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# MCGINNIS LAKE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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Volume 2 Issue 4

May 2023

## QUICK NOTES

The Lake Aeration System worked as planned this past winter. The Spring Weed Spraying was completed.

## Future Meeting Dates

Saturday, May 27, 2023

Saturday, September 2, 2023

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Saturday, March 2, 2024

## LAKE DISTRICT MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 134

Oxford, Wisconsin 53952

Email:McGinnisLakeDist@AOL.com

## Website

<https://newchestertown.gov>

## Message from the Board

The December and March meetings were held as scheduled. The planned Lake Maintenance Activities such as Curly Leaf Spraying and Weed Harvesting were discussed and these activities will continue as in past years based on the Lake Survey, Weed Growth and Permit Approvals.

A lake survey was completed in Mid-April 2023 for Curly Leaf Pondweed and a small amount was detected. The DNR recommended to skip treatment. Spraying for Eurasian Milfoil was completed based on lake survey conducted last fall. Cason & Associates, LLC performed the treatment on May 4, 2023 and the DNR was with them monitoring the process. The proposed herbicide was Aquathol K® (endothall). There are no restrictions on fish consumption or swimming associated with this herbicide. Warning signs were posted at the time of treatment.

Currently Weed Harvesting is not scheduled to be done unless weed conditions warrant it and DNR permitting is approved. We did no weed harvesting in 2022 due to the improved weed control achievement.

The newly created Website for the McGinnis Lake District is available for all to access. Listed on the site are the members of the Lake District Board, future and past meeting Agendas, Minutes, Newsletters and other informational documents. Utilizing this new site is a great asset to provide easy access to the Lake District Information. <https://newchestertown.gov/mcginnis-lake-district/> Thanks to the Town of New Chester for providing this resource for our use!!!

## **Q: What about the high lake levels that continue?**

A: The McGinnis Lake level is controlled by the dam which is owned and maintained by Adams County. The County is continuing to monitor the level to make sure we don't experience the excessive water levels as happened late last summer into the fall season. Last fall the dam intake was partially blocked and a diver came out and dislodged what appeared a clump of shoreline from somewhere on the lake. Once the obstruction was removed the lake level returned to normal. The levels are the highest I have seen in the 50 years as a lake resident and will take a period of time to settle back to a more constant level as we once enjoyed. Of course this is based on Mother Nature providing a more even flow of precipitation. Adams County Land & Water is also in the process of reconnecting the electronic monitoring system that once monitored the level and provided feedback on the water level. A firm date has yet been provided to us but will continue to stay in contact with them to completion of the full time connection.

## **Q: Have You Seen The Sign? Friends of McGinnis Lake adopt-a-highway!!!**

The adopt-a-highway program is the official coordination system for the generous volunteer efforts to remove trash, recyclables and litter from Wisconsin's roadsides. Adopt-A-Highway helps reduce litter along Wisconsin's highways, builds statewide support for the anti-litter and highway beautification programs. It educates the public about properly disposing of litter, enhances the environment and allows for more beauty along Wisconsin's roadsides. Friends of McGinnis Lake adopted a 1.7 mile stretch of Cty Hwy G, from Brooks to Ember Ave. Who are the friends of McGinnis Lake? Everyone can be a friend of McGinnis Lake. Friends of McGinnis Lake are excited to announce they completed the 1st annual clean up in spring of 2023. Follow us in the newsletter for the date and time for next clean up or/or contact Ken Roberts at 608 617-6723 for more information.



**Successful First Clean Up** - Kathy Sullivan, Ray Shaughnessy, John and Melissa Mini, Dorothy Cole. 15 bags, 1 tire, carpet and a window. THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

## **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 30 to date☺) Its Never too Late!!!!

**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 and Adams County Lake Alliance?**

A: We continue to be active participants in these organizations and have attended many meetings to date and have found these to be very beneficial organizations 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. The Adams County Lake Alliance is <http://aclakes.org/index.html> for your reference of ongoing meetings and activities.

**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!!**

**Q: Are you interested in purchasing Trees or Scrubs?**

A: The Adams County Land and Water Department provides an annual sale of a wide variety of trees and scrubs. Anyone interested should please contact Adams County at (608) 339-4268 for information on order form and availability of product.