

Managing stormwater runoff focus of
2nd meeting on Wolf Lake watershed

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For Immediate Release

Managing stormwater runoff will be discussed at the September 14 public meeting of 2nd Saturdays Session on the Wolf Lake watershed at The Zone community center, 117th Street and Avenue O, Chicago.

Jeanette Neagu, past president of Save the Dunes Council and the Lake Michigan League of Women Voters, will address the issue at 9:30 a.m. Neagu is currently on the board of the Indiana State League of Women Voters and is an Indiana delegate to the Lake Michigan League of Women Voters.

She received the Paul Bunner Conservationist of the Year Award from the Indiana Wildlife Federation in 2011.

Sponsored by the Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative (AWLI), 2nd Saturdays Session is a series of meetings that focus on issues facing the bi-state watershed. Last month's meeting addressed the ecological, ethical and legal concerns over the stormwater discharge of petroleum waste water by Wolf Lake Terminals, located at 3200 Sheffield Avenue, Hammond.

At the meeting, participants agreed to the creation of systematic picketing in Chicago's Loop that would protest the lack of action by Illinois to this threat. The picketing, which will involve students from area colleges, will continue through the remainder of the year.

Results from the initial picket will be discussed on September 14.

Also on September 14, management from the Defense Logistics Center have been invited to discuss their efforts to minimize runoff from entering Wolf Lake. Discussion will focus on the hydrology along the state line and ways to protect habitat in this area of the watershed.

A bike ride along the state line will conclude the meeting.

Schedule for next month's meeting on October 12 is a discussion on Recent and Future Enhancements to the Watershed. It will be held at the new office facilities at William Powers State Fish & Wildlife Area, 126th Place and Wolf Lake, Chicago.

The cities of Chicago and Hammond, counties of Lake and Cook, and the Departments of Natural Resources of Illinois and Indiana will be invited to bring participants up to date on improvements to their parts of the watershed and what improvements are planned for the next decade.

A tour of improvements to Indian Creek and William Powers will conclude the meeting.

Participants at the September 14 meeting will decide the topic for the November 9 meeting at the Environmental Education Center, 2405 Calumet Avenue, Hammond. The November 9 gathering will conclude with a hike along Wolf Lake's north channel and George Lake's north shoreline.

AWLI is a bi-state not-for-profit organization and land trust that seeks to protect and enhance the Wolf Lake watershed. It sponsors annual events that promote the recreational and educational aspects of the watershed.