

The background of the slide is a solid brown color with a pattern of faint, overlapping autumn leaves in various shades of brown and tan. The leaves are scattered across the entire area, creating a textured, seasonal feel.

Manitowoc County Approach to AIS Programming

**Presentation by Tom Ward, AIS
Coordinator for the Manitowoc County
Lakes Association**

MCLA

History of AIS Concerns

- Manitowoc County Land & Water Resource Plan of 1999 identified Exotic Plant control as a priority Goal, however policy makers failed to fund or staff the identified objectives
- 2007 citizen's survey identified a priority for invasive species management.
- Land & Water Resource Plan developed updated in 2007 again identified the need for invasive species control **but did not approve invasive species management as a priority for staffing or funding.**

History of AIS Concerns

- In June 2007 a meeting between local County Government Departments, agencies and other conservation stake holders **failed to arrive at a consensus to develop a County Invasive species Program.**
- On July 26th 2007 the County Lakes Association was approached to initiate the leadership to develop and apply for a County AIS Grant that set in motion a Citizen based comprehensive approach to address aquatic invasive species threatening our aquatic ecosystem and quality of life.

Manitowoc County Lakes Association as an Applicant

- 503 (c) non-profit organization representing all riparian waters in the County.
- MCLA has had experience managing numerous Lake Planning Grants
- MCLA had partnered with Manitowoc County to conduct a Lake Classification Program.
- Experienced in working with many conservation organization and Lake Associations.

Project Concerns of a non-profit Organization

- **Project Liability:** a non-profit organization would incur the same liabilities common to any Lake Association working with Lake Management grants. MCLA purchases an Indemnity Policy for it's Board to insure no individual liability.
- MCLA is incorporated and has no significant assets.
- MCLA utilized a private Consultant contract to avoid employee liabilities. A formal contract was used to document the standing agreement between the two parties

Project Concerns of a non-profit Organization

- **Project Administration:** The Board provides project oversight, manages the budget and approves grant changes or amendments to be submitted for DNR approval
- The Board enters into contract with a consultant to insure completion of the deliverables as submitted in the grant plan or application.
- The consultant serves as project manager and insures submission of request documents & reports on behalf of the board.

Project Concerns of a non-profit Organization

- **Financial Management:** MCLA maintains a ledger of expenses and approves contract expenditures at their monthly meeting by an action of their Board. The grant advance is utilized to issue checks as approved by the Board at a monthly meeting and deposited in a separate account to allow for accurate accountability.
- The consultant submits invoices and project reports as required by the Board.

Strengths of a Non-profit Sponsor

- Provides the quality control, insuring the work stated and proposed project is carried out as well as the local concerns and priorities are addressed by the project
- Most vested stake holder in the outcome of the project.
- Responsive, not bound by local politics or multiple financial oversights.

Project Strategy

- Conducted stake holder meetings to identify known concerns and issues with AIS in the County
- Identified Japanese Knotweed as spreading invasive.
- Identified Phragmites as a major threat to our wetlands



Project Strategy

- Identified Common Teasel as the most recent invasive entering the County



Lakes with known infestation (updated 7-8-08)

- Bullhead Lake/Eurasian-05,
& Curly Leaf
- Carstens Lake/Eurasian-93,
& Zebra
- Boot Lake
- Cedar Lake/Eurasian-93, Zeb.
- English Lake/Curly Leaf
- Gass Lake
- Harpt Lake/Eurasian-94
- Hartlaub Lake
- Horseshoe Lake/Eurasian-71
- Long Lake/Eurasian-03
- Rockville Fl./Eurasian
- Pigeon Lake/Eurasian-94,Zeb.
- Silver Lake
- Spring Lake
- Tuma Lake/Eurasian-93
- Weyers Lake
- Shoe Lake
- Wilke Lake/Eurasian-93, Zebra
- Grosshuesch Lake
- Waack Lake

What we are Learning from these Stakeholder Meetings

- 11 of the 20 public access lakes have invasives
- Lakes with limited access remain free of invasives; indicating that boating is a primary vector of Invasives
- Lakes with water skiing have the earliest infestation dates
- Adjoining Lakes soon become infested

Overview of the AIS project & activities

- **GOAL: Conduct a Clean Boats Program on priority lakes to reduce the spread of invasives species; educate and train boaters on steps to take to prevent the spread of invasives and conduct water craft inspections.**

Overview of the AIS project & activities

- **GOAL: Develop a Citizen based program to prioritize invasive species threats; provide early detection and identification of invasive species and provide man power or resources to control the spread of invasive species.**

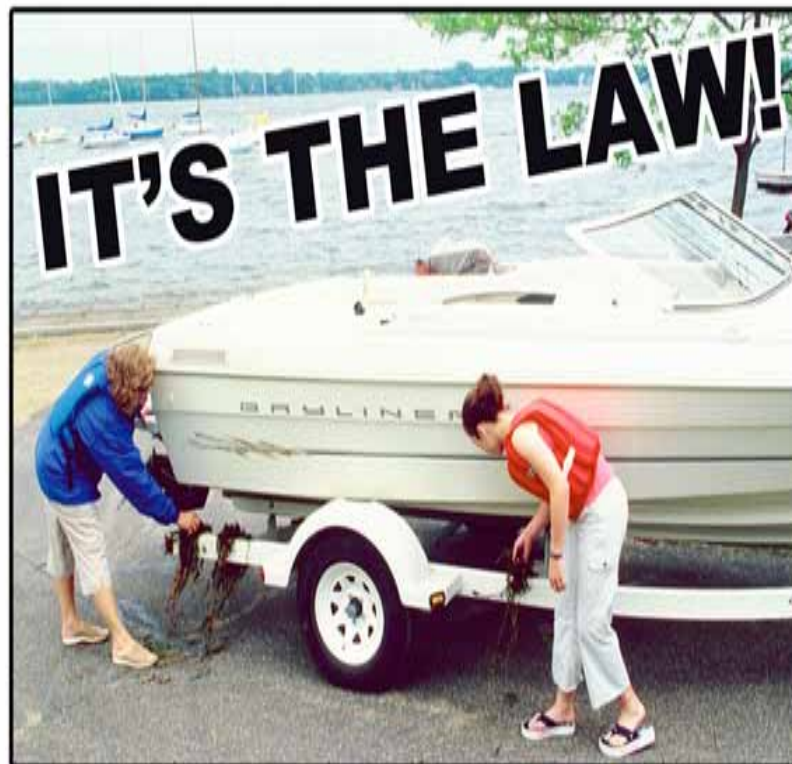
Overview of the AIS project & activities

- **GOAL: Reach the Public, Private Landowners, County and Town officials thru education to create an understanding that everyone needs to act and give priority to prevent the spread of invasive species.**



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™

- ✓ Clean
- ✓ Drain
- ✓ Inspect



Manitowoc Co.
Lakes Assoc.



Winnebago
Lakes Council



Manitowoc Co.
Fish & Game
Protective Assoc.



LAMAR

**We hope applying for a grant will
not get you in a bind!**



Some days all you can do is smile and wait for some kind soul to come pull your ass out of the bind you've gotten yourself into.