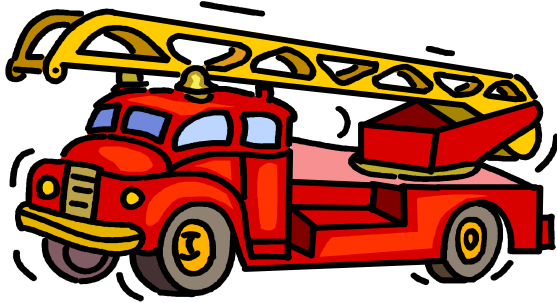


# The Pipe Lakes Newsletter

News and ideas for the protection and rehabilitation of our lakes and land.

June 25, 2009

[www.pipelakes.org](http://www.pipelakes.org)



## CUMBERLAND FIRE CHIEF EXPLAINS HOW TO PROTECT FAMILIES AND PROPERTY

Chief Barry Kuenkel presented several ideas at the Special Meeting May 23 for residents to prepare for and react to a fire. Our homes are located 10 to 13 miles from the Fire Department so we should expect a minimum of 20 minute response time to a called alarm. Here is what you can do to be ready:

- **Get everyone out. Have an escape plan that your family and guests know**, including a place to meet to make sure that everyone is accounted for.
- **Invest in top quality smoke alarms** and make sure they are working.
- **Invest in portable fire extinguishers** and make sure you know how to use them.
- **Evaluate your driveway** to determine that the Fire District's equipment can have access to your home and outbuildings. This can affect your insurance rates. The Cumberland Fire Department will assess driveways by appointment at no charge.
- If you have a fire, **close all doors and windows** where the fire is located to deprive the fire of needed oxygen.

The Chief also discussed the need for dry hydrants which allow the fire department to draw water from the lake as needed, including during the winter months. The fire district has identified two locations for dry hydrants, one at the North end of Pipe Lake, near the boat landing, and one at the southwest corner of Pipe Lake.

The membership approved a request to the township for two dry hydrants. The township, in turn, approved seeking a grant for matching funds to install one dry hydrant on the north end of Pipe Lake.

## BOATING CLASS TEACHES DRIVING SKILLS

18 students completed the Watercraft Safety Certification in early June. The class, which instructs students in the proper way to handle motorized watercraft, is required by WI law for any watercraft operator under the age of 20 who does not have a valid driver's license. The class, taught by Deputy Sheriff Tamarra Larson, Conservation Warden Jesse Ashton and Sheriff Sgt. Brent Waak, included both classroom teaching and hands-on experience.

Congratulations to Nick Thell, Thomas Oberle, Annika Peterson, Hunter Nielsen, Chase Nielsen, Colette Jaeger, Lilian Jaeger, Cassie Doerr, Elly Ebnet, Kayman Ebnet, Emily Stahly, Sydney Courington, Kate Wilson, William Cross, Russell Evenson, Jesse Grad, Nicholas Coleman and Kaitlyn Coleman on successfully completing the course and having fun in the process.

The class will be offered next year June 12-13, 2010. Kent Wilson is looking for a volunteer coordinator for next year. If you can help, call 651-698-8494.



### UPDATE ON DISTRICT GRANT APPLICATION

- Grant request for \$200,000 was submitted May 1
- DNR is awaiting state funding to announce final grants
- Earliest expected announcement of grants is late July
- Updates will be posted on web site after July 24 & Aug 18 meetings and Annual Meeting

### 2009 CALENDAR COMMISSION MEETINGS

June 26	Cancelled
July 24	3PM Town Shed
Aug 28	3PM Town Shed
Sept 5	9AM Annual Meeting Christ Church
Oct	To Be Determined

**DNR GUIDANCE  
DEALING WITH EXPOSED SHORELINE  
DUE TO DROUGHT**

*Dan Houston  
715-762-1342*

A long term shortage of rain and snow fall in northern Wisconsin has caused low water levels and has exposed shorelines and wetland areas. Until water levels return to normal, Department of Natural Resources officials are asking shoreline owners to help prevent the inadvertent harm to these exposed areas.

