



Third Street Wetland Restored! Community Cooperation the Key

By Jan Zimmermann

Christmas 2002 came and passed with many Waubesa Beach residents wondering if restoration of the Third Street Wetland would ever come to pass. After years of dreaming, planning, grant writing, and neighbor meetings, a seeming quiet had fallen over this lakeside community.

Evidence had mounted with each passing year that the wetland was no longer functioning — flood events sent upland runoff into Lake Waubesa, depositing plumes of sediment into the shallow off-shore area near Christy's Landing, affecting recreation, water quality, and plant and fish habitat. We were ready for action!

As if summoned by the dawn of the New Year, on the first Monday in January 2003, the troops moved in. Signaling her collaboration, Mother Nature delivered unusually mild weather conditions, holding off her winter blast until the project was complete. Like an army on maneuvers, the heavy equipment and their operators descended on Waubesa Beach in an orchestrated dance. First the twin dozers delicately scraped the soil surface, layer by layer, as if peeling an onion to reveal the original wetland soils beneath a deep blanket of topsoil deposited over many years from the neighboring farm fields. The rich loam was pushed up into huge piles, some ten feet high — half to the west next to the Wick farm and half to the north adjacent to Third Street. Two immense articulated trucks loaded by an excavator shovel transported half the topsoil uphill and spread it on a wide area of the Wick property to enrich the soils for spring planting. At the same time, another shovel/excavator loaded topsoil to a waiting convoy of dump trucks to be hauled away to the Town of Dunn

recycling site. By the end of the second week on January 16th, the first phase of the project complete, the newly sculpted landscape was flash frozen, right on cue, awaiting spring's magic.

Although from all appearances the restoration was an incredibly smooth operation, the project wasn't without significant surprises which had a huge impact on anticipated costs. Early soil borings had estimated the topsoil deposition at between 1 and 2 feet deep. The actual depth to the original wetland substrate found during excavation ranged from 2 to 4 feet over the entire marsh, which meant double the amount of material needing to be moved or removed from the site.

Although the success of the Third Street Wetland project will only be realized in the months and years to come, this effort was truly an inspiration to this writer in demonstrating how a community can pull together in partnership to rally around a worthy project.

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An army of dozers, excavators and articulated dump trucks muscles tons of soil to restore the Third Street Wetland in January 2003.

Photo by Jan Zimmermann

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There are so many to thank:

- ◆ The Town of Dunn who worked with interested citizens and LWCA members to identify the need to restore the wetland as early as 1995, offered town-owned property as part of the restoration site, allocated \$15,000 in Town stormwater management funds to offset the costs of the project, served as the official project sponsor and pass-through agent for payment of project costs, and assigned town public works crews and equipment to assist in the wetland excavation.
- ◆ The Wisconsin Waterfowl Association and its Project Director/Executive Director, Jeff Nania, who orchestrated the restoration site work and all the wetland permitting, and donated Jeff's time toward the project.
- ◆ The neighbors in the affected wetland restoration area, including the Wick farm family and all those owning properties along Waubesa Avenue with lands extending into the wetland boundary, who volunteered their properties to the restoration effort. Without their participation, the scope of the project and its benefits would have been far less meaningful, increasing the original 4-acre restoration site to 7 acres.
- ◆ The Wisconsin Wetlands Association who developed the DNR wetland application for submission by the Town of Dunn that resulted in a \$10,000 grant from the State to offset project costs and for their work in educating and publicizing the wetland project to the public.
- ◆ The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service who provided \$10,000 and \$4,000, respectively, in wetland restoration grants and to the Lake Waubesa Conservation Board of Directors for committing up to \$2,000 to offset project costs.

- ◆ The Town of Oregon and Town of Rutland for offering their public work crews, dump trucks, and other heavy equipment during the excavation.

- ◆ The Dane County Land Conservation Office and its field staff who helped augment the project with funds through two USDA conservation programs to compensate the Wick family for removing almost 4 acres of cropland to be restored this spring to grassland buffer around the Third Street Wetland.

What's Coming for the Third Street Wetland?

