



Spring 2017

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

by Jean Roach

As you read this, hopefully, the spring season has begun in Wisconsin. For many of us, spring means dreaming and planning for summer days in our yards and on the lake.

As part of this dreaming and planning, we ask you to mark your calendars and attend the Association and community events you'll find listed inside this newsletter. Especially important is your attendance at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 24, and at our Summerfest Fundraiser on Saturday, July 15. We value your input and participation at this meeting, as well as your support at our fundraiser. The money raised helps us fund our various lake-protection activities. Please mark these dates on your calendars.

Inside this issue you will find a variety of informative articles, updates on the ongoing lake-protection activities, and a description of a new program, **Healthy Lakes Initiative**. This new program is designed to encourage our members to restore their shore areas to a more natural state. As you know, a priority for the Association has been to promote the research that reinforces that a natural shoreline leads to a healthier and more productive lake.

To that end, we are now in the third year of using grant money to fund a Demonstration Garden located just

north of Schoepke Town Hall on Highway 45. Last year the growth there was phenomenal due to a lot of rain and tireless work by volunteers. This year there will be signs and brochures listing the native plants. Please consider using this information, and any help we can provide, to devote a portion of your shore to native plants. It's the single best thing you can do as a homeowner for the fish population, the birds, and the various critters that inhabit and enhance our enjoyment of the lake.

As an all-volunteer organization, we are only as strong as the number of volunteers who step up. I'd like to encourage all our members to consider giving at least a few hours this summer to one of our programs. We need help with the Demonstration Garden, with Summerfest, with boat-landing monitoring, with recruiting neighbors to become members, etc. Please contact me or any of the Board members about volunteer opportunities.

In conclusion, this is my last "From the President's Desk" message. I will be stepping down as President at the end of the summer, although I will remain on the Board for one more year. I have been enriched by this experience. Over the last four years, I have learned a lot about how to protect our beautiful lake, and I've met many new lake neighbors. I hope that my leadership has made a difference. It's been a good experience, and I encourage you to welcome and embrace the new president in the same manner as you have me.

Check This Newsletter's Address Label!

If there's a red "X" next to your name, you need to submit your 2017 PLPOA dues. Simply fill-out the orange-colored form that came with this newsletter and mail it, along with your check (made out to "PLPOA"), to: PLPOA; P.O. Box 96; Pelican Lake, WI 54463. Thanks!

Greetings, Fellow Lake-Property Owners!

by David Hardt

The Pelican Lake Property Owners' Association is looking for property owners who are interested in a property-improvement project that may also be a shoreline-restoration project. The main goal of shoreline restoration is to keep runoff from rain and or melting snow from flowing directly into the lake, carrying nutrients like phosphorus along with it.

The Healthy Lakes Project is an organization that has grant money available for projects like this. The Pelican Lake Property Owners' Association is working in conjunction with this organization to bring these improvements to Pelican Lake.

A Healthy Lakes Project grant will cover about 80% of a shoreline improvement project. Since the Pelican Lake Property Owners' Association has committed to covering 10% of the cost of some initial projects, this leaves only a 10% cost for the property owner. A typical project should run around \$800, thus the bottom line for the property owners is a cost of only \$80.

The types of improvements that the Healthy Lakes Project will cover are:

Diversions: If you have a hard-surfaced driveway that runs toward the lake, diversions are a great way to divert the runoff toward more pervious surfaces that allow the water to sink into the soil. Sometimes a rock filtration or a French drain is placed at the end of the diversion. Examples:



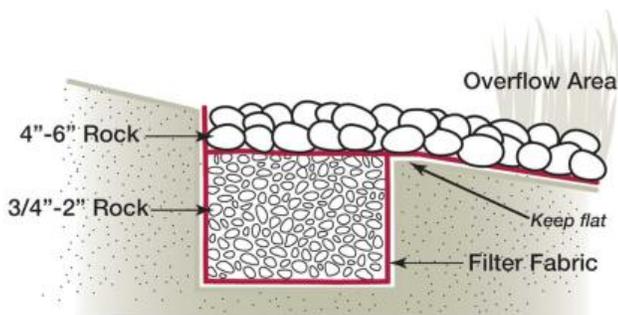
Native Gardens: Another project to consider is a native garden. This is a natural area near the shoreline that will block the free flow of runoff into the lake, while creating a beautiful, natural area of wildflowers, shrubs, and other wildlife-attracting vegetation. These areas are usually about 300 sq. ft. (30' x 10'). An example:



Rain Gardens: A third type of improvement is a rain garden. This is a smaller flower/shrub area usually placed at the end of rain downspouts. This area helps catch the flow of rainwater and or snow-melt runoff as it comes off the roofs of buildings and sheds. These plants can have the added advantage of attracting butterflies, hummingbirds, and many of our other North Woods friends. An example:



Rock Filtration: This type of project was mentioned above in conjunction with diversion, but it can also be used to catch runoff from a neighbor's property or from along the side of a hard-surfaced driveway. It's a nice solution for any area that has standing water or water runoff. Examples:



Fish Sticks: Fish sticks is the fifth type of project the Healthy Lakes Project will consider for their grants. Because our lake is a high-energy (high-wind) lake, there are limited areas where this type of project would be feasible, but it is a very valuable project because the fish sticks act as a fish nursery.

Fish Sticks is a project in which logs are harvested in late fall and placed along the shoreline, anchored to the shore to keep them in place over many years. This mirrors the look of more natural lakes, which have numerous trees fall into the water and remain there for decades. In fact, if you have a tree fall into the lake and if leaving it there does not affect your use of the lake, it is highly recommended that you leave the fallen tree there as long as you can. Lakes with natural or "fish-stick" shorelines have been shown to have a much higher amount of all varieties of fish in them. These areas are a great place for small fish to live out their early years and then become larger fish roaming other areas of the lake. They also provide a vital corridor for other aquatic life like turtles, salamanders, and mink, to move along the lake.



If you are interested in learning more about projects like these, please contact Dave Hardt @ davidhardt@frontier.com.

IS IT WORTH IT?

by Lynn Anderson

After two years of planning, funding, digging, planting, weeding, and watering, our lakeshore-restoration demo site is looking good! Many dedicated residents gave their time and energy for this project. We had fun working together and we made new friends.

Stop by Schoepke Town Hall (on Hwy. 45 in Pelican Lake) and check it out this spring. Take a picture. Each week there's something new poking its head out of the ground. Beauty in the making. Not just the native plants that replaced the grass, but also the small animals, birds, insects, and other living things that have found a new home. It will only get better.

This site provides an educational opportunity to observe how nature takes care of itself, as well as how we can reverse the damage we've done to our lake, and how we can improve the water quality and, thereby, improve the fishing and other recreational activities.

While our volunteers were working on this site, many people stopped by to observe and comment on the improvements. Wouldn't it be wonderful if our property owners would dedicate a part of their own property to native plants? Especially along the shoreline. Together we could make Pelican Lake a showcase.

