

# Overview: RLB Wetland Management Plan

## Introduction

The RLB wetland management plan outlines effective measures to restore Village owned wetlands throughout RLB. Recommendations for restoration are planned for 5-, 10-, and 20-year plans.

## History of Restoration

In recent years RLB has taken initiative in targeting high quality wetlands in the community for restoration. Larger projects include: restoration of Mayfield Natural Drain & northern lagoons in 2013 and the channel dredging of Round Lake in 2007 & 2008.

## Management Practices

This section of the plan identifies information that will shape future planning for wetland restoration. A few subjects discussed in this section include: implementation, funding, and current challenges. Acknowledging the topics identified in this section are fundamental in the initial phases of successful restorative planning.

## Round Lake Drain

The Round Lake Drain plays an important and fundamental role in RLB. The drain regulates the flow of excess water from Round Lake west bound towards the Fox River and plays a significant role in flood control. Altering wetlands found in the drain can negatively impact the wetlands found adjacent to drain.

## Restoration Overview

Due to invasive species dominance in the area, this section focuses heavily on effective invasive species treatment. Species removal and several other short and long term goals have been identified as to help restore wetlands to their native state. They are listed below in Figures 1 and 2.

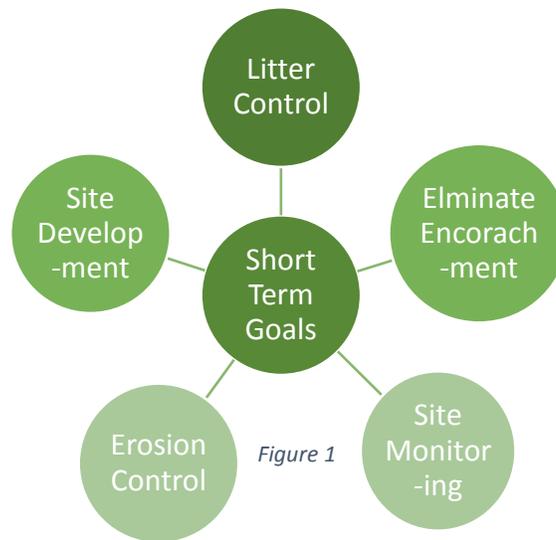


Figure 1

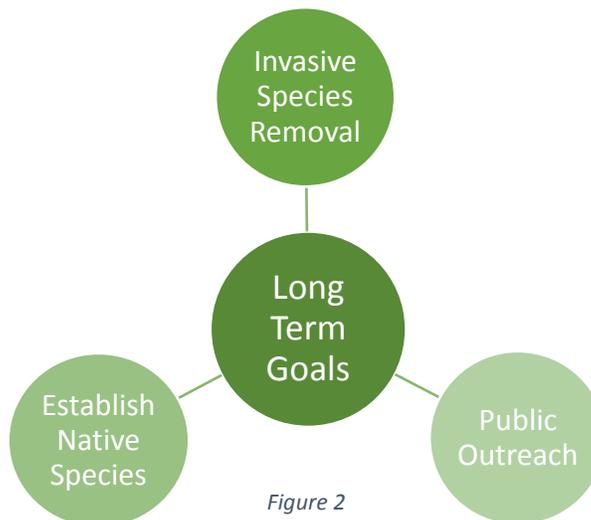


Figure 2

## Benefits of Improving & Restoring Wetlands

There are many benefits to restoring and maintaining local wetlands. Examples of benefits identified in this plan include, but are not limited to: education, significant flood hazard reduction, as well as nonpoint source pollution reduction.

## Wetland Inventory

Each wetland was delineated in 2002 for the Lake County Wetland Inventory. In 2018, a general site inventory was conducted by RLB Public Works staff for each wetland delineated by Lake County.

General information on plants, litter, and erosion were recorded for all site visits. Following the visit, each wetland was given a rank based on "level of degradation" (this encompasses information gathered during initial site visit in 2018) and value to the community. The ranking placed wetlands in need of immediate attention at the top of the priority list.

## Recommendations

Following the general inventory, recommendations were made based on best actions for sustainable future management of the wetlands. Recommendations were made and will be implemented for 5-, 10-, and 20 years from today.