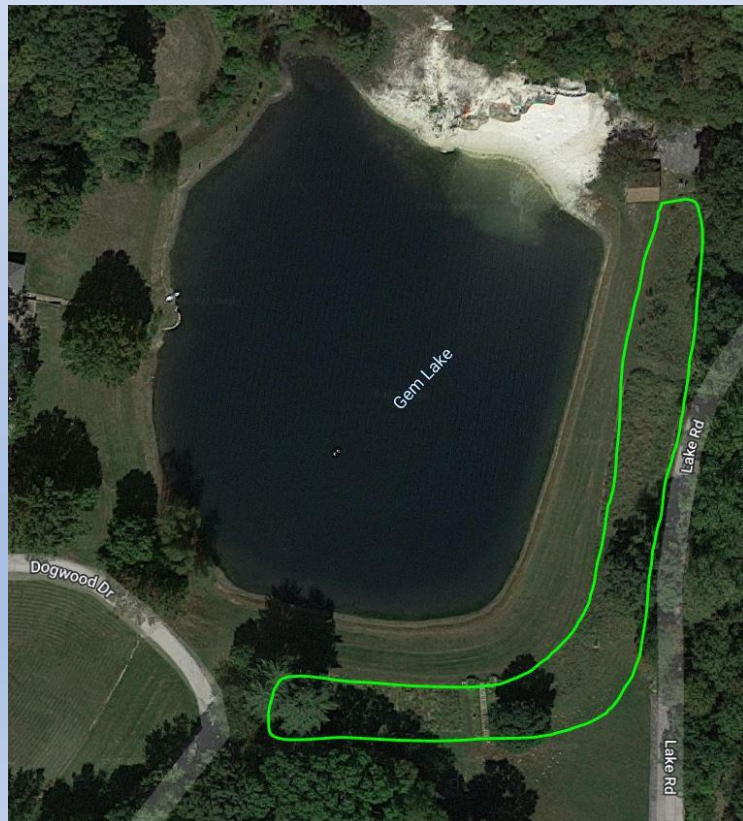


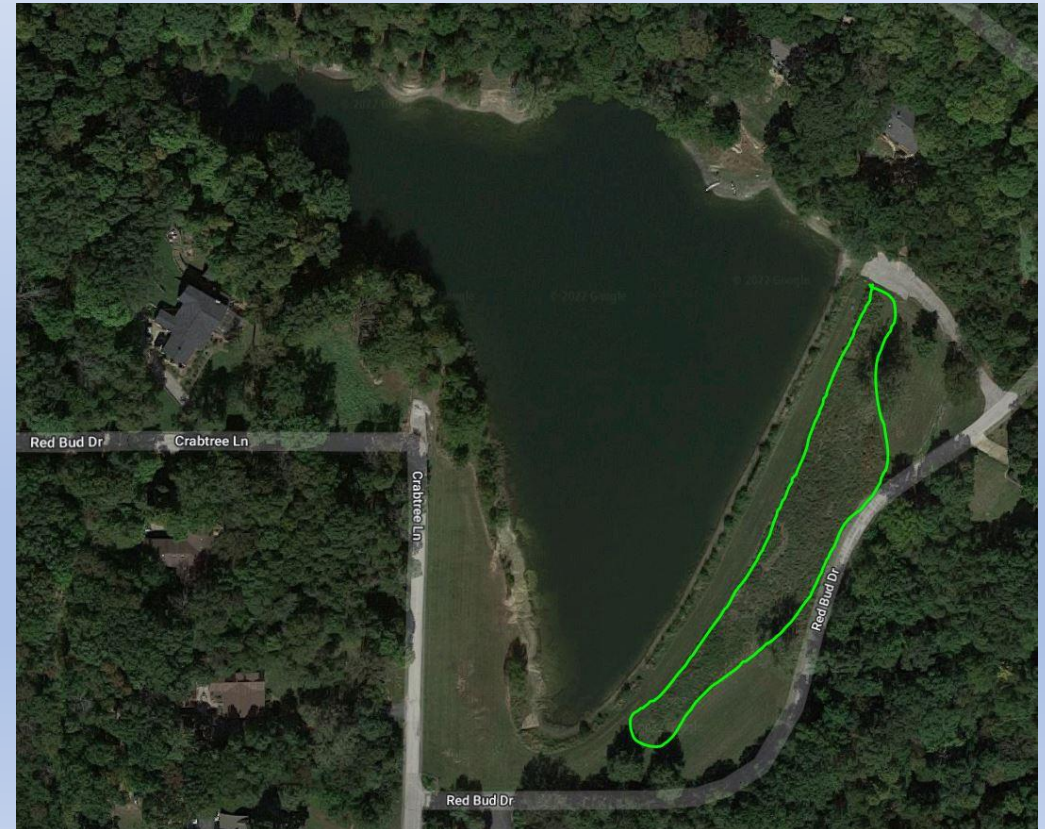
Lake Committee

Dam Management Subcommittee

Gem Lake
(Swimming Lake)



Crystal Lake
(Fishing Lake)





Our dams are inspected every other year (odd numbered years)

- ❖ **No woody growth**
- ❖ **No burrowing animals**
 - ❖ **Culverts clear**
- ❖ **Structurally sound**

Any trees growing on either side of the dam must be removed.

Typically, this is done by cutting and stump treating before the trees get too big.

The willows on the inside of the dam are a constant issue.



To watch for burrowing animals, you need to see the ground occasionally.

To clear the vegetation, we have mowed in the past, but now we use fire and goats!

2023 will be a year for both!

Watch ND for details.



Gem Lake

For 2022 the last section of Gem Lake dam was addressed.

