



Deer Tales

Deer Lake Improvement Association Newsletter Spring 2023



President's Message



Ahoy Deer Lake Residents!

If you were able to travel or live elsewhere this past winter, you really missed a doozy. It was a fierce, never-ending season but spring has finally arrived. Now we can reap the benefits of living on this beautiful lake, enjoying it with family and friends!

It is so good for us to know of new residents on Deer Lake so they can receive the various communications and stay up to date on upcoming events. If you have new neighbors, please let the membership committee know by contacting Pam Libertini at 612-578-7163, membership@deerlakewi.com.

Your continued contributions to the Deer Lake Improvement Association are so impactful in treating the water from invasive species and allowing us to have the annual events such as Music on the Lake and the amazing fireworks display! Please watch your emails and/or mailboxes for the annual dues' statements.

Page through this edition of Deer Tales for all the fun to come, including more information on the events, lake safety, Clean Boats Clean Water and so much more!

Looking forward to waving to you on your boats as you cruise by and hanging out during events!

Blessings to you and your families,

Renee Graves
President, Deer Lake Improvement Association



2023 Schedule

Light up the Lake
(counter—clockwise)

Sat July 1st 10 pm

Fireworks
(Storm date)

Sun July 2nd 10 pm
Mon July 3rd 10 pm

Boat Parade
(clockwise)

Tues July 4th 1 pm

**Music on the Lake—
Hungerford Pt**
(leeward side)

Tues July 4th 7 pm

Pontoon Party

Fri July 7th 6 pm

"Name That 'Toon"

Fri July 7th 8 pm

**DLIA/DLC Annual
Meeting**

Sat July 8th 9 am

Flagstad Farm Event

Sat July 29th 6 pm

**Music on the Lake—
Hungerford Pt**
(leeward side)

Sat Aug 5th 7 pm

**Schedule updates and additions available
at www.deerlakewi.com**



Environmental Updates:

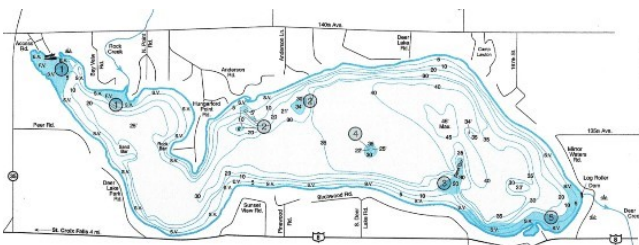
Successful Deer Lake Clean-Up

Over 30 volunteers made the annual Deer Lake cleanup on Saturday, May 6, a continued success! Residents from all around the lake showed up and removed over 5 truckloads of garbage. Thank you for stepping up and taking time out of your schedules to give back. If you missed the cleanup day you may still participate by picking up trash while out for a walk, removing floating items from the water, and educating your family and guests on the importance of leaving Deer Lake better than you found it.



Clean Boats, Clean Waters Program (CBCW)

Deer Lake is part of the Clean Boats, Clean Waters Program to help keep our lake clean and inform boaters how they can do their part by cleaning and draining their boats. We have hired part-time interns to work the landing throughout the busy season, if you see them say a friendly hello. The DLIA runs this program, and the Wisconsin DNR covers 75% of the costs. We are also soliciting volunteers to supplement our efforts. If you have volunteered at the landing in the past, go to <https://signup.com/go/nvjqRHM> to sign up for a time or two this summer. If you are new to greeting at the landing, contact: Kate Wright at wrig5807@gmail.com.



DEER LAKE CONSERVANCY

EVENTS

Walk and Learn

Monday, June 5, 2023
4:30 – 6 pm

NE Pond Preserve Water Quality Projects
with Karsten Peterson, Polk County Engineering Technician

Float and Learn

Thursdays, July 13 or August 17
4:30 – 6 pm

Lake and tributary water quality, curly leaf pondweed monitoring, and zebra mussels.
with Steve Schieffer, Lake Biologist
Space is limited.

For more details and to register,
email dlcdirector@dlcwi.org

Deer Lake Aquatic Plant Management Plan: Invitation for Public Comments

The Deer Lake Improvement Association recently updated the Aquatic Plant Management Plan for Deer Lake. Committee members included: Brian Philip Lebens, John Wright, Kate Wright, Keith Bakke, Mark Thayer, Pete Ketchum, and Sharon Kelly.

Plan goals are to:

- 1) Protect and restore healthy native aquatic plant communities.
- 2) Prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species.
- 3) Respond rapidly and aggressively to any newly introduced invasive, non-native aquatic plant and/or animal species.
- 4) Minimize curly leaf pondweed, prevent its spread, and restore healthy native plant communities in its place.
- 5) Educate and engage the public regarding lake stewardship.

A draft version of this plan is available for review, and public comments are welcomed through June 19. A digital version of the plan can be viewed at the following website: <https://www.deerlakewi.com/>

Please send comments to:
harmonyenv@amerytel.net

Water rules on Floating Rafts, Lily Pads & Trampolines

"A permit is needed to place a swim raft or water trampoline in a lake or flowage if it does not meet exemption criteria. All swim rafts, those that require a permit and those that do not, must be placed within 200 feet of the shoreline, and can only be placed by a waterfront property owner.

