

KUSEL/WILSON/ROUND LAKES DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

November 21, 2012

On November 10, 2012, Paul Zimmer and I attended the fall meeting of the Waushara County Watershed Lakes Council (WCWLC) held at the Waushara County Courthouse in Wautoma, Wisconsin. It was a two and a half hour meeting. The topics addressed were as follows:

1. **BOAT PATROL**

Sheriff Dave Peterson explained that Waushara County has had a boat patrol since 2008. The patrol consists of four trained deputies, who have the use of one boat and one jet ski. The patrol's goal is to ensure a good, but safe, experience on Waushara County's 33 lakes. Some lakes have their own patrols, so the Sheriff does not patrol those lakes. The Boat Patrol concentrates on the heavily used lakes in the central part of the county. But it does not follow a set schedule. Sheriff Peterson said if lake property owners or users have complaints, they should call the Sheriff and the Boat Patrol will try to respond as soon as possible.

2. **WAUSHARA COUNTY LAKE PROJECT**

Nancy Turyk, a scientist from the University of Wisconsin/Stevens Point (UW/SP) and the person in charge of the 2-3-year Waushara County Lake Project, said the Preliminary Reports/Summaries describing the data collected for the 33 Lakes of Waushara County had been completed. These preliminary reports can be reviewed on line at Waushara County's website; (go to Lake Conservation and Zoning; then go to Grants; then go to Reports). By the summer of 2013 Turyk expects to have final reports completed for all Waushara County's lakes. These reports will recommend actions to be taken to preserve and improve the integrity of each lake. UW/SP Center for Watershed Science and Education will be available to help individual lakes implement the study's recommendations. Nancy Turyk can be contacted at nturyk@uwsp.edu and 715-346-4155.

3. **WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE**

Marty Wilke, a commissioner for the Spring Lake Management District, and the newest member of the WCWLC, reported that it appears that Wisconsin Statutes require Lake Districts, not Lake Associations, to have Workers Compensation Insurance (WC Ins.) for its board members, even though they are volunteers, and are not paid. Because Lake District Commissioners are not paid, it would seem that liability insurance should be adequate. But Wilke's investigation determined that Wisconsin Law requires WC Ins., too. Martz Insurance Agency in Wautoma quoted a cost of \$275 per year for a District. Many persons attending the fall meeting suggested Wisconsin Lakes Association talk to Wisconsin Legislators about this law and ask that it be made inapplicable to Lake Districts. The WCWLC is going to write a letter to Wisconsin Lakes Association demanding such action.

4. **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

Also, Marty Wilke reported that she had learned that Wisconsin Law requires that Lake

Districts have a grievance procedure. Wilke had a sample grievance procedure adopted by another Lake District which will be posted on the WCWLC's website.

5. HAND PULLING EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL (EWM)

Many of Waushara County's Lakes have problems with Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), which are non-native aquatic weeds that invade lakes and drive out native aquatic plants. Some of these AIS can devastate the health of lakes. One such AIS is Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). Amy Thorstenson, the Regional AIS Coordinator of the Resource Conservation & Development Counsel Inc. (RDC), explained that in some cases EWM can be removed and eradicated by hand pulling. But such efforts work only with relatively small and sparse infestations. Even then, a large work crew is needed. When EWM is pulled, it is important to get all of the white roots. If any of the roots are left or escape in the water, they will spread and re-propagate. This makes the situation worse, not better. Anyone interested in hand pulling EWM should contact Amy Thorstenson at amy.thorstenson@goldensandsrkd.org or by phone at 715-346-1264, or Kaycie Stushek at kaycie.stushek@goldensandsrkd.org or by phone at 715-343-6278.

Immediately following the WCWLC meeting, Paul Zimmer and I drove to the Springwater Town Hall in Wild Rose for the Fall meeting of the Kusel, Wilson, Round Lakes District (KWR Lakes Dist.) Meeting. The subjects discussed at the meeting were as follows:

1. TRANSFER OF TREASURER'S RECORDS

Paul Zimmer transferred the Treasurer's Records to Dan Mingus from Round Lake, who was elected Treasurer at KWR Lakes District's Annual Meeting on June 2, 2012. Paul has been acting as both Board President and Treasurer for more than three years. His service in these dual capacities is greatly appreciated.

