

Safety Committee

The Lake Board will again offer a Boater's Safety Class at the Whitewater Town Hall on May 16th thru 17th. The hours of the class instruction are 8 AM thru 12 Noon.

Students 16 & over will be given an operators safety certificate upon successful completion of the course. Students, under 16 years of age that successfully complete the course, will receive a certificate when they reach 16 years of age.

In order to register for the course, please go on line to dnr.wi.gov. You will need a DNR number (unless you have one from a previous course). You may register for the course there or you can call 888-936-7463.

If you were born after January 1, 1989, you must have a boater's safety certificate to operate a power boat or PWC regardless if you are a Wisconsin resident or not. Operation without a certificate by a person of this age group is a ticket able offense. A valid certificate from another state is also acceptable.

Questions?? Call Larry Brady 847-975-6334 or Deputy Sean Blanton at 262-949-3092.

Larry Brady 



Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District

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

www.whitewaterlake.org • www.gwlpoa.org



Message From The Chairman


Spring has come a little sooner this year than last and that means most of us are anxious to get out on the water. We wish there were no weeds this year except as needed to maintain fish populations, but just in case, we have acquired our first new piece of equipment in many years. You gave us more money for treatment and we are working with the DNR to target the worst weeds.

We have two Board members up for reelection this year. If you wish to run, please send a resume to rich@whitewaterlake.org by June 15 to give proper notice in the Summer newsletter.

After 10 years, the website has been rebuilt. Thanks go to Lillian Roy, Rich Charts and Brian Madl from Whitewater Wideband. If you find a bad, missing or incorrect link, let us know. You can also find many of us schmoozing on the Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/Whitewaterlake thanks to Robert Sivek.

Lillian Roy with the Safety Team has compiled an insert of lake rules in this newsletter that you can post in your house for guests. Lillian and Larry also remind us to make sure we and our landscapers use **Non-Phosphorous** fertilizers to keep lake weed growth down.

There is no shortage of things to do at the lake. The GWLPOA, Minneiska Ski Club, Lions Club and JNT all have great and plentiful activities planned for the lake this season. Have fun, be safe and be courteous to your neighbors on and off the lake.

Rich Charts – Chairman 

Fish Stocking Report

The Lion's Club winter Fish-R-ee produced some nice sized fish, including a 19 1/2 inch walleye...most likely one of the first we stocked.

DNR fish stocking plans still include 6,200 6-8 inch walleyes for WWL ,and for Rice lake....1,370 small, fingerling Northern Pike (Spring stocking should yield 6 inch fish by Fall).

Based on the WWL Fall DNR fish survey, the DNR reaffirms our overall plan to stock large predator fish (pike and walleye) is having a positive effect on our panfish population..."the Panfish are fewer in number, but bigger." On the DNR discussion table are plans changing legal size to 18" in lakes like WW.... which it is our interest to support. If approved, the new size limit would take effect 2015 or 2016.

Last two years on Rice Lake:

- crappies much better, up to 10 inches. 50% caught are keepers
- bluegills bigger. 50% keepers, some 8 inchers
- Northern Pike showing up.
- bass population down, bass fishermen are keeping the fish

Due to extensive DNR stocking plans.... stocking dollars might be used to remove carp this year. The fish stocking budget could be used for carp removal *if commercial netters are available.*

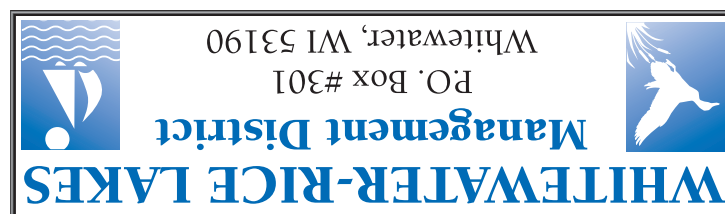
Tom Potrykus 

Boat Launch Ordinance

In order to be in compliance with the DNR recommendation of charging boat launch fees at all public boat launch sites, the Town of Whitewater has approved a Boating Ordinance (supported by the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District) that will permit the installation of Self-Pay Boat Launch Fee Collection Boxes at the three public launch sites on Whitewater Lake: Cruse Lane, RW Townline Road/Chapel Drive, and RW Townline Road/Krahn Drive. Launch fees will be required for non-resident users of the lake.

This ordinance will not impact any resident/property owner(s) who reside in the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District boundaries. More detailed information will be forthcoming in future newsletters.

Chuck Chamberlain 



Chemical Treatment

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 were notified in February that we were not awarded the Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant.

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 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:

Whitewater-Rice Lake Management District Notice

The Whitewater-Rice Lake Management District intends to chemically treat specific areas of shoreline on Whitewater Lake and Rice Lake with aquatic herbicides to control exotic weed species (Eurasian Water Milfoil and Curly-leaf Pondweed).

