



Wapogasset/Bear Trap Lake Improvement Association Healthy Lakes Program Report 2022

Grant Number: LPT76222

Grant Sponsor: The Lake Wapogasset & Bear Trap Improvement Association, Inc

Were all projects completed as proposed?

No

If no, explain the reasons for the change: Participating landowner : [REDACTED] Parcel # 024-00252-0000, indefinitely postponed the proposed Healthy Lakes project of Native Planting. The Grant Sponsor will not request a Grant Extension.

Make sure you have completed the following requirements and keep them for your records, 10 years:

- A signed 10-year contract with each land owner
- Design specifications and location of each best practice

The Lake Wapogasset/Bear Trap Improvement Association was established over 110 years ago. The WBT Lake Improvement Association is committed to the long-term health, water quality, and recreational facilities of both lakes for the enjoyment of the lake residents and local community. We have promoted Healthy Lakes practices for many years through discussions, brochures, informational meetings, and a multitude of completed projects (see below).

We launched our official Healthy Lakes Program in July, 2019 with multi-channel communications including email and website announcements to all members, as well as presentations and poster displays at monthly and Annual Lake Association Member Meetings. We were awarded a Healthy Lakes Grant in 2020. For 2022, we continued to utilize member communications and Association meetings to educate, encourage additional landowner participation, and gather feedback.

The Lake Wapogasset/Bear Trap Improvement Association works in conjunction with the Lake Wapogasset and Bear Trap Lake Sanitary District and the Lake Wapogasset Bear Trap Conservancy to cooperatively study, develop, and complete lake management projects aimed at reducing high phosphorus levels. The Healthy Lakes (HL) Program provides an opportunity to further implement key aspects of our Comprehensive Lake Management and corresponding Aquatic Plant Management Plans.

The Healthy Lakes Program aligns with the goals of the 3 lake organizations, as well as county and regional programs, and is a key part of our fight to reduce phosphorus and other unhealthy lake issues. Our Healthy Lakes advocacy includes a board champion, presentations and displays at monthly and annual member meetings. The program features personalized support from our 30 neighborhood Trustees covering all of the estimated 650 lake area property owners.

Our HL team partners with experts who have experience in best practices: contractors Dragonfly Gardens/Amery and Harmony Environmental, Polk County Land and Water Resources, and many of the local Landscape specialists. We have created a heightened awareness with lake residents about the HL



Program resulting in strong member interest and momentum toward member engagement. Several residents have completed initiatives on their own using the Best Practices outlined in HL Program communications.

List of key Lake Projects completed through the joint efforts of the Lake Wapogasset/Bear Trap Improvement Association, the Lake Wapogasset and Bear Trap Lake Sanitary District, the Lake Wapogasset Bear Trap Conservancy, and local County and Town Governments:

- Annual Clean Boats Clean Water Program since 2009.
- Monthly (weekly in July) lake monitoring: secci disk, temp, dissolved oxygen.
- Annual WBT Sanitary District Weed Harvester program to hire/train operators and monitor. Aimed at reducing invasive species, Curly Leaf Pondweed, and associated phosphorus levels. Started in 2017, with successful removal of the invasive species during the last five summer growth periods.
- Supported the WBT Sanitary District and WBT Lake Conservancy to purchase property and create a Conservation area adjacent to Friday Creek to prevent nitrate and other harmful runoff into the lakes.
- Construction and rehabilitation of original public park on Lake Wapogasset dam site. This was a joint effort with the Towns of Lincoln and Garfield, as well as other partners and interested parties to clean/prepare the site, construct restrooms, pavilions, children's play areas, disabled access to fishing area, boat launch, and public parking area.
- Maintain dam at Wapogasset outlet to ensure compliance standards and design function since 1921.
- Alum treatment with cooperation from the DNR in 1999.

The Lake Association has created a heightened awareness with lake residents regarding Wisconsin's Healthy Lakes Program. There is continuing strong member interest and momentum toward member engagement has been achieved.

On-going challenges include understanding and conveying to landowners what qualifies as a Healthy Lakes Best Practice and interpreting Shoreline zoning regulations and enforcement.

2022 Completed Healthy Lakes Projects:

Property Owner Name: [REDACTED] **Parcel #:**
032-01618-0000

☑ Diversion (Transitional or Upland): Installation of 2 Upland Diversion ridge grading and rock/cement berms/ trenches and drainage areas to catch basins/infiltration pits (roadside and driveway swale)

Drainage Area Diverted: Roadside = >1000 sq ft; Driveway = >1000 sq ft

Drainage Area Captured: Roadside = >500 sq ft; Driveway = >1000 sq ft

☑ Rock Infiltration: Installation of 2 rock infiltration pits to hold water from running into lake (NE and NW sides of property)



Dimensions: NE = >300 sq ft; NW = >100 sq ft
Drainage Area Captured: NE = >1500 sq ft; NW = >350 sq ft

Before Pictures

Date Picture taken: 8/21/2021

Description: 704 South Shore Dr (Parcel #: 032-01618-0000) looking from house to South Shore Dr roadway. Water washes down previous driveway slope from South Shore Dr around house to lake.



Date Pictures taken: 8/27/2022



During Pictures

Date Pictures taken: 11/8/2022

Description: Installation of 2 rock infiltration pits to hold water and installation of 2 Upland Diversion ridges/graded swales.





After Pictures

Date Pictures taken: 11/10/2022

Description: NE Rock Infiltration pit with Diversion graded driveway swale diverting water away from lake.



Description: NW Rock Infiltration pit collecting diverted water.



Description: Roadside Diversion ridge/berm.



Summary of education activities and/or promotion of Healthy Lakes & Rivers initiative

Healthy Lakes Program educational materials and promotional activities developed, coordinated, and presented by the Wapogasset/Bear Trap Lake Association (WBT):

- Distribution of Healthy Lakes Program brochures
- Email announcements to all Lake Association members
- Development of landowner pledge documents and compilation of Healthy Lakes Best Practice links
- Presentations and poster displays at all monthly Association meetings and Annual meeting.
- Publication of articles and success stories in Lake newsletter: Lake Scene – distributed 4 times per year to all lake residents.
- Publication of Healthy Lakes information, landowner documents, and links on the Lake Association website (wbtlakes.com). Including content development and on-going updates.
- WBT Annual Lake Directory, page 7, Healthy Lakes Committee explanation, promotion and Committee members. Lake Directory distributed to all Association members each September.

Update on 2020 Completed Healthy Lakes Projects:



Property Owner Name: [REDACTED] **Parcel #:**
032012300000

Site visit by Mike Seidl 10/28/2022: Diversion ridge, rock trenches and drainage area to Rock Infiltration pit appear well maintained. No evidence of erosion.