LAKE TIDES

The newsletter for people interested in Wisconsin lakes

Volume 26, No. 3
Summer 2001

How Does This Look to You?

A matter of water toys

Wisconsinites have a rich tradition of enjoying themselves on and near the water. Recreational use of our nation's waterways is growing not just in terms of the numbers of people taking to our lakes and rivers, but also in terms of the variety of ways in which they use them once they get there. Spending a day at the lake can provide some insight on how clever we have become in dreaming up ways to enjoy the water. We have discovered new spins on traditional uses like boating and fishing plus a host of other inventive ways to while away the wet hours. Every summer, the curtain rises on a procession of people with kayaks, SCUBA equipment, tubes, water bicycles, windsurfers, seaplanes, water climbing walls and water trampolines. The actors are in place; the play begins.

In the early 1980's, a man from Hawaii patented the concept of an inner tube with a trampoline in the middle, but never followed through with the idea. In 1997, a group from Minnesota that manufactures recreational products found out about the lapsed patent. The company thought the idea had great potential and produced the first production water trampoline. The company is known as RAVE (Radical Alternative Vehicles and Equipment) Sports of St. Paul and RAVE's best seller is the ™Aqua Jump, a floating blue and yellow trampoline that comes in three sizes, 10, 15 and 20 feet in diameter (as well as a 25 foot trampoline primarily purchased by youth camps). The price for these toys ranges from $ 800 to $4,000. To date, about 10,000 have been sold across the nation and about 700 have been sold in Wisconsin. If you attach RAVE's ™Aqua Launch (a 15 foot attachment), the ™Aqua Log (a 20 foot attachment), and the ™Aqua Slide to your 15 foot Aqua Jump, you have created a bona fide personal aquatic amusement park. A host of other companies make a variety of these inflatable aqua toys to use near shore or behind a powerboat.

What's wrong with rafts

RAVE products are only one brand in an increasingly varied collection of inflatable water toys being sold on the market. Some have names like "Iceberg" and "Blob". These and other types of recreational equipment are raising some eyebrows along the lake shore and within the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources(WDNR). In July, WDNR held public hearings to find out how people felt about water trampolines and water toys in general, and if they thought the newer water rafts should be reviewed through a permit process. According to WDNR wardens, some people think these large, multicolored water trampoline swim

Water trampolines are becoming a common sight on Wisconsin lakes.

rafts, climbing walls and other water toys may shade out aquatic plants, interfere with public rights to navigate, and limit the public's ability to enjoy the natural scenic beauty of our water and shorelines.

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership

Summer youth camp directors and other water toy aficionados think otherwise. They believe large swim rafts and water trampolines are harmless, bring folks together, provide safe fun and let people of all ages enjoy public water. These individuals think the rafts should be allowed without restriction. According to Norm Mears, CEO of RAVE, expert consultants hired by RAVE found "little or no impact for their water trampolines in shading out aquatic plants and less hazard to navigation than a conventional barrel and wood swim raft". Mears noted that "PVC water toys also pose less of an environmental or navigation hazard than old barrels and green treated lumber."

We often hear that "beauty is in the eye of the beholder". The truth of that statement appears to be at issue here.

An "Iceberg"...in Wisconsin?!

At the heart of the matter

The lakeshore is a unique place where private lands and public waters meet. Our waters are often the first place where the social debate over rights and privileges take place…

The Wisconsin Constitution protects the public's right to use navigable waters for a number of uses incidental to navigation, including sailing, rowing, canoeing, bathing, fishing, hunting, skating, swimming and the viewing of natural scenic beauty.

At the public hearings, many felt that the heart of this matter was the water toys' impact on natural scenic beauty. We often hear that "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" and that appears to be the issue here. The DNR is not regulating color, but the colors of the inflatable water toys likely generate the most complaints. Department staff point out that they are "not concerned with color, only with the size of swim rafts and the privatization of our public waters".

Clearly, there are some very tough questions here that need to be addressed. We will need to come up with the answers that may well determine the future use and look of our lakes. Are we on a "slippery slope" leading to "Wally World" shores and lakes ringed with garish, huge, inflatable toys? How big can "water toys" be? Should government be regulating the size of aqua equipment on our lakes? If we allow ice fishing shanties of any color and boats of almost any size on our lakes, how can we discriminate between water toys? Should youth camps be limited in the use of equipment that kids love or should they be required to pay for a permit? If we don't get in front of this trend now with some rules, will we regret it ten years from now?

