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## SUN-SATIONAL SUMMER!

*"Bees do have a smell, you know, and if they don't they should,  
for their feet are dusted with spices from a million flowers."  
~ Ray Bradbury ~*



## WAKE ISSUES

### What Is the Full Story???

by Greg Holt, MWLA President

Maybe you have seen some articles in our local newspaper on wake related issues. Or perhaps you've seen some of the paid advertisements regarding wakes in those same papers - or in your paper from 'back home'. Possibly you noticed that "Hazardous Wakes" was on the agenda for our Town Board in July. The issue was temporarily tabled, but don't worry, it's on the agenda for August 10<sup>th</sup>. Plus our local Town Water Safety Committee has been working on outreach education regarding hazardous wakes.

There was a presentation on wave propagation issues just this past weekend at the Plum Lake Association Annual Meeting. And the day before that on Friday the Vilas and Oneida County Lakes and Rivers groups co-sponsored a meeting for folks from 6 neighboring counties during which some of their precious meeting time was allocated to hazardous wakes. There was a presentation a few weeks ago at the Discovery Center in Manitowish Waters on this as well. It seems like Presque Isle is really in the news with their suggestions for a new Town Ordinance regarding hazardous wake issues. If you think this is just a local concern because we have a lot of lakes around here, well, the issue is all over the state...and all over the country. Hazardous wakes are not synonymous with a type of boat, but with a type of boating. Wakes that can potentially

cause injury to others or our shores, lakebeds, ecosystems and even our property can unfortunately be accomplished by many types of watercraft.

So how do we make sense of all of this? Some will say that it isn't the wake you see, but what is happening under the water that is the issue. Or maybe that isn't quite right, maybe it is the potential for spreading aquatic invasive species from one area of the lake to another - or from one lake to another in the ballast bladder of a wake boat. Some will advise that wake surfing is fine, as long as it is done appropriately and 200' distant from shore and others suggest 300'... or 500'---or? Maybe what is important is what might be happening when enhanced wakes hit native aquatic plants. So many considerations, so many viewpoints.

Our Association has as its mission to maintain, protect and enhance our waters. Looking at available information can help guide us. A team of researchers in Wisconsin has an ongoing multi-phase study on wave propagation related to water quality centered on North Lake in Waukesha County, including aerial and underwater drone research. Another somewhat close to home study was done by the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute on the potential for the spread of aquatic invasive species through incomplete emptying of ballast bladders used in wake boats. An industry group, the Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA) cites a study characterizing wakes associated with wake sports and their potential for impact on shorelines. In neighboring Minnesota, through the St Anthony Falls Laboratory of the University of Minnesota, another multi-stage study is comparing wave energy and characteristics produced by different types of boats. Many studies have been done across the country and more are in the works. The full story continues to evolve. But right now there is information out there - it's a good time to check some of it out. Our waters are worth the effort.

- Presentation video of North Lake Research (Waukesha County, WI.) Wave Propagation and Water Quality Impacts on Fresh Water Lakes Capt. Tim Tyre, PhD, USN(ret), Terra Vigilis Security Group & Prof. Mike Mortensen, Carroll University  
<https://nwwislakesconference.org/session-iiic-wave-propagation-impacts/>

- University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Study on Residual Water in Ballast Tank  
[https://www.reabic.net/journals/mbi/2016/3/MBI\\_2016\\_Campbell\\_etal.pdf](https://www.reabic.net/journals/mbi/2016/3/MBI_2016_Campbell_etal.pdf)

- Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA) study:  
[https://www.wsia.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/WSIA\\_draft\\_report\\_Rev\\_II.pdf](https://www.wsia.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/WSIA_draft_report_Rev_II.pdf)

- St. Anthony Falls Laboratory Study on waves produced by different boat types (careful with this one—it's >100 pages long)  
[https://conservancy.umn.edu/bitstream/handle/11299/226190/BoatGeneratedWakeWaveReport\\_Feb12022\\_Final.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://conservancy.umn.edu/bitstream/handle/11299/226190/BoatGeneratedWakeWaveReport_Feb12022_Final.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y)

## **MANITOWISH WATERS LAKES ASSOCIATION** **30<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING AND BREAKFAST**

Would you like to find out what's happening with area lakes and rivers in a beautiful setting with other members of the MWLA, and enjoy breakfast at the same time? What could be more fun? The MWLA Annual Meeting will provide all of this, and more!

