

LAKE PEWAUKEE SANITARY DISTRICT NEWS

OCTOBER 2015

REMEMBER - PAYMENT FOR THIS BILL MUST BE RECEIVED (NOT POSTMARKED) IN OUR OFFICE BY 3PM ON NOVEMBER 1ST. IF NOT, THE BALANCE DUE, WITH LATE CHARGES AND AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE WILL BE PLACED ON YOUR TAX BILL. THE DISTRICT CANNOT ACCEPT YOUR PAYMENT AFTER THAT DATE AND TIME.

A Public Hearing on the PROPOSED BUDGET for 2016 for the LAKE PEWAUKEE SANITARY DISTRICT will be held on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at 6:15 PM, at the Lake Pewaukee Sanitary District Admin. Building, located at N25 W27534 Oak St., Pewaukee, WI. A detailed copy of the PROPOSED BUDGET is available for inspection at the Administration Building Office, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00AM and 12:00 Noon and 1:00PM and 3:00PM. The Commissioners encourage residents to attend the hearing and offer their comments.

The following is a summary of the LPSD Tax Levy, Service Fees, Expenditures, and Other Fees based upon the PROPOSED BUDGET.

	2015 Budget	2016 Budget	Budget % Change
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Community Funding-			
Town of Delafield Tax Levy:			
Sewer Debt Service/Capital Funding	55,107	54,995	-0.20%
Lake Cleanup	136,370	141,000	3.40%
Total Town of Delafield Tax Levy	191,477	195,995	2.36%
City of Pewaukee:			
Sewer Service Fee	34,893	35,005	0.32%
Lake Cleanup Contract	136,370	141,000	3.40%
Total City of Pewaukee Contribution	171,263	176,005	2.77%
Total Community Funding	362,740	372,000	2.55%
User Fees	1,083,900	1,121,500	3.47%
Other Revenues	9,800	9,700	-1.02%
Total Revenues	1,456,440	1,503,200	3.21%

Expenditures:

Sewer System Operations-			
Scheduled Debt Service	21,280	7,100	
Repayment of Sewer Capital Fund Advances	73,600	0	
Other Expenditures	1,088,820	1,214,100	

Total Sewer System	1,183,700	1,221,200	3.17%
Lake Operations-			
Lake Cleanup	243,950	253,140	3.77%
Wetland Fund	9,000	9,000	0.00%
Debt Service	19,790	19,860	
Total Expenditures	<u>1,456,440</u>	<u>1,503,200</u>	3.21%
<u>Fees per Residential User Equivalent (RUE):</u>			
Quarterly Sewer User Charge	<u>103.00</u>	<u>106.00</u>	2.91%

SANITARY SYSTEM NEWS

The crews are done flushing the sanitary sewer system out for the year and everything seems to be flowing well. We completed 2500 feet of televising and cleaning of the sewer line along North Shore Drive and we are happy to say the pipe appears to be in good shape. The District is working their way around the system strategically televising the oldest sections to avoid the potentials of emergency repairs. Locating and identifying problematic areas before a collapse keeps the costs of repairs at a minimum. It allows you to properly plan, competitively bid, and properly notify residents prior to the disruption that construction activities create in our daily lives, our property, yards and roadways.

You can help yourself and the District avoid costly maintenance issues by doing a couple very simple things. The number one item is not flushing cleaning rags down the toilet. Just because the manufacturer labels them as “flushable” doesn’t mean they won’t get caught in our pumps. When these pump clogs are cleaned at 3 a.m. it means overtime for staff. All cost related to the sewer system directly affects your sewer rates.

The other simple item is please do not pour your hot cooking grease down the kitchen sink drain. As your lateral gets smaller from the grease, it eventually clogs. Unfortunately the District tends to get these “emergency” calls, it is 99.9% of the time a private lateral issue caused by the homeowner. I’m guilty myself. A typical plumbing contractor charges \$200-\$300 to clean out your lateral and it usually happens to people when you have a house full of guests on Christmas or Thanksgiving. Don’t put yourself in that embarrassing position. Dump the grease in an empty coffee can, when it’s full throw it in the garbage.

LAKE OPERATIONS

The lake crews are scheduled to be on the lake doing pile pick-up and shore clean-up through October, weather permitting. Please be patient as we lost our college help and the smaller crew is working extremely hard.

The floating plants you see blowing into shore is actually a “good” native plant called *Vallisneria* (commonly called eel grass or wild celery).

Unfortunately this native plant is the one that sends the “curly q’s” up to the surface which we saw in September and then it becomes very buoyant in October. It typically grows in the shallower areas where the soils are rich and less stable. This buoyancy allows the plant to uproot easily and float to the surface. It is also a good plant for waterfowl and fish habitat. Unfortunately the waterfowl, mainly the coots tend to pull it up and eat the sweet roots. While it can cause us some burden, it also helps choke out the invasive Eurasian water milfoil which has haunted Wisconsin lakes for years. Another good alga that has showed up is *Chara* which looks like a plant growing on the bottom of the shallower areas on the lake like Taylors bay. This plant has also been choking out the milfoil bigtime. We have also studied these Chara beds looking for starry stonewort a new invasive species haunting a few southeastern

Wisconsin lakes. I'm happy to say we keep coming up negative, so if you travel from lake to lake, clean your boat and trailers before launching in Pewaukee.

In that study we televised some critical areas in the lake and it is unbelievable the quality and diversity of the plant life we have. The water quality and clarity is arguably the best it's been in 25 years. For the people that have spent their lives on the lake, I can remember when you had to be 6-12" from the bottom of the lake to see what was down there. Now, on certain days you can see a dime at the bottom in 12 feet of water. In fact if you drop your cell phone chances are you can see it hit the bottom, getting it back, that is still a challenge.

Wetland Fund, Water Resource fund and Tax Deductions

The water resource fund is set up to help the school students learn about watersheds, wetlands and river restoration. This very successful program is teaching the youth about protecting the environment and water resources that surround the lake. Teaching these students at a young age creates an ownership and awareness that sticks to them for the rest of their lives. My guess is if you ask an older student what they remember about 6th grade, they will tell you the river boat trip down the Pewaukee river. Help keep this program stay alive by donating to the Water Resource Fund. All proceeds go back to the students and equipment used to teach them about and how to protect the watershed, the lakes, and the rivers that surround the area they grew up. These donations are tax deductible and the lands purchased through the Wetland fund are held in conservancy in perpetuity. This is the ultimate way to protect our lake and watershed for the generations to come.

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