



HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A PROSPEROUS AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

Visit us on the web at lakepewaukee.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.

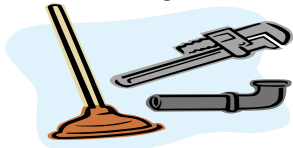
JUST A REMINDER

We don't do garbage. All of the lake communities contract with their own services and the individual communities (Town of Delafield and the City of Pewaukee) charge for these services, not the District. The Town of Delafield's garbage collection is contracted with Advanced Disposal (262)367-6040. The City of Pewaukee is contracted with John's Disposal (262)473-4700.

THE USER FEE

There will be a small increase in the quarterly user fee for 2014. This fee went from \$100 to \$103 per quarter. The user fee pays for the sewer operations which generally increase on a yearly basis due to increased utility fees, fuel, electricity, insurance, the cost of living for employees, and the costs of equipment replacement. **The quarterly charge is only for the sewer.**

SEWER EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT



There is a project plan to replace some of the pumps at several stations where the original pumps are still being relied upon. They have been in operation for around 38 years and have treated us well. The pumps haven't been replaced because we want to get all of the "useful life" out of them. We have been accomplishing that however, like anything mechanical they are destined to fail. The harsh environment takes its toll with time. While they have served us well, their replacement is necessary. New pumps reduce risk of basement backups and emergency responses which directly relate to repair costs and overtime. The old pumps will be replaced over the next few years so we can plan on being "**good to go**" for another 40 years or so. This work has been budgeted for so there will be no large increase in the sewer user fees to accomplish this required work.



FLUSHING OF WASTES

We can't remind you enough to be conscious of what you flush. Rags labeled "flushable" are named that by someone who wants to sell them not by someone that has to clean the clogged rags out of a pump. You the sewer user ends up paying "overtime" for the removal of these "flushable rags". These rags get shredded in the pumps and get "knotted together" making larger shredded rope-like rags that clog the pumps.

TAX WRITE OFFS

Don't forget about our Wetland and Water Resource funds that help protect and enhance the lake, the watershed and educate the youth about water quality and how runoff effects our resources. Your donations to these programs are tax deductible.

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 2014 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 applied for a grant to help pay the cost of having a "Clean Boats, Clean Waters" representative at our launch sites again in 2015. 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 a maximum of 200 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 \$9.00. 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 at (262) 691-4485 and stop in and fill out an application.**

LAKE OPERATIONS FOR 2015

For the 2015 season we saw various changes in the lake. One of the most notable changes was a continued decline in the invasive aquatic plant Eurasian water milfoil. The peak of the heavy growth cycle appears to be on the down turn. However many other species have filled the gaps in the milfoil. Some of these are curly leaf pond weed, water celery, valisneria and Coontail as well as northern water milfoil. The water clarity also seems to be good but not quite as clear as the last 2 years. This may be due to a slight downturn in the zebra mussel population. Both zebra mussels and zooplankton feed on algae and this reduction of algae has help lead to clearer waters. Our lake has healthy populations of both. The root systems of the healthy mix of aquatic plants that we have in our shallow areas help hold the sediment on the bottom of the lake. This keeps the sediment from re-suspending which also helps the water quality and clarity of our lake.

Our plant community showed some positive changes as 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 as well as the patches of milfoil that disappeared with the peak of the cycle; this allowed the natives to move into those areas. As fall approached we saw Sago pondweed grow to a decent height without reaching the surface in several areas. This plant is a native that also has been around for a long time but never in the concentrations seen this last fall. Hopefully this is becoming a trend. To see the charts of invasive aquatic plant material removed and water clarity go to our web site.

Over all the 2015 season had a significant decrease in invasive aquatic plants. It appears the cycle is continuing on a downswing which is good news for everyone. Less milfoil and more native plants means some budget money can be held for a second shift operation should there be another peak in the cycle in the upcoming years.

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. Plus we were able to remove more overall plants due to everyone's help.

For more information go to our website at: www.lakepewaukee.com