

The Loon Call

Official Newsletter of Pipe and North Pipe Lakes Protection & Rehabilitation District

NO STRINGS ATTACHED!

The district is offering you the opportunity to discuss your drainage and runoff concerns with a professional at no cost to you – and with no commitment required for you to take further action. All you have to do is sign up for an appointment. A trained professional will meet with you on the property to listen to your concerns, look at the drainage configuration of the land and review with you possible native plantings.

WHEN: Tuesday, June 1 9am – 4pm

Monday, June 7 9am – 4pm

Friday, June 25 1pm – 4pm

Friday, July 9 9am – 4pm

WHERE: Your property at Pipe Lakes

SIGN UP: Call Joan Mears at
715-822-3097

If you decide you would like to consider a cost sharing water quality project as a result of your No Strings Attached visit, you can sign up for a design meeting where our consultant will measure and photograph your property, discuss possible designs and determine what kind of installation meets your needs at the level of commitment you want. The cost of the design meeting is \$25. You will receive a plan for your project prepared by our consultant and information on participating in our cost-matching program.

Web Site Want Ads!

Now you can advertise those Yard Sales, Boats, or anything else you want to sell on www.pipelakes.org! You may even advertise your house if you are selling it yourself. Go to the web site and start selling or buying today.

Boating Safety Class Dates Changed

Boating Safety Class will be held May 15 & 16 at 9:30 AM. The class will provide basic boating safety for 11 to 16 year olds. Please contact Meghan Fugitt at 952-431-6251 for registration information.

Fishing Survey

There is a fishing survey on www.pipelakes.org Please visit the site and fill out the survey.

2010 Calendar Commission Meetings

May 7	5 PM District Board Meeting 2198 W. Pipe Lake Ct.
May 29	9 AM Special Meeting Christ Church



Trilliums are almost ready to bloom

April 15, 2010 www.pipelakes.org

CAROL'S CORNER

Spring is the season of new beginnings – new growth. At Pipe Lakes we are excited to see the buds on the trees and the new plants pushing up from the forest floor. We are also experiencing the spring activity of our efforts to improve and protect our water quality. We are actively measuring the run-off from snowmelt and spring rains including the use of our new logger device. We are putting the finishing touches on the **Shoreland Education Class** we are offering **Friday, May 21st** to acquaint all of you with affordable steps you can take to divert or reduce unwanted nutrients from running off your property into the lake. We are gearing up for the work we will do this summer on tree falls and for the **Boating Education** class we offer to young people **May 15 and 16**. We encourage you, as you plan your own schedules of house and garden maintenance, to set aside time to join your neighbors in our District activities that help us all work together to protect Pipe and North Pipe Lake!



Quick Assessment Visits *An easy step for clean water and wildlife*

FACT – How you manage your property does matter for the lake.

Living on a high quality lake like Pipe Lake or North Pipe Lake provides many benefits – beautiful views, the chance to observe wildlife, a place to host friends and relatives, and the ability to enjoy fishing, swimming and other water sports. Thanks to a state grant, Pipe Lakes residents have a brand new opportunity to ensure the resources we enjoy will be around into the future.

Quick assessments visits are a free, easy step to learn more about what you can do on your property for the lake. No strings are attached. You are in the driver's seat to decide what to do next.

Spend about 45 minutes

Express your desires for your lot and the lake

Address your erosion concerns

Review wildlife and water quality opportunities

Get information from a friendly, experienced person

Consider easy to more involved steps you can take

Free visits will be scheduled beginning in late May, and will be limited to the first 25 requests in 2010. To get on the list for a visit, call Joan Mears at 715-822-3097.



Cheryl Clemens, of Harmony Environmental, will provide the quick assessment visits. Cheryl does not work for the government. She works with property owners to develop water quality and habitat solutions that work for you! Over 10 years of experience gained on projects in Burnett County, the City of Amery, and nearby

Lake-Friendly

SHORELAND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

\$10

*Free to Pipe Lakes
District residents*

**FRIDAY, MAY 21
2-5 PM**

*Workshop limited to 25 people.
Register now!*

Learn about simple to more involved ways to improve water quality and wildlife habitat on your waterfront property. **Friday, MAY 21, 2-5 PM**

WORKSHOP WILL BE HELD AT:

Christ Church, 1994 20th St (Junction of CTY T and G), Comstock

To register, complete this form and mail to:

Joan Mears • 203 220th Avenue • Comstock, WI54826

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Email _____

I am a Pipe Lakes District resident: ☐ YES ☐ NO

Check the workshops you wish to attend:

	Cost*	How Many	Total \$*
<input type="checkbox"/> MAY 21 WORKSHOP	\$10	_____	_____

TOTAL FEES _____

*WORKSHOPS ARE FREE TO PIPE LAKES DISTRICT RESIDENTS.
Other residents, please enclose your check for the total registration fee.

