

# More than a Paperweight

*Developing an Actionable Lake Management Plan*

WISCONSIN LAKES  
PARTNERSHIP CONVENTION  
*March 31, 2016*

---

**Charlie Marks**  
Administrator  
Green Lake Sanitary District

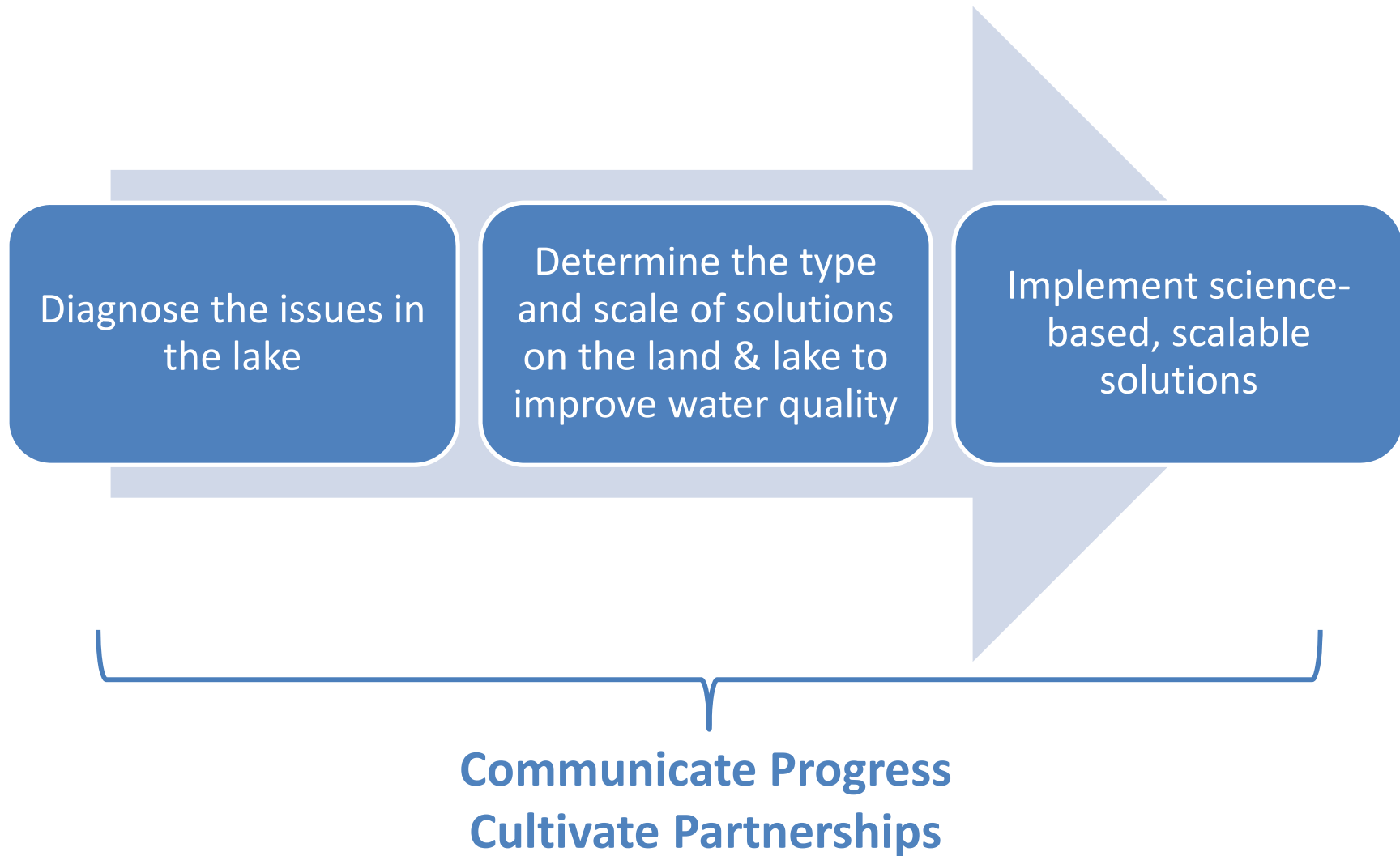
**Stephanie Prellwitz**  
Executive Director  
Green Lake Association



