



LOOKING FORWARD TO SUMMER!

JUNE, 2014

"In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer." ~Albert Camus~

YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT IS CRUCIAL

The 10-lake Manitowish Chain was identified as the number one asset in an assessment done last year in a joint project between the WI Dept. of Tourism, Bureau of Industry Relations and Services and the community of Manitowish Waters. A healthy MW Chain is crucial to all area residents in regard to property values, economic prosperity of the Town, and enjoyment of water-related activities. The MWLA needs your support more than ever now that a total of 10 water-related WDNR grants have been awarded to the MW Chain. Consider the many ways you can help to protect our waters from aquatic invasive species (AIS). Most importantly, you can do this by renewing your membership in the MWLA. We are very thankful for all the support that you have given in the past. **Please renew your membership by filling out and sending in the enclosed renewal membership form. Annual dues are \$25.00 from June 1 to May 31 of the following year.**

Additional ways to show your support: encourage your friends and neighbors to join our association; volunteer time and/or money to help prevent and combat AIS; attend programs at the North Lakeland Discovery Center regarding lakes-related topics such as "Clean Boats, Clean Waters" and AIS monitoring training; and attend the MWLA Annual Meeting/Picnic on July 26.

MWLA ANNUAL MEETING/PICNIC

Last summer we were fortunate to be able to hold our Annual Meeting/Picnic at the North Lakeland Discovery Center, but due to a scheduling conflict, we will be hosting the meeting and picnic this summer at the **Community Center Pavilion on Saturday, July 26, 2014.**

Sign-in starts at 3:30 p.m. with the meeting beginning promptly at 4:00, followed by a free picnic dinner for all MWLA members with a raffle of fantastic offerings. More details will be provided in our July Summer Newsletter. Meanwhile, please mark the date on your calendar.

There will be a short business meeting to elect Officers and Directors and a presentation by Leif Williams and his North Lakeland 7th-grade Science students reporting on their Outdoor Education Field Trips sponsored by the MWLA. Anne Kretschmann, Water Specialist/AIS Coordinator at the North Lakeland Discovery Center, will give a brief update on the current status of the WDNR grants awarded to the MW Chain for AIS prevention and control. She will also update us on the 2014 plan and procedures for control of CLP (curly leaf pondweed) that is spreading throughout the Chain.

TEN WDNR LAKE GRANTS AWARDED! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED by Anne Kretschmann



We are excited to announce that we were awarded several additional lake management planning grants, a Clean Boats Clean Waters grant, and one additional early detection and response grant, bringing the total number of WDNR grants awarded to the Manitowish Waters Chain of Lakes to **TEN** since 2011! The Town Aquatic Invasive Species Partnership (TAISP) consistently ranks among the top applicants, indicating the high value that the state places on the Manitowish Waters Chain of Lakes. The grants will expand our understanding of the health, functioning, and threats to the Chain and enable the protection and enhancement of our lakes for generations to come.

The Towns of Manitowish Waters and Boulder Junction have generously committed a portion of matching funds as a component of the grants. We **STRONGLY** encourage all MWLA members to volunteer their time as match as well. This decreases the amount of matching cash-out-of-pocket funding expense to the town.

Volunteering is as simple as walking down your shoreline and noticing what plants have washed up, checking your dock legs, or keeping your eyes open for aquatic invasive species while you are out fishing or taking a pontoon ride on a sunny day.

The North Lakeland Discovery Center will host numerous trainings throughout the summer on what to look for (June 17, July 15, and August 12, 1-2pm AND Saturday August 2, 10am-12pm meeting at Koller Park.) The Discovery Center is ***always*** willing to help you identify any potential aquatic invasive species (AIS) that you find in your lake and stream travels. Simply bring a sample by to show us, or take a photograph and email it to us. It's important to note that even if you don't see an invasive species, your time spent keeping your eyes open still counts! Please make sure that you ***report*** all volunteer time and boat-hours to Anne Kretschmann, AIS Coordinator at ais@discoverycenter.net or 715-543-2085. We would like to remind you that it's never too early to start monitoring for aquatic invasive species.



