



PLEASANT LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 230, COLOMA, WISCONSIN 54930

May 2010

The ice is out, the lake level is holding, trees are in bud – spring is here and summer is on its way. Dick Meyer reported at the April PLMD Board meeting that ice out occurred on March 29th and that the lake water level had come up ½ inch from the level recorded August, 2009.

Eurasian Water-milfoil Update

The Eurasian Water-milfoil plant population in Pleasant Lake has taken another jump, in the wrong direction. On April 26th the Onterra, LLC crew completed the 2010 EWM pre-treatment survey and determined our population of EWM plants has climbed to 14.4 acres, see the EWM Treatment area map on the center page of this newsletter. The good news is that the EWM spread is in the areas that were identified last September and will be easy to add to our 2010 treatment plan. The large EWM beds in the north east bay and those along the western shoreline were treated with *Navigate* May 4th by Schmidt's Aquatic Plant Control out of Iola. Multiple single plants have been found on the south and eastern shore, but none of them are in a high enough concentration to warrant *Navigate* treatment. *Navigate* is the herbicide approved by the Wisconsin DNR for application in Wisconsin waters to kill EWM. For detailed information on *Navigate* see http://www.sccd.org/water/documents/navigate_label.pdf.

The cost of this project is not small, \$640.00 per acre. The PLMD Board let bids for the project in March and selected Schmidt's Aquatic Plant Control to do the work. Cliff Schmidt was the lowest bidder and he has a superb reputation for quality work.

To financially support this project the PLMD Board applied for and was awarded a Wisconsin Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant. We have been awarded \$20,000.00 to use in our EWM control work over the next three years; the PLMD contribution to the AIS project is \$6,888.00, bringing the project total to \$26,888.00. Our share may be in the form of volunteer labor or cash. We will need both. Moreover, unless we get very lucky this summer and next we will run out of grant money before our three years are up.

Groundwater Bill

The water crisis in Wisconsin's central sands has found its way to the state capitol. March 8th Senator Mark Miller (D-Monona) and Representative Spencer Black (D-Madison) proposed changes to Wisconsin's groundwater law in the form of the "The Groundwater Protection Act." The intent of the legislation is to sustainably manage Wisconsin's groundwater.

The proposed bill provides for:

- the creation of “Groundwater Management Areas,” a defined geographic region that warrants special attention with regard to groundwater protection and regulation;
- grants counties (or groups of counties) the authority to assess how much water can be sustainably withdrawn from aquifers, to develop groundwater management plans, and regulate groundwater withdrawal in a defined “Groundwater Management Area”;
- gives the Dept. of Natural Resources expanded powers to regulate high-capacity wells
- grants any citizen of Wisconsin the right to file a petition with the Wisconsin DNR requesting an environmental review of a proposed high capacity well if the petitioner can show with reasonable probability that the proposed well might harm nearby surface water;
- requires the DNR to review existing high cap well approvals in a groundwater management area to ensure consistency with the groundwater management plan. The bill grants the Wisconsin DNR the authority to modify the approval of an existing high capacity well to ensure compliance with the groundwater management plan.

The proposed bill did not receive legislative approval during the spring legislative session as the time to address it ran out. April 28th the bill was sent to committee in the hopes of working out a compromise that would both protect Wisconsin waters and find support from Wisconsin’s agriculture, agri-business, tourism, and municipal interests. A new bill will be submitted in the next legislative session. If you would like to support a new bill contact your legislator to make your feelings known.

New Adams County 4,000 + head Dairy Farm

A new threat to our lives as usual at Pleasant Lake has recently emerged from the west. Below is a quote from *The County Today*,

An April 2 news release from Milk Source said partners Jim Ostrom, John Vosters and Todd Willer are studying the feasibility of various sites for a farm with 4,300 cows and 250 steer somewhere between Coloma and Grand Marsh. Ostrom said the plan is to build two different dairies on two different sites in the area, the first in 2011 or 2012, and the second in 2012 or 2013.

At this point I don’t know much about this project, but I do know 4000 + cattle drink a lot of water, create a lot of excrement, and the prevailing winds in the northern hemisphere are from the west.

North Shore Beach

The Town of Coloma has purchased the Johnson Property on the north shore of Pleasant Lake. The Township plans to develop the property into a swimming and sunbathing area with no pier. The swimming area will be marked. Hours of operation will be from 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM daily. A 10-12 car parking area is planned. There will be trash cans or a dumpster on the site for cleanup. No alcohol will be allowed on the property.

Anyone violating the rules established by the Township will be subject to fines authorized by the Town or County officials. Please call the authorities if there is a problem.

Lee Flyte, Supervisor I Town of Coloma

Nominations Sought for PLMD Board of Commissioners

This summer two PLMD Board of Commissioners' terms will end with the July 2010 annual meeting. Nominations for these positions will be accepted up to and including at the annual meeting to be held Saturday, July 3, 2010 beginning at 9:00 a.m. You may nominate yourself or any PLMD property owner. Nominations should include a short biography to help us get to know the person and will be published in the June PLMD newsletter. If not available for the Newsletter, please have the biography available at the July 2010 annual meeting. Nominations can be mailed to the PLMD P.O. Box 230 Coloma, Wisconsin 54930.

The PLMD Board needs interested individuals to serve on the Board who share an interest in the protection and rehabilitation of Pleasant Lake and can bring expertise in areas where we need help: accounting, communications, web design, and the like. Feel free to meet with a Board member at or before the May special meeting for more information!

Each director's term is 3 years running through the annual meeting, July 2013. Leadership opportunities exist as an officer or key member(s) of committees. For more information on lake districts in general, see: http://wisconsinlakes.org/group_running.html .

May 29, 2010 PLMD General Meeting

The PLMD Board is preparing the 2011 budget to be presented at the May 29th special meeting. As noted above, the PLMD has been granted a Wisconsin DNR AIS Management Grant to help with the costs of treating our EWM plants. However, this is not likely to cover the costs associated with managing the EWM over three years. We need to have a financial plan in place to finance EWM control. The good news is that in this fiscal year we will receive our WDNR reimbursement from our 2008-2010 AIS grant, \$ 9,629.81.

The 2011 Budget proposed by the PLMD Board will include two options for parcel assessments. Last July the PLMD moved to ask the PLIC for \$5,000.00 to help with the EWM infestation. We will not know until July whether or not the PLIC will be making that transfer. As a result, two budgets will be proposed – one with the \$5,000 PLIC transfer and one without. The \$5,000.00 transfer results in a difference in parcel assessment of \$10.00 per parcel, \$30.00/parcel without, \$20.00/parcel with the PLIC transfer. More details at the May meeting.

What's New on the Web Page?

<http://www.myplesantlake.org/>

Fish Committee Report

Meeting minutes

AIS Control and Monitoring Plan

News from Waushara County Lakes Watershed Council

WCWLC Golf Outing: June 19, 2010 at Two Oaks golf course

Wild Rose Fish Hatchery Tour: May 15, 2010 at 9:00 AM

PLMD Board of Commissioners

Mark Kasprzak, Chair

Jo Ann Haglund, Vice Chair

Jean MacCubbin, Treasurer

Cindy Zielinski, Secretary

Francie Rowe, Aquatic Plants Committee Chairperson

Lee Flyte, Town of Coloma Representative

Darrel Fenske, Waushara County Representative

Special Meeting: May 29, 2010 at 9:00 at the Coloma Community Center.
PLMD Annual Meeting: July 3, 2010 at 9:00 at the Coloma Community
(we vote on new PLMD Board member and the 2011 Budget)



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