

# LAKE PEWAUKEE SANITARY DISTRICT



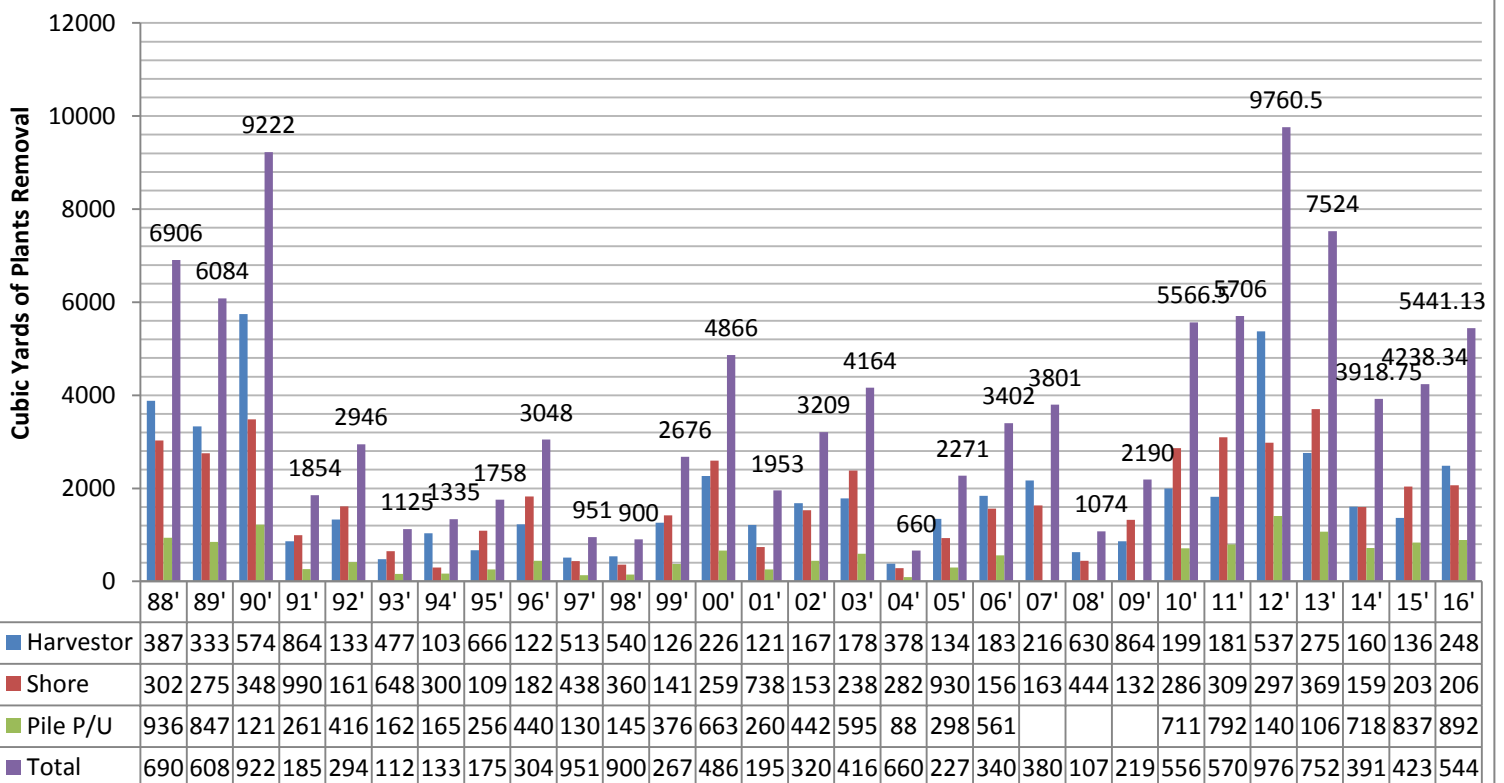
JANUARY, 2017

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

## LAKE CLEAN UP SUMMARY

It was another great year on the Lake! The native aquatic plants are at their “highest diversity” level on record, which is a sign of a healthy lake and ecosystem. The invasive Eurasian Water milfoil is being held “at bay” with our harvesting and aquatic plant removal efforts. Clean-up crews worked through October mostly picking up the “prop chop” along the shorelines and doing pile pick up. Below is the chart for the total amount of aquatic plants removed from the lake. To the folks that helped make piles, your efforts show you helped remove 892 cubic yards of plants during the pile pick-up process. The total volume of plants removed (Harvesting, Shore clean-up and Pile pick up) equated to 5441 cubic yards. Your efforts allow us to spend more time on harvesting so it is a win-win for everyone using the lake.

### 1988 - 2016 Pewaukee Lake Aquatic Plant Removal Program



“The steady increase in diversity shows a positive trend for the aquatic plant community of Pewaukee lake. Communities with high species richness or diversity are more robust, provide a wider variety of habitat and food and are indicative of healthier ecosystems” - a direct quote from: Wisconsin Lutheran College and The Southeastern Regional Planning Commission

## SEWER VENTS AND BAD SMELLS

This time of year we normally receive several calls about sewer smells inside houses. Homes are protected from sewer gases which emit an odor by the “drying up” of the “P” or “U” shaped traps that are present on all the drains and toilets in the house. These traps must be full of water to provide the odor and gas protection. With the heat on in the winter, an unused drain such as a basement floor drain or utility tub may simply dry out. The solution to this problem is to pour some water in these drains periodically to keep the trap full. If the drain dries out again from lack of water use, try this simple recipe:

### Add cooking oil

Fill the trap with water. Then pour a thin layer of cooking oil onto the water to keep the water from evaporating.

Under every drain in your house, there's a trap that holds water and prevents sewer gas from flowing up into the air you breathe. But if you have a shower that's been abandoned since the kids moved out or a floor drain that never gets used, the water in the trap can eventually evaporate. That lets in stinky—or even dangerous—sewer gases. The solution is a few ounces of cooking oil. Dump a bucket of water down the drain to refill the trap. Then add the oil. The floating oil forms a seal over the water and prevents evaporation.



The term “sewer gas” is generally used in describing the odor people smell if a trap dries out. The actual gas may be made up of a number of different components, some of which may be hazardous.

Visit the website [Plumbingtraps.com](http://Plumbingtraps.com) and learn more.

Please remember, if you suspect a problem in your home, do not hesitate to call a plumber to correct the situation. **Also remember DO NOT FLUSH RAGS down the toilet. Even if they are labeled “flushable” they are problematic with our pumps.**

## USER FEE

The new rate for our quarterly sewer user fee will go from \$106 to \$108 starting with the April 1st billing. The user fee covers the operations and maintenance of the sewer. The 1.89% rate increase allows the District to still have one of the lowest rates in the area. We at the District are proud of the fact that we have been able to hold costs down and still maintain the system and provide the service our customers deserve.

## Employment – Summer Lake Crews

Lake Pewaukee Sanitary District will be looking to hire enthusiastic people to help with the lake operations this next year. The temporary summer employees work from early May until the end of August. The shift starts at 7:00 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. with opportunities for overtime depending on lake conditions. Applications for the seasonal help will be accepted for review starting any time after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

We also have a need for some temporary help that could start earlier and work through October. Call Rita at (262) 691-4485 for more information or visit the website at [www.lakepewaukee.org](http://www.lakepewaukee.org)