



IMPORTANT ISSUE

There are two items of particular importance in this issue. One is the upcoming public hearing on the lake level. The other is the upcoming chemical treatment. Please read over this newsletter, and be sure to give us your opinion on the lake level question. The more feedback the board receives, the better the decision that can be made. Take part!

LAKE LEVEL- PUBLIC HEARING 4-25-02

Two years ago after a request from WLMD, the DNR, modified the operational permit which governs the Wind Lake Dam. The purpose of the change was two-fold. One was to prevent ongoing harm to frogs, turtles and other herpivores which hibernate in the shoreline mud. These were being frozen out by the annual drawdown which took place after the critters had hibernated. Two, recreational concerns about low water, resulted in changing the lake drawdown to only one foot instead of two. Also, in spring the level is returned to normal as soon as the ice is out rather than waiting until April 15.

Another option discussed two years ago was to have no drawdown at all and to leave the lake level constant year-round. Because of concerns about shore damage, the board decided to table that option for two years to see how the shorelines responded to the one foot drawdown.

Although no one opposed the earlier drawdown, a few residents have since come forward and indicated they are being negatively impacted by the early drawdown (October 1). They have trouble getting out to the main lake because of their shallow shorelines.

The board would like your input on the following:

1- No Drawdown Year Round. This scenario would be most favorable for fish spawning and the hibernating critters. The lake would remain at the level established by the top of the dam. Concerns about this option may include flooding and shoreline damage.

2- Continue drawing down 1 foot but complete the drawdown by November 1, instead of beginning October 1. If the opinion was to continue the one foot drawdown, the board would ask to change the drawdown date to November 1. The lake would be up for most of October, improving access for hunters and residents with shallow shorelines. The drawdown would take 10 to 14 days and be down one foot by November 1.

Attend the public hearing on April 25, 6:30 PM at the Norway Town Hall.

Please tell us your comments now. Don't wait until the new rule is in effect. Whether you support one or the other, whether you fear shoreline damage, or whether you like it the way it is, we want to know. Comments may also be sent in writing to the new email address, but you must provide your name, address, and phone number in case we need to clarify your comments.

CHEMICAL TREATMENT

Each year, WLMD receives a permit from DNR to chemically treat problem areas on Wind Lake. Most of the areas treated are shallow and choke with weeds, restricting lake access. Because of a number of factors, this may be a year for a bumper crop of

weeds. Milfoil began a serious growth spurt in late August, it lives through the winter, and light was able to reach the plants almost all winter.

Shoreline weed treatments will be conducted in late May, early June. If you are in an area that either needs treatment based on current conditions, or usually needs treatment, you will receive a copy of the permit that is submitted to DNR. This is a new requirement of DNR and is only provided for your information.

If your property is on the lake-shore and you **DO NOT** want your shoreline area treated, you must submit the enclosed form to WLMD by May 1, 2002.

Please don't assume we know how your shoreline has responded to a treatment. If conditions have changed, we may not know it. If the treatment wasn't effective, we won't know unless you tell us. Let us know if you have had unusual weed problems. We will check it out. Please call or email with questions or concerns.

As always, DNR has the final say in all the treatment areas for chemical control.

BALD EAGLE

A few lucky Wind Lake residents were treated to a special viewing of a Bald Eagle. The beautiful bird was seen around Wind Lake in February and March.

SWANS

The Natural Resources Board has approved a state-wide plan to eliminate the non-native mute swans in the state. Neighboring states such as Minnesota have only a few pair of mutes and are trying to prevent them from spreading. Michigan now has as large of a mute swan problem as they have Canadian geese problems. The mute swans are very aggressive and will chase many native waterfowl, including native swans, ducks, osprey, etc, from the area. The new plan will exclude the Town of Waterford and The Town of Rochester. Both communities protested the eradication plan.

Wind Lake has had as many as 28 swans at any given time and the number has increased each year. The swans decimate native aquatic plant communities, leaving us to deal with more milfoil problems. Residents and board members have documented incidents where mute swans have tried to chase off or kill other native swans.