2. USE OF KWR LAKES DISTRICT'S WEBSITE

The KWR Lakes District has had a website for more than two years. It is www.kwr-lakes.com. The Board wants to use this website more. To do so, it needs the email addresses of all property owners in the District, so information, such as this newsletter, can be delivered to the District's members. The Board has the email addresses for some of the District's property owners, but it needs help obtaining the many more email addresses it does not have. So, if you receive this newsletter, then please ask your neighbors to provide the Board with their email addresses. They can send them to any of the Board Members. The Board Members email addresses are:

– Paul Zimmer: ps9@sbcglobal.net
– Jim Buck: jbuck@ksbwl.com
– Dan Mingus: dan@dpi-osh.com

3. LAKE TREATMENTS

a. KUSEL LAKE

Brad Roost of Cason & Associates surveyed Kusel Lake on October 24, 2012. Ken

Nelson and Robert Bahling accompanied Roost. They were looking for AIS. They found EWM in a number of locations around the lake. Roost estimated the total to be about five (5) acres, which is more than one and a half (1.5) acres found last year. Roost said, "Some areas were much more dense or larger in size than what we have seen in recent years. This is likely due to the warm summer and early spring. We have seen increased plant (EWM) growth in a number of lakes this year. I suspect with a spring treatment in 2013, things will get back to more normal conditions (i.e., 2-3 acres per year.) I estimate the cost will be approximately \$6,750.00, which includes setup, materials, and labor; it does not include obtaining the DNR permit and notifying riparian landowners contiguous to the treated areas."

b. **WILSON LAKE**

Wilson Lake did not treat for AIS in 2012. Therefore, Zimmer reduced the assessment to \$85 per riparian landowner from \$150 per landowner.

c. **ROUND LAKE**

Round Lake did not treat for AIS in 2012.

4. **DREDGING THE WILSON LAKE**

Zimmer reported that there is an obstruction between the east and west basins of Wilson Lake, which is getting worse. Zimmer believes dredging may be needed to correct this situation. Zimmer intends to contact a reputable dredging company and obtain a quote for such work. This issue will be presented at the KWR Lakes District Annual Meeting on June 1, 2013. Such dredging will require a permit from the Wisconsin DNR.

Jeremy Gaboury, who owns land on Kusel Lake asked whether an opening through the center of the sand bar on Kusel Lake could be dredged out. During dry summers, like 2012, water levels fall and getting a boat over or around the sand bar is difficult. Zimmer will ask the dredging company he contacts about the cost of such dredging

5. **BUOYS ON WILSON LAKE**

Zimmer said some riparian landowners have complained about the buoys in the east basin that indicate a "Slow-No Wake" area. Apparently, these buoys/markers have allowed a buildup of sediment that allows people to stand in these areas and create dangerous conditions for boaters using the same areas. Removal of these markers might reduce sediment buildups and eliminate the dangerous condition that exists now.

6. **UNIFORMITY OF ASSESSMENTS**

There was discussion about how the three lakes make assessments. Do all three lakes have to do so exactly the same, or can each lake make assessments as its representatives deem appropriate? This issue will have to be discussed further.

7. **NEXT MEETINGS**

a. **SPRING 2013**

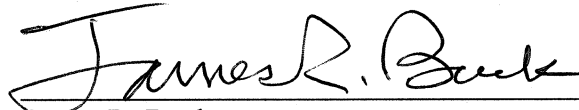
The KWR Lakes District Board will meet in March or April 2013. The Board will

notify District members of the exact date.

b. ANNUAL MEETING FOR 2013

The KWR Lakes District will hold its Annual Meeting on June 1, 2013 at 8:30 A.M.
at the Springwater Town Hall.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James R. Buck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "B".

James R. Buck

Secretary of KWR Lakes District

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