

*HORSEHEAD LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT*  
*NO 1*



September 15, 2013

Chairperson:

Dennis Batchelet  
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Lake Tomahawk, WI 54539  
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(262) 844-8193

Secretary:

Mike Esler  
7753 Crow Rd.  
Lake Tomahawk, WI  
54539  
(715) 277-4917

Treasurer:

Tim Desmond  
6509 Hwy. 47  
Lake Tomahawk, WI 54539  
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Town Board:

George DeMet  
8075 Fawn Lake Rd.  
Harshaw, WI 54529  
(715) 277-2599

County Board:

Thomas Rudolph  
1740 Larsen Drive  
Rhineland WI 54501  
(715) 362-6222



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

## August 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Notes

- Dennis Batchelet re-elected President/chair.
- Elected Mike Esler, Secretary, to complete unfinished term.
- Set aside \$2,000 for aerator replacement.
- Outlot Task Force Committee created.
- 2013-'14 total budget - \$28,120.
- Mill rate for 2013-'14 set at \$1.0937, or \$109.37/\$100,000 property value.

## Opt "IN" and save district some cash

Notify Dennis Batchelet ([dbatchelet@charter.net](mailto:dbatchelet@charter.net)) and newsletters and other notifications will come directly to your own computer - FASTER than waiting for U.S. Mail. You will be saving the

District money and keeping your taxes lower. Help out and drop Dennis an email.

## Outlot Owner Change

The new owner is Dennis Lanphear of Arbor Vitae. Though he says he will honor the lake access guarantee written into 7-9 of our resident's deeds, he has asked several of them to relinquish this right. At least two have refused.

He did make a recent proposal to allow the harvester and loading for one week a year, with the provision that our District persuade deeded access-holders to give up their rights for the harvesting time and for the District to pay for weed clean-up at his landing. District leaders have refused since the owners would likely be giving up any accumulated "adverse possession" rights to the access.

The lot never belonged to the District, as many assumed. A private investigator discovered in 2006 that it belonged to a couple living in Maryland, the Gerald's. The couple paid taxes through 2008, but not since. They did give

verbal okay to the District to use the lot for weed harvesting.

At our annual meeting, the District formed a Outlot Task Force Committee to look into our options. Most agreed that, longterm, owning the lot would be best for the District. In the meantime, we are looking into an alternative site. Cliff Schmidt has told us he will not issue a contract for 2014 until the issue is resolved.

## **Lake Study Grant**

Our latest lake grant to assess our lake for invasive species has been completed.

Researches found Curly-leaf Pond Weed, which has been in our lake for some time. It has not expanded significantly because conditions are not favorable for the weed, it poses only a small threat.

The most important finding was the location of Eurasian Water Milfoil in about six locations; mostly near the two boat landings.

Because the report listed the GPS locations, divers went out on July 14<sup>th</sup> to carefully pull the weeds from the lake floor, which took three hours' time at a cost of \$225.

Our study recommends a repeat of the lake study every 3-4 years. Money has been set aside in our current budget for further diving efforts.

Total cost of the lake study was \$3,487. The state has covered 75%. To date, the District has received all but 10% of our reimbursement.

## **Lake Water Testing**

Lake data for 2012 reveals that our lake is just inside the Eutrophic category; aging a bit faster than we would like. In 2011, the Trophic State Index (TSI) was 53. Currently at 52, we are slightly better, but it varies from year to year. Secchi readings show an average clarity depth of 7.5 feet, while last year it was only 6 feet. August is usually when we see an abundance of algae in the lake, but not his year.

Mike and Kim Esler have volunteered to continue our lake testing for official DNR reporting in 2014. This will be their 3<sup>rd</sup> year in the important role.

## **Aerator Maintenance**

Prior to the onset of ice, the aerator will be inspected and serviced to help ensure its continued service throughout the winter.

It should be noted that it would cost nearly \$6,000 to replace the compressors. They have reached their normal expected life span, therefore, we have begun to set aside money for replacement.

## **Clean Boats/Clean Waters**

Our new Clean Boats/Clean Waters volunteers for 2013 are Terry & Hallie Moline. They deserve our thanks for the valuable preventive invasive weed program. Hallie reported that all the boaters & fishermen have been very friendly and cooperative. One person gave her a \$20 donation to help with District expenses. She also reported that fishing has been down this season.



## Weed Cutting

Maximum acreage allowed by our permit is 60 acres. Comments made at the annual meeting favored cutting the weeds during the second week of August instead of the 3<sup>rd</sup> week. One-hundred hours has been budgeted for 2013.

Acres Hrs. Loads Tons

2"	2010	49	84	39	87
2	2011	46	90	74	185
2"	2012	35	72	44	110
	2013	58	91	84	210

## Check Your Boats and Trailers

Be sure your boat has NO plant material attached when you launch your boat in Horsehead Lake or take it out. Your boat and trailer should be washed thoroughly with soap and water before re-launching in our lake if it has been in another body of water. Leaving it out of the water for a full week will substitute for washing with soap.



## From the Chair

By Dennis Batchelet

Nine years ago, when I was first elected, I knew we had to do some work in building a more friendly organization. Despite a setbacks, we have become a group that can sit down and collaborate in solving our problems. We now discuss our issues in a proactive and visionary way. This cohesiveness has allowed us to successfully complete three lake studies. We have worked with DNR fish biologists to have 34,000 bass planted in our lake. Our core of volunteers has always stepped up so our lake can be improved. Proof of our efforts can be seen in clearer water and more home development. With the health of our lake improving, people are willing to invest in home improvement and new construction.

A glance at my list of initial goals tells me most of have been achieved. Improving the health of the lake is pivotal to our continued enjoyment and property value. Thanks to a great deal of support from District residents, progress continues.

## Law Enforcement on the Lake

Suspect abuse of fishing limits? Contact Warden Tim Ebert or report to 1-800-TIP-WDNR.

Got an issue involving disorderly conduct or excessive noise? Contact the Oneida Co. Sheriffs Dept.

### Our 2012-'13 Volunteers

Secchi testing/water sampling: Mike & Kim Esler

Audit Committee:

Bev Fagan

Dolores Kania

Clean Boats/Clean Waters:

Terry & Hallie Moline

Nominating Committee:

Nobody, yet. We need some leadership here.

Outlot Task Force:

Deb Bursik

Paul Bursik

Hans Delius

Bev Fagan

Lynn Gourley

Mike Esler

Sincerely,

Dennis Batchelet

Tim Desmond

Mike Esler

George DeMet - Lake

Tomahawk Supervisor

Tom Rudolph - Oneida Co.

Supervisor

