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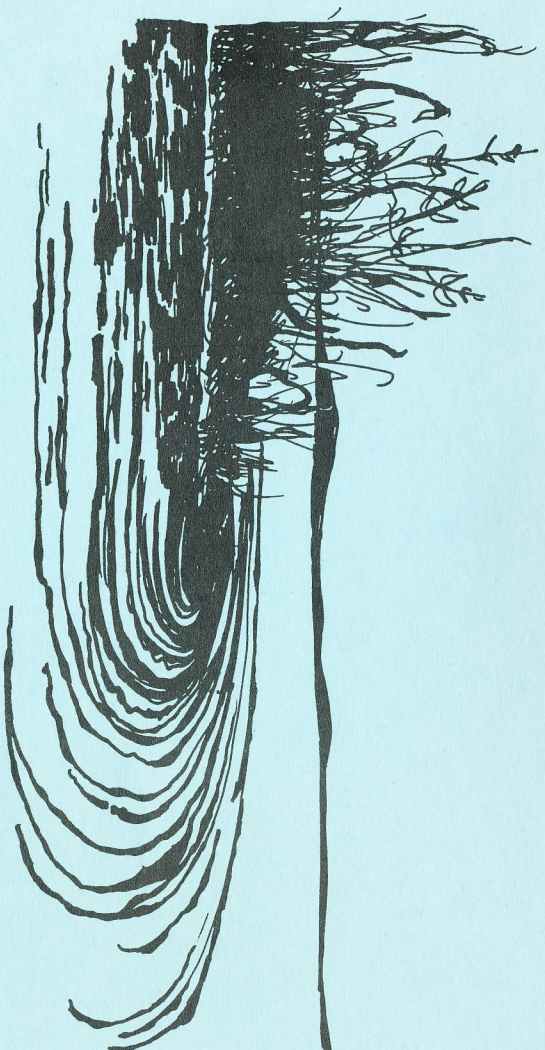
BULK THIRD CLASS

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAMS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EXTENSION
432 NORTH LAKE STREET
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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAMS
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EXTENSION



*A Newsletter for People
Interested in Wisconsin's
Inland Lakes*

Lake
Tides
JANUARY 1979
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IN THE WAKE OF A LOON

Anyone who has been in the service is familiar with the old adage "hurry-up and wait." Whenever any group effort is in progress, certain inevitable delays must be expected. Lake management is no exception. Wisconsin has one of the best lake management programs in the world, but the program time for any given lake, from district formation to management program, necessarily takes about 3 years. This time is often filled with intense activity for the district, especially when first organizing and applying for local, state, or federal assistance. But there are also in-between times when the district may have to "cool-its-heels" while the Office of Inland Lake Renewal or a consultant does its job.

Many districts have expressed concern to us about opportunities for community activity available to them during these slack periods at the lake. They know the work is proceeding, but evidence of activity and accomplishment is not so conspicuous and members may become concerned about an apparent decline in service by their district. This issue's "Eco Notes" describes a new program which may not only help the districts expand their awareness and participation in lake management, but also is of importance to family health protection.

Sincerely yours,

George Gibson Lowell Klessig
Lake Management Specialists

George R. Gibson

Lowell Klessig

STATE COST SHARING INCREASES

On November 15, 1978 the Natural Resources Board adopted amendments to Chapter 60 of the Natural Resources Administrative Codes. The changes are designed to improve quality control of feasibility studies and to provide greater state cost sharing grants for communities which do not receive federal grants.

The specific changes are summarized below:

- 60.04(3)(b)--Contracts for feasibility studies shall be based on the lowest bid received unless the lake district has disqualified such bidder(s) as being unresponsive or irresponsible.
- 60.04(4)(a)--State aid payments for feasibility studies will be 10% initially, 20% after the first quarterly report, 20% after the second quarterly report, and 50% after the final report.
- 60.10(2)(b)--Applications for permits and financial assistance for projects will be formally accepted between May 1-15 and November 1-15.
- 60.11(3)(a)--Cost sharing for projects not receiving federal grants will be determined on an individual basis with lake districts generally eligible for 80% state assistance. (Feasibility studies cost sharing continues at 60%.)
- 60.11(4)(a)--State aid payments for projects are made on a reimbursement basis except that large capital outlays may qualify for advanced payment.

These amendments are still subject to legislative review and approval. Presuming no significant modifications are made by the review committee, the revised Chapter 60 Administrative Code will become effective in 1979.



ECO NOTES

The water resource base of a lake community is more than just the lake itself. There is a close inter-relationship between groundwater, land use practices, and the visible lake or stream water of most obvious concern to the lake district.

