



Easton Lake Management Plan

2013-2018 Plan

November 12, 2013

Goals	Action Items	Who	When	Status
	<u>Aquatic Species Management</u>			
Machine harvest aquatic plants to improve water quality, to provide safe boating areas, and to improve aquatic habitat	1. Review harvest plan as needed and revise with WDNR approval.	Easton Lake District WDNR	As needed	ongoing
	2. Start checking into purchasing another harvester.	Easton Lake District	2012-2017	
Define an aquatic plant management plan	3. The Harvesting Coordinator will use form 2010-1 to schedule volunteers and harvesting areas. Form 2010-2 will be used to record amounts harvested, along with a pre-harvesting checklist and any maintenance problems. Use the harvesting map to determine and record the areas harvested.	Easton Lake District	annually	ongoing
Monitor the harvesting of aquatic plants	1. Record the pounds of aquatic plants removed by taking an average weight of a trailer-ull of plants and multiplying this by the number of trailer loads. This will be documented and reported to the WDNR Aquatic Plant Specialist by October 1 of each year.	Easton Lake District	annually	ongoing
Prevent the spread of, and try to eliminate exotic, invasive and noxious species	1. Maintain signs to educate the public about invasive, exotic and noxious species.	Easton Lake District	annually	ongoing
	2. Pursue financial assistance for public education signs on boat launch and dam.	Easton Lake District	2013	
	3. Conduct a Clean Boats, Clean Waters workshop to educate public on Eurasian Watermilfoil and other invasives and importance of removing plants from boats.	Easton Lake District Adams LWCD	2014	

Goals	Action Items	Who	When	Status
Determine what plants exist in the waterway.	1. Complete plant survey and report.	Adams LWCD	2013	done
	2. Investigate benefits of installing barley bundle in lake. Current plan is set up for a 5-year period.	Easton Lake District Adams LWCD	ongoing	
	3. Look into new areas and methods for barley installation. Determine costs and research best methods.	Easton Lake District	2013-2015	
Harvesting areas.	1. No machine harvesting will be done in areas less than 20 feet from shore or 10 feet from the end of a boat dock or in waters less than 4 feet in depth.	Easton Lake District	ongoing	ongoing
	2. Plants will be harvested to a depth about 3 feet below the surface.	Easton Lake District	ongoing	ongoing
	3. Plants being removed include 2 submergent species (common waterweed and coontail) and 2 floating species (small duckweed and common watermeal).	Easton Lake District	ongoing	ongoing
	4. During May and June, the Harvesting Coordinator will determine where harvesting is needed.	Easton Lake District	ongoing	ongoing
	5. During July and August, all areas of the lake will be harvested as determined by the Harvesting Coordinator and as volunteers are available to operate equipment.	Easton Lake District	ongoing	ongoing
	6. During September, all areas will be monitored by the Coordinator for plant growth that would obstruct safe boating to have plants removed as needed.	Easton Lake District	ongoing	ongoing

Goals	Action Items	Who	When	Status
	<u>Water Quality</u>			
Protect present water quality and prevent algae blooms	1. Monitor water quality to measure success of meeting nutrient reduction goals. The lake will be sampled yearly for clarity, chlorophyll-a, and total phosphorus. Compare to data of prior years.	Adams LWCD volunteers	annually	ongoing
Educate community and public about ways to improve water quality	1. Contact agricultural producers and educate them about best management practices.	Adams LWCD	ongoing	ongoing
	<u>Dam Operation and Maintenance</u>			
Operate dam to insure public safety and meet state laws	1. Operate dam according to state approved inspection, operation and maintenance plan.	Adams LWCD	check 3 times/week	ongoing
	<u>Fishery</u>			
Take steps to preserve and maintain healthy fishery	1. Use aggressive fish restocking program using donations, grants, and Lake District funds, according to WDNR regulations.	Easton Lake District	2013-2014	add fish when experts suggest
	2. Post and recommend CATCH AND RELEASE ONLY for all fish for at least two years after initial restocking.	Easton Lake District	2013-2014	ongoing
	3. Mark spawning area off limits to fishing.	Easton Lake District	2013	when identified
	4. Install fish cribs in deeper areas of lake for habitat.	Easton Lake District	2013-2014	update annually

