

Weed Harvesting Report

A mild winter & early spring like weather, accompanied by light snow & ice cover, brought the weeds out early & in abundant quantities. Fortunately the weed crop dropped off much earlier in the summer than anticipated. Overall harvesting was significantly up in 2012 over 2011.

If the current weather continues & we experience an early onset of spring weather, the 2013 harvesting season will probably see another upswing in weed collection over 2012. Additionally, weed growth may accelerate in areas of the lake which have not experienced problems in the past few years.

As has been the policy in past years, the main focus of the WW & Rice Lake weed harvesting is & has been the area between the shore line & the "Slow – no wake zone." Due to low water levels & WDNR requirements, harvesting has been very difficult in certain areas of the lake(s). The harvesting machine cannot harvest to "zero" depth & this may allow weed growth in these areas.

In order to assist the district, please consider the following:

- Remove all "floaters" from your shoreline or boat outrides or props.
- Use only phosphorus-free fertilizer on your lawns.
- Place weeds collected by you on the end of your dock for Saturday AM collection.
- Report abnormal weed growth to the district at:
 - o WWRL Lake District @ PO Box 301
Whitewater, WI 53190
 - o larry@whitewaterlake.org
 - o Attend the District meetings on the second Thursday of the month at the township hall.

Your continued understanding in this effort is greatly appreciated.

Larry Brady - Commissioner



Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District

P.O. Box #301 • Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190

www.whitewaterlake.org • www.gwlpoa.org



Message From The Chairman

A new year is starting and I want to thank Brian Morris for his years as Chairman and helping make a smooth transition. Operations and budgets are all in good shape. Another piece of equipment is being refurbished to give us more years of service. Tom Potrykus is restocking with great game fish. Dave Cleven is keeping geese in check and is about to tackle the cormorants that are invading our Egret sanctuary. If the drought continues it will stress the lake and return weeds, but we'll attack accordingly.

New this year will be the Boston Whaler patrol boat purchased by the Town of Whitewater. It's central pilot controls will give the deputies a better 360 degree access around the boat. A safety team of lake advisors is being formed with Larry Brady leading to update safety rules, communicate water safety, establish water safety courses and counsel the Safety Patrol.

For the rest of this year, enjoy life, take care of your lake and be kind to your neighbors.

Rich Charts – Chairman

Fish Stocking Report

During 2012, the DNR stocked 1000 six to nine inch Northern Pike in Whitewater Lake. Fish that size will have a good survival rate and should be attacking our small, over-abundant bluegills. The Lake Management District stocked about 250 extra nine inch Northerns in Whitewater in October per the DNR stocking plan. Rice Lake is not included in the DNR stocking plan for 2012.

For 2013, the DNR has given a verbal commitment we can stock large fingerling walleye (6+ inches) in Whitewater Lake and for the first time in Rice Lake. The DNR expressed an interest in seeing how well the walleyes do in Rice. They are not expected to reproduce but hopefully they will grow quickly.

Tom Potrykus – Committee Chairman

Equipment Report

The Board is continuing to monitor and carry out our long range maintenance plan for the district owned equipment. We are attempting to maximize longevity and usefulness of our aging equipment.

The 7 foot Weed Harvester is being refurbished and will be returned for operation in late spring. We will also be replacing the outboard motor on the Transporter this year and every other year. The used outboard motor has been put up for sale and will result in the purchase of a new outboard motor through the government discount program for the 2013 season. All of the current equipment is presently being stored inside and is awaiting the start of the 2013 harvesting season.

Chuck Chamberlain - Commissioner

Safety team

The Lake District has organized a Safety Team for 2013. The team members consists of Larry Brady, Board Member, & representatives from the ski team, JNT Marina, the lake campgrounds & the GWLPOA. The team will meet to discuss safety issues as they relate to boating safety, current or possible new lake regulations & other concerns related to lake owners/users.

As part of this team, the District will sponsor a boater operator's license program in early May. Please check the website for exact times & places in early April.

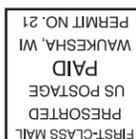
If you have items you wish to be addressed by the team, please contact any member of the District Board.



Whitewater, WI 53190
P.O. Box #301

Management District

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Weed Spraying

Whitewater and Rice Lakes' weed management is strictly regulated by Wisconsin DNR. We have two strategies that can be used on our lakes, one is treatment, the other is weed cutting. The contractor for weed treatment (Eurasian Water Milfoil and Curly-leaf Pondweed) based on a bid process will be identified at the Feb.14th Board Meeting and posted on the web site. We are anticipating the weed population will be a challenge this year based on the light snow fall. To help us address the anticipated cost we have applied for a weed management grant from the Wisconsin DNR. Keep your fingers crossed! Our web site will also post the DNR permit, and the Lake Maps identifying the extent of weed distribution. Prior to lake treatment, a notice will be attached to all docks in the vicinity of treatment with precautions. In addition, the following notice is prescribed by the DNR:

Whitewater-Rice Lake Management District Notice

This correspondence is to notify you that the Whitewater-Rice LMD will be performing a treatment for Eurasian Water-milfoil (EWM) and Curly-leaf Pondweed (CLP) in the spring of 2013. The treatment typically takes place during the month of May with a liquid form of 2,4-D (EWM) or liquid form of endothall (CLP). All lake front residents that are in or immediately adjacent to a treatment area will have a yellow warning sign posted on their frontage stating that there is up to a 21-day irrigation restriction. There will NOT be a swimming or fishing restriction following treatment. Please visit our website, www.whitewaterlake.org for important information regarding this treatment including a copy of the DNR permit, tentative treatment date(s), proposed treatment areas, and final treatment maps as they become available.