If you would like to start a shoreline project on your property, big or small, our group will do everything we can to help you get started.

Oh, the answer to the question is, "Yes, it would be wonderful!" I can see the lake smiling already.



Clean Boats Clean Waters

by Lucy Nelson

A huge thank you to the resort and campground owners for their invaluable help with the AIS program on Pelican Lake! Their efforts to educate their customers about AIS are not only appreciated, but also have been quite effective. Reports show good control of the previously-infected areas in Musky Bay and in Treacherous Bay.

SHORELINE BUFFERS: GOOD FOR YOUR LAKE. GOOD FOR YOU.

(Information taken from the OCLRA Bulletin)

***Did you know:** A shoreline buffer as little as 30'-35' wide can make a big difference in protecting your lake from pollution.*

What can you do to help keep your lake healthy? Actually, quite a lot. One of the best things you can do is create (or keep) a strip of natural vegetation - a shoreline buffer - along the length of your frontage. Shoreline buffers can help limit the effects of development on our lakes. If everybody had one, our lake would be cleaner and more beautiful. You might be surprised at all the good a shoreline buffer can do.

A shoreline buffer is good for your lake and the environment because it:

- protects the water by filtering runoff containing silt, salt, chemicals, fertilizer, and other pollutants.
- slows runoff, letting water soak into the ground instead of flushing straight into the lake.
- helps keep waves and runoff from eroding the shoreline.
- improves near-shore habitat for fish and other water creatures.
- provides a haven for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and insects - a sanctuary for wildlife.

A shoreline buffer is good for you and your property because it:

- saves time you would otherwise spend mowing and trimming more lawn.
- gives you extra privacy and helps muffle the noise of boats and personal watercraft.
- discourages messy pests like geese and non-native, invasive plants like purple loosestrife.
- helps make the lake more attractive to home buyers, and thus makes your property more valuable.

It's far easier and cheaper to protect your lake from harm than to clean it after it has been damaged. Plan and install your shoreline buffer this year.

PELICAN LAKE WOMEN'S CIVIC CLUB'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

by Lucy Nelson

The Pelican Lake Women's Civic Club held their 16th Memorial Weekend Fundraiser on Sunday, May 29, 2016. Thanks go to all of those who helped make this fundraiser a success: the crafters, the flea-market participants, and those who promoted the raffles.

In May of 2016, with the money raised, we presented \$1,000 scholarships to Elcho High School seniors Victoria Franer, Britani Hubbard, and Erica Briggs, as a part of the Elcho High School Scholarship Program. Our club is pleased to be able to honor qualified students in this manner.

Our **2017 Fundraiser** will occur on **Sunday, May 28**, during the **Memorial Day Weekend**. We hope that all of you will join us!

A NEW PROGRAM: “LAKES IN ACTION”

by Larold Lodholz

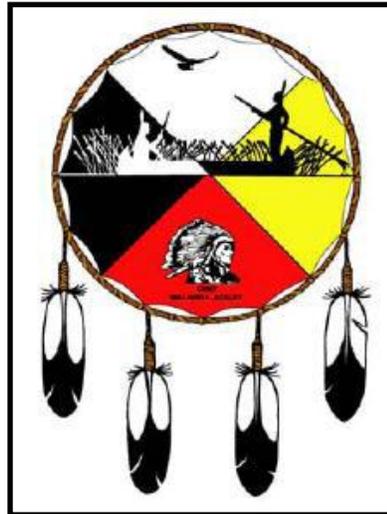
[Wisconsin Lakes](#) and the [River Alliance of Wisconsin](#) have partnered to create “*Lakes in Action*,” a new program designed to help our lake organization be even more effective in advocating for sound water policy at all levels of government.

I attended this workshop on behalf of the Pelican Lake Property Owners’ Association on Thursday, September 22, 2016. Their seminars covered the basics of being a good advocate, as an individual and as an organization. Using the recent dismantling of Wisconsin’s shoreland-zoning law as a real-world topic from which to work, they covered topics such as:

- What can my lake organization do under the law to influence lawmakers? Can my group do lobbying?
- What are the best ways to communicate and build effective relationships with lawmakers?
- How can I have an impact and advocate for my lake in my voting?

This organization can help groups, like ours, be more effective in advocating sound water policy at all levels of government. If you have questions, please feel free to call me (715-409-9488).

**PLPOA is grateful to the
Sokaogon-Chippewa Community
for its generous donation to the
Clean Boats Clean Waters
Monitor Program.**



**It is the 4th year that they have supported this
most-important of our lake protection efforts.
Their commitment to a healthy fishery is commendable!**

UPDATE: CLEAN BOATS, CLEAN WATERS

by Lud Lodholz

It was another successful summer for the Clean Boats Clean Waters Program. Our monitors did a great job. The data speaks for itself as 99% of the people contacted were willing to answer their questions. Below are the 2016 statistics for the two landings.

When looking at these stats, it is important to remember that over the summer there were three major events: two musky tournaments and the boat races. These events require extra vigilance. Our monitors did a terrific job and the groups organizing these events are to be commended for their cooperation with this program.

State Landing: 2,581 Boats Checked
 5,585 People Contacted
 557 Paid Hours

Keeler's Landing: 517 Boats Checked
 1,090 People Contacted
 211 Paid Hours

Estimated Volunteer Hours = 87 Hours
Volunteer Data Entry Hours = 48 Hours

TOTALS: 3,098 Boats Inspected
 6,675 People Educated
 768 Paid Hours
 135 Volunteer Hours

At this time, I would like to recognize and thank **Pelican Lake's Monitors for 2016: Baker Bronson, Kathy Handt, Dave Johnson, Joel Mommaerts, and Everett Wagner.**

Good news! We have secured the State grant that will help us fund this program for the 2017 season. Thanks to Bob Mott's expertise as a grant writer, along with many of you donating to support our Aquatic Invasive Species control program, we can afford to pay for this program and for the hand-harvesting of our EWM colonies.

2016 PLPOA TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

by Vicki Smith

The new 2016 PLPOA Telephone Directory was distributed to all paid members during the summer of 2016. If you did not receive your copy, please contact Vicki Smith (715-487-5960 after June 1st) (vicki.california@mac.com).

In our 2017 December Letter, we plan to enclose updates and corrections to this directory. Therefore, please check your listing and then fill-out the enclosed form to make any changes (name, address, phone number, e-mail). When doing so, please fill-in ONLY the update/change/correction/deletion, and mail to: PLPOA; P.O. Box 96; Pelican Lake, WI 54463.

If we do not hear from you, we'll assume that the information in the current directory is current and correct.

ONE LAKE, TWO TOWNSHIPS

by Cathy Cyrs

The PLPOA represents one lake, Pelican Lake, however, this lake consists of two townships: **Enterprise** and **Schoepke**. According to calculations from the 2014 assessments, there are 575 homes surrounding Pelican Lake.