To contribute to the understanding of these inter-relationships, Jim Peterson and I have developed a water quality information program for lake districts called "Water Quality in Your Lake Community." The program includes a demonstration test of household well water samples for bacterial and chemical characteristics. Individuals will have the opportunity to get a screening test of the quality of their well water, and to learn more about lake and groundwater management through a discussion session which includes an interpretation of test results.

The screening tests include culturing the samples for coliform bacteria as well as testing for a variety of chemicals such as nitrate, hardness, pH, chlorides, and iron. The sources, characteristics, and effects of each of these components will be discussed. For anyone whose screening test yields suspicious results, procedures for further testing and investigation will be defined.

This program is particularly important to lake districts because the information provided is not only of personal importance to your family's health, but also because it helps explain many water quality factors related to feasibility studies and provides information which the district may apply to decisions about its lake management alternatives and management plan.

We have conducted the program on a limited basis this year and as a result of the popular response will offer it again next Spring and Summer. Because of

present equipment and staff limitations, we will only be able to work with a few selected districts next season and may have to limit the number of samples tested. If you would like your district to be considered, please write me for more details in care of: George Gibson, University of Wisconsin-Extension, 1815 University Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin, 53706.

NORTH AMERICAN LAKE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

The 1979 North American Lake Management Conference for professional limnologists, managers, and interested lake residents will be held at Michigan State University, Kellogg Center for Continuing Education, East Lansing, Michigan, April 16-18. The conference discussion sessions will emphasize applied research and management techniques for lake investigation, protection, and restoration. Topics include:

- Internal cycling of nutrients
- Septic tanks and other on-site waste disposal
- Toxic substances in lakes
- Special problems of reservoirs and other man-made lakes
- Lake modeling, sampling and data analysis methods
- Lake water quality and public health
- Fish management in lakes
- Lake vegetation control and disposal/use
- Lake dredging and spoils disposal/use
- Institutional approaches to lake management

If you would like further information about the conference, please contact George Gibson (same address as above) or call (608) 262-1369.

LAKE REDSTONE: AN UNUSUAL
ANNUAL MEETING

Bill Carey
Resource Agent
Sauk County

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter was sent to Lake Tides in order that we could share Bill's observations regarding the Lake Redstone District, its commissioners and its 1978 annual meeting.

For the second year, I was asked to provide an education program following the regular business of the Lake Redstone Management District Annual Meeting. I showed the film "Runoff; Land Use and Water Quality" and we discussed the movement of soil and nutrients into the Lake. As you know, Lake Redstone, located near LaValle in Sauk County, is a man-made lake and is very sensitive to man's impact on the surrounding environment.

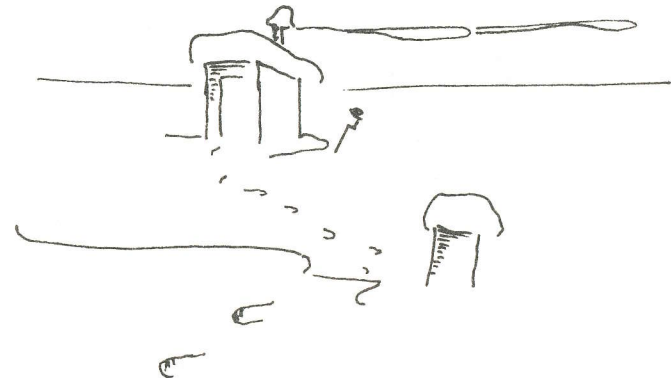
Well, this isn't really what I want to tell you but thought that a little background may be helpful. What I want to talk about is a rare event that occurred at the August 12th meeting.

For some time, we have all been seeing increasing citizen dissatisfaction with taxes and government, and when the time came for the presentation of the proposed budget for consideration of the 55 or so property owners in attendance, the voters disagreed with the recommendation of the Commissioners.

Secretary Marlyn Kempf reported on the proposed budget and stated that the Commissioners were requesting \$5,000 for supplies and officers' expenses, insurance, publication of notices, meetings, and miscellaneous expenses. The feasibility study was still in progress, so management alternatives were not available at the annual meeting. Following some discussion of the future needs of the Lake, Tom Schreuder moved to increase the amount to be raised by the District, through taxation, to \$10,000. Jim Woods seconded the motion.

The motion carried by a strong majority.

I'm not sure if there is a moral to this action, but I would like to share my personal observations with you. The Lake Redstone Commissioners do an outstanding job; they are very conscientious; and they perform their tasks in a most professional manner. I believe that the voters recognize this and are concerned about the future of their Lake and, like most of us, will gladly invest their taxes when they are confident they are being put to good use. Perhaps other governments might be interested in the Lake Redstone Management District as a model government.