Invasive curly leaf pondweed is already around 4 feet tall! Our ***'Lake Captain and Deckhand'*** program has become recognized by the state for being an extremely important component in the fight against AIS with over 400 hours logged each summer by volunteers around the Chain. We are expanding this program which trains volunteers to monitor shorelines and areas where AIS are most likely found. We emphasize the identification of curly leaf pondweed that is a prolific aquatic invasive plant usually found in waters less than 12 feet deep with a soft substrate. It begins growing early, under the ice and usually dies by mid-summer which has the potential to create dissolved oxygen problems due to decomposition and algae growth. CLP was first detected in 2010 in the Chain by a volunteer trained by our program. We hope you will help us in this endeavor as our success depends on you. We remain thankful for your endless efforts and look forward to working with many more faces in the future.

Also, please be sure to ***clear your motors of all weeds*** before you travel to another lake on the Chain to help slow the spread.

TAISP recommends that all motor boats keep out of Rice Creek due to the prolific growth of curly leaf pondweed that currently encompasses more than 23 acres.

LAKE MANAGEMENT AND CURLY LEAF PONDWEED UPDATE



In spring 2014, Clean Lakes will treat curly leaf pondweed in the Spider-Island and Rest-Stone Channels using LittLine® Littoral Zone Treatment Technology. We are also deploying a professional team of scuba divers to hand-harvest curly leaf pondweed in other areas of the Chain of Lakes. If you are interested in volunteering to dive, we are also putting together a volunteer team to supplement the professional divers.

Onterra LLC, professional lake management consultant, will begin to conduct full-lake studies of Wild Rice and Alder Lakes in 2014 starting in early June. They will also continue early-season surveys and mapping of curly leaf pondweed in other lakes and channels on the chain.

Become a part of the planning process and learn more about your lake. We are looking for folks to sit on a lake management planning committee for Wild Rice and Alder Lakes. This committee will meet a few times with the lake management consultant to hear findings about their lake and also to provide input to the consultant from homeowners around the lakes.

An effective management plan considers both the technical and sociological aspects of the lakes. This summer, a stakeholder survey will be conducted chain-wide soliciting homeowners and MWLA members' perceptions, beliefs, and needs of those who utilize and care for the lakes. This is every person's opportunity to be heard. The survey will be anonymous and have an option to be filled out either online or by hand/paper. Please keep your eyes open for it as we need your input about your lakes.

REST LAKE DAM

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will host two public information meetings on Friday, June 27, prior to determining a new operating order for the Rest Lake Dam. The meetings will start at 12:30 p.m. and again at 6 p.m. at Manitowish Waters Town Hall, near the intersection of Highway 51 and Airport Road, Manitowish Waters, WI 54545.

The meeting format will include a brief presentation followed by a comment period. After the 12:30 p.m. meeting, comments will be collected until 5 p.m. After the 6 p.m. meeting, comments will be collected until 9 p.m. Speakers at the meetings will be encouraged to focus on providing new information, including comments that relate to environmental and economic concerns. DNR will give equal weight to written comments, which can be submitted by email to: DNRRestLake@Wisconsin.gov or mailed to DNR Service Center, Attn - Rest Lake Dam, 2501 Golf Course Road, Ashland, WI 54806.

The Manitowish Chain Defense Fund encourages you to come prepared with meaningful comments, and have them in writing as well, so you can give it to the DNR when you are finished speaking. For talking points, you can go to the Defense Fund website at www.manitowishchaindefense.org to review the information given at the meeting that was held on July 13, 2013.

MEET THE 2014 WATER MONITORING AND OUTREACH INTERN AND CLEAN BOATS, CLEAN WATERS WATERCRAFT INSPECTOR COMING TO THE NORTH LAKELAND DISCOVERY CENTER!