Enterprise Township has 198 homes on the lake, of which 155, or **78%** are owned by seasonal residents. Of the 377 lake homes in Schoepke Township, 307, or **81%** are seasonal residents. How does this compare to all of Oneida County? Of the 13,850 waterfront properties, 10,316 or **74%** have seasonal owners.

Either seasonal or year-round, waterfront property owners contribute the majority of the tax dollars collected by both townships. Here's how:

The estimated 2014 municipal tax revenues for Enterprise Township were \$175,312. Waterfront property owners paid \$99,924, or **57%**. 2014 total municipal tax revenues for Schoepke Township were \$252,501. Waterfront residents paid \$168,516, or **67%**. How does this compare to all of Oneida County? In all of Oneida County, waterfront property owners paid \$7,390,246, or **61%** of the total \$12,098,768.

Interesting facts to ponder, eh?

While most of you are seasonal owners and do not vote in these townships, the elected officials should be willing to respond to questions, comments, and requests from you, as taxpayers. Plan to attend a Town Meeting (the first Thursday evening of the month at the Enterprise Community Center on Plantation Road; the first Monday evening of the month at the Schoepke Town Hall on U.S. Hwy. 45) and get to know your town representatives:

Town of Enterprise Officials:

Leonard Guth, Chairman: 715-487-5861

Arnie Schauer, Supervisor: 715-487-5286

Scott Krueger, Supervisor: 715-487-5971

Robert Vlies, Treasurer: 715-487-5679

Jonathan Sommers, Clerk: 715-487-5731

Town of Schoepke Officials:

Ed Mas, Chairman: 715-777-5484 (cell)

Bob Mott, Supervisor: 920-716-2528 (cell)

Chuck Moore, Supervisor: 715-487-5415

Jane Sharon, Treasurer: 715-487-5444

Karen Hagedorn, Clerk: 715-487-6155 (office)

PELICAN LAKE WOMEN'S CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP

by Lucy Nelson

Full and part-time residents of Enterprise and Schoepke Townships are welcome to join the Pelican Lake Women's Civic Club. Our meetings are held the first Thursday of the month.

Please contact President, Marsha Pahl (715-487-5990); Jane Prod (262-490-8480); or Treasurer, Mary Lemke, (715-487-4412) to join in the fun!

Did you know that woodpeckers have long, barbed tongues?

(Reprinted from *Lake Tides*, Volume 41, No. 2, Spring/Summer 2016)

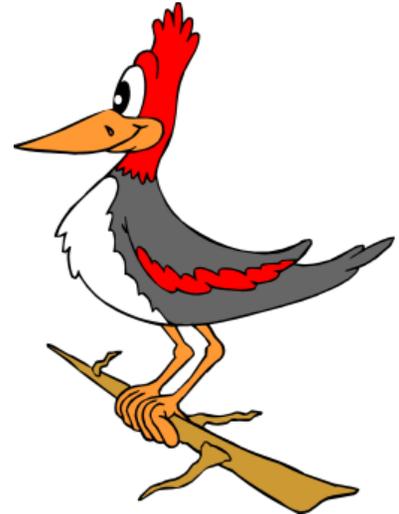
by Elizabeth Spry, UWSP student

As the name implies, woodpeckers are known for their ability to rapidly hammer wood – with at least 1,000 times the force of gravity – all without experiencing a headache! But something interesting hides beneath that beak of steel. After drilling a hole in a tree, a woodpecker needs something to get its meal out, and that's when a long tongue comes in handy.

Woodpeckers have a long, thin tongue with a barbed tip, which is used to extend into a tree and essentially rake out the insect appetizers inside. A sticky coating around the tongue also helps the bird withdraw its food. A woodpecker's tongue can be several inches long, and a tongue that long needs to be stored somewhere for safekeeping.

The cartilage and bone of the tongue, known as the hyoid apparatus, starts out as two bands, which merge together to form the bird's tongue. The split hyoid actually wraps all the way around the back of the skull, just under the skin, before coming together to form the tongue!

Keep this quirky fact, just like the woodpecker's tongue, stored in the back of your mind the next time you come across one of these interesting birds.



**COME OUT TO SUMMERFEST
JULY 15, 2017
NOON - DUSK
FOOD, RAFFLES, MUSIC
FIREWORKS**

Hand-Harvesting of Invasive EWM

Project Update written by Onterra

The 2016 EWM (Eurasian Water Milfoil) professional hand-harvesting control program on Pelican Lake resulted in effective control at all targeted locations. The EWM population was found to either be approximately the same or reduced at locations in which professional hand-harvesting was undertaken. These sites will be revisited in 2017 to determine if re-growth or re-colonization of EWM is occurring.

EWM continues to be present in areas in the western portion of the lake, as well as in low densities within other areas of the lake. A coordinated hand-harvesting effort has been able to slow the spread and population increase of EWM throughout Pelican Lake over the past few summers.

With the low level of EWM currently existing in Pelican Lake, the proposed 2017 control strategy once again does not include an herbicide treatment. Building upon the hand-removal efforts in recent years, it is recommended that a hand-harvesting control approach be continued in 2017. Professional hand-harvesting is recommended for areas mapped in September 2016, with highest priority given to occurrences described as *clumps of plants*.



PLPOA plans to follow Onterra's recommendations. We are pleased to be able to continue hand-harvesting, the most environmentally safe treatment process. Once again you will see Aquatic Plant Management, LLC personnel diving and pulling EWM this summer. Please be courteous and observe them from afar as they do this important work.

LIGHTS ON FOR SAFETY!!!

by Deb Moeller, a Concerned Resident

I want to give a shout-out to all you boat owners and ask you to **PLEASE TURN ON YOUR BOAT LIGHTS AT NIGHT** when out on the lake. There are so many boats out there with no lights on at night that I'm afraid someone is going to get seriously hurt, if not killed.

A few years ago, we almost hit a boat because that boat's lights were not turned on. Let me tell you: **It was very scary!** It made us think: What if we had hit that boat and killed someone? Even though it would not have been our fault, we still would have felt bad for the rest of our lives.

So, let's get out there and talk to our family, friends, and neighbors about keeping all of us safe by turning on our boat's lights when out on the lake at night.

RESULTS FROM THE DNR'S 5-YEAR AIS MONITORING PROGRAM

(Excerpts from *Lake Tides*, Vol. 41, No. 3, Summer/Fall 2016)

Wading, snorkeling, raking, and netting - this is how many Wisconsin DNR staff and volunteers spent the open-water season the last five years, searching for aquatic invasive species (AIS) in about 1,000 Wisconsin lakes with public access. Their goal was to answer the question, "Are Wisconsin's AIS prevention efforts slowing the spread of AIS?"

Sampling about 200 randomly-selected lakes each year from approximately 1,700 with public access gave them the statistical confidence to determine a rate of spread for AIS. In an effort to increase the potential for eradication, monitors performed visual surveys along entire lakeshores, snorkeling at all boat launches and target locations. They raked up plants and dipped nets into the water, looking for Eurasian Water Milfoil, spiny water fleas, zebra mussels, purple loosestrife, and other AIS.

