

MCGINNIS LAKE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 Issue 13

QUICK NOTES

The Fall Weed Harvesting was completed in August as planned.

Future Meeting Dates

Saturday, December 7, 2019

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Saturday, May 23, 2020

Saturday, September 5, 2020

LAKE DISTRICT MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 134

Oxford, Wisconsin 53952

Email:

McGinnisLakeDist@AOL.com

October 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The May and September meetings were held as scheduled. The 2020 Budget was approved at the Annual Meeting in September. District Members should see a reduction in their tax bill due to reduced funds required to operate the District in 2020. An election was held and Barry Berndsen was re-elected as Chairman for another 3 year term. We discussed the planned Lake Maintenance Activities such as Curly Leaf Spraying and Weed Harvesting. These activities will continue as in past years based on the Lake Survey, Weed Growth and Permit Approvals.

This year the DNR conducted a fish survey to determine the health of our fishery. This will allow us to better plan fish stocking activities targeted at improved lake fish health. The type of survey they completed was electrofishing at night targeting Largemouth Bass and Bluegills. All species were accessed and the results will be shared with the Lake District most likely sometime late winter or early spring. Preliminary results were shared with attendees at the September Meeting and once the completed survey is available it will be communicated via email or printed copies distributed as requested. We will not be doing any fish stocking this fall as the DNR has put a hold on this pending the completed Survey Results and recommendations.

Q: What about the high lake levels that continue?

A: The McGinnis Lake level is controlled by the dam and continues to dump the maximum amount of water it can into the Neenah Creek Watershed. The levels are the highest I have seen in the 40 years as a lake resident and will take a period of time to settle back to a more constant level as we once enjoyed. Mother Nature has been the contributor to supplying all the moisture feeding the lake watershed. Many lakes in Wisconsin are facing similar problems but we are fortunate to have the dam to provide some water release. Of course nature will dictate the future and we will continue to enjoy our beautiful lake!! FYI - The dam is owned and operated by Adams County Land and Water Department.

Q: What can I do to help the McGinnis Lake District?

A: We are currently looking for volunteers to help the District doing water quality surveys. These surveys don't require a lot of time but need to be completed to insure the lake quality is the best it can be. The surveys begin in the spring and take less than an hour of your time throughout the summer at your convenience. Training is available and all the necessary items to complete the tests are supplied. Please contact Ken Roberts (608-617-6723) regarding helping us with this activity.

Q: What if I want to become a member of the Lake District Board?

A: All members of the Lake District are eligible to join the board as an elected member. The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer are elected to terms of 3 years. Not all of us are full time residents of the lake but know how important it is to insure the quality of the lake is preserved!!! A couple of us have served on the board since the District was formed many years ago and would welcome new individuals to take over in the future. Please contact me if you're interested in reviewing the future opportunities as a board member!!! Barry A. Berndsen (630-452-6645)

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 25 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: Are we still members of the Central Sands Water Action Coalition?

A: 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 to review current actions and information.

Q: Do we have a Lost and Found?

A: Periodically items end up in the lake like rafts, paddles, various swim toys and etc. People find these items and are not sure who's they are or what to do??? If you find something and/or lost something please email the Lake District email or call Barry Berndsen at 630-452-6645. We will try our best to help find the happy homes for these items noted based on the input we receive!!