

FAWN LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN

2012 Update

GOALS AND ACTION ITEMS

Fawn Lake Protection District (District) was formed in 2002 to monitor lake water quality and implement best management practices to maintain and improve lake water quality and quantity on Fawn Lake. The District prepared the Fawn Lake Management Plan (Plan) in 2004, with a first revision in March 2005.

District Board reviews the goals and action items contained in the Plan on a periodic basis, and is, at this time providing an update.

Since its inception, the Board, working in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources, Adams County, and others, has undertaken many activities and studies. Highlights of these activities and studies include:

- Depth Map: The bathymetric map shows depths throughout all of Fawn Lake. A hard copy of the map was provided to all property owners. The map can now be found on the Adams County website (http://www.adamscountylwcd.net/Depth_map_FAWN.pdf).
- Aquatic Plant Community Report: Adams County performs a survey of the aquatic plants in Fawn Lake approximately every five years. (http://www.adamscountylwcd.net/Aquatic_plant_report_FAWN.pdf).
- Critical Habitat Report: Created in 2006, provides an understanding of important features in Fawn Lake, and identifies the one critical habitat area. (http://www.adamscountylwcd.net/Critical_habitat_report_FAWN.pdf).
- Critical Habitat Map: The map, part of the Critical Habitat Report, was created in 2009, identifying a critical habitat designated area of 0.5 acres. (http://www.adamscountylwcd.net/Critical_habitat_map_FAWN.pdf).
- Lake Classification Reports: Long Report, developed in 2008 (http://www.adamscountylwcd.net/Lake_classification_long_report_FAWN.pdf), and Short Report, Developed in 2007 (http://www.adamscountylwcd.net/Lake_classification_short_report_FAWN.pdf). These reports provide significant information, including:
 - Water Quality modeling and data
 - Location and soils maps
 - Land Use information
 - Wetland areas identified

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- Shoreland information, including identification of buffer areas
 - In-lake Habitat, including vegetation, fisheries, and other wildlife.
- Sediments Map: The map was created in 2006, identifying areas of Soft sediment, Mixed sediment and Hard sediment. (http://www.adamscountylwcd.net/Sediment_map_FAWN.pdf).
- Soils Map: The map, which can be found on Adams County website (http://www.adamscountylwcd.net/Soils_map_FAWN.pdf) shows the soils type in the surrounding area, and also identifies the surface watershed and ground watershed. It is interesting to see the difference:
 - Surface watershed identifies the land areas that drain to the lake; and
 - Ground watershed identifies areas from which groundwater is able to feed the lake.
- Groundwater Report: Completed in 2010, this report identifies where groundwater comes in to the lake, where lake water exits into the groundwater, and reports on water quality testing of the groundwater sources.

Other significant efforts include:

- Development of a quarterly newsletter that is mailed to all property owners to provide information relative to lake issues and educate property owners on their role concerning the lake's health.
- Obtain and provide educational information to residents on an ongoing basis.
- Purchase of a dissolved oxygen meter and establishment of a program to obtain dissolved oxygen readings on a periodic basis during the summer months.
- Began a citizens water quality monitoring effort, which collects data on water temperature and water clarity, as well as obtaining samples that are provided to the State lab for testing. The results of these efforts can be found on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources website.
- Developed a dissolved oxygen reading program, monitoring six locations in the lake at various depths. Readings occur at least monthly during summer months.
- Monitoring and treatment of invasive aquatic vegetation. Invasive species are an ongoing battle in Fawn Lake. Annually treatment is applied as warranted and vegetative species are monitored to determine success of activities.
- Purchase and installation of a public handicapped accessible pier has occurred, with annual removal and installation undertaken by the Board.
- Purchase and installation of a floating pier to aid in the launching of boats from the public boat launch occurred in 2011.
- Purchase and installation of new Fawn Lake signs, to improve the public image of Fawn Lake and its watershed area.

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Discussion of the Goals and Action Items, identified in the Lake Management Plan, follows:

ITEM	WHO	WHEN
Aquatic Species Management	Prevent the spread of and try to control invasive & noxious species	
1. Control Eurasian watermilfoil and Curly pondweed with applications of selective herbicides	WDNR Fawn Lake	Annually
2. Update information at educational kiosk at the public boat landing	Fawn Lake	Ongoing
3. Pursue financial assistance for implementation of prevention and control plan	Fawn Lake DNR Adams County	As appropriate
4. Investigate harvesting for plant control	Fawn Lake	As appropriate
5. As they become available, evaluate new technologies for plant control	Fawn Lake	As appropriate
6. If financially feasible, proceed with recommendations from (4) & (5) above	Fawn Lake	As appropriate
Dam	Maintain and Operate Fawn Dam to insure public safety, proper dam function and a stable lake level	
1. Conduct annual inspections and record findings as specified in DNR standards	Engineer certified by NAPE	Annually
2. Operate, inspection, and repair dam to meet Wisconsin laws	Adams County	As scheduled
3. Update dam break analysis and Emergency Action Plan	Adams County	As required
4. Implement Emergency Action Plan in times of emergencies	Adams County	As needed

