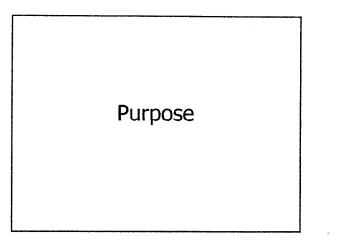
### Lac du Flambeau Town Lakes Committee

Starting a Lake Association Wednesday, July 16, 2008

Welcome & Introductions





- 1981 Wisconsin Association of Lake Districts
- 1992 Wisconsin Association of Lakes (WAL)
- Today Wisconsin Lakes Partnership (WAL + University of Wisconsin Extension + Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources)

### Types of Lake Associations

- Unincorporated Lake Associations
- Incorporated Lake Associations
- Qualified Lake Associations
- Lake Districts
- Sanitary Districts
- Intergovernmental Organizations
- Nonprofit Conservations Organizations

# What is an Unincorporated Lake Association?

- Informal & flexible
- No special rules governing structure or design
- Some have a charter: name, purpose, structure
- Some have bylaws: rules of procedure, dues, election of Board

### Unincorporated Lake Association Liabilities

- Exposure of members and officers to risk from actions of the association
- Exposure of members and officers to risk of financial and tax liabilities

## What can an Unincorporated Lake Association do?

- Require dues/raise funds
- Borrow money, secured by assets
- Make contracts
- Acquire & sell property
- Sue & be sued
  Have educational
- programs
- Communicate with units of government and others
- Participate on the TLC

- Conduct lake
  - management activities such as:
  - >Monitor water quality
    - >Inventory/monitor aquatic plants >Manage invasives
  - >Buy land to protect sensitive
  - areas
  - >Restore wetlands >Develop erosion control
  - > Develop erosion control programs
  - >Develop long-range management plans

# What is an Incorporated Lake Association?

- To avoid the liabilities of unincorporated associations, many associations incorporate under Chapter 181 of the Wisconsin statutes, the Wisconsin non-stock corporation law
- File a form and submit \$35 fee
- Reduces liability, typically only the assets of the association are at risk
- Usually has bylaws, structure, Board,...

# What can an Incorporated Lake Association do?

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- Borrow money, secured by assets
- Make contracts
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# What is a Qualified Lake Association?

A "qualified" lake association is an incorporated lake association that is eligible for state lake grants, providing the association meets several qualifications.

See page 8

# What can a Qualified Lake Association do?

- Apply for State grants
- Require dues/raise funds
- Borrow money, secured by assets
- Make contracts
- Acquire & sell property
- Sue & be sued
- Have educational programs
- Communicate with units of government and others
- Conduct lake management activities such as:
  - >Monitorwater quality
  - >Inventory/monitor aquatic plants
  - >Manage invasives
  - > Buy land to protect sensitive areas
  - >Restore wetlands
- >Develop erosion control
- programs >Develop long-range
- management plans

### What next?

Starting a lake association - five steps:

- 1. Informal discussion session
- 2. Exploratory meeting
- 3. Bylaws committee meeting
- 4. Charter meeting
- 5. Celebrate!

## How may the TLC help?

#### The Town Lakes Committee will:

- 1. Serve as initial liaison with WAL
- 2. Provide names & addresses of property owners\*
- 3. Provide mailing labels, envelopes, stamps\*
- 4. Provide sample completed forms, by-laws, etc.
- 5. Provide basic supplies to get started\*
- 6. Provide copies of <u>People of the Lakes</u>\*
- 7. Host first meeting with prospective members
- Offer standing invitation to participate with TLC \*Funds available through October, 2008

## Contact

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