TO: DLPOA Board, Master Plan Implementation Committee, Carolyn Green

FROM: HeartLands Conservancy

RE: DLPOA Annual Meeting Engagement for Common Sites, February 2024

Next Steps and Recommendations

- To address invasives around the lake there needs to be an assessment phase where there is an inventory of existing vegetation focused on identifying both quality native plants and problem invasive species.
    - Common invasives include bush honeysuckle and garlic mustard.
    - With baseline established a multi year plan to combat invasive species around the lake and in problem areas needs to be developed to provide a long term solution.
    - Coordinated volunteer workdays for manual removal of invasive species are key in this effort as well.
    - Establish regular monitoring to track and identify current and new invasive threats.
    - Host educational workshops for property owners regarding invasive species around the lake, how to manage them, and how to volunteer.
- There should be further clarification of symbology of the maps on boat launches and time scale with which they could be built/implemented with priorities laid out and phases identified as well as education and outreach for property owners regarding the potential phases of boat launch build outs.
- With hot sunny weather approaching there should be education and outreach regarding excess fertilizer application to yards and the potential for hazardous algae blooms in the lake.
    - Proposed native species buffers around the lake can help mitigate this issue once established.
- Formalize volunteers, perhaps by lake quadrant in order to to have active participation and eyes on the various common areas.
- Remove invasive Bush and Japanese Honeysuckle, Phragmites, Tree of Heaven, Autumn Olive, etc.
- Reinvigorate the online education on native/beneficial vs invasive species of plants, shrubs and trees, as well as approved placement.
    - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dwjAoRwLrmM

- **General Notes for Individual Site Plans:**

    - Follow recommendations per each site plan. Elaborate on “Proposed pollinator plantings” Ex: Pollinator Garden, Bioswale, shrubs, grasses, etc., for most appropriate per site to encourage slowing water runoff, erosion, and protect lake view/vista/
    - The committee should define and elaborate on “Preserved Greenspace” per each common area.
    - Consider turf conversion for steep sloped areas to native low meadows, buffalo grass, etc. to lower maintenance and mowing costs.
    - Address the need to adjust language in regulations/website/rules

Best Management Practices:

Recommendations for Plants Near Dunlap Lake

Incorporating native plants into the landscape near Dunlap Lake is highly encouraged as mentioned in the DLPOA Master Plan. Native species are well-adapted to local conditions, requiring less maintenance while providing many social and ecological benefits.

Encourage the use of Native Landscaping

- **Resilient & Aesthetic:** Native landscapes are hardy, low-maintenance, and offer year-round beauty. They can be selected and designed to look formal and well-manicured, similar to conventional landscaping.

- **Wildlife Support:** Native plants provide essential food and habitat for butterflies, bees, and songbirds, helping to sustain local biodiversity and bringing nature closer to suburban areas.

- **Stormwater Management**: Deep root systems improve water infiltration, reduce runoff, and help stabilize slopes, preventing erosion and replenishing groundwater.

- **Water & Soil Filtration**: Native plants absorb and filter contaminants, improving water quality and soil health.

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Native Plant Recommendations for Dunlap Lake

This list can be used as a starting point for native species selection. It is not comprehensive.

Based on native landscaping / stormwater practices:

Rain Gardens

Rain gardens are shallow depressions that collect runoff from roofs, yards, and driveways. They are most effective in well-draining soils and typically include deep-rooted native perennials, grasses, and shrubs that are designed to drain water within 24 hours.

- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
- Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)
- Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- White False Indigo (*Baptisia alba*)
- Mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*)
- Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
- Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)
- Prairie Blazing Star (*Liatris pycnostachya*)
- Fox Sedge (*Carex vulpinoidea*)

Vegetated Bioswales

Vegetated bioswales help manage stormwater by slowing the flow, enhancing infiltration, and reducing runoff. They are different from simple rocked swales as they contain native plants that tolerate occasional flooding and periods of dryness to provide better stabilization and water infiltration.

- Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)
- Blue Flag Iris (*Iris virginica*)
- New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)

Pollinator Gardens

Pollinator plantings support native bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects by providing nectar, pollen, and habitat. Selecting a variety of native plants that bloom at different times of the year ensures continuous food sources for pollinators. These beneficial native plants can be incorporated into all the landscaping around Dunlap Lake.

- Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)
- Foxglove Beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)
- Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

- Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
- Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)
- New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)
- Stiff Goldenrod (*Solidago rigida*)
- Prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*)

Live Stakings

- Alternative to rock Rip Rap in certain areas or even as a combined effort with some rock rip rap and some live plants interspersed.

