

Portage Lake Watershed Sample Goals

Based on Community Input to Date

Goals for the Portage Lake Watershed should be based on the protection and enhancement of natural resources, as well as cultural and historic assets, particularly those associated with water resources. Goals should outline the anticipated future condition of the watershed based upon community input. They are usually broad and may change over time as new information becomes available. Once consensus goals for the plan are agreed upon, specific objectives and tasks (actions) will be developed for each goal.

To facilitate the upcoming goal-setting work session, Public Sector Consultants has developed the following draft goals. These goals are based on information obtained from the nine focus groups that were held in the spring and summer of 2007, the survey of watershed residents, and from previous studies. These draft goals serve as a starting point for discussion with the Executive Committee and Technical Committee members.

■ **Goal 1: Aquatic Ecosystem¹**

Protect the quality of water resources in the Portage Lake watershed, as well as other essential habitats, to maintain the integrity and functions of the aquatic ecosystem needed to sustain designated, protected uses.

■ **Goal 2: Water-based Recreation**

Protect and enhance the quality of and access to water-based recreational opportunities within the Portage Lake watershed.

■ **Goal 3: Public Health**

Assure that participants in water-based recreation are not exposed to human pathogens or toxic chemicals, and are not consuming wild fish or wildlife with contaminants in excess of recommended levels.

■ **Goal 4: Natural Resource, Historic, and Cultural Assets**

Invest in protection and enhancement of the historical, cultural, and land-based natural resource assets and the recreational and educational benefits they provide that are unique to the watershed and that contribute to the quality of life and economic well-being of residents and visitors.

■ **Goal 5: Local Management Institution**

Establish a mechanism to provide sustained local leadership, community engagement, and fundraising needed to assure implementation and updating of the Portage Lake Watershed Forever plan.

¹ An ecosystem is a sustainable, functioning complex or community of organisms interacting with each other and their physical and chemical environment as a unit.
