

MAYNARD LAKE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER
FALL 2004

Annual Meeting

The Maynard Lake Homeowners Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, October 25, 2004 at the Lincolnshire Country Club at 7 P.M. This is an important meeting where important issues about the protection and rejuvenation of the lake will be discussed. The Board hopes all homeowners will attend.

Welcome to the Neighborhood

Two new families have moved to Maynard Drive! Let's all welcome them.

Dale Bauer and Gordon Hutner moved to Champaign in July 2004 from Lexington, Kentucky, where they had lived since 1999. Both are English professors at the University of Illinois. Previously they had also taught at the University of Wisconsin—Dale for 9 years, Gordon for 17. Dale grew up in Buffalo and southern California; Gordon, in New Jersey. They have two children, 9 year-old twins, Dan and Jake, who are in the 3rd grade at Robeson School. The family belongs to Sinai Temple and enjoys trips to Chicago and visiting grandparents in southern California and Florida.

John, Katharine, Hans and Liam Dee moved to Maynard Lake from Boca Raton and Parkland, Florida. John has accepted the Bill A. Nugent Professor of Oboe at the University of Illinois. He was the Principal Oboe of the Florida Philharmonic Orchestra and Professor of Oboe at the University of Miami and The Harid Conservatory of Music in Boca Raton. Katharine specialized in high-risk obstetric ultrasound at Johns Hopkins before moving back to Boca Raton, and is an internationally published medical textbook illustrator. Hans is at Judah Christian PreK three days a week and Liam is a "stay at home" toddler.

The Lake Committee Report: "Please Don't Feed The Lake"

For the past six months, a special water quality committee made up of five of our homeowners, in conjunction with our association board, has been studying various ways to improve the overall quality of water in our beautiful lake. Much research and investigation has been completed and various experts have been consulted. Some topics explored include dredging, aeration, elimination of grass carp, discouragement of geese from residing on the lake, use of low/no phosphorous lawn fertilizers, and the use of various chemicals and bacteria to reduce algae and improve water clarity. These topics (among others) will be discussed at the annual homeowners meeting in November, and your attendance at this very important meeting is strongly encouraged.

We have attached with this newsletter an article from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources entitled "Please Don't Feed The Lake", which stresses the importance of the exercise watershed management by all of those people so fortunate as to be waterfront residents. Our research has also arrived at a conclusion that any measures that we might take to improve our lake would be greatly diminished, if not entirely defeated, by residents exercising poor watershed management practices. We urge you to read and to re-read this article, and to bear in mind at all times that whatever we place, pore, dump, or burn in our streets or along the shores surrounding our lake is very likely to end up in our beautiful lake. Whether it is grass clippings that the mower lets shoot in the direction of the street or lake, or fertilizing lawns too close to the street or lake, or burning brush or leaves on the street or shoreline, all of this results in organic matter that

ends up in our lake, thereby greatly stressing the health of the lake. (The science is quite remarkable.)

We are asking all residents to join us in observing the practices set forth in the accompanying article from the Wisconsin DNR. It is the very least that we can do for our lake and for the benefit of one another. Please, please join us.

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Please Don't Feed the Lake!

After a hard rain, check out what's washing into the nearest lake. Nearby farms, construction sites, houses, gardens and lawns add nutrients and sediments, contributing to excessive algae and plant growth. Simply put, what feeds your own crops, lawns, and gardens also overfeeds the lake's greenery!

What you do to your land tends to show up in a lake. Follow these simple steps to slow water runoff and minimize nutrient overloading:

- **Maintain vegetation on steep hills and banks, or terrace steep slopes**
- **Leave a natural vegetation buffer zone near your lakeshore**
- **Do you really need to fertilize your lawn? If so, apply only what is recommended through soil testing**
- **Remove cut aquatic plants and dead fish from lakeshore**
- **Use compost from lawn clippings or harvested aquatic plants to fertilize gardens and flowers**
- **Don't burn lawn wastes or sweep the leaves and lawn clippings into street gutters**
- **Direct runoff from rooftop downspouts to areas where it can soak into the soil**
- **Minimize paved and impermeable surfaces**
- **Minimize soil disturbance during construction and revegetate bare areas as soon as possible**

Managing Aquatic Vegetation

By limiting nutrient enrichment: Limiting the amount of nutrients entering a lake is a good way to reduce long-term plant growth. If you live on or near a lakeshore, use only the recommended amount of fertilizer and apply it only in the fall, use a no- or low-phosphorus fertilizer. Leave a buffer zone of unmowed, unfertilized lawn between the yard and the lake, or establish a filter strip of native vegetation. Never fertilize right up to the lake edge. Collect and compost lawn clippings and fallen leaves. Do not rake them into the lake or burn them near the shore. Finally, be sure that your septic system is operating correctly and not draining into the lake. For other ideas on how to limit nutrient input into bodies of water, refer to the Shoreland Best Management Practices packet from the Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Minnesota Arrowhead Water Quality Team.

By sustainable lawn care: Manage lawn and garden through sustainable management practices, which promote low inputs of fertilizers, herbicides, and insecticides into your yard. For instance, some grasses do not grow well in shady areas and the gardener might be tempted to use fertilizers and herbicides to encourage growth. Instead, replace grasses in shady areas with shade-tolerant ground covers. If weeds become a problem, spot spray weeds or remove them by hand. For more information, refer to Sustainability in Urban Ecosystems, a bulletin (FO-6709) and video (VH-6639) available from the University of Minnesota Extension Service at (612) 625-8173.

Leaves, grass clippings, and granules of fertilizer left on paved surfaces all find their way into your lake. Compost the leaves and grass clippings, and use a drop spreader for better control when fertilizing. If a buffer zone of native vegetation separates your grass from the lake, leave grass clippings on the lawn, whether or not you have a mulching mower. Lawn clippings do not contribute to thatch build-up, because clippings decompose rapidly and add nutrients to the soil. Leaving the clippings all season is equivalent to one fertilizer application, saving money and time. When mowing, keep the turf height at about three inches, mow frequently, and take off no more than one-third of the leaf blade at a time so as not to stress the plants. All these methods promote turf growth and health in a more sustainable way.