



District of Powers Lake NEWSLETTER

Published for all those who use and love Powers Lake

A P R I L

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Reminder

Please remember to use phosphorous free lawn fertilizer. Most soils in Wisconsin naturally provide all the phosphorus your established lawn needs. Much of the phosphorus (phosphate) you apply actually runs off the lawn before penetrating the soil. **Runoff into our lake could contribute to algae bloom and undesirable aquatic plants.**

Check the second number on the package formula. 15-0-10, for example, means zero phosphate. The first number is the nitrogen content, the middle number is the phosphorus content and the last number is the potassium content. **Make sure the middle number on the bag is 0 indicating it is phosphorus free.**

If you use a lawn service, ask your applicator service not to use phosphorus on your lawn. If they are unwilling to do this, contact another provider or consider applying the no-phosphorus fertilizer yourself.

Be On the Lookout

Looks can be deceiving. Lesser celandine appears to be a pretty little exotic plant. Once lesser celandine has been introduced to an area, all you will find is lesser celandine and none of the native spring bloomers.

Like other invasive plants, it is a robust non-native that was introduced to the U.S. sometime during the 1800's as an ornamental. While it is pretty, it didn't have the predators or diseases that kept it in check in its native homeland. This gave lesser celandine a huge advantage over the native plants. As it competed with the native vegetation for food and sunlight, it won.

It has spread like wildfire through woodland areas in the Northeast and in the Pacific Northwest. Today, it is considered an invasive plant in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and in the District of Columbia.

Lesser celandine blooms in March and April with pretty yellow blooms. The blooms are nestled into deep green heart shaped leaves. It quickly spreads and covers the ground. The roots are tuberous, and this plant spreads by seed, too.

Lesser celandine is challenging to control and remove. It is possible to manage a smaller growth by pulling or digging up the plant and the tubers entirely. Don't leave a bit of tuber behind, or it will explode back into action.

Wet the ground first to make the job of weeding a bit less labor intensive. And, just know that the process will take persistence and vigilance. Watch the area for new growth.

Digging and pulling may disrupt native plants as you disturb the soil. Believe it or not, chemical treatment is the recommended method for eradication of this plant- especially for larger areas of infestation. Choose a regular glyphosate herbicide, and use several applications during the short window of time during late winter and early spring as new growth begins. Always follow instructions on the label.

Further information can be found at https://genevalakeconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/2019-LESSER-CELANDINE-FLYER-04112019_035740.pdf



Elected Commissioners:
 Neal Kuhn, Chair
 Lou Manfredini
 Brooke Jensen, Treas.
 Jim Michels
 Dave Anstett

Appointed Commissioners:
 Judy Jooss, Kenosha Co.
 Mark Halvey, Randall Twp.

If you have seen this plant on your property, please call the Geneva Lake Conservancy at 262-275-5700 and notify the DPL also.



Lesser celandine {Ranunculus ficaria}

Back in the Day

Every once in awhile, we get a reminder of what life was like “back in the day”. Someone retrieved some vintage soda bottles from the lake and neatly placed them at the DNR boat launch. Commissioner Mark Halvey found them and cleaned them up nicely. That area along Bloomfield Road had a number of commercial establishments that would have sold soda by the bottle to take home or enjoy sitting and looking out over the lake.

The difference today would have been that beverages now come in cans or recyclable plastic. These glass collectible bottles were the type that would be taken back to a commercial establishment and a deposit that was built into the cost would be returned to you. Normally, this was around 2 cents. Kids would collect those empties and get pocket money that could then buy a nice supply of penny candy.

It is estimated that these are from the 60’s and proof positive that whatever we toss into the lake will likely outlast each of us. Please be mindful and do your part to preserve the jewel that is Powers Lake.



Website Signup

If you have not already done so, please visit our website and sign up for notifications of lake events such as E. coli advisory/closure at the Knolls Beach or Slow No Wake. www.districtofpowerslake.com

Quarterly Board Meeting

Our next quarterly meeting will be held on Friday, April 3rd, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. This date is tentative pending any changes due to COVID-19 regulations.

The meetings are open to the public at the Randall Town Hall, 34530 Bassett Road, Bassett, WI.

DISTRICT OF POWERS LAKE MISSION STATEMENT

Within the scope of the powers vested in it under Chapter 33 and in furtherance of the Public Trust Doctrine of Wisconsin, the mission of the District of Powers Lake is:

To support, protect, preserve and enhance the native ecosystem of the watershed, shoreline, and waters of Powers Lake as a natural resource for generations to come;

To be responsive to the interests and concerns of the district residents and the public; and

To proactively advocate when faced with potential damage to Powers Lake’s environmental values, wildlife, natural beauty, peacefulness, safety and/or recreational value.