

This is a summary of SPL-037-03 with more detailed articles and photos on the website.
<http://www.lllprd.org>

Final Report Lake Planning Grant: SPL-037-03

Project Name: Long Lake Shoreland Restoration/Demo

The Morris-Erickson County Park project began Spring 2002 as a cooperative effort, including several departments and organizations working with the Lower Long Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District (LLLPRD). It continued in 2003 as a DNR Lake Planning Grant project, sponsored by LLLPRD.

Goals and objectives were related to education. Students, people using the park, district property owners, and the public were to learn more about native plants and native shoreland landscaping that would:

- Enhance natural beauty of the shoreland
- Attract humming birds, butterflies, and birds
- Provide wildlife habitat
- Stabilize the soil
- Protect the lake

Promoting good stewardship through education was an objective for all, and thus, five related programs were presented at the nearby Ice Age Center, free and open to the public.

The project involved students from DeWayne Fossum's conservation class, Bloomer High School, who worked on the Morris-Erickson Park project, May 2003. Plants and signage were added to the demo site. In September, another group of students from DeWayne Fossum's conservation class were involved in pontoon classroom activities with DNR plant specialist Deb Konkel. The students were prepared for the activities by their teacher.

A similar pontoon classroom event for lake district property owners was held after the annual picnic on June 21, 2003. DNR Buzz Sorge reinforced the importance of the water's edge and the need to protect water quality.

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Two wildlife photography programs at the Ice Age Center emphasized the importance of native habitat for wildlife. Paul Blanchard's program in November 2002 featured wood warblers. Carolyn Chatterton's program in March 2003 featured a variety of wildlife photographed primarily on her property in the Weyerhauser area. She reinforced the need for habitat, especially in shoreland areas.

Programs continued at the Ice Age Center in October 2003. Joyce Powers, founder and President of CRM Ecosystems and Prairie Ridge Nursery presented a lecture and slide show on the benefits and techniques of rain gardens. She showed examples of landscaping with native plants in a variety of settings. She emphasized the importance of managing run-off from roofs, driveways, and other impervious surfaces, thus preventing polluted water from entering lakes and rivers.

Jill Jacoby, a professor at Northland College, Ashland, WI, continued to discuss water quality, concerns about storm water contaminating lakes and rivers. She told the story of artists, scientists, and citizens who came together to create art pertaining to water quality concerns. She also reinforced the concept of rain gardens.

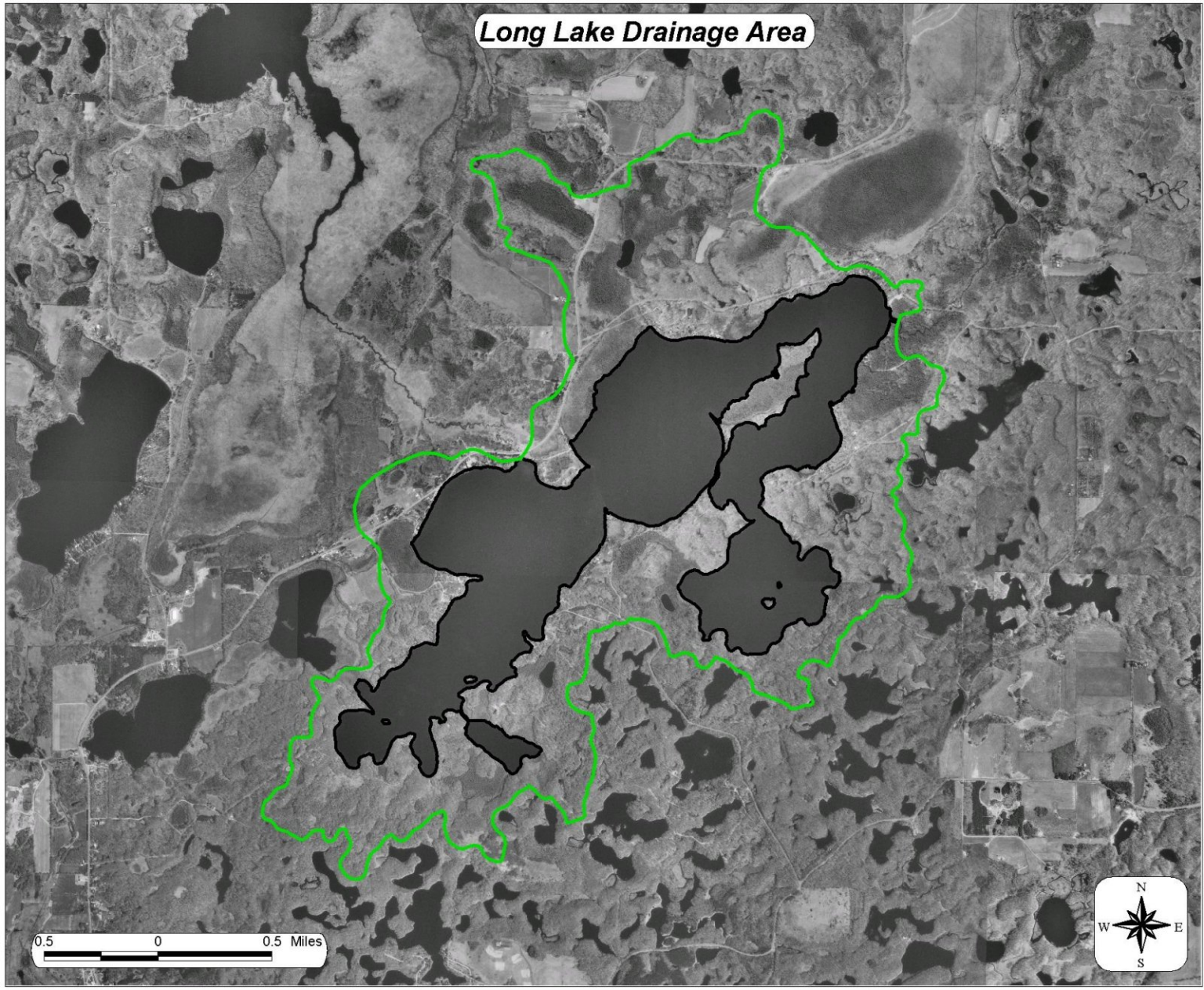
Robert Korth, UW Extension Lakes Specialist, was the final presenter on November 8, 2003, as he discussed the unique benefits of Wisconsin Lakes, the human influence on Wisconsin shores, and why the water's edge is so important. He concluded with the challenges in protecting Wisconsin lakes.