Native Tree Plantings

Trees and shrubs are highly effective at stormwater management, even at the lake edge, because their deep root systems enhance soil infiltration, reduce runoff, and stabilize slopes, preventing erosion. Their canopies also intercept rainfall, slowing the flow of water and allowing for gradual absorption into the ground, which helps mitigate flooding and replenish groundwater. As trees are damaged, or come to the end of their healthy life span, they should be replaced with native to Illinois species. The shade from the trees also helps to prevent algal blooms, in most cases.

Small

- Eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)
- Flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
- Ohio buckeye (*Aesculus glabra*)
- Wild plum (*Prunus americana*)

Medium

- River birch (*Betula nigra*)
- Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)
- American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
- Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*)

Large

- American basswood (*Tilia americana*)
- Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*)
- Tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
- American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)
- Black willow (*Salix nigra*)

Additional Resources

- HeartLands Conservancy 2025 Native Plant Sale: https://heartlandsconservancy.org/native-plant-sale/
- Native Landscaping Planning Toolkit for Municipal Professionals: https://grownative.org/learn/natives-for-communities/municipalities-toolkit/
- Native Plants for Stormwater Management Projects: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UaOf44gMFBVjxqvX9Otlqi59g_7EJohQ/view
- Native Landscape Care Calendar: https://grownative.org/learn/native-landscape-care-calendar/
- Rainscaping Guide: https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/sustainability/sustainability/sustainable-solutions-for-you/rainscaping-guide
- List of contractors who install native plant landscaping in the area can be provided upon request

Common Area Notes per Board

Attached are the comments collected from residents during the DLPOA Annual Board meeting. The comments should be addressed by the committe and take them into consideration for action or no action.

- **E1**:
  - Comment pointing out 340 E. lake potential dock should be on there?

- **E2**:
    - Community Garden is really beautiful

- **E3 :**
  - Too much traffic + road not wide enough need off street parking
  - Shoreline Buffers may be needed.
  - Yes to pavilion, kayak stand, pollinator plantings, and walking loop
  - No private parking lot on E3

- **E4**
  - Yes to Kayak stand, stepping stones, and vegetated bioswale

- **E5**
    - Support for walking loop
    - Support for bioswale to replace rip rap
    - Support for new docks/mechanical dredging

- **E6**
    - Pollinator Plantings!
    - Support for bioswale to replace rip rap
    - Support for pollinator plantings

- **E7**
    - 2 Support of bioswales
    - 3 comments in support of walking loop

- **E8**
    - Comment worried about trees blocking the road.
    - Comment in support of native plantings

- **B1/W6**
    - Love the native areas
    - Four comments on too many boat docks ruining the natural shore line
    - Comment asking who is going to fix the road and culverts near this area
    - Comment wondering how parking will be addressed to accommodate the many new boat docks.
    - Comment in support of fish habitats

B2

- This was the one with lots of discussion on the wooded area along Barnett
- There was a lot of passion on both sides for wanting the best for that stand of trees.
- There were comments discussing the issue of invasive honeysuckle in that area and how it is degrading the habitat.
- This used to be a grove of only Native Trees.
- 3 comments expressing concern that high brush will provide mosquito habitat
- Concern that brush shoreline
- Worries that dense brush in the forest stand blocks the view from across the street towards the lake that people would like to have.
- Great area for wildlife on the lake
- Why are we spending money on this instead of dredging?
- Concern on trespassing issues.
- Creating extra maintenance issues with too much planting.

