



OCTOBER, 2013

AWESOME AUTUMN ARRIVES!

"I cannot endure to waste anything so precious as autumnal sunshine by staying in the house."

~ The American Notebooks by Nathaniel Hawthorne ~

"Barring love and war, few enterprises are undertaken with such abandon, or by such diverse individuals, or with so paradoxical a mixture of appetite and altruism, as that group of avocation known as outdoor recreation. It is, by common consent, a good thing for people to get back to nature."

~ A Sand County Almanac by Aldo Leopold ~

IN THIS ISSUE

Accomplishments
TAISP
Lake Patrol Report
Rest Lake Dam
Colorama
Fish Crib Project
NR115
Annual Meeting
MW Destination Assessment
Leaf Dumping
Did You Know?



REFLECTING ON OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST YEAR

- TAISP (Town Aquatic Invasive Species Partnership) has been awarded a total of seven WDNR grants totaling over \$300,000, since 2011.
- Successful treatment of curly leaf pondweed (CLP) in Island Lake and the Island-Spider Channel.
- Detection of new CLP infestations for removal/ treatment.
- Participation of volunteers in the Captain and Deckhand Training and Monitoring Program.
- Accrued required grant hours for Clean Boats Clean Waters Program.

- Acquired over 450 in-kind match of volunteer hours for the grants.
- Dug up, potted, and netted 80 purple loosestrife (PL) plants, with help of NLS students, to raise beetles to control PL infestations. Collected and placed beetles into netting. Sewed additional netting.
- Twelve new fish cribs built and placed in Little Star Lake (GPS coordinates for all cribs posted on our web site).
- Sponsored North Lakeland Outdoor Education Program and AIS programming at Camp Jorn.
- Provided free trout pond fishing experience for children on July 4th.
- Gave free pontoon tours of the Chain during Colorama.
- Responsible for at least three road side cleanup activities on County Hwy K.
- Provided informational and merchandise booth on July 4th, for Colorama, and at the Annual Meeting and Picnic.
- Wrote letters to legislators on issues affecting our Chain and other State waters.
- Provided MWLA representatives at Town Board and Plan Commission meetings, and at the Wisconsin Lakes Convention in April 2013.
- Held Annual Meeting and Picnic that included Onterra Consulting lake management planning/AIS update presentation plus presentations from NLS staff and students.
- Sent out email alerts and newsletters to keep membership informed of timely issues.

The responsibility of protecting the health of the Chain belongs to each one of us, so please consider making a personal commitment of time and/or money to the ongoing efforts to prevent AIS from overtaking the Chain. Inform your friends and neighbors of our accomplishments and encourage them to become MWLA members. Your ongoing support and involvement is crucial if we are to continue to be a vibrant and relevant organization. We would not have been able to achieve all these accomplishments without your willingness to renew your membership each year. Thank you to all who have contributed to our efforts to “maintain, protect and enhance the quality of the Manitowish Waters Chain of Lakes and other Township waters.”

TAISP by Anne Kretschmann

The Town Aquatic Invasive Species Partnership (TAISP) had a very successful 2013. The Manitowish Waters Chain of Lakes was just awarded its seventh grant, bringing the total amount awarded between all grants to over \$300,000 since 2011.

Each of the grants that the Chain has received requires cash or volunteer match and we encourage you to get involved! Doing your part by volunteering is as simple as looking for anything that looks suspicious as you walk your shoreline, check your pier legs, clean your prop, or while you are out on the pontoon. The Discovery Center is always willing to identify anything that you find by either bringing in a sample to the North Lakeland Discovery Center, 215 County Hwy W, PO Box 237, Manitowish Waters, or taking a photo and emailing it to Anne Kretschmann at anne@discoverycenter.net. Please remember to include information about where you found it and your contact information.

Curly leaf pondweed is currently germinating, so don't put away your investigating eyes yet! As you enjoy a walk on your shoreline or a paddle during these beautiful fall days, keep an eye out!

