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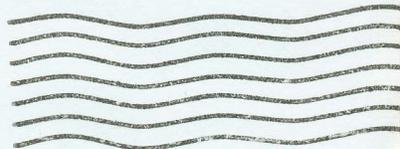


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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAMS
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Aug. 1975



Lake
Tides



A Newsletter for People
Interested in Wisconsin's
Inland Lakes

Lake Tides

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UWEX COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAMS
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—EXTENSION

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN • U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • WISCONSIN COUNTIES COOPERATING

Welcome to Our Trial Balloon!

More and more people are becoming concerned with the quality of our recreational lakes. Many lake property owners have banded together in voluntary lake associations. Since the passage of the Wisconsin Lake Management Law in 1974, many of these associations have organized official lake management districts. The law has provided new opportunities for local involvement in lake management. But with a stronger involvement and greater local responsibility, the need for education and information has also increased. We have attempted to meet that need by meeting with individual lake groups around the state. (The map on the next page illustrates the widespread interest in the program.)

We have also sponsored conferences and workshops as explained later in the newsletter. However, with increasing numbers of interested citizens, we are proposing this newsletter as an additional method of communication with and between lake people. We hope to keep you informed

on the progress of the program, availability of state and federal grants, deadlines for applications, hints on running your organization, and case stories of individual lake projects.

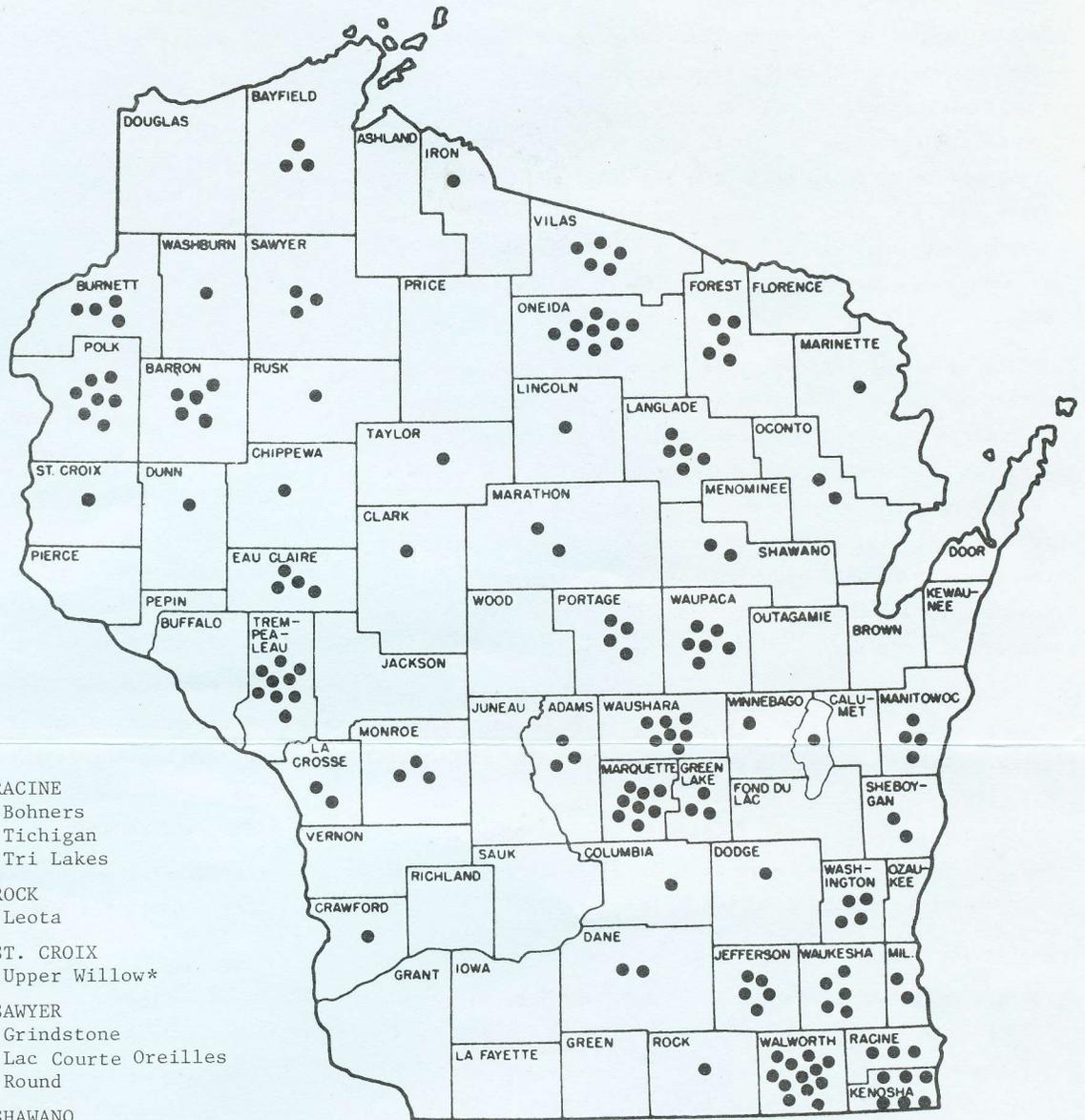
This is a trial issue. Your comments will determine whether the balloon is a flier or a bust. Please let us know if and how this newsletter might be useful to you in your dedicated efforts to save your lake.