Any resident may opt out of treatment for their frontage up to 150' out from shore by contacting us in writing at: Whitewater-Rice LMD, P.O. Box 301, Whitewater, WI 53190. The deadline for opting out of treatment is April 5th, 2013.

Ernie Roy – Commissioner

Water Quality

Secchi disk readings, which are a simple measurement of water clarity, ranged between 1 and 6 feet deep on Whitewater Lake during the summer. Rice Lake would be expected to be similar. The South Bay of Whitewater Lake generally had the lowest readings. The measurements are below the average for Southeastern Wisconsin lakes. The secchi disk readings, combined with phosphorus and chlorophyll sampling results, indicate that Whitewater and Rice Lakes are eutrophic state. Eutrophic lakes are high in nutrients. They are likely to have excessive aquatic vegetation or experience algae blooms, sometimes both. They susceptible to oxygen depletion. Small, shallow lakes are especially vulnerable to winterkill of fish.

One of our goals is to move out of the eutrophic state and achieve water quality similar to the majority of lakes in Southeastern Wisconsin. There are some practices we can do to help our lakes. The UW-Extension Service has published some new brochures and guidelines for living on a lake. There are some easy landscaping tips to follow that will help keep our lakes clean.

See the publications at these two websites:

<http://www4.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/publications/>

<http://clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/>

Tom Ganfield - Chairman

Financials

2012 finished the year with an operating deficit of \$13,375 with revenues of \$159,069 and expenditures of \$172,445. As reported at the August annual meeting, our budgets were significantly impacted by last year's mild winter, lack of snow covering and a warm March, all contributing to early weed growth. Consequently, greater chemical spraying and earlier weed harvesting was necessary to maintain the lake. However, the final deficit was less than the initial projection of \$24,000 due to the bog harvesting activity being reduced from 6 weeks to 5 weeks. In accordance with resolutions passed at the annual meeting, the 2012 deficit was funded from the Capital Fund and will not impact our 2013 operating budgets.

As of the end of 2012, the Capital Fund has a balance of \$65,834. 2012 fund activity included contributions from the 2011 operating surplus of \$27,150, the 2012 budgeted contribution of \$10,000 and expenditures of approximately \$18,600 for the 10' harvester renovation

Brad Corson – Treasurer

WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 2012 SUMMARY COMPARATIVE INCOME STATEMENT

	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2012 Budget	2012 Actual vs 2012 Budget	
Income					
Prior Year Surplus Carryover	7,245	-	-	-	0%
Tax Assessments	157,152	158,891	158,900	(10)	0%
Interest Income	-	-	-	-	0%
Contributions & Other	617	179	200	(21)	-12%
Total Income	165,014	159,069	159,100	(31)	0%
Operating Activities					
Weed Harvesting	7,948	37,278	16,000	(21,278)	-57%
Chemical Treatment & Other	33,546	44,610	40,300	(4,310)	-10%
Bog Removal	45,292	45,471	57,300	11,829	26%
Repairs & Maintenance	39,671	32,580	29,000	(3,580)	-11%
General & Administrative	11,407	12,506	16,500	3,994	32%
Total Operating Activities	137,863	172,445	159,100	(13,345)	-8%
Capital Fund Contributions	27,150	(13,375)	-	13,375	0%
Total Operating Expenses	165,014	159,069	159,100	31	0%
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	-	-	(0)	0%

2013 Canadian Goose Report

With the warm winter and lack of snow and ice on our lakes until recently, we have attracted a huge abundance of new Canadian Geese to our lakes. I hope that they all leave and go back to wherever they came from, but I expect many hundreds more will likely stay with us permanently.

Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management Board has again passed a motion to control the Canadian Geese population on our lakes in 2013 utilizing our Canadian goose Nest and Egg Depredation Program and our Round-Up Program. We will never come close to eliminating all the Canadian Geese on our lakes but our goal is to reduce them to a manageable level.

Canadian Geese have a life expectancy of about 20 years. We were slowly making progress however we have had a big setback this winter with the increase in numbers. Each Mature Canadian Goose deposits about 2 ½ pounds of feces each day in our lakes and on our shorelines bringing E-coli bacteria and increased phosphorus loading in our waters. Any reduction in our goose population will improve the quality of our lake waters and shorelines.

Many of the nests are hidden especially well under a deck

or in a hidden area. Please notify me in early to late April with location of any nest that you see in your area of the lake (608-883-2483 or dfcleven@earthlink.net). If you do not want the geese to be gathered on your property, please contact us and we will respect your wishes.

We all look forward to another fun year on Whitewater/Rice Lakes.

Dave Cleven – Committee Chairman

P.S. We have enclosed in your newsletter a Permission Form for you to sign and mail in that allows us and the United States Dept of Agriculture – Wildlife Services to enter your property for Goose Management.

IF YOU HAVEN'T SIGNED THIS PERMISSION FORM IN THE PAST, PLEASE SIGN THIS FORM AND MAIL IT BACK TO:

Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management District
P.O. Box 301
Whitewater, WI., 53190

Thank You!