



SANITARY SYSTEM NEWS

The District is undergoing a Residential User Equivalent (RUE) study that has been long past due for determining a fair fee for non-residential users of our system. While the District works very hard and takes very much pride in keeping our user fees down, we have to be financially responsible and budget for maintenance of an aging system. The desire is to continue to provide the best possible service at the most reasonable cost to the users, and get the most use out of all the equipment. However we cannot disregard the cost of utilities, equipment replacement and maintenance. The RUE study is related to the non-residential users (Commercial, Office and Educational type facilities). These facilities have changed over the years, some expanded, some upgraded and new ones are showing up. Ruekert-Mielke Engineers are working on the study and their recommendations will follow. The District will compare the changes and make adjustments in the coming future. The intent is to have the commercial property pay for the wastewater it sends downstream and set the RUE at absolutely the “fairest” value so our constituents only pay for what they use. We intend to get this resolved and set for the beginning of the next year.

To all our users of the sanitary sewer system - Remember, If we are adding clear water to the volume of flow we are sending to Brookfield, we are paying to treat water that does not need treating. The Lake Pewaukee Sanitary District has an aggressive maintenance system to eliminate clear water leaks in our system to keep the user fees and treatment facility costs down. While we work consistently on finding these Infiltration and Inflow (I&I) sources, the biggest and hardest problem to solve is the leaky private laterals and the sump pump connections. Just this week I noticed a broken clean out in someone’s yard located at the lowest part of the 1 acre yard. This source of infiltration can be like 12 houses instead of one. This is same thing when you have a sump pump hooked up to the sanitary sewer system. You are cheating everyone else on our system and all of our users fees go up because of a few negligent people. This is where good old teamwork and cooperation is needed from the system users. If you have any question about your system and need help please contact our office at 262-691-4485 and we’ll come take a look at no cost to you. Providing access to televise the laterals that have been leaking allows us to determine repairs. The District has a support fund set up to assist homeowners in sharing the cost of repairing the laterals. The televising allows the homeowners to see a problem (tree roots or a broken pipe) that may exist which can lead to basement sewage backup. Working together eliminates backups and clear water infiltration. For more detailed information about our sanitary sewer system visit our website at: www.lakepewaukee.org and look under the sanitary sewer system page.

LAKE OPERATIONS

The lake crews are in full swing for the 2015 season and the aquatic plants have been handled pretty well along all the shorelines and out 150 feet or so which is priority number one for harvesting and the lake clean-up operations. This year we sent the crew out cutting earlier than any other year. This “early harvesting” knocks the wind out of the aggressive non-native plants and allows us to get ahead of the game and stay on top of them when the true quicker growing season in late June and July comes. The lake is still holding an impressive clarity and water quality as well as it having a very, very diverse aquatic plant community.

There is a large area of Eurasian water milfoil out in the area of Docs Dry Dock and Kopmeier area that we are starting to cut a channel for navigation purposes. This is priority number two in the harvesting program. If time allows we would like to knock this whole area out to avoid any fragmenting and allowing the milfoil to return, this is priority item number 3. Look for this navigation channel just outside of the buoy line to avoid creating prop-chop which sends the floaters to everyone's shorelines. These floaters make life miserable for all the lake users so minimizing prop chop is a big, big deal that I'm not sure everyone really thinks about.

While we are putting the crews in full force, we can't emphasize enough how much more efficient we can remove the aquatic plants if the lake property owners participate in the pile pick ups on Mondays and Fridays. The Lake Pewaukee Sanitary District started this process several years ago and to date, other Lake Districts have been following our lead. This process takes teamwork. Since the 1800 -1900's teams of people have been raking and piling weeds on the shorelines for disposal.

This "pile pick up" is on Mondays and Fridays weather permitting. We send crews out to pick up piles of weeds that the lake homeowner's have stacked up on the shoreline. While this does take effort from you, this effort goes farther than you may think. Aquatic plants you pile up help us remove even more Eurasian milfoil fragments from the lake and prohibit their reestablishment. If your Aquatic plants are piled we can move around the lake quicker, pick up more weeds faster and it allows us to clean more shoreline and harvest more milfoil.

If you cannot possibly do this there are high school and college kids willing to do it for you for you and it isn't expensive. They can also cut between the piers with hand cutters. It's no different than hiring a lawn service because you want a better lawn. Call our office for more information as we like to work with these services and are even willing to pick up the piles they make. Our position is the more milfoil we can remove from the lake the better the overall health of the whole lake.

Lake Equipment reminder –

The Harvesters (weed cutters) are Yellow. They are cutting on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The harvesters do not cut on Fridays so we can focus on cleaning up the cut weeds (the floaters) to prep the lake for the recreational users over the weekend whether you are sailing, fishing, skiing or just on a scenic cruise.

The Shore barges (pick up – floaters and shorelines) are Orange. They are out everyday, picking up floating weeds and weeds along the shoreline.

The Transporters are Blue. They are out everyday and they are used for unloading Harvesters and Shore barges to transport the weeds across the lake. They hook up to the conveyor which loads the weeds into Big Red (the big red dump truck). The Transporters are also heavily utilized in pile pickups on Mondays and Fridays.

All the equipment and lake crews are scheduled daily based on aquatic plant status and wind directions. The schedules are always subject to weather conditions. Old Mother Nature can shut us down at any time. While we will work in rain and windy conditions, we pull the crews off the lake when the winds get too strong and/or lightning is observed in the area.

Remember if you want your shoreline looking mint for the Holiday weekend (or any weekend), help us, help you, by stacking the weeds in piles for Fridays pile pick up. This year we will do pile pick-up on Thursday July 2nd to try to assure we get the piles cleaned up for the Holiday weekend (Weather permitting). Remember to stack the aquatic plants where they are accessible for pick up with our large blue Transporters.

Visit our website for a detailed explanation of equipment and their uses at www.lakepewaukee.org