Sincerely,

Lowell L. Klessig & Robert J. Sterrett
Lake Management Specialists

LAKE COMMUNITIES WHICH HAVE ALREADY SHOWN DEFINITE INTEREST IN WISCONSIN'S NEW LAKE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- ADAMS
Big Roche-a-Cri
Mason
- BARRON
Dallas
Chetek
Horseshoe
Rice Lake
Staples
- BAYFIELD
Cable
Eau Claire
McCarry
- BURNETT
Clam*
Round
Trade
Yellow
- CALUMET
Winnebago
- CHIPPEWA
Chapman
- CLARK
Owen*
- COLUMBIA
Wyocena
- CRAWFORD
Core*
- DUNN
Mendota
Monona
- DODGE
Fox
- EAU CLAIRE
Altoona*
Eau Claire
Elk
Half Moon*
- FOREST
Hardwood
Long
Lucerne
Pine*
Popple
- GREEN LAKE
Green
Little Green
Puckaway
- IRON
Lavina
- JEFFERSON
Koshkonong
Ripley
Rock
Long
- KENOSHA
Camp
Center
Lilly*
Powers
Silver
Twin*
- LA CROSSE
Neshonoc
Onalaska
- LANGLADE
Antigo*
Black Oak
Greater Bass
Lower Post*
Moccassin
- LINCOLN
Nokomis
- MANITOWOC
Cedar
Long
Pigeon
Wilke
- MARATHON
Lilly
Mayflower
- MARINETTE
Noquebay*
- MARQUETTE
Buffalo
Emerald
Harrisville
Kilby
Lawrence
- MASON
Oxford
Williams
- MILWAUKEE
Ashippun
Kelly
- MONROE
Angelo
Perch*
Tomah*
- OCONTO
Chute
Townsend*
- ONEIDA
Bear
Crescent
George
Horsehead*
Katherine
Mid
Pelican
Upper Post
- POLK
Apple River
Bear Trap
Bone
Dwight
Round
Wapogasset
White Ash
- PORTAGE
Helen
Jacklin
Rhinehart
Tree
- RUSK
Island (Chain)
- RACINE
Bohners
Tichigan
Tri Lakes
- ROCK
Leota
- ST. CROIX
Upper Willow*
- SAWYER
Grindstone
Lac Courte Oreilles
Round
- SHAWANO
Aniwa* (Pleasant)
White Clay*
- SHEBOYGAN
Ellen
Little Elkhart
- TAYLOR
Rib
- TREMPEALEAU
Bugle*
Henry*
Marinuka*
Osseo* (Martha)
Round*
Second*
Strum
Third*
Trempealeau*



- VILAS
Lac Vieux Desert
Little Arbor Vitae*
Little St. Germain
McDonald
Trout
- WALWORTH
Benedict
Como*
Honey
Ivanhoe
Lauderdale
Lorraine
Pell
Potters*
Swift
Tambeau
Wandawega
Whitewater
- WASHBURN
Spoooner
- WASHINGTON
Big Cedar*
Hartford*
Little Cedar*
Silver*
- WAUKESHA
Golden
Little Muskego*
Nagawicka
Pretty
School Section
- WAUPACA
Cary*
Manawa
Mirror*
Pigeon
Shadow*
White
- WAUSHARA
Auroraville
Fish
Kusel*
Round*
Wautoma
Wild Rose*
Wilson*
- WINNEBAGO
Rush
Winnebago

*Have formed Official Lake District

NOTES FOR LAKE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

The following brief notes are provided as an educational service to assist commissioners in the exercise of the duties of the office.

Time of Annual Meeting: Chapter 33 of the Wisconsin Statutes provides that the first annual meeting of the lake district must be held in July or August. These months are specified by law to make it easier for seasonal residents to attend. While the law does not specifically state that you must have an annual meeting yet this summer if you have just recently become a district, you must have an annual meeting before you can undertake any project which costs the district in excess of \$5,000.

Notice of Annual Meeting: The law requires that written notice be mailed 10 days in advance of an annual meeting to all residents and property owners within the district. A single notice to a resident household or to the property owner whose name appears on the tax roll should be sufficient. It would appear to be an unreasonable burden on the district to mail separate notices to each member of a household and to each individual who has an interest in a piece of property.

