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# Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District

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

[www.whitewaterlake.org](http://www.whitewaterlake.org) • [www.gwlpoa.org](http://www.gwlpoa.org)



## Message from the Chairman

The 2016 season is starting up, about a month ahead of recent years though not among the earliest ice outs. Together with the rains we are experiencing, it could be a longer fun filled season. Your board and many volunteers are preparing the infrastructure to provide as carefree enjoyment as possible on our wonderful lakes. We have some new initiatives.

Theresa and Gerhard Stegmann, long time residents have volunteered to share their expertise and experience developing shorelines with us and together with some new DNR grants can advise you on a variety of improvements you can do to make your shoreline more enjoyable.

The DNR has also created new requirements to make our Town boat launches more self sufficient. A new fee ordinance following the state's guidelines is described and hopefully made as simple as possible.

Commissioner Jerry Grant's efforts to create a volunteer boat launch monitoring program is in effect. The purpose is to motivate boaters to clean boats and trailers of any invasives that create nuisance and costs to the lakes community. If your children, nephews or nieces need service hours for school or other organization, Have them stop by JNT's Parkside Marina for available time slots.

Finally, the Safety Committee and Safety Patrol are again offering a boat/PWC safety class that will certify your household members providing training in state regulations AND local ordinances that the Sheriff's department enforces.

So go out there, enjoy the lake, have fun and be courteous to those around you.

Rich Charts

## Weed Committee

Since it has been a fairly mild weather for the 2015-16 season, will summer come early? Probably not but one thing you can be certain of any early return – aquatic plant growth = “WEEDS!” While the Board has taken aggressive steps with expanded chemical treatment, we cannot totally know what nature has in store for us this summer. Our equipment (including a new transport) will be ready, our contractor will be ready & the WWRL Board will be ready.

As always, the Board asks your assistance with this project. Below are a few items that will help in those efforts.

- Remove all floaters from you immediate dock/swim areas.
- Remove all weeds from props & boat accessories. (place them on shore – not back in the lake)
- Use non- phosphorous fertilizer on you lawns & gardens.
- Keep an eye out for those that may not be aware of these issues.

Please contact the Weed Committee Chairman – Larry Brady at (Ph) 847-975-6334 or email [lbrady22w@gmail.com](mailto:lbrady22w@gmail.com) with any questions, comments or issues. He & the Board will do our best to answer your concerns & accept suggestions as well.

Finally, weed pickup will continue on Saturday morning as a pick up from the end of your dock(s). Weeds left on shore will not be considered for pickup.

## Summary of 2015 Financial Results:

2015 net revenues were \$315,036 comprised of tax receipts of \$326,931 from which we had to fund the 2014 deficit of \$11,969. Total 2015 operating expenses were \$250,774 resulting in a surplus from budget of \$34,262. This surplus is higher than the estimate of \$24,293 presented at the August meeting largely due to two reasons; (1) bog removal finished under budget by \$5,891 due to weather and some mechanical issues with the vendor's equipment, and (2) our 5 year plan being developed by SEWPAC was not delivered to us prior to year end. This savings of \$5,000 is a timing issue though as it will be paid in 2016. The surplus will roll into the 2016 operating funds in accordance with the motions approved at the annual meeting. Our capital fund started 2015 with a balance of \$70,973, to which we added the 2015 contribution of \$30,000 and reduced it with the purchased the new transport for approximately \$69,000 (this is net of the DNR grant of \$35,000).

Our ending balance in the capital fund was \$32,963.

Brad Corson, Treasurer

Spring 2016

## Whitewater - Rice Lakes' Shoreline Management

Theresa Stegmann and her husband Gerhard have lived on Whitewater Lake since 1991. Over the years, they have transformed their mostly lawn landscape into a diverse native plant landscape for the benefit of increasing wildlife habitat and protecting water quality in and around Whitewater and Rice Lakes.

In an effort to promote natural shorelines, Theresa would like to make herself available to the lake community for any questions that homeowners may have pertaining to shoreline buffers and native plant landscaping. Theresa will also assist lake front property owners interested in applying for the Wisconsin Healthy Lakes Implementation Plan—best practice grants (below).

Wisconsin Healthy Lakes Implementation Plan—simple and inexpensive best practices:  
<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/healthyakes/default.aspx>

In an effort to support clean lakes and increase wildlife habitat in Wisconsin, grant money is available for Wisconsin lakefront property owners through the WI-DNR's statewide Healthy Lakes Implementation Plan. Individual lakefront property owners can apply for one or more of five best-practice grants, Fish Sticks, Native Plantings, Diversions, Rock Infiltration,

and Rain Gardens. Grants are capped at \$1000/each for each practice awarded. Multiple best-practice grants can be awarded to a single individual as long as the best-practice types are not duplicated.

Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District is eligible for grant sponsorship. Grant sponsors are capped at \$25,000. The state will cost share the project 75% state/25% individual. 10% of the state's share can be used for technical assistance and grant administration. Grant applications are due Feb 1 of each year and projects must be completed within a two-year-plus time frame, from April 15th to June 30th two years later. Awards are reimbursed post satisfactory completion of a project.