The park project and related activities were disseminated through schools, business places, local newspapers, district newsletters, WAL newsletters, LLLPRD website, letters, postcards, email, and telephone

Staff at the Ice Age Center, DNR Brenda Reider, Rod Gant, and the volunteer staff, were especially helpful with the programs, providing the comfortable and beautiful facility. They also helped to publicize the events. It was a convenient place, attracting lake users, active and passive, varied audiences.

There is interest by DeWayne Fossum in having students continue their involvement with the lake district. A rain garden demo site and a fish crib building project are two possibilities.

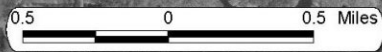
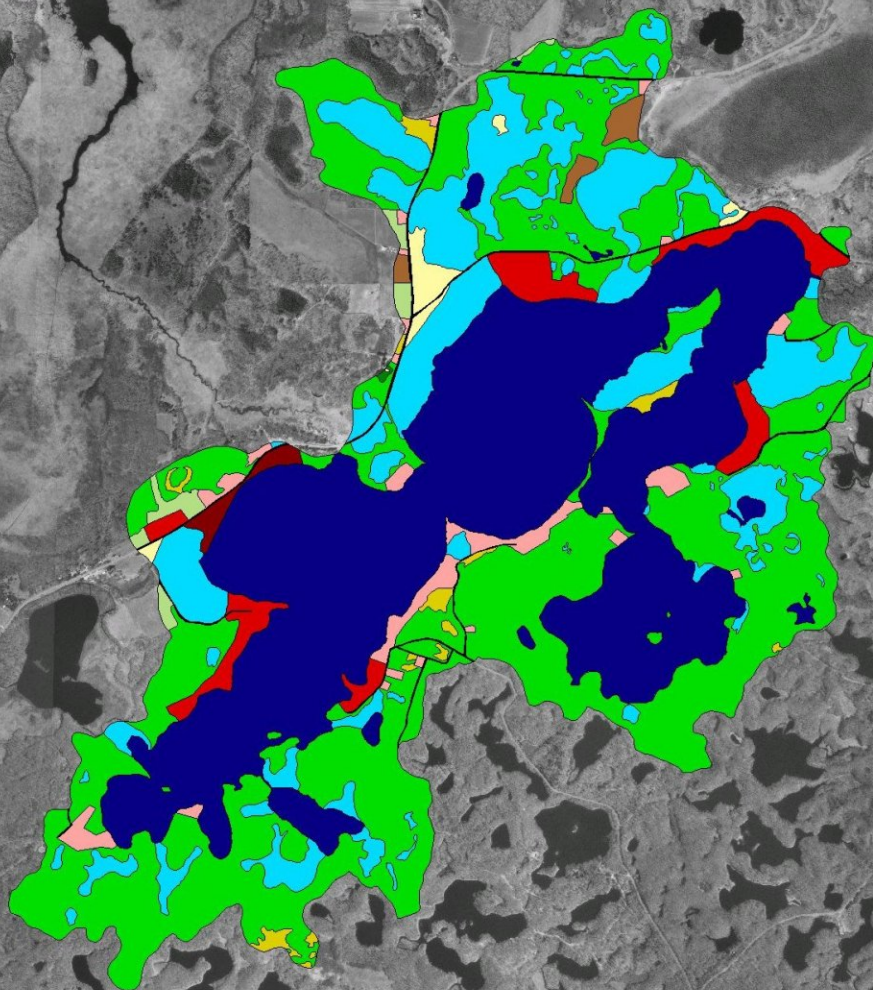
Long Lake Drainage Area



0.5 0 0.5 Miles



Long Lake Land Use / Land Cover



Landuse / Land Cover	
Green	Coniferous Forest
Light Green	Deciduous Forest
Yellow	Grassland
Light Green	Hay
Red	High Density Urban
Pink	Medium Density Urban
Light Blue	Low Density Urban
Brown	Mixed Grassland/Forest
Tan	Rowcrops
Dark Blue	Roads
Black	Lakes
Cyan	Wetlands