After five years of monitoring, the primary finding was that the rate of spread for invasive species, overall or for any individual species, did NOT increase over the five-year project period. It stayed the same, suggesting, hopefully, that outreach and education efforts are preventing that rate from accelerating.

The study uncovered some important results: nearly 75% of the lakes surveyed had at least one aquatic invasive species. Most of the new detections were purple loosestrife, which has an effective biocontrol agent, and mystery snails, whose negative impacts are not as apparent.

The good news is that 75% of the lakes monitored are free of Eurasian Water Milfoil, over 90% are free of zebra mussels, and 99% are free of spiny water fleas! These are very encouraging numbers because they indicate that most lakes are free of the most-troubling invasive species.

These results helped to scientifically validate that prevention efforts are slowing the spread of AIS. The importance of early detection cannot be overstated.

While the stable invasion rate suggests that AIS prevention efforts are having a positive impact, the goal is to see a *decline* in the rate of the spread of AIS. More outreach is needed, especially to boaters and other water users such as waterfowl hunters, cottage renters, and jet ski/boat renters who can unknowingly transport AIS as they and their watercraft enter the lake.

This data collection is just one of the many important things the DNR does to contribute to PLPOA's knowledge base. It helps us make decisions about how to prioritize our lake-protection efforts. In particular, this study confirms our assumptions that while our EWM colonies cannot be eradicated, they can be controlled.

**REMEMBER!
THE ANNUAL MEETING IS SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH!**



AND SUMMERFEST IS SATURDAY, JULY 15TH!

ALGAE IN OUR LAKE: IS THAT GOOD OR BAD?

(Excerpts from the OCLRA Bulletin)

Did you know: *Blue-green algae blooms can deplete oxygen in lakes and kill fish.*

At certain times of the year, a normally clear lake can appear green and not so clear. What you see is the presence of algae in the water. In a healthy lake, algae are critical to the balance of life. However, as in life in general, the rule is: Everything in moderation.

In balance, algae is a good thing. A healthy lake life depends upon it. Too much algae may be a sign of a lake under stress.

Algae are tiny plants that have no stems or leaves, but usually contain chlorophyll. They may attach to submerged rocks and branches, or they may float freely in the water. Algae provide food for the tiny creatures (zooplankton) that the fry of our favorite fish love to eat.

Algae exist when all conditions are right: temperature, sunlight, water pH, and the balance of nutrients. A critical nutrient is phosphorus. It must be present in precisely the right amount. Too little and algae will not thrive. Too much and algae will “bloom.” That reduces the lake’s clarity, appeal, and natural balance.

There are several kinds of algae. Tiny green spots floating in the water are fine. Dense mats of stringy brown or green matter near the surface are filamentous algae. They aren’t pleasant to look at, but they cause few problems.

The trouble can come in mid- to late summer, when lakes too rich in nutrients experience blooms of blue-green algae. These organisms are really bacteria that form suddenly and grow rapidly. They create a thick, blue-green mat near the surface, forming wavelike patterns in quiet water. During certain times in their life cycle, these bacteria produce powerful toxins that can make people and pets sick.

So, get to know the natural cycles of your lake. Know when to expect the welcome presence of beneficial algae. Be aware of the sudden changes in algae growth.

In addition, avoid the use of phosphorous fertilizer. Keep your septic system in good working order. Tend to your natural shoreland buffer. Join your shoreland neighbors in helping to keep your lake healthy.

THE HIDDEN VALUES OF WATER

(From an article by Eric Olson, *Lake Tides*, Vol. 41, No. 3, Summer/Fall 2016)

Did you know that the human body undergoes remarkable changes every time you go underwater? The heart rate slows and the cardiovascular system shifts gears, allowing people to hold their breath much longer than they can above land. Did you also know that even when controlling for all other variables, people who live near lakes, rivers, and oceans experience significant benefits in terms of happiness, longevity, and absence of diseases?

Swimmer's Itch

by David Hardt

I wanted to address a misconception I heard a number of times this past summer. It concerns the idea that Swimmer's Itch and waterfowl are closely related. While it is true that waterfowl are a part of the loop of a parasite that is involved with Swimmer's Itch, the type of parasite that swims out of waterfowl does not infect humans, thereby causing Swimmer's Itch.

