



Inventory & Monitoring Committee Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2008, 4-5:30 p.m.
Onekama

Participants

Herb Lenon, Mike Acton, Dave VanEerden, Jim Simons, Jim Hunter, Frank Beaver, Laura Heintzelman

Welcome and Introductions

Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting and distributed copies of the Monitoring & Evaluation Plan section of the Portage Lake Watershed Forever Plan to guide the discussion. He also shared copies of the data sheets used to collect and track *E. coli* samples in 2007. He reviewed the purposes of the Inventory & Monitoring Committee as discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on March 26, 2008, and the expectations for this meeting.

ID 2008 Needs and Priorities

The group discussed the Monitoring & Evaluation Plan in detail and identified the following 2008 priorities:

1. Conduct *E. coli* sampling at popular swimming areas
 - a. Village Beach – once per week from May 31 – Oct 1 (per District 10 HD Sanitary Code). Three replicate samples will be taken during each sampling event. (1 site x 18 weeks x 3 replicates = 54 samples)
 - b. Portage Point Inn beach, Little Eden Camp beach, Covenant Lake Bible Camp beach, and Wik-A-The-Wak beach on or near July 4, August 1, and August 30 (peak use periods). Three replicate samples will be taken during each sampling event. (4 sites x 3 events x 3 replicates/event = 36 samples)
2. *E. coli* monitoring at Lake Michigan beach north of Portage Lake channel. District 10 Health Department will test the beach every week for 10 weeks from July through mid-September during 2008. Results will be shared with PLWF and posted to MDEQ web site.
3. Conduct *E. coli* sampling at other sites of potential risk of contamination during times of peak use (July 4, August 1, August 30). Three replicate samples will be taken during each sampling event.
 - a. Schimke Creek outlet
 - b. Easy Street

c. Onekama Marine

(3 sites x 3 events x 3 replicates/event = 27 samples)

4. Continue long-term trend water quality data collection including measuring dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll-a, clarity (secchi), pH, and a temperature profile. Onekama School students will continue this work each spring and fall during turnover and will sample the two deep basins and one shallow site.
5. Begin dissolved oxygen profiles during summer stratification (mid-June, mid-July, mid-August) at two deep basins in lake. The group discussed borrowing or purchasing a DO meter.
6. Cladophora shoreline survey and note other characteristics as feasible including invasive plant species. Herb Lenon has a colleague who offered to help get us started. Late-July through early-August is the optimal time for this survey. Herb will contact his colleague and recruit volunteers to assist with the survey. A map and GPS will be needed. Frank Beaver offered that LRBOI may be able to assist with a GIS map and data layers. Locations of cladophora, etc. could be mapped using a GPS and added to the map.
7. ID locations of storm drains that empty into Portage Lake. This may be completed as part of the Cladophora/shoreline survey.

The group discussed getting key stakeholders and partners, particularly those that own a site to be tested, involved as volunteers and/or financial contributors. They will work with the Community Outreach & Education Committee and community partners to disseminate the sampling plans and results.

Committee Organization

Herb Lenon agreed to serve as Chair and Frank Beaver agreed to serve as Recorder for 2008.