Background on swim raft regulations

Presently, swim rafts are defined in s. 30.01(6e) Wis. Stats., as floating platforms designed to be used for swimming, diving and related activities. Both the standard wooden swim rafts and the new updated version, water trampolines, meet this definition.

Section 30.13(1m) exempts riparian property owners from obtaining a WDNR permit for placement of a swim raft provided the swim raft meets the following conditions under state law:

- The swim raft does not interfere with public rights of navigation;
- The swim raft does not interfere with rights of other riparian proprietors; and
- The swim raft is placed within 200 feet of shore.

Two decades ago, a typical swim raft was about 10 ft x 10 ft and at the time, this seemed to be a reasonable use of public water by a riparian property owner. Since the late 1980s, WDNR staff have used this dimension (10 ft x 10 ft) as an unofficial threshold after which point anything larger would be required to apply for a permit. Riparian property owners have applied for permits for these types of swim rafts and the permit is issued if WDNR field biologists determine that public rights will not be harmed.

Proposed swim raft regulations

According to WDNR, small and moderate sized swim rafts have caused few navigational or environmental problems. Historically, there have been only a few legal actions against swim rafts in the state. As swim rafts and water trampolines increase in size and prominence, however, they may have a greater potential to affect public rights. At this time, there is little or no research to support the claims, but some believe that the rafts may interfere with public fishing and boating rights, shade out and damage aquatic habitat necessary to support fish and wildlife, and degrade natural scenic beauty. The rule development process is an attempt to set a standard for the maximum size of swim rafts or similar devices. Once this size is reached, a review process would be triggered to assess the potential effect on public rights.

The proposed rules would require swim rafts, water trampolines or similar products larger than 100 square feet to obtain a permit from WDNR. The proposal would also restrict swim rafts to a maximum height of 36 inches above water level. Spokespeople for WDNR see the rule making process as "the DNR' s way of trying to keep up with the changing uses of our lakes."

What is involved in a swim raft permit?

Swim rafts, like piers, are approved as structures anchored to the bed of public waterways. In addition to submitting a permit application to WDNR, state law requires the publication of a public notice in a local newspaper and a $300 permit fee. Once WDNR has received a completed permit application, biologists and conservation wardens will review the permit application for possible conflicts with public rights. Permit reviews may take up to 30 days, not including a 30 day public notice requirement.

Although more streamlined and less expensive permits have been suggested, the current review process is reported to be relatively cumbersome. Those in favor of inflatable water toys feel that permits and public hearings will effectively ban their use because of the expense and time that it takes to process an application.

Water toys are popular at youth camps.

The WDNR is not proposing to ban swim rafts, but is interested in a common sense approach that recognizes that at some point, large swim rafts or water trampolines have a significant potential to be detrimental to public rights in navigable waters and should be required to obtain permits.

In Wisconsin, there is a growing concern with the quality of the recreational experience. Some folks believe that only when all parties come together can a solution be developed. Working towards limiting frustration while recreating on the water is a worthwhile goal. A pleasant lake is one where people grow in an understanding and respect for each other's manner of enjoying the water. We would love to hear your comments on aqua toys.

Please send your comments to Robert Korth at bkorth@uwsp.edu or the College of Natural Resources, UW-Stevens Point, 1900 Franklin St., Stevens Point, WI 54481

We extend our thanks to Norm Mears of RAVE and WDNR staff for assistance with this article.

NOTE: The public comment period on the WDNR proposed rule has been extended through September 15th. For more information, you can visit the WDNR swim raft web page at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/waterway/swimming.htm or request an informational handout from Dan Helsel, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707 (helsed@dnr.state.wi.us).

Swim rafts, like piers, are approved as structures anchored to the bed of public waterways.

The Metamorphosis of a No-Mow Shoreline

Turtlehead, various asters, and the marsh milkweek that I had introduced near the shoreline all bloomed, to my delight.

