

# TOGETHER FOR HEALTHY LAKES

Why the Lakes Advisory Committee is here tonight!

- Bring awareness to the need for Trippe & Cravath Lake improvements
- Show commitment and dedication to the City of Whitewater Lakes
- Increase awareness regarding the upcoming creation of the City of Whitewater Trippe & Cravath Lake District by resolution, which will be presented to City Council on May 6, 2025



# LAKES ADVISORY COMMITTEES TOP 10 GOALS

## 1. Restore shorelines with healthy cattail removal

Cattails can be a beneficial species to have, providing excellent habitat to both resident and migratory birds, as well as some aquatic and semi-aquatic organisms, along with natural filtration system.

## 2. Blend with Storm Water Plan to ensure overall best practices for healthy lakes

## 3. Update and Implement Aquatic Plant Management Plan & Comprehensive Plan

SEWRPC is currently working on Aquatic Plant Management Plan to be completed in 2025. SEWRPC is currently working on Comprehensive Plan to be completed in 2027.

## 4. Watershed protection, education, and preservation

Public Awareness Campaigns, Community Outreach & Engagement, Collaborations with Local Organizations, Incentivize Sustainable Practices, Make it Fun & Interactive.

## 5. Fish Stocking

Enhancing Recreational Fishing, Restoring Depleted Fish Populations, Supporting Biodiversity, Maintaining Ecological Health, Conservation Efforts, and Promoting Environmental Education

## 6. Improve Accessibility

Improve Infrastructure and Facilities ( Enhance Access Points, Picnic Areas, New Kiosks, ADA Kayak Launches) , Promote Recreational Opportunities ( Kayak Check Out Lockers, & Paddle Boards)

## 7. Create Outdoor Classrooms

Highlight Educational Benefits ( Focus on Experiential Learning similar to more Capstone Projects, Promote Mental & Physical Health, Collaborate with Schools, Volunteer Programs



## 8. Family Opportunities

Highlight Family- Oriented Activities/Events ( City Market, Concerts, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, renting facilities for family gatherings), Focus on Convenience, Comfort, and Beauty ( Accessibility to lake, family friendly amenities).

## 9. Healthy Lakes & Creeks

Healthy lakes help to create healthy creeks, continue partnership with the Whitewater Creek Coalition.

## 10. Involve ALL of the Community by Creating a City of Whitewater Trippe & Cravath Lake District

Create a sense of ownership, stewardship, and pride among residents. Develop Collaborative Partnerships, Create Volunteer Opportunities, Host Educational Programs and Events, Foster a Sense of Ownership, and Make Community Input a Priority. Citizens get a vote on the annual budget.



# HOW A CITY OF WHITEWATER TRIPPE & CRAVATH LAKE DISTRICT IS FORMED

- A city or village may establish a lake district by a simple resolution
- When a district is established by a city or village, the city council or village board generally serves as the board of commissioners. These municipal districts are otherwise governed like other lake districts, with an annual meeting of electors and property owners determining the district's budget and tax levy.
- The city council or village board is required to provide for an election of the board of commissioners if a petition requesting that form of governance is filed. The petition must be signed by at least 20% of property owners within the district. Upon presentation of such a petition, an election must be held at the next annual or special meeting of the district, whichever occurs first. In that case, the new board of commissioners will consist of elected representatives as well as two appointed representatives, one from the county and one from the city or village. The new board of commissioners will become effective immediately after the election (unless there is a challenge to the election results initiated in circuit court within 14 days of the election).

# WHY CREATE A CITY OF WHITEWATER TRIPPPE & CRAVATH LAKE DISTRICT

- Lake districts have a unique blend of powers and governance provisions tailored to fit the needs and goals of local community.
- A lake district's day-to-day operations are carried out by a board of commissioners composed of elected volunteers and local officials. The financial direction of the district is determined by district residents (electors) and property owners at an annual meeting
- Expanded funding opportunities
- A lake district is guided and operated by those that live in or own property in the district.
  - Who can vote ( eligible individuals get one vote)
    - 18 years of age
    - Citizen of United States
    - Home Owners
    - Renters
    - Landlords
    - Designated person from trust or corporation
    - LLC Owners ( one vote allowed, even if own multiple)

The undersigned does solemnly swear (or affirm) that he or she:

Is at least 18 years of age and a citizen of the United States and is not otherwise disqualified to vote in Wisconsin elections, and

Check One:

- Owns land within the boundaries of this Lake District.
- Resides within the boundaries of this Lake District.
- Is the official representative, officer or employee who is authorized to vote on behalf of the following trust, foundation, corporation, association or organization that owns real property in the District:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(print full name of organization that owns property within this Lake District)

# WHAT WILL A CITY OF WHITEWATER TRIPPE & CRAVATH LAKE DISTRICT COST ME?

- The annual budget will be set on the first meeting, therefor setting cost. The budget is approved by majority vote of the residents and landowners, so you set the budget.
- For Example , if the budget were to be set at \$250,000. Residents could see an estimated 0.26% per thousand of assessed value to their annual tax bill. A home assessed at \$150,000 would see an estimated \$39 a year increase.
  - *Whereas Wisconsin Lake Districts are special purpose units of government with standalone budgets; and Whereas state law requires lake district budgets to be approved by majority vote of residents and landowners in the district at the annual meeting and limits the annual levy to no more than \$2.50 per thousand of value*



Give it a thought: A medium cup of a chain store coffee is on average \$3. A cup a day will cost you \$1,095.00 a year.

Helping create healthier lakes for the community could potentially cost \$78.00 a year.

# QUESTIONS ?

Lakes Advisory Committee  
Members:

Kurt Zipp

Carol McCormick

Gayle Stettler

Geoff Hall

Ginny Coburn

Elvira Kau

