

**WRPCO Shoreline Commons Area (SCA)
Informational Meeting in Necedah
August 22, 2009**

Mariann Gorman, Larry Zimmerman, Doug Bruha and Don Schneider attended the WRPCO SCA meeting in Necedah, representing the HMB Community and Condo Association Boards.

The meeting began with WRPCO providing a bit of the history on the development of the Shoreline Commons Area (SCA) vegetation management plan and view shed rules. They indicated that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) had threatened to refuse to renew WRPCO's license to generate power on the lakes for failure to enforce FERC rules and regulations relating to shoreline management. As a result of that action, WRPCO were forced to tighten their enforcement of the rules. They explained that they listened to the concerns of all stakeholders in the area, DNR, Federal Wildlife Agency, FERC, Condo Associations, developers and individual landowners to develop the 2008 SCA Vegetation Management Plan. They indicated that there were considerable negotiations with the stakeholders to develop the compromise plan. The DNR and Federal Wildlife Agency did not want to see any cutting on the SCA.

There was considerable discussion. Attendees had questions relating to the rules and the view shed requirements. A few in attendance continue to believe that they should be able to mow to the shoreline and maintain the SCA as if it were their own property. One argued that cutting three or four times a season would reduce mosquitoes and ticks and encourage growth. At the end of the discussions, WRPCO restated that they believe the final plan is the best that could be obtained to allow some cutting within the boundaries of the SCA and still meet the demands of FERC.

During the presentation, WRPCO commended Half Moon Bay for being proactive in adopting the guidelines related to maintenance of the SCA areas and working with WRPCO to re-establish the "semi-natural" state of the SCA.

The next agenda item addressed the SCA Tree Removal Management program. WRPCO reported that a forester had evaluated all 30 miles of shoreline. As a result, a list of areas to be forested was presented which divided the shoreline into high priority, medium priority and low priority areas. The criteria used was based on risk, risk to the public and tree vigor in general. Half Moon Bay was listed in the high priority area.

WRPCO explained that they would be continuing oak wilt cutting in the Half Moon Bay area. They also indicated that they would be mulching the slash and using the mulch on the SCA trail. Increased effort on the part of WRPCO to maintain the trails, by cutting more often and trimming trees was outlined.

Homeowners voiced concern about the amount of brush that was left as a result of the cutting in some areas. WRPCO advised that while their original intent was to leave the brush for use by homeowners or as cover for wildlife, that they had reassessed that plan and would be addressing it.

Homeowners also asked what plans there were to replace the trees that were removed. WRPCO answered that they were using red and white pines and maples to reforest areas.

WRPCO reviewed the view-shed requirements and also mentioned one new item. A lot owner may maintain a 4 foot cut path that could be mulched (no stone) to the SCA trail without separate approval (not from the path to the lake, however.) If a view shed is applied for and approved, this trail must be within the limits of the view shed.

The final item of discussion was related to a vegetation management plan within the Petenwell Flowage. There are no plans for a similar plan on Castle Rock Lake. The only impact to HMB and Castle Rock Lake is that the draw down periods for the winter months may be adjusted slightly to handle the new schedule for the Petenwell Dam.

Following the meeting Larry Zimmerman talked with Darrin Johnson about the DNR request for additional information and a \$500 payment related to the marina application. Darrin indicated they would respond and WRPCO would pay the additional application fee. Also, Don Schneider talked with Darrin about the use of the driveway reflectors to replace the steel posts marking the lot boundaries in the Condo Common Area. He indicated he would be looking at the sample and get back to us. He thought it would work fine and that he would be approving the use of the driveway reflectors.

Anyone interested in more information on these issues should visit www.wisconsinriverpower.com.

Just a note brought up at the meeting: It was recommended that there be no cutting of oak trees from April 1 through August 31 on owner's property to help prevent the spread of the oak wilt disease. This applies to all land owners, both next to the water or inland, as the disease is not particular where the trees are.

Respectfully submitted,

Mariann Gorman, HMB Condo Board member
Larry Zimmerman, HMB Community and Condo Board member
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Doug Bruha , HMB Community and Condo Board member