We are gratified that a major portion of the restoration is now under our belts. In the months and years to come, we can watch with wonder as nature takes its course — the area fills with water, and a diverse mixture of plant and animal species establish themselves.

But not all the heavy work is done. This spring, the upland buffer zone, with funding from the USDA Conservation Reserve Enhancement and the Conservation Reserve Programs will be constructed on the western side of the wetland on the Wick Trust property and seeded down to prairie grasses.

As of this writing, plans are also being laid for Phase II of the wetland project. This is the potential installation of a new culvert system under Waubesa Avenue to the lake which would enhance the use of the newly restored wetland as a northern pike spawning area. If feasible, LWCA will assist town officials, DNR, Wisconsin Waterfowl Association and others to attract grant dollars to support the costs of such an effort.

A Third Street Wetland dedication ceremony is in the planning stages, and the Town of Dunn and LWCA have begun to discuss the design of an appropriate sign to celebrate the restoration project. There may also be an opportunity for LWCA members, neighbors and others to have a hand in the success of the wetland by seed scattering or planting of wetland plants. We hope to have news about this at the LWCA annual meeting on May 4. Stay Tuned!



Report From Lakes & Watershed Commission

By Mark Pernitz, Yahara Lakes Association Representative

Stormwater Management. I am pleased to report that we have almost 100% compliance from local communities in adopting ordinances in conformity with the minimum standards set forth in the new Dane County stormwater ordinance. Sue Jones and her staff should be congratulated on this accomplishment! We have also received word that the Minnesota Erosion Control Board will be presenting an award to Dane County for its new ordinance.

West Campus Cogeneration Facility. The Lakes & Watershed Commission has been granted intervenor status in the Public Service Commission (PSC) proceeding. This permits the Commission to participate in the discussions regarding PSC's review of this proposal. Numerous discussions have been taking place and under MG&E's current proposal, it appears that the most immediate water concerns have been addressed. Additional information about this project is contained in a separate article.

Weed Cutting. The County Board approved an additional \$30,000 in the Public Works budget to be allocated for additional weed cutting. These were funds that the County Executive did not include in her budget. However, Commission member Bill Graf led a successful effort at the County Board to get these additional funds included. Thank you Bill! We have been discussing with John Schraufnagel, acting Public Works Director, how these additional funds will be used to enhance the county's weed harvesting.

Lake Addresses/Pier Numbering. The Commission will be implementing the lake address/pier number system on the four major Yahara Lakes this spring. Additional details can be found in a separate article.

Yahara Lakes Advisory Group (YLAG) Recommendations. Over an 8 month period beginning in late 2001, a group of key stakeholders met to discuss the recurring flooding in the Yahara River system. The initial focus was whether the DNR lake level operating orders required adjustment. These discussions broadened to consider a number of related topics. A number of findings and recommendations were published last summer.

The Commission has been studying the YLAG recommendations and assessing the Commission's collaboration on these recommendations. The Commission has decided to focus its efforts of 3 of these areas: seeking funding for

development of a model which would monitor rainfall/run off and lake levels in the Yahara River watershed; land use and increased infiltration efforts; and wetland protection.



Supreme Court Rejects Dockominiums

By Mark Pernitz

In a decision issued last summer, the Wisconsin Supreme Court decided that dockominiums violate the public trust doctrine and are therefore unconstitutional. Dockominiums are akin to condominiums and were a developer's effort to sell small parts of Wisconsin's lakes to private owners. This particular case arose in Lake Geneva when a private marina attempted to convert to a condominium form of ownership and sell "permanent slips" to private owners.

The Court's decision was a victory for all riparians. However, the victory may be short-lived. In the opinion written for a majority of the Court, the justices suggest that the legislature could change state statute and perhaps comply with the Wisconsin constitution. Given the potential for huge economic profits by creating dockominiums, it is likely that developers will attempt to persuade the legislature to authorize this type of "lake ownership." Should that occur, further litigation is likely. However, at least for the time being, dockominiums are prohibited by the Court's decision.