We purchased our lake property in 1984. The previous owners had meticulously mowed the hill on the lakeside, probably from the time they built the home in 1967 until we bought it 17 years later. This was before NR 115, as the home is only 45 feet from the shoreline and, therefore, nonconforming. My husband was a confirmed grass mower, and it was only with a great deal of cajoling that I succeeded in persuading him to leave a 6 foot strip of undisturbed vegetation along the water's edge. Two alders grew and provided perching area for song sparrows and an occasional kingfisher. I also planted a seedling balsam and three tiny spruce along the shoreline. They're all about 3-4 feet tall now.

After attending the Vilas County Shoreline Zoning Ordinance meetings and numerous workshops encouraging natural lakeshores, I became convinced that we should stop mowing altogether on the lakeside. Besides, the annual battle with the dandelions was getting to be a chore. John very reluctantly relented, and 2000 was our first no-mow year.

What ensued was amazing. No more dandelions! The tall grass denied them sunshine, and they gave up. The orange milkweed seeds from the plants near the house took root in the lawn area, as did the gloriosa daises, the wild lupines, and the rudbeckia. Turtlehead, various asters, and the marsh milkweed that I had introduced near the shoreline all bloomed, to my delight. The marsh milkweed attracted a Monarch butterfly, which laid a few eggs, one of which survived metamorphosis to become a butterfly. Realizing how it can crowd out native sedges and grasses, I had been waging a battle against reed canary grass for several years. In 2000, however, a pair of song sparrows chose to nest in a clump of it right next to the water's edge. They successfully raised four young. The reed canary grass had been there for many years, so I conclude that more than six feet of vegetation is necessary for the privacy that these birds require.

An adult Great Blue Heron visited our pier almost daily for several weeks. One day it was accompanied by a juvenile, one of its offspring, perhaps? We'd never seen one visit our pier in the previous 15 years. I also heard a frog calling, a welcome sound which we hadn't heard for a while. I'm hoping that the heron returns to our pier, but that it refrains from stalking our frog.

Other wildlife also responded to the vegetation. A clump of blue spiderwort, which I had planted near the pier, thrived and was budding and ready to bloom when I visited it one morning, only to find it chewed to the ground. The prime suspect is the muskrat, which we have observed swimming past and which chews on the sedges at the waterline. Rabbits, too, find the long grass inviting, but the chicken wire discourages them, and is easily hidden in the tall grass.

We wanted to attract wildlife, and we did. They were here first … we're just the temporary stewards. An added benefit is that we don't have to push, listen to, or smell that #@*! lawn mower anymore.

Story contributed by June Schmall, Vilas County
Illustration by Chris Whalen

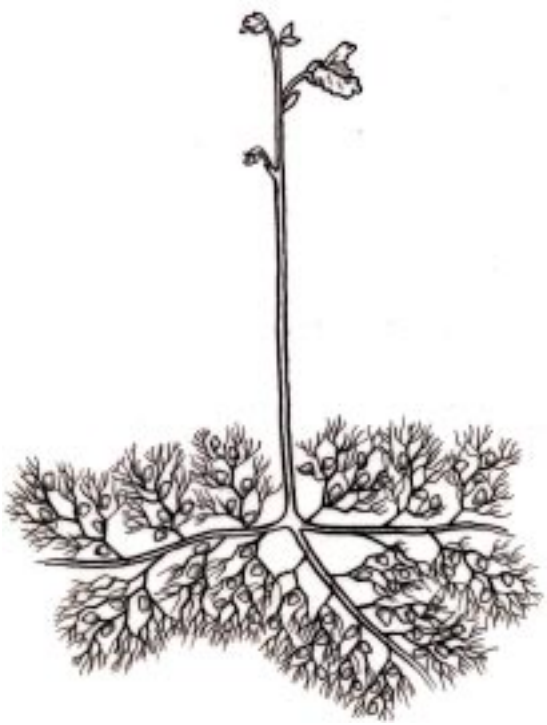
Plant Profile: Common Bladderwort (Utricularia vulgaris)

The Common bladderwort is native to Wisconsin and is quite widespread throughout the state. The bladderwort has floating stems that can reach 2-3 meters in length. Along the stem are leaf-like branches that are finely divided. The divisions are filament-like, have no midrib, and fork 3-7 times. Scattered on these branches are the bladders that trap prey. These are lightning fast traps that capture unsuspecting prey and devour them. Prey range in size from one-celled protozoans to creatures the size of mosquito larvae. Young bladders are transparent and green tinted, but they become dark brown to black as they age. The branches also have fine spines (spicules) scattered along their margins.

