



The Loon Call



Newsletter of Pipe and North Pipe Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District

AUTUMN 2011

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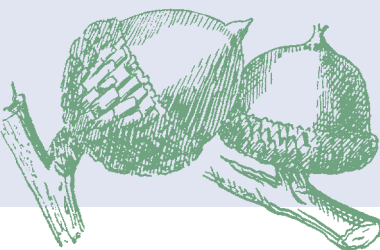
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I was 12 years old when our family bought land on Pipe Lake in the old Char Mar area ...

It was nice to be only two hours from home and it was nice to develop new friendships (i.e., Lisa Durkee). For many people, a lake cabin is a place for relaxation — reading, hiking, enjoying nature. For our family, it was a little different. After the cabin was “framed,” we worked as a family to complete the inside. Every family member had a job. We insulated, sheet rocked, stained pine boards, ran electrical wires, etc. When the schedule got to be too much, my mom instigated a new rule that work for my two brothers and me stopped at 2 p.m. (Dad then added a new rule that the work started at 7:30 a.m.) At 2 p.m., we would meet up with the Durkee kids and other friends we met on the lake. We went swimming, water skiing, tubing, kneeboarding, four wheeling and played water volleyball. We were busy! We also enjoyed the annual picnic, in particular the cow chip throwing contest (won multiple times by my mom).



Laura Jenson Considine at Pipe Lake

Today, my family (husband, 3 girls and dog) heads to the lake every weekend that is “free” from our other activities. It is a place to relax and spend time together away from our hectic lives at home. Golf (or sleep) has replaced work at 7:30am. The girls love tubing and have recently mastered water skiing. We enjoy the time as a family unit as well as the time spent with grandparents. We recently had friends join us for a weekend at the cabin. At the end of the weekend, the mom remarked, “Finally I understand why you love coming to the lake so much! I would come here every free opportunity too!”

Pipe Lake is truly a special place. The clean water, the loons, the beautiful sunsets and the wonderful friends and neighbors help make each moment special. I look forward to many more memory making moments in the future.

— Laura Jenson Considine

“This grand show is eternal. It is always sunrise somewhere: the dew is never all dried at once: a shower is forever falling, vapor is ever rising. Eternal sunrise, eternal sunset, eternal dawn and gloaming, on sea and continents and islands, each in its turn, as the round earth rolls.” — John Muir, naturalist, explorer, and writer (1838-1914)

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

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2011 Lake Monitoring Results

We experienced heavy rains in July and August this year that resulted in more runoff of nutrients to Pipe and North Pipe Lakes. The Secchi reading for Pipe Lake was 19.0 feet on June 12 and decreased to 14.4 feet on Aug. 14. North Pipe experienced a decrease of only one foot in Secchi reading from 7.5 feet on May 3 to 6.5 feet on Aug 19. The large percentage of natural shoreline on North Pipe Lake helps reduce the nutrients in the runoff from the surrounding land. The mix of natural shoreline and developed shoreline on Pipe Lake is less effective in reducing nutrient runoff reaching the lake.

Stream Monitoring

Even though we had a number of rain events this year, we were only able to monitor phosphorus levels twice. The results of these tests reaffirm that the higher phosphorus input from our streams remains to be northeast of North Pipe. We did find a high phosphorus level from a newly discovered stream flowing into Pipe Lake. We are collecting additional samples to confirm that this was not a sampling error and to determine the frequency of flow of this stream.

Clean Boats Clean Waters Program



Our faithful public landing observer, Art Ringsven, spent 208 hours protecting our lakes from May 8 through August 28. He has talked with 857 people and seen 321 boats entering our lakes and 110 leaving. He has found 15 boats with aquatic plants (remember it only takes one), which were cleaned before entering. He also found 22 people who were unaware of the laws in Wisconsin and provided them with information to help make them aware. Art will be at the landing Labor Day weekend and selected days in September.

Underwater Inspections

Our research biologist, Matt Berg, conducted underwater inspections at both the north and south ends of Pipe Lake in June, July and August. While Matt did experience the decrease in underwater visibility, he found no indication of Zebra Mussels, Eurasian Water Milfoil or other invasive species.

Schedule of Upcoming District Meetings

October 21, 2011, 3:00 PM at 2172 West Pipe Lake Ct. (Curt Deering)

December 15, 2011, 3:00 PM at 2198 West Pipe Lake Ct. (Carol Vantine)

April 27, 2012, 3:00 PM at 2198 West Pipe Lake Ct. (Carol Vantine)

May 26, 2012, 9:00 AM, Special Meeting, at Christ Church

July 20, 2012, 3:00 PM at 2198 West Pipe Lake Ct. (Carol Vantine)

August 10, 2012, 3:00 PM 2198 West Pipe Lake Ct. (Carol Vantine)

September 1, 2012, 9:00 AM, Annual Meeting, at Christ Church

District Set To Install Phosphorus Retention Basin

A one-half acre, ten foot deep phosphorus removal pond will be installed on the Christenson property on North Pipe Lake is underway. The pond is designed to allow water flowing south of 230th Avenue to be retained for a period of time to allow phosphorus to settle out of the water before it flows into North Pipe Lake. While it is difficult to project the exact impact of the pond on the health of North Pipe Lake, the project was authorized by District Commissioners and property owners to address our 5-year goal of reducing runoff phosphorus flowing into North Pipe Lake by 15%. The project is covered under our cost-sharing grant with the Wisconsin DNR.