Some very large districts are considering putting the notice in the local paper three times rather than mailing it to every household. While this is not consistent with the letter of the law, it may be reasonable notice for residents of the district. However, the spirit of Sec. 33.30(2) clearly requires that all nonresident property owners be mailed a notice.

Qualifications for Voting:

1. All residents over 18 years of age who live within the district boundaries must be allowed to vote in the affairs of the district. They need not own property. If they have lived in the district for 10 days and have not declared residency in any other location, they are eligible to vote in all governmental elections.
2. All nonresident property owners must also have a voice in the annual meeting. The law does not give detailed qualifications as to the amount of property and the type of property interest necessary to vote. It is suggested that districts allow one vote per piece of property, but no more than one vote per person. If two or more people own a piece of land, they would receive one vote together which they decide how to cast.

3. No individual is entitled to more than one vote at the annual meeting regardless of how many lots he may own or his place of residence.

Qualifications for Commissioners: The following points apply only to districts formed by the County Board:

1. To be eligible to run for the office of Lake District Commissioner, a person must be a property owner. In most practical circumstances the spouse of a person who has title to a piece of land would also be considered to be a property owner.
2. The present wording of the law (which may be amended) requires that commissioners be electors. This is usually interpreted to mean that nonresidents can not officially serve on the commission. Until the law is amended some districts are informally appointing key seasonal residents to the board.
3. At the first annual meeting three commissioners should be elected: one for a one-year term, one for a two-year term, and one for a three-year term. At future annual meetings only one commissioner would be up for election each year.

By-Laws: The commission may propose and the annual meeting may adopt by-laws for the internal operation of the district as long as the by-laws do not conflict with state law. By-laws might be adopted regarding the following issues and others:

- Statement of purpose or goals
- Procedure for certifying eligible voters at the annual meeting and use of proxies
- Procedure for nominating commissioners
- Provision of geographic balance on the commission
- Method of voting
- Powers of the commission
- Quorum requirements, if any
- Compensation for services and expenses
- Standing committees

Insurance: A lake district like other units of government should purchase liability insurance. The insurance carrier that other local units of government use might have an appropriate policy for your type of operation.

Record Keeping: Detailed minutes of all commission meetings and activities should be kept in a bound notebook. Financial records should be kept according to standard accounting procedure.

Tax Report: If a district wants to collect a property tax in 1976, the treasurer should deliver the list of assessments for each property to the appropriate municipal

clerk (town, city, or village) by August 31, 1975. The tax will then be collected at the same time as the general property tax.

Press: Community support will be essential if the lake district is to accomplish its goal. Involvement of the press is essential to building total community support. The lake commission should strive for high community visibility.

WATERSHED PROTECTION, DREDGING, AND URBAN STORM SEWER DIVERSIONS APPROVED

Since the law was initiated a year ago, 35 districts have been formed. Most of these districts are undertaking feasibility studies during the first year. Four districts were ready for implementation. They have received state implementation grants and have made applications for federal dollars to help implement various types of lake management techniques. These districts are:

- *White Clay Lake, Shawano County*
- *Lilly Lake, Kenosha County*
- *Mirror/Shadow Lakes, Waupaca County*
- *Half Moon Lake, Eau Claire County*

One of these districts is planning to rehabilitate and protect their lakes with a wide variety of techniques. Some of these techniques are experimental and innovative.

White Clay Lake district has chosen a detailed watershed management plan for protecting and enhancing their lake. The lake itself is in fairly good condition, but must be protected. Through proper land management, nutrients and sediments will be prevented from entering the lake. Manure storage pits, retention ponds, grass waterways are just a few of the devices which will be used to curb agricultural pollution of the lake.

Lilly Lake has excess weed growths and shallow water depths. Dredging the entire 90-acre lake is the solution chosen by this district.

Mirror and Shadow lakes are two small lakes in Waupaca. They have an algae and dissolved oxygen problem. Through a detailed nutrient budget study for the lakes, it was found that a storm sewer contributed a very sizeable amount of nutrients to the lakes. In consultation with the Office of Inland Lake Renewal (DNR) the district decided that storm sewer diversion was their best rehabilitation alternative.

Half Moon Lake in Eau Claire is using a variety of techniques to rehabilitate their lake. Dam alterations, limited dredging, storm sewer diversion and flushing with

ground water from high capacity wells are a few of the techniques that this district has chosen.

AN EVENING AT WHITE CLAY LAKE

July 18th was a full day of educational programming on lakes. During the morning and early afternoon a lake management conference was held at the Shawano County courthouse. In the late afternoon, 25 lake and agency representatives were involved in a short course on lake feasibility studies at White Clay Lake in eastern Shawano County. The purpose of this field course was to show interested persons the type of data that is collected in a lake system during a feasibility study. Data collection methods and demonstrations made this day a very practical experience for all involved.

