

# MCGINNIS LAKE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 Issue 12

## QUICK NOTES

The Lake Fish Stocking Program for 2018 was completed with additional Crappies put in the lake.

## Future Meeting Dates

Saturday, May 25, 2019

Saturday, August 31, 2019

Saturday, December 7, 2019

Saturday, March 7, 2020

## LAKE DISTRICT MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 134

Oxford, Wisconsin 53952

Email:

McGinnisLakeDist@AOL.com

April 2019

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The December and March meetings were held as scheduled. We discussed the planned Lake Maintenance Activities such as Curly Leaf Spraying and Weed Harvesting. We have already received our permit for Curly Leaf Spraying (A Copy is Included) and the amount of coverage will be determined by the lake survey. This survey will be done once weed growth has begun to determine Curly Leaf areas needing treatment. Weed Harvesting will also happen once its determined that the weed growth warrants harvesting. We also have a permit for Weed Harvesting on the south lobe of the lake currently approved.

This year the DNR will be conducting a fish survey to determine the health of our fishery and to allow us to better plan fish stocking activities targeted at improved lake fish health. The type of survey they will be conducting is electrofishing at night targeting Largemouth Bass and Bluegills. But all species will be accessed and the results shared with the Lake District.

We continue to be participants in the Central Sands Water Action Coalition and have attended many steering committee meetings to date and have found this to be a beneficial cause for us to support. I continue to encourage you to look at the website [www.centralsandswater.org](http://www.centralsandswater.org) to review current actions and information.

### **Q: What can the new McGinnis Lake District EMAIL address mean to me? (McGinnisLakeDist@aol.com)**

A: Yes we have established one and would hope it can be used for communication to and from the Lake District Board. As a member we encourage you to use it for any questions you might have regarding McGinnis Lake District Operations. But most importantly we would like to be able to communicate to you (our members) directly via EMAIL. Sending meeting notices, newsletters, and other important communication in a timely manner is important to us. Please help us by sending your EMAIL address to us and we will add you to the EMAIL mailing list. This mailing list has only **one purpose** and is for the board to communicate to you quickly in a cost effective manner. Once we receive your address we will begin to use it for future communications and remove you from receiving information via US MAIL. (I have received 20 to date) Its Never too Late!!!!

### **Q: Adams County Riparian owner's information packets are still available? (New and Old Owners!!)**

A: Yes we have them and are **still available** by contacting Barry Berndsen to make arrangements to pick one up. These packets are quite informative and are a must for each shoreline property owner. Please call Barry at (630) 452-6645 or pick your copy up at the next Lake District Meeting. (We'd love to see you!!)

**Q: What if I want to make changes to my shoreline or cut down trees?**

A: Any actions within the lake buffer zone and outside for tree cutting requires Adams County Zoning and Planning Approval similar to a building permit application. Failing to do that may result in fines in accordance with county laws. Please contact the Adams County Zoning and Planning for permit information.

**Q: Burning Permits!!! Everyone should have one??**

A: The DNR offers you an easy way to acquire a permit by using the self-service website or are available from your local fire marshal (IT'S FREE). For your information burning is only permitted between 6:00pm and midnight and never on Sundays and holidays. Without a permit you could be found guilty of either a civil or criminal charge when burning in violation of Wisconsin laws. <http://dnr.wi.gov/burnpermits/>

**Q: What impact does high capacity wells have on our lake and lake home water supply?**

A: The water for all resources in central Wisconsin comes from the ground and is not unlimited! There is a growing concern and there are currently lakes in Central Wisconsin that are suffering a severe drop in lake level and/or drying up and the potential exists for individual wells drying up or needing to be drilled deeper. Just think of the impact of McGinnis Lake not having active springs and our lake level dropping severely and/or parts of the lake drying up.

The State Legislature and DNR are not taking this problem serious and are being influenced by industry lobbyists wants for more and more wells. This is not just a problem that can be solved locally alone. Additionally, we suggest that every owner of properties within our lake district write and/or email your local Wisconsin representatives in the McGinnis District, even those who live in Illinois. Your immediate input to our elected officials is important to create constant pressure on these individuals that seem to not want to hear our message!!! Who is concerned about well issues if you have Lake Michigan/Mississippi River as a resource!!! Most representatives in other parts of the state are not aware of our issues here in Central Wisconsin and they tend to vote not knowing the complete picture. So if you're a permanent resident in another part of Wisconsin contact your local Representative also to make them aware!!

These are the just some of the reasons why we should support the Coalition as a group of concerned citizens who own lake property for recreation and enjoyment. This is not just a short term issue but something that will impact future generations of family's wanting to enjoy Central Wisconsin water resources. Also sign up today to be heard [www.itsyourwaterwisconsin.org](http://www.itsyourwaterwisconsin.org) (Signing up on this site will not make your information public or be sold!!)

**Contacts for McGinnis Lake District Area:**

**State Senator** – Luther Olsen (Phone) 608-266-0751 (email) [Sen.Olsen@Legis.Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Sen.Olsen@Legis.Wisconsin.gov)

**State Representative** – Joan Ballweg (Phone) 608-266-8077 (email) [Rep.Ballweg@Legis.Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Ballweg@Legis.Wisconsin.gov)

**Q: Has the McGinnis Lake Boat Launch been maintained?**

A: The Adams County Parks and Recreation Department completed work on the launch in the fall to insure that boat launching and retrieval activities are as smooth as possible. There is not a set schedule and requires a call to the Parks and Recreation office to initiate action and they are more than willing to address issues if reported.

**Q: What is the Adams County Lake Alliance Organization?**

A: The Adams County Lake Alliance is a coalition of Lake Districts, Lake Associations, and concerned individuals. The Alliance has been serving Adams County for approximately 10 years. The purpose of Adams County Lake Alliance (ACLA) is to serve the people of Adams County, Wisconsin through member groups (qualified lake associations and lake districts) who are interested in preserving, protecting and, restoring Adams County's waters and fisheries while creating a healthy environment for the flora and fauna that depend on them. The McGinnis Lake District has been a member since its beginning and continues to support its goals. Listed below are some interesting facts focused on by the Alliance:

- Of the \$2.4 Billion total county property valuation, 79% comes from residential uses (approx. \$1.9 billion).
- Nearly \$1 Billion (\$995,979,600) of that residential value is from Lake District and waterfront property. That's 40% of the total property value.
- Lakes offer local government revenue growth opportunities - Studies show that healthy lakes increase property values.