We look forward to seeing you **on Saturday, July 30, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the North Lakeland Discovery Center**. Sign-in starts at 8:30 with breakfast of egg bake casserole, sweet rolls, fruit, and beverages. (Your membership in the MWLA covers you and your immediate family. A donation is appreciated if you bring guests or extended family, or if preferred, they can take out a membership for only \$25).

There will be a short business meeting at 9:00 to elect Directors and Officers followed by an educational program with presentations by:

- Heidi Putnam – Vilas County Land & Water Intern on Rice Creek Erosion and Pollution Study
- Jamie VandenLangenberg – NLDC Water Program Director
- Dan Perry – Manitowish Chain Water Safety Patrol
- Tom Kramer – Walleyes for Tomorrow
- Greg Holt – Rest Lake Property Acquisition

A raffle of unique items will be available to help raise funds for our many mission-related needs.

## WATER SAFETY PATROL NEWS

by Frank DiLeonardi

We are in full swing on our waters, and our water patrol is busy. We remind you to enjoy our waters safely and to be courteous to all on our waters. For May and June, our water safety patrol reports the following:

- 804 contacts
- 47 verbal warnings
- 17 written warnings
- 3 citations

The citations were for:

- hazardous wake or wash
- exceeding slow-no-wake in a marked channel
- operating a PWC without a boat safety training course

The Water Safety Committee asks you to please eliminate all dangerous wakes around fellow boaters, PWCs, skiers, tubers, swimmers, piers and shores. Let's keep all large wakes in the middle of our lakes.

Let's be safe out there by using common sense, courtesy and respect while on our waters. We want everyone to enjoy our lakes and to be safe. **For on-water emergencies, call 911. For non-emergencies, call 715-479-4441. Please help us preserve our shorelines and animal habitats.**

## JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> TROUT POND

The MWLA provides 70 pounds of trout for the Trout Pond that is set up yearly for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration. The MW Fire Co. provides the water tank and water for the trout and the MWLA pays for the fish and mans the pond with volunteers. This year we had volunteer help from Tom Joseph, Bob Austin, Greg Holt, Tom Kramer, Chris McConachie, and Michael Small. They helped the children bait their hooks and remove trout when caught. The Trout Pond has become a traditional favorite July 4<sup>th</sup> activity. Volunteers also helped man the MWLA merchandise booth and the Discovery Center AIS booth: Karen Dixon, Carla Biwan Hameister, Eleanor Butler, Sue Austin and her sister Mary, Rebecca Fagley, Dianne Briggs, Jamie VandenLangenberg, and Abby Vogt.



## WATER PROGRAM UPDATE

by Jamie VandenLangenberg, Water Program Director, NLDC

### **Citizen Scientist Fame – Lake Level Monitoring**

The outcome of citizen science can be invaluable, like the data collected by the honorable NLDC volunteers in this long term study of lake levels in the Northwoods. Over a decade ago a group of citizen scientists began recording regular readings of their lakes throughout the year with the help of NLDC's Water Program staff and volunteers, Al Drum and Paul

Lewandowski, who install, calibrate, and remove the lake level gauges each year. NLDC manages this data and provides it to Trout Lake Research Station and the WI DNR to be used in scientific research. This year shows the fruits of their labor with the publishing of 'Extreme water level rise across the upper Laurentian Great Lakes region: Citizen science documentation 2010-2020' in the Journal of Great Lakes Research written by Carl J. Watras, Emily Heald (previous NLDC Water Program Coordinator), Hao Yang Teng, Jeff Rubsam, and Tim Asplund. We encourage you to read the article here, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jglr.2022.06.005> and thank you to all of the volunteers whose years of citizen science attributed to this paper, Jim Brezezinski, Jeff Burke, Al Drum, Jim Duke, Larry Gorilla, John MacLean, Otto Novak, Joe and Dorla Osfar, John Rossmiller, Paul and Marsha Rosenbern, Tom Preston, Dave Vogt, Lew Raker, Max Hurd, and Walter Tarmann.



