

## TRI-LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

### HISTORY OF MILESTONES – APPENDIX K

DATE	MARKER
May 15, 1984	Tri-Lakes Management District formed following official approval by Adams County Board – County Board Order #34
Sept 1, 1984	By-Laws were adopted at first Annual Meeting held September 1, 1984; budget of \$68,000 for 1985 was approved
1986 – 1987	Land purchased and maintenance building/office was constructed at 1555 Apache Avenue.
1986	An Aquamarine Harvester was purchased from Lake Weed Cutting Service in Hartland, WI
1993	Jointly funded with WDNR a Watershed Characterization study conducted by Blue Water Science.
1994	Purchased weed harvester #2 from Aquarius with financial assistance through a WDNR grant.
1994	Tri-Lakes and Adams County jointly funded restoration dredging around the islands on Lake Sherwood.
1995	Purchased 2 weed harvesters (#3 and #4) from Inland with financial assistance through a WDNR grant.
1997	Purchased weed harvester #1 from Inland with financial assistance through a WDNR grant.
1997 – 2003	By permit of WDNR, conducted weed spraying program on selected properties on Lakes Arrowhead, Camelot and Sherwood.
1997 - 1998	Tri-Lakes and Town of Rome secured grant to evaluate existing septic systems on Lakes Camelot and Sherwood. Of the sample septic systems that were evaluated, 95% of Camelot's and 82% of Sherwood's were found to meet code requirements.
1998	Requested and received authorization from WDNR to begin using bales of barley straw fastened to underside of piers to help control of algae. There is something unique to barley straw (unlike other forms of straw) that helps to control the amount of algae in the water. As the straw decomposes in the lake, it releases a natural chemical which inhibits algal growth and provides an environmentally safe alternative to chemicals.
1999	Conducted study of septic systems on Lake Arrowhead to evaluate the retention of phosphorus in soils beneath the drainfield. Results showed significantly elevated levels of phosphorus beneath the drainfields and suggested that it can migrate through the soils, eventually affecting groundwater.
1999	Tri-Lakes obtained permit to maintenance dredge 2 properties along the Camelot channel as well as several properties on bays on Upper and Lower Camelot and several properties on Lake Sherwood. Permit was for 10 years and subsequent projects were completed in 2001 and 2003
2000	UW-SP conducted study of groundwater flow for WDNR and found that the annual drawdowns on Camelot and Sherwood in the fall actually caused nutrients to reverse flow from land back into the lake and affected water quality.
Jun – Nov, 2000	UW-SP conducted study of water and sediment samples to determine amount of acute toxicity.
2000-2002	Limnological Analysis of the Tri-Lakes was conducted jointly by the US Army Corps of Engineers and UW-Stevens Point Dept. of Natural Resources. The study identified what impacted water quality and recommended developing a lake management plan to improve water quality, inventory phosphorus sources and

	increase buffers between surface water and agricultural land.
2001	Aquatic Plant Communities study prepared for each lake by WDNR, Deb Konkel.
2003	Began working with local group Wildflowers, etc. to control Purple Loosestrife on Walden.
2004	Through the joint efforts of Adams County Land and Water Conservation Department, WDNR and our Tri-Lakes Advisory Group, a five-year Lake Management Plan was developed to identify goals and action items to improve our lakes. We were the first in our county to accomplish this. The Plan is reviewed and updated annually.
July 3, 2004	Formation of a Sanitary District was authorized at Special Meeting of the property owners
2004	Existence of Zebra Mussels in Lake Arrowhead confirmed by WDNR.
Nov 16, 2004	Adams County Board granted authority to implement Septic Inspection and Maintenance program for septic systems located in the district that were installed prior to July 1, 1992
2005	Purchased weed harvester #5 from Aquarius with financial assistance through a WDNR grant.
2005	Began collecting weed samples from each lake and had UW-SP lab determine the amount of phosphorus contained in the plant tissue. This was then used to extrapolate the amount of phosphorus removed from each lake as a result of our mechanical weed harvesting.
2005-2010	Working with WDNR, we began to implement Zebra Mussel monitoring protocol including 3 substrate sampler platforms installed in each lake.
2006	Joined the Adams County Lake Alliance
2006	Aquatic Plant Survey prepared for each lake by Adams County Land and Water Conservation Department.
2007	With financial assistance through a WDNR grant, contracted with Inland to rebuild harvester #4.
2007	Camelot volunteers began monthly water testing program to expand sites tested from 1 per lake to 8 sites plus 6 additional sites in the upper watershed. Tests include phosphorus, dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll-A, secchi dish readings and temperatures at different depths. Program was expanded to Sherwood and Arrowhead in 2008.
2007	Worked with Rome Town Board to develop an ordinance to eliminate the use of phosphorus in lawn fertilizers. This was 3 years prior to the Wisconsin Legislature passing it as a State Law.
2007	Lake Classification Short Reports prepared for each lake by Adams County Land and Water Conservation Department.
2008	AIS signs warning about Zebra Mussels and other invasive species were installed at all 7 of the boat landings – both public and private
2009 - 2014	Implemented Clean Boats, Clean Waters program with AIS grant assistance by WDNR; two summer interns were hired to monitor the boat landings throughout the summer and educate boaters on the importance of not transporting invasive species from one lake to another. A third intern was added in 2012.
2009	Existence of Zebra Mussels in Lake Camelot confirmed by WDNR.
2010	Purchased weed harvester #6 from Inland with no financial assistance.
2010	Existence of Zebra Mussels in Lake Sherwood confirmed by WDNR.
2011	Sold 17-year-old weed harvester #2 to a French company.
2012	Purchased new weed harvester #2 from Aquarius with financial assistance through a WDNR grant.
2012	Organized a Muskrat Control program with the Wisconsin Trappers Association.

2012 – 2014	Began project to raise Cella Beetles at Tri-Lakes as a biocontrol method for decreasing Purple Loosestrife on the Tri-Lakes, especially in the Walden area.
2013	Supported and participated in the formation of RAWRA (Rome Area Water Resources Alliance) to address issues concerning quantity and quality of water. The group met at the Tri-Lakes office.
2013	Rebuilt Harvester #1 and trailer in-house with the aid of grant from WDNR.
2013	Installed GPS on Harvester #5 to evaluate effectiveness in the harvesting operation.
2013	Worked with each lake association to combine funds for stocking fish in each lake. Walleyes were released in the fall. A portion of the Tri-Lakes funding was covered by a DNR grant obtained by Adams County Land and Water.
2014	Established a new and more comprehensive website at <a href="http://www.trilakesmanagement.com">www.trilakesmanagement.com</a> Property owners can sign up for E-Alerts to receive important and time-sensitive information via email.
2014	Worked with US Geological Survey to put out platforms in Walden and the conservatory area of Arrowhead to encourage nesting by loons in central Wisconsin.