

Press Release

April 4, 2016

Lake Pepin Neighbors to Discuss Restoration and Protection Efforts



Red Wing, MN -- “In the coming year, we need to pull together and find ways to unite our support and pride of what this lake means to us,” said the Executive Director of Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance, Rylee Main.

The public is invited to learn and share why Lake Pepin is critically important to many communities: migrating and resident birds, over-wintering fish species, local businesses, inspired artists, sailing and recreational enthusiasts, tourists, residents and commercial boats navigating its waters. Longtime residents, including Suzanne Blue, and fellow birders will learn from Minnesota Audubon’s Ashley Peters about the habitat needs of migratory and resident birds in a critical fly-over zone along the Upper Mississippi River at a community meeting sponsored by the Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance at the St. James Hotel, at 11 am on Friday, April 15th. Light refreshments will be served.



“We’d like to learn about shared values in the Lake Pepin community and questions on the minds of our neighbors,” said Suzanne Blue, a board member of the Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance who will be sharing some of her own personal connections to the lake.

Rylee Main will discuss the status of federal interest in the Head of Pepin Habitat Restoration Project.

She’ll look at how that connects to a feasibility study for island construction and backwater dredging at the headwaters near Bay City, Wisconsin. Expert staff from the Army Corps of Engineers, including the ecosystem hydraulic engineer, Jon Hendrickson, will be available to answer questions. Audubon Minnesota’s Tim Schlagenhaft and staff will also be in attendance to discuss the project design along with natural resource experts from Wisconsin and Minnesota. Topics include water quality and expected resilience to ongoing sedimentation, similar project designs and financial considerations.

The Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance, based in Red Wing, MN, is a multi-state non-profit organization established in 2009 to preserve and restore Lake Pepin as an integral part of the Upper Mississippi River System.

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