"These shorelines play a vital role in providing habitat for fish and wildlife, and in maintaining the watersheds of the northland," said Daniel Houston, Water Regulation and Zoning Specialist. He added that with the continued drought and dropping water levels, DNR staff have been getting many calls about what clean up or other activities citizens can and cannot do on shorelines.

Most activities conducted on the exposed lake bed including beach grooming and cutting or chemically treating vegetation are regulated by the DNR, but there are a few activities that don't require a permit.

**"Most of the exposed areas are below what is called the "ordinary high water mark," which is the dividing line between private property and the publicly owned lakebed,"** Houston said.

"Adjoining property owners get to enjoy the use of these exposed areas but also have the responsibility of ensuring their activities do not impact the public's resource."

Some minor vegetation management (except for wild rice) and some activities done by hand do not require permits from the DNR. **Manual cutting and raking will be exempt from the permit requirement if the area of aquatic plant removal is no more than 30 feet along the shoreline and any piers, boatlifts, swim rafts and other recreational and water use devices. Also the following non-native invasive species may be removed by hand in an unlimited area without a permit: phragmites, eurasian water milfoil, curly leaf pondweed, and purple loose-strife. All plant fragments must be disposed of outside of a waterway or wetland.**

**Houston said the following activities require a permit: removing vegetation from an area larger than 30 feet wide, driving a motor vehicle on the lakebed, tilling, and chemically treating vegetation if the area is wet. The law considers roto-tilling the exposed beach a dredging activity that requires a permit.** The permits are designed to assure that the activity does not damage the lake or the sensitive exposed habitat.

"If you have plans for your lakeshore, be sure to find out if permits are required. It's good for your lake, and the penalties for not getting one can be steep -- up to \$186.00 for driving on an exposed lakebed and \$1,318 for illegal dredging, which includes activities such as tilling and disking," Houston said.

More information on this issue can be found by going to the DNR webpage <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/fhp/waterway/> .

**ANNUAL PIPE LAKE  
INDEPENDENCE DAY BOAT PARADE**

**WHEN: SATURDAY, JULY 4<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 p.m. SHARP**

**WHERE:** MEET AT THE NORTH END OF THE BIG LAKE

**ENTRY NUMBERS:** HANDED OUT NEAR THE O'HERN DOCK (5<sup>TH</sup> DOCK WEST OF THE PUBLIC LANDING) STARTING AT NOON

**RAIN DATE:** July 5 @ 11:00 a.m.

**PRIZES:** Top six entrants. This year we will have just one class of boats.

**THREE REASONS TO ENTER:**

1. Using your imagination to decorate your pontoon, runabout or other watercraft is good exercise for your brain and your sense of humor.
2. You will be judged on theme, originality, enthusiasm and decorations— an opportunity to prove your uniqueness.
3. Your kids and guests will enjoy decorating and participating.

**District Family and Friends Picnic**

**WHEN: SATURDAY, AUGUST 22 NOON**

**WHERE: COUNTY LINE TAVERN-County G**

**WHAT: MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS  
GREAT FOOD  
GAMES FOR ALL AGES**

**Nominations  
Wanted**

- Election is Sept 5
- 2 Commissioner positions open
- Each position is 3 year term
- Offers leadership opportunities that leverage your strengths and experience
- Position requires 6 meetings per year
- Questions? Please call Carol Ganske at 651-483-9813.

**Pipe and North Pipe Lakes  
Protection  
And  
Rehabilitation District**

**Board of Commissioners**

Carol Vantine 612-750-8785	Chair
Joe Errigo 651-222-1698	Secretary
Tom O'Hern 651-674-5531	Treasurer
Larry Bresina 651-735-0019	Water Quality
Dick Hollar 715-822-5317	Special Projects
Herschel Brown 715-472-4095	County
Doug Rouzer 715-822-3288	Township