

Lake Assessments Under P.A. 185

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Washtenaw County Public Works Division

P.A. 185 Background

- Passed and made effective June 4, 1957
- Allows the formation of Boards Of Public Works.
- County Board of Commissioners designates the BPW.
- BPW can be incorporated through Road Commissioners office, Drain Commissioner's Office, or its own agency.

BPW Powers

- Create assessment districts for water, sewer, refuse, recycling, erosion control, and lake management
- Can act outside the incorporated area

Steps for Implementation

- Meet with property owners to discuss objectives, history, strategies, properties with access , and cost.
- Property owners request initiating resolution to the township(s) to proceed with project.
- Township approves resolution requesting a project through BPW.
- BPW passes resolution to proceed.

- Board of Commissioners approve resolution accepting the project.
- BPW approves resolution to establish date of first public hearing
- 1st Public hearing
- BPW determines whether or not to proceed and if approved sets date for 2nd public hearing.
- BPW holds 2nd hearing.
- BPW confirms assessment roll for December Tax Toll

P.A. 185 Steps Cont.

- Bids are developed
- BPW approves bids
- Work begins

Currently

- 4 lake management projects in development for a 5th.
- Two are interjurisdictional, between counties and townships.
- Third party contractor on retainer to monitor effectiveness
- Length of projects can be from 1 to 30 years



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Lake Management Projects

The Public Works team, with support from the Board of Public Works, can help local communities commence lake management and improvement projects. Such projects can enhance fisheries habitat, improve water quality, protect and increase property values and heighten recreational opportunities.

Active Lake Projects:

Full listing of publications and reports regarding the applied treatments and management activities for the active lake projects.

- [Whitmore Lake](#)
- [North Lake](#)
- [Joslin Lake](#)
- [Sugar Loaf Lake](#)

For information on applicaion permits on these lakes and others please visit the MDEQ website: [CIWPIS](#)

Lake Management Opinions where a project has not been established:

In 2007 and 2008, several assessments were conducted on local lakes to determine the severity of invasive weeds. Management opinions were written for each lake and are available below:

- [Ellsworth Lake](#)
- [Iron Mill Pond](#)
- [Island Lake](#)
- [Portage Lake](#)

Learn more about the Lake Management Process, and the steps involved in lake improvement projects in Washtenaw County



- Water Resources Commissioner
- Services and Responsibilities
- Permits and Design Standards
- Soil Erosion
- Water Quality Programs
- Public Works
- Lake Management Projects
 - Whitmore Lake Improvement Project
- Special Assessments
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Whitmore Lake Improvement Project

This project will provide lake improvement to Whitmore Lake by providing control of invasive and nuisance aquatic weeds through chemical application and subsequent spot applications for a five year period. (2007-2011) The special assessment district for the Whitmore Lake Improvement Project is situated within Northfield Township, Washtenaw County, and Green Oak Township, Livingston County. There are 868 parcels located in the district.

Publications & Reports

- [Revenue and Expenditures Summer 2009](#)
- [2008 Whitmore Lake Management Plan Annual Report](#)
- [2007 Whitmore Lake Management Plan Annual Report](#)
- [2006 Whitmore Lake Management Plan Annual Report](#)
- [2006 Fishery Habitat Assessment Report](#): Washtenaw County Division of Public Works as part of the Whitmore Lake improvement Project contracted with Aquest Corporation and Superior Environmental & Aquatic Services LLC (SEAS) to conduct assessments of aquatic vegetation and fishery habitat. The information included in this report pertains to fishery habitat assessment conducted by SEAS on 27 June 2006.
- [March 15, 2006 - The Northfield Courant Newspaper: "Project Update"](#): The Whitmore Lake Water Quality Advisory Board met to discuss the results of the 2005 lake management activities as well as the plans for 2006 and the renewal of the Whitmore Lake Improvement Project. The 2006 outlook for boating, swimming and fishing this summer is outstanding due to the efforts of the past and the continuing efforts to combat the spread of invasive hybrids and other nuisance species.



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Environmental Programs

Environmental Health Division

Recycling & Home Toxics

Washtenaw County GREEN Media

Washtenaw County is a leader in bringing environmental education to the public in a variety of forms. We collaborate with local partners to bring you weekly radio programs and newspaper articles, as well as award-winning informational videos. The "Green Media" web page was developed to serve as a single resource for our educational outreach.

[Video](#)

[Radio](#)

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Video:

Produced by the Washtenaw County Environmental Health Division.

[The Pollinator Pyramid](#) What you can do in your yard to help bees. Includes a link to a webpage of resources that complement the video.

[Water Quality: It's In Our Hands](#)

[Clancy's Boat Tour](#) (Winner 2008 Millers Creek Film Festival)

[Home Energy Conservation Series](#) (Finalist 2008 Michigan Emmy Awards)

[Septic Systems and Water Quality: "It's All Connected"](#)

Questions, Comments?

Thank You