

54th Annual Ice Fishing Derby

Thanks to Mark Pelz, we had a very timely report on this event. Unfortunately due to a delay in mail delivery, we were unable to include his report in our April newsletter.

Results are as follows:

Type	Caught	Biggest
N. Pike	13	13 lb. 3 oz
Bass	6	4 lb. 4 oz.
Perch		13 in., 1 lb. 3 oz.
Bluegill		8 oz.
Crappie		11 in., 14 oz.

Walleye – None were registered during the derby but some were caught earlier in the week. The club hopes to stock walleye in the fall again in a joint venture with the Town of Randall, the Sportsmen's Club and the DPL if they can obtain the DNR's permission.

Over 1,000 people attended. The lake had 14 plus inches of ice and a good snow cover enabling cars and snowmobiles good access. Prize drawings included fishing gear, gift certificates, a sled of 25 bottles of various alcoholic beverages, roundtrip airline tickets, trees, and cash prizes. The club would like to thank Jim Michels for allowing parking by his home the day of the event. Next year, same time, same place on the 2nd Sunday in February.

DNR Grant

Our success last year in treating Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) led to our receiving a 3 year 50% grant from the DNR to support our efforts to mitigate Invasives in Powers Lake. This year our treatment will also include Curly-Leaf Pondweed (CLP). This grant will also provide funding for pre and post treatment surveys each year. Treatment was accomplished on Thursday, May 7th. Our pre-treatment survey indicates we are making great strides. Future savings to the DPL over the next 3 years are expected to save us an estimated \$20,000 in treatment and survey expenses.

25th Anniversary of District of Powers Lake

The District of Powers Lake (DPL) was formed on Feb. 19, 1985 by adoption of Resolution No. 168 by the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors. To celebrate our anniversary, we would like to contact all of the previous commissioners of the DPL in time for our Annual Meeting which will be held on Fri. Aug. 6, 2010. We would greatly appreciate your help in sending us any names and contact information for previous commissioners who served from 1985 to 2000, including approximate dates of service and offices that they may have held. You can mail it to our address on this newsletter, email to

www.dplboard@districtofpowerslake.org or email it by going to our website www.districtofpowerslake.org and using the Contact Us flag.

Fish Kills

Heavy rains and flooding can add organic material to waterways making conditions suitable for fish kills caused by a bacterial disease called Columnaris. Columnaris fish kills generally occur throughout the state during May and June each year and should not be confused with the viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) virus. Both diseases only infect fish species and are not a health risk to humans; however, you should not eat fish killed by Columnaris or VHS. Wash your hands when handling infected fish because other bacteria that may be harmful to humans start feeding on the dead carcasses.

The Columnaris bacterium is most prevalent in our lakes after water temperatures reach 65-70 degrees, from late May to late June," says Larry Damman, DNR fisheries biologist. The bacteria levels increase after major rainfalls into area lakes; this runoff supplies additional nutrients for the bacteria to thrive. "VHS fish kills tend to occur at temperatures less than 60 degrees," said Damman.

Bluegill, crappies, yellow perch and bullheads, already stressed from seasonal spawning activities, are the fish most affected by Columnaris. The bacteria erode their skin, causing leakage of bodily fluids and a fairly rapid death.

Although Columnaris can appear to produce significant fish losses in a matter of several days, it usually does not have a catastrophic impact on overall populations, according to fisheries biologists. Columnaris was recently found in bluegills, crappies, and other panfish in Dane and Kewaunee counties. As waters warm, more fish kills may be expected. If anglers or landowners have additional questions or see large numbers of dead fish, especially non-panfish species like carp, largemouth bass, muskie and walleye, they should contact their local DNR fisheries biologist to investigate the problem.

Columnaris fish disease and fish kills: Andy Fayram
608-266-5250

(This article was reprinted from the Lake Tides, Volume 33, No. 3 Summer 2008 issue. You can receive this excellent publication by emailing them at uwexlakes@uwsp.edu or call at (715) 346-2116 to subscribe to *Lake Tides*.

Be On the Lookout

Yellow Floating Heart, *Nymphoides peltata*, while considered by some to be an attractive water garden plant, is an extremely aggressive aquatic invasive

species. This plant could cause extensive damage in Wisconsin lakes and natural water bodies and is now listed as prohibited (NR 40) in Wisconsin. Eradication efforts have taken place in two storm water ponds in Walworth County. Please be aware that there are several native yellow water lilies in our lake which should not be confused with the invasive variety. If in doubt about type, please notify Audrey Green @ agreen@co.walworth.wi.us
Information and color pictures are available on our website www.districtofpowerslake.org

New Town Representative to the DPL

The DPL board is comprised of five elected commissioners and two appointed commissioners; one from Kenosha County and one from the Town of Randall. The election of two Randall Town Board (RTB) supervisors occurs each year and then a separate election is held for the position of chairman. All serve a two year term. One of these 5 supervisors is then appointed by the RTB as the town representative to the District. Ken Mangold, who was serving as our town representative, decided not to run for re-election this year so his seat on our board was open. The RTB has appointed the newly elected Mark Halvey as our appointed commissioner. We would like to thank Ken Mangold for his service to the DPL and look forward to working with Mark.

Quarterly Meeting

Our next meeting will be Friday, June 11th, at 5 p.m. The meeting is open to the public at the Randall Town Hall, 34530 Bassett Road, Bassett, WI.