



District of Powers Lake

NEWSLETTER

Published for all those who use and love Powers Lake

**FALL
2000**

- We have great news! The District of Powers Lake has been awarded a Stewardship – Urban Green Space Cost-sharing grant of \$30,500 to be applied towards the purchase of the wetlands that were voted to be acquired at the annual meeting, August 2000. In addition we are first in line to receive this year's Lake Protection Grant which would be an appreciably larger sum to be used to purchase the wetlands. Both grants can not be accepted, however, the larger grant would become available in February if we are to receive it, and at that time we can accept the more desirable grant. In either case we will have help towards the funding of the purchase. Commissioner Gil Kroll is to be thanked for his fine work in grant application in order to receive these grants.

- The continued high water level of the lake this summer, after the heavy rains, was due to beaver dams on the farmers' land downstream of the outlet. Commissioners Gil Kroll and Bob Laurine slushed through the outlet area to discover the large dams created by eight beavers. The farm owner agreed to have trappers remove the beavers and Gil and Bob broke up the dams. The water then receded to its normal level.

- The Knolls piers will again be left in the lake for the winter. There was some concern by residents that they would be ruined by doing so. Last year was the first time they were left in. Since they are floating piers and in a leeward area they are much safer left in. It was very expensive to remove them and damaging to the park and the piers as bulldozers were needed to remove them. Last year proved to be a success. Each pier has twelve posts to anchor them, and only two are left in to provide freedom to shift with the ice if needed.

- Powers Lake was stocked this year with 1,200 small mouth bass. Last year both Walleyes and Bass were stocked in the lake, but the DNR will not permit Walleyes to be stocked two years in a row. The Powers Lake Sportsman Club, the Town of Randall and the District of Powers lake each donated 1/3 of the cost of the stocking. The Sportsman Club did the actual stocking. The fish are 5 to 9" long. This years fish were not tagged, while last years were. The tags are behind the dorsal fin and about 1/2" long and 1/8 inch wide. There is a number for you to call should you catch a tagged fish so it can be recorded, where you caught it and how large it was. This is appreciated whether you catch and release or if you keep it. The total cost of the stocking was \$3,000.

- A "Comprehensive Fish Survey" is being taken by the DNR on Powers Lake. In August a 30 foot net was placed in Honey Bear Bay and the catch counted and released. On October 20th Commissioner Gil Kroll was asked to join the DNR in another fish testing. Four locations in the lake were selected. At the DNR boat launch, one in Jefferson Bay, one in the Knolls Bay and one more. The water in an area would be shocked for 15 minutes, stunning the fish. The fish do not surface, so a long net would then be used to select game fish to be measured. Bullheads and other non game fish were not measured. Within a short time the fish quickly regained consciousness. Gil was impressed with the number and the large size of the fish. Gil is the commissioner who tests the water weekly for pollutants. Gil and his wife Pam have been active as scuba divers for many years on Powers Lake and probably know the lake better than anyone. Another fish survey will be taken in the spring.

- The lake water is tested for bacteriological water quality every week during the summer season in various locations. One site is always the Knolls swimming beach. To verify the quality of the water this close check is maintained weekly.