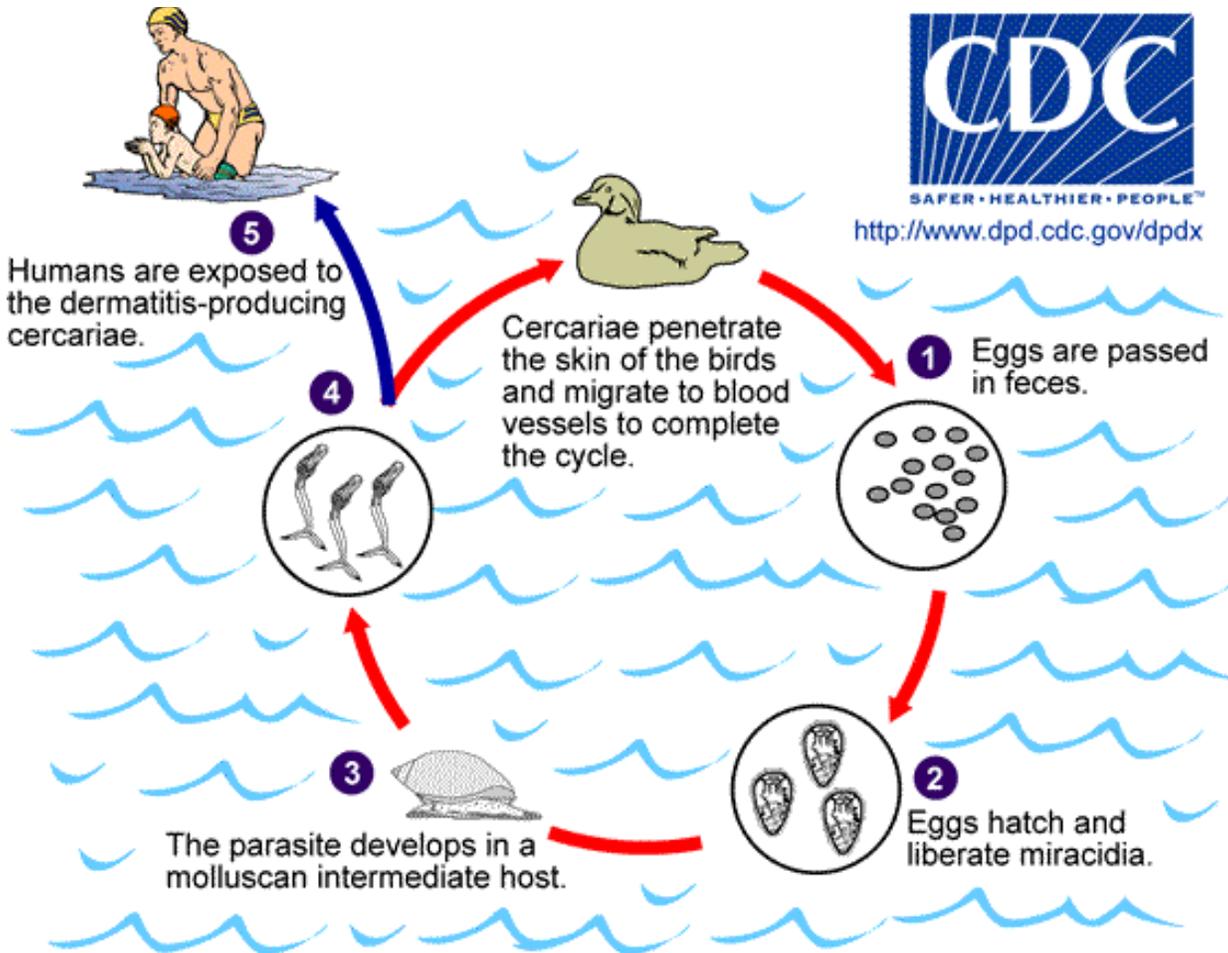


Image used with permission from the CDC <http://www.dpd.cdc.gov/dpdx/HTML/CercarialDermatitis.htm>,

From the image above, one can clearly see that the form of the parasite that causes Swimmer's Itch, as seen in #4, comes not from waterfowl, but from **snails**. So, high numbers of ducks, Great Blue Herons, and other waterfowl do NOT cause Swimmer's Itch. Rather, it is the high number of snails that causes Swimmer's Itch. Why are there a high number of snails? Algae. Why is there higher than normal algae in the water? Higher amounts of nutrients caused by fertilizing and water runoff.

What can we do to decrease the nutrients in the lake, the nutrients that feed the algae and increase the number of snails, thus leading to an increase in Swimmer's Itch and an increase in panfish grubs? Stop fertilizing our lawns! Instead, work on increasing shoreline-restoration projects in order to decrease the runoff of snow melt and rainwater, both of which carry natural-occurring phosphorus into the lake.

Rather than spending money on fertilizing lawns, why not pump nutrient-rich lake water onto our lawns? It's free and legal. And creating a shoreline-restoration project to reduce runoff of water directly into the lake not only helps the lake, but can increase your property value as well. It's a win-win situation!

Watering and Fertilizing on Lakefront Properties for Free!!

by David Hardt

An article I wrote for this newsletter refers to using lake water as an alternative to buying commercial fertilizers, most of which will flow into the lake and not aid in your lawn care. A typical application of commercial fertilizers will cost \$40-\$60 dollars per application. Of course, this varies with properties. Add to this the need to apply these fertilizers 2-3 times a year, and the cost of fertilizing lakefront lawns can add up.

A low-cost or virtually-free alternative is to use a water pump to water and fertilize your lawn with nutrient-rich lake water. It's legal and the water is **free**! Doing this puts you in a position of having very low-cost, summer-long watering, as needed.

I did a little research at a Home Depot site (no recommendations here, I just know there is a Home Depot in Rhinelander) and I found the cost of a few shallow-well pumps. The recommended type would be one with a tank (see image below) so that the pump can run, fill the tank, and then only run to refill the tank, as needed. The cost of a pump and tank combo is about \$300, about the average cost of one year's purchase of fertilizers.



The cost of a shallow-well pump without a tank (see image below) is about \$150. If you shop around, you may find vastly different prices; my prices are just used as an approximation. Utilizing a water pump can cost less than a year's supply of purchased fertilizer.



These pumps, with proper care, can last for years and years, while commercial fertilizers need to be purchased multiple times yearly and will, for the most part, end up washing into the lake the next time there is a heavy rain.

With or without the tank, the investment in a pump (and a small amount of garden hose) can lead to a summer of very low-cost watering, as well as an addition of rich nutrients, already available in the lake water, to your lawns without adding any costly commercial fertilizers. Most of the commercially-applied fertilizer will end up not aiding your lawns, but will run off into the lake and increase the algae growth and number of snails. As we all know, this leads to increases in Swimmer's Itch and grubs in panfish.

**PLPOA
ANNUAL MEETING
JUNE 24, 2017**

**Registration: 9:30 a.m.
Meeting: 10 a.m.**

JUST BECAUSE IT'S LEGAL DOESN'T MEAN IT'S GOOD

(Excerpts taken from the OCLRA Bulletin)

Recent state actions have eliminated many elements of local shoreland zoning ordinances designed to protect our lakes and rivers. Rules and guidelines that local officials had deemed critical to protect lakes and streams were declared null and void by the State of Wisconsin.

Now some activities that can seriously harm our waters are legal. However, regardless what is and is not legal, **we can still do what's right** - for our water, for our neighbors, and for our properties. Consider:

- Clearing and mowing your lake property all the way to the water's edge may be legal, but is it good for the lake?
- Renting your lake home to groups for one-week stays may be legal, but is that considerate of your neighbors?
- Driving your boat at 60 mph may be legal, but is it safe and prudent?
- Removing a fallen dead tree on your shore is permissible, but will doing so take away beneficial fish habitat?
- Dredging in the lake in front of your property may become legal, but how will it affect the lake ecosystem and fishery?
- Dividing your large waterfront property into several lots may be allowed, but will more homes and more runoff impair the health of your lake?

Though we are free to do whatever is legal, that may not be good for the water. In fact, pushing up to the legal limit may help ruin the quality and the value of the place you love. As you make plans for your property, don't think of what you can legally do. **Think of doing what is right for the lake.**

HISTORIC NATIONAL TREASURE ON PELICAN LAKE
(Information taken from The National Register of Historic Places)
by Vicki Smith

She's still standing! After 7 different ownerships, 8 different names, and over a century of time, the Pelican Lake Hotel still welcomes visitors to the east shore of Pelican Lake. Originally built of wood in the Queen-Anne style in 1898, updated with a fancy brick facade in 1912, the brick facade was all that remained after the 1926 fire that swept through the Village of Pelican Lake. Re-built and remodeled several times, the hotel still stands and is in use today.

Here are some tidbits about its history:

1882: Pelican Lake first reached by rail (for shipping of supplies for the lumber business).

May 1883: Pelican Lake plat recorded as a part of Neva Township in Langlade County.

1885: Pelican Lake became a part of Forest County.

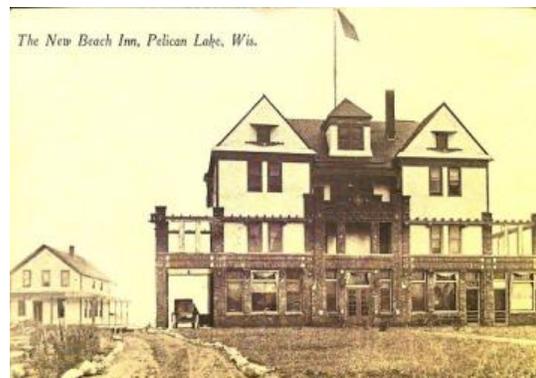
1887: Pelican Lake became a part of Oneida County, with a new name for the township: Schoepke (named after August F. Schoepke, one of the earliest pioneers).

