

Town of Plum Lake Lakes Committee
Chris Wise, Chairman
3185B Hanson Road
Sayner, WI 54560

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Chris Wise, Chairman
Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake
715-542-3108

July 6, 2009

FIRST ANNUAL "ADOPT A SHORELINE" COMMUNITY-WIDE SURVEY OF SAYNER/STAR LAKE LAKESHORES

On July 5 volunteers in the Town of Plum Lake met to conduct their first annual "Adopt a Shoreline" aquatic invasive species (AIS) lakeshore survey. The Township of Plum Lake, which includes the villages of Sayner and Star Lake, contains 37 lakes. In 2005, the Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake was organized to help protect these lakes from aquatic invasive species through public awareness education and monitoring. They were recipients of a Wisconsin DNR 2009 AIS Prevention/Education Grant. This project was part of their work under that grant to increase public awareness of the threat of AIS to area lakes.

On Sunday afternoon, 54 volunteers from all over the township, including people from all of the seven highest usage lakes, met at the Plum Lake Golf Course Clubhouse where they received training on aquatic invasive species identification, collection of plant specimens and other shoreline monitoring techniques. After an afternoon of surveying their chosen shorelines, volunteers returned to the Clubhouse with their specimens where their plant samples were identified. No invasives, new to the waters of the Town of Plum Lake were found among the many plant and animal samples that were collected.

The volunteers will repeat monitoring their shorelines at 4-week intervals throughout the summer.

"The Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake has a strong history of working to protect township lakes," states Chris Wise, Chairman of the Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake. "To date these efforts have included the *Clean Boats, Clean Waters* project as well as extensive in-lake monitoring. The "Adopt a Shoreline" project, which adds shoreline to the in-lake monitoring, focusing on early detection, expands those efforts." Wise continues, "We remain committed to our mission to protect our lakes and welcome anyone interested in volunteering and learning more to contact us."

The event was coordinated by the Town of Plum Lake Lakes Committee, the Ballard-Irving-White Birch Lake Association, the Star/Little Star Lakes Association and the Plum Lake Riparians. For additional information contact Chris Wise, 3185B Hanson Road, Sayner or call 715-542-3108.

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