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Recreational Uses

Improve recreational opportunities for community residents and public

- 1. Investigate the need and develop a plan to address capital improvements Associated with the lake. The plan will include the following projects:
 - a. Fishing pier, that is handicapped accessible, located by parking lot Adams County Completed
 - b. Swim area and park located on north central area of lake Adams County N/A
After further consideration, no planned action.
 - c. Restore a bridge that used to cross lake at east end of lake Adams County N/A
After further consideration, no planned action.
- 2. Implement and enforce state laws, county and town ordinances. Adams County As appropriate
Encourage residents to report violations WDNR
Fawn Lake
- 3. Stock bass, northern pike & forage fish as funding allows. Develop a plan Fawn Lake Ongoing
to balance forage fish and game fish. DNR
- 4. Encourage Watershed property owners to implement practices that will Fawn Lake Ongoing
increase wildlife Adams County
WDNR

Identify public users' goals and issues regarding the management of the lake

- 1. Provide a survey that can be filled out by lake users. Fawn Lake Complete 2005

Shorelands

Reduce nutrients entering groundwater that then enters lake

- 1. Distribute information to property owners about the septic system maintenance Adams County Ongoing
Fawn Lake
- 2. Inventory lake shoreline to identify lake shoreline property owners who have Adams County Complete 2005
Shoreline erosions, areas with no buffer zone & no storm water runoff mgmt
- 3. Educate lake shoreline owners who do not have riparian buffers and stormwater Adams County Complete

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| 4. | Plan/design & offer cost share to install shoreline protection, riparian buffers, and Storm water runoff management to areas identified in inventory. Utilize Adams Soil & Water Resource Mgmt Programs & WDNR financial assistance programs
This item remains under consideration and may be acted upon in the future if funds become available. | Adams County | Ongoing

Ongoing |
| 5. | Continue lake classification activities and provide the information to appropriate County Departments and to Township of Dell Prairie to aid with development of Smart Growth Plans | Adams County | Ongoing |

Water Quality Maintain present water quality and prevent algae blooms

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| 1. | Sample and test lake water to establish baseline water quality data. The lake will be sampled yearly for 3 years. Future testing will depend upon funding. | Adams County | Completed |
| 2. | Analyze water quality data and develop recommendations for water quality goals | WDNR
Adams County | Completed |
| 3. | <i>Implement Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Program</i> | <i>Adams County</i> | <i>Completed</i>
<i>Fawn Lake</i> |
| 4. | <i>Continue Citizen Water Quality Monitoring sampling</i> | <i>Fawn Lake</i> | <i>Ongoing</i> |
| 5. | <i>Develop and continue dissolved oxygen reading sampling</i> | <i>Fawn Lake</i> | <i>Ongoing</i> |

Maintain lake levels that enhance water quality, provide recreation, enhance Wildlife, and meet the requirements of Wisconsin Statute Chapter 31

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| 1. | Operate dam to maintain lake levels and outflows as stated by WDNR. | Dam operator | Annually |
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| 2. Gather information & develop a plan to increase the depth in east end of lake | Fawn Lake | |
| This item remains under consideration and may be acted upon in the future if funds become available and the activity is deemed allowable by the regulatory agencies. | | |
| 3. Develop bathymetric map | Fawn Lake | Completed |

**Watershed –land outside
Of shoreland area**

- Reduce nonpoint source pollution within the Fawn Lake Watershed**
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| 1. Identify sensitive areas in the Fawn Lake Watershed | Adams County | Completed |
| 2. Develop a plan to protect sensitive areas identified in watershed. Plan will Specifically address protecting headwater area from nonpoint source pollution | Adams County
NRCS, WDNR | Completed |
| 3. Educate landowners, agricultural producers and community about State Agricultural Performance Standards and best management practices utilizing Newsletters, meetings and individual visits | Adams County,
NRCS, WDNR | Completed |

Practice proper land use utilizing Comprehensive Plans and Zoning

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| 1. Within the Fawn Lake watershed, develop and implement smart growth plans | Town of Dell
Prairie,
Adams County |
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