COMMISSIONERS' CORNER - CONVENTION '79

Ever since the lake law went into effect in the summer of 1974, we have held a series of regional workshops for lake property owners and lake district commissioners. Attendance has been good with 40-60 percent of the commissioners attending, and evaluations have been very positive. However, for several years we have received the suggestion that we attempt to bring all commissioners together for a single session.

We asked the commissioners who attended the regional workshops in June 1978 whether they would like a statewide convention and 72% said yes.

We also asked whether the location should be Madison, Stevens Point, or Wausau. Stevens Point received the most votes.

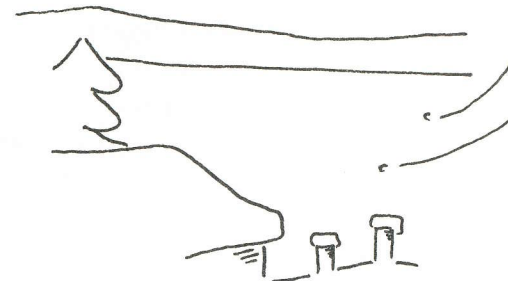
Finally, we asked what two days of the week or weekend would be preferred. Thursday and Friday came out on top.

Consequently, we are planning a convention for March 29-30 at the University of Wisconsin in Stevens Point. The program will begin at 1 p.m. on Thursday and end at 4 p.m. on Friday.

It should be a valuable program for anyone interested in lakes. It will also provide an opportunity to share experiences with other commissioners from around the state.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MARCH 29-30!

If you would like to stay at the Holiday Inn, please make a reservation early (715/341-1340). We were only able to hold a block of 50 rooms.



LAKE COTTAGE SECURITY APPLIANCE

Mr. Gerald Marine of Crime Deterrent Systems, Inc. recently requested the names of Wisconsin lake district commissioners for the purpose of advertising an electric household security system. Many lake residents have expressed concern about the off-season security of their cottages, and a list of districts (not individuals) was provided to him. The product is not endorsed in any way by the University of Wisconsin or by Lake Tides. However, if you are interested in exploring his services and product you may contact him at:

C.D.S. Midwest, Inc.
5401 North 76th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53218
(414) 466-9990

FINANCIAL AID FOR OWNERS OF FAILING
SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Gary Jackson
Water Quality Program Coordinator
UW - Extension

The Wisconsin Fund was established by the Legislature in 1978 to increase the pace of water pollution control. One part of the program provides 60% to individual citizens or small businesses to replace or upgrade their failing septic systems. The maximum state grant is \$3,000 per system.

Eligibility requirements for this program include:

- The failing system must be under a state enforcement order to replace or improve waste treatment.
- The system must serve a "principal residence"--occupied at least 51% of the time. Second homes and vacation homes are not eligible.
- The system may not receive more than 300 gallons of water per day. (Applies only to small businesses.)
- The failing system has to have been in full time operation before July 1, 1978.
- The system has not received previous financial improvement grants.
- The municipality or public body applying on behalf of an individual must guarantee that the improved system will be inspected and maintained.

Individuals interested in these improvement grants must ask their town, sanitary district, village, city, or county government to file an application on their behalf with the DNR. A legal interpretation is still needed to determine if lake districts with sanitary powers could also file the application.

Applications and additional information are available at DNR district offices or from Duane Hinderman, DNR, Box 7921, Madison, Wisconsin, 53707. Phone: (608) 266-5894.

The administrative rules (NR 128.30) are still in the process of legislative review and may be modified. However, you may want to begin considering this source

of financial assistance for problem systems in your community.

THE FUTURE OF LAKE TIDES

We are now entering the fourth year of Lake Tides! Most newsletters seem to last less than two years--so we have already lived two newsletter lives. In fact, our mailing list has grown from a few hundred in 1975 to about 3500 at the present time.

We have two requests to make of you:

REACTIONS
PLEASE

- I. We would like to know your reactions to Lake Tides: what do you like, what would you prefer we drop, and what additional information would be helpful.
- II. We need to know if you want to continue to get Lake Tides. If you are a lake district commissioner you will automatically continue to receive the newsletter. If you are not a commissioner but would like to continue to receive Lake Tides, please return this page with your name and correct address on the other side.

DO YOU WANT
TO STAY ON
THE LIST?

Send to:

Lake Tides
Environmental Resources Unit
University of Wisconsin-Extension
1815 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53706