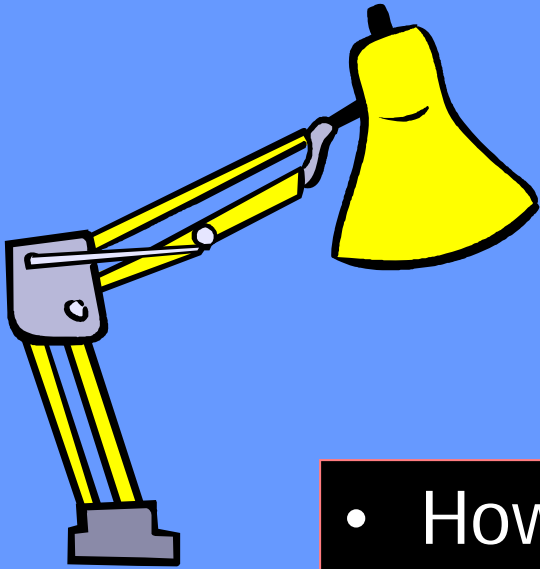


Lake Organizations 101

Wisconsin Lakes Convention
April 26, 2014



Carolyn Scholl, Vilas County Conservationist



Today's Highlights

Lake Organizations 101

- How do we begin?
 - Types & Status of Lake Organizations
 - Why form?
- Lake Association's Can...
- Lake Association's Cannot...
- Step by Step Process
- Lake Association Business

Types of Lake Organizations

- ★ Lake Associations
- Lake Districts
- Sanitary Districts
- Lake Commissions

Why Form a Lake Association?

Share
Lake News

A 'Unified'
Front

Lake
Protection
& Mngt

Share
Lake History

Share
Common Goals

Raise Project
Funds

Educate Lake
'Riparians'



Lake Grants

Know Your
Neighbors

Develop
Partnerships

Sponsor Social
Activities



Consider:

Membership is an individual decision

Formation is voluntary & majority votes "yes"

Status of Lake Associations

*Un-incorporated vs Incorporated Lake Association (WI Ch. 181)

*Non-qualified vs Qualified Lake Association (grant eligibility)

*501 (c)(3) Status (fed tax exempt, donations tax-deductable)

*Formal vs Informal Lake Association



Qualified vs Non-Qualified

Qualified

- Meets criteria – handout
- Eligible for state grants
- Formal or Informal
- Common Goals
- Community Network

Non-Qualified

- Does not meet criteria
- Not eligible for state grants
- Formal or Informal
- Common Goals
- Community Network

Don't want to meet the qualified criteria?

...don't abandon the idea of a lake association altogether

Lake Associations Can...

Work on
Lake Projects

Hold Informational
Meetings

Raise Funds /
Borrow Money

Apply for
Grants

Purchase / Sell
Property

Enter into
Contracts

Educate

Install
Safety Buoys

Lake / Landing
Monitoring

Sponsor Fun
Activities

Lake Associations Cannot...

- Create Ordinances
- Create Regulations



**No Boating &
No Public
Allowed**



Starting a Lake Association

Step by Step Process



Elect Temporary
Officers

Establish draft
of By-Laws

Explain the Need
for an Association

Status
Considerations

First Informational
Meeting

Hold First
Annual Meeting

Do Your
Homework


Elect Officers,
Adopt By-Laws,
Other Business

The Business of Running a Lake Association

- Forming the Association
 - Draft up By-laws
 - Articles of Incorporation?
 - 501(c)(3)?
- Annual business meeting
 - Business meeting agenda
 - Roberts rules of order
 - Financial matters
 - Managing projects

Sec. 181.0202
Wis. Stats.

State of Wisconsin
Department of Financial Institutions
Division of Corporate and Consumer Services



ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION – NONSTOCK CORPORATION

(NOTE: Do not use this form for organizing a for-profit business corporation. Use Form 2)

Executed by the undersigned for the purpose of forming a Wisconsin nonstock corporation under Ch. 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes, repealed and recreated by 1997 Wisconsin Act 79:

Article 1. Name of the corporation: _____
(Must include "Inc." or similar word. See Instructions.)

Article 2. The corporation is organized under Ch. 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Article 3. Name of the initial registered agent: _____

Article 4. Street address of the initial registered office: (The complete address, including street and number, if assigned, and ZIP code. P O Box address may be included as part of the address, but is insufficient alone.) _____

Article 5. Mailing address of the initial principal office: _____

Article 6. (Select and mark (X) one of the statements below)

The corporation will have members. OR The corporation will not have members.

(OPTIONAL) Article 7. Name and address of the initial directors (minimum of three): _____

FILING FEE - \$35.00 SEE instructions, suggestions, and procedures on following pages.
DFICORP/102(R2/8/10) Use of this form is voluntary. 1 of 3

Other Items to Consider:

Fund Raising Ideas: sub-committee

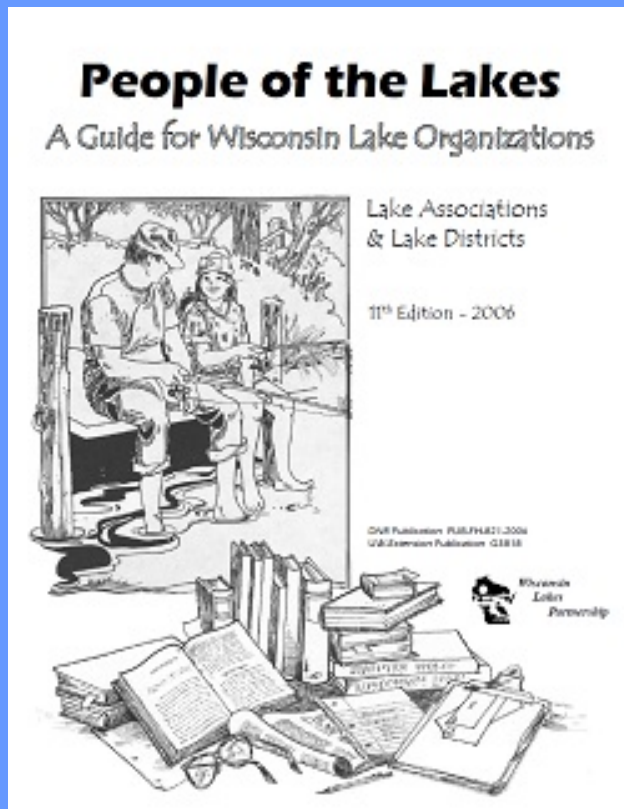
Extra \$25?, pancake breakfast, annual garage sale, grants, donations tax deductible if 501(c)(3)

Memberships: “qualified” status needs 25, small lake groups can combine, not everyone will join

Volunteers: ask face to face, public recognition, School / Church / Scout groups, constant coordination

Communications: reduce cost by email, social media, create a website or lake blog, share news often

For more information log on to:
<www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexplakes>



Questions?