

Our Gem Symposium

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Plummer – Community members have a chance to learn more about the health of Lake Coeur d'Alene at the upcoming “Our Gem” Symposium, which will take place on Tuesday, March 22 from 8:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Coeur d'Alene Resort.

This is the second year for the symposium. Speakers will explore a number of diverse topics relating to the health and condition of the lake, including discussions on nutrient reduction, native fish restoration, and the relationship between water quality and our local property values.

“Lake Coeur d'Alene is a key part of our region’s identity and one of the reasons why many of us choose to live here. Each and every one of us has our own story about how the lake impacts us but we also need to remember that the things we do in our everyday lives can impact the condition of the lake for all of us,” said Laura Laumatia, Lake Management Coordinator for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. “We hope to bring some attention to what is happening below the surface and how each of us can take action to protect our gem, Lake Coeur d'Alene.”

The one-day symposium is coordinated by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe Lake Management Department and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality with support from the University of Idaho, the Community Water Resource Center, and CDA Vision 2030. It will lead into the Spokane River Forum, which will take place March 23-24. Registration for the “Our Gem” symposium can be completed online at <http://spokaneriver.net/spokane-river-forum-conference/>.

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About the Lake Management Plan:

In an effort to address the many issues facing Coeur d'Alene Lake, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and the State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality collaborated on the 2009 Lake Management Plan. The goal of the plan is 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. The plan is co-managed by the Tribe’s Lake Management Department and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality using extensive scientific studies and aims to promote general understanding of the complex issues in the lake and looks for opportunities to diminish the amount of pollutants entering the lake’s waters.