Update on Proposed MGE Cogeneration Plant

By Mark Pernitz

Many of you are aware from newspaper articles and television news that Madison Gas & Electric (MGE), in coordination with the UW-Madison, is proposing to build a natural gas-fired “cogeneration” plant adjacent to the existing UW heating plant on Walnut Street. This site is approximately 1 block south of the WARF building. A cogeneration plant such as this is very clean and very efficient. It produces not only electricity for MGE customers but also steam heat and chilled water for the UW campus.



graphic courtesy of MGE

A cogeneration facility such as the proposed one uses water, LOTS of water! Under peak conditions, it is estimated that the plant will require as much as 3 million gallons of water per day!

Where will the water come from? Several options have been discussed. One option is to use groundwater purchased from the Madison Water Utility. Since there is some concern regarding depleting our current supply of groundwater, this option was rejected.

A second option would be to treat effluent water from the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) and use this water. There is an abundant supply of MMSD effluent water. However, this option has been rejected as too expensive.

A third option, and the one preferred by MGE, is to pump the needed water from Lake Mendota. In periods of flooding and high water, this would not be a concern. MGE could have as much water as they wanted! However, MGE needs a steady and consistent source of water. During drought conditions and during times of low flow, the DNR has some concerns about environmental impact of taking this amount of water from Lake Mendota.

Last fall, MGE suggested that a pilot plant be constructed and operated by MMSD to treat effluent water to a higher degree than it is currently treated. MGE proposed that the treated effluent be pumped back into the Yahara system, probably at Upper Mud Lake. Not surprisingly, this raised a number of questions and concerns.

In early December, County Executive Kathleen Falk convened a taskforce consisting of representatives of the various stakeholders. Apparently, Ms. Falk believes the new plant is needed and the charge to the taskforce was to find “solutions” to the perceived problems.

This taskforce announced its conclusions and recom-

mendations in late January. The current recommendation for addressing low-flow conditions is to pump groundwater from a Madison Water Utility well located near the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) or from existing Oscar Mayer wells. The group concluded that it would be too expensive to use treated MMSD effluent in the cogeneration plant’s cooling towers. The group also concluded that the technology was not far enough along to recommend discharging treated effluent into the Yahara Lakes. MMSD is continuing to study this option but any proposals are at least several years away at the earliest.

The good news is that there appears to be at least a short term solution to some of the concerns expressed regarding the taking of this quantity of water from Lake Mendota under low flow conditions. The bad news is that long term effects are not known. Additional study is needed to determine the effects on the upper and lower aquifers in removing this groundwater.

The taskforce also recommended that infiltration should be pursued to mitigate the withdrawal of well water. Additional study is needed to identify sites and cost. Again, any such efforts are probably several years away.

There are a number of issues remaining regarding air quality and neighborhood concerns. In addition, it is uncertain whether the State Department of Administration will recommend funding for the plant given the state budget deficit. MGE continues to talk about breaking ground this spring and the University recently replaced and upgraded the water pipes along the lakeshore path which would be used to transport the needed water.

If you have any concerns regarding this project, we suggest that you contact your elected officials and representatives.

Lake Address/Pier Number System

to be implemented this spring

By Mark Pernitz,
Lakes & Watershed Commission Member

You may be aware from other articles that the Lakes & Watershed Commission and the Dane County Sheriff's Recreation Safety Patrol have been working on creating a lake property numbering system to provide a more rapid response to emergencies taking place on the lakes. We are pleased to report that this new lake address/pier number system is ready to be implemented this spring.

Each lakeshore property on Lakes Mendota, Monona, Waubesa and Kegonsa has been assigned a unique "lake address." The Mendota addresses will begin with the letter "A"; Monona with "B"; Waubesa "C"; and Kegonsa "D". These numbers have been cross-referenced in the 911 computer system with the property street address.

This spring lake property owners will be receiving a letter providing them with their "lake address" and requesting that they voluntarily post this address on a sign at the end of their piers. This is an entirely voluntary program. The letter will identify where the signs can be purchased. We will be using metal signs identical to those used in the Dane County rural numbering system, however, the lake signs will be blue in color. The cost of these signs and letters/numbers will be \$10.

