



OHIO LAKE MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

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OLMS Spring Conference

“Ecological Integrity of Lakes and Shorelands”

March 19, 2010

Stark County Park District, Exploration Gateway at Sippo Lake
5712 12th Street NW, Canton, Ohio 44708

CONFERENCE AGENDA ~ FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 8:00 AM—5:00 PM MODERATOR: GARY WINSTON

8:00—9:00	Registration and Continental Breakfast Networking and Student Posters
9:00—9:15	Welcome and Introduction Beth Buchanan, OLMS President
9:15—9:45	Functions of a Natural Lake Shoreline Mary Blickenderfer, University of Minnesota Extension
9:45—10:15	Site Analysis and Erosion Control Jeffrey Schloss, University of New Hampshire Extension
10:15—10:45	Introduction of Exhibitors and Student Poster Presenters Break
10:45—11:15	Shoreline Erosion Control—Bioengineering Mary Blickenderfer, University of Minnesota Extension
11:15—12:00	Ten Ecological Design Principles, Design Concepts, and Functions (Ecological and Social) Jeffrey Schloss, University of New Hampshire Extension
12:00—1:00	Lunch Networking and Student Posters
1:00—1:30	Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, Our Watershed Initiative John Hoopingarner, MWCD Executive Director
1:30—1:50	Impacts of Erosion Control Measures on the Lake Erie Shoreline John Watkins, ODNR Coastal Resources
1:50—2:10	Water Quality in Stark Parks and Sippo Lake Darrin Petko, Natural Resources Crew Leader, Stark County Parks
2:40—3:15	Break Networking and Student Posters
2:10—2:40	Loving Lakes—Soulfulness in Lake Management Tom Gordon, Maine Association of Conservation Districts
3:15—3:45	Update on Ohio EPA's New Inland Lakes Monitoring Program and Harmful Algal Bloom Initiative Linda Merchant-Masonbrink, Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water
3:45—4:30	Closing Remarks OLMS Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony Door Prizes and Silent Auctions Beth Buchanan, OLMS President

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS AND SPEAKER'S BIOS

MORNING WORKSHOP

Landscaping at the Water's Edge: Ecological Designs for Water Quality and Habitat Improvement

Speakers: Mary Blickenderfer and Jeffrey Schloss

Mary Blickenderfer and Jeffrey Schloss will present a series of presentations about shoreland ecology and the challenges related to development of these sensitive areas. They will review the ecological functions of a natural lake shorelines and how these functions are often impaired by land use practices. Methodology for site analysis and bioengineering solutions for controlling shoreline erosion will be presented along with case studies showing what techniques work best for bank stabilization and re-vegetation. Jeff will close the morning sessions with a talk about ten design principles to protect and improve shoreland property including examples of ecologically sound landscape designs for lake edges.

Mary Blickenderfer, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

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Since 1997, Mary has developed educational products and delivered workshops for University of Minnesota Extension on shoreland design, revegetation and maintenance, aquatic plant identification, and shoreland erosion control. Each year she coordinates installation of several shoreland demonstration and research sites. She is currently conducting research on natural shoreland buffer incentives (community based social marketing) and shoreland bioengineering. Her past research has been on native plant propagation and adaptations of regional plant ecotypes. Mary has also worked with plant nurseries to develop a native plant market that will meet increasing regional demands, as well as developed a native plant program and conducted botanical surveys for the Hiawatha National Forest.

Jeffrey Schloss, Extension Professor in Biological Sciences and Extension Specialist, Water Resources, university of New Hampshire

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Jeff joined UNH CE in 1989, He holds a joint appointment as a Research Scientist in the UNH Center for Freshwater Biology and as a Water Resources Specialist with UNH Cooperative Extension. Since 1986 he has been the coordinator of the New Hampshire Lakes Lay Monitoring Program, a grass roots lake and tributary monitoring program initiated in 1979. Past employment and appointments include research work in biology, water quality and aquatic ecology with the Smithsonian Institution Radiation Biology Laboratory, U.S. National Park Service, U.S. National Institutes of Health, USEPA, Naval Research Laboratory and the USGS. Jeff teaches classes in Aquatic and Hydrologic Science, Watershed Ecology and Lake Management.

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

John Hoopingarner, Executive Director, Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District

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John Hoopingarner was appointed Executive Director of the MWCD in 1989, having previously served as its legal counsel for 10 years. A graduate of Muskingum University (BA) and Ohio Northern University (JD), Mr. Hoopingarner has served as a member of numerous professional and civic boards and organizations. He currently serves as a member of the Ohio Water Advisory Council, the Muskingum River Advisory Council, the Ohio Water Resources Council Advisory Group and the Water Management Association of Ohio Board of Directors.

The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, Our Watershed Initiative

This presentation will include a brief history and overview of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, with emphasis on its aging infrastructure and its plan to address needed maintenance within the system of sixteen dams and reservoirs in the 8,000 square mile Muskingum River Watershed. The legal process of funding such projects will be discussed, including the amendment to the MWCD Official Plan, cost/benefit analysis, public opposition, due process and consensus building. The focus will be on the MWCD mission of responsible stewardship dedicated to conservation, recreation and flood control in the Muskingum River Watershed.

