Ecosystem Services: A Graduate Seminar
February 6, 2009

• Management of Dane County water resources
• Yahara Lakes Legacy Partnership
• Organizational challenges

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Dane County Water Resources

- 54 lakes
- >20,000 total acres total
- 475 miles of streams and rivers
- 14 miles of Wisconsin River
- 52,000 acres wetlands
- All drinking water from groundwater

6 cities: Fitchburg, Madison, Middleton, Monona, Sun Prairie, Verona
5 villages: DeForest, Maple Bluff, McFarland, Shorewood Hills, Waunakee
6 townships: Blooming Grove, Burke, Madison, Middleton, Westport, Windsor
UW - Madison
Dane County

Madison Area Municipal Storm Water Partnership (MAMSWaP)
CARPC is:

- “the agency capable of developing effective areawide water quality plans for Dane County”
- “shall work with communities to update the Dane County Water Quality Plan”

Authorized to define areas that:

- should be protected from development based on provisions to protect water quality as contained in NR 121 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code
- can be developed with measures to protect, restore or minimize degradation of water quality

Plan Implementation

(s. 33.457, Wis. Stats.)

- Shoreland, floodplain, wetland ordinances
- Stormwater plans
- Urban water quality standards
- Agricultural erosion control
- Barnyard/feedlot waste management
- Construction erosion control
- Algae & plant management standards
- Financing
Plan Implementation
(s. 33.457, Wis. Stats.)

- Dredging and navigability
- Water levels and flows
- Shorelines, banks and beds
- Recreation
- Navigational & boating regulations
- Research & feasibility studies

What roles should a coordinating body play?

1. Coordinates with all relevant existing institutional & governmental entities
2. Engages all relevant stakeholders in priority-setting & decision-making
3. Possesses needed decision-making authority
4. Provides needed legal and policy analysis
5. Provides consistent & cohesive leadership
6. Compiles and distributes all relevant data & information
7. Provides necessary staff support
8. Takes full advantage of all potential public & private funding sources
9. Develops long-range comprehensive plans
10. Achieves concrete results

Applying these criteria to L&W:
A poll of L&W commissioners & staff
The lakes define our community and region and are integral to everything we are and do.

The quality of our lakes have deteriorated over time as our population and use have increased.
We now have an unprecedented opportunity to meet long-standing challenges in a new way.

**Lead Groups:**
- MOU signatories: WDNR; DATCP; Dane Co; Madison

**Issues:**
- Community Vision
- Sediment, Nutrients, Beach Bacteria

**Outcomes (by Dec 2009):**
- Identify & implement short-term actions that are consistent with public vision

**Goals:**
- Support near-term goals of Yahara CLEAN
- Implement long-term plan through a successor Yahara Watershed partnership

**Partnership & 1st Year Funding:**
1. Yahara CLEAN MOU ($140,000 - County)
2. Madison $25,000 budget amendment ("pull together stakeholders and community members to establish clear and achievable goals and an implementation plan for cleaning the lakes")
3. Madison Community Foundation $50,000 grant to Clean Wisconsin & Gathering Waters Conservancy for Yahara Lakes' vision & planning
Goal: Implementation of a comprehensive visionary plan to protect & improve the Yahara chain of lakes:
• Detailed implementation steps & funding plans
• Clearly-defined roles & responsibilities for all stakeholders

Coordinating Committee

Advisory Groups
• Visioning Group
• Nutrients & Sediments Group
• Beach Bacterial Group
Next Steps

- Stakeholder engagement plan
- Work plan (both short & long-term)
- Implementation team

Needs For Future Progress

- Project management
- Funding (short & long-term)
- Structure for long-term broad successor partnership