For more information please contact Theresa or:  
 DNR Lake Biologist Pamela Toshner  
[pamela.toshner@wisconsin.gov](mailto:pamela.toshner@wisconsin.gov)  
 (715) 635-4073

Theresa Stegmann, Habitat Specialist  
[theresa.stegmann@gmail.com](mailto:theresa.stegmann@gmail.com)  
 (262) 203-1863  
 N7826 Hillside Dr., Whitewater

## Equipment Report

- All weed harvesting equipment will be removed from winter storage and prepared for launching during the month of May.
- The new Aquatic Transport Barge was returned to the manufacturer during the winter months for warranty work and equipment upgrades. The transporter will be returned to Whitewater Lake in April or May and will be ready for the upcoming harvesting season.
- As reported last year at the annual WRLMD meeting, Self-Pay Boat Launch Fee Collection Boxes will be installed by the Town of Whitewater this spring at the three public launch sites on Whitewater Lake; namely, Cruse Lane, RW Townline Road/

Chapel Drive, and RW Townline Road/Krahn Drive. The self-pay fee collection boxes are being installed to be in compliance with DNR requirements of charging boat launch fees at all public boat launch sites. The Town of Whitewater approved Boat Launch Ordinance #042215 (with full support from the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District) in July, 2015. More detailed information regarding the self-pay fee collection boxes be may found in this newsletter.

Chuck Chamberlain, Commissioner 

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Town of Whitewater • Walworth County, Wisconsin Whitewater-Rice Lakes Boat Launch Fees

The following boat launch fees apply to the Town of Whitewater Boat Launch Sites located on Whitewater Lake:

- Cruse Lane
- RW Townline Road/Chapel Drive
- RW Townline Road/Krahn Drive

Boat launch fees at these sites are set forth by the Town of Whitewater and the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District. Fees are adopted and pursuant with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Board Policy NR 1.91 (11) (g).

#### Daily Fee:

Lake District Resident \$4.00  
Non-Lake District Resident \$6.00

#### Annual Fee:

Lake District Resident \$20.00  
Non-Lake District Resident \$30.00

Boat launch passes may be purchased at the yellow self-pay collection boxes.

**The Town of Whitewater boat launch passes are not valid at the DNR State Park Boat Launch Sites located on Whitewater and Rice Lakes. Fees charged at the State Park Boat Launch Sites are under the jurisdiction of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.**

## Regulations

1. **ALL** watercraft launched must pay a daily or annual boat launch fee. This fee must be paid prior to launching.
2. Daily or annual registration receipts must be presented upon request by local authorities when launching.
3. Daily self-registration of each watercraft may be accomplished by using the envelopes provided at the yellow self-pay collection box.
4. Complete registration receipts must have full name, address, phone number, watercraft registration numbers and type of watercraft.
5. Drop envelope with payment in the yellow self-pay collection box slot.
6. **Cash or Check Only.** Cash and/or Check must be for the exact amount. Checks must be made payable to **Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District (WRLMD)**.
7. The owner/operator of a watercraft in violation of this ordinance shall be liable for the violation. **Non-payment of boat launch fees will be \$50 for the first offense and \$100 for each offense thereafter.**
8. **NO vehicle or trailer parking** is allowed at any of the Town of Whitewater boat launch sites.
9. Users of the Town of Whitewater boat launch facilities do so at their own risk.

**Boat Launch Ordinance No. 042215 was duly adopted the 8th day of July, 2015 by the Town of Whitewater.**

Further information is available on the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District (WRLMD) Website.

## 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 weed treatment, and the other is weed harvesting. Clean Lakes Inc. will be doing our weed treatment (Eurasian Water Milfoil and Curly-leaf Pondweed.) Based on previous years, we are anticipating these invasive weeds and we will do our best to control them, using our budget dollars, and harvesting equipment. We will not be doing any chemical treatment on Rice Lake this year per the DNR trying to get the water clarification started by establishing more aquatic plant base. Our web site will post the DNR permit, and the Lake Maps identifying the extent of weed distribution after the Spring weed survey with timing for chemical spraying. We will use Facebook and our web site for continued updates. Prior to lake treatment, a notice will be attached to all docks in the vicinity of treatment with precautions. Those of you who use irrigation systems from the lake would you please email me at [ernie@whitewaterlake.org](mailto:ernie@whitewaterlake.org) so that I can notify you when the chemical treatment is scheduled so that you don't turn on your irrigation system. In addition, the following notice is prescribed by the DNR:

## 2016 Canada Goose Report

We have had an early spring so far and many of our Resident Geese have already returned to our lake. With their good GPS system, I am sure that many more will return. Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management Board has again passed a motion to continue to control the Canada Geese population on our lakes in 2016 utilizing our Canada Nest and Egg Depredation Program and our Round-up Program. We will never come close to eliminating all of the Canada Geese on our lakes but our goal is to reduce them to a manageable level. We are definitely making progress.

Canada Geese have a life expectancy of about 20 years. Each Mature Canada 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. Water tests have already shown that.

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 nests that you see in your area of the lake. (608-883-2483) or [dfcleven@earthlink.net](mailto: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, Wildlife Chairman 

We have enclosed 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



## Permission for Entry to Property for Goose Management

I authorize representatives from United States Department of Agriculture – Wildlife Services and Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management District to access the property listed below for the purposes of goose management (egg oiling and/or Round-up). This permission form has no expiration date and remains in effect unless you request to be removed from the approved site list. You will have an annual opportunity via newsletter or direct mailing to remove your property from the approved site list. Thank you for your assistance.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature (Mandatory): \_\_\_\_\_

Please Mail to: Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management District, P.O. Box 301, Whitewater, WI 53190