Up to 175 acres of Whitewater Lake and 25 acres of Rice Lake may be involved. Treatment will take place between April 22nd and October 15th, 2015.

Within 5 days of this notice following procedures set forth in the Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 107.04, five or more individuals, organizations or units of government may request a public informational meeting. The request must specify the topics to be discussed at the meeting, including problems and alternatives, and must be sent in writing to Whitewater-Rice Lake Management District, P.O. Box 301, Whitewater, WI 53190 and copied to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, c/o Heidi Bunk, 141 NW Barstow St. Rm 180, Waukesha, WI 53185.

Weed Committee Report

With the melting ice & warming temperatures, comes the uncertainty of what will be the outlook for weed growth in the various areas of the lake. 2014 brought almost no weeds in early May followed by an almost non-stoppable weed growth in early June in the South lobe. Reports of weed growth just below the ice layer don't add to optimism that 2015 will be any different.

As noted in the Chemical Report, the Board has taken steps to increase funding for weed control & the Harvesting Budget has been increased as well to help control the growth of Invasive weeds.

While the Board asks you to be patient with this issue, they also ask you to assist in this effort as well.

- 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 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.

Larry Brady – Commissioner

Equipment Report

- Our current weed harvesting equipment is being removed from winter storage and is being prepared for the upcoming Spring-Summer harvesting season.
- The new Aquatic Transport Barge is presently in production and will be delivered for service to Whitewater Lake sometime in early June, 2015.

Chuck Chamberlain

Summary of 2014 Financial Results:

2014 finished the year with an operating deficit of \$11,969, which came in higher than the estimate of \$9,497 presented at the August meeting. Total 2014 revenues were \$229,127 that includes receipts of \$30,000 for the Capital Fund and expenditures of \$241,096 that includes \$30,000 for the capital contribution. The leading cause of the operating deficit was weed harvesting expenses related to extensive and persistent weed growth in the south end of the lake, as well as, increased equipment maintenance expenses.

At the District's annual meeting in August, following the concerns raised on the operating budget's ability to manage the weed control through harvesting and chemical treatment activities, the 2015 harvesting and chemical budgets were increased by \$17,900, or 41% and \$64,000, or 104% respectively.

The Capital Fund ended the year with a cash balance of \$70,793, and included cash receipts of \$30,000 and expenditures of \$25,691. Expenses consisted of a deposit for the new transport \$23,925 (\$55,825 net of the DNR grant of \$31,900) and belting replacement of \$1,746 for the harvesters.

Brad Corson

2015 Canada Geese Report

We have had a very cold winter on Whitewater/Rice Lakes this year. It has caused many, but not all of our Resident Canada Geese to migrate down south to the warmer weather. Our Resident Geese have a very good built in GPS System. They will be back and we will be up to the Challenge.

Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management Board has again passed a motion to continue to control the Canada Geese population on our lakes in 2015 utilizing our Canada Goose 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 2½ 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). 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!



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



WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

P.O. Box 301
Whitewater, WI 53190



Letter from:

Town of Whitewater
Town of Richmond
Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District

To: Residents and Users of Whitewater-Rice Lakes

One of our commitments to you is to maintain the safety and enjoyment of these lakes. A team of lake residents and organizations and our safety officer meet to discuss what could be done to make these lakes safer and more family oriented. An overwhelming recommendation was to make lake users more aware of the state, and township ordinances governing lake use.

The Greater Whitewater Lake Property Owners Association web site links all the relevant state DNR and local ordinances at (http://whitewaterlake.org/?page_id=384.)

A safety packet is being distributed to all realtors, campgrounds and commercial vendors serving these lakes.

We are publishing the Towns' ordinances in the Spring newsletter of lake management and we are asking you to share this information with all your guests and fellow lake users.

The Town of Whitewater Boating Ordinances:

NOTE: The signs posted at the boat launches are accurate.

"In addition to adopting all state boating laws, the Town of Whitewater ordinance provides for:

"TRAFFIC LANES" and "SLOW NO WAKE": A traffic lane is hereby established embracing the surface of Whitewater Lake in its entirety, excepting therefrom that portion of the waters thereof lying between the shoreline and a line parallel to and 150 feet distant from the shoreline. This exception is designated a slow-no-wake area. 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 a line between the tip of the Moraine Heights peninsula and the point opposite.

No pier shall extend further into the lake from the shoreline than 50 feet, no raft shall be anchored or moored where it extends into a traffic lane, no private buoy shall be located in a traffic lane, and no boat shall be moored where it can drift into a traffic lane.