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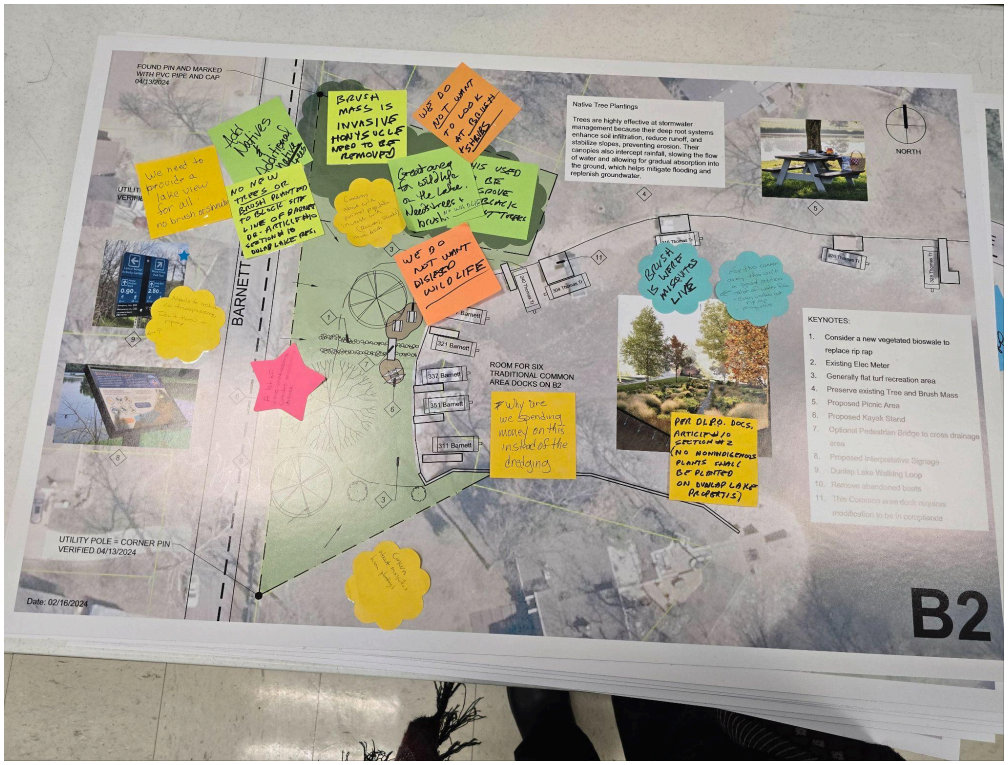

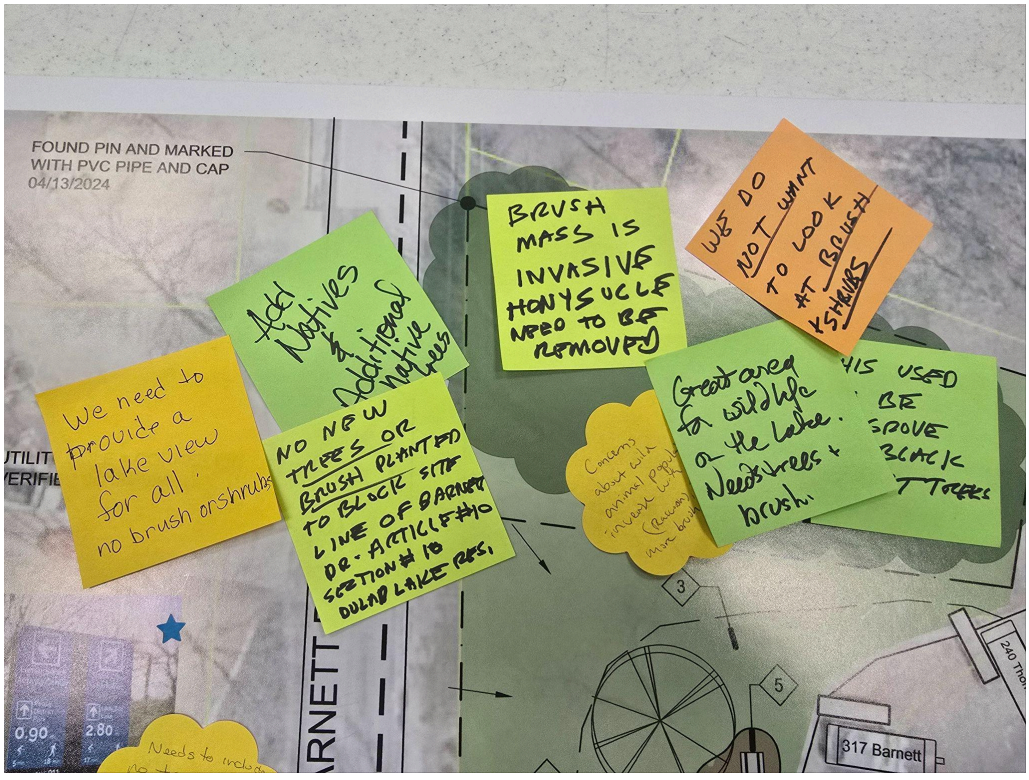

- **W5**
    - Support of riparian buffers to replace rip rap
    - More support of native plantings
    - Two comments in support of walking loop
    - Support for kayak stand
    - Support for bioswales as well

- **W4**
    - Support for riparian buffer

- **W3**
    - Support for natives to replace rip rap in certain areas
    - Support for walking loop

- **W1**
    - Two comments in support of walking loop
    - May need walk down step

- **W2**
    - Support for walking loop
    - Support for removal of invasive species and preservation of native species.