The last section stretches from the rift to the beach pavilion/BBQ Pit/Dumpster fence.

The preparation of the area included a method called smothering which involves –

- **Clearing current vegetation and treating with herbicide**
- **Covering the area with dark tarps for 4-5 weeks**
- **Uncover the area for 1-2 weeks**
- **Replacing the tarps and repeating this cycle 3-4 times during the growing season**
- **The area can then be planted in September and/or seed can be spread November-February to allow for natural cold stratification of the native seed.**
- **The following two years, the vegetation is to be kept below 12 inches to allow for the natives to establish.**





The area that is covered is approximately 110 feet across the top and 45 foot down the dam.



In the early spring of 2022, a project to move sand at the beach provided an opportunity to fill the needed sandbags.



This area had become very hard to weed due to debris building up. Removing this sand aided in beach maintenance.



**A grant from Missouri
Prairie Foundation
(\$163.50) provided funds
for blue tarps and sand
bags.**

**The other tarps were left
over from a similar
treatment on this dam in
the past.**



Everything was going according to plan the tarps were rolled back twice and the area left to “grow” then treated and the tarps rolled back.

Until....the blue tarps started to fall apart!

By end of June early July they were trash.

New plan -



New “tarps” were purchased.

Thanks to a generous gift from Jack and Kathy Loughren, three used billboard signs were purchased to cover a portion of the blue tarp area.

The remaining section was planted with Buckwheat seed as a cover crop.





The buckwheat grew well and bloomed!



Then the deer found it....

And the stinging nettle grew in.

So, to finish this area for the season –

- **The stinging nettle was weeded out.**
- **The billboard tarps were removed, cleaned and packed away for next year.**
- **About 350 seed grown plants were added to the area from the billboard tarps to the BBQ pit.**



Lastly, oilseed radish and oat seed were spread (with pine shavings) where the billboard tarps were and over the area of buckwheat to provide a cover crop for winter.

This area has been watered regularly since and will be seeded in January or February with collected native seed.



Preservation and Enhancement

The following activities were conducted and funded through this committee and from our Parks and Signs budgets, and LOTS of volunteer effort.



Large cottonwood tree removed at Crystal Lake.



Garden at Red Bud and Crabtree

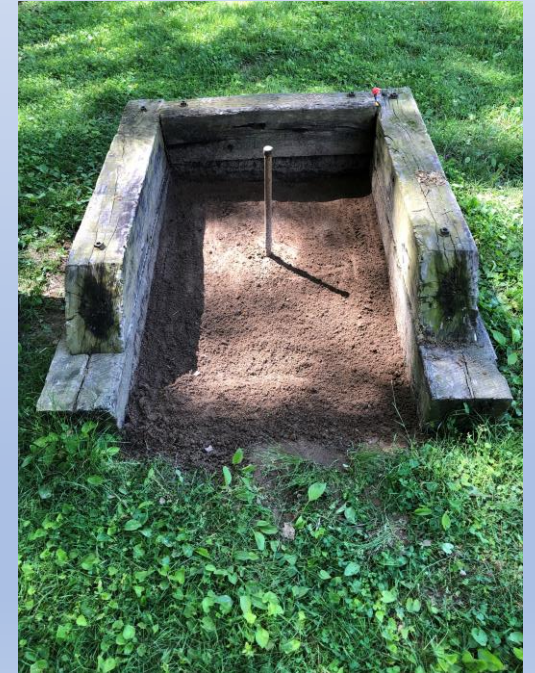




**Lake Road road side
trimmed below the dam**



**Horseshoe Pits at
the park.**





Plants cut back from the roadside along Dogwood and at the area on the non-park side of the spillway. All debris was burned off.



This year, with the help of some dedicated folks – the beach was AMAZING!!





**Firewood rack
added and filled
at the park.**



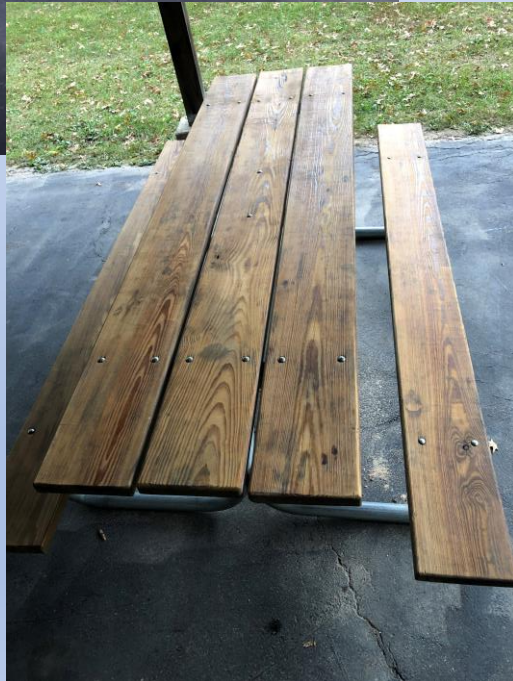
Old sign



**The new sign was installed at
Crystal Lake.**



**The park pavilion
was power
washed and the
tables washed,
sanded and
resealed.**



**The bathroom got a much needed facelift!
Work included replacing the rotten logs too!**



**And a toy box
was added.**



Address signs were added at key locations. These addresses are in the directory too.



The bat house has been installed at Crystal Lake, along with a fun sign to help explain what this odd-looking box is.

Our entrance signs – these were a real challenge this year with the severe drought.



THANK YOU ALL!!!!

Carol Bristle

John Meixner

Mary Cheney

Jeannie Meyer

Dana Dragovich

Jim Meyer

Lyle Hardin

Carey Morris

And anyone else I may have forgotten, sorry!