

ADDITIONAL/REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CLWMP

Recommendation C-3. Develop and promote watershed public education campaigns, including, but not limited to:

- **The impact of stormwater runoff on watershed streams and the Lake**
- **Heighten watershed resident, user and guest awareness of Conesus Lake and the impact of human activities on the health of the Lake**

Priority: Medium

Summary

There is a need to improve public awareness of the relationship between activities occurring in the watershed and the effect of those actions on the health of Conesus Lake.

Benefits to Conesus Lake

Increased awareness of the health of Conesus Lake among all watershed residents, users and guests is crucial for the success of management plan implementation.

Implementation Strategy

The Public Education and Outreach Committee of the Watershed Council should develop or adapt appropriate public information materials and activities. Partnerships with other organizations involved in this area of public education are encouraged.

Lead agency and involved agencies

Lead: Public Education and Outreach Committee of the Watershed Council

Involved: Livingston County Planning Department, Conesus Lake Watershed Manager, Conesus Lake Association, Livingston County Department of Health, Watershed Inspector

Measures and Targets

One new public information or education product or campaign per year.

Adopted by the Conesus Lake Watershed Council 3/26/2009

Recommendation D-5. Develop and promote public education campaigns on road maintenance and safety in the watershed, including, but not limited to:

- Sensible winter driving
- Why and when road ditches are cleaned
- Need to keep yard debris and trash out of road ditches

Priority: Medium

Summary

Watershed residents and the driving public will be affected by changes in salting practices, as reductions may affect safe winter driving practices. There is a need to improve public awareness of the relationship between keeping ditches clear and the safe flow of water from road surfaces.

Benefits to Conesus Lake

Cooperation with the proposed recommendations is crucial for the success of this management plan. People in the watershed need to be aware of and understand the reasons for (and possible consequences of) changing deicing practices, ditch maintenance, and other road-related recommendations.

Implementation Strategy

The Public Education and Outreach Committee of the Watershed Council should develop or adapt appropriate public information materials.

Lead agency and involved agencies

Lead: Public Education and Outreach Committee of the Watershed Council

Involved: Livingston County Highway Department, Municipal Highway Departments, Livingston County Planning Department, Conesus Lake Watershed Inspector, **Conesus Lake Watershed Manager**

Measures and Targets

One new public information or education product per year.

Adopted by the Conesus Lake Watershed Council 3/26/2009

Recommendation E-6: Allow portable ice-fishing shelters for daily use on Conesus Lake. These shelters must be removed from the Lake at least once in each 24-hour period.

Priority: Low

Summary

Ice fishing used to be a popular sport in Conesus Lake. The decline in winter angling is related to the decline in the yellow perch population as well as a series of warm winters. This recommendation is targeted to making the lake more attractive for ice fishing, while preventing abandoned structures on the lake during ice-off.

Benefits to Conesus Lake

This strategy is expected to slightly increase the number of winter anglers using Conesus Lake.

Implementation Strategy

This recommendation originally allowed portable ice-fishing shelters with one open side. This recommendation has been amended to allow all temporary ice-fishing shelters, including four-sided shelters, on Conesus Lake. These shelters must be removed at least once in each 24-hour period. This amendment addresses the lack of commercial availability of three-sided shelters. This revised recommendation would be consistent with the latest version of the proposed watershed rules and regulations submitted by Livingston County to the New York State Department of Health in 2007.

Lead agency and involved agencies

Lead: Livingston County Department of Health

Involved: Livingston County Planning Department, Public Education and Outreach Committee, Conesus Lake Association, Towns of Conesus, Geneseo, Groveland, Sparta, Livonia; Villages of Avon and Geneseo.

Measures and Targets

- Draft revisions to watershed rules and regulations by June 2007 – *COMPLETE*
- Local endorsement of the revisions by August 2007 and forward to NYSDOH – *COMPLETE*
- NYSDOH review and approve by December 2007
- Ice-fishing structures allowable by winter of 2007-2008

Cost

Revising the watershed rules and regulations will require a commitment of staff time.

Adopted by the Conesus Lake Watershed Council 11/9/2007

Recommendation G-8. Determine if new technologies would be effective in Conesus Lake to improve water quality or enhance the recreational use of the Lake. Proceed with plans for implementation if effectiveness is warranted and monitor for environmental impacts.

Priority: High

Summary

The Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan was created to be a living document that would adapt to the changing conditions of the Lake and would facilitate investigation into new ways of treating the source and symptoms of the Lake's water quality problems.

Benefits to Conesus Lake

Each new technology proposed would have to be carefully examined for its benefit to Conesus Lake and the watershed.

