



The Scoop At Grand Lake

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT!

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Mission Statement

"The mission of the Grand Lake Area Association is to restore and preserve the Grand Lake watershed, returning Grand Lake to its mesotrophic state, creating the finest lake experience in central Minnesota".

- Grand Lake Area Lake Association meeting, Saturday, December 3rd, 1:00 p.m. Grandview Resort

Oh, No-o-o-o-o!!!! was my first thought, and then I began to feel discomfort in the pit of my stomach. "What's going on?", you might ask. "Why would a psychologist, of all people, experience physical symptoms after opening the mail?" Well, let's talk.

What I opened was an envelope that contained the concept site plan for a Minneapolis developer who wants to build a 300-plus housing development on the north side of Grand Lake, right on top of the bluff just north of Hubert Lane.

Well, this newsletter will put any rumors to rest. A major housing development is being proposed, and this development will be a precedent for more to come as the city's comprehensive plan calls for growth in residential develop-

ment between downtown Rockville and Grand Lake along the east side of County Road 8.

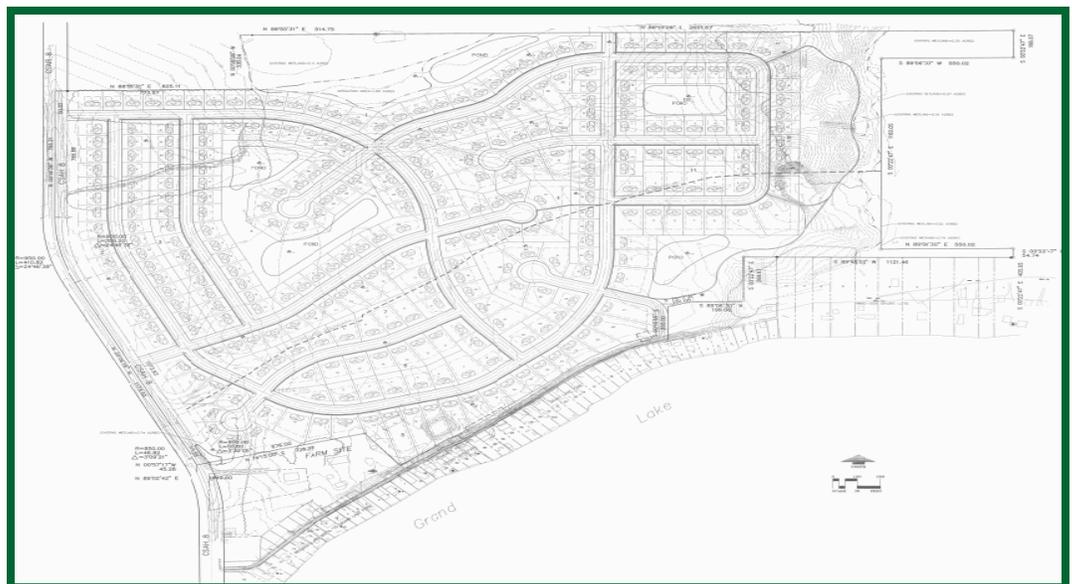
After my initial shock, I began to ask some questions. What's in our future, and is the city following it's comprehensive plan? What about the beautiful rolling hills on the west side of Grand Lake? What about preserving the rural feel of the Grand Lake area? What will Rockville and the Grand Lake area look like in 20 years? Will we become another Minnesota lake surrounded by urban development like the "former" rural lakes near Maple Grove?

Please read the new mission statement of the Grand Lake Area Association. This mission statement and a large residential development adjacent to Grand Lake seem to be

in conflict. I don't know if we can really have "the finest lake experience in central Minnesota" if in 20 years we are in the middle of a city. So, how can we respond?

1. The Board of the Grand Lake Area Association has approved a motion to retain legal council.
2. The Board of the Grand Lake Area Association seeks to actively engage all association members in this process. Please attend an urgent meeting of the Grand Lake Area Association to be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3rd at the Grandview Resort.
3. Share your views by writing a letter to the city council and the city planning commission.
4. If you are not a lake association member, please join now.