Once this system is in place, a boater in distress can report his or her location by cell phone using the nearest pier "address" as a reference point. Similarly, a landowner who observes an emergency on the water can dial 911 and the dispatcher will be able to translate the street address to a water location. Also for an emergency in your home, the nearest response may be the Sheriff's Recreation Patrol.

An added benefit to lakeshore residents is that the lake address will assist you in locating by water the home of friends. You will no longer have to give directions such as "the large white house located between the big willow tree and the brown boat house." Now you will be able to tell them that your pier is "B219" and they will immediately know what area of the lake you are on and will be able to identify the exact pier.

Lake residents should all be receiving letters this spring. If you have any questions regarding this project, please call Sue Jones at 267-0118.

Each lakeshore property on Lakes Mendota, Monona, Waubesa and Kegonsa has been assigned a unique "lake address." The Mendota addresses will begin with the letter "A"; Monona with "B"; Waubesa "C"; and Kegonsa "D". These numbers have been cross-referenced in the 911 computer system with the property street address.

Update on Shoreland Zoning Ordinance

By Mark Pernitz

At the YLA annual meeting in January, 2002, members heard a discussion of the proposed changes to Dane County's shoreland zoning ordinance. Dane County is required to bring its ordinance into compliance with current state law. However, two other categories of changes were proposed by staff: (1) some language changes and clarifications in existing language which weren't intended to make substantive changes; and (2) substantive changes intended to make Dane County's ordinance more restrictive of property owners than required by state statute.

Subsequent to YLA's annual meeting, the Board of Directors of LWCA sent a letter to the Dane County Lakes & Watershed Commission opposing any changes in the Dane County ordinance which were not required by state law. County Board Supervisor Eileen Bruskewitz also introduced a substitute amendment which only contained the revisions necessary to comply with state law.

For a variety of reasons too complicated to attempt to explain in this newsletter, no amendments to the shoreland zoning ordinance have been passed by the County Board. Supervisor Bruskewitz will be introducing a new ordinance this spring which includes the revisions necessary to comply with state law and some language changes which do not change the substance of the ordinance. Hopefully, this version will be passed by the County Board and this issue will finally be resolved.

Lake Level Strategies Advocated by Yahara Lakes Advisory Group (YLAG)

By Jan Zimmermann, YLAG participant

At the time of this writing, many of us are complaining about the extremely low water levels, not only in Lake Waubesa but the entire Yahara chain of lakes. However, we also know from our experience with storm and drought events alike that something is amiss with the Yahara Lakes' ability to maintain any pattern of equilibrium. Over the past decade, flooding along the Yahara River and Lake system has become more frequent and more damaging (1959, 1993, 1996, 2000). To address this issue, Ken Johnson, Lower Rock River Water Leader (WDNR), convened a group of key stakeholders to consider the DNR lake operating orders written over twenty years ago to determine if they were still effective for regulating and guiding the management of the water levels and flow through the Yahara system.



Babcock Park Photo by Dean and Mary Hein

While lake levels prompted the initial discussion, it was clear that they could not be considered alone, and the YLAG mission expanded to explore and evaluate the operations of the Yahara River and Lakes as an integrated system. YLAG members represented a wide range of public and private interests. Recognizing there were both conflicting and common interests, YLAG members committed to fully participate in a process that would allow them to make educated, informed and reasoned recommendations.

After eight months of study, YLAG offered its findings to the public at a meeting on June 12, 2002 at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. From these findings, a total of 40 recommendations in four major categories were developed by YLAG. Implementation teams are being formed to concentrate their efforts first in accomplishing the top recommendations in each category through specific action plans. Implementation teams will be broadened to include individuals uniquely qualified to accomplishing the tasks. In addition, these top recommendations will set the future work agendas for county, state, and municipal watershed departments and public works committees.

