

Even as ice covers the lake many volunteers around the community are planning for the heat of summer 2010. We have completed a wonderful year at Shongum Lake and are looking forward to an amazing 2010. The 2010 Shongum Lake Executive Council has begun working on key priorities moving forward. In 2009, we were focused on continuing to enhance the member experience in our community. We expanded our programming to include new social events and celebrations, a blood drive and continued our now famous Friday Night Social hours with no additional increase in the events budget. Additionally, we made enhancements to the clubhouse and rentals of this facility are up over 50%. Finally, with focused management of beach operations, we enhanced our beachfront programming and took steps to improve our equipment and facilities.

This coming year we are committed to continuing to support the development of our community and the member experience. Yet, as an organization it is critical we begin to invest in the long term capital projects that will ensure the sustainability and value of our natural resources, equipment and buildings. The Shongum Lake Long Range Planning committee has been meeting for more than a year to drive this process. This year's budget includes some key steps in this investment. The Council has been able to drive cost reductions in some of our most expensive operating expense budget lines this through focused resource management and the support of many volunteers throughout our community.

Our 2010 planned investments include the development and beginning steps of a comprehensive lake restoration and management plan. Without this critical step, we will not be able to restore and maintain the quality and depth of our lake. Additionally, the Council plans to do significant repairs and enhancement on our docks and swim floats. Finally, we will continue to invest in our beach property and recreational and safety equipment. In order to fund these critical infrastructure investments and continue our operations and debt responsibilities, we all must contribute. To minimize the impact to our members, the council is proposing using cash reserves to support some of the lake restoration and management project costs. The details of our proposed 2010 budget are in this Lakeline. Please take the time to review it. We will discuss the budget and vote on its approval at our general membership meeting.

We cannot accomplish any of this without you, our members. **First, please come and vote for the budget at our March 16th meeting.** Commit to being active in our community; volunteers are always needed, come to our events and take part in our general membership meetings. Speak to any of the council members about how you can get involved.