

Waseca Lakes Association

NEWSLETTER

Web Site: wasecalakes.org



Fall 2004 Edition

November Meeting Notice:

Monday, November 29th, 7pm at county highway building.

Loon Lake Lighthouse?

This is the dream of the Loon Lake Lighthouse Club. The purpose of placing a 20 ft replica at the edge of the jetty on Loon Lake would be two fold:

1. Use privately raised funds to purchase the lighthouse to create a unique tourist attraction at Loon Lake.
 2. Following the lighthouse purchase, the club would act as a source of continuing funding for improvements and maintenance at Loon Lake Park.
- Learn more at the November meeting.



November Agenda

Monday, November 29th, 7:00 pm at the county highway building. Agenda items include:

- Storm water management update from DNR, SWCS, and BOWSR personnel who conducted recent surveys and engineering of Gator Lake area wetlands. This is part of the ongoing effort to better detain and filter water prior to entering Clear Lake.
- Hugh Valent from the Waterville DNR Fisheries office will discuss possible uses for our shallow lakes.
- The Loon Lake Lighthouse Club will explain project objectives and ask for WLA endorsement.

WLA to Sponsor Water Steward Recognition

At the September meeting, it was decided that the Waseca Lakes Association will recognize area citizens for random acts of kindness to our lakes. This will serve as a public relations and education program to promote practices that help keep our waters clean.

Did you know you can download this newsletter from our web site using the newsletter tab at wasecalakes.org



Did You Know?

Cultural Eutrophication: The WLA monitoring program and the Bolten and Menk study we funded for Clear Lake showed that excess nutrient loading was coming primarily from storm water via the Gator Lake/Barneys inlet. Algae blooms turn lakes green, reduce water clarity and make lakes a lot less desirable for swimming or even fishing. Such changes in lake quality are usually caused through excess phosphorous in the water. "Eutrophication" is the term applied to this increase in biological productivity due to increased nutrient loading. "Cultural eutrophication" is the term used when the excess nutrients are a result of human activities.

What's In Your Dishwasher? When using your dishwasher, you may also be fertilizing our lakes. In 1976, when Minnesota passed its legislation limiting laundry detergents and all household-cleaning agents intended for home use to 0.50 percent phosphorus, dishwasher detergents were exempted from this rule. Several of the best selling automatic dishwasher detergents have 6-8 percent phosphorus. Consider using brands with lower phosphorus content or phosphorus free dishwasher detergents.

Major Brand Dishwashing Detergents Phosphorus Content	
Palmolive Tablets 8.7%	Sunlight Gel 4.3%
Electra-Sol Tablets 8.7%	Cascade Complete (Liquid) 4.0%
Sunlight Tablets 8.7%	Palmolive Gel 1.6%
Cascade Complete Tablets 8.7%	Basic D Concentrate (Shaklee) 0%
Cascade Complete Powder 7.7%	Bi-O-Kleen 0%
Spot-Free (Wal-Mart) Powder 7.0%	Ecover 0%
Cascade Complete Gel 6.5%	Enviro Links 0%
Electra-Sol Powder 4.5%	Seventh Generation 0%
Sunlight Powder 4.5%	Ultra Citra-Dish 0%
Cascade PureRinse 4.4%	Presidents Choice 0%

Since Loons summer in the north on fresh water, and winter on the coasts of the south in brackish and salt water, they are specially equipped to expel the salt from their system taken in from eating salt water fish and drinking salt water. Loons have a pair of salt glands above their eyes which expel salt taken in from seawater. These drip almost constantly during the winter season.

