

PONDS

Lori Sim is now handling questions to Aquatic Weed Technology. We have a renewal contract in hand with an increase of \$1800.

The southern pond "C" in the Aquatic Weed proposal has been plagued by algae from the middle of July through August. A boat can not be used to apply algaecides in the middle because the depths range from 1 to 4 feet maximum. It was tried but just stirred up more nutrients on the bottom. An aerator might be used but the depth is almost insufficient for that as well. Aquatic Weed Technology recommends a spray type in the middle to cool the temperature in the middle, and another Auterbine in the far western corner to swirl the stagnant algae from there. Ultimately this pond may need sediment removal. Lori is getting estimates from a company. See attached sheet. **THIS AREA IS ONE OF OUR BIGGEST CHALLENGES.**

WILDFLOWER AREAS

Patty Gustin and Diane Barbet have applied with the Fish and Wildlife Service for a grant. We are asking for a grant of \$8,000 to which we would have to spend \$10,000 first in order for them to match our funds. We will not know if we qualify until April. Then we must spend our money and have the seeding done before December 2002. Some of this money may NOT be used on a prairie burn. So additionally we would have to come up with an additional \$3,000 to burn the prairie in I 2003 in any case! If we get this money we can do some quality reseeding to establish our wildflower areas much quicker. Also we must provide some voluntary labor which could offset about \$1500 of our required \$10,000. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and neighbors contribute hours at \$10.00 per hour and we keep a service record for seed collection, brush clearing, weed removal, seed dispersal, etc.

Patty and Diane have obtained estimates from Applied Ecological and Pizzo and Associates and are formulating a plan of action to maintain and improve the areas. Specific recommendations will be presented to the board soon and contracts may need to be signed.

Plan on minimum \$3000 seeds
\$3000 maintenance
\$3000 burn in spring or fall
These amounts will be about \$5,000 for the following years.

Permission is asked to remove some buckthorn trees along the C pond western edge as recommended by the Fish and Wildlife Service. Volunteer labor will be used and added to the work log "in-kind" contributions.

The weedy areas may be mowed before snowfall 2002. Price to be under \$550.00

Other improvements to the walking trails

A picnic table should be purchased for near the oak and walnut tree for enjoyment by all. Also the path should be leveled out for access along William Penn and a sign placed. This was suggested by the last board.

A Common Areas Committee meeting will be held in winter 2003 to prepare for spring projects and concerns including monitoring the fishing if necessary.

Submitted by Diane Barbret