

# FOREST LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## 2004 LAKE SUMMARY

### FROM THE LAKE COMMITTEE

OUR MISSION FOR 2004 WAS TO CONTINUE TO INVEST OUR EFFORTS IMPROVING THE LAKE WATER QUALITY .WE SET OUT TO ACCOMPLISH THIS TASK BY CONSULTING WITH AGENCIES THAT HAVE EXPERIENCE IN AREAS WHICH HAVE AN IMPACT ON WATER QUALITY. SOME OF THE AGENCIES WHO HAVE BEEN PROVIDING DATA AND RECOMMENDATIONS ARE THE LAKE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT – LAKES MANAGEMENT UNIT, THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, SEVERAL FISHERIES AND AQUATIC PLANT NURSERIES.

### WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM

WATER MEASUREMENTS WERE TAKEN AND ANALYZED FROM MAY-SEPT .THIS DATA SHOWS THE CONDITION OF THE LAKE WATER. IT COULD PROBABLY BE COMPARED TO HAVING YOUR CHOLESTEROL CHECKED AND YOUR DOCTOR RECOMMENDING ADJUSTMENTS TO IMPROVE YOUR CHOLESTEROL. THAT'S WHAT THESE MEASUREMENTS PROVIDE TO US. IN GENERAL: FOR THESE INDICATORS, THE LOWER THE NUMBER THE BETTER THE WATER QUALITY. THE EXCEPTION TO THAT WOULD BE SECCHI WHICH IS THE LIGHT TRANSMISSION INTO THE WATER. BELOW ARE THE SOME IMPORTANT MEASUREMENTS FOR OUR LAKE FROM 2000, 2003, AND 2004.

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
SECCHI	2'-6"	2'-7"	3'-4"
TP	.087	.167	.105
TSS	15.6	16.8	10.6
TSI	66.9	77.97	71.3

EXPLANATIONS OF THESE NUMBERS AND WHAT THEY MEAN CAN BE FOUND ON THE LAKE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT WEB SITE AND HITTING LMU LINK OR DETAILED LAKE REPORTS.

### AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

WE HAD SOME SUCCESS WITH 2003 PLANTINGS REEMERGING IN 2004.SAGO PONDWEED APPEARS TO BE SHOWING THE BEST RESULTS. TWO SEPARATE LOCATIONS OF WHITE WATER LILY WHICH WERE DONATED AND PLANTED BY SEVERAL VOLUNTEERS IN 2003 ALSO REEMERGED .THE DISAPPOINTMENTS INCLUDE NO SIGNS OF THE SPATTERDOCK, COONTAIL OR WATER CELERY WHICH WERE PLANTED IN 2003 COMING BACK IN 2004. NATURE HAS HELPED OUT AS EVIDENT WITH THE SIGHTING OF SMALL AREAS OF CURLY LEAF PONDWEED IN THE SPRING AND AMERICAN PONDWEED ALONG SOME SHORES IN THE SUMMER. ALGAE ARE THE DOMINANT PLANT THROUGH THE SUMMER MONTHS .2004 PLANTINGS CONSISTED OF LARGE LEAF PONDWEED AND SPATTERDOCK IN SEVERAL NEW LOCATIONS. THE LAKE COMMITTEE REVIEWS THE RESULTS AND IS CONSULTING WITH VARIOUS AGENCIES FOR THE 2005 AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM. THOSE CONSULTED AGREE THAT 20-30 % OF THE LAKE SURFACE SHOULD HAVE AQUATIC PLANTS. THE PLANTS HOLD TOGETHER THE LAKE BOTTOM, HELP IMPROVE WATER QUALITY, PROVIDE SHADE AND COVER, REDUCE SHORELINE EROSION AND A FEW OTHER GOOD THINGS. (SALAD?)

### FISH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

IN FALL 2004 OUR LAKE WAS STOCKED WITH 100-10"-16" NORTHERN PIKE AND 375 - 5"-7" WALLEYE. THE INTRODUCTION OF THESE PREDATOR FISH SHOULD HELP TO CURB THE REPRODUCTION OF CARP. CARP ARE DESTRUCTIVE TO A LAKE ENVIRONMENT. THERE FEEDING AND SPAWNING HABITS DEGRADE THE WATER QUALITY BUY UPROOTING LAKE PLANTS AND RE-SUSPENDING BOTTOM SEDIMENTS .YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO REMOVE AND DESTROY ANY CARP THAT ARE CAUGHT FROM OUR LAKE. ALL STATE FISHING REGULATIONS APPLY TO FOREST LAKE .WE ENCOURAGE CATCH AND RELEASE OF GAME FISH LIKE NORTHERN PIKE, MUSKY, WALLEYE, AND LARGEMOUTH.

### AERATORS

THE AERATOR PUMP ON THE SOUTH END OF THE LAKE WAS REBUILT AND THE AERATOR PUMP ON THE WEST END OF THE LAKE HAS BEEN REPLACED WITH A NEW PUMP .BOTH PUMPS ARE READY FOR OPERATION THROUGH THE 2005 AND 2006 SEASON. THE AERATOR SYSTEM IS AIDING IN THE BREAKDOWN OF SUSPENDED SOLIDS IN THE WATER COLUMN. THEY ARE TURNED ON AFTER ICE OUT IN SPRING AND SHUT OFF AT FIRST ICE IN FALL. IF DURING THE SEASON YOU DO NOT SEE THE BUBBLES AT YOUR AERATOR LOCATIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE LAKE CHAIR.

**ENJOY THE LAKE!**

**FLCA LAKE COMMITTEE**