1898: Beach Hotel built on the east shore of Pelican Lake as a three-story frame building with a wrap-around veranda on four sides, gabled dormers, and an open bell tower. It was the first resort built on Pelican Lake, and quickly became the center of all activities for the surrounding area. John F. Pergande, August G. Nagel, and Henry G. Nagel were the owners.

1905: Railroad depot built across the street from the hotel.



1912: Beach Hotel became **Beach Inn** with electricity and indoor plumbing added. In an effort to modernize the look of the hotel, the veranda was removed and replaced by a brick facade, but the wood-frame building behind the new facade remained the same, making the hotel a Queen-Anne building with a new commercial brick front - very upscale for the times. The upper level (of two) of the basement was remodeled, allowing the basement rooms to be accessible at the ground level. Charles J. Burns, Andrew J. McClain, and William A. Curtis were the owners, forming the Pelican Lake Hotel Corporation.



1923: Beach Inn became **Hotel Pelican**, re-named by the Kubackis, the new owners.

1926: Huge fire swept through the Village of Pelican Lake, destroying most of the buildings. At Hotel Pelican, only the brick facade was left.

1927: New owners Frank Susedik; his daughter, Mary; and her husband, Fred Chermak, built a commercial brick hotel on the same foundation as the 1898 Beach Hotel. The Susedik Construction Company of Cudahy, Wisconsin did the work.

MAY 1928: Hotel Pelican re-opened with a new name, the **Pelican Lake Hotel**.

1934: Sole owners, Mary & Fred Chermak, re-named the hotel, **The New Pelican Lake Hotel**, and had the name printed on the tall chimney for all to see. They added striped awnings to the first-floor windows on the front brick facade and also mounted a large, wooden fish over the entrance to the hotel.



1970: The New Pelican Lake Hotel became **The Old Hotel**, re-named by new owners Barbara & Jack Rowe and Antoinette & Richard O’Gorman.

1987: The Old Hotel became **The Great Fish Inn**, re-named by new owners Shirley & Eugene Kaczowski.

For a period of time after that: The hotel sat vacant.

2010: The Great Fish Inn became **Artus Pelican Lake Hotel**, re-named by new owners Julie & Steve Artus, who bought the hotel right after being married there. They did many renovations to return the 9,600-sq. ft. hotel to elegance and beauty.

NOVEMBER 23, 2012: The hotel joined others on the National Register of Historic Places in the “Domestic/Hotel” category and in the “Late 19th Century and Early 20th Century American Movements” classification, with 1928-1961 the “Period of Significance.”

2017: The hotel continues as a vibrant part of Pelican Lake.



WHO OWNS THE LAKES AND STREAMS IN WISCONSIN? WE ALL DO!

(From the Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association Bulletin)

www.oclra.org

That's right. No one person or company can own any of our state's surface waters. They are public resources, owned by all of us.

Together we own the waters of Lake Michigan, the Wisconsin River, Lake Winnebago, Trout Lake, the Turtle-Flambeau and Chippewa Flowages, the Wolf River, and all of our state's more than 15,000 lakes and 84,000 miles of rivers and streams. These waters are held in trust by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

The **Public Trust Doctrine**, affirmed by the Wisconsin Supreme Court, is enshrined in our Constitution. It declares that all the navigable waters are common highways and forever free. It gives us the right to swim, boat, fish, hunt, skate, and generally enjoy these waters and their scenery. Over many years, the doctrine has been upheld, defined, and expanded by court cases and state laws. It is part of Wisconsin's culture.

Private parties can and do own the land along lakes and streams. Landowners have the right to use their shorelines and have access to the water. However, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has ruled that when conflicts occur between private and public rights, the public's rights take priority.

If we accept the **Public Trust Doctrine**, then we all have a duty to help protect the waters for the good of everyone. In fact, it is the Public Trust Doctrine that empowers the DNR to protect our right to the waters through permitting rules, and through laws that allow zoning ordinances to limit development along waterways.

The Public Trust Doctrine, like our waters themselves, is a treasure worth protecting!

PICKLED NORTHERN A DELICIOUS APPETIZER FOR FRESH FISH FROM PELICAN LAKE!

by Peggy Augustiniak

Preparation: Measure ½ c. canning salt per quart of water. Soak cut-up fish for 24 hours, then drain and rinse. Cover with white vinegar for 24 hours, then drain.

Brine: Boil and cool (double or triple, depending upon how much fish you have):

- 1 c. sugar
- 1 c. water
- 1 c. port wine
- 2 T. pickling spices

Cut-up some onions.

Layer fish and onions in jars.

Pour brine over the fish and onions.

Refrigerate for one week (any bones will dissolve).

Enjoy on crackers and with a beer!

P.S. Can be kept refrigerated indefinitely.



PROTECTING OUR LAKES: THE VIRTUES OF PREVENTION

(Excerpts taken from the OCLRA Bulletin)

Benjamin Franklin: “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.”

Your mom kept telling you that avoiding a mess in your room was easier than cleaning it up. She was right.

Doctors will tell you it's better (and much cheaper) to stop smoking than to cure the problems smoking causes. They're right.

And when your lake association president says that it's better to keep pollution out of the lake than to try to get rid of it - well, he (or she) is right, too.

Consider these facts when planning to build, re-model, or landscape on your lakefront property:

- If we stop adding pollutants, rivers can “cleanse themselves,” but lakes do not. Lakes will recycle the pollutants in a continuous downward spiral, ending in reduced water quality.
- Most lake problems result from small amounts of pollution adding up over time. It's a one-way street that can't be easily reversed - and the problems often aren't noticed until it's too late.
- More than 50 years of experience show that pollution prevention is much cheaper than cleanup. No economist could justify waiting until signs of poor water quality appear before taking action.
- Preventive practices can be done once. Cleanups often require a great deal of time and money, and their benefits may be only temporary.
- Preventive practices cost next to nothing, yet can greatly improve fish and wildlife habitat, reduce erosion, and increase biological diversity. A simple prevention practice is to leave an un-mowed buffer strip along your shoreline. This natural pollution reduction also looks beautiful and needs little or no maintenance.

As you make plans for your lake property, think like an economist. Or like your doctor. Or like your mom. **Put prevention first.** The rewards can be incredible.

PLWCC'S FALL STYLE SHOW and LUNCHEON

by Lucy Nelson

The Pelican Lake Women's Civic Club's Annual Fall Style Show and Luncheon was held October 13, 2016, at Holiday Acres Resort in Rhinelander. The diversity of club members and the assortment of ensembles, as well as the food, door prizes, raffles, and silent auction, always make this an interesting and fun experience.