Swim rafts may not interfere with public rights in navigable waters or interfere with the rights of other property owners. The swimming raft will not exceed 200 square feet in surface area (equivalent to 15-foot diameter for round water trampolines) and will not exceed 38 inches in height above the water level. This does not include protective covers, diving boards, ladders, and slides.

*-These size and height limitations do not apply if the swimming raft is completely removed from the water and onto shore **every day**, or if the swimming raft is placed in a designated swim area that is marked and approved by the local municipality and DNR..-* WI DNR

This summer be mindful that "Lily Pad" or other flat or partially above water floats are not easily visible by navigating boats especially at twilight or after sunset and are a danger to boaters. Thank you for taking in these flat surfaces each night. The WI DNR states owners may not tie floats to piers or stationary docks impeding water navigation. Other floating rafts or docks should have affixed reflectors aiding in twilight or limited light navigation. Floating rafts and docks should not have fixed lights attached, unless being utilized. If you have questions or want further information you may find it on the WI DNR web page or call the local DNR Officer. Lastly, only mooring buoys are legal in WI and must be within 150 feet of shore, unless permitted. You may look up online what a mooring buoy looks like, they are not the white bumpers used for tying up boats to docks.

Boat Landing Sign

Draft in progress of the sign to be installed at the boat landing.

Boating Safety

If you haven't reviewed the boat safety rules for 2023 please take a moment and review the rules listed on the Wisconsin DNR website: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/boat/>



When bored at night feel free to read "[The Handbook of Wisconsin Boating Laws and Responsibilities](https://widnr.widen.net/s/0vw8hwrae3)," <https://widnr.widen.net/s/0vw8hwrae3>.

Here's a quick review of the basics:

- Always make sure you have enough life jackets on board your boat. You are also required to have at least one U.S. Coast Guard-approved Type IV throwable PFD, either a ring buoy or seat cushion, on recreational boats that are 16 feet in length or longer.
- Boats: Observe the Slow/No Wake zones- within 100 feet of any shoreline or another boat/PWC.
- PWC: Observe the Slow/No Wake zones- within 200 feet of any shoreline and 100 feet from another boat/PWC.
- Operation of PWC can only occur between sunrise and sunset.
- **Wake Boats: Observe 500 feet (5 lake lots) of any shoreline on a wake boat. **Wake boat rules are being reviewed by the WI DNR this year.**

We have listed a more conservative number for the distance from wake boats to shore. Currently the town of Bass Lake in Sawyer County lists 700 feet from shore for all wake boats. Any boat that generates a wake >50 feet in length and 24 inches high must be 700 feet from any shoreline. Currently Lake Tahkoda in Bayfield County lists 700 feet from the shoreline. Lake Tahkoda is ~148 acres. Next year we hope the WI DNR will have this resolved. Currently a map is being created to determine boating locations for wake boats and PWC.

In Memoriam

Jenny McBride,



Durand Blanding,

&

Jim Wolford

Report Violations
Polk County
Sheriff
Non-emergency
715-485-8300

PWC Slow
NO Wake Law: within
200' of any shoreline

Decontamination of Aquatic Invasive Species

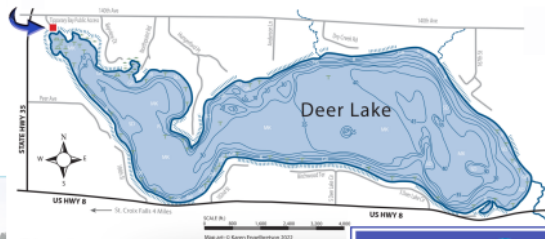
REQUIRED BY POLK COUNTY ORDINANCE
If a decontamination station is available for use at a public or private access, the boater shall decontaminate equipment per posted directions using the decontamination station provided.
Violations subject to FINES (Sec. 24-63)
Resolution No. 40-21, Sec. 24-62



Keep up with Deer Lake news:
DLC: www.dlowl.org
DLIA: www.deerlakewi.com



WELCOME TO DEER LAKE



Sharing,
Caring &
Protecting what we LOVE!

ENTER
and EXIT
the lake CLEAN!

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES Present in Deer Lake:



Curly Pondweed

Many AREA and
TWIN CITY lakes
have MILFOIL!

DEER LAKE
DOES NOT have
Eurasian Milfoil!

PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES IT'S THE LAW

PROHIBITED MAY 15, 2018

Before launching and before leaving YOU MUST:

- ✓ INSPECT boats, trailers, and equipment.
- ✓ REMOVE all attached aquatic plants and animals.
- ✓ DRAIN all water from boats, vehicles, and equipment.
- ✓ NEVER MOVE plants or live fish away from a waterbody.

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Violations subject to fines. For more information, visit www.dnr.wi.gov.

