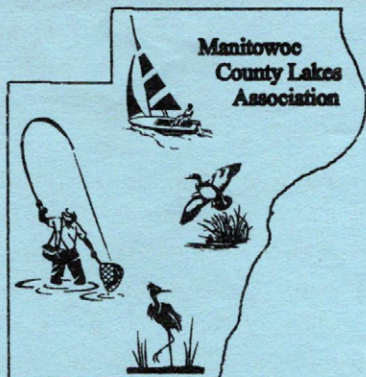




LAKES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Manitowoc County Lakes Association

Spring, 2000

Agenda Set for Lakes Annual Membership Meeting

The Annual Membership Meeting of the Manitowoc County Lakes Association is scheduled as follows:

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2000

ROOM 300

MANITOWOC COUNTY OFFICE COMPLEX

4319 Expo Drive, Manitowoc

The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a short social hour where sandwiches and refreshments will be available. The meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. with the following program agenda:

1999-2000 Officers:

President
Brian Robley
758-3161

Vice-President
David Pozorski
758-2314

Secretary
Marilyn Burns
758-2762

Treasurer
Todd Brotski
684-6091

Director
Al Meyer
773-2543

Director
Gene Weyer
758-2897

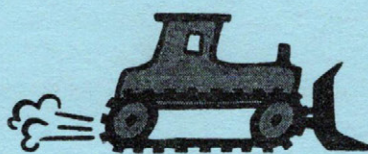
Past-President
Chris Zigmunt

- ▶ Call to Order - Brian Robley
- ▶ Presentation of Water Quality Awards
- ▶ Guest Presentations
 - * Self-Help Lake Monitoring Program, "What's it About?"
 - * Law Enforcement on County Lakes - *DNR Warden*
 - * Would You be Interested in Professional Shoreland Scaping Consultant Services - *Tom Ward*

Business Meeting:

- ▶ Committee Reports
 1. Secretary's Report
 2. Treasurer's Report

3. Membership Report
 4. Proposal Update on Usable Acreage for Motorized Boating - *Al Meyer*
- ▶ Ad Hoc Committee on Aeration: Are any Lake Associations interested in a County Wide Lake Association Snow Plow - *Dave Pozorski*
 - ▶ Area Lake Association Reports
 - ▶ Future By-Law Changes - Board Director from each County Lake Association
 - ▶ Election of Officers
 - ▶ Any Other Business
 - ▶ Adjourn



Snow Plowing Anyone?

The County Association is requesting input from area Lake Associations to see if they would have an interest in the use of a snow-plowing vehicle for their lake. Currently, a vehicle could be used to do snow removal over oxygen producing weed beds on lakes that are subject to winter kill.

If the County Association would purchase or seek a donated vehicle, we would convert it with flotation devices to reduce the risk of recovery. If other lake Associations feel they could utilize this vehicle, call one of the Directors and make your views known at the June 14 annual meeting. ☉

Results of the 50-Acre, No-Wake Model

Wisconsin law requires slow-no-wake on lakes with public access which are less than 50 acres. We assume the law was passed to protect small and fragile lakes as well as for safety reasons. No one knows why 50 acres was chosen. The Conservation Congress proposed a question at the Spring hearings that would ban jet skis or personal water craft on lakes less than 400 acres.

The County Association's Fishing & Water Quality Committee led by Al Meyer and Don Glaeser were the first to examine the concept of usable acres on a lake after the 200 foot setbacks for personal water craft and the 100 foot no-wake zones were applied to County Lakes. They found that the shape of a lake could dramatically reduce the amount of acreage on a Lake to less than 50 acres that is usable for personal water craft, etc.

The concept of usable acres has implications for safety and impacts of motorized boating on fish spawning patterns and shorebird and waterfowl nesting habitat. A perfectly round lake of 50 acres would have 5,230 feet of shoreline, where an irregular lake could have more than 12,000 linear feet of shoreline and be 50 acres.

The New Auburn Model sets up a ratio of linear feet of shoreline to surface area of the lake. A perfectly round lake of 50 acres would have a ratio of 104.6 feet per acre if you divide the total shore length of 5,230 by 50 acres. Any lake with a ratio greater than 104.6, would be classified as a no-wake lake with this formula, due to the sensitivity of irregular shorelines.

The Manitowoc County Soil & Water Conservation Dept. applied the model to area lakes to see what the outcome would be:

Lake	Acres	Feet of Shoreline	Ratio of Shoreline to Lake Area	Rated as No-Wake
Cedar	148	18,000+	122.5	X
Pigeon	82	8,652	105.3	X
Long	129	17,800	138.8	X
English	50+	6,192	123.6	X
Wilke	98	9,182	93.5	

Notice that Wilke Lake is the only lake that came up with an acceptable ratio for a lake allowing wake.

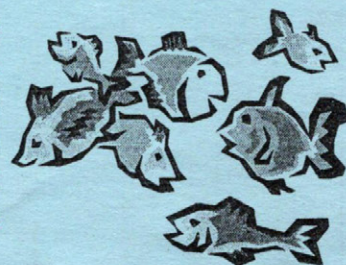
The County Committee found similar results when assessing the Lakes as to the usable acres applying the 200-foot setback to the shorelines for personal water craft. The results were: Cedar Lake would have 64 usable acres; Pigeon has 39 acres; Long has 55 acres; English has only 26 acres; and Wilke has 60 acres. This method would identify Pigeon and English lakes as waters that would not have 50 usable acres and pose a safety hazard. Our formula does not address fast boating impacts on habitat and shoreline erosion.