Mary O'Connell from TV Channel 12 was the Mistress of Ceremonies. Helen Key, Anna Christian's sister, won the 50/50 auction; Jan Erovick won the 14k-gold amethyst earrings; Lori Regni won the kitchen cart made by the McNaughton Correctional Wood Shop; and Mary Ellen Blaha won the Packer football, along with the Margarita fun basket.

The event was enjoyed by all!

TWO MUD PUDDLES AND A SLOUGH

This is an explanation of changes forced by the Wisconsin State Legislature. Every county in Wisconsin is forced to be no more protective of their lakes and rivers than the minimum standard, called Act 55 or NR 115. So Oneida County, which has 1,100 lakes and miles of streams, is treated the same as a county with “two mud puddles and a slough.” And this is how they plan to protect the water bodies that feed a \$200,000,000 tourism industry? Really?

Here is what changed:

1. **Lighting** – Requires no approval, fee, or mitigation (planting of plants/shrubs, etc.) to offset the change of Oneida County rules. (This was used as a trade-off for practices that might affect the shoreland negatively.) **Oneida County** required these before.
2. **Nonconforming Structures** – May not require approval for, or impose a fee or mitigation for, or otherwise prohibit or regulate, the maintenance, repair, replacement, rebuilding, or remodeling of all or any part of a nonconforming structure if the structure doesn't enlarge the footprint. The structure can go up in the same footprint, up to 35' tall (3½ stories.) **Oneida County** previously allowed full replacement of principal structures which were less than 75' from the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM.) Mitigation and permits with inspection were required.
3. **Inspection Upgrades** – Cannot require an inspection or upgrade of any structure before it is sold or changes hands. **Oneida County** previously required inspection and upgrade of septic system. This was a way to gradually catch failing systems and repair them.
4. **Impervious Surfaces (areas where rain does not penetrate, causing runoff to lake)** – County cannot establish standards unless it allows owner to direct runoff to rain garden, holding pond, or other treatment area that would allow infiltration into the ground before the water reached the lake. Standards set by the state. **Oneida County** will incorporate this into its ordinance.
5. **County Shoreland Ordinance** – A county cannot be more restrictive (protective) than state minimum standards. **Oneida County** currently is more protective than NR 115 (walkway widths, viewing corridor, nonconforming accessory structures, boathouses, buffer zones, and more). **Note:** Any county shoreland ordinance that is more protective than state standards has been rewritten to agree with the state standards.
6. **Vegetative Buffers** – Prohibit a county from requiring a person to establish a vegetative buffer zone on previously developed land or to expand an existing buffer (mitigation). **Oneida County** requires a 35-foot buffer zone as part of a permit for a boathouse and/or for replacement of a principal nonconforming structure less than 40 feet from OHWM.
7. **Lot Size** – Cannot be more restrictive than NR 115: (1) With sewer: average lot width 65' and a 10,000-sq. ft. lot; (2) Without sewer: average lot width of 100' and a 20,000-sq. ft. lot. **Oneida County** requires minimum frontage-foot and square-foot lot size based upon lake classification (smaller lakes are protected more). This is a big concern in Vilas and other counties with townships that have lot sizes of minimum 200' or 300' frontage feet. (Search *Wisconsin Shoreland Initiative* for more information.)
8. **Definitions** - Act 55 deletes the term “building” when defining “shoreland setback.” “Structure” is defined as “a principal structure and any accessory structure – garage, shed, boathouse, sidewall, stairway, patio, deck, retaining wall, deck, or fire pit.” This means many more constructions are permitted nearer the lakeshore.

WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS MEAN? Many of the rules (ordinances) meant to protect the lake and lakeshore from development that negatively affects the lake and the shoreland *cannot* be mandated by the county or any county, even those with 1,100 lakes and a \$200,000,000 tourism industry like Oneida County.

HOW DID IT HAPPEN? In **1966**, the state legislature charged counties with developing shoreland-zoning ordinances to uphold the Public Trust Doctrine that in the Wisconsin Constitution says that all navigable waters in Wisconsin belong to all the people of Wisconsin and need to be protected for the use of all. Many counties (41 of 72 counties) chose to be *more* protective.

In the **1980s** wetland protections were added. The **1995** studies show that counties recognized that some waters were more sensitive and, therefore, added more protection to these waters.

In the years **2002-2010** the first revision to the law since 1966 was made. After **8 YEARS OF PUBLIC INPUT, 19 PUBLIC HEARINGS, and 14,000 PUBLIC COMMENTS** agreement was reached by the Wisconsin Builders' Association, the Wisconsin Realtors' Association, the Wisconsin Association of Lakes, and The Wisconsin River Alliance, among others, that **NR115** was the **MINIMUM STANDARD** and that counties could add more protection.

In the years **2012-2015** the legislature began to tell counties that they could be no more protective in many areas. This was the first time since 1966 that this had been done.

In **2015 Representative Adam Jarchow** (Balsam Lake) proposed taking local shoreland control away from the counties. This was advanced in the **Joint Finance Committee** (Budget Committee) by **Senator Tom Tiffany** (Hazelhurst) and **Representative Amy Laudenschlager** (Clinton) with **no public hearings and no public comment!** This change completely ignored all of the work done from 2002-2010. These changes passed as part of the budget.

ONE SIZE FITS ALL!!! 1,100 lakes and \$200,000,000 of Oneida County treated the same as a county with "two mud puddles and a slough." Really?!!

At this point I am going to ask the Planning and Development Committee to send it back to the drawing boards, draft a document that is best for Oneida County, and send that to the DNR, letting them command us to meet minimum standards, even though I have little hope that this will happen.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE PELICAN LAKE? - Encourage your neighbors to do the right thing: plant a buffer along your lakeshore, reduce activity on the shoreline other than in your viewing corridor, reduce impervious surfaces, avoid the use of phosphorous fertilizers, and follow the suggestions outlined in the best-practices booklet ("*Doing the Right Thing*") developed by the Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association (ocbra.org), available through the PLPOA.

by Bob Mott, Oneida County Supervisor, District 7

APPETIZER RECIPE: SPICY PINEAPPLE SPREAD

Mix together:

9 oz. pineapple preserves

9 oz. apple jelly

2 ½ oz. horseradish

1 tsp. dry mustard

1 tsp. cracked pepper

Pour over an 8-oz. softened block of cream cheese.

Yumm!!



GETTING THE LEAD OUT

(Excerpts from an article by The Masked Biologist in the *Star Journal*, 10/2/16)

Although lead shot for waterfowl hunting was banned in 1991, lead poisoning is still common in Wisconsin. Loons, bald eagles, and trumpeter swans, along with other Wisconsin birds, have been documented as dying from lead poisoning that is 100% induced and 100% preventable.