We urge anyone who kept their eyes open during this season to **please remember to report your time** to Anne via email, phone (715-543-2085) or mail! Thus far, we have over 450 hours of volunteer time reported which is a great accomplishment and helps decrease the amount of cash match. A huge thanks to all who helped make us successful this year, we couldn't do it without **YOU!**

LAKE PATROL REPORT by Dan Cardinal, Water Safety Patrol Officer

My active patrolling on the Chain mostly ended with the Labor Day weekend. I am already looking forward to Memorial Day weekend of 2014. While I spent time working different parts of the day and different days of the week, by far the busiest time was between 11 a.m. and sunset and on weekends. Overall, the Chain users have been very cooperative

and have complied with the State regulations and the Town ordinances. I did write a few citations, but most of the contacts were more of an educational nature.

One of the newest activities on Wisconsin waters is the use of the very popular stand-up paddle board. Even though this is a slow moving activity, it does have the danger of floating its passenger out into deep water. Because of this, it is defined as a boat and a life preserver on board **is** required. I recommend that the life preserver be worn or tethered to the operator. If you fall off the board it will probably be out of reach, and if the wind is blowing, you may not be able to swim fast enough to catch the board.

Slow No Wake (SNW) complaints still top the list of violations and will need more attention. SNW violations include boats going greater than SNW speed less than 100' from docks, occupied anchored boats, rafts and lake shorelines. Personal water craft (PWC) must maintain 100' separation from each other and must increase the distances from the shoreline to 200' at greater than SNW speed.

All in all I had a good summer on the Chain and met many wonderful people. I wish everyone a safe winter, and I hope to see you on the water next summer.

REST LAKE DAM

The WDNR has decided to indefinitely postpone the public information hearings on a new operating order for the Rest Lake Dam due to the recent Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling on a separate water level order in southern Wisconsin. The WDNR is reviewing the court's decision and evaluating how the Lake Koshkonong water level case decision will affect other water level orders around the state. A new set of dates will be scheduled for the Rest Lake Dam public information hearings after the DNR has the opportunity to evaluate how the Supreme Court decision will affect issuing dam safety operating orders,

Updates on the project will be posted to DNR's Rest Lake Web page <http://dnr.wi.gov/water/basin/upwis/restlakedam/> and distributed by email using GovDelivery. People can subscribe to receive Rest Lake Updates by email from the "Subscribe to Rest Lake updates" link in the upper right corner of the Web page."

If you have questions about the status of the Rest Lake operating order, you can contact John Spangberg at 715-685-0431 or by email at john.spangberg@wisconsin.gov.

You can also access Rest Lake Dam information by visiting the Manitowish Defense Fund website at <http://manitowishchaindefense.org/>

There will no change to the operating order of the dam this year. Drawdown of the MW Chain began on September 30, and refilling will begin shortly after ice-out in the spring.

COLORAMA



The cool, cloudy weather did not deter 47 people from enjoying our free Colorama Pontoon Tours held on September 21. Jim Reichert and Bob Becker captained their pontoons and Bud Kleinsmith captained a pontoon generously loaned by Greer Fitzgerald. Pat Becker greeted people as they arrived and kept track of how many attended. Rita Mazur allowed us the use of the Blue Bayou dock and provided free coffee and use of restrooms. Thank you to all the volunteers who braved the elements to make this a successful and enjoyable experience.

MWLA volunteers (Greg Holt, Eleanor Butler and Penny Benson) manned the MWLA booth at the Community Center and sold many of our new hooded sweatshirts with the MWLA logo on the front and the Chain of Lakes on the back. We have pullover (\$25) and zippered (\$30) hoodies available in a variety of colors and sizes. Contact Eleanor Butler at Enzymes International if you are interested in purchasing MWLA merchandise (715-543-8401).

Anne Kretschmann, AIS Coordinator at the Discovery Center, set up and manned the AIS booth. She answered questions about AIS for the many people who stopped by to see her informative exhibit.

