

DISTRICT DIALOGUE

Volume 18, Number 1

August, 2008

Dear Fellow Lauderdale Lakes Homeowner:

This issue of the District Dialogue focuses on our upcoming annual meeting and budget hearing. As in past years we will meet at Lutherdale Bible Camp, Saturday August 30, on Labor Day weekend. Please attend to learn more about the various activities managed by your Lake District, plans for the future and exercise your right to vote.

This year Nestor Dyhdalo and Wally Yandel are up for reelection. They are running unopposed for another term. I have had the privilege of working with them for several years and they are an important part of a great team.

This year has been busy for the District, managing the normal projects, while dealing with all-time record rain fall in June and challenges with resident geese. More on these topics follow in this newsletter.

Our proposed 2009 budget is presented in this newsletter. I am pleased to report that the board worked hard to control expenses while executing the programs you have come to rely upon. Our proposed 2009 budget has a decrease of -22.8% over this year and a 4.6% increase over the previous year, 2007.

Although Labor Day is right around the corner many great days on the water remain. Enjoy & boat safely.

Scott Mason, District Chairman

ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING

LUTHERDALE CHAPEL, N7891 HWY. 12

AUGUST 30, 2008

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9:30 AM

MEETING BEGINS AT 10:00 AM

BUDGET HEARING & AGENDA

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of 2007 minutes
3. Election of Commissioners
4. Treasurer's report
5. Water safety patrol report
6. Golf course report
7. Environmental Projects
8. Outflow Dam report
9. Septic pumping report
10. Weed harvesting report
11. Amendments
12. Approval of 2009 budget and tax levy
13. Other business for discussion

CLEAR LAKE FERTILIZER

We stock Clear Lake Fertilizer with weed killer as well as regular fertilizer. This fertilizer contains no phosphorous which is the leading contributor to algae blooms and weed growth in our lakes. Furthermore, using this product complies with the Town ordinance, prohibiting the use of any fertilizer containing phosphorous.

COMMISSIONER NOMINATION

Two positions on the Lake District Board are up for re-election this year. Incumbents Nestor Dyhdalo and Wally Yandel submitted nomination forms by the deadline. They will appear on the Commissioner ballots as unopposed.

GOLF COURSE UPDATE

Chris White has continued to do an excellent job as our General Manager. Although this has not been a record year, rounds and revenue are within budget and fairly average compared to the last two years.

Also a special congratulations to Chris & Andi White on the birth of their daughter, Genevieve, in May.

VOTING AT THE ANNUAL MEETING AND BUDGET HEARING

Scott Mason

In 2004, the Wisconsin State Legislature changed the laws governing lake districts. One of the more significant changes eliminates the provision for absentee voting. Anyone wishing to vote must be present.

Registration for the Annual meeting and Budget Hearing will begin at 9:30 AM. All Lake District residents and property owners are considered eligible electors, subject to Lake District By-Laws as listed below. We will use Walworth County tax rolls and LaGrange/Sugar Creek voter registration lists to check in electors and distribute ballots.

Article I - ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT

Section 1 - RESIDENTS: Every resident of the District who is registered or eligible to vote in general elections shall be an eligible elector of the District. § 33.30(2).

Section 2 - NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY OWNERS: The voting rights of non-resident property owners shall be interpreted consistent with the election laws of the State of Wisconsin and Chapter 33. Presumptively, every person whose name appears on the District assessment role prepared for purposes of real property taxation or who has provided proof of title to real property in the District, and who is a U.S. citizen 18 years of age or older, shall be an eligible elector of the District and may vote in accordance with Article II Section 2. § 33.30(2). Any corporation, partnership, or association that owns real property in the District may appoint an official representative who shall be an eligible elector of the District. A non-resident spouse of a property owner may vote as an owner of property under Wisconsin's Community Marital Property Laws. Similarly, if property is held in trust or some other entity in which a married couple has a beneficial ownership interest, they both shall have the right to vote.

Article II - VOTING

Section 1 - MULTIPLE VOTING: Any elector may cast only one vote on any question called to a vote.

Section 2 - CASTING BALLOTS: Votes for the office

of Commissioner must be cast in-person only. To participate in all votes, an elector must be present at the meeting at the time the vote is called. No elector may vote by proxy or referendum. All votes shall be counted by a show of hands, unless otherwise specified by State Statute or Lake District By-Laws.

WATER SAFETY PATROL

Nestor Dyhdalo

We have continued working with the Town of LaGrange in operating a single Water Patrol on Lauderdale Lakes this year as well as patrolling Pleasant Lake. The single patrol has saved money and operates with greater efficiency. Unlike last year, our equipment has been performing flawlessly this year.

We were fortunate to have the same team of officers with us this year and many of these officers have been on our lakes for over 5 years, some over 10 years. We recently hired an additional new officer, bringing our current roster of officers to 15. With the completion of some formal training, all of our officers are now certified law enforcement officers in the State of Wisconsin.