How to help? **Use nontoxic ammunition when hunting.** Why? Heavy metal lead is a major component in most bullets, shotgun slugs, and shells. Once in the environment, lead is ingested by birds: Bald eagles may feed on a deer carcass containing bullet fragments, or a loon might ingest a fish with a lead jig hook in it, or an upland bird might pick up a lead BB from the ground, thinking it to be a piece of gizzard grit. Once the lead, even a small amount, gets into the bloodstream of birds, it has a toxic effect on the nervous system and can result in death.

Nontoxic ammunition recommendations:

- (1) Use copper bullets in your rifle when hunting deer or bears.
- (2) Use steel shot when hunting mallards or turkeys.
- (3) Use nontoxic shells when hunting grouse or other small game.

Implementing these recommendations can help end the unnecessary deaths of Wisconsin's loons, bald eagles, trumpeter swans, and other birds.



REG1, the local bird-rescue center near Antigo, reports that their single biggest job is treating lead-poisoned birds. Loons and bald eagles from Pelican Lake have been among those needing treatment. It's a very expensive process and, often times, the birds do not survive. A change in the tackle/ammunition that you use can make a difference.

HELP PROTECT OUR LOONS!

Loons are counted every 5 years. At last count in 2015, there were 13 adult loons (up from 8 adult loons in previous years) and 2 juveniles living on Pelican Lake. Help them stay with us by avoiding the use of lead fishing bait, removing any broken fishing line from the water, and staying clear of loons while boating. Oh, and since loons nest along the shoreline, turn off your shoreline lights whenever possible in order to help keep their nests protected. By so doing, we'll continue to enjoy the sights and sounds of our loons every year.

When Fishing in Wisconsin

(excerpts from *Oneida County AIS Newsletter*: March 6, 2017)

BUY minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer and transport them in the amount of water needed to keep them alive, up to 2 gallons.

INSPECT your boat, trailer, and equipment.

REMOVE any attached aquatic plants or animals:

- before launching.
- after loading.
- before transporting on a public highway.

REMOVE plants, muck, and other debris that appear on augers and lures. Leave them on the lake.

NEVER MOVE live fish away from a waterbody.

DRAIN all water from boats, motors, and all equipment.

DISPOSE of unwanted bait in the trash.

LEFTOVER MINNOWS:

- may be taken away from any state water and used again on that same water.
- may be used again on other waters only if no lake or river water or other fish were added to their container.
- may not be dumped on the ice or into a waterbody from which they were not harvested.



2017 CALENDAR

SUNDAY May 28: PLWCC Annual Brat, Pie, and Craft Sale

Schoepke Town Hall

SATURDAY June 24: PLPOA Annual Meeting

Schoepke Town Hall

Registration: 9:30 A.M.

Meeting: 10 A.M.

SATURDAY July 15: Summerfest Picnic

Noon to Dusk (Fireworks)

Schoepke Town Hall

WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR:

Spring and Fall Highway Cleanups

Summerfest Planning Meeting

PLWCC Fall Style Show

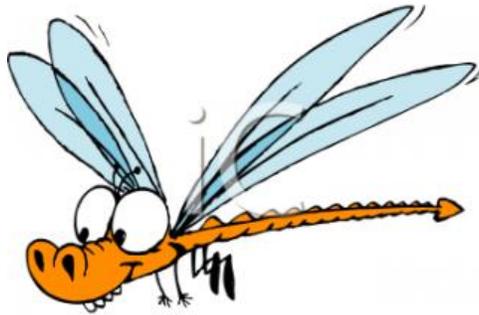
Did you know that dragonflies have teeth?

(excerpts from *Lake Tides*, Vol. 41, No. 2, Spring/Summer 2016)

Many flying insects can make us cringe, swat, or maybe even squeal and run indoors, but dragonflies have fascinating color and flight patterns that tend to mesmerize many of us. Even knowing that they have “teeth” probably won’t keep us from their favorite hangouts by the water’s edge.

Dragonflies and damselflies belong to the order Odonata, which is Greek for “toothed one.” Their serrated “teeth” are located on the insect’s mandibles (chewing mouth parts) and are used to crunch their prey. Dragonfly prey is anything they can catch and chew, including mosquitoes, tadpoles, fish, other insect larvae, and even each other! Can you imagine what they feasted on 300 million years ago when fossils show that they had *wingspans of up to two feet*?

Dragonflies are voracious and efficient eaters, flying at up to 60 miles per hour. One adult dragonfly can eat from 30 to hundreds of mosquitoes in a day! This is possible because of their exceptional vision and aerial acrobatic maneuvers: stopping on a dime, hovering, flying backwards, and rocketing 20 feet skyward are all possible because of their four independent and alternately moving wings. In fact, engineers have been trying to replicate this movement in small robotic devices.



THANK YOU, TOWN OF SCHOEPKE!

We appreciate the cooperation and help that you have given us. Your willingness to allocate extra funding last summer so that we could run our landing-monitor program was especially generous. It showed your understanding of the importance of working with local groups to make our community a better place to live, work, and vacation.

The use of the Town Hall for our events is made easy by the efficiency of Karen Hagedorn, your Town Clerk. And allowing us to plant our Demonstration Shoreline Restoration Garden on town property is another example of how your cooperation is beneficial to the community.

We commend the Board for your forward-looking decisions and support. You're the best!

SUMMERFEST 2016 SPONSORS/DONORS

Contributions from these businesses and individuals helped make our 2016 Summerfest a big success!
We encourage you to support these local businesses.

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**Thank you to the Suick Family Foundation
for their generous gift!**

\$ The matching donation was a special bonus. \$

As long-time multi-generational residents, the Suicks understand the importance of preserving the lake for their children and grandchildren. This gift will allow our Association to do just that by funding ongoing lake-protection projects.



PLPOA NEW MEMBERS: 2016 and 2017

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Monfort, Julie A.
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Poppe, Dave
Shrubbe, Paul
Stauber, Anthony & Dina
Suick, Bill & Pat



Antigo Island
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2589 Uncle Ben Road
885 US Highway 45
1081 Weith Road
636 County Road G
2416 South Shore Road
2482 South Shore Road
570 & 572 County Road G
580 County Road G
2882 County Road Q
2450 South Shore Road
1018 Chicago Point Road
2659 West Bay Road
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1932 County Road B
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IN
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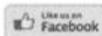
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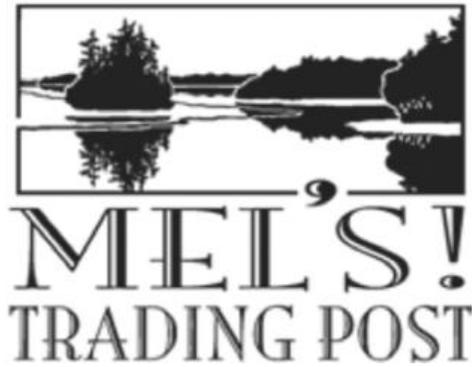
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Distribution:	Lori Regni, Volunteers
Printing:	Northland Printing, Rhinelander



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