Key YLAG Recommendations

Lakes Management & Operations:

1. All control structures from Lake Mendota to below the Stebbinsville Dam be unified under a coordinated and recordable Yahara River System management strategy developed to articulate responses to various scenarios.
2. Evaluate methods such as modification of bridge construction, aquatic plant modification, dredging, channel modification, etc. to increase flow conveyance.
3. Establish a structure and process for planning and funding capital improvement and maintenance of flood control and navigation structures on the Yahara River system (i.e., locks, dams, channels).*
4. Operations rules for the lakes must provide for stable and predictable lake levels that are protective of public and private properties, wetland, shorelines, fisheries, water quality, and recreational users.

Monitoring/Modeling:

1. Promptly develop and apply a continuous hydraulic/hydrologic/water quality model of the watershed including the lakes and connecting channels that can account for present and potential land use conditions and land management practices in the watershed and the potential modification of control structure and channels.*
2. Promote and continue development of a state-of-the-art hydrologic modeling network (i.e., rain gauges, lake level recorders, river flow gauges) for the Yahara River system.*

Land Use:

1. Opportunities to significantly increase the infiltration of stormwater and snow melt into the groundwater should be identified and emphasized to all areas that significantly impact water levels.
2. Planning and new laws to be introduced to reduce stormwater volumes to be delivered to the Yahara River system.
3. Commercial, industrial, and residential development north of Lake Mendota, should if necessary, be restricted by zoning to minimize the impact of stormwater runoff caused by development into the Yahara River system.
4. A standard watershed-wide legal ordinance be instituted to infiltrate runoff from impervious surfaces at a target level.

Education and Other Efforts:

1. Create an account and increase support to fund watershed restoration and improvement work.
2. Implement demonstration practices (i.e., rain gardens, shoreline habitat, stormwater detention, aquatic vegetation control) and evaluate their effectiveness.
3. Create educational programs focusing on increasing awareness of lake and watershed issues among the general public.

Implementation of YLAG recommendations has already begun on the items asterisked(). The Dane County Public Works budget includes \$200,000 in 2003 and \$400,000 in 2004 for repair to the dams at Tenney, Babcock, and LaFollette and also includes funds for three velocity meters on the Yahara River. In addition, in 2003 the County, City of Madison, Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District, and Madison Gas & Electric are jointly funding a scoping study that is the first phase in developing the rainfall/runoff model.

For more information on how to get involved with YLAG Implementation Teams, contact Mindy Habecker, Dane County UW Extension at (608) 224-3718 or Habecker@co.dane.wi.us.

Capital Springs Centennial State Park Master Planning Underway

By Jan Zimmermann

For those who missed the exciting news, a dream came true for members of the Lake Waubesa Conservation Association in October of 2000 when Governor Thompson inaugurated the new Capital Springs Centennial State Park on the western shore of Lake Waubesa. The 326 acres acquired by the state was a combination of two properties — one owned by the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation and the other owned by Lake Farm Associates (the proposed Libby Land-fill property).

The newly acquired parkland becomes part of *Capital Springs Centennial State Park and Recreation Area*, encompassing 3,000 acres stretching from Fish Hatchery Road east to Lake Waubesa, including most of the Nine Springs E-Way, the Capital City State Trail, and Lake Farm County Park. This is a ground breaking venture to combine lands owned by over eight separate local and state agencies into a single management umbrella while each retains title to their agency's land. The intent is that the recreation area will be cooperatively operated to be a seamless unit in the eyes of the public. Dane County Parks and the Wisconsin DNR have formed a project team spearheading the master planning process with the assistance of Jennings & Associates.

The first outreach meeting for the Capital Springs Centennial State Park and Recreation Area was held on October 30, 2002. The meeting, held at the Lussier Family Heritage Center, gave the public an opportunity to view inventory maps of the project area and voice their hopes and concerns. A crowd of over forty people attended, including many local residents and LWCA members.

Check out the Cap Springs web site for a summary of the master planning process, the outreach meeting comments and ideas, with links to fascinating full-color downloadable resource and project area maps: www.dnr.state.wi.us/master_planning/capsprings.

