

What's your Water Quality IQ?

Expand your knowledge of Coeur d'Alene Lake

FREE

Community Workshop!

Wednesday, May 4th

Coeur d'Alene Library

Community Room

702 Front Avenue, Coeur d'Alene

**Our 2-hour Program Begins at 5:30 PM
with a PowerPoint Presentation and
Hands-On Science**

Learn about the current conditions of the lake from
local science experts and discuss important topics like:

METAL POLLUTANTS (lead, zinc, cadmium)

OXYGEN

PHOSPHORUS - ALGAE

MILFOIL



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Given by Staff of the

Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan



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Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan

Who We Are: The Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan is a water quality plan for Coeur d'Alene Lake and waters flowing into the lake that is jointly implemented by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. These two agencies have authority to manage water quality under the Federal Clean Water Act. Implementation of the lake plan began in July, 2009.

Why a Lake Plan?: Coeur d'Alene Lake is a popular recreational destination, an economic catalyst for Northern Idaho and Eastern Washington and the heart of the local community. However, over the past century the lake has been the repository of millions of tons of metals contaminated sediments (e.g. lead, cadmium, zinc, and arsenic) coming down from historical mining activity in the Silver Valley. High concentrations of these trace metals reside in lake bed sediments, and the lake is within the boundaries of the Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Superfund facilities. The lake plan is designed to monitor and understand water quality conditions in the lake, and protect and improve water quality.

What We Want to Accomplish: The lake plan focus is to work with community governments, land owners, and citizens to minimize the flow of nutrients (phosphorus and nitrogen) into the lake from various human activities. Excess nutrients above natural background levels can fertilize a lake and promote increased aquatic plant growth. In turn, this plant growth dies, sinks to the lake bottom, and in the process of decomposition dissolved oxygen is consumed. For the most part, Coeur d'Alene Lake continues to have good levels of dissolved oxygen down to the lake sediments throughout the year. This oxygen minimizes the amount of particulate metals in lake sediments that will dissolve and flow upward into the lake water.

Stated Lake Plan Goal: *to protect and improve lake water quality by limiting basin-wide nutrient inputs that impair lake water quality conditions, which in turn influence the solubility of mining-related metals contamination contained in lake sediments.*