

Chairman's Greeting

The ice is just breaking up, and lacking snow, we need rain to keep lake waters sufficiently high.

The Lions Ice Fish-a-Ree was a success and plans to expand fishing awards next year as the environment opens further. We will again be searching for geese. Look for nests under decks and in hidden areas around your property or anywhere in your area. If you are new, fill out the form attached and send to Ernie Roy allowing permission to gather geese on your property.

Tom Potrykus, Mike Lindemuth and the UW-Whitewater have done a great job in obtaining your feedback with a survey about the lake. Carol Ducommun has stepped up to manage the various survey initiatives with teams of volunteers who have done tremendous research into what other lakes do and how we may be able to step up. You will find articles from Carol, Jeff Panek and Amy Rodgers included here with suggestions for improvement.

If you are interested in running for the Lake Management Board, send me a note by June. Also, if you are a resident of the Town of Whitewater, consider running for the Town Board this Fall. The Lake District, GWLPOA and Town Hall would all be happy to explain what the role includes.

Finally, we thank ALL the volunteers and organizations who make the beauty of our lake possible every year including the Greater Whitewater Lake Property Owners Association (GWLPOA), the Southern Wakes United Ski Club, the Lions Club, Camp Joy, Scenic Ridge and JNT. Be mindful and courteous of others so that all can be safe while enjoying our many activities. The GWLPOA has again expanded social offerings, adding to the picnic and Music on the lake events, there will also be Welcome Neighbor "meet and greets" at nearby businesses. See the calendars on <http://whitewaterlake.org>.

Rich Charts, Commissioner 

Wildlife Control

We do an annual goose roundup to protect the lake and shoreline property from the goose droppings. Only if you are new or have not filled out the permission slip previously, please do so and send it to me.

Ernie Roy, Wildlife Manager 

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 a round up). This permission form has no expiration date and remains in effect until 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. **Ernie Roy, Wildlife Manager**

Printed Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Lake Address: _____

Signature (Mandatory): _____

Mail to: Whitewater/Rice Lakes Mgt Dist, P.O. Box 301, Whitewater, WI 53190

Fish Management

Opening Day - Fishing in Wisconsin is the First Saturday in May. Buy a license, available online or local retailers... Parkside, Walmart, etc. The revenue funds the State's programs such as **fish stocking**. Last Fall the State stocked walleyes in Whitewater, while the Lake Management District added perch to Whitewater and Northern Pike in Rice

After years of Covid delay, the State plans to conduct numerous **fish population surveys** on our lakes this spring and summer. This should help answer numerous questions, such as...are the walleyes growing and reproducing; what about the size and population of our panfish and bass; how big is the carp population? The only species not surveyed will be Northern Pike.

Improved fish habitat is on the agenda for Whitewater Lake in the form of the building and **installing man made fish cribs**. These are underwater log structures which replace some of the natural fish habitat we lose every year as we replace natural shorelines with seawalls, remove bogs and seek to control invasive weeds. The cribs provide a place for young fish to hide out and grow. This project is being led by lake resident Ryan Nottestad (rnott385@gmail.com), who would be happy to field your questions and offers to help build the cribs.

Send me photos of your catch. (tompotrykus@icloud.com)

Tom Potrykus, Fish Manager, & Ryan Nottestad, Team co-Lead 

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. Clark Aquatic Services will be doing our weed treatment (Eurasian Water Milfoil and Curly-leaf Pondweed.)

The algae bloom last year was particularly bothersome, especially on Rice Lake. The continuing drought and hot temperatures significantly impact water quality. However, significant Phosphorus concentration is presumed to derive from internal cycling of sediment derived Phosphorus.

WRLMD is partnering with the UW-W to measure sediment Phosphorus concentrations in Rice Lake. The study will provide a volume/mass estimate of total Phosphorus laden sediment. With this information the WRLMD will have a better understanding of how much Phosphorus bearing sediment will need to be removed to decrease the Phosphorus load within Rice Lake.

During April and May, our web site will post the DNR permit, and the Lake Maps identifying the extent of weed distribution after the Spring weed survey along 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 should please email me at mdlgeneva@gmail.com 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 included notice in this edition is prescribed by the DNR.

Lakes Management District NOTICE

Proposed Aquatic Herbicide Application for Eurasian watermilfoil and Curlyleaf pondweed control on Whitewater and Rice Lakes.

The Whitewater and Rice Lakes Management District (the District) proposes to assess and chemically treat up to 175 acres on Whitewater Lake and up to 65 acres on Rice Lake to control the excessive growth of the exotic invasive aquatic plants, Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curlyleaf Pondweed. The District proposes to conduct an application of ProcellaCOR EC (florpyrauxifen-benzyl) and Aquathol K (endothall) to be performed by Clarke Aquatic Services. We anticipate the treatment to occur sometime in spring, 2022 and will proceed only after the District obtains a permit for the treatment from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Notification of the exact dates of treatment and water use restrictions associated with the use of ProcellaCOR EC and Aquathol K will be provided by the posting of shoreline in and adjacent to treatment areas, and public access points.