Water Monitoring and Outreach Intern, Andrew Lockwood



"Hello to all. My name is Drew, and I am a fisheries and biology major at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. From the hometown of Elkhorn in southeastern Wisconsin, I am the youngest boy in a family of four children. I have had an extreme passion for the outdoors ever since I was little. After working in landscape maintenance for three years, I am not a stranger to working long hours outside in many types of weather conditions. Just as an example of some of my qualifications for the water monitoring and outreach internship, I am involved in several organizations and programs within UWSP. These include the UWSP subunit of the American Fisheries Society, the Ichthyology Society, and Big Dawg Fishing Team. Lastly, by summer, I will have received 3 credits in a biological independent study program doing lab work for a white sucker project. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to be a member on this team, and I am really looking forward to getting my

feet wet (literally) in my field of study!

Drew will be assisting with aquatic invasive species (AIS) programs at the Discovery Center including: volunteer monitoring trainings; AIS surveying and mapping; manual and bio-control efforts; and inspecting boats at Manitowish Waters boat landings through the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program.

Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) Watercraft Inspector, Leah Dittberner

"Hi everyone! My name is Leah Dittberner. I am a recent graduate of UW-Madison (B.S. in Conservation Biology and Environmental Studies, 2014). Throughout my undergrad career, I have held a few research and field technician positions through the Botany department, working primarily with oak savannahs and grasslands. I have recently studied abroad in New Zealand and also travelled to Chilean Patagonia, conducting botany field research. I have a great passion for environmental education and outreach, and have worked and volunteered in various community outreach positions throughout my time in Madison. I look forward to being able to apply my skills and experiences to Wisconsin's beautifully pristine lakes as a seasonal CBCW worker, and to simply enjoy the wildlife and wilderness of the great Northwoods!"



Leah will be sharing her knowledge about aquatic invasive species (AIS) with boaters and conducting watercraft inspections at public boat landings in Manitowish Waters and Presque Isle through the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program. Please stop and say "hi" when you see Leah and Drew around town!

WATER SAFETY PATROL NEWS by Dan Cardinal, MW Lake Patrol Officer

I, like the rest of the open water users, am eager to start enjoying spring and summer with the lakes being a big part of the enjoyment. From a big picture point of view, the water levels appear to be good in the area and hopefully will remain that way all summer. Water levels are important, but everyone must also be constantly vigilant and conscious of caring for the quality of the water. Invasive species are becoming a growing problem in our area both on land and in the water. The DNR has quality brochures available to help educate the area users.

Manitowish Chain users, both home owners and vacationers to our area, should be thinking about invasives when they travel from lake to lake. Last summer I observed boats traveling across lakes with their anchors covered with weeds. These weeds should be cleaned off before leaving the anchorage and not left to be reintroduced in a new location on that lake or another lake. This practice is just as important as cleaning your boat and trailer before leaving a boat landing. Fortunately, there were no reportable boating accidents last year. I am confident that this was because of diligent boating by the water users. Complaints received last year and needing more attention on my part this year are:

- 1) PWC'S operating within 200' of shore at greater than slow no wake.
- 2) Greater than 'slow no wake' speed in the designated areas.
- 3) Paddle boards operating out of the swimming areas without proper PFD's
- 4) Motor boats operating between sunset and sunrise without proper boat lights.

As I have said before, the boating public that uses the Chain are of high quality and this makes a good experience for all the users and my job easier. I look forward to my time on the water this summer. The best way to get information to me is to contact the MW Town office at 715-543-8400.

FISH CRIB PROJECT by Tom Kramer, MWLA Board Member

I am looking for people who would like to have fish cribs installed out from their properties on **Island Lake**. The water has to be deep enough to sink cribs and still have 5' of water above the crib during low water. The height of the fish cribs will be 3 and 4' tall.

I was unable to get logs this winter due to the deep snow. The plan is to get logs this summer and obtain all of the permits. We will then install them toward the end of the summer. I am also looking for a landing or an area that we could unload the cribs and set them in the water to float them out. Let me know if anyone has a spot to do this. You can contact me at 715-543-8000, 715-904-0182, or tom@bearcountrybuilders.com.

The DNR prefers fish sticks rather than fish cribs. In the future, we will be installing them in lakes throughout Vilas, Oneida, and Iron counties through our Walleyes for Tomorrow Chapter. They will work on your property if you have room for them and your shoreline is deep enough. I will be finding more out about them and let everyone know what our plans are for future fish stick projects.