Yellow, two-lipped flowers are produced on stalks that protrude above the water surface. There may be 4-20 flowers per stalk. The upper lip of the flower creates an awning over the saclike pouch and sickle-shaped spur of the lower lip. The plant is branched in several directions at the base of the flower stalk. This creates a stable base that keeps the top-heavy flower stalk from capsizing.

Although the pitcher plants and sundews of bogs are the better-known carnivorous plants, the aquatic bladderworts are more widespread. They can be found in lakes, ponds, bog pools and even in the standing water of roadside ditches. Common bladderwort is free-floating and can be found in water ranging from a few inches to several meters deep. It is most successful in still water where the traps can function properly and the finely divided stems are not torn by wave action.

The Common bladderwort overwinters primarily by stem fragments and winter buds. As the plants sink to the sediment and decay during the winter, winter buds become detached. In the spring these buds develop air spaces and float to the surface where new growth begins. Flower stalks develop early in the season, and flowers may bloom progressively over a number of weeks. The fruit is a several-seeded capsule. Later in the growing season, new winter buds are formed on the ends of branches.



Drawing by Carol Watkins

Prey brush against the trigger hairs, breaking the tension on the door seal and the prey is swept into the trap with a rush of water.

The bladder entrance is surrounded by antennae-like projections and trigger hairs. The antennae are thought to guide prey toward the trap door where they are attracted by sugary mucilage secreted by glands at the trap entrance. Prey brush against the trigger hairs, breaking the tension on the door seal and the prey is swept into the trap with a rush of water. The water is gradually withdrawn over 20 minutes, resetting the trap.

The trailing stems of common bladderwort provide food and cover for fish. Because they are free-floating, they can grow in areas with very loosely consolidated sediment. This provides needed fish habitat in areas that are not readily colonized by rooted plants.

Adapted from ***Through the Looking Glass, A Field Guide to Aquatic Plants.***

Lyme Disease Ticks Me Off - Part II

(Part I of this article can be found in the Spring issue of Lake Tides or online at http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/laketides/vol26-2/index.htm)

Patients treated in the early stages with antibiotics usually recover rapidly and completely.

Treatment

Diagnosis of Lyme disease should take into account the following factors:

- History of possible exposure to ticks, especially in areas where Lyme disease is known to occur.
- Symptoms and signs (see part I of this article).
- The results of blood tests used to determine whether the patient has antibodies to Lyme disease bacteria.

These tests are most useful in later stages of the illness, but even then they may give inaccurate results. Laboratory tests for Lyme disease have not yet been standardized nationally.

Lyme disease is treated with antibiotics under the supervision of a physician. Several antibiotics are effective. Antibiotics usually are given by mouth but may be given intravenously in more severe cases. Patients treated in the early stages with antibiotics usually recover rapidly and completely. Most patients who are treated in later stages of the disease also respond well to antibiotics. In a few patients who are treated for Lyme disease, symptoms of persisting infection may continue or recur, making additional antibiotic treatment necessary. Varying degrees of permanent damage to joints or the nervous system can develop in patients with late chronic Lyme disease. Typically these are patients in whom Lyme disease was unrecognized in the early stages or for whom the initial treatment was unsuccessful.

How to Minimize Tick Encounters:

- Removing leaf litter and clearing brush and tall grass on paths, near houses, and at the edges of gardens may reduce the numbers of ticks that transmit Lyme disease.
- A relationship has been observed between the abundance of deer and the abundance of deer ticks in the eastern United States. Removing plants that attract deer may discourage deer from coming near homes.
- Applying acaricides (chemicals that are toxic to ticks) to gardens, lawns, and the edge of woodlands near homes is being done in some areas, but questions remain regarding its effectiveness and environmental safety. Application to residential properties should be supervised by a licensed professional pest control expert.

After being outdoors, remove clothing and wash and dry it at a high temperature; inspect the body carefully and take removed ticks to the local health department for identification.