SPEED RESTRICTIONS: All boats shall operate at a slow-no-wake speed from 7:00 p.m. or sunset, whichever is earlier, on Friday, Saturday, and holidays, to 9:00 a.m. the following day. All other days, water skiing and boat wakes will be permitted from 9:00 a.m. until sunset. The maximum speed outside the traffic lane shall be slow-no-wake at all times every day of the week.

WATER SKIING: No person shall operate a motor boat towing a person on water skis, aquaplane or similar device unless there is in the boat a competent person in addition to the operator in a position to observe the progress of the person being towed. An observer shall be considered competent if he can in fact observe the person being towed and can relay any signals to the operator.

- Persons operating a boat with skiers or any other water sport must operate in a counterclockwise pattern on both lakes and inlet and outlet in the traffic lane.

- No person shall operate a boat for the purpose of towing a water skier or engage in water skiing except between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. or sunset, whichever is earlier, Friday, Saturday, and holidays. Water skiing and boat wakes are permitted Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to sunset except if one of these days would be a legal holiday.

- No boat towing persons engaged in water skiing, aquaplaning or similar activity on any lake shall engage in such activity within 100 feet of any occupied anchored boat or marked swimming area or public boat landing except where pickup and drop area are established and marked with regulatory markers.

- There shall be no more than 2 tow lines and only 2 persons using said tow lines as a means of water skiing or similar sport: the persons being towed must be equipped with a life jacket, life belt or similar lifesaving device. No tow line shall exceed 75 feet in length.

LIFTING INTO THE AIR FROM THE WATER BY BOAT: No water skier behind any boat will be permitted to be lifted into the air by any means including parasailing, hang gliding or other means, whether the tow remains in place or not, after the skier is aloft.

SWIMMING: Swimming from boats is prohibited unless the boat is anchored and the swimmers stay within 25 feet of the boat. Anchored boats with swimmers must have U.S. Coast approved flotation devices. No person shall swim more than 150 feet from the shore nor shall any person do any distance swimming unless accompanied by a boat containing a ring buoy or an approved life jacket or similar flotation device and person trained in life saving techniques. Each person swimming must be accompanied by a person trained in life saving techniques and boat with U.S. Coast Guard approved flotation devices. No person shall swim in a traffic lane between sunset and sunrise.

ACCESSES: The general public may use the boat accesses for launching fishing boats, boating and recreational equipment to the lake. No parking on the boat accesses or the road by the accesses. No use of the lake access that is in violation of state, federal or county statutes shall be permitted.

SPECIAL USE OF BOAT ACCESSES: Permission from the Town of Whitewater Board is necessary for use of the boat accesses by research groups, weed harvesting and chemical treatment operators, sea wall construction operators and heavy equipment operators. The discussion will be on the second Wednesday of the month at the monthly Town Board meeting. Please call at least 3 business days in advance to get on the agenda.

BOAT OPERATOR AGE RESTRICTIONS:

- No one may operate a motorized boat under the age of 10.
- A person 10 or 11 years old may operate a motorboat only if accompanied by a parent, a guardian, or a person at least 18 years old who is designated by the parent or guardian.
- A person who is 12-15 years old may operate a motorized boat only if 1) they are accompanied by a parent, guardian or a person at least 18 years old who is designated by the parent or guardian or 2) they have completed a boating safety course that is accepted by the Wisconsin DNR.
- A person born on or after 1/1/1989 and over 16 years old may operate a motorboat only if he or she has completed a boating safety course that is accepted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

AIRCRAFT PROHIBITED: It is hereby prohibited for any aircraft to land upon the surface of the lakes. The surface shall include ice as well as water.

MOORING OF BOATS: No person, firm or corporation shall dock or moor any boat on the waters or along the shores of the lakes for the purpose of living, sleeping or camping overnight.

PERMITS: No person or corporation shall organize or participate in any event or display upon the surface of the lakes without first obtaining a permit for such activity from the Whitewater Town Board at their regular monthly meeting the second Wednesday of the month. Please call at least 3 business days in advance to get on the agenda. During any event of display it is unlawful to anchor any boat within the designated area for the organized event or to in any way interfere with the event participants.

ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC RULES: Mooring lights are required. No person shall moor or anchor any boat, raft, buoy or other floating object, or permit it to drift into a "traffic lane." This applies between sunset and sunrise unless there is prominently displayed thereon a white light of sufficient size and brightness to be visible from any direction (360 degrees) for a distance of 1 mile on a dark night with clear atmosphere.

FISHING; State fishing laws and administrative codes are enforced by the Department of Natural Resources. Fishing licenses, both resident and non-resident and copies of the fishing regulations are available at nearby marinas, bait shops and sporting goods stores. <http://townofwhitewater.org/ordinances.html>

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/>."