

Indian Lake Watershed Project
324 County Road 11
Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

Phone: 937-593-2946
Fax: 937-592-3350

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Bellefontaine, Ohio
Permit No. 324



2009 ILWP Annual Meeting and Recognition Banquet

Mark your calendars for Thursday, August 20, 2009, and plan to join us for an evening of good food and fellowship. The 2009 ILWP Annual Meeting and Recognition Banquet will be held at the Indian Lake Community Church Fellowship Hall, 121 Orchard Island Rd. N, Russells Point, Ohio.

Watch your mailbox for your special invitation with all the details!

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!



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PROJECT
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BELLEFONTAINE, OHIO
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WATERSHED LINK

SPRING 2009

A LITTLE BIT OF "VEGAS" AT THE LAKE

On Saturday, April 18, the Eagles Annex, located on the north side of Indian Lake was transformed into a "Las Vegas" style casino club. When you walked through the entrance you saw people playing Black Jack, Wheel of Fortune, Hi-Low Dice Game, buying chances for a 50/50 drawing and playing "Bar Bingo". Over 120 people enjoyed Chef Jim Weybright's delicious fish dinner with all the fixin's.

Thank you to all the area businesses and organizations who donated items that were raffled off at a live auction. Participants purchased these items with their "poker chip winnings". A \$50 Lowe's gift card was pur-

chased for \$100,000! (that was poker chip dollars!!)



The **GRAND PRIZE**

was a 2-night stay at the Grand Victoria Casino and Resort and \$500 cash. The winner was Carol McKinley from Belle Center, Ohio.

The event netted over \$3,000.00 for the watershed project endowment fund.

Thanks to all who supported the event. Mark your calendars for next April 17, tentative date for next year's event. (That's the Saturday after your tax deadline—time to



What is a Rain Garden?

A rain garden is an attractive, landscaped area planted with perennial native plants which don't mind getting "wet feet." They are beautiful gardens, built in depressions, which are designed to capture and filter storm water runoff from impervious

surfaces around the home, such as rooftops and driveways.

The benefits of rain gardens are multiple and include their ability to perform the following functions:

-Help keep water clean by filtering storm water runoff before it enters local waterways, like Indian Lake.

-Help alleviate problems associated with flooding and drainage.

-Enhance the beauty of individual yards and communities.

-Provide habitat and food for wildlife including birds and butterflies.

-Recharge the ground water supply.

Want to learn more about rain gardens and how it can enhance your property check out the following website for more information:

www.centralohioraingardens.org

Algae: Friend or Foe?

Reprinted from "PONDerings®" Official Newsletter of AQUA DOC'S

Did you know that a micro (small) and macroscopic (large) battle is going on in your lake or pond between different types of algae? Is algae a friend or foe when a beneficial productive and healthy ecosystem is your goal? If you learn more about algae, you will find that the answer is both?

Algae are primitive plants closely related to bacteria and fungi. They exhibit no true leaves, stems or root systems and reproduce by means of spores, cell division or fragmentation. At least 17,400 species of algae have been identified.

In the aquatic environment; algae are the first plants to show up and usually the last to exit in the water. Algae build the base of the food chain in the aquatic world and are the key to maintaining balance and productivity. This balance is different for every water body. How do you label friend or foe?

Planktonic Algae—At high densities, their presence will cause the water to appear like pea soup green, or tan to brown in color. Many species can be friends such as seasonal populations of diatoms.

Single celled green algae and blue green algae provide oxygen and are important food sources to fuel the food chain.

Planktonic algae species usually thought of to be friends can become foe. When you see the color change in the water you have thousands of cells per milliliter. After the population boom, many times comes the crash. This occurrence may result in a die-off summer kill of fish due to oxygen depletion. Some species may be toxic to livestock, wildlife or even man.

Filamentous Algae— Often called "String Algae" or "Moss", filamentous algae forms dense mats that start at the bottom at the edges of a water body. As the mats form they produce oxygen that buoys the algal colony to the surface. The texture of these growths may be slimy, cottony or coarse like steel wool.

In low densities many forms of filamentous algae have little adverse effect on the ecosystem balance in a lake or pond. They can produce oxygen and provide a food source for aquatic organisms. This form of algae, can quickly bloom into foe if not managed before bloom conditions exist. When extensive mats form and are not pro-

actively managed, they shade out beneficial aquatic flowering plants and algae. The dying mats can deplete oxygen when they die and degrade. Dense filaments have little value in providing habitat for fish.

Attached "Plant Like" Forms—These advanced forms of algae, which are green to yellow green in appearance, are often mistaken for higher flowering plants. A good way to help identify them is by the musky odor and the gritty, sandpaper like texture resulting from the calcium deposits on the surface. As with filamentous algae, attached bottom growing forms can form dense growths and have similar adverse effects, switching from friend to foe.

Friend or Foe? The answer is both. Algae are an important component of all aquatic ecosystems. When balance shifts to bloom conditions many adverse effects can result; it then becomes a foe. Lake and pond managers with experience and skill in identification use specific algaecide formulations and rates to match the form and density of the bloom. Early identification and proactive management will reduce the amount of product needed and maximize results.

It's not too late to renew your ILWP membership for 2009

Think about the San Juan Ball Room, wooden roller coaster, paddle boat rides and the hundreds of other memories from a generation ago that are gone forever. Do you want the same thing to happen to our State Park, fishing tournaments, local businesses and clean water? Of course not!

That is the reason we are requesting your assistance today to protect these things you and others in the community have

worked so hard to build and achieve. Good water quality will not remain unless we plan now to protect it in the future. Joining the ILWP now will help the Indian Lake Watershed Project accomplish its long term goal of **"Improving Indian Lake....One drop at a time!"** It takes a blend of implementing, protecting and persevering best management practices to make certain that goal is accomplished.

If you have not renewed your membership for 2009, it is not too late. Please use the form below to renew your membership today. The Indian Lake Watershed Project is also a victim of the current economic situation. Your continued support will help carry on the mission of the ILWP.

JOIN TODAY!!! The dues for 2009 remain at \$10.00

STOP!!! If you have already joined the ILWP for 2009, you do not have to renew your membership at this time. If you have NOT, please complete the membership form and return with your check for \$10.00 made payable to ILWP!

Thank you for your continued support!

INDIAN LAKE WATERSHED PROJECT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

YES! I support sound watershed management. I want to help control non point source pollution and wish to join as an Indian Lake Watershed Member! I understand my dues are a tax deductible donation to the Indian Lake Watershed Project.

Please Print

NAME: _____ Annual Dues Only \$ 10.00

ADDRESS: _____

 _____, _____
 (City) (St) Zip

Make Your Check Payable to "ILWP"
 324 Co. Rd. 11
 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311