Two additional construction activities will be undertaken by Erickson Excavating of Cumberland at the time of the pond installation. The culverts under 20th Street (a private road off 230th Avenue) will be replaced to provide larger capacity. The stream banks downstream of the 20th Street culvert will be repaired to ensure that runoff is channeled properly. The three projects should be completed by early November. The replacement of the 20th Street culvert will require 20th Street to be closed for half a day. That closure will be scheduled and communicated to 20th Street residents so that they have at least several days notice of the closure. No other disruption of 20th Street or 230th Avenue will be required.

Go to <http://zenphoto.pipelakes.org> for photos.



Choose natives for lakeshore plantings ...

Black eyed susan, *Rudbeckia hirta*, blooms August - October, provides food for songbirds and nectar for butterflies.

DISTRICT 5-YEAR PROTECTION PLAN

FOCUS	ACTION PLAN	2011 STATUS
Lake Protection Education	Workshop Website Newsletter	Workshop 50+ attendees Website and newsletter redesign underway for multi-generational use
Road Construction and Maintenance	230th Ave. outlet protection 20th St. culvert replacement	Installation underway
Stream Bank Stabilization	Downstream of 230th and 20th outlets, PI-GUL Additional sub-watersheds	Installation of basin addresses 230th/20th New stream identified
Farm Management Practices	Provide support for improved practices	No action
Phosphorus Retention Projects	Northeast of N. Pipe, East central of Pipe	N. Pipe basin installation underway in October
Shoreland Buffers	Property technical assessments Buffer zone restorations Residential practices	42 (19 in 2011) property assessments 18 (7 in 2011) designs completed One buffer pending 4 cost share agreements
In Lake	Tree falls, Aquatic Plant Survey, Invasive Species Contingency Plan	4+ tree falls to be secured Fall, 2011 Plant Survey Scheduled for 2012 Invasive species contingency plan
Monitoring Studies	Enhanced Stream Monitoring	Added two streams Identified one new stream

2012 District Approved Budget

INCOME	2012 Approved Budget
Opening Balance	\$ 28,000
Grant Reimbursement	90,000
Tax Levy	17,000
Owner 50% Matching Contributions	9,000
Site evaluation payment \$25	200
DNR Reimbursement/Invasive species.	1,500
Loan @ 4%	100,000
Other - Lottery Credit, Map Sales, Picnic Income	1,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$246,700
EXPENSES	
Grant Expenditures	
General	
Coordination	5,000
Mailing materials	100
Support for small group guidance meetings	500
Road Construction and Maintenance	
Culvert outlet protection on 230th	500
Culvert replacement on 20th Street	4,000
Stream Bank Stabilization	
Downstream from 230th avenue	
Upstream and downstream from logging road	500
Sub-watersheds not included in 2007 grant	2,000
Downstream from 20th Street culvert	2,000
Farm Management Practices	100
Phosphorus Retention Projects	
Northeast of North Pipe Lake	94,000
Shore land Buffers	
Initial Technical Assistance	7,000
Buffer Zone Restoration	7,500
Residential Area Practices	14,000
In-Lake	
Tree-falls	2,000
Invasive species contingency plan	500
Monitoring Studies	
Enhanced Stream Monitoring	
Bank Payments - Principal and Interest	80,000
TOTAL GRANT PROJECTS	219,700
Lake Quality Initiatives	
Lake Management Projects	
Clean Boats, Clean Water Program	2,000
Underwater inspections	450
Aquatic Plant Survey	6,000
SUBTOTAL LAKE MGMT PROJECTS	8,450
Lake Quality Monitoring	
Lake (WEAL) and Stream Samples	2,000
Beach water	180
SUBTOTAL MONITORING	2,180
TOTAL LAKE QUALITY	\$10,630
Constituent Development	
Boat Parade	80
Picnic	850
Conference Registration	100
Domain Registration / Website	2,000
Newsletter, Printing and Mailings	2,500
TOTAL DEVELOPMENT	\$5,530
Miscellaneous Expenses	
Insurance	780
Meeting Hall	100
Organization Dues	25
Beaver Trapping	200
Miscellaneous	400
TOTAL MISC EXPENSE	\$1,505
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$237,365
Cash On Hand	\$9,335

2011 Fish Population Survey

The District had a fish population survey conducted in June, 2011. The results are listed below. Given the deep water along Pipe Lake shoreline where the shock survey was conducted, the counts may under-represent the lake fish population.

Pipe Lake has a diverse fish community and excellent water clarity according to Brian Spangler, Advanced Fisheries Technician for the Wisconsin DNR. Largemouth bass and bluegill are the dominant fish species. There are quality sized largemouth bass, smallmouth bass and bluegill individuals in sufficient numbers to provide a good angling experience for anglers.

The survey sampled three index stations of 0.5 miles each during which all fish species were targeted and two 1.5 mile game fish stations in which only game fish species were targeted.

Species	Number	Length Range (inches)
Largemouth Bass	129	3.3 - 16.4
Smallmouth Bass	21	5.0 - 18.4
Walleye	7	12.0 - 27.7
Northern Pike	15	13.0 - 26.4
Bluegill	148	<= 3.0 - 9.1
Pumpkinseed Sunfish	6	4.6 - 6.6
Black Crappie	2	8.7 - 8.9
Yellow Perch	6	<= 3.0 - 4.0
Rock Bass	2	7.2 - 8.4
Green Sunfish	5	5.3 - 7.0

Forage species captured included: White Suckers, Golden Shiners and Bluntnose Minnows



Fish illustrations by Virgil Beck