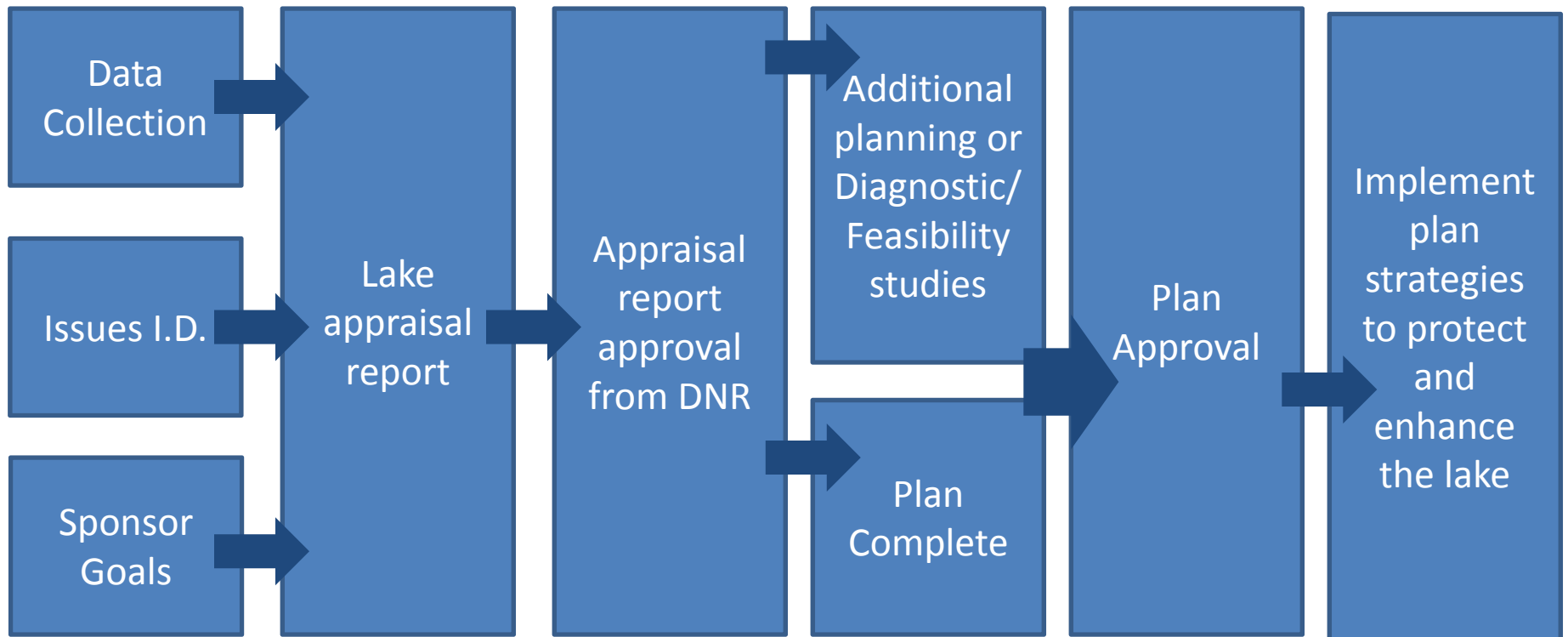
# Who We Are



# General LMP Process



# LMP Development Process





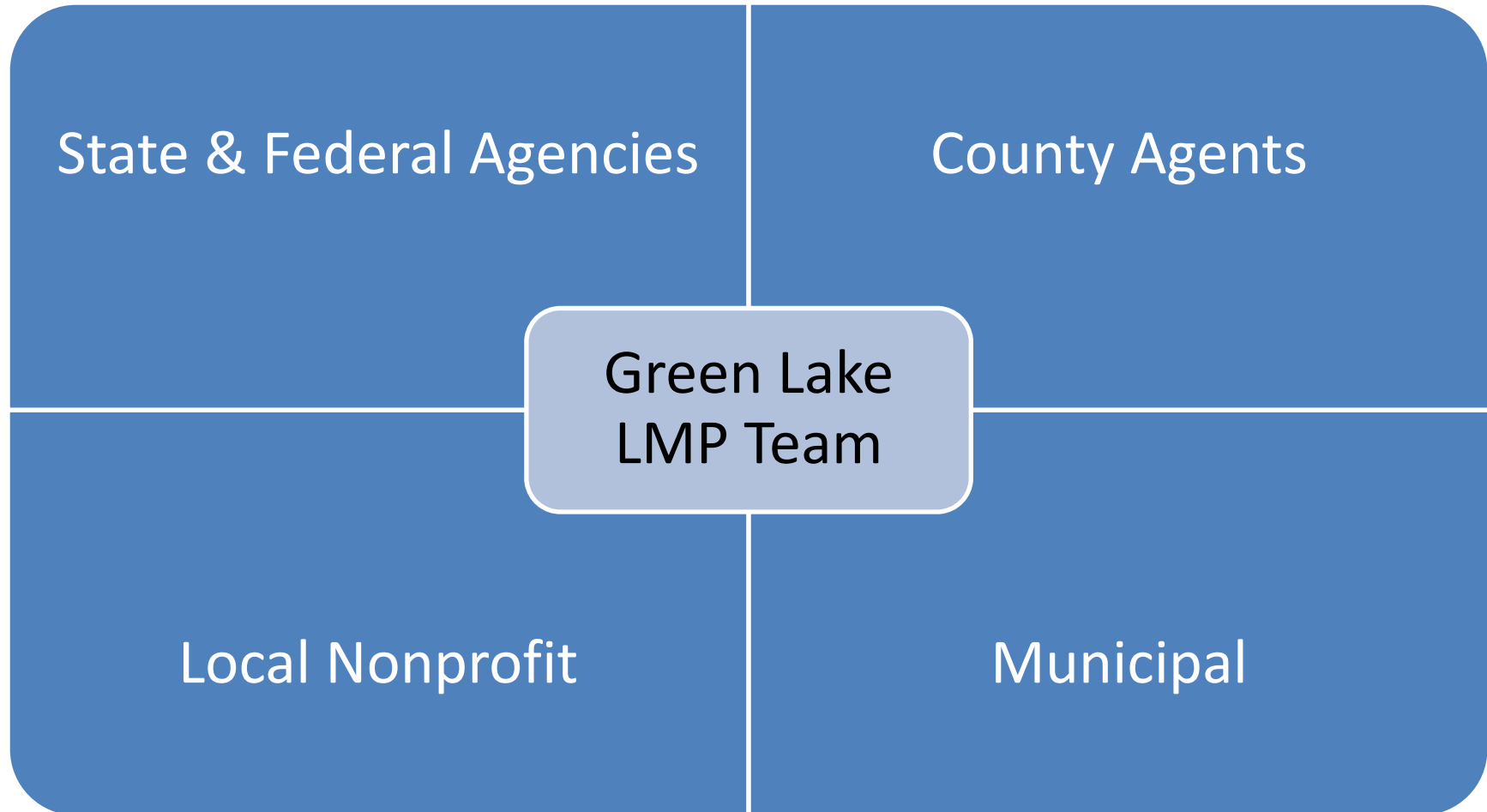
12 Tips for  
an  
Actionable  
LMP



# TIP #1

Get the right people to the  
table.

# Green Lake's LMP Team Members



# Green Lake's LMP Team Members

## STATE & FEDERAL AGENCIES

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- U.S. Geological Survey

## COUNTY AGENTS

- Green Lake County LC Dept.
- Fond du Lac County L&WC Dept.

Green Lake  
LMP Team

## LOCAL NONPROFIT

- Green Lake Association
- Green Lake Conservancy

## MUNICIPAL

- City of Green Lake
- City of Ripon





# TIP #1

Get the right people to the table.

- Outside partners can be good, but they need to bring something to the team and be balanced by local partners.



## TIP #2

# Communicate.

- Before, during and after. Repeat.
- Communicate in *multiple ways*, with *multiple partners*, to *various stakeholders*.



## TIP #3

# Acknowledge your challenges.

- Challenges acknowledged in LMP = Increased likelihood of grant funding.
- Don't forget to also acknowledge your *successes!*



## TIP #4

# Consider the future and its unknowns.

- Including, but not limited to:
  - Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)
  - Climate change
  - Agency funding and morale



## TIP #5

Do what is right, *then* figure out how to pay for it.



## TIP #6

### Is expertise available?

- Don't forget those who are connected to your lake! (*You may need to hire a consultant for monitoring.*)
- The bigger the company, the more the plan can be separated from the lake management team.
- Public advisory groups are good for input, but may be weak at identifying the real issues.

