

Overcrowding and undesirable development on the shorelines of inland lakes will eventually lead to lower property values and increased costs of living which can offset the advantages of lakeside living. If the overcrowding and unplanned development is allowed to continue, there are two serious and inevitable consequences.

(a) Lakes will become more polluted and some of the extremely slow natural changes detrimental to recreation that take place will be accelerated (eutrophication).

(b) Since the lake-areas are located in the "upper" watershed, recreational opportunities downstream will be limited by pollution from the upstream areas.

Like many Natural Resource Problems, the situation in the inland lakes of the Upper Huron River is complex because—

Public and Private property rights are involved.

Local resident and region-wide recreational usage is involved.

Zoning and other regulatory responsibilities are within the jurisdictions of a number of different local governmental units.

There exists a number of property owner organizations with different objectives and levels of effectiveness.

Considerable action and control undertaken today must be justified in terms of future needs.

The establishment of water quality standards, authorized usage, protection of public health and conservation of fish and wildlife involve Local, State and Federal Bureaus, Agencies and Budgets.

2. *Focus and rationale*

The lack of adequate coordination of public and private forces in dealing with all aspects of inland lake and shoreland problems is the major concern. There has been a tendency to overemphasize the separation of public from private decision-making. Actually, there should probably be a great increase of intermingling of public and private interest, influence and effort. Private decisions should be made within a publicly established framework of goals and objectives while the public decisions must always relate to citizen interests and concerns.

More adequate coordination of both public and private forces must be brought about by *improving communication and utilizing available community and individual capabilities*. Decisions made by the public agencies concerning management and control of inland lakes and shoreland need to be based on a thorough understanding of the specific needs and desires of the citizens as well as on the best available technical information and counsel on water and land use.

Local, regional, state and federal management agencies, no matter how specialized their responsibility, need more current and more complete information as a major part of their planning and management effort.

Private citizens, on the other hand, while providing information to the governmental agencies, could utilize information regarding planning proposals and problem analysis as a guide to their own individual decisions and efforts. Like farmers, the homeowners in the lake area have a great deal of individual responsibility for land and water use management decisions. Generally they operate and maintain their own water and sewer systems and are also responsible for the management and upkeep of a fairly large parcel of land.

A sound *strategy and program of coordination and communication* for cooperatively dealing with inland lake problems would complement and enhance the *strategy of regulation and enforcement* now being pursued so vigorously in the federal and state agency programs and even by local zoning boards.

This inland lake management, to be of maximum effectiveness will probably call for cooperative area-wide effort.

III. MAJOR GUIDELINES FOR INLAND LAKE AND SHORELAND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

A. Determine what facts are essential as a foundation for sound understanding and constructive action for the protection and improvement of the lake, the lakeshore and the lakeside community.

B. Determine the nature of the attitudes, degree of concern and the willingness to become involved, of the lake area residents, in regard to the current condition and the future of the lakes and the lakeside communities in the area.

C. Accumulate, evaluate, and organize the relevant information on current problems of inland lake deterioration and alternate solutions to the problems, as