Based upon your feedback at last year's annual meeting and the feedback of other residents, the Town of LaGrange has enacted local ordinances which change the speed limit on our lakes. The night-time speed limit is now 10 mph everyday (down from 15 mph); there is also an upper speed limit of 50 mph (previously there was no speed limit) on weekends and holidays. Water skiing is now permitted from sunrise to sunset except on weekends and holidays when the hours for water skiing commence at 9:00 am. Lastly, there is a new ordinance

which establishes one-way counter-clockwise traffic between the bog on Don Jean Bay and the shoreline, on weekends and holidays (from Memorial Day through Labor Day).

We hope you all are having an enjoyable boating season and be sure to give our patrol a big wave the next time you see them patrolling our lakes. The non-emergency contact number to the Water Patrol is 262/742-4300

REQUESTS FROM PEBBLE BEACH RESIDENTS

Nestor Dyhdalo

Like many other lake homeowners, the Pebble Beach property owners came to Lauderdale Lakes to enjoy the many recreational activities that our lakes have to offer. With the increased development around our lakes and the boats that have come with it, there are more and more boats anchoring off the sand bar off of the Pebble Beach area.

While the lakes are here for all of us to share and enjoy, there are several requests that the Pebble Beach residents would like to highlight for those boaters anchoring off of their shores as these issues are quickly becoming a problem. Many boaters bring their dogs along but please keep your dogs, as wonderful as they are, off of Pebble Beach property. If you're going to be there for an extended period, perhaps 'man's best friend' is best left at home. Also be aware of where you anchor your boat and the placement of other 'toys' so as not to block access to/from the docks for Pebble Beach boaters. Lastly, be aware that you are anchored close to various home sites so that as the day wears on please keep the music volume and other noise down.

With a little help and cooperation, the lakes can be a

great place for all of us to spend quality recreation time. Please extend our neighbors at Pebble Beach the same courteous behavior you would expect in front of your own lake home.

WEED HARVESTING

Peter Van Kampen

This has been the strangest year for weed harvesting since I have been involved. We are not finding as many weeds as in past years. As you know we have had lots of rain and the lakes continue to rise for several days after a rain event because most of the water comes from the springs. This "Flush" of 45-50 degree water over several weeks has given us the clearest summer water we have seen in years.

In a normal year (for the past 20 years) we get an algae bloom of suspended algae that drops the visibility dramatically in a 48 hour period. This usually occurs around the same time the carp spawn, the first week of June or when water temperatures reach around 70-72 degrees. Any scuba diving after the first week of June must be in the shallower water, above 25ft or the visibility goes to zero. During the last week of June we dove to the deepest part of Green Lake (55ft) and had 10 ft of visibility. Normally, it would be absolutely black down there this time of year.

I don't know if this has to do with fewer phosphates in the water due to the fertilizer ban on phosphorus, or the Zebra mussels, or the excessive spring rain and subsequent flow of very cold water into the lakes, but the lake was as clear in July as it was in the 1960's. Another abnormality is that the Eurasian Millfoil (EMF) is not growing as fast. We normally take 400 tons of plants out of the lakes each year. At the end of June we have taken out only 73 tons. We actually shut down the harvesting for a week this month and will see what happens as the

water continues to warm. Maybe the heavy ice and snow cover retarded the growth and it will rebound later this summer, we shall see. One more point, the Chara is going crazy. Chara (pronounced cara) is a plant that grows like a mat over the bottom of the lake. If you have ever handled it, it feels very coarse like a Brillow pad. We have it in many places in the lakes and this year it is growing fast and very thick. I understand it likes the cooler water and it's getting plenty of sun through the clear water. There are areas of the lakes that have so much chara that it seems to be blocking the growth of the EMF. We have been able to skip cutting large areas of the lakes because all that is there is the chara. This could be a major reason we are not getting normal weed tonnage.

On July 11th the water hit 79 degrees and we had our first algae bloom. It continued to bloom through the following week and we are losing some clarity.

We are working with the South Eastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) to do some water sampling in each lake to determine if there is a variation in the chemistry. We will have more to report at the annual meeting.

SEWRPC is also conducting their periodic survey of Lauderdale Lakes including plant sampling in many locations throughout the Lakes, as well as boat counts and water quality analyses. In order to conduct the plant survey we needed volunteers with pontoon boats to take the team out on the Lakes. The survey was conducted during the first two weeks of July and it went very well. We would like to thank the following volunteers for their help. Ken Ingle, Bonnie Speer, Bruce Bauman, Skip Cartland, Don Henderson, Justin Jankowski, Thom Beck, Christian Zenger, Wally Yandel and Des Johnson. Results of this survey will be published when all the work is completed some time in 2009.

LAKE DISTRICT WEBSITE

WWW.LLLMD.ORG

Nestor Dyhdalo

Our website got a work-out this past year as we provided daily postings on the status of the Slow-No-Wake restrictions. We are now also posting the locations of the weed harvester on a week-to-week basis. The website includes descriptions of the various programs that the Lake District supports as well as minutes of our board meetings as they become available. The 2007 annual meeting minutes, which will be considered for approval, are on the website. You can send an email message to the Lake District Board or provide feedback on the website by addressing your email to: info@lllmd.org.