Native swans use more area for nesting and rearing than do mutes. While Wind Lake could have hundreds of mute swans within a relatively short time (they usually stay in the area they are raised in), the lake would only see a couple pair of native swans.

PLEASE DON'T FEED THE SWANS, GEESE OR DUCKS.

Feeding ducks, gees, and swans creates problems for everyone. The waterfowl are given foods that are not good for them and creates dependence on artificial food sources. Wonder bread and Cheerios may be good for our kids, but not for waterfowl.

Feeding also keeps them coming back for more. The resulting mess increases nutrients in our lake that contribute to plant and algae problems.

Hostility and aggression can increase when food is expected but not available. So help the waterfowl, and our lake, by admiring from a distance.

NEW WEBSITE

The new WLMD website is now up and running. The site can be reached at:

www.wlmd.org or
www.windlake.org

The District's email address is:

info@wlmd.org

The site has:

- meeting schedules, agendas, and minutes
- links to other lake-related sites.
- information about who to contact for various activities.
- the latest lake depth map of Wind Lake.
- Any special notices will also be posted on the site.

Let us know what you think.

CHEMICAL TREATMENT NOTICE - 2002

If you **DO NOT** want your shoreline to be treated, you must return this form as soon as possible.

I hereby request that my shoreline NOT be chemically treated. I understand that not treating my shoreline will not reduce my tax.

Name (PRINT) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Lake Address (if different) _____

Tax Key Number _____

Signature (Mandatory) _____

This form must be returned by May 1, 2002!

Send to: WLMD, 26111 W. Loomis Rd. Wind Lake, WI 53185



WANTED - YOUR INPUT

Jim Bluemel, Board Member

As a short time member, and now treasurer of WLMD, I would like to know what's important to you!

Our lake is a very important commodity to our well-being and to our life style. We are all paying an annual charge to maintain this.

Listed below are some items to consider and make suggestions on, to help us plan for the present and future.

- Boat traffic
- Shore restoration
- Swans and geese
- Weeds
- Fish stocking
- Carp
- Controlling the dam
- Build up of silt and dredging

Call or send your comments to us, or come to our Board meetings (4th Thursday of every month, 7:30pm, Town Hall).

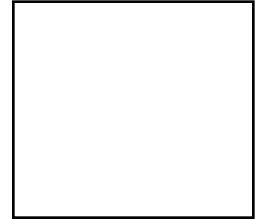
Let me hear from you. Jim Bluemel 895-2822, 7102 Breezy Point Rd. *(Or if you prefer, send comments directly to the WLMD).*

SUMMER'S COMING!

Soon the kids will be out of school, the weather will heat up, and outdoor activities on the lake will be a priority for many of us. Please observe the boating rules so that everyone's summer fun will be safe.

The boating ordinance is available at the Norway Town Hall or on the WLMD web site.

Wind Lake Management District
26111 W. Loomis Rd.
Wind Lake, WI 53185



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Forest Hansen	632-2881
Paul Traskowski	895-2836
Jim Bluemel	895-2822
Jim Marks	895-7872
Ralph Schopp	895-6026
Lake District Line	895-6766

www.wlmd.org
www.windlake.org
info@wlmd.org

Commissioner meetings are usually held the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm at the Norway Town Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ARE YOU NEW TO WIND LAKE?

If you are, call us! We can provide information about lakeside living and boating ordinances. We also have a special publication available that summarizes the lake's water quality problems, causes, and solutions. Call (262) 895-6766.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE INPUT?

The board is always interested in hearing your thoughts and concerns about Wind Lake. Homeowner input is an important consideration when planning lake improvement projects.

Sometimes, even the definition of "improvement" varies from person to person, depending on your lake use desires. For instance, fishermen prefer more weeds than waterskiers do. The various lake use desires must be balanced with the overall impact on the quality of the resource.

If you have a couple of extra hours a month, stop by one of the board meetings and let us know what you think.

If you can't attend a meeting, drop us a note, or give us a call.