FISH CRIB PROJECT

Twelve new fish cribs were placed in Little Star Lake this summer thanks to the efforts of MWLA board member Tom Kramer, his crew of volunteers and all those who contributed money to this worthy project. Tom reported that next summer; cribs will be built for Island Lake, and possibly, Clear Lake. GPS coordinates for all existing cribs are currently posted on our website at www.mwlakes.com. Click the AIS/Fisheries tab and click the drop-down tab for Fish Crib Project.

Please consider making a contribution to this important project. You can mail donations to the Manitowish Waters Lakes Association, Inc. P.O. Box 286, Manitowish Waters, WI 54545, or look for the miniature fish crib donation containers placed in area businesses.

NR115 quoted from Wisconsin Lakes eLake Letter 9-2-13

“The proposed revision to state shoreland zoning rules seeks to ease standards for nonconforming structures and impervious surfaces. Over a year ago, DNR announced it was seeking to revise NR115, the state administrative code that sets minimum standards for county shoreland zoning ordinances across Wisconsin. After working through the initial stages of the process, the rule changes were unveiled at the end of June.

The rule changes, which Wisconsin Lakes oppose, ease rules relating to the percentage of impervious surfaces in a lot within 300 feet of a lake or river (including in a new and somewhat ambiguous category of “highly developed shorelines”), exempt some lots that currently must meet the impervious standard, and allow for a one-time side-to-side expansion of nonconforming structures inside the 35 foot setback from the water’s edge.

The existing rules came about as the result of a long series of difficult but fruitful negotiations between conservation organizations (including Wisconsin Lakes), business interests, developers, and the state. Finalized in 2009 and effective since 2010, the actual deadline for counties to have ordinances in place has continually been pushed back (currently it’s 2014). These rule revisions go against many of the compromises agreed to as part of those negotiations. Except for in a few counties, the rules haven’t even been tested.”

For more information on the rules, including links to the proposed language, check out Wisconsin Lakes [NR115 Revision webpage](#). The MWLA wrote a letter to the DNR Bureau of Watershed Management in opposition to the proposed changes.

MWLA 21st ANNUAL MEETING AND PICNIC IN REVIEW

Despite the cool, rainy weather, about 120 members turned out on July 27 at the North Lakeland Discovery Center for a WDNR Grant update presentation by Dan Cibulka, Aquatic Ecologist of the consulting firm Onterra, LLC from De Pere, WI. Dan informed the membership about the series of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Education, Planning, and Prevention Grants and AIS Early



Detection and Response Grants recently awarded to the Chain by the WDNR.

Leif Williams and Neil Wallace, teachers from NLES, gave short presentations on the Purple Loosestrife Beetle Project and the 21st Century Skills Environmental Activism Class. (Learn more by visiting their website at <http://abarto6.wix.com/nlesais>). Katie Schmidt, 8th grade student, reported on her experiences attending the Water Resource Study Field Trips that are funded by the MWLA.

Anne Kretschmann, Water Specialist and Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator and Tim Dobbins, Water Education Intern from the North Lakeland Discovery Center, were on hand to show samples of curly leaf pondweed, purple loosestrife, and other native aquatic plants; provide information on how to monitor for AIS; and tell about training programs that are available through the Discovery Center.

The following officers were re-elected for 1-year terms: Karen Dixon, President; Tom Joseph, Vice President; Marilyn Gabert, Secretary; and Eleanor Butler, Treasurer. Four directors were re-elected for 2-year terms: Bob Becker, Jim Reichert, Bob Stowers, and Fred Theisen. Remaining board members are Greg Holt, Barry Hopkins, Tom Kramer, and Merry Perkins.

Mark your calendar for next year's MWLA Annual Meeting and Picnic scheduled for **Saturday, July 26, 2014 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the MW Community Center pavilion**. Unfortunately, we could not reserve the North Lakeland Discovery Center for 2014 due to scheduling difficulties, but we were able to reserve it for the following year. Therefore, our Annual Meeting and Picnic will be held at the NLDC on Saturday, July 25, 2015.