NLDC Seasonal Staff, Mary Langosch and Richard Dollhopf, calibrate a lake level gauge installed in spring, 2022.

### Manitowish Chain AIS Update – Curly-leaf Pondweed



The NLDC Water Program team has been busy monitoring and managing AIS on the Manitowish Chain this spring and summer. The season started off looking for curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) with routine meander surveying of all the lakes in the chain, paying close attention to Rest, Fawn, and Stone, where previous populations were known to exist. Two outside firms that specialize in lake management and consulting, assisted with surveys and the hand removal of CLP from the lakes. Between all teams we located CLP in all locations that were found in 2021, but the populations were much reduced and there were no new population of CLP found. Harvesting CLP looks similar to weeding a garden underwater. Divers snorkel to locate plant colonies, dive to the base of the plant, and remove the entire plant and root system. The plant debris is collected in bags, removed from the lakes, and use

for compost. The likely presence of turions in the sediment means that some regrowth in the Chain is expected for several years to come but with continued monitoring and management we should see a decline in density of populations. Turions are the reproductive buds CLP forms to reproduce and spread. Once these buds fall off the plants mid-summer, they remain viable in the sediment for up to 7 years.

Continuation of monitoring and management of CLP is vital to preventing proliferation of CLP throughout the Manitowish Chain of Lakes. With the support of the Town of Manitowish Waters and the Manitowish Waters Lakes Association, we will continue to protect our lakes against the spread of aquatic invasive species such as curly-leaf pondweed.



### Manitowish Chain AIS Update – Purple Loosestrife

The NLDC seasonal staff have been tending closely to the 'cella beetles we are rearing for purple loosestrife biocontrol. This project started this year with the 7<sup>th</sup> grade class from North Lakeland Elementary School who assisted the Water Program team with digging up and collecting plants this spring. Since then, we've added adult

'cella beetles, also known as *Galerucella californiensis* and *G. pusilla*, which are a beetle that only eats its host plant, purple loosestrife. These beetles reproduce in our controlled environments on our plants, then we release them by the hundreds onto established populations of purple loosestrife throughout the Manitowish Chain.

In mid-July, we released beetles onto populations of purple loosestrife at Rice Creek near Island Lake, at Wild Rice Lake, and at Alder Lake. We will continue to monitor these populations and clip any flowering heads that are produced, to reduce the spread.



**Please be on the lookout!** Purple loosestrife is just beginning to bloom and the easiest time to identify it is now. Look for a square or angled stem (not round, sometimes more than 4 sides), stalkless leaves that are opposite or in whorls of 3, and a long, 4-16", purple thyrse (spike of flowers, cool word alert!) at the tips of the stems. If you see this plant, or something that looks like it, please take some photos up close of the leaves, stems, and flowers and email it to Jamie Van, Water Program Director at the Discovery Center ([jamie@discoverycenter.net](mailto:jamie@discoverycenter.net)). *NLDC Water Monitoring Intern, Richard Dollhopf, releasing 'cella beetles onto Purple Loosestrife plants in Rice Creek.*

### **Upcoming AIS and CBCW Training**

- **AIS Identification**, Thursday August 4, 10am – Noon: Meet at the Rest Lake Pavilion, Manitowish Waters. Includes short boat ride to practice ID skills.
- **Clean Boats Clean Waters volunteer training**, Thursday August 4, Noon - 2pm: Meet at the Rest Lake Pavilion, Manitowish Waters.
- Sign up for trainings and other Discovery Center programs online, by email, or give us a call: [discoverycenter.net](http://discoverycenter.net), [jamie@discoverycenter.net](mailto:jamie@discoverycenter.net), 715-543-2085

### **EXCITING NEWS!**

If you haven't heard yet, your Manitowish Waters Lakes Association recently became landowners! Our organization was approached last spring by the estate of longtime, local resident and historian, Mark E. Leistickow, who passed away in October of 2020 at the age of 89. He left his lake property to a conservation organization so that it would be returned to its natural state and preserved forever. We are very thankful for his consideration in wishing to preserve the waters and lands, and to his estate for entrusting us to fulfill this responsibility.