We would like to thank the Wisconsin Department of Public Health and the Center for Disease Control, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Division of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases (Atlanta, Georgia) for information and assistance with this article.

Avoiding Tick Bites

The chances of being bitten by a tick can be decreased with a few precautions:

- Avoid tick-infested areas, especially in May, June, and July (many local health departments and park or extension services have information on the local distribution of ticks).
- Wear light-colored clothing so that ticks can be spotted more easily.
- Tuck pant legs into socks or boots and shirt into pants.
- Wear clothing with a tight weave and tape the area where pants and socks meet so that ticks cannot crawl under clothing.
- Spray insect repellent containing DEET on clothes and on exposed skin other than the face, or treat clothes (especially pants, socks, and shoes) with permethrin, a compound which kills ticks on contact.
- Wear a hat and a long-sleeved shirt for added protection.
- Walk in the center of trails to avoid overhanging grass and brush.
- When working in tick habitat on a regular basis, do not wear work clothing into your home. This will reduce the chances of bringing ticks home and exposing family members.

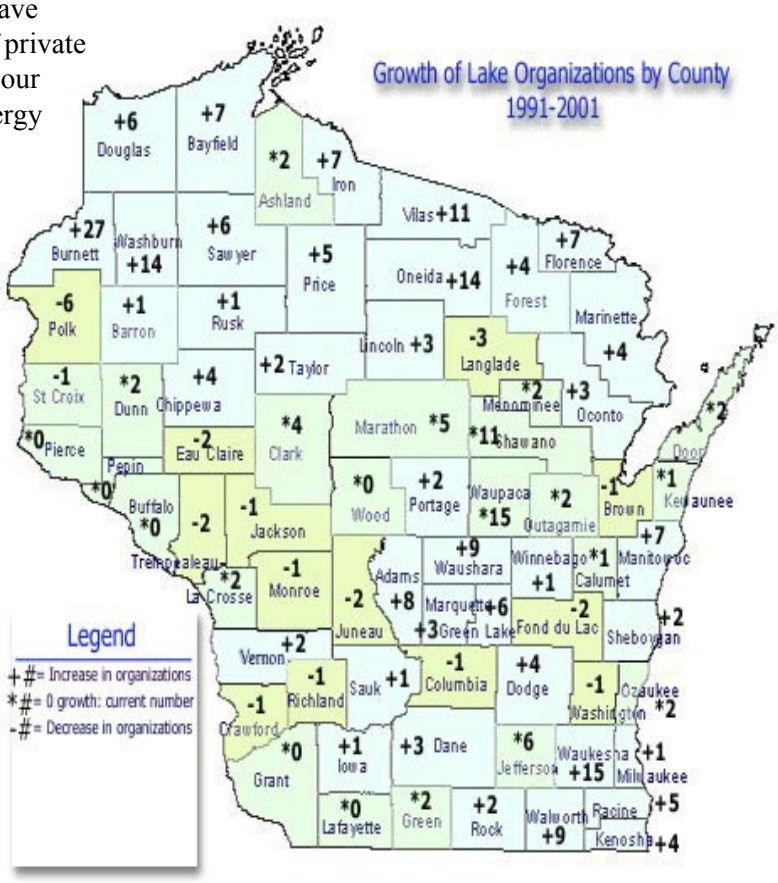
The Big Bang Theory

The growth of lake organizations

The strong level of citizen involvement in the management of Wisconsin's lakes has given the Badger State a huge "bang" for its small investment "buck". Volunteers have poured hundreds of thousands of private hours and dollars into preserving our public lakes. We believe this energy continues to grow every year.

Growth in lake organizations is one indicator of the level of public interest in lake protection. Our staff compared the 1991 Lake List (the state directory of lake organizations) with the 2001 version to assess the rate of growth in lake organizations across Wisconsin. Lake organizations increased by 187 or 35% between 1991 and 2001.

The state has 15,081 lakes, but only about 3,620 of those are larger than 20 acres (normally considered large enough to have a sufficient number of folks owning property to justify a lake organization). According to the Lake List, we have 717 lake organizations. This is probably the largest number in any state. We can celebrate our accomplishments, but we still have work to do. There are more than 2,900 lakes in Wisconsin that are over 20 acres in size; many could have an organized group looking out for its well- being. This leaves 11,461 small lakes (less than 20 acres) that may need a helping hand. Check out the map and see how the number of lake organizations has changed in your county.