The water use restrictions associated with use of the above pesticide are noted below:

Up to 5 Day Irrigation Restriction (ProcellaCOR EC)

There are no fishing, swimming, or other recreational use restrictions with the use of Aquathol K or ProcellaCOR EC

For additional information on the proposed projects including a completed copy of the permit applications, WDNR Chemical Fact Sheets on florpyrauxifen-benzyl and endothall as well as proposed management area maps please visit: www.district.whitewater.org


If you do not have internet access, would like a hard copy of the application, or for additional questions about the proposed management, please contact:

Mike Lindemuth, Commissioner 
(630) 707-1843
mdlgeneva@gmail.com

Summary of 2021 Financial Results

2021 finished the year with a net surplus of \$73,436. This was comprised of several areas; we started the year with a positive carryover from 2020 of \$25,291 largely due to the bog harvesting, weed harvesting benefited this year from low weed growth contributing \$20,133 to the surplus, and a shorter bog harvesting season this year contributed another \$21,382. Two other notable expense variations included savings from the survey by using the services of University of Whitewater of about \$10,000 and another \$10,000 from not yet receiving the 5-year lake plan which will be expensed in 2022. Offsetting these surplus areas was an overspend of the Chemical budget by \$17,809 in over to take full advantage of what the DNR allowed.

Our capital fund had a starting balance of \$78,540. We had budgeted contributions of \$60,000 and interest of \$92. We capital expenses of \$24,115 for the deposit on the new Weed Trailer and \$20,000 for a new diesel engine on the 10 Ft. Harvester. We also received \$12,850 as a partial grant from the DNR for the Weed Trailer that will be completed in 2022. This gave us an ending balance in the capital fund \$107,367.

Brad Corson, Treasurer 

Lakeshore Management

A new *Lakeshore Resource Guide** will be available in April on Walworth County's Land Use and Resource Management (LURM) homepage. The guide is a collection of resources for lake management groups and lakefront property owners--and the contractors they hire--to manage shoreland property for the benefit of lake health, to preserve and protect our lakes' environmental significance and recreational value for this generation and generations to come.


The *Lakeshore Resource Guide* includes reliable information; such as, shoreland construction, piers, rock riprap, erosion control, landscaping, lawn maintenance, yard care, tips on hiring contractors, invasive species awareness, other lakeshore management practices and lists of lake-partner conservation groups and educational resources.

Rich Charts and Theresa Stegemann represented the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District by participating in the shoreline education group that created the *Lakeshore Resource Guide*. The group was a collaboration of many environmental professionals, lake managers and conservation allies, led by Julie Hill, DNR UW-Extension Horticultural Outreach Specialist for Walworth and Rock Counties. Lake residents should feel free to contact Julie if they need assistance navigating the guide and/or its resources. Julie.hill@wisc.edu, (262) 741-4958.

*The guide was created by representatives from Southeastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium, Walworth County Land Use and Resource Management, Kettle Moraine Land Trust, Geneva Lakes Conservancy, WI-DNR, Delavan Lake Improvement Association, Lauderdale Lakes Improvement Association and Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District.

Make sure to check out the "Score My Shore" link listed in the *Lakeshore Resource Guide*. It's a new *Healthy Lakes and Rivers* shoreland evaluation tool. healthylakeswi.com

Let's Make Healthy Lakes Together!

Theresa Stegemann, Team Lead
theresa.stegemann@gmail.com, (262) 458-4226 

Mechanical Harvesting

The last few seasons continue to see the Lake kind to the boaters/swimmers with lower overall weed growth & fewer invasive varieties. Since the SEWRPC survey revealed very low aquatic material, except in the upper lobe near the State Park, the District is reviewing the overall chemical & harvesting strategies to achieve a balance between aquatic material & potential algae infestations. This topic will be discussed in detail at the District Meeting after the Commissioners have reviewed the update to our Aquatic Management Plan.

2021 saw the District received a Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for financial assistance with reviewing our current five-year Management Plan. The update is necessary to comply with DNR requirements to obtain a new five-year Weed Harvesting Permit. Our current permit expired at the end of 2020 but we have been granted a one-year extension to take advantage of the grant award. With that award approval, the District is moving forward with a Plan Update & with the assistance of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

The Saturday pickup of weeds from piers will continue the first Saturday after Memorial Day. Please have the aquatic materials on the ends of the pier no later than 8 AM Saturday. Pickup will be from 8 to noon. Any concerns or issues can be addressed by calling or emailing Larry Brady at 847-975-6334 or email to larry@whitewaterlake.org.

