

# HORSEHEAD LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT



May 1, 2011

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[www.horseheadlake-wi.org](http://www.horseheadlake-wi.org)

## District Members

It's time to clean out your tackle box and tune up your reel - the "slow" lake season is almost over. Opening Day of fishing season is Sat., May 7<sup>th</sup>. For Northerns, it's "catch and release" until June 18<sup>th</sup>.

We've all heard our friends and co-workers complaining about how long it takes for spring to finally come. It seems that every year we claim the weather is the "worst ever". I'm not so sure about that - how soon we forget. What we won't forget is the heavy snow on May 9<sup>th</sup> that brought

down so many trees with new leaves.

Let's all work together and make this "busy" lake season the BEST ever.

## Cancelled April 7<sup>th</sup> Commissioners' Meeting

As April 7<sup>th</sup> approached this spring, it was obvious that our commissioners had no business to conduct. So, the meeting was cancelled to save District funds. There may be a meeting scheduled prior to our July meeting in case we have some agenda items to discuss. Otherwise, our next commissioners' meeting will be July 7<sup>th</sup> to formulate our next budget.

## Annual Meeting

9 am on Saturday, August 20, 2011, at the Sloan Community Center in Lake Tomahawk. Mark your calendar and please try to attend.

## Aerator Repairs

Last fall, before ice formed, Jim Marquard noticed that some of our pods weren't pumping air. Hans Delius attempted to make some repairs, but was unsuccessful.

Aquatic Biologists were called to service the unit. Replacement parts were put in, some at no cost to us, to get it up and running. We were told the pumping units are getting older and some parts are no longer available. We may have to consider replacing various aspects of the system, though not right away. The system worked fine for the remainder of the winter and has now been turned off. Thanks to Jim and Hans for helping out.

## Lake Study Update

We have recently been notified by Kevin Gauthier, Rhinelander DNR office, that our lake study draft has been reviewed with minor changes recommended. We are working with Tim Hoyman, at Onterra to make the necessary modifications. We will then re-submit to Kevin Gauthier. Approval should come soon thereafter. We will then proceed to file forms with the state for reimbursement (\$4,000+).

Because we will then have a current lake study on record, we will be able to obtain future permits to harvest weeds.

## Clean Boats/Clean Waters

Our Clean Boats/Clean team is still in place to monitor our boat dock, our first line of defense against invasive species.



## Weed Cutting

We have signed a new contract with Cliff Schmidt, our regular harvester, who has done an excellent job for the past several years. Our weed cutting will be done during the third week in July, the optimum time for our weed growth.

## Lake Testing

Dick and Marilyn Wuestenhagen have agreed to continue doing our lake testing for the coming season. Thanks Dick and Marilyn for your volunteer spirit in doing this important task for

our District. In this way we can measure the health of our lake.

## Curly-leaf Pondweed

Spring is the time of the year when we need to spot the tell-tale "turions", small spiral-shaped, hard seeds for Curly-leaf Pondweed. They will lie on the bottom and burrow into the sand and form curly, spindly, weeds. If you find any, reach down and carefully pull them out, making sure to get the entire root. The weed grows fastest soon after ice-out occurs.



## From the Chair

By Dennis Batchelet

I have been in contact with DNR fish biologists for various issues over the past several years.

When our fish study came out, we noticed that our Bass population is down - way down. It once was relatively high. So, upon inquiring, I was told that it might be possible for us to get some Bass stocked in our lake by the DNR, if fish are available. The downside is we

might have to contribute some funds in order to do that. I am checking on the cost. So, give it some thought in case we want to proceed. It will be on the annual meeting agenda.

I have a concern I should pass along to you. In the recent upheaval over the state budget, the DNR has been decimated with the retirement and resignation of many DNR employees, including high-ranking officials. In view of that, we have to expect long delays in getting approvals for just about everything. Many nationally recognized experts in assorted fields have left the agency.

I hope all of you enjoy lots of good times on the lake this summer.

Please call the Oneida Co. Sheriff's Office if you see what appears to be a violation of the law.

Call the DNR warden if you see abuse of our natural resources.

### **Did you know?**

- 1) Wisconsin now has 200 Gray Wolf packs totaling about 825 animals;

175 packs live in Northern WI.

- 2) In 1989, there were approx. 9,000 Black Bears in WI. Today there are between 26,000-40,000 bears, mostly in the north.
- 3) Deer in Oneida County: you may NOT hunt over, or use for other purposes, more than two gallons of deer food.
- 4) Baltimore Orioles are attracted to a piece of orange nailed to a tree in springtime.
- 5) Resident fishing licenses for senior citizens (65 yrs. or older) are only \$7.

### **Our 2010-'11**

#### **Volunteers**

We had tremendous success in getting volunteers at our last year's annual meeting. Thanks to everyone who stepped up to help out.

#### Secchi testing/water sampling:

Dick and Marilyn  
Wuestenhagen

#### Audit Committee:

Linda Delius

#### Clean Boats/Clean Waters:

Pat Donnick  
Joanne Erickson

#### Nominating Committee:

Linda Delius  
Dolores Kania

**Let's be safe out there.**

Sincerely,

Dennis Batchelet,  
George DeMet  
Beverly Fagan,  
Christy Nemcek  
Tom Rudolph