Lake organizations increased by 187 or 35% between 1991 and 2001.

For more details go to The Lake List at http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/lakelist/default.asp. For more information about The Lake List contact Sveindis Meyer at 715/346-2116.

Check out these websites:

Learn about lakes at Water on the Web - http://www.nrri.umn.edu/wow/index.html
Facts about pesticides - http://www.efn.org/~ncap/factsheets.html
Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network and Fund—http://www.glhabitat.org
Shoreland Restoration Home Page—http://www.uwex.edu/ces/shoreland
Northern Shoreways—http://www.northernshoreways.com
Wisconsin Lake Book—http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/wilkbook.htm
EPA site for water quality ordinances—http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/ordinance/
The Biodiversity Project—http://www.biodiversityproject.org/

What do Wisconsin's lakes look like in the summer?

It depends on where you live.

Since its inception in 1986, Wisconsin's Self-Help Lake Monitoring program has grown considerably, both in terms of the numbers of participating volunteers and the quantity of data collected. The Self-Help Lake Monitoring Database, which will make its debut on the Internet by fall, now contains over 63,000 water clarity readings, over 13,000 total phosphorus and chlorophyll readings, and countless temperature and dissolved oxygen profiles!

So, what does all of this data say? One way to look at the data is to compare summer water clarity geographically. Water clarity is measured by Self-Help volunteers using a Secchi disk (an 8-inch diameter black and white disk). Water clarity gives us an indication of the overall health of a lake, particularly the amount of algae and sediment present.

Wisconsin is divided into five georegions based on the geology, soils and dominant vegetation. Here is how the data looks overall, using Self-Help data collected during the summer months between 1986 and 2000.

Northwest Georegion: Most lakes found in the northwest georegion are relatively small natural lakes, and many are "stained" brown with organic matter. The summer water clarity average in this region is 9.0 feet but varies greatly from lake to lake, with a range of 0.9 feet on Rice Lake in Polk County to 25 feet on Whitefish Lake, Douglas County.

Southwest Georegion: Many large shallow lakes and impoundments are found in the southwest georegion, the driftless area. Southwestern lakes tend to have low water clarity, with a summer average of 4.4 feet. The least clear lake is Douglas Pond in Jackson County at 0.3 feet and the clearest is Devils Lake in Sauk County with a summer average of 24 feet.

Northeast Georegion: Lakes in this georegion tend to be deeper than other georegions and have a summer water clarity average of 11.8 feet. Lake Lucerne in Forest County is the clearest at 26 feet, and small and shallow Setting Lake in Langlade County has the lowest average, 1.5 feet.

Central Georegion: In the Central Georegion, most lakes are small with high water clarity, averaging 11.8 feet in the summer. The least clear lake is Silver Lake, Waupaca County, with a summer secchi average of 1.4 feet, and the clearest is Pine Lake in Marquette County at 22 feet.

Southeast Georegion: This georegion has more large lakes than any other georegion and many shallow lakes. Southeastern lakes tend to have relatively low water clarity, with an average summer secchi reading of 8.1 feet. Sinissippi Lake in Dodge County, which is very large and shallow (2855 acres with an 8 foot maximum depth), has a summer water clarity average of only 0.6 feet. Amy Bell Lake in Washington County, on the other hand has a summer average of 19 feet.

Looking at our data geographically is very interesting, but it is merely the tip of the iceberg as far as what we can do. With over 15 years of data on many lakes in the program, the value of the data collected by volunteers in this state grows exponentially every year. We are very fortunate to have such a large number of dedicated volunteers gathering so much valuable data.

Adopt-A-Lake On the Road Again...

Summer, what a wonderful time to spend near Wisconsin lakes. The lakes are teeming with life, both plant and animal. The AAL program is once again on the road to help youth and adults learn how to become active stewards of Wisconsin lakes.

First stop, Vilas County Annual Lakes meeting. **Mary Platner**, president of the association, requested that Adopt-A-Lake attend this meeting in an effort to encourage adults and youth to begin a lake project. With over 1,300 lakes in the county, there is great opportunity to start several Adopt-A-Lake projects. **North and South Twin Lake** accepted the challenge and they have already recruited a school and an interested teacher; they are planning a "Meet the Lake Day" in the fall!

