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Lakes Festival a Success

WINONA LAKE, Ind.—Grace College’s water research center, Kosciusko Lakes and Streams, successfully hosted the fifth annual Northern Indiana Lakes Festival. The festival took place in Warsaw on June 7 and 8 and in Winona Lake on June 9.

“The lakes are vital to our economy, environment, recreation and our very sense of community,” said Anna Burke, Lakes Festival coordinator and Kosciusko Lakes and Streams program manager. “The Lakes Festival was able to celebrate this by creating opportunities to both experience and be educated about the lakes.”

Attendees participated in the numerous fun and educational events the festival offered. Children and adults alike learned how to keep lakes and streams clean from displays in the Lake Education area. There was also great participation in the Art Around the Lakes activities, Run for Others 5K, Warsaw Aqua Mile and several new events associated with the festival. Favorite activities included the live animal show, canoeing and kayaking, bounce houses, a 5,000 gallon aquarium and the Lake City Skiers performance.

“We are so appreciative of the wonderful community members that helped us be successful this year including the sponsors, event organizers, volunteers and attendees,” said Burke.

The event was made possible by the efforts of over 200 volunteers and over 100 community businesses and organizations.

“We went from having about 2,000 attendees last year to over 4,000 this year,” said Nate Bosch, director of Kosciusko Lakes and Streams and the Lakes Festival. “I’m excited that we involved more people in our community and hope that we can involve even more next year.”

The 2014 Lakes Festival will be June 14 and 15.

The Lakes Festival is organized by Kosciusko Lakes and Streams, a center for water research, education and collaboration at Grace College. Major sponsors for the Lakes Festival

included Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Biomet, Zimmer, CenturyLink, Kosciusko County Community Foundation, Louis Dreyfus Commodities, Silveus Insurance Group and Trupointe.

To learn more about KLAS, visit water.grace.edu.

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