2013 MANITOWISH WATERS DESTINATION ASSESSMENT

This assessment was conducted as a joint project between the WI Dept. of Tourism, Bureau of Industry Relations and Services and the community of Manitowish Waters. The summary results were reviewed by Sarah Fischer, Regional Tourism Specialist, at a community meeting hosted by the Manitowish Waters Economic Development Association and the Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism on September 26 at Camp Jörn.

The top MW assets identified in the assessment, ranked in importance, were:

1. 10-Lake Chain
2. Fishing
3. Snowmobiling
4. Year-Round Silent Sports
5. Fall Color/Cranberry Harvest
6. Special Events

The MWLA takes great pride in its efforts to maintain, protect and enhance the quality of Manitowish Water's #1 asset – the 10-lake chain. Copies of the Destination Assessment are available at the MW Chamber Office.

DUMPING OF YARD WASTE IN WISCONSIN WATERS IS PROHIBITED

Now that fall leaf-raking time is here, it is important to know that your yard waste does not belong in the water! Dumping of yard waste into Wisconsin waters is prohibited. Please dispose of your yard waste appropriately; it should not be dumped into our rivers and lakes! If you see someone raking yard waste into the water, please inform them of the following rule: NR 30.12 rule: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/30/11/12>

PERMITS REQUIRED: Unless an individual or a general permit has been issued under this section or authorization has been granted by the legislature, no person may do any of the following:

- (a) Deposit any material or place any structure upon the bed of any navigable water where no bulkhead line has been established.

(b) Deposit any material or place any structure upon the bed of any navigable water beyond a lawfully established bulkhead line.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Lone star tick is moving closer to Wisconsin and carries the Heartland virus with symptoms of high fevers, diarrhea and nausea. To learn more, go to <http://www.npr.org/blogs/health/2013/07/22/204527407/new-tick-borne-virus-lurks-in-missouri-s-woods>
- The WinMan Trails are now officially opened! The grand opening celebration was hosted by the North Lakeland Discovery Center on Saturday, October 5. The development and maintenance of the trails will be managed by the Discovery Center. This valuable community project will include groomed snowshoeing trails, single-track mountain biking trails, classic and skate skiing trails plus hiking trails. The trails are located on 1200 acres of private and public recreation lands just 3.5 miles north of the Discovery Center at the intersection of County Hwy W and J in Winchester. Find out more at [WinMan Trails](#).
- The NLDC has been awarded a grant for \$5,000 from the WDNR Citizen-based Monitoring Partnership Program to assess, evaluate and improve AIS detection by volunteers. Go to www.discoverycenter.net for more information about the grant and to take part in a survey.
- You can track the annual loon migration at the USGS website at: http://www.umesc.usgs.gov/terrestrial/migratory_birds/loons/migrations.html.
- Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ManitowishWatersLakesAssociation

~~~~~

Check out our website at [www.mwlakes.com](http://www.mwlakes.com) to access board meeting minutes, lakes-related articles, information on aquatic invasive species, past e-newsletters, and many other interesting topics.

**The MWLA Board of Directors is truly grateful for your continued support.**

**Karen Dixon**  
**President**  
Manitowish River  
715-543-8141

**Tom Joseph**  
**Vice President**  
Rest Lake  
715-543-8362

**Eleanor Butler**  
**Treasurer**  
Alder Lake  
715-543-8401

**Marilyn Gabert**  
**Secretary**  
Manitowish Lake  
715-543-8224

**Jim Banovetz**  
Wild Rice Lake  
715-385-2812

**Bob Becker**  
Spider Lake  
715-543-2219

**Greg Holt**  
Benson Lake  
715-543-8168

**Barry Hopkins**  
Rest Lake  
715-904-0480

**Tom Kramer**  
Hwy. 51  
715-543-8000

**Merry Perkins**  
Sturgeon Lake  
715-543-2048

**Jim Reichert**  
Alder Lake  
715-543-2647

**Bob Stowers**  
Manitowish Lake  
715-543-2284

**Fred Theisen**  
Island Lake  
715-543-8860

**The Manitowish Waters Lakes Association is a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit organization.  
All donations to the MWLA are fully tax deductible as allowed by relevant law.**