Please, no yard waste or other organic material should be left on your dock for pickup at any time.


I am (Still) planning to leave the board in August after ten (eleven) years of service. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the board, please contact me or any other board member for information related to running for a board seat. It has been an honor & privilege to have served the Whitewater/Rice Lakes community. Thank you.

Additionally, thank you for your cooperation with these efforts.

Larry Brady, Commissioner 

Equipment Report

- The Lake Management District took possession of the new hydraulic weed trailer-conveyor in December. Due to supply chain issues related to Covid19, the manufacturing and delivery of the completed unit was delayed. This piece of equipment, which replaces an existing unit, will be put into service in the 2022 harvesting season.
- The transport barge and trailer, which had warranty repairs made during the off season, has been returned and is ready for the 2022 harvesting season.
- All weed harvesting equipment will be removed from winter storage and launched by the end of May. (Please note that weed harvesting will not begin in areas that have been chemically treated until two weeks after the application.)

Chuck Chamberlain, Commissioner 

Survey Proposals Team

Last spring the UW Whitewater issued a survey of property owners for the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District (LMD) and the Greater Whitewater Lake Property Owners Association (GWLPOA.) The survey, which offered both multiple choice questions and open-ended responses, had an excellent response rate of property owners in the Lake Management Taxing District.

In July, the LMD and GWLPOA sent the survey results to all available email addressees (it is also online at <http://whitewaterlake.org>) and established a Survey Steering Team under the leadership of Carol Ducommun and Tom Potrykus with a steering team including Mike Lindemuth, from the LMD; Bernie Labovitch, from the GWLPOA; Todd DeMarb; Janet Hersh; Stuart Hersh; and Jeff Panek.

The Steering Team established the following Survey Teams* for study and recommendations: **Boating Safety; Wakes and Shoreline Erosion; Good Neighbors; Government Support and Activities; and Boat and Pier Density.** (*Some of the areas identified in the survey already had working teams, including Lakeshore Management, Fish Management; and Lake Loraine Watershed Diversion.) We then solicited for team members via available emails and presented more than 30 people for various teams at the LMD's annual meeting in late August.

The Survey Teams have worked hard over the past eight months, including having at least one presentation at each of the monthly LMD meetings beginning in December 2021. The teams' recommendations generally fall within one of three categories: **Communication, Enforcement and Ordinances**, with communication of existing rules and regulations being the most common, along with better enforcement of some existing regulations being secondary.

The next steps this spring and summer are to continue discussions about the recommendations of the Survey Teams with the LMD and the GWLPOA, and working with a newly created team to identify better ways to communicate with our lake area residents and visitors. Any recommendations that involve an ordinance would require a lengthier process including adoption by the Whitewater and Richmond Township Boards.

Additional information on the Survey Teams work will be mailed to homeowners in the coming LMD newsletters, as well as emailed to GWLPOA members in their newsletters. If you are not already a GWLPOA member, please consider joining to receive their communications.

You are also invited to email the Survey Steering Team at feedback@whitewaterlake.org with your thoughts.

Carol Ducommun, Team Lead 

Own Your Wake

The Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District and the Greater Whitewater Lake Property Owners Association have begun a campaign to make boaters aware of the problems caused by large boat wakes and to urge boaters to take steps to reduce damaging wakes. If you have a boat that generates large wakes, it is important to understand your rights and responsibilities on the water.

Your Rights	Your Responsibilities
Wake surfing and other wake producing activities should be enjoyed without wakes impacting others' safety, creating damaging wakes, or interfering with others' enjoyment of the lake.	• Be responsible for <i>your</i> wake by observing and monitoring your boat wake - it travels farther and longer than you think
	• Stay in deep water in center of lake
	• Try to maintain a 300-foot operational distance from shore
	• Avoid making turns close to shore to reduce wake height
	• Trim and dump ballast when done surfing or wakeboarding
	• Avoid transition speeds - get boat on plane
	• Be considerate of boaters and property owners <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Keep sessions to reasonable length- Switch parts of lake between riders- Avoid repetitive passes in the same area- Give wide berth to swimmers and small boats; consider stopping surf session to allow them to pass without interference from your wakes- Avoid surfing near sensitive shore areas that may be impacted by large wakes- Use reasonable volume of music

GENERAL

Balancing competing uses of Whitewater Lake waters remains an ongoing challenge. The recent increased popularity in wake surfing and other water sports employing the use of "enhanced wakes" or "ballast boats" has given rise to concerns by lake survey respondents. The 2021 Whitewater and Rice Lake opinion survey identified concerns and issues associated with watercraft wakes and shoreline erosion. Please follow the suggested guidelines to avoid more serious measures.