Implementation Strategy

- Each new technology identified and presented as having a potential positive impact on Conesus Lake water quality would undergo a thorough review by the Technical Committee.
- Identify involved agencies, and create subcommittees as needed.
- If the Technical Committee determines that a new technology may have a positive impact, a pilot program could be undertaken to test the effectiveness of the technology.
- Identify agencies and funding sources for proposed pilot program.
- If the Technical Committee determines that a new technology would be effective in Conesus Lake to improve water quality or enhance the recreational use of the Lake, then a new recommendation for the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan could be formulated following the "Procedure for amending Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan" adopted by the Conesus Lake Watershed Council on February 10, 2006.
- Review and adoption of new recommendation by Conesus Lake Watershed Council.

Lead agency and involved agencies

Lead: CLWC Technical Committee. Other lead agencies to be determined based on technology proposed.

Involved: CLWC Technical subcommittees, as needed. Other involved agencies to be determined based on technology proposed.

Measures and Targets

- Dependent on new technology proposed.

Cost

Dependent on new technology proposed.

Adopted by the Conesus Lake Watershed Council 5/12/2006

Recommendation G-9. Initiate effort to determine if water circulation devices, including, but not limited to, SolarBee, would be effective in Conesus Lake to decrease algae and nuisance aquatic plant concentrations. Proceed with plans for implementation if effectiveness is warranted and monitor for environmental impacts.

Priority: High

Summary

Nuisance aquatic plant and algae concentrations in cove and nearshore areas with poor water circulation are a significant issue affecting recreational use and aesthetics of the Lake. The SolarBee is a floating solar-powered water circulator. The SolarBee creates a column of rising water below the machine and spreads this water gently across the top of the lake in a long distance flow pattern, which is reported to disrupt the water surface enough to impede algae bloom formation.

Benefits to Conesus Lake

Conesus Lake is enriched in nutrients because of land use in the watershed. Ultimately, reductions in nutrient and sediment load are the key to lake restoration. The SolarBee does not affect the root cause of the impaired conditions. The units are being proposed as a means to help reduce the symptoms of the excess nutrients: excess algae blooms and nuisance aquatic plants.

The induced mixing from the SolarBee may prevent development of the quiescent conditions needed for algal bloom formation. Reduction in algal blooms will enhance the use of Conesus Lake for recreational purposes and improve the aesthetics of the Lake.

If results of a pilot test indicate that this restoration technique would be effective in Conesus Lake, then installation at a larger scale may be warranted.

Implementation Strategy

- A three-unit SolarBee pilot program would be the initial step. The Conesus Lake Association, the Town of Conesus, the Town of Geneseo, the Town of Groveland, the Town of Livonia and Livingston County would provide funding for the pilot program. Two units would be located in the North end of the Lake, and one would be located near Wadsworth Cove on the west side of the Lake.
- Third party monitoring (SUNY Brockport/Geneseo) would be conducted to determine the effectiveness of the technology.
- If pilot program is successful, cost estimates and detailed locations for expansion of pilot program to a larger scale would be developed.
- Permits and SEQR (if required)
- If pilot program is successful, identify funding for full-scale installation.
- Public education.

Lead agency and involved agencies

Lead: Conesus Lake Association, Town of Geneseo, Town of Livonia and Livingston County

Involved: Livingston County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol, Town of Conesus, Town of Groveland, academic institutions and NYSDEC

Measures and Targets

- Installation of units, April 2006
- Preliminary report and analysis, October 2006

- Presentation of preliminary report to Towns for consideration in 2007 Town budgets, October 2006
- Update analysis and presentation for Conesus Lake Watershed Council meeting, February 2007
- Year 2 decision to continue pilot program at same level, discontinue or pursue larger deployment, February 2007
- If pilot program demonstrates success to the satisfaction of the lead agencies:
 - Cost estimates, funding request and detailed installation expansion plan
 - Full-scale installation
- Public education efforts before and during pilot program. Additional public education efforts if full-scale program is proposed after pilot program.

Cost

The estimated cost for leasing three SolarBees in a pilot program is approximately \$19,000 each, with a total of \$57,000 for the first year. At the end of the lease, the Towns and the Conesus Lake Association will have the choice of purchasing the units. The 2006 cost for a SolarBee unit is approximately \$40,000, and the manufacturer would credit 80% of the leased cost towards the purchase of a unit.

Possible funding sources for future purchase and maintenance of SolarBee units include, but are not limited to, a Special Benefit District and/or State/Federal grants.

Adopted by the Conesus Lake Watershed Council 5/12/2006