



LAKE PEWAUKEE SANITARY DISTRICT

APRIL 2015

WE DON'T DO GARBAGE – With spring cleaning coming up the phone begins to ring at our office for information on garbage pickup. As reported in the past, we don't do garbage, but we know who does. The contractor for the Town of Delafield is Veolia Environmental Services. Their local phone is 262-367-6040. The Contractor for the City of Pewaukee is Johns Disposal 262-473-4700.

SUMP PUMP CONNECTIONS – Spring is here and it's time for us to investigate sump pump connections to assure there are no discharges to the sanitary sewer system. The District pays the City of Brookfield for the amount flow that is discharged from our system. If there are illegal sump pump connections we are cheating ourselves by paying for clear water flows to be treated at the Brookfield wastewater treatment plant. As our cost go up, the user fees go up, so if you know of a neighbor that is discharging their sump crock into the sanitary sewer, you are paying for it. Contact our office at (262)691-4485 and we will politely help them re-route their discharges correctly.

LAKE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING - The district is working with The Southeastern Regional Planning Commission on a Watershed Protection and Lake Management Plan that is expected to be completed in December 2015. This plan is the 3rd iteration of a Lake Management Plan; however this plan will go way beyond the lake itself. Identification of projects to restore streams and creating buffer strips will be included. These areas will be mapped and recommended for government ownership (WDNR grants) or conservation easements. This is critical to implement to help protect these areas and stop the sediment from entering the lake. Sediments from stream bank erosion and construction site erosion are the leading sources of phosphorus in the lake. High levels of these nutrients promote aquatic plant growth as well as algae blooms.

This Watershed protection plan will also identify work needed on Meadowbrook Creek (stream bank stabilization) as well as our impaired waterway leading to the lake (Zion Creek). Identification and potential plans to address this concern are the first step to turning a creek from an impaired waterway back in the direction of its original state. Addressing the water quality of the creeks that flow into the lake will have a significant impact on the water quality in the lake itself.

The District has been meeting with other Administrators/Managers of other lake and sanitary Districts to share insights of areas of concern such as fighting invasive species (aquatic plants, zebra mussels etc), disposal sites, budgets, fee's, lake operations and staffing. These "meeting of the minds" are a great way to compare notes and help each other out on tips for saving funds and back up their knowledge of what best managing practices work for them. This is great info from the people that are breaking their backs to provide the best service while getting the biggest bang for their dollars all while keeping in mind every lake is different and what works for one lake won't necessarily work for another. People in our district should know that Pewaukee has more detailed studies, reports, history than any other lake in Wisconsin (and quite possibly nationally). You should also know we have been doing some mini, inexpensive, "under the ice" aquatic plant condition reports that no other district does in the state. An added benefit of having an ice fisherman sharing power auger, underwater cameras and floating transportation and safety equipment to capture this info. These underwater photos of aquatic plant growth gives us a heads up on where to go to do early spring cuts and damage any

milfoil that thought it was getting a chance to get ahead of natives. Even if early spring winds make turbulent waters difficult to see 2 feet down, we know where to go and we will be on top of it!

LAKE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES – The District still is looking for a few people to assist in our lake operations for full time seasonal employment. These jobs are typically from mid May to the end of August. However we really need people who can start the second week of April and work through October. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age due to operations of heavy equipment. Since these jobs are considered part time there are no benefits.

For more information and job applications please call the office at (262) 691-4485

LAKE OPERATIONS - The district has been working hard all winter rebuilding shore barges, the transports and the harvesters in anticipation of a potential heavy weed year. A new track was also installed on the conveyor to minimize and eliminate potential breakdowns.

Harvesting - Our number one priority is to cut 200 feet from the shoreline or any obstruction (piers) so people can get their boats out from their piers and boat lifts and enjoy the lake.

Our second priority is to cut lanes in the heavy matted areas so boats and skiers can get through those areas. A central lane will be cut from the village into the City limits on the small lake to allow boaters to move through these areas that can have a tendency to get heavy with weeds during certain years. Look for these lanes and utilize them to avoid creating more “floaters” with your props. The fewer floaters we have to clean up, the more time we have for cutting.

Shore Clean-up –

Shore clean-up is one of our highest priorities and our biggest challenge. This is the actual picking up of the “floaters” created by all the boat props. It utilizes 3 people per machine and we typically have units out all week Monday through Friday (weather permitting).

Pile Pick up –

Pile pick-ups are on Mondays and Fridays. Stack the weeds on your shoreline and we will remove them (weather permitting). If weather conditions hold us off, we will be back to continue the route as soon as weather permits. Typically we send a transporter in each direction around the lake starting from our lake office. The goal is to get around the whole lake on that Monday and Friday. We appreciate all the people that help participate in the pile pick up program. You are the people making a difference for everyone. The more time we can save picking up “floaters” the more time we have to cut weeds with our harvesters. We understand that this is hard work; we are doing it all week, all summer. There are lots of summer students and neighbors that are willing to help and lawn services that may help you accomplish creating piles. The district is glad to remove them on Mondays and Fridays so help us help you and ultimately increase the removal rates on the lake.

How can you get more personal service cutting weeds between the piers at your house? Call your lawn maintenance provider or companies like Young Guns Weed service at (414)303-9535 or (262)894-4512 or Aquatic Weed Removers LLC (262) 501-0533 they will provide personal weed cutting service between your piers. The district has no association with these companies but we do want the lake property owners and users to know they do exist. Hand pulling, raking, or the use of a hand-held weed cutter for the removal of all types of plants is allowed within 30 feet of the homeowner’s pier. Milfoil and other non-natives may be removed beyond 30 feet. All plant material must be removed from the water (shore pick-up). The homeowner may give permission to someone else to do this aquatic plant removal. This does not require a permit unless you are removing wild rice. See DNR web site for the rules and regulations.

For more information on the District’s operations, please visit our website at: www.lakepewaukee.org