Goals	Action Items	Who	When	Status
	<u>Wildlife</u>			
Improve wildlife and songbird habitat	1. Install osprey nesting platforms.	Easton Lake District	2013	in progress
	2. Purchase and plant beneficial plants birds like for eating and nesting.	Easton Lake District	2013-2013	update annually
	<u>Lake Water Quantity</u>			
Maintain lake levels that enhance water quality and quantity and meet the requirements of Wis. Statute Chapter 31	1. Operate dam to maintain lake levels and outflows as required by the WDNR.	Adams LWCD	ongoing	ongoing
	2. Gather information and develop plan to dredge navigational channels. Present findings to WDNR.	Easton Lake District	2013-2016	
	a. Is it possible?	Adams LWCD		
	b. What is the cost involved?			
	c. Are grants available?			

Goals	Action Items	Who	When	Status
	<u>ITEMS COMPLETED</u>			
New dam design/costs	Request that new dam design cost be kept as simple as possible.	Easton Lake District	completed	2008
	This will keep costs down as much as possible for all involved.			
	Ask that County Board consider adding another company besides Ayres to do a study.	Easton Lake District	completed	2008
	After Ayres report is issued, consider hiring an expert to advise the Lake District.	Easton Lake District	completed	2008
	Request that the plan design include shoreline that is accessible for general public, including handicapped, for fishing and recreation (i.e., piers, pathways, etc.)	Easton Lake District	completed	2008
		Easton Lake District	completed	2008
Dredging	Check into dredging lake at boat launch, other channels, use to make retention pond.	Easton Lake District	completed	2008-2009
Remove stumps and other debris when lake is low	Clean up lake as much as possible while water is low.	Easton Lake District	completed	2008-
		volunteers		
Restock fish	Check to see what was done at Lawrence Lake near Westfield.	Easton Lake District	completed	2011
Shoreline restoration	Check into feasibility of using riprap, using grants if available.	Easton Lake District	completed	2008
	<i>not feasible due to size of Easton Lake</i>			
	Get more information as to feasibility of doing plantings or other things to shoreline to reduce nutrients from entering lake.	Easton Lake District	completed	2009-2010
	<i>LWCD has cost-share information for all property owners</i>			

Reduce farm runoff	Lobby state government and work with county lake alliance to pass new laws and/or enforce current laws about run-off.	Easton Lake District	completed	
	<i>shoreland protection ordinance goes into effect on 7/1/15</i>			
Update septic systems	Check into options regarding updating of septic systems that border or run into the lake.	Easton Lake District	completed	2009-2010
	<i>Planning & Zoning has issued septic system maintenance agreements to all property owners</i>			
Machine harvest aquatic plants to improve water quality, provide safe boating areas, and improve aquatic habitat	Modify harvesting plan to define areas to be harvested, timing of harvesting, and harvester drivers. Receive WDNR approval on revisions.	Easton Lake District WDNR	completed	until 2011
Protect water quality and prevent algal blooms	Investigate study on geese impact on water quality. Report findings to Easton Lake District Board. Contact WDNR for allowable control methods.	Adams LWCD	2007	
	<i>geese are covered by the Federal Migratory Bird Act</i>			
Educate community and public about way to improve water quality	Conduct workshop on shoreline restoration. <i>info distributed at Adams County Lake Conference in 2010</i>	Adans KWCD	2010	
Maintain lake levels that enhance water quality and meet the requirements of Wis. Stats Chapter 31	Gather information and develop a plan to install a sediment basin. Present findings to WDNR. <i>not feasible to excavate area</i>	Easton Lake District Adans KWCD	completed	2008
Dredging	Determine costs, areas to dredge, and places to relocate material for hydraulically dredging spoils from lake bottom. Lake District members to vote before any dredging occurs. <i>not economically feasible</i>	Easton Lake District	completed	2011-2012

Maintain stable stream flows in and out of Easton Lake	Operate dam in proactive manner so large quantities of water are not released causing downstream flooding and stream bank erosion. Lake levels will be lowered in a slow, consistent manner to accommodate heavy rains and/or snowmelt runoff. <i>gate opening set to 25% bottom flow--morning glory designed to accept overflow</i>	Adams LWCD		ongoing
Shoreline restoration	Educate Lake District members on Adams County Shoreland Protection Ordinance <i>updated county ordinance takes effect on 7/1/15</i>	Easton Lake District	annually	