—Scott Palmer, President



Your Attendance is Needed at the Grand Lake Area Lake Association Meeting on December 3rd!!

Please join us at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 3rd at Grandview Resort. During this meeting, you will have opportunities to view a large-scale concept plan as proposed by the developer. You will also have time to ask questions, engage in discussion, and help us formulate constructive feedback that will be shared with the developer and the city of Rockville.

Northern Shore of Grand Lake 2005 Air Photo



City Council Members

- Brian Herberg, Mayor
- Ed Karls
- Lloyd Lommel
- Greg Simones
- Jeff Hagen
- Don Simon
- Vern Ahles

Planning Commission Members

- Jerry Bechtold, Chair
- Vern Ahles-Liaison
- Dale Borgman
- Linda Peck
- Kathleen Stanger
- Dan Hansen
- Toni Honer
- Roger Schmidt

Please send all letters to:
City of Rockville
PO Box 93
Rockville, MN 56369

December 3rd Grand Lake Area Assn Meeting

To All Grand Lake Area Association Members:

You may be aware that there is a new site plan for the development of the Clarence Bloch property adjacent to Hubert Lane. This is a high density plan (over 300 units) of single family housing including lots along the bluff with an inadequate buffer zone. For those of us that have seen the plan it was a shock and a wakeup call. Please keep in mind that this is the plan of a private developer. It has not been approved or sponsored by the City.

We have spent considerable time talking with one another, city and county officials, an environmental specialist and an attorney. We have also spent time reviewing our city's comprehensive plan and the site plan of the developer.

Our first conclusion is that we have a very good comprehensive plan, that when used to guide and direct decisions, should greatly improve the quality of life for all residents, and will bring the diverse elements of our city together.

Our second conclusion is that the proposed site plan is completely incompatible with the comprehensive plan. We encourage you to take the time to read the city's comprehensive plan, which you can find at <http://www.rockvillecity.org/> and then do a search for "comprehensive plan".

Our third conclusion is that it would be naïve and irresponsible of us not to be involved in this decision, and to provide constructive feedback to our elected officials.

So, please stay informed and get involved. There will be a special Association meeting Dec. 3rd at Grandview at 1:00 p.m. Call some neighbors, some members and non members, and bring them along. Please do not assume others will deal with this or that we cannot influence the process.

A sample communication you can use to phone, write or email our elected officials is below. Please keep your tone positive and supportive and communicate often. We need everyone to communicate to ensure that the City Council hears your voice.

We can use this development plan as a catalyst to get involved, show our leadership, and influence our future. We expect and need your help!

*Your Grand Lake Area
Association Board*

Sample Letter

To the Mayor and Council Members of the City of Rockville,

I would like to express my deepest concern for the proposed development of the Bloch property adjacent to Hubert Lane. This development risks our natural environment, the lifestyle and value of the lake residents, especially along Hubert Lane, and the sense of community I believe the City wants to develop. I would ask you to listen carefully to the Lake Association Board Members as they will be representing the collective thinking of the lake residents. I hope our involvement will be constructive and that together we can grow our community to improve the quality of life for present and future residents of Rockville.

Sincerely,

Activities of the Lake Association Board

Behind the scenes, the Board members of the Grand Lake Area Association are working hard on many activities that improve the quality of our lake experience. These activities include the following:

1. **Healthy Lakes and Rivers Program:** The Grand Lake Area Association is participating in the Healthy Lakes and Rivers Program. As participants in this program, we are revising our Grand Lake Management Plan with the assistance of water quality experts in the State of Minnesota. This plan provides a vision of who we are and what we want to accomplish. Through our participation in this program, the Grand Lake Area Association will be eligible for up to \$5,000 in

grant monies for implementation projects.

