City of Burnsville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Public Meeting Notice
Discussion on Draft Crystal, Keller, Earley and Lee Lake
Nutrient TMDL Report and Request for Comment

In the effort to restore the water quality of Crystal, Keller, Earley, and Lee Lakes, the Black Dog Watershed Management Organization (BDWMO) is requesting your participation at a community meeting that will take place on **February 10, 2010 at 6:30 PM at Burnsville City Hall**. The BDWMO scheduled this meeting to raise local awareness of the complex issues, decisions, and outcomes involved in the restoration efforts. The goal of the community meeting is to engage citizens in helping to shape the restoration process. Local citizen knowledge about what is happening in the watershed is a valuable source of information for the BDWMO to use in their decision-making process for improving water quality (reduce phosphorus loading) throughout the BDWMO.

Because these lakes have been listed on the state of Minnesota's impaired waters list, the federal Clean Water Act requires that a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study be completed for each lake. A TMDL study is a scientific study that calculates the maximum amount of a pollutant (nutrients, in this case) that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards for that pollutant. It is a process that identifies all of the sources of the pollutant causing the impairment and allocates necessary reductions among the sources. This multi-year effort results in a pollution reduction plan and engages stakeholders and the general public. After approval of the TMDL by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, water quality improvement activities are implemented to achieve the necessary reductions.

Crystal, Keller, Earley, and Lee Lakes are located in the Cities of Burnsville and Lakeville, in Dakota County, within the BDWMO watershed. The State placed Crystal, Keller, Earley, and Lee Lakes on the impaired waters list for aquatic recreation because the lakes exceed the water quality standard for nutrients (typically phosphorus). Excess nutrients such as phosphorus from stormwater runoff create poor water quality conditions causing frequent summer algal blooms that limit recreational activities. A reduction in phosphorus loading to Crystal, Keller, Earley, and Lee Lakes is required to consistently meet water quality standards under average precipitation conditions. The reduction techniques necessary to meet the water quality standards include management of external and internal phosphorus sources.

The preliminary draft TMDL report for Crystal, Keller, Earley, and Lee Lakes Nutrient TMDL will be available for review at http://blackdogwmo.org/tmdl.html by February 3, 2010.

Please contact Daryl Jacobson, BDWMO Administrator at 952-895-4574 or Scott Sobiech, BDWMO Consulting Engineer, at 952-832-2755 for additional information.

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