Second stop, summer school program at **Lac du Flambeau Elementary School**. Over the past three summers, instructor **Nancy Sakally** has been working with elementary students in her classroom. Each year, Adopt-A-Lake helps the students observe and study the "water bugs" that live in a healthy northern lake. Her class is now ready to start exploring the lakes within the Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation. With the help of **Brian Gauthier**, UW-Extension agent, the school and students will begin to experience the rich abundance of life in Wisconsin lakes!

Back into the car and across the state to **Washburn County Lake Fair**. **John Haack**, UW-Extension Basin Educator for St. Croix Basin, and **Beverly Stencel**, UW-Extension Community Natural Resource Agent, coordinated a lake fair at Hunt Hill Nature Center. Residents were able to identify aquatic plants, snorkel above aquatic plant beds, and ride a pontoon boat while testing the water's chemistry.

The Pontoon Classroom is based on an idea originating from Fox Lake's planning grant in 1994. **Mary Danoski**, WAL Board Member and retired educator, designed the Pontoon Classroom to help students understand lake ecosystems and develop a stewardship project beneficial to the entire community. Pontoon classrooms present an excellent opportunity for all age groups to learn more about lakes. The classroom incorporates hands on experience and facilitates a better understanding of the key components of a healthy lake system.

Which aquatic plants are native and which are exotics? **Pine Lake, Waushara County**, identified Eurasian Water Milfoil near their boat landing in 1999. In order to develop an

effective management program, Pine Lake received a lake-planning grant to conduct surveys, assess water quality and evaluate the overall health of the lake ecosystem. Pine Lake Association members, **Jack and Judy Kusch**, **Mary Gansburg**, Southeast Region DNR, **Jeff Stelzer**, student researcher UW-Stevens Point Environmental Task Force Program, and Adopt-a-Lake collected, identified and prepared a permanent display of aquatic plants for the association. Eleven native species and Eurasian Water Milfoil were identified in the 143-acre lake. Plant diversity is key to maintaining a healthy lake ecosystem. Good luck to Pine Lake as it shapes a management program!

Lake meetings, school programs, floating classrooms, and lake fairs are only the beginning of the many programs that are available to Wisconsin residents. *Call Laura Felda, AAL Coordinator, at 715/346-3366 to bring lake education into your community.*

What's up with WET?

Several Kewaunee community members took part in a Project WET workshop in July. The workshop was organized by Pat Robinson, UWEX Basin Educator for the Lake Shore Basin. Pat had a vision for a water education workshop that would draw participation from many areas of youth instruction. Ultimately, workshop attendees consisted of elementary and high school teachers, agency personnel, and scout leaders. Participants took part in activities that they can use in classrooms and workshops. "The Incredible Journey" turned individuals into water molecules traveling around the water cycle. In "Sum of the Parts", participants imagined what they would build if they had $1,000,000 and a parcel of riverfront property. The wished–for projects were captured in drawings and the river sections were later put together to see how neighbors downstream would be affected by the proposed activities.

It was a new experience to most of the participants, many of whom thought a dragonfly nymph must have been the inspiration for the monster in the movie, Alien!

Workshop participants get WET

The highlight of the Kewaunee Project WET workshop was a trip to East Alaska Lake to net macroinvertebrates and observe them under a microscope. It was a new experience to most of the participants, many of whom thought a dragonfly nymph must have been the inspiration for the monster in the movie, *Alien*!

An elementary teacher commented that Project WET was "very enjoyable, with well rounded activities that can cross curriculum topics and age levels." She added, "The materials and resources given are very useful. Excellent resources!"

You, too, can organize a Project WET workshop for your community youth leaders and teachers. It is a great way to begin or add to a comprehensive water education program. Call Mary Pardee at 715/346-4978 or email mpardee@uwsp.edu for further information.

DID YOU KNOW….that Project WET is an international program? All states in the U.S. have a coordinator for the program, as well as D.C., American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands. Internationally, WET is currently in Canada, Phillipines, Mexico and since July of this year, South Korea. The U.S. Peace Corp also uses Project WET throughout the world.