The timeline for the master planning process for both Capital Springs Centennial State Park and Recreational Area is:

- Phase I:* Through January 2003 - Site Inventory, Issue Identification, and Suitability Analysis
- Phase II:* February -April 2003 - Project Vision and Goals
- Phase III:* May -December 2003 - Master Plan Alternatives
- Phase IV:* 2004-2005 - Master Plan Document and Environmental Impact Statement
- Phase V:* 2005 - Wisconsin Natural Resource Board Review and Approval

For more information, contact:

Brad Bates
Centennial Park Manager
(608) 224-3606
Brad.Bates@dnr.state.wi.us

Dana White-Quam
Project Leader
(608) 444-5127
Dana.White-Quam@dnr.state.wi.us





Take a Stake in the Lakes 2003

By Jan Zimmermann

Let's All Participate in the Lakes Cleanup June 21st!

It's almost time for **Take a Stake in the Lakes 2003!** The LWCA is delighted to again be participating as a sponsor with a multitude of other community organizations on this worthwhile project.

The 16th annual event, sponsored by the Dane County Lakes & Watershed Commission as part of Yahara Lakes Week, is to celebrate and promote public awareness of the Yahara Lakes, lake and watershed improvement and protection. *Take a Stake in the Lakes* is held in cooperation with Dane County Parks, Dane County Public Works, and Dane County/UW Extension. The event brings sponsors and volunteers together for a series of citizen shoreline cleanup events on lakes in the Yahara Watershed over two weekends. The focus is to rake weeds and pick up shoreline trash in areas of easy access where most waste accumulates.

On **Saturday, June 21 from 9 AM to 1 PM**, "Take a Stake" will tackle Lakes Waubesa and Monona. To sign up in advance to work at your favorite park or shoreline, or to find out how you can help, **call Louise Goldstein at 608-224-3601** (goldstein@co.dane.wi.us). Volunteers may also come to the information center the day of the event which will be at **Law Park**. On that same day, Rutabaga Paddle Sports will sponsor a cleanup by canoe or kayak of portions of Lake Monona, the Yahara River, and Upper Mud Lake, starting at Lotte's Park in Monona.

Some of the public shoreline areas on Lake Waubesa needing volunteers include: **McDaniels Park** (McFarland), **Babcock Park** (McFarland), **Dunn Heritage Park** (Town of Dunn), **Goodland Park** (Town of Dunn), **Lake Farm County Park** (City of Madison).

- *no special skills required*
- *volunteers should bring rakes & pitchforks,*
- *wear old clothes, gloves and shoes that can get wet*
- *commemorative T-shirts free for volunteers*
- *volunteer prizes for unique trash items*
- *garbage bags provided*
- *waste hauling on Lake Waubesa by Dane County Public Works*



A **special service for Lake Waubesa Shoreline Residents** is again being offered this year. Dane County Public Works barges will collect shoreline trash and aquatic weeds and debris from your private piers as part of **Take a Stake in the Lakes 2003**.

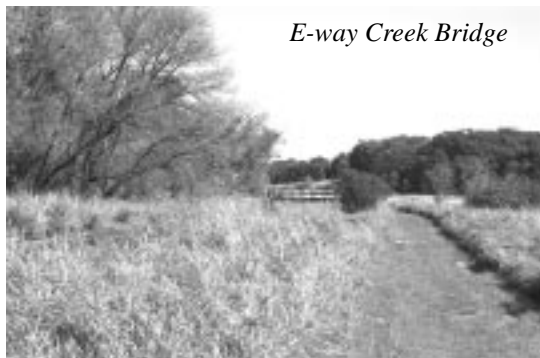
Please have your debris and waste on the end of your pier by **6:00 AM on Monday, June 23** for pickup. **No yard waste or household refuse, please!**

The barges you may see circling the lake on Saturday, June 21 will be collecting shoreline trash from the public cleanup of parks and beaches. They will **not** collect debris from private piers **until** the following **Monday, June 23**.

LWCA encourages all private lakeshore residents to demonstrate their stewardship and commitment to Lake Waubesa by participating in this wonderful cleanup opportunity!

