

FOX RIVER/GREEN BAY NRDA TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
2019 RESTORATION PROJECT IDEA FORM

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

Title of Project: Our Pier

Fox River NRDS Project Number:

Date Submitted: September 24, 2019

**2. CONTACT INFORMATION**

Project Manager: Kevin Mraz

Name of Organization: Algoma Sanitary District #1

Address: 3477 Miller Drive, Oshkosh, WI 54904

Phone number: 920-426-0335

E-mail: [district.office@algomasd.org](mailto:district.office@algomasd.org)

**3. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Estimated Total Project Cost (NRDA Funds Requested + Matching Funds): \$146,340

Total NRDA Funding Requested: \$79,340

Estimated Matching Funds/In-Kind Services: \$67,000

**4. PROJECT CATEGORY**

- Aquatic, Near-shore, and Riparian Habitat Protection or Restoration Project
- Fishery Population Enhancement Project
- Increased Public Access to Fishery Resource

**5. RESTORATION IMPACTS (Quantify the *potential* impacts of your project):**

Acres restored: 0

Acres preserved (acquisition only): 0.2

Stream miles restored: 0

Stream miles opened for fish passage: 0

**6. PROJECT PARTNERS**

**List any project partners (specify which of these partners you anticipate contributing matching funds):**

- Winnebago County
- Algoma Sanitary District No. 1
- Wisconsin DNR

**Other Potential Partners**

- Otter Street Fishing Club
- Walleyes for Tomorrow
- Ducks Unlimited

- Skoolin' Bass Anglers
- Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
- Local companies to sponsor / donate various aspects they specialize in

## **7. PROJECT LOCATION**

Wisconsin, Winnebago County, Town of Algoma, Sect.16, T18N, R16E

A map of the location is attached.

This is a highly visible location on the northwest corner of the Interstate 41 and State Highway 21 intersection and has thousands of cars pass by daily. This site is close to many schools and residential areas for biking, walking, or driving access.

## **8. PROJECT DELIVERABLES**

**Briefly describe the main objectives of the project:**

- To renew public access to use the water resource after PCB removal.
- To increase access for anglers/fishermen along the shore of Lake Butte des Morts.
- To provide a new nursery habitat in the form of "fish sticks" for fish and other aquatic life in the bay.
- To provide new public access to Lake Butte des Morts for canoe and kayak users.
- To create lake access for ice fishermen.
- To allow the public to enjoy the natural beauty of the area.
- To provide school age children a destination for interpretive natural studies.
- To allow possible collaboration with the Oakwood Elementary Environmental Charter School.

**Explain how your project will restore, replace, or acquire habitat for fish and wildlife species injured by PCBs and describe that habitat:**

Quoting Kendall K Kamke, DNR Fisheries in Oshkosh, WI:

"This site is well-suited for a smaller, L-shaped fishing pier with an assessable kayak launch. In addition to the obvious aid to those kayaking, the structure could be used for fishing, particularly in the spring and early summer when bass and panfish are moving into the area and spawning. Northern pike are present until the water in the shallower areas warm up in the summer, but bass and panfish can be found here year round."

"These species will benefit from the District's habitat augmentation with a 'fish sticks' project that would add coarse woody debris in the form of some trees cabled to the shoreline. (This would require an easily obtained permit.)"

**List any fish or wild life species, cultural resources/practices injured by PCBs that will directly receive benefits as a result of this project (please note if there are any federally or state listed threatened or endangered species):**

Quoting Kendall K. Kamke, DNR Fisheries in Oshkosh, WI:

“Bass and panfish can be found here year-round. Northern pike are present until the water in the shallower areas warm up in the summer.” “A dock would allow anglers to get out further from shore and nearer the deeper, less weedy area.” There is currently no access to this area until ice fishing season.

“In addition to the benefits for anglers, a pier could be used by the public to observe wildlife, particularly wading birds like herons, egrets and waterfowl, which frequent the quiet waters of the bay. A pier would provide a stable platform from which one could glass the bay. Finally, a pier would provide a stable, safe spot for the public to just enjoy a few minutes near the water taking in the sights and sounds of a diverse deep water wetland area.”

