



District of Powers Lake NEWSLETTER

Published for all those who use and love Powers Lake

OCTOBER

2017

GUEST SPEAKER AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Tom Huffine, Head of the Water Patrol, came to introduce himself and give an overview of this past year. New officers were hired and they just took possession of the new boat. The boat will have no markings on the boat indicating it is the patrol boat. One boat is stationed on Powers and the second on Benedict. The old boat was sold to Wheatland. He wanted to increase awareness of Slow No Wake {SNW} when it occurs and asked for suggestions. Increased signage at major intersections around the lake and along the main roads used to be used in years past. The DPL posted SNW on their website after consulting Chairman Stoll. DPL is trying to increase signups for these notifications and asked the PLYC to send out an email and encourage sign up on the website. The same process was used when the SNW was lifted. Tom said in the past an issue came up with someone running over the buoys and cutting them in half. The cost of replacement was \$4,000 to replace 19 of them. He would like to use the website when issues arise and the board agreed.



AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT

According to the 2017 post treatment survey, overall, the plant community is excellent with great native diversity and high rankings when comparing it to similar lakes in the region.

For the 2017 treatment, there was some Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) still present, but in highly scattered patches and often times as single clumps.

The 2018 treatment will be early spring and dependent on water temperatures.

WATER LEVEL MONITORING

The District has completed the installation of an electronic water level device which provides real time water level monitoring. The results from 2013 to the present can be found on page 3. Our plan is to update the webpage regularly going forward in an effort to keep everyone informed.

FISH STOCKING

Commissioner Dave Anstett followed up with Luke Roffler, the DNR Senior Fisheries Biologist for Racine and Kenosha Counties. The DNR fisheries report for Powers Lake included the following.

Over all, recent fisheries survey results are decent for all species.

Large Mouth Bass size structure is above average for the area but bass do not appear to be overabundant.

Bluegill are abundant and a little on the high side regarding individual average size. Size structure of both of these species could be gained by increase in predation.

Walleye are an excellent predator for bluegill so new walleye stocking project is timely for our lake. We were stocked this year with 3" walleye. In 2018, the DNR will move to a 10" minimum length to allow at least 1 spawn before harvest. We should see an increase in walleye density and better fishing.

The Northern Pike survey done by electro fishing shows a moderate abundance. Stocking pike would see bass and bluegill size structure gains.

At the DPL request for suggestions for projects we could fund, Luke suggested we could dedicate money to increase fishing



Elected Commissioners:

Neal Kuhn, Chair
 Dan O'Connell, Secretary
 Brooke Jensen, Treas.
 Jim Michels
 Dave Anstett

Appointed Commissioners:

Judy Jooss, Kenosha Co.
 Mark Halvey, Randall Twp.

results on Powers Lake in these areas:
 Fish cribs could create additional habitat.
 Northern stocking would supplement state raised fish.
 Small mouth bass stocking would also be advisable.

These surveys are a type of quick snapshot look at a lake so management decisions are typically based on trends observed over multiple surveys throughout the years.

Luke finds the fishing reports and other public comments to be very valuable, so please feel free to get in touch with him about what you are seeing.

Luke.Roffler@wisconsin.gov

The board voted to allocate up to \$1,500 in a fisheries budget to stock the lake in 2017.

ANNUAL 2018 BUDGET AND ELECTION OF COMMISSIONER

The District voted to approve the tax levy to \$30,000 for fiscal year 2018.

Jim Michels was unanimously elected to Commissioner.

The next Annual Meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 3rd, 2018 at 7 p.m.

KNOLLS BEACH ADVISORY OR CLOSURE

Each week during the summer, a water sample is taken at the Knolls Beach for E. coli. The sample is processed overnight at the Burlington Water Pollution Control Facility. If the reading is above 235 cfu/100 ml, a beach advisory is posted by the Town of Randall and above 1,000 cfu/100 ml, a beach closure is posted. This advisory or closure applies only to the Knolls Beach NOT THE WHOLE LAKE.

The results of the weekly test are reported to westofthei.com. The beach will then be retested as soon as possible and the advisory or closure lifted when the count goes down. The signs remain posted until the conditions have changed. The warnings usually are lifted within a day or two.

Studies indicate that an advisory level of 235 is equal to 8 cases of gastrointestinal {GI} illness per 1,000 recreational water users. A closure level of 1,000 is equal to 15 cases of GI illness per 1,000 recreational water users.

A few simple precautions can help you and your family protect your health and safely at the beach.

- Don't swallow lake water
- Shower after swimming
- Wash hands before eating
- Pay attention and follow advisory signs

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, October 6th, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. at Randall Town Hall.

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.