Wisconsin law states that you are responsible for your safety, the safety of your passengers and crew, and all other users on the lake that your wakes impact. Be respectful of lake property owners! Know the Local and State Laws. You are responsible for your wake - on the water and the shoreline.

PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS! DO NOT LOSE THEM!

Boater Safety Tips

1. Anyone born on or after January 1, 1989 - may operate a motorboat only if they have completed a boating safety course accepted by the WI DNR. For more info: <https://dnr.wi.gov>
2. You need a life jacket on board for each person. Plus, a throwable if your vessel is larger than 16 feet. This includes canoes/kayaks/paddleboards.
3. When pulling a skier/tuber/boarder you need to go counterclockwise. There must also be another competent person to act as an observer (recommended) or the vessel must be equipped with a wide-angle review mirror.
4. No boat towing persons engaged in water skiing, tubing, boarding, aquaplaning or similar activity on any lake shall engage in such activity within 100 feet of any occupied anchored boat, any PWC or marked swimming area or public boat landing.
5. When skiing/tubing/boarding only 2 people may be pulled behind the boat. 2 people on one tube or 2 tubes with 1 person each tube.
6. PWCs are not to exceed slow no wake speeds within 200' of shorelines or within 100' of any other watercraft.
7. Never allow passengers to ride on gunwales or seatbacks or outside of protective railings, including the front of a pontoon boat. A sudden turn, stop or start could cause a fall overboard.
8. Swimming from boats is prohibited unless the boat is anchored, and the swimmers stay within 25 feet of the boat.
9. It is illegal to move, displace, tamper with, damage or destroy any navigational aid (buoys). Most of the buoys are placed at 100 feet from shore.
10. Slow no wake speed means a speed at which a vessel moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steerage control.
11. All channels shall be deemed a slow-no wake area and no boat shall anchor in any channel and no boat shall anchor for a distance of 100 feet in either direction from the tip of the Ridge and the point opposite. NOTE: In 2022 - there will be 4 new Black & White striped channel marker buoys in this channel.
12. On Fridays, Saturdays, Holidays, and the day before a holiday – slow no wake starts at 7:00 PM or sunset, whichever is earlier. On all other days – slow no wake starts at sunset. Every day of the week – slow no wake goes until 9:00 AM.

This is not a complete set of boating laws! Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this pamphlet at the time of its printing. We cannot guarantee the correctness of all information and assume no liability arising from errors and omissions. If you have any questions, contact DNR personnel or your local law enforcement authorities. **ALL STATE OF WI BOATING LAWS APPLY. THE TOWNS OF WHITEWATER AND RICHMOND HAVE ADDITIONAL ORDINANCES SPECIFIC TO THE LAKES.**

Town of Whitewater/Richmond Ordinances specific to Whitewater Lake and Rice Lake.

A complete list of Ordinances can be found online here: <https://ecode360.com/32933978>

Wisconsin DNR Boating Laws Handbook – read the entire handbook online:

<https://dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/le/le0301.pdf>

You can review Wisconsin boating regulations, register your boat, or sign up for a safety class at the Wisconsin DNR website at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/boat/>

From The Boater Safety Team 

Safety Team

A Boaters' Safety Course will again be offered by the District on May 21 & 22 at the Whitewater Lions Clubhouse (located 7462 Kettle Moraine Dr.) from 8 Am till noon both days. Students from 10 years to any age may take the course. Operation of a Motor Boat in Wisconsin (& Illinois) requires the operator or supervising adult to have a Boater's Safety Certificate if they were born after January 1, 1989. The Course is also available at dnr.wi.gov (cost \$25). District class cost is \$10 per student. Information on the course is available from Larry Brady 847-975-6334 / larry@whitewaterlake.org or Deputy Sean Blanton at sblatz03@sbcglobal.net.

There will be additional course dates in June at the Scenic Ridge Campground & Whitewater Township Hall but will depend on demand. Information will be available later this spring on the District's Website.

As the weather warms, let's all think "Safety." Please practice safe boating & show courtesy to your fellow boaters/PWC & skiers. "Safety is **NO** accident."

Important reminder: The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources no longer requires a "competent observer" be present in the boat/PWC if the boat or PWC is engaged in towing person(s) participating in aquatic activity (skiing, tubing, etc.). The water craft must be equipped with a large convex mirror designed to be mounted where the boat/PWC operator can observe person(s) being towed. The placement of the mirror must not interfere with the operator's line of sight. Questions? Please contact the Water Safety Patrol.

Your Board strongly urges you to still have a "competent observer" present for increased safety during towing activities, however.

Larry Brady, Commissioner 