The MWLA board convened an ad hoc committee to look into the possibility of taking on the responsibility of becoming land owners. The questions surrounding this transaction revolved around our 501c3 status, making sure the land would remain tax exempt to our organization and making sure that protecting this land for future generations fell within our organization's mission. The MWLA had never been landowners before so we wanted to make sure that we did our due diligence.



After months of investigation we decided, as a board, that securing this property for future generations fit perfectly within our mission to protect the water quality and native habitat of the Manitowish Waters Chain of Lakes and surrounding township waters. After we completed the real estate transaction in January, we contracted to have the dwellings and boathouse removed from the property located on the shores of Rest Lake. Final cleanup of the property was slated for this past spring. The demolition of the buildings and final

cleanup of the property was done by Chuck Kramer who did an outstanding job! The Leistickow estate provided the money necessary for the demolition work. Our plan is for the property to be left in its natural state in perpetuity per the wishes of Mr. Leistickow's will.

A group of MWLA members met recently to fine tune Chuck's cleanup efforts. Mary Bowlus, Jody Miller, Mark Sillman, Greg Holt, Karen Dixon, Delp Schafer, and Angie Dombrowicki collected pieces of glass, metal, plastic, concrete, insulation, pipes, etc.

The property will have scheduled maintenance throughout the year and be done by volunteer help from our membership. Jamie VandenLangeneberg, Water Program Director at the Discovery Center is joining our effort and currently creating a plan for the restoration of native plants and erosion control of the shoreline.





As you are aware, development on our waters has increased over the years. Our shorelines function as a natural buffer and filter, and as an organization, we are excited about this small step to help preserve our shorelines. Furthermore, we hope that this will lead to even more proposed land conservation on our lakes and rivers by specifically preserving additional waterfront property and wetlands in the MW Township should anybody be interested in working with us. We are now set up as an organization that can accept a donation of land, or even buy land in order to preserve it.

**Blue-green algae:** The Wisconsin Department of Resources urges boaters, anglers and swimmers to be on the lookout for blue-green algae in their favorite lakes. It grows quickly in water bodies with high nutrient levels such as phosphorus or nitrogen. The blooms first appear in lakes and ponds in southern Wisconsin and gradually show up in the northern reaches of the state as the summer continues. DNR officials warn that people who touch the algae or accidentally ingest water containing it can become sick. Pets that come into contact with it by drinking algae-contaminated water or licking algae from their coats can die. The DNR says if dog owners notice their pets are lethargic, suffering from vomiting, diarrhea or seizures, they should contact a veterinarian.

**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. Call or text 1-800-847-9367 to report shoreland violations.

NR 30.12 rule: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/30/11/12>

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.

**Shoreland lighting – Think of your neighbors!**

The MWLA has received correspondence regarding shoreland lighting issues. Currently, language from the State concerning shoreland lighting prohibits the regulation of such. Education appears to be the best solution to this issue. Most complaints are about security lights that are left on from dusk to dawn, or even 24/7 all year long. Solving shoreland lighting problems involves working with your neighbors and talking individually with them about the lighting problem, keeping in mind their concerns about safety and security. We should all strive to be considerate of how our lighting affects our neighbors next door and our neighbors across the water. No one should miss the beauty and benefits of moonlight, starlight, and the northern lights due to mercury-vapor lighting. Simply shielding and properly aiming your lights and using lower wattage can achieve the same degree of illumination. Click the link to access the informational pamphlet from the UW-Extension titled

**Sensible Shoreland Lighting.** <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Assets/pdfs/GWQ031.pdf>



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

**The MWLA Board of Directors appreciates your continued support.**

**Greg Holt**  
President

**Angela Dombrowicki**  
Vice President

**Eleanor Butler**  
Treasurer

**Carla Biwan Hameister**  
Secretary

**Karen Dixon**  
Jody Miller

**Mary Bowlus**  
Paul Puccinelli

**Tom Kramer**  
Delp Schafer

**Mike McKeon**  
Lynn Schroeder



**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    \_\_\_ 4<sup>th</sup> of July    \_\_\_ Annual Meeting    \_\_\_ Cran-a-rama

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 Habitat Project

\_\_\_ Annual Meeting Raffle    \_\_\_ Shoreland Stewardship    \_\_\_ Miscellaneous