As a result of these analysis, it is clear that we need to have a concern for boating safety and habitat protection on these lakes. The County Lakes Association has presented the issue to the Wisconsin Lakes Association and conducted a survey of its membership concerning this issue:

1. Currently the County Association is encouraging education of incoming boaters on these lakes as to the location of the set backs and potential safety concerns along with the local boating regulations on each lake.
2. The Association has also facilitated discussions with Sheriff and DNR enforcement regarding improved enforcement of boating regulations.
3. The Association can encourage each Lake Association to consider protecting sensitive areas of a lake to protect habitat, revisit their current lake regulations and encourage uniformity county-wide in lake regulations.
4. The Lake Association and Township can make the final decision as to changing the lake to a "No-Wake Lake".

Pigeon Lake Fish-Kill Update

The partial fish kill that was discovered in early May on Pigeon Lake seemed to affect only the walleye and crappie populations in the lake. It appears the kill may have been the result of the extreme hot weather in late April which resulted in conditions that caused a kill. DNR is waiting on fish samples to determine the cause.

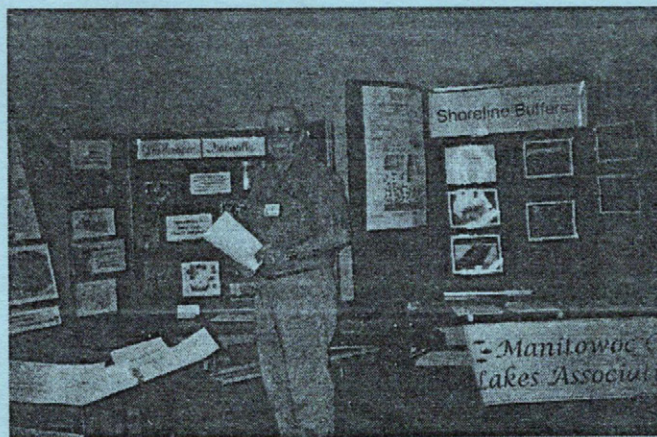


Water's Edge Workshop Makes a Splash

A little lawn here, bits of sand beach there, a pier here, a boathouse there – and soon enough the natural habitat around a lake or river shoreland disappears. Fifty years ago, most Wisconsin lakeshores were virtually undeveloped. Today, many lakes are ringed with year-round homes on small lots with lawns, driveways and two-car garages. The growth hasn't been benign: Water quality often declines to the detriment of fish and other aquatic species; wildlife dwindles with the loss of habitat; once wild scenery becomes tame. As we simplify the environment and remove protective elements like trees and aquatic plants, the very things that drew us to the water vanish.

What happens on the shore is reflected in the water. The slow but insidious influence of many small actions can devastate the ecological health of our shores and waters. (*As taken from Wisconsin Natural Resources, "Less Work, More Beauty, Better Protection", April, 2000.*)

The March 4th Water's Edge Workshop at the Manitowoc Senior Center concentrated on this issue stated above. The workshop attracted over 40 participants and scored well on its evaluations. Thirty attendees signed up for a future workshop that would focus on specific shoreline topics.



Dr. Robert Tomesh, UWEX-Madison, and Hope Oostdik of Lake Mills, WI were the featured speakers. Mike Hanaway, DNR, Bruce Riesterer and Tom Ward, SWCD, were the other presenters.

Everyone received a large binder with materials detailing the respective speakers' topics, including sources for buying appropriate shoreline plants. Colorful displays provided additional information and a generous buffet was enjoyed by all.

Area Lake Associations Meetings Announced

Several of the area lake associations/districts have forwarded dates of their annual meeting or next regular meeting. They are as follows:

- ☛ Bullhead Lake Advancement Assn. . . . June 25th
- ☛ Cedar Lake Rehab/San. District . . No date set yet
- ☛ English Lake P&R District No date set yet
- ☛ Big Long Lake Assn. June 24th
- ☛ Pigeon Lake Assn. Annual Meeting was May 26th
- ☛ Silver Lake Assn. Late October
- ☛ Wilke Lake Assn. July 2nd

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend your area meetings. ☼



Manitowoc Yacht Club 4TH ANNUAL BOAT SHOW & SWAP (One Day Only)

SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH, 2000
10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

FREE REGISTRATION
Buy - Sell - Trade - Show - Swap
Just bring your rig, power or sail
and find a spot.
Boating Memorabilia, Parts, Plans,
You Have It--Bring It!

On the Grounds of the Manitowoc Yacht Club
815 Maritime Drive, Manitowoc 54220
For More Information Contact:
Ron Stokes, 682-3055 or Jerry Hein, 682-9761





Manitowoc County
Soil & Water Conservation Department
4319 Expo Drive - P.O. Box 578
Manitowoc WI 54221-0578

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Manitowoc County Lakes Association Newsletter

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