

HORSEHEAD LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT NO 1



July 17, 2008

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www.horseheadlake-wi.org

District Members

Those long winter months have finally given way to the best time of the year on our lake!

Nothing compares to a warm campfire with family and friends as the setting sun paints a changing picture of red, orange, and blue, mirrored on the glassy water of Horsehead Lake.

Summer activities have resumed with no help from Mother Nature; cooler temps being the culprit.

Fish are playing "hard to get", reducing the number of anglers visiting our lake. On the positive side is a quieter, more relaxing environment for residents and guests to unwind and relax.

Lake springs have kept the water level where it belongs and the dam is spilling water, though boards still need to be replaced by Town crews.

Logs in the lake can cause serious damage to boats. When possible, please rope the logs and pull them to shore. Some logs float just below the surface.

July 8th Commissioner's Meeting Notes

- Heard update on Lake Study
- Discussed leadership participation/commissioner rotation
- Discussed progress in dam repair
- Discussed line item amounts for 2009 budget proposal
- Voted to hold commissioners' meetings on Monday afternoons.

Horsehead Lake web site

www.horseheadlake-wi.org

There have been over 1000 "hits" on our web site since last year, bringing the total to over 2500. Stay connected to

what's going on. The site is updated regularly.

Lake Study Committee

The Lake Planning Committee is comprised of Kris Batchelet, Hans Delius, Mary Ellen Zickus, Jim Watters, & Pat Donnick.

The first meeting was recently held on July 8th to hear a very preliminary report from Tim Hoyman, our lake researcher. There will be a 2nd meeting on August 6th when the committee will work on the following:

- ♦ review survey results
- ♦ evaluate final study report
- ♦ discuss possible recommendations for lake policies



Weed Cutting

We have rescheduled our weed cutting this year. On

July 25th, Cliff Schmidt of Schmidt's Landscaping, will begin to cut our weeds. He has been contracted for 80 hours. We believe our late "ice out" delayed weed growth this year.

Traditionally, most of our weeds have been Elodea and Coontail. We are seeing more Narrow Leaf Pondweed and Filamentous Spirogyra algae. Worthy of most concern is Eurasian Water Milfoil, (EWM) a non-native invasive weed. We also have scattered populations of Curly Leaf Pondweed, a non-native invasive species that is localized to a few areas.

Several EWM plants were found and removed both in the fall and this spring at our boat landing. The entire lake has been checked [nearly 500 spots] and no other areas have been infected. Tim Hoyman checked the boat dock area on July 8th and found no further evidence of EWM.

What is that slimy green weed in our lake?

That slimy stuff that gets stuck in the water

intake of motors is called Filamentous Spirogyra. It is bright green in color and has long, soft, stringy filaments. It is native to our area and has been seen on the south and west sides of the lake, in addition to its' usual area, the north end.

If your boat motor overheats, it can cause real damage. If you see blue smoke being emitted from your motor, shut it down and remove the weed material from the water intake along the side of your engine.

When will we get our final lake study report?

Tim Hoyman is in the final stages of compiling our lake study report. When it is done, we will announce a special meeting for all our residents to come and hear a presentation from Tim and our committee. We anticipate the meeting will be held in the fall.

Our Dam Repairs

Ed Coffen, Lake Tomahawk Chairman, has said our job is next on their list. He anticipates repairs will be begin on Monday, July 28th.

Fireworks

Be considerate of neighbors and remember dry woods can burn easily. Noise carries all over the lake.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes are available on the web page or by request to Linda Houghton-Bowen.



From the Chair

By Dennis Batchelet

Opportunity Knocks

When the surveys began drifting back to us, we had a number of comments to look at. [I have to give a lot of credit to my wife, Kris, for meticulously entering every response to every question on every survey into her computer database.]

Several district residents said they would be willing to be elected commissioner.

There was only one problem, none signed their name.

Realizing what an important role this is, and realizing that most people probably think they lack the qualifications, I'm going to encourage you to think about how you can contribute, if elected.

Here are the

qualifications:

- 1) care about the future of the lake,
- 2) be willing to attend four meetings a year,
- 3) be a steward of the lake when situations arise,
- 4) be willing to share your ideas and learn from others,
- 5) use what's already set up,
- 6) Rely on the other commissioners for ideas and guidance.

It's obvious that all of us care about the lake and making it better in the future.

Now is your chance to take a leap of faith and

say you'd like to find out more. Knowing that you have helped to build something is satisfying.

It doesn't matter how long you have owned property in the district. Many of us, myself included, do not live full time on the lake. But, in this age of rapid communications that doesn't really matter. Through email and the telephone, we might as well be on the lake.

After four years as chairman/president, I can honestly say it has been a rewarding experience. And, I learned as I went along. Our Nominating Committee will be calling people for the ballot. Nominations are accepted at the annual meeting. If nominated, would you allow your name to be on the ballot?

Greater participation in leadership is just one big issue facing our organization. The other is how to use the lake study report once everyone understands it.

Because I trust the judgement of the commissioners and because I have faith in the common sense of our members, I believe forming sensible policies, based on the study, will come naturally. When our lake study report is complete,

we will be able to use current scientific findings to guide our policies. Our Lake Study Committee will be recommending policies that will improve our lake. We will all need to study and discuss them, then vote with the best interests of the lake as our prime objective. We will all need to be as concerned about our lakes' health as we are our own. We must remain positive and open to new ideas so that we will get the best results.

This isn't just another year on Horsehead Lake. Much is happening and many decisions are yet to be made.

That being the case please set aside Sat. morning, Aug. 16th to attend our 2008 annual meeting.

We all have a part to play. I encourage your comments and ask for your help.

Did you know?

There are more bird watchers than NASCAR fans.

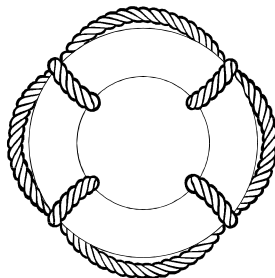
Fish grow three times as fast if the lakeshore is wild.

Large Mouth bass are part of the sunfish family.

Lake Tomahawk's web site

If you want to see more about the Lake Tomahawk area, go to the following official web site of the town:

www.laketomahawkwi.org



Life Preservers

Be sure your boat has enough for everyone, including the correct sizes for children.

Fire Numbers

Is your fire number visible from the street? We've noticed trees and bushes have covered many.

Let's be safe out there.

Sincerely,
Dennis Batchelet,
Beverly Fagan,
Linda Houghton-Bowen
Rick Mazurczak
Tom Rudolph