2. **Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan:** The Board of the Grand Lake Area Association is actively meeting with Ed Feiler, the Comprehensive Lake Management Planning Coordinator with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Brainerd. From this planning process, the Association will develop a strategic plan to manage all of the weeds in our lake, many good and some not. Our participation in developing this plan will also make it more likely to receive some funding help in the treatment of one of the exotics found in Grand Lake—curleyleaf pondweed.

3. **Ploof and Johannes Creek Projects:** We continue to collaborate with the Sauk River Watershed District (Julie Klocker), the Department of Natural Resources (Dan Lais), and the Soil and Water Conservation District (Greg Berg) on buffer zone projects that will reduce nutrient runoff into Grand Lake from Ploof and Johannes Creeks. A priority list of potential projects is now complete, and planning meetings will take place in January to begin steps toward implementation.

As you can see, the Board is working hard on projects that will help us accomplish our mission..



Summer Days and Grand Lake Fun!

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this such a great summer at the lake!

The following note was sent by Kim Klein, association member who organized the food booth at [Rockfest](#): “I would like to extend a huge thank you to the following volunteers who showed up for the 2005 Rockville Festival. Thanks to Pat Sell, Kate and Ron Dietman, Jim and Jodi Pflapsen, Scott Palmer, Twyla Rice, Linda Bauer, Shelly Sauer, and Eric Wahnschaeceee. Thanks also to Jeff Hagen and the crew at Grandview for putting up with my many interruptions and all my roast beef stuff clogging up their cooler space on their beer

drop day! Hats off to all of you who supported us that day. We hope to see you next year to meet our neighbors in Rockville.” Thank you, Kim!!!

Thank you to Susan Dean and her family for hosting the flag raising ceremony. It is always a wonderful way to start the [4th of July celebrations](#). Thanks so much again to Dave Lenhardt for the awesome fireworks!!! They are the best around! And thank you to everyone who participated in the flotilla parade. We hope you enjoy the pictures from all the fun.

Thanks to the Fabel family, Susan Dean, the Ludwig family, and Pat Sell for helping make

the [Stephen Sommers Great Grand Lake Swim](#) a safe and successful event.

Thank you to Ed Zapp for his wonderful work on the full color Grand Lake map. For those who do not have a map, they will be available at the December 3rd meeting.

Thanks to Josh Lavine for getting us started on a Grand Lake Web page, and to Dick Jecha and Karen Meinz for volunteering to move this forward.

Thank you to the Board members of the Grand Lake Area Association. We couldn't do it without you!

Grand Lake Area Association

Lake Management Board

Scott Palmer, President

Bob White, Vice President

Jim Hall, Treasurer

Sue Palmer, Secretary

Jeff Hagen, Past President

Susan Dean, Board Member

Paul Ludwig, Board Member

Pat Sell, Board Member

Scott's Phone: 253-8191

Scott's E-mail: waterscot@aol.com

<http://www.grandlakeassociation.org/index.html>

The poem on the right was submitted by Kathy Gladfelter in honor of her mother, Carole Lund. Carole's poem was published by the National Library of Poetry.

The Carole and Giles Lund family sends this message:

"Thank you to everyone on Grand Lake who made our mother's and father's life on the lake so enjoyable. The lake has been a big part of our family—from renting the cabin on the property in the 60's to buying it in the 70's, and finally to having it turned into our parents' retirement home in the '80's. Thank you, also, to everyone who gave our mother so much support during her battles with cancer. We truly appreciate your kindness."

Ode to Grand Lake

Tall, green trees, growing in rows, planted roses near my toes,
inspires me to write this prose, and so, here goes:

While sitting by the lake, I enjoy to see,
grey sea gulls circling above, they appear so free,

The redwood dock beneath me
is rough and hot,
I might get a sliver
in a certain spot.

Clear blue water, inviting a swim,
an inner-tube filled to the brim,
if only my bathing suit
made me look slim, and trim.

Golden sunlight warms my hair,
my skin could tan, if I dare,
lots of lotion where I'm bare,
for health I keep my light skin fair.

Sugar white sand under my feet,
An awesome feeling treat,
Ah, sweet summer,
It's really neat!

—Carole D. Lund