The kayak launch will provide an enhanced, safe entry point which currently does not exist in the waters west of Hwy 41. Kayak and canoe enthusiasts will have an improved taking-off point from which to enjoy the waters and all that they have to offer.

**Describe how this project aligns with the goals and objectives identified in your organization’s management plan. Also list any national, state, regional, or tribal, or local plans that are pertinent to this project:**

This project aligns with federal, state, and local efforts to restore fish and fish habitat after PCB and other contaminants have been removed.

Our Sanitary District strongly supports the efforts of the NRDA. As an active Water Utility, we place high value on efforts to clean and maintain a water resource, clear of carcinogens and other harmful contaminants from the water cycle.

This property allows our Water Utility to have the potential of a surface water intake system if any changes in water quality and quantity happen to our three existing deep well groundwater sources. The Water Utility currently draws groundwater from the Great lakes watershed basin; this site would allow for an alternate source should regulation and basin use laws change.

The Algoma Sanitary District has a long-standing tradition of working to add value and improve the quality of life for its community and residents. This tradition is reflected in our Annual Consumer Confidence Reports and on our website: <https://www.algomasd.org/other-services>. Copies of these documents are attached to this submission.

This project will allow the public to access the Stienhilber Wetland, which currently does not have public kayak access to enjoy this natural area.

**Describe any deliverables that will result from this project and how you will disseminate results/data to the NRDA Technical Team and the wider conservation community:**

**The following deliverables will result from this project:**

- An L-shaped fishing pier as described in the Fishing Pier attachment.
- “Fish sticks” as described by Kendall Kamke in the Deliverables section.
- An accessible kayak launch as described in the Kayak Launch attachment.
- Enhance ice fishing access.
- Right-of-way and driveway access improvements and parking features.
- Rip rap improvements.

### **Results Dissemination**

The Algoma Sanitary District No. 1 will provide a report to the NRDA Trustee Council by December 1, 2020 upon completion of the pier, launch, and fish sticks project. It will detail steps taken and improvements made. We will notify the public when the site is open for use.

There will be signage at the entry point to the project that announces to the public the name of the new pier. There may also be educational signage at a later date describing the project and its beneficial environmental impact to the visiting public. The signage would credit the NRDA and other contributors.

## **9. METHODS**

**Identify the major steps involved in the project including any permits for compliance issues that need to be addressed. Include a timeline for completion:**

October 2019 - Obtain approval of NRDA Idea Form.

Summer 2020 - Install Fishing Pier; obtain permit for “fish sticks”.

Summer 2020 - Install Assessable Kayak Launch.

Summer 2020 - Install Fish Sticks and enhance ice fisher’s access to the lake front.

Fall 2020 - Upgrade road and install signage.

Winter 2020 - Deliver final report to NRDA Trustee Council by December 1, 2020.

Spring 2021 - Improve parking lot asphalt.

## **10. MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**Describe both short-term and long-term maintenance requirements for the project:**

Algoma Sanitary District No. 1 will assume responsibility for annual inspections and required maintenance.

## **11. MONITORING PLAN**

**List any pre or post project monitoring activities that will be completed at the site:**

Algoma Sanitary District No. 1 will assume responsibility for annual inspections and required maintenance.

## **12. LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS**

**How will you determine if the project is a success? What criteria will be used to make the determination? What are potential problems or risks to project success?**

- This project will meet its goals when the pier and kayak launch have been installed.
- Installation of the fish sticks will enhance the fish habitat.
- The road right-of-way and driveway improvements will allow for better access post PCB Remediation.
- During our routine maintenance, we will measure the number of people onsite for a period of one year.
- The Our Pier site will be available to all students, elementary through college, to use for field lectures and educational research.

## **13. ATTACHMENTS REQUIRED WITH REPORT**

1. Also included are **maps, relevant digital photos, and aerial photos** of the project area with captions and any photographic credits.
2. A spreadsheet list with relevant **designs and detailed budget estimates**.
3. Our annual Consumer Confidence Report notifying the public of “Our Pier” on page 2
4. Printouts from our website with our Mission, Vision, Strengths, and Core Values, and different ways we add value to the communities we serve.