SEPTIC PUMPING

Wally Yandel

The septic pumping program is working well with a three year pumping cycle. If you receive an orange card from the County, forward it to the lake District's septic pumper, Otto Jacobs Company. They will complete the card verifying that your property has been pumped and will return it for you to the County. This process fulfills your obligation for compliance with the County's ordinance requiring a pump every three years.

GEESE CONTROL

Scott Mason

At a previous annual meeting, I presented a program to manage the geese population on our lakes. The residents voted to support funding this program and we began implementation in 2007. The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Fish & Wildlife Services.

In 2007 we harvested about a dozen adult birds. These birds were tested to determine if they were fit for human consumption. With the successful completion of that phase, a larger harvest was conducted in 2008.

This program does not target the migratory geese which fly through our area in the spring and fall, remaining for a short time. Instead, we target the non-migratory population which has adapted to our climate and stays at Lauderdale all year. The harvesting will likely continue for several years until a more balanced goose population is achieved.

On June 17 we had a very successful goose collection day. A special thanks to Peter Van Kampen for accompanying the USDA staff. We collected as follows:

30 in Don Jean Bay west of the community piers, 20 near Baywood Drive, 39 at Cool Hill Park, 2 at the Landings, 15 west of the Green Lake boat launch, 28 on Deacon Island (same group that hangs around Jansky island, I believe). These were spotted by the weed harvesting crew after we took the USDA boat out of the water and were heading home. We re-launched and were able to collect these additional birds.

A total of 134 birds were collected this year. We missed

about nine who still could fly.

Once the geese are spotted and coaxed on to shore, it takes just a few minutes to corral them. As the geese stay in one group, each USDA warden carries an 8 ft piece of fence and closes in slowly until the geese are all fenced in. One by one the fence sections are removed resulting in a smaller and smaller enclosure. In a very short time the enclosure becomes a triangle of three sections and a section on top. Any fliers that fly over the fence are let go. As mentioned earlier, we lost nine adults that still had enough feathers to fly away.

Now we need a plan to chase away, perhaps with model airplanes, the migrant birds before the ice seals the lake. If you fly model airplanes, we could use your help.

OUTFLOW DAM & CULVERTS

We have been working with an engineering firm since the 2007 annual meeting. We have analyzed a lot of data and will be prepared at the annual meeting to give you all the details. We finally were able to find a company to do a video of the inside of the culverts. We found that we had up to 4" of zebra mussels and other debris. It also took several months to find a company that would clean completely submerged culverts. They came all the way from the city of Chicago to do the work. Using a 2000 psi system they were able to effectively clean the culverts. This is the first time they have been cleaned this thoroughly since the infestation of zebra mussels in the Lakes. However even after this cleaning and a subsequent heavy rainfall, the difference between the Lake level and the pond level showed that the culverts are still not keeping up. We will be presenting the results of the study and have a detailed plan of action along with design details at the LLLMD annual meeting.

PROPOSED 2009 BUDGET & TAX LEVY			
ITEM	2008 BUDGET	2009 BUDGET	% CHANGE
WEED HARVESTING	49,000	45,000	-8.16%
WATER SAFETY PATROL	45,300	49,260	8.74%
DAM MAINTENANCE	2,000	2,000	0.00%
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES	14,500	14,500	0.00%
COMMUNICATIONS	7,500	7,500	0.00%
INSURANCE	12,000	12,000	0.00%
LEGAL	5,000	7,500	50.00%
SEPTIC PUMPING ADMIN	100	100	0.00%
EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT	500	500	0.00%
LAKEVIEW PROPERTY	13,866	13,866	0.00%
WETLANDS PROPERTY	13,700	0	-100.00%
CERTIFIED AUDIT	2,500	2,500	0.00%
MISCELLANEOUS	4,500	4,500	0.00%
GENERAL RESERVE	10,000	10,000	0.00%
CULVERTS PROJECT	90,000	10,000	-88.89%
CODE ENFORCEMENT	0	10,000	
GOLF COURSE	85,000	85,000	0.00%
TOTAL TAX LEVY	355,466	274,266	-22.85%

LAKE DISTRICT CONTACTS

LL Lake Management District
N7498 Country Club Dr.
Elkhorn WI 53121
(262) 642-1690

Scott Mason, Chairman	642-1690
Nestor Dyhdalo, Treasurer	742-4066
Water Safety Patrol	(847) 729-3554
Data Base	
Wally Yandel	495-8596
Septic	
Jack Sorenson, Secretary	742-3161
Outflow Dam	(847) 498-4613
Insurance	
Peter Van Kampen	742-2567
Weed Harvesting	
Dorothy Burwell	728-6085
(Walworth County)	
Rick Callaway	374-2387
(Town of LaGrange)	
Water Safety Patrol	742-4300
Weed Harvesting Cell Phone	215-2442
Lauderdale Lakes Country Club	742-2454