

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Delavan Lake Improvement Association and Delavan Lake Sanitary District Partner in Healthy Lakes Initiative Program

Healthy Lakes Initiative is a statewide Department of Natural Resources program that offers grants of up to \$1000 for best management practices installed by homeowners on their lakefront property.

In 2017, two grants were awarded to Delavan Lake homeowners and several other grants were awarded in Walworth County.

These are the five best management practices that homeowners can install with grant funding:

- 350 Ft² Native Plantings Create a 350 square foot bed of approved native plants adjacent to the lake, in order to improve wildlife habitat, slow water runoff and promote natural beauty. (Think of the space as 10 x 35 feet.)
- Rain Garden Create a landscaped shallow depression with loose soil and plants designed to collect roof and driveway runoff, in order to improve wildlife habitat, divert, clean and infiltrate runoff water, and promote natural beauty.
- Fish Sticks Place large woody habitat structures (dead trees) in groups near the shore, in order to improve fish and wildlife habitat and prevent shoreline erosion.
- Diversion Practice Intercept runoff from a path or road sloping towards the lake using a water bar, diverter, and/or broad-based dip, in order to divert water runoff from going directly to the lake.
- Rock Infiltration Practice Create an excavated pit or trench filled with rock that stores runoff underground, in order to divert, clean and infiltrate runoff water.

The DLIA and DLSD will help homeowners apply for these grants. There will be an informational meeting at the DLSD Office, 2900 County Road F South, Delavan, on Saturday June 2nd at 10:00 a.m. There will be a presentation at 10:00 about the program, and then at 11:00, Lisa Reas of LJ Reas Environmental Consulting will discuss her Healthy Lakes project in Delavan and give ideas to homeowners.

Light refreshments will be served and homeowners can get information about the five project types and the grant process. Applications are due 2/1/19 for the 2019 season but your information will have to be ready by 9/30/18. Some Walworth County permit fees may be waived for grant recipients.

To RSVP for the meeting or for more information call Audrey Greene at the DLSD Office, 262-728-4100, or email info@delavan-lake.org. The Town is holding its annual Lakefest at Community Park on June 2nd so plan to attend the Healthy Lakes Grant informational meeting then stop at Lakefest for lunch and entertainment.

More information can be found at The Healthy Lakes website www.healthylakeswi.com.