

## Greetings from Pine Lake

*a letter from the chairman . . .*

As I write, the fall colors are beautiful and the temperatures are milder than normal for the north woods. It was a great summer to be at the lake, despite the late start.

Green algae balls on the lake in spring became a minor issue that was easily resolved. The aquatic plant cutting had a late start because of the cold and rainy weather. Ed Walter of Lake Renewal Company in Wittenberg, Wisconsin, was our new contractor for this year's plant cutting; there was much positive feedback about his friendliness and over-all job.

Clean Boat Clean Waters was a huge success. The Lake District dock was installed at the boat landing to relieve some of the congestion at the launching, which was a great idea and worked out well.

Paper work has been completed for our Lake Plan. A big "Thank You" to all who attended meetings and volunteered with projects. The time spent was appreciated and compensated for with grant dollars. We should be receiving the grant money soon.

Our next project involves completing a study to check muck accumulation in the lake and the flow of Pine Creek. These studies could give us some insight into future dredging possibilities, but at this time, those decisions have not been made.

Gregg Matzke, fish biologist for Forest and Florence counties, reports that the State does not presently have a consistent legal size for northern pike. The few regulations that are in place will not work on Pine Lake. Although a fish study is scheduled for 2017, Gregg will try to get here sooner if time allows. It is expected that

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this could be a lengthy process because of the size of Pine Lake.

I have had the opportunity to attend conferences where many lake issues have been discussed. Listening to other problems, I realize that our lake is doing very well. We should take pride in Pine Lake and keep improving and protecting it.

*Terry L. Kloehn*

Chairman  
Pine Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

## Clean Boats – Clean Waters

Through the efforts of Commissioner Paul Gagnon and inspectors Dave Houle and Paul Johnson, approximately 1400 boats were inspected before entering and leaving Pine Lake this year. Boat inspectors help perform boat and trailer checks, disseminate informational brochures, and educate boaters on the prevention of spreading aquatic invasive species. Almost 3,200 people were contacted during the inspections and reminded of their obligation to prevent the transport of aquatic plants, animals, and water from one water body to another.

Next year Pine Lake District has been awarded a grant from the DNR to offset some of the cost of continuing this program. Additional information on maintaining the quality of Pine Lake can be found at:

[Dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/](http://Dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/)

## Fish Stocking

Twenty five hundred 5-7 inch walleyes were stocked in Pine Lake this fall. We are still looking to hear from anyone who has caught any of the fish that were stocked in the past and might be of legal size now. Is this a project we should continue? We'd like to hear from you at [pinelakeinfo@gmail.com](mailto:pinelakeinfo@gmail.com)



## Blue-Green Algae Blooms

Amid the hot summer weather, blue-green algae blooms have appeared “off and on” on neighboring Lake Kentuck, covering beaches and favorite fishing spots. The conditions were perfect for these small blooms that clung together to form “mats” of slime. This thick green or bluish-green scum often smells like sewage or manure when it piles along shores and begins to decompose. People may experience eye, ear, or skin irritation, as well as vomiting and diarrhea when exposed to the bluish-green algae. Dogs are at particularly great risk of dying from exposure to these algae because they may ingest large amounts of toxins by drinking from lakes. People, especially children, are advised to avoid swimming, wading, skiing, or coming in contact with the blue-green algae blooms.

Although different forms of algae have appeared on Pine Lake, we are lucky that blue-green algae blooms have not been found. Please help us keep our lake clean and free from these harmful plants.

### Did you Know.....

.... That there were 1,972 deer harvested in Forest County during 2012.

1134 were bucks and 838 were antlerless deer.

**Remember to visit our website for the latest information on Meetings, Records, Contact Information, and Important Links. Go to:**

[www.pinelakedistrict.org](http://www.pinelakedistrict.org)

## How Can I Help?

In order to improve the water quality of Pine Lake, it will be necessary to reduce the incoming phosphorous and sediment from the lake's shoreline properties. Sources for these unwanted substances include faulty septic systems, shoreline areas that are maintained in an unnatural way, and impervious surfaces. The District intends to initiate an educational program aimed at raising awareness among property owners concerning their impacts on the lake. Committee members are needed to gather information, publish newsletter articles, and recruit appropriate speakers for District meetings. Contact any commissioner for further information, or email us at [pinelakeinfo@gmail.com](mailto:pinelakeinfo@gmail.com)

## Plant Harvesting

The Board was happy to receive favorable comments regarding plant harvesting during July and August. Many of us had the opportunity to meet contractor Ed Walder from Lake Renewal Company in Wittenberg as he moved up and down the shoreline. Special efforts were made to clear lanes from docks to open waters and to expand and widen fish lanes. Not much growth, however, was experienced in the center of the lake owing to the murky water this year. A total of forty-six truckloads, or approximately 138,000 pounds of unwanted plants, were removed and taken to the farm of Joe and Dick Herman. We look forward to seeing Ed and his cutter on Pine Lake again next summer.

### Can you Help Us?

The Board of Commissioners is currently looking for volunteer legal advice to assist in updating our present By-Laws to conform to the new Wisconsin Statutes under which we operate as a District. To volunteer, please contact any of the commissioners by email at [pinelakeinfo@gmail.com](mailto:pinelakeinfo@gmail.com)

## Remember Your Bells

Please email us your favorite pictures of Pine Lake activities or shots taken from your trail cam, and we will post them on our website, [www.pinelakedistrict.org](http://www.pinelakedistrict.org) for all to enjoy. Below are a few examples taken from the cameras of Jim Gehl and Jude Schumacher. "Wear your Bells"!



## Lake District Receives Grants

The DNR recently sent a total of \$5,046.15 in Grant Money to the Lake District which was the result of volunteer hours centering on the Lake Plan. Many thanks to all those who helped in any way to improve and protect Pine Lake. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

It's not too late to sign up for any of the committees. Contact the District email or contact any of the Commissioners to get involved.

## Hiles Fisheree

Looking for something to do in February? Come to the Hiles Fisheree on Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Come as a participant, or come as a spectator. Either way you'll enjoy the day. Mark your calendars and watch for more information as we approach the date.

## Pine Lake Contact Information

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