Deer Lake Tales - A Look Back at Deer Lake

By Tom McBride

My folks bought our place on Hungerford Point in 1980. It needed a lot of work. A lot. So, I spent summers and weekends helping out my parents and getting to know the lake. The thing that sticks out in my memory most from this first year is The Lagoon Restaurant. You could drive over in your boat, dock at their little marina in the lagoon and even gas up your boat right at the dock. We used to take advantage of it often. The restaurant was pretty basic bar fare, but the convenience of going by boat made it special. In the winter they would have Snowmobiler's Breakfast. So year round this restaurant served Deer Lake and those that lived nearby. It was a shame when it burned down.

Another strong memory is going out in the boat for the fireworks display on the Fourth of July. The first few years we were here the fireworks were launched from the lagoon. There were a few years that they were launched from Flagstad Farm as well. It wasn't until John Wright suggested the DLIA purchase a flat pontoon boat and launch the fireworks from the middle of the lake as we do now. John was also the brains behind Music On The Lake as a way to further utilize the pontoons we owned and used for fireworks. Music On The Lake has become my favorite event that happens on our lake.

Over the years we have watched as the Deer Lake Conservancy and its board has made significant improvements to the quality of the lake through acquisition of key properties that impact the flow of water into the lake. I have had the honor of serving and continuing to serve on this board for the past 12 years or so. The DLC works hard to obtain key watershed properties that are instrumental in maintaining and improving the quality of the water in the lake.

The DLIA also works very hard to maintain and improve the quality of the water in the lake and I was fortunate to serve for 16 years on this board. My family has financially supported both groups and encourages

everyone to do likewise. Deer Lake would not be the Deer Lake we know and love without these two groups and their dedicated board members.

Not that many years ago the DLIA would hold a Spring Party and a Holiday Party. The Spring party was a way to reconnect with your lake neighbors after not seeing them for the winter. This was always a well attended event when my parents were residents here. The holiday party was a chance to say goodbye for the winter. The attendance fell off so much that these parties are no longer held - this is a tradition I would love to see resurrected. It was a wonderful way to get to know your lake neighbors and find out what everyone was doing on their part of the lake.

There were many social engagements throughout the summer. I remember bartending for several of my parents cocktail parties every summer. There was also an annual pig roast that my parents and Roger and Maryanne Foussard hosted at DD Kennedy Park every August. I also remember helping out with some progressive dinners that were held at different cabins along the lake. Driving the pontoon and shuttling people from house to house for different dinner courses was really quite fun. It seems we have lost a great deal of these social interactions on the lake.

My feeling is that the lake is not as social as it once was. Some of this is a result of covid and the past few years isolating ourselves, but much of it began before covid. Now we need to get back to those ideas of shared community and having consideration for our neighbors. Let's be courteous and considerate to one another. And spend a little time getting to know our lake neighbors. There are still many opportunities to meet and interact with others on the lake.

We have such a beautiful and amazing resource in our lake. I encourage everyone to hold a cocktail party or a dinner party, invite your friends but also invite any new neighbors you have. Welcome folks to the lake and your homes. Spread the word about how everyone can help maintain and improve our lake. Let's start socializing again!

Information for Deer Lake Tales

The article "Deer Lake Tales—A Look Back at Deer Lake", is made possible by the residents of Deer Lake who are willing to share their stories with others.

If you have pictures, stories, memories, etc. that you would be willing to share with others please feel free to send them to Laurel Fermanich. Any stories or information is appreciated.

Email: deertales@deerlakewi.com

Communication Emails

We now have dedicated emails for all the officers/committees to make it easier to reach us!

You may still use deerlakeassn@gmail.com as the general email for the Association.

- President@deerlakewi.com
- Vicepresident@deerlakewi.com
- Treasurer@deerlakewi.com
- Environmental@deerlakewi.com
- Membership@deerlakewi.com
- Events@deerlakewi.com
- Deertales@deerlakewi.com

Reasons We Love Deer Lake



Flagstad Farm 2022



Sharing Pictures

If you have some pictures that you would like to share please send them to deertales@deerlakewi.com with "Deer Tales" in the subject line.

Alice and Steve Berestka putting up the Hungerford Point wreaths!

DLIA Board 2022-2023

President

Renee Graves 612-750-5642

Vice President

John Wright 651-442-5598

Secretary

Pam Libertini 612-578-7163

Treasurer

Joe Thayer 651-307-8207

Executive Committee

Renee Graves Joe Thayer
Pam Libertini
John Wright

Members:

Keith Bakke 651-261-0135
Diane Barghini 513-309-6527
John Dowdle 612-805-5353
Laurel Fermanich 612-810-8832
Renee Graves 612-750-5642
Dawn Johnson 612-804-3609
Dave Libertini 612-860-3184
Pam Libertini 612-578-7163
Joe Thayer 651-307-8207
Mark Thayer 715-483-9102
John Wright 651-442-5598
Kate Wright 715-294-0223

Membership Committee:

Pam Libertini, Chair
John Dowdle
Dawn Johnson

Marketing Committee:

Diane Barghini, Chair

Environmental Committee:

Kate Wright, Chair
Keith Bakke
Mark Thayer
John Wright

Events Committee:

John Wright, Chair
Renee Graves
Dave Libertini

Deer Tales Committee:

Laurel Fermanich,
Chair



Deer Lake Improvement Association

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