



George Lake Newsletter

Issue No15
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Annual Meeting

Your Lake District Annual meeting will take place on **Friday, Aug 23th** at 7pm, at the Bristol Village Hall.

IT'S YOUR LAKE

We have a beautiful natural resource in George Lake. Participate in the Lake District, come to the meetings and express your opinions. Help protect it for all of our uses and future generations.

State Lake Conference

The Wisconsin Lakes Convention will be held in Green Bay, in April of 2014. Money is provided in the budget to send two individuals. If you are interested, call Jeff Coultrip at 857-2834.

Purple Loosestrife

Bev Chudy and Charlotte Schroeder, along with students and staff at Hillcrest High School, in Kenosha worked many long hours raising beetles again this past winter and spring to place out near stands of Loosestrife. The beetles have now left their pails and are feasting on the host plants in their surroundings. The project starts in May of each year and additional volunteers are welcomed. If you would be willing to help, contact either of the ladies. This invasive weed continues to be around our lake and I have noticed some in front of homes along the

shoreline. Please check your water frontage. The recommended procedure for dealing with it is to put a plastic bag over the flowers, cut them off and treat the stems with weed killer. One plant can produce thousands of seeds. The plastic bag keeps the seeds from spreading. Please be careful with the weed killer around the water. Thanks ladies.

Beaches

We seem to be having a problem of children playing near and hanging on to the buoys that have been placed at the beaches for your safety. When they are submerged, they fill with water and sink. Please supervise your children. Fresh sand has again been delivered to each of the beaches this summer. When you use the beaches-please pick up any litter and place it in the garbage cans.

Geese

This year's budget included funds for a geese roundup on the lake. It appears that the high water of this spring destroyed the nests and therefore we have no geese residing on the lake this summer. Please do not feed wildlife as it attracts them and keeps them "happy", at George Lake.

Boat Safety

Most boaters have complied with the no wake hours posted for our lake. Please limit your wakes, skiing, and tubing to the hours of **noon to 6pm**. Also remember that a spotter is required at all times during skiing and tubing and that boats must travel in a counter-clockwise direction. Please make sure your

guests are aware of these rules. Also, parking is not allowed on the North side of the road at the boat launch area. The roadway becomes too narrow with cars and trucks parked on both sides and emergence vehicles cannot pass. It is now a tow-a-way zone.

Weeds

While the lake will never be without weeds, and that is good, as they are necessary for a quality fishery and water health, we do our best to keep them under control and out of the nuisance category. Our vendor treated the lake in May of this year for Eurasian Water Milfoil. We do have a great amount of Chara, an algae like weed that grows on the bottom in shallow water. It is a beneficial weed that tends to clear the water. We are unable to cut it with the harvester as it is damaging to and clogs the cutting edges. If you want to remove Chara from your lakefront, it will have to be raked up. We are attempting to pick up weeds from docks and piers each Friday.

WATER QUALITY

The water at our two beaches has been tested twice this year by Bob Chudy. The first test, in early June showed a negligible concentration of e-coli contamination at both of our beaches and a second test in early Aug. showed very low levels of e-coli. We have seen very few geese and seagulls on the lake this year. Could this be the reason for the low e-coli readings? Thank you Bob Chudy.

Algae

Hot summer days on the lake! Many of us share common memories of

good times on the water. Unfortunately, smelly, soupy algae blooms are also a common occurrence on many of our developed lakes, and can make boating and swimming unpleasant. True algae are a vital part of the food chain. Algae acts like other plants and converts sunlight into energy, forming the base of the lake's food chain. Algae are eaten by zooplankton, which are in turn eaten by small fish, then larger fish and eventually the larger fish are eaten by birds, shore land animals and people. Algae acts like other plants and converts sunlight into energy, forming the base of the lake's food chain. Algae blooms tend to occur when there is a lot of sunlight, nutrients like phosphorus are plentiful, the temperature is warm, the water is shallow, and there is little wind. Although unsightly and unpleasant, most algae blooms present no health risks. Wisconsin Association of Lakes is working toward several statewide policies—including shore land zoning, and better manure management methods—to curb the amount of nutrients entering our lakes. The state of Wisconsin has also recently passed a law outlawing phosphorus in lawn fertilizers.

Boat Parking

You may have noticed a new operation at the boat ramp on the South shore of the lake. A stand containing parking passes is located there with directions as to how to obtain a daily pass priced at \$5.00 per day. Annual passes are available free from the Bristol Village Hall, to residents of the Lake District.

The Bristol website is now:

villageofbristol.org

**There is a link there under:
Departments to George Lake
information.**