Dear Friends & Neighbors

Since the last issue of the Sunfish Lake Quarterly the City has a new Mayor and two new Council Members. The City also faces new challenges.

As surrounding communities have matured and become more fully developed, there have been demands made for changes in the transportation system, and new approaches with respect to land use. Proposed solutions to transportation needs, if adopted, could have an adverse impact on the quality of life of our residents.

Changes in the approach to regulation of surface and groundwater will also impose a greater regulatory impact on our City. In the past the focus has been on the quantity of groundwater runoff created by development. Those regulations had relatively little impact on our City because our low density development did not create significant increase in groundwater flow to surrounding communities. Water quality is the new regulatory focus. As a result there may be an increased regulatory impact on the city and our citizens. However, it will also bring increased opportunities to assure the quality of our land and lakes.

James Sullivan and Council member Judy McManus serve on the Board of the Lower Mississippi Water Management Organization. It provides information, service and access to grants that will be of great help in addressing water quality issues.

I must personally thank Molly Park for her years of service as Mayor. During her tenure she initiated a number of positive changes for the City including the establishment of the Sunfish Lake Quarterly which has been extremely well received by our citizens.

If there is local news of personal interest such as graduations and honors please provide that information to me and I will forward it to the committee of staff and residents who write and publish the quarterly.

~Mayor Richard Williams
Where?
Harmon Park at the end of Angell Road off Highway 110 on the north side of our City.

When?
Saturday, May 7 from 8:30 to 11:00 am co-hosted by the Sunfish Lake Mayor’s Environmental Action Committee (MEAC), the Tree Board and your City Forester, Jim Nayes. Buckthorn and Burdock Walkabout begins at 9:00 am. Tree and shrub planting begins at 9:30 am.

What?
Fun, Food, Beverages, Baby trees and shrubs to purchase plus the latest information about emerald ash borer (EAB), what to plant after buckthorn, and burdock management.

New this year:
Buckthorn and Burdock Walkabout – “Now that I’ve removed my dirty rotten buckthorn scum and bad boy burdock … what’s next?”

Bring your gloves and shovel so we can do a group planting of trees and shrubs to replace buckthorn and trees lost to disease, insects and storms. Living Green tips, visit with your neighbors, tree talk, and more tree talk with your friends.

Recyclables Drop Off:
First 25 recycled items get a FREE 18 gallon Dakota County Recycling Bin.
*Limit one per family. – Courtesy of MEAC.

Plastic Bags
Packing Peanuts
Cell phones; CD’s; diskettes, audio and video tapes, rechargeable batteries,
Mercury thermometers, and inkjet, laser printer and fax cartridges
Hazardous waste (paint, pesticides, automotive, car batteries, cleaning supplies and the like)

Please Don’t Bring:
Yard Waste
Appliances or Electronics

Plan on a beautiful Minnesota spring day just like last year. We deserve it after our long winter. Let’s continue our green tradition and in celebration of trees and of the Arbor Day Green Fair, pick up trash along our yards, streets, lanes, driveways, cul-de-sacs, turn-arounds or roads. Let’s all live Greener in 2011 than ever before.

Metropolitan Council Annual Lake Water Quality Report
Residents can access the 2009 Metropolitan Council Annual Lake Water Quality Report on-line at:
www.metrocouncil.org/environment/RiversLakes/Lakes/index.htm
For residents who do not have internet access, the three lakes received the following grades: Sunfish Lake and Horseshoe Lake - Received Grade B Hornbeam received a Grade B in 2008, but there was insufficient information collected in 2009 for grading this lake.

SouthWest Review Newspaper Distribution
The SouthWest Review Newspaper is the official newspaper for the City of Sunfish Lake.
If you are not receiving copies of the newspaper at your residence, please contact Laura Young in the Circulation Department at Lillie Suburban Newspapers at 651-748-7833.

SFL Green Living Tips:
Collect rainwater to water household plants, and repurpose egg cartons for paint wells or seed starters. Recycle used glass, otherwise decomposition will take a million years.*First 25 families to bring recycled items to Arbor Day will receive a FREE 18 gallon recycling bin. Courtesy of MEAC.