Friends of Capital Springs Centennial State Park & Recreation Area and Capital City State Trail

By Camille Zaroni, State Friends Group Coordinator



E-way Creek Bridge

The Friends Group Program, started in 1989 by the late Dave Hammer, was created with the mission of bringing concerned community members together to participate in the preservation and promotion of the Wisconsin State Park System. A new Friends Group is currently being formed to support the Capital Springs Centennial State Park & Recreation Area and the Capital City State Trail. The Friends of Wisconsin State Parks recently co-hosted a very successful fund-raiser in Madison to help raise community support for this new group. The Friends of Capital Springs Centennial State Park & Recreation Area and Capital City State Trail will help tap the unlimited potential of a unique partnership between Wisconsin State Parks, Dane County Parks, and local communities. It will provide services and support to the park, recreation area, and trail through potential projects including

grassland restoration, trail maintenance and signage, education and interpretation, community events and fund-raisers, and property improvements. This Friends Group will benefit immensely from both the natural and local community resources found in and around the park, recreation area, and trail.

For more information on the Friends Group Program, the Friends of Wisconsin State Parks, or the new Friends of Capital Springs Centennial State Park and Recreation Area and Capital City State Trail, contact:

Camille Zaroni
State Friends Group Coordinator with Wisconsin State Parks
(608) 266-7617 or e-mail camille.zaroni@dnr.state.wi.us
Friends of Wisconsin State Parks Web site: www.wistateparksfriends.org

Volunteers Welcome!



Tenney Park Lock Fee



By Mark Pernitz

In the last budget, the Dane County Board approved a new fee for the Tenney Park locks beginning with the 2003 boating season. The "annual" fee, good for the entire boating season is \$20; the fee for an annual pass for a *second* watercraft in the same household is \$10; a daily round trip pass will cost \$5. The new ordinance provides for a \$20 ticket for violations of this ordinance, to be issued by the Sheriff's Department or the lock tender.

Dane County is strongly urging ALL boaters who intend to use the locks to purchase the annual pass. This will greatly assist in the implementation of the process and will reduce the long lines and waits which will likely occur if daily passes are purchased.

Although the introduction of this fee has generated some "controversy" primarily because it was free before, the charge is a user fee which is intended to offset *some* of the

costs of operating the Tenney Park locks. Less publicized in the county budget was the fact that \$600,000 was approved in this budget to upgrade the locks at Tenney, Babcock and LaFollette parks. This season the Babcock and LaFollette locks will be repaired so that they will again be operational. Reportedly, it now takes at least 3 strong individuals to turn the winch. Next season there will be significant improvements to the structure and hydraulics of the Tenney locks.

This fee is consistent with fees charged elsewhere in the state for lock usage and is also consistent with other user fees charged for state parks, bike trails and boat launches. We would encourage all boaters who intend to use the locks to purchase the annual sticker. They are currently available through the Dane County Public Works office. Watch for additional announcements on other locations where the annual sticker can be purchased.

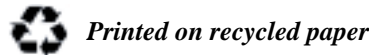




P.O. Box 6521 • Monona, Wisconsin 53716
www.lakewaubesa.org

Annual Meeting Notice

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LWCA MISSION STATEMENT

To engage in informational and educational activities required to preserve and enhance the land, air, and water resources in and surrounding Lake Waubesa to ensure a quality environment.

Lake Waubesa Conservation Association, Inc.

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"Lake Currents" is published periodically by The Lake Waubesa Conservation Association, Inc. for the benefit of Association members and supporters.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in the Lake Waubesa Conservation Association is free. However, what we do to further the objectives of the association is not. We continue to operate with an all-volunteer effort in furthering LWCA goals.

The Lake Waubesa Conservation Association is a non-stock, non-profit corporation. Your contributions are tax-deductible.



We encourage new people, new ideas, and talent to get involved with LWCA activities. If you have ideas to share, or would like to become more involved, please call Jan Zimmermann at 221-8423.

Visit our Web site at www.lakewaubesa.org for the latest information and current opportunities.