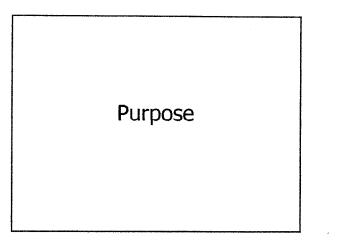
Lac du Flambeau Town Lakes Committee

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?

- Require dues/raise funds
- Borrow money, secured by assets
- Make contracts
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- Have educational programs
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- Conduct lake management activities such as:
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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.

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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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