

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A PROSPEROUS AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO ALL!
Visit us on the web at lakepewaukeesd.org

Do you have a favorite lake photo? If you would like to share it you may send it to us at lpsd@wi.rr.com. We will put it on our web site for all to enjoy.

JUST A REMINDER

We don't do garbage. All of the lake communities contract with Veolia for their services. Their phone number is (262) 367-6040. The individual communities charge for these services, not the District.

WHAT'S ON MY TAX BILL?

There may be three items on your tax bill that are related to the Sanitary District. First, everyone in the District pays a sanitary district tax based on a mill rate. This tax covers debt retirement on the sewer system and lake maintenance costs. The average homeowner will see a slight increase due to increased costs for lake maintenance. This year we will once again be making an advance payment on our mortgage revenue bond. With declining interest rates on our reserve funds it was determined that making an advance payment on our five percent bonds would give us a better return on our money. The amount of payment was based on maintaining what we would consider sufficient funds for capital improvements or emergency replacement of equipment.

Second, some residents may have a contribution in aid of construction charge if they have connected to the main line installed by the District. These are charges that were deferred on vacant lots until the time of construction.

Third, for those of you that forgot to pay your sewer bill by November 1st, there will be a special charge for unpaid sewer balances. This charge will include interest on the unpaid balance plus a service fee. It must be paid with your taxes. It cannot be removed and paid separately. The District Clerk cannot accept payments for your property tax bill. Any payments that were received late were credited against the 2011 charges.

THE USER FEE

There will be no change in the quarterly user fee for 2011. The user fee pays for the operations cost of the sewer and these costs generally increase on a yearly basis due to increased utility, fuel, insurance and employee wages. We have seen some stabilization in utility, transportation and treatment costs which will allow us to hold the quarterly charge the same for the upcoming year. **The quarterly charge is only for the sewer.**

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Beginning in January the District accepts applications for jobs on our seasonal lake operations. The starting pay is \$8.50 per hour. Even if you have worked for the District in 2010 you must put in a new application. Applications are available at the office from 8AM to 12 PM and from 1Pm to 3PM Monday thru Friday. For additional information you may call (262) 691-4485.

The District has extended our grant to help pay the cost of having a “Clean Boats, Clean Waters” representative at our launch sites again in 2011. This person’s job is to educate boaters about invasive species and how they are spread from lake to lake. We are looking for that person now. This job is a temporary position from May to October. Hours will be variable with evenings and weekends required at times. We would anticipate about 120 hours for the season. Our goal is to be at the launch sites when most of the boaters are there. Training will be provided by the District and the DNR. Starting pay will be ten dollars per hour. If you are an independent worker and want to help protect our lakes, this may be a job for you. If interested please contact our office.

LAKE OPERATIONS FOR 2010

For the 2010 season we saw some major changes in the lake. One of the most notable changes was the clear water. There are three main factors that can contribute to water clarity. Both zebra mussels and zooplankton feed on algae and this reduction of algae leads to clearer. Our lake has healthy populations of both. Increased plant growth as seen this past year also holds sediment in place that contributes to water clarity.

Our plant community also had some major changes. We saw increased native plant growth throughout the lake. This may be in response to the increased water clarity that allows sunlight to reach greater depths. Curly leaf pondweed grew to the surface in many areas of the lake in early May. This is a non-native plant that has been in the lake for a long time. It grows well in the cooler water in spring but in a normal year declines by the end of May. It normally is not a problem. We did have above average milfoil growth in June and July but not in all areas of the lake. As fall approached we saw Sago pondweed grow to the surface in large patches. This plant is a native that also has been around for a long time but never in the concentrations seen last fall. We do not know if these changes are a trend or just a single year event. To see the charts of plant material removed and water clarity you may go to our web site.

Over all the 2010 season had the largest amount of plant removal since 1990. Our shore crews were very busy and removed more material then the harvesters. We also continued the Monday and Friday pile pickup for those people that cleaned their own shoreline. We would like to thank them for their help. Their work made it possible for us to get around the lake much faster and helped to hold the cost of operations down.