For more information...

Call: 715-268-9992 or

Email: harmonyenv@amerytel.net

LISA LYNCH (and family!)

Lisa Lynch is our behind the scenes force for maintaining and updating our mailing list, and sending out meeting notices, educational materials and newsletters. She gives credit to former District Chair, Dick Hollar, for handing off to her a very complete list of property owners, mailing addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. Lisa keeps track of cabin sales and makes it a point to contact the new owners. The new website has generated a few requests to update our records, and Lisa is the person who makes that happen.

While Lisa is handling our important "back office" functions, her family doesn't just sit and watch. They are inspired and motivated by Lisa's commitment to the Pipe Lakes. Husband Joe is the main man for placing the buoys to mark the large rocks under the water (at least they used to be under the water!). Daughters Morgan and McCall like to help out with the buoy markers, folding, labeling and stamping the newsletters, and serving on the team that brings us the Annual Picnic. Morgan is graduating in June from Elk River High School and will head to the University of North Dakota to study business and join the Fighting Sioux swimming team. McCall is a Freshman at Elk River High School, plays on the golf team, and like her parents and sister, loves hunting, archery, snowmobiling and other outdoor sports.

The Lynch's have been Pipe Lake residents since 1990. They were drawn to the lake because of its widespread reputation for being clean and unspoiled. Lisa's parents have a place on Horse-shoe Lake, and Joe's parents live year round on a the Lynch farm, just

Pipe Lake. They strongly support the Lake District's long range plans for lake protection and improvement.

Lisa and Joe own and operate WestAIR Heating and Cooling, based in Minnesota. In addition to her great work for Pipe Lakes, Lisa manages a busy social calendar, made busier by two active teenagers. The family travels as much as possible to exotic places like Cannes, France, Niagara Falls, NY, Saskatchewan and Ontario, Canada and, of course, Pipe Lake in beautiful Polk County, Wisconsin!

Congratulations to Lisa and the entire Lynch family for their strong commitment to the future of the Pipe Lakes!

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES REPORT (2009)

By Dick Hollar

Most of you know that we actively pursue the prevention of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) introduction into our lakes on two fronts. Our first line of defense is Art Ringsven, who is our boat landing monitor and inspector. Art talks with people entering and leaving our lakes about AIS and inspects their boats and trailers for any plants or other undesirables. Our second line of defense is Matt Berg, who is a Research Biologist and scuba diver. Matt conducts an underwater inspection of Pipe Lake once a month from June through October.

In 2009, Art spent 234 hours at the landing, inspected 490 boats/trailers and talked with 978 people. All these represent increases over last year. By talking with all these people, he educates them about the problems that exist and how to

prevent the spread of AIS. Through his efforts and state wide campaigns regarding AIS, Art found that 100% of the boaters he talked with were knowledgeable of AIS and Wisconsin State laws. They said that they gained this through his efforts and our sign at the landing. This year, Art found no one using our landing that was in violation of state law. He found only 2% of the boats entering and leaving our lakes contained some minor amounts of plants, and they were removed before entering the water.

You probably noticed that a float plane used our lake several times throughout the year for landing and take-off practice. This pilot used 4-5 lakes around our area for such practice. Being the diligent person that he is, Art managed to chase him down during one of his landings and had a discussion with the pilot regarding AIS and managed to do an inspection of his floats. Now how is that for doing a thorough job?

During 2009, Matt not only inspected the areas on the north and south ends of Pipe once a month, he also completed an underwater inspection of the entire shoreline in June and October. During his inspections, he found NO Eurasian Water Milfoil or any other AIS. Matt noted the very low water levels this year and reported that aquatic plants were uncommon in many areas because these areas were out of the water. Beds of Large-leaf pondweed that were common in the far south bay had almost entirely disappeared.

Pipe and North Pipe Lakes are home to several varieties of rare aquatic plants one of which is Farwell's water milfoil (a good kind of milfoil). In September, he collected several specimens and sent them to a molecular geneticist from Grand Valley State in Michigan. He is studying this rare native milfoil because Farwell's is only present in a handful of lakes throughout the upper Midwest.

During Matt's visits to Pipe Lake he was quite impressed with the AIS knowledge of land owners and boaters in general and our Clean Boats/Clean Waters volunteer (Art) in particular. He commented that the lake district's commitment to educating the people who use the lake would appear to be a model for other lakes in the area. Matt recommends that landing inspections continue to occur into the foreseeable future.



Source: Don Cameron, MNAP, VLMP © 2007