



CHANGES ARE COMING TO BLUE EAGLE LAKE!

Barnesville area residents have noticed that over the past few years, the pond, located just northeast of Blue Eagle Lake has filled with aquatic vegetation. This sediment pond was originally constructed in 1985 to keep sediment from going into the lake. At that time it was expected to have a 25 year lifespan. For several years the City has been applying for grants to pay for removal of the sediment. In March of this year, the Barnesville City Council was pleased to learn that a \$340,409 Grant was received from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to help resolve this problem. Beginning about September 14, Detroit Lakes based Hough Inc. will begin construction of a fish “ramp” near the Blue Eagle Lake walk bridge and spillway. This ramp is a series of rock shelves that will allow fish in Whiskey Creek to travel upstream. The spillway has prevented migration of fish from the Red River Basin into the upper reaches of Whiskey Creek. A significant benefit is that the construction will include a bypass pipe to drain the pond and allow the sediment to be removed in a more cost effective manner.

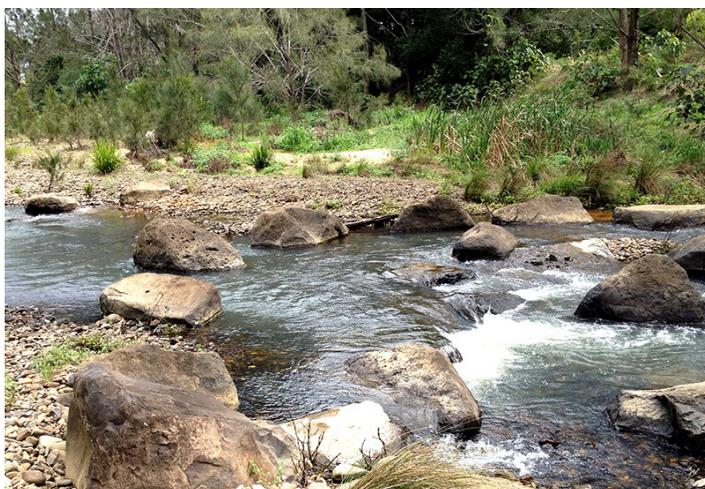
MID-SEPTEMBER TO MID-OCTOBER.....Construction of the Fish Ramp will occur
MID-NOVEMBER TO MID-DECEMBER.....Dredging of Sediment Pond will occur

THE FISH RAMP

The fish ramp is so named because of the series of rock steps that will be constructed on the north side of the lake, just west of the spillway. The rock ramp will be about 300 feet long, starting as the base of the spillway going to the west. The width of the fish ramp will vary from 20-40 feet, with the ramp narrowing as it goes to the west. The photo at the bottom of this page gives you an idea of the appearance of the fish ramp.

To facilitate the construction of the fish ramp, trees and brush will need to be removed in that area. In 2016, after construction is complete, smaller trees and shrubs will be planted in that area. Once complete, people will be able to safely walk next to the ramp to observe the fish. A series of informational signs are also being planned to explain the project.

When the fish ramp is being constructed, a temporary bypass pipe will also be installed from the ramp back to the sediment pond. This will allow the sediment pond to drain and dry out.



FOOTBRIDGE AND DNR FISHING DOCK

During the construction project, the footbridge and small parking lot just off Highway 34 will be closed to allow construction crews to stage materials in that area. The DNR Fishing Dock will also be closed from mid-September to mid-October.

WALKING PATH

For safety reasons, portions of the northern section of the walking path will also be closed during the construction project. It is likely that portions of the walking path may be closed during the time that the sediment pond is being dredged.



DREDGING OF THE SEDIMENT POND

Construction of the fish ramp is expected to be completed around mid-October. Crews will leave and return in mid-November to begin removing the sediment from the sediment pond when temperatures have cooled and the materials will be easier to move.

Large payloaders will scoop up the sediment and the material will be placed in dump trucks. Trucks will transport the sediment material to the area just to the north of the City lagoons, where it will be spread to a depth of about one foot and seeded. A smaller amount of the material will be piled near the City Shop and allowed to dry.

Houston Engineering has expected that about 200 truck loads of sediment will be removed from the pond during the course expected to go until mid-December.

SAFETY DURING CONSTRUCTION

During construction there will be large equipment working in the area. Crews will secure the area at the end of the day, however caution is advised to also stay out of the construction site on weekends or evenings.

Traffic on Highway 34 will remain open throughout the projects. Drivers should watch for trucks turning signs. Road surface could be slippery when materials are being removed from the sediment pond.