Demonstrations were given on methods of studying ground water, soils, surface water runoff, algae and weeds. Experts from several agencies in Madison and Shawano County made the twilight presentations. The day was capped with a fish and shrimp fry.

LAKE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT 1975 CONFERENCES

Lake Management experts from University of Wisconsin—Extension, Department of Natural Resources, Soil Conservation Service, and Soil and Water Conservation districts will conduct a series of workshops in:

- *Eau Claire on August 19th (Holiday Inn, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.)*
- *Spooner on August 20th (High School, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.)*

The workshops will cover lake district formation, state aids, feasibility studies, permits, weeds, algae, fish kills, watershed management, and boating ordinances.

Previous to the Eau Claire and Spooner conferences, similar conferences have been held at Green Lake, Rhinelander, Shawano, and Whitewater. Because lake leaders and local officials in attendance brought a lot of practical questions and experiences, the workshop discussions have been lively and fruitful. A status report on the new inland lake program was given at the conferences by *Rep. Lewis Mittness, Dr. Johanna Clausen, Rep. Sheehan Donoghue, and John Soderberg*. John Soderberg, Chairman of the Inland Lake Council, will make the presentations at the Eau Claire and Spooner sessions.

WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT CAMP

For the citizen deeply concerned about our water resources, the University of Wisconsin—Extension, in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin—Superior, is sponsoring a one-week water resources management camp. This camp will run from August 25 through August 30, 1975 at the Lake Superior Field Station, near Superior.

The focus of this camp is to provide an in-depth understanding of water resource issues and problems. In-class lectures and laboratory sessions will be supplemented with extensive field work.

The participants will be exposed to both the legal and technical aspects of water resource issues. The main emphasis of the camp will be on lake resource management.

For further information, please call (608) 262-0020.

RUMBLINGS IN THE ROTUNDA

★ *State Budget Appropriation:* This year was a very difficult budget year for state government. The inland lake program, however, fared quite well. The Office of Inland Lake Renewal (DNR) requested \$2.4 million for grants-in-aid to the lake districts during the next two years. The Governor approved the request but the Joint Finance Committee of the Legislature reduced the appropriation to \$2.1 million.

★ *Amendments to the Lake Management Law:* Every piece of new legislation has bugs in it that must be worked out with experience. The new lake law is no exception. To improve the functioning of the law at the local level, amendments are being considered by the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. The list below shows the major changes that are being considered:

1. Allow nonresident property owners to serve on the lake district commission.
2. Increase the emphasis on lake protection in the law itself.
3. Allow a city or village or sanitary district to petition the county board for the property owners within the city or village or sanitary district rather than require individual signatures on petitions in those areas.
4. Allow a district to substitute three newspaper notices of the annual meeting for the written notice to electors residing within the district.
5. Allow the annual meeting to compensate the commissioners if they choose to.
6. Allow lake districts to assume sanitary district powers if the annual meeting votes to request such powers and the town board confers such powers to the lake district. (This would eliminate the duplication of a sanitary district and a lake district for lake communities which wanted both types of services.)

7. Town boards would only be responsible for creating lake districts where a town sanitary district previously existed.

IF YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE THESE AMENDMENTS, IT IS VERY APPROPRIATE TO WRITE YOUR LEGISLATORS TO EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS.

STATE AIDS AWARDED TO 30 LAKE DISTRICTS

In fiscal year 1975 all lake districts which applied for financial aid were awarded such aids. Grants ranged from \$549 to \$130,000. A total of \$916,517 was awarded. Of the total, 52% went to lake districts south of Stevens Point and 48% was received by districts to the north. The following list shows the districts which received grants during the first year of the program:

<u>District</u>	<u>County</u>
Altoona	Eau Claire
Antigo	Langlade
Big Cedar	Washington
Bugle	Trempealeau
Clam	Burnett
Como	Walworth
Gremore	Crawford
Half Moon	Eau Claire
Hartford	Washington
Henry	Trempealeau
Horsehead	Oneida
Kusel, Wilson, Round	Waushara
Lilly	Kenosha
Little Cedar	Washington
Lower Post	Langlade
Marinuka	Trempealeau
Martha	Trempealeau
Mirror & Shadow	Waupaca
Noquebay	Marinette
Perch	Monroe
Pleasant	Shawano
Potters	Walworth
2nd, 3rd, Round	Trempealeau
Silver	Washington
Tomah	Monroe
Townsend	Oconto
Trempealeau	Trempealeau
Twin	Kenosha
Upper Willow	St. Croix
White Clay	Shawano

Next Deadline for Application for State Aids is January 1, 1976.