Volunteers cart away piles of leaves at the Clean Water Clean-Up.

Three tons of leaves, debris raked up

Forty volunteers from around the community took part in the fourth Clean Water Clean-Up — a "rake for the lake" event at Sand Point Beach Park. The clean-up was organized by the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District and the City of Prior Lake in order to prevent leaves and other organic debris from polluting Prior Lake.

The volunteers successfully raked up over 3,360 pounds of leaves and organic debris. Organic debris turns into phosphorus, which is a favorite food of algae. Algal blooms, like the ones experienced this year, can impact recreation, wildlife and property values.

Retailers and organizations in the area generously donated door prizes and volunteers were treated to a picnic lunch. The 2017 Spring clean-up event will be scheduled soon.

Public meeting on flood study set for Nov. 16

The stormwater management and flood mitigation study for Prior Lake is nearing completion, and a final community meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16 at Prior Lake City Hall, 4646 Dakota St.

The study, done by Barr Engineering, is a result of the summer 2014 flooding in the area. It was sponsored by the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District and the city of Prior Lake in collaboration with Spring Lake Township.

The study was comprised of four project phases that included updating the watershed's model, identifying flood reduction options, evaluating flood reduction options and developing an implementation plan.

An overview of the study will be provided at the meeting, along with recommendations to address potential future flooding. More information is at www.plslwd.org/flood-study.