John Watkins, P.E., Chief, ODNR Office of Coastal Management

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Mr. Watkins has been the Chief of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Management since 2006. He was the Supervisor of ODNR Coastal Engineering Group from 1998 to 2003. He served as a District Technician with Medina County Soil and Water Conservation District from 2003 to 2006 and also worked at Ohio EPA's Northeast District office in Solid and Infectious Waste Management Division in the 1990s.

Impacts of Erosion Control Measures on the Lake Erie Shoreline

Darrin Petko, Natural Resources Crew Leader, Stark County Parks

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Mr. Petko earned degrees from Ashland University (bachelor of science) and Hocking College (associates of applied science) and has a masters certificate in Environmental Studies from Youngstown State. He worked for Kentucky Fish and Game Department and the ODNR Division of Wildlife. He has been with natural resources at Stark Parks for nine years where he is the natural resource crew leader.

Water Quality in Stark Parks and Sippo Lake

This presentation will address the data collected by Stark Parks and the methods used. Sippo Lake discussion will include the typical readings, dredging of the lake, and on-going maintenance. Data collected at Walborn and Deer Creek will also be presented. Drinking water and nutrient issues as related to the City of Alliance's water source from Deer Creek will also be addressed.

Thomas U. Gordon, Executive Director, Maine Association of Conservation Districts

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Tom is the Executive Director of the Maine Association of Conservation Districts. He is also the Chair of the Board of Supervisors of Cumberland County SWCD. AS a founding member and the second President of the North American Lake Management Society, he has always loved lakes and worked hard for ecologically sound management of Maine's lakes and watersheds. His current interest is in how lakes and our stories about lakes may serve to reawaken a deeper spirit of place and a more sustainable relationship with nature.

Loving Lakes—Soulfulness in Lake Management

An informal survey of NALMS colleagues regarding personal values and formative experiences with lakes revealed some common themes; positive childhood experiences with lakes, rituals of lakeshore living, a sense of pilgrimage in descending through a watershed, and value of lake environments as places for reflection and spiritual renaissance. As the field of lake management matures, ecopsychology and ecotheology may provide opportunities for lake managers, shoreland property owners, and the general public to explore their deeply personal connections with lakes. Stories of environmental experience may serve to reawaken a deeper spirit of place and more sustainable relationship with lakes.

P R E S E N T A T I O N A B S T R A C T S A N D S P E A K E R ' S B I O S

Linda Merchant-Masonbrink, Environmental Specialist, Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water

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Linda is the Inland Lakes Project Coordinator at Ohio EPA helping to develop a new Inland Lake Monitoring program. She is facilitating the State Inland Lakes Team in the development of a new program that will link lake impairment decisions with the TMDL program. The intent is to report on the condition of inland lakes and highlight impaired lakes in the 208 Integrated Reports. Linda is also leading a Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) initiative. She is coordinating with other state and federal agencies in developing an approach to informing, tracking and reporting on HAB problems. Linda's other job is conducting state-wide source water protection planning workshops for public water supplies.

Linda earned a B.S. degree with a major in microbiology and a M.S. in landscape architecture both from The Ohio State University. She took post-graduate classes in wetland ecology and ecological engineering. She worked as a Section 401 Coordinator in the Division of Surface Water at Ohio EPA, Central Office for 11 years and in Source Water Protection in the Division of Surface Water for 8 years. She has been working on the development of the Inland Lakes Program for the last 4 years.

Update on Ohio EPA's New Inland Lakes Monitoring Program and Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Initiative

Ohio EPA initiated a new Lakes Monitoring Program in 2008 by sampling eight inland lakes with intention to identify impairments, primarily in lakes used for public drinking water or recreation. The goal of this program is to link use impairments for four defined lakes uses (public drinking water supply, recreation, fish consumption, and lake habitat use) to the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) evaluation of contributing tributaries. The purpose is to identify causes of impairment and to trigger actions to improve lake water quality.

Ohio EPA reported preliminary results from 2008 sampling in the 2010 Integrated Report with the exception of the lake habitat use. The criteria for lake habitat use are currently in rule review and are expected to be finalized in 2010. The inland lakes sampled in 2008 are attaining the Class A and Bathing Water *E. coli* criteria at all locations sampled. For fish consumption use, 23% of the 84,700 lake acres reported were impaired. The public drinking water use of one lake was impaired. Ohio EPA sampled 11 lakes in 2009 and will report the data and the lake habitat use data from 2008 in the 2012 Integrated Report. Ohio EPA plans to sample 15 more lakes in 2010.

Findings from the 2007 National Lake Survey indicated that 36.8% of the lakes sampled in Ohio as part of this survey had detectable microcystin levels. Follow-up sampling at Grand Lake St. Marys indicated high levels of microcystin, resulting in the posting of Ohio's first Water Quality Advisory for algal toxins. Ohio EPA is distributing outreach information to increase public awareness of potential risks associated with exposure to HABs. In addition, Ohio EPA is considering how to address HABs and algal toxins during the summer of 2010 and beyond.