August 2010/July 2011) \$25 -- Payable to LRLA, P.O. Box 326, Rice, MN. 56367

Name(s) _____
Cabin Address _____
Preferred Mailing address _____
Phone number _____ Email _____