A Word About Grants…

The Lake Management Planning and Protection grant programs draw numerous applications from counties and municipalities, lake districts, nonprofit conservation organizations and qualified lake associations every year. Nonprofit conservation organizations must have tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and must be organized for the purpose of acquiring and managing land (see § 23.0955 Wis. Stats). In order to pass muster as a "qualified lake association" an association must be incorporated under chapter 181 of the state statutes and must meet the following criteria (as outlined in § 281.68 Wis. Stats.):

1. The Articles of Incorporation or By-Laws must state that a substantial purpose for being incorporated is to support the protection or improvement of one or more inland lakes for the benefit of the general public.

Continued on Page 11

2. Demonstrate that the substantial purpose of its past actions was to support the protection or improvement of one or more inland lakes for the benefit of the general public.
3. Allows any individual to be a member who resides on or within one mile of an inland lake for at least one month each year.
4. Does not limit or deny the right of any member or class of members to vote.
5. Has been in existence for at least one year.
6. Has at least 25 members.
7. Requires payment of an annual membership fee of not less than $10.00 nor more than $25.00.

If you have any doubts as to whether your organization meets these criteria, you can fill out and submit an organizational application (found in the DNR publication, Guidelines and Application, Lake Management Planning and Protection Grants) and submit it to the DNR office in your region.

Speakers List Available!

Speakers List for Shoreland Issues Available

Is your organization facing a current shoreland challenge?

This speakers list covers 20 issues ranging from the effects of shoreland development to methods for protecting water quality, to grant opportunities. Knowledgeable people from across the state are listed for each issue, along with all of the information you will need to contact them to see if they are available to talk with your group.

The list is available through your county UW-Extension Community Natural Resources and Economic Development agent, basin educator or the Land Use Education Center at 715/346-3783.

C A L E N D A R

Sept. 12 - Shaping the Future of Your Lake Workshop. Holiday Acres in Rhinelander. Contact WAL for a flyer at 1-800-542-5253.
Sept. 13-14 - Moving Beyond Greenspace-Watershed Sensitive Development Conference. Mariott Hotel & Conference Center in Racine. Contact Rose Skora at 262/886-8460.
Sept. 21 - Second Annual Aquatic Plant Harvesting Seminar. Country Inn Hotel, Waukesha. Contact Aquarius Systems at 1-800-328-6555.
Oct. 13-14 – Project WET Workshop. Seno Woodland Education Center, Burlington. Call Mary at 715/346-4978 for more information.
Oct. 19-21 – Midwest Environmental Education Conference. Wonderland Camp & Conference Center, Camp Lake. Call 715/346-2796 or email callar@uwsp.edu for more information.
Nov. 8-9 - Working Landscapes Conference, Lake Lawn Resort, Delevan. Contact Marin Byrne at 612-870-3436.
April 10-12, 2002 – "Trails: Connecting People, Places and Open Spaces" workshop. The Alliant Energy Center, Madison. See http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/trails/sprgconf.html for more information.

Lake Tides -- *905021*
College of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin
1900 Franklin St.
Stevens Point, WI 54481
715/346-2116

Volume 26, Issue 3
Summer 2001

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 19
Stevens Point, WI

IN THIS ISSUE

How Does This Look to You?.....1
New Websites.....3
The Metamorphosis.....4
Plant Profile: Common Bladderwort.....5
Lyme Disease Ticks Me Off-Part II.....6
The Big Bang Theory 7
Self-Help Lake Monitoring..8
Adopt-A-Lake/
Project WET.....9
A Word About Grants ..10
Speakers List 11
CALENDAR.....11

Printed on recycled paper with soy ink.

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership

Published Quarterly

Internet: http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/
E-mail: uwexlakes@uwsp.edu
Editors: Tamara Dudiak, Robert Korth
Managing Ed.: Mary Pardee
DNR Contributor: Carroll Schaal
WAL Contributor: Donna Sefton

Reflections

Wonder of Wonders
Under a raindrop,
under a stream,
under a snowflake,
under a dream.
all the things you wish to do
in this land all come true.

Ian Olsen, Age 9
Independence, Kansas
2000 River of Words Contest
© River of Words