# LMP Consultant: To Hire or Not to Hire?



*Mark Sesing, Green Lake LMP Consultant*



## TIP #7

You do not have unlimited  
resources.





## TIP #8

Treat the disease, not the symptoms.

*...but balance research with shovel-ready projects.*

Examples: Retentions ponds for phosphorus reduction and aquatic plant harvesting program.



## TIP #9

Good information is a good investment.

*...but balance assessment with action  
(research, water quality monitoring, etc.).*



## TIP #10

### The LMP is a “living” document.

- The LMP is meant to be *flexible* and *evolving*.
- Don't get discouraged if it's not perfect.
- If you don't have what you need, it's not a problem.

Example: Green Lake LMP update schedule.



# TIP #11

## Keep an open mind.

- Avoid objectors, obstructionists and politics.
- Give people the space to think outside of the box.
- If you are the expert, do not take offense if your toes get stepped on.



## TIP #12

Environmental problems are easy. It gets complicated when the solutions involve *people*.



*I used to think the top environmental problems were biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and climate change.*

*I thought that with 30 years of good science we could address those problems.*

*But I was wrong.*

*The top environmental problems are selfishness, greed and apathy – and to deal with those we need a spiritual and cultural transformation.*

*And we scientists don't know how to do that.*

*-Gus Speth*

# Where to Find the Green Lake LMP



**[www.glakesd.com](http://www.glakesd.com)**

Programs → Lake Management Plan



**[www.greenlakeassociation.com](http://www.greenlakeassociation.com)**

What We Do → Lake Management



# Questions & Discussion

