

Proposed Big McDonald LID Tree Planting Initiative

The wind storm last June destroyed hundreds of trees and damaged countless others. In addition, the post-maturity condition of many lakeside trees and recent clearing of wooded areas are causes for concern about the future of the lakeside ecosystem.

In response, the BMLID board is proposing a tree planting initiative. The board seeks landowner approval to use funds from a \$5,000 Fresh Water Society grant for the project. Similar initiatives have been very successful on Pelican Lake and Cormorant area lakes. Over 400 trees have been planted around Cormorant area lakes since 2014, facilitated by RMB Laboratory, Detroit Lakes.

Benefits of the tree planting program include:

- Replacing uprooted trees;
- Supplementing old and storm-damaged trees;
- Stabilizing shorelines;
- Protecting water quality;
- Reducing erosion;
- Enhancing wildlife habitat;
- Improving visual quality; and
- Increasing property value.

Specifics

Planting area: shoreline impact zone is 0 – 15 feet from the ordinary high water line. The planting location within the zone is the landowners' choice.

Plant species available: Paper Birch, Sugar Maple, Red Oak, and Quaking Aspen

Plant size: 3 - 5 feet

Condition: Container (pot)

Cost of Plant and Installation: Landowner cost is \$15 per tree delivered and installed. Limit 2 trees per property. BMLID pays \$15 per tree plus an additional \$30 per tree for delivery and installation.

Sign up: February 2019. Information will be available on BMLID website.

Planting (by RMB Laboratory Volunteers): The first 2 weeks in July, week days, only landowner contacts RMB Labs as to day and time. Information will be available on BMLID website.

Let's plant for the future!