

Pine Lake Commissioners

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You can contact us at
pinelakeinfo@gmail.com

Walleyes Planted

On September 11, 2011, 2500 five to seven inch walleyes were planted in Pine Lake as approved by the Wisconsin DNR at a purchase price of \$ 1.70 each. Hopefully, the survival rate of this lively group of fingerlings will be high as we work to improve the fish habitats in our lake.



Still Looking for Volunteers

The Lake Planning Committee is still looking for volunteers for the Clean Boats Clean Waters and Plant Identification Programs. Volunteers will be trained to organize and conduct a watercraft inspection and education program at the Pine Lake boat landing. Volunteer hours will be added to help offset what we now pay for the grant we were awarded. If you are interested, please contact the Pine Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District at P.O. Box 254, Hiles, Wisconsin 54511, or send us an email to our web site address.

Six billboards reminding boaters of the importance of removing all vegetation from their boats when leaving any lake have been posted in the area; of these, one is on Highway 8 near Crandon and another at the Public Boat Landing

Web Site Info:

For up-to-date Lake District information, please check our web site at

Clean Boat Clean Water Program



Please see article to left for information.

Water Quality Update for Summer of 2011

The season is coming to an end and the water quality sampling on Pine Lake is wrapping up. If the weather holds out, sampling will continue into early October.

The WDNR Citizens Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN) volunteers attended a refresher seminar at the Rhinelander DNR office on April 1st. The seminar included a review of all sampling protocols to insure consistent sampling.

Ice out this year occurred on April 26th and sampling began two weeks later.

Mark your Calendars:

Please watch for updated time and dates for next meetings.

All meetings will be held at the Hiles Town Hall beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Preliminary results indicate that our water clarity has continued to decrease. Comparing the July-August baseline, clarity decreased in 2011 to 2.0 feet from 3.4 feet last year – at least we did not have to deal with the bushy pondweed and snails mess that we had last year on the east shore. Results for Phosphorus and Chlorophyll are not yet available and will be included in the 2011 final results next spring.

If you have internet access, you can view the results of this year's testing along with all the data from the past years by going to the following web address on the DNR website.

<http://www.dnr.wi.gov/lakes/CLMN/station.aspx?station+3880>

If anyone is interested in participating in or observing the CLMN water sampling on Pine Lake, our phone number is 715-649-3234, or contact me at one of the District meetings.

Have a safe winter and see you next year on the lake

Jerry Wolf

CLMN Volunteer/Pine Lake

Plant Harvesting

The cutting of invasive vegetation this season took place July 7th through the 9th and again on August 15th and 16th. Contractor Cliff Schmidt reported a decrease in plant re-growth when harvesting plants in August. This could be attributed to several factors, including deeper and darker waters and cooler temperatures in the spring plant growth. Harvest lanes approaching private piers were cleared to provide optimal access for riparian property owners from their docks to open waters. A goal within the Pine Lake Management Plan is to improve navigation and fish cruising lanes around the lake. Approximately 22.5 tons, equivalent to nine harvester loads of vegetation, were removed in July while about 18 tons of invasive plants, or eight loads, were cut in August. Riparian property owners are reminded that they are allowed to manually clear a thirty-foot path straight out from their piers.

For more information from DNR regarding invasive aquatic species, click on the following link:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/aquatics/pdfs/WI-AISreport2011.pdf>

Forest County Association Of Lakes (FCAL)

The goal of FCAL is to educate the public to keep inland waters bodies, environments, and water sheds clean, now and for generations to come.

FCAL projects undertaken in 2010-11:

- ❖ Placemats have been sent to 24 area restaurants showing Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)
- ❖ An essay contest for 5th and 6th graders was offered to students in Laona, Wabeno, and Crandon schools. Topic: "What I like Most about Forest County Lakes"
- ❖ AIS stickers were distributed to area bait shops to remind fisherman about keeping boats and trailers clean
- ❖ Representatives were sent to the DNR conference on Eurasian Water Milfoil control
- ❖ A Fall Forum was held at Roberts Lake
- ❖ A Kentucky Day booth was set up – AIS cards and FCAL information were distributed; partnered with Chris Hamerla, DNR Lumberjack Aquatic Species Specialist, to present examples of native and invasive species.
- ❖ Members participated in Pontoon Boat Ride for Seniors on Lake Metonga
- ❖ Pam LaBine spoke to members on NR115 – Wisconsin Shoreland Protection program
- ❖ Sent letters to our State Representatives Mursau and Hoperin requesting their support of strong legislation to protect ground water

Pine Lake is great. Let's all work together to keep improving our water and environment.

Dennis Schumacher/Pine Lake Representative to FCAL

Management Plan

Tim Hoyman, Eddie Heath, and Kyle McLaughlin, WDNR, met in early August at the Forest Service public landing on Pine Lake to review the harvesting strategy for the lake. After observing all harvest areas with the exception of the fish cruising lanes on the east side of the lake, a more useful plan was created. The harvest lanes, which were mistakenly listed as 40-60 feet wide on the original copy, were corrected to read 20-30 feet in width. Additional spokes and closer approach to private piers were also added. Publication of the final draft will be announced at a later date.

Fish Kill on Wisconsin Lake

Many of us returned to our lake homes earlier this summer to find the shoreline covered with piles of dead fish. Forest County Fisheries Biologist, Greg Matzke, reports that the fish loss was probably due to a bacterial disease called Columnaris, which infects fish species only and is not a risk to humans. The bacterium is most prevalent in the lakes soon after Memorial Day through June when water temperatures reach 65-70 degrees, especially if there has been a large rainfall that washes organic matter into the lake.

The conditions are just right at that time for the bacteria to multiply quickly. A variety of fish species already affected by spawning stress and weakened immune systems are easy prey for this bacterium which erodes the gill tissue of fish, causing them to suffocate. Although first impressions seem quite different, this disease kills only a small portion of the fish population. It is a perfectly natural process during the spring and early summer in many northern lakes.

Think Twice When Fertilizing

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Everyone lives in a watershed. Drainage systems include ditches and storm sewers which have a direct effect on water quality. During the cool temperatures of fall, many people think about the benefits of fertilization after summer stresses. But please think twice!

Think responsibly about the major source of pollution in our lakes, rivers and streams. Phosphorous is found in leaves, lawn clippings, animal waste and in most fertilizers. High phosphate levels support the growth of algae and unwanted water weeds. Contact the EPA – Environmental Protection Agency – for more information regarding Healthy Lawn Care Practices that you can use to decrease the amount of drainage in your watershed.

Help keep our lake clean and free of invasive plants. Keeping our properties clean and attractive can only enhance the lake itself.

- Please email update information or requests to pinelakeinfo@gmail.com
- Please mail update information or requests:

Dick Tarcin
9621 N. Valley Hill Drive
Mequon, WI 53092

Update Mailing Information

Every effort has been made to send this Newsletter to the correct address of the District residents, but if you are not part of the District, or do not want to receive a newsletter, or in some cases, receive multiple copies, please let us know. If you would rather receive an email copy, please let us know, but be sure to include your email address. Also, if you know of someone who should receive a copy and has not, we would appreciate knowing that.

Please complete the attached form with your quickest contact address: If you prefer to receive information by email.

Name

____ Prefer Email

Address, city, State, Zip

____ Prefer mail

Email Address