

HORSEHEAD LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

NO 1



September 15, 2010

Chairperson:

Dennis Batchelet
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Secretary:

Joe Helmuth
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Lake Tomahawk, WI
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Treasurer:

Beverly Fagan
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Lake Tomahawk, WI 54539
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Town Board:

George DeMet
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County Board:

Thomas Rudolph
1740 Larsen Drive
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(715) 362-6222



www.horseheadlake-wi.org

August 20th Annual Meeting Notes

- Adopted our 2011-'12 Budget; \$23,465.45 tax levy. That translates into \$119.76 per \$100,000 property valuation.
- 100 hours of weed harvesting funding for 2012, 10 more than 2010.
- Noted improvement in lake quality as measured by DNR lake sample data. Moved from "Eutrophic" to "Oligotrophic".
- Noted Audit Committee approval of financial records to date.
- Voted to authorize inspection and maintenance of aeration system in fall.
- Voted Joe Helmuth to a (3 year) term as commissioner. He will replace Christy Nemcek.
- Commissioners met later and voted the following posts: Batchelet - President/Chair, Fagan - Treasurer, Helmuth- Secretary.
- Received updated resident list from Oneida Co. *Want one? Contact a commissioner*
- Noted DNR intention to stock several hundred per acre, 3-4" Large Mouth Bass in our lake for 1-2 years, if available.
- Voted to investigate the possibility of applying for a new lake grant to study the presence and extent of the invasive, Curly-leaf Pondweed and Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM).

Christy Nemcek - Passing the Baton

Still a District resident, Christy Nemcek has ended her tenure as Secretary. For at least fifteen years, Christy has been a tireless volunteer, providing vision and energy toward the improvement of our lake and District. We thank her for her many years of service.

Taking her place is Joe Helmuth who resides in Wisconsin Rapids and is

currently building a house on Trout Road, where he and his wife have had a cottage for many years. We look forward to working with Joe as he attempts to fill the "big shoes" left behind by Christy.

If you want your newsletters to arrive via email, contact Joe with your current email address.

DNR Fish Survey

Fish (24,736) were counted with Yellow Perch comprising 53% of the total. 375 Northern Pike were found, representing less than 2%; average length 18" and maximum length 32". The most numbers of Northerns were in the 16-24" range. Those numbers agree with what experts expect on a lake like ours. Surprisingly, only ONE Large Mouth Bass was found! John Kubisiak, DNR fish biologist, theorizes Bass virus may have devastated the population. He pledged his support for stocking some Bass next year if he can get them.

For a "pie chart" and further data of the fish study, go to our website (www.horseheadlake-wi.org)

Do Ice Fishermen Abuse Limits?

If you see or suspect abuse of limits, contact Warden Tim Ebert or report violations to 1-800-TIP-WDNR

Lake Study Update

Kris Batchelet reported that our lake study is now complete. We should receive our reimbursement (\$4,000+) soon.

Because we will 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 Waters volunteers, Pat Donnick & Joanne Erickson, made over 30 trips to our boat landing to inspect boats and talk to fishermen during the

past year. Thank them when you see them for their dedicated and diligent work to protect our lake. They are our first line of defense.



Weed Cutting

It should be noted that if less plant/weed cutting is needed than we've budgeted, we can shorten the cutting time at no cost to the district. Cliff Schmidt of Schmidt's Landscaping, Iola, WI, has been contracted for the third week in July next year.

Our weeds were thicker this year, requiring 90 hours to collect 74 harvester loads. In 2010, 39 loads were collected in 84 hours. This year, the weeds were mostly Narrow Leaf Pond Weed, a long grass that did not float on the surface. It is further proof that every summer season is different

In a few weeks, Onterra Biological workers will be carefully checking the landing area again. Be sure your boat has NO plant material 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. Police may give a \$500 citation to those who

have weeds on their boat or trailer anywhere in Oneida Co.



From the Chair

By Dennis Batchelet

We had several comments at the annual meeting about how clear our lake has looked all season compared to previous years. Perhaps it is the result of our yearly weed-cut program.

Those 185 tons of weeds taken off our lake cannot become part of the biomass that degrades the lake and fertilizes future weeds. Eventually the biomass will become less and less fertile and lead to an even higher lake quality.

We are checking with Tim Hoyman, Onterra Biologists, for costs and other information necessary in case we want to move forward on a new lake grant study. Many on our lake want to find out whether or not we have Eurasian Water

Milfoil (away from dock area) while we identify locations of Curly-leaf Pondweed, another invasive plant species we know is present in various places.

We are fortunate in being on a lake with ample natural springs that maintain our water level. The best place to see a change in lake level is on the rock - just off Nemcek's point.

Everyone enjoyed the friendly and cooperative atmosphere at our annual meeting again this year. Mark your calendar and try to attend next year on August 18th.

Did you know?

- 1) You should call the Oneida Co. sheriff if someone is disturbing the peace or behaving irresponsibly on the lake,
- 2) Wisconsin is the no. 2 most popular fishing destination in the U.S.
- 3) A maximum of five Northern Pike may be taken per day in Wisconsin (north of Hwy. 10)
- 4) In 2011, there were four Bobcat sightings in Oneida Co., three near Woodruff. 2010 - only one.

Our 2011-'12 Volunteers

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

Secchi testing/water sampling:
Dick & Marilyn Wuestenhagen

Audit Committee:
Hans Delius & ? (Need one more volunteer)

Clean Boats/Clean Waters:
Pat Donnicks
Joanne Erickson

Nominating Committee:
Linda Delius
Dolores Kania

Wisc. Assoc. of Lakes
Convention: (Feb. seminar)
Tim Desmond

Let's be safe out there.

Sincerely,

Dennis Batchelet,
Beverly Fagan,
Joe Helmuth,
Tom Rudolph - Oneida Co. Rep.
George DeMet - Lake
Tomahawk Rep.