GPS coordinates for 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 great 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.

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE BEETLE PROJECT PARTNERSHIP



On May 14th, twenty North Lakeland School 7th graders, from Mr. William's Science class, partnered with the Discovery Center and the MWLA to spend the entire day identifying, digging, potting and netting 62 purple loosestrife plants for the Manitowish Waters purple loosestrife beetle-rearing bio-control project. The students learned about purple loosestrife which is an invasive species that has an extremely effective biological control. The 'Chella' beetles eat and weaken the

plant, keeping flowers from forming. The beetles are reared on the netted plants at the Discovery Center and released into larger, established infestations on the Chain. Mid-summer, volunteers also pull non-established smaller populations and cut flower heads to slow the spread through seeds.

The work day was led by Anne Kretschmann of the Discovery Center, assisted by Karen Dixon (MWLA). The students were accompanied by NLES teachers Neil Wallace and Christy Dicka.

2014 WISCONSIN LAKES PARTNERSHIP CONVENTION

This year's convention was held in Stevens Point, April 23 – 26, and was attended by over 600 people. MWLA board members Karen Dixon and Tom Joseph attended along with Anne Kretschmann of the Discovery Center. Workshops and keynote speakers offered information on a variety of subjects pertaining to our lakes and rivers. Convention programs have been archived at <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/convention/2014/default.aspx>.

DID YOU KNOW?

- **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 Natural Resources rule below. Contact DNR Warden Rich Thole at 715-605-2130 to report shoreland violations.

NR 30.12 rule: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/30/II/12>

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 unless a permit has been acquired:

(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.

- Download the WDNR's free fishing app by going to: <http://www.pocketranger.com/apps/Detail/db407926-5e81-49c2-974a-ba509da3d033>
- You can access [The Handbook of Wisconsin Boating Laws and Responsibilities](http://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/LE/LE0301.pdf) online at <http://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/LE/LE0301.pdf> or pick up a copy at the Manitowish Waters Chamber of Commerce Office at the Community Center
- Mark E. Leistickow, MWLA member, has located National Archive copies of three historical maps of area lakes and generously donated them to the Koller Library in memory of his wife, Barbara Hunter Leistickow.

The maps are described as "1879 survey at the direction of Capt. Allen of the area he chose for the dam at the outflow of what became Dam Lake (later renamed Vance Lake). It shows Rest Lake in great detail with bench marks. Two other maps show the proposed area to be flooded, and also maps of the Chippewa, St. Croix and Flambeau Rivers."

It is proposed that the maps will be framed and hung in the library for the viewing pleasure of library patrons and history buffs.



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

 [Like Us On Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ManitowishWatersLakesAssociation) or go to www.facebook.com/ManitowishWatersLakesAssociation

The MWLA Board of Directors greatly appreciates your continued support.

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715-543-8860



MWLA Membership Application/Renewal

Annual Dues **\$25.00** (June 1 to May 31 of the following year)
Make check payable to: Manitowish Waters Lakes Association or MWLA
Mail to: P.O. Box 286, Manitowish Waters, WI 54545

**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.**

MWLA does not share its membership list with other organizations.

Name(s) _____

Lake/river you live on or are closest to if off-water _____

Primary Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Manitowish Waters Address _____

Indicate when mail is delivered to you in MW (from what month to what month):
_____ to _____

MW Phone _____ Primary Residence Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Please provide an email address so you can receive MWLA e-Alerts and e-Newsletters.

Email address: _____
(Please print clearly)

With the awarding of the WDNR Grants, we are especially in need of members who are willing to help offset the in-kind hours required by the grants.

I am willing to volunteer some of my time to:

___ monitoring AIS ___ 4th of July ___ Annual Meeting ___ Colorama ___ Mailings

If you are unable to volunteer the gift of time, we ask that you please consider making a monetary contribution.

I am including a donation for the following:

___ Aquatic Invasive Species Education and Prevention

___ Fish Crib Project

___ Annual Meeting Raffle

___ Miscellaneous