



NEWSLETTER

Happy "Early Winter" Pike Chain of Lakes folks,

Sorry the communication this year has been limited, it seems our only tool has been Facebook. Many thanks to Amy for keeping that current and please share any feedback and Chain photos with her. Our Association, like everyone else, has been affected by COVID and don't we all want that to go away. I guess the good news is everyone sure seemed to enjoy the summer on the Chain, more recreational traffic than I've seen in quite a few years.

We once again completed spot treatments in Buskey Bay, Hart and Twin Bear Lakes. With moving to a new Lakes Management Plan we wanted to do everything we could to manage Eurasian Water-milfoil seeing we may be required to take a year off from treatments. The creation of a new Lakes Management Plan is covered later. We had good success with the treatments and will provide the results on our web site as the final reports are completed.

I've been asked by quite a few folks who paid their dues and made a donation about getting confirmation. The PCLA has been extremely fortunate to have such giving members and do truly appreciate your donations. We're in a solid financial position due to the generosity of the membership and because Al Bochler did such an amazing job of getting us grants to complete all the work we've done fighting Milfoil. So yes, we're slow at acknowledging your donations but we very much appreciate them so we can continue keeping "our" lakes as pristine as they are.

The Board hopes this newsletter finds everyone well and ready to enjoy the Holiday Seasons.

Jay Johnson, President

Pike Chain of Lakes Association Board of Directors

Jay Johnson, President

Jim Bender

Paula Millar

Joe Rapacz, V President

Jake Gress

Deb Sharbanno

John Coffey, Treasurer

Mike Higgins

Amy Wangensteen

Tom Sandager, Secretary

Howard Lehman

Al Bochler, Past President

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE ANNUAL MEETING IN 2020???

This year, the Board of Directors (BOD) decided not to have an annual meeting due to COVID 19. We were not prepared to have a video conferenced meeting over the internet (eg Zoom) with over 100 people. It was also felt that there were no big issues that needed a vote from the members at large so we felt it would be safest to not have a meeting this summer.

According to our Bylaws, we need to have an annual meeting to elect people to our Board of Directors. It's an opportunity to present important issues to the group and also have some discussion from our members.

With COVID 19 many of us have become adept at video meetings. This has become a daily routine for some of our board members. At this point, it's not clear how much of our membership would be able to attend if we had a "virtual Annual Meeting". The Board of Directors recently had a meeting in early October that included about half the members attending on their computers/cell phones.

Having a video meeting with 50 to 100 or more households is now possible and we have BOD members who are doing this daily in their work. For the IRPLA, there are a number of things that we would need to figure out in advance. We need current email addresses to send people a link to the meeting. How would we vote on issues? Do we need to verify who's eligible to vote? How do we count the votes? How would people ask questions? How do we inform people how to do these things without sending out another newsletter? Our current Bylaws do not allow for a "virtual" Annual Meeting so we need to update a few things and have formed a Bylaws Committee.

We are tentatively planning on having the next Annual Meeting the first Saturday in August 2021 at the Iron River Community Center. IF COVID 19 is still an issue, then we would like to start preparing for a "virtual" alternative or a hybrid meeting with people attending in person AND by video.



www.facebook.com/PikeChainofLakes



www.pikechain.org

WINTER CHECKLIST FOR YOUR LAKE HOME and PROPERTY

♦ ***IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF EMERGENCY SERVICES***

As the season changes, there are a few things to keep in mind when calling for emergency services. The first, and most important, is to keep your fire number visible. Snow banks and branches can easily cover up your fire number and make it near impossible for us to find you. Next is remembering that not all emergency vehicles are equipped with 4-wheel drive. If you know your road or driveway is non-navigable without 4-wheel drive, when you call 911 be sure to inform the dispatcher of this. Along with this, please give dispatch any specific instructions that may not be obvious to those traveling to your home. This could include the presence or absence of space to turn around near your home, which route to take if there is more than one option, which side of the house to pull up to, etcetera. Receiving this information early gives services ample time to plan. Though this may be hard to remember in the time of an emergency, keeping these things in mind can save valuable time during an emergency response.



♦ ***DOES YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY REQUIRE YOU TO KEEP YOUR DRIVEWAY CLEARED ?***

Homeowners on the Pike Chain should check their insurance policy to see what their coverage is when they leave their home or cabins vacant in the winter. Many insurance companies have a clause that requires you to keep your driveway clear for emergency vehicles. This may come as a surprise for many as there are at least as many driveways left un-plowed in the winter as there are ones that are plowed. The same issue could arise if you have a gate or cable across your driveway which would hinder emergency vehicles.

♦ ***VACATION CHECK BY THE IRON RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT***

The Iron River Police Department will check on your property if it is in the Iron River Township while you're away for the winter or just on vacation. All that you need to do is complete the form that is available on the PCLA website and mail or fax it to the Iron River Police Department or contact the Iron River Police at williams@ironriverpolice.org / tele: 715-372-4285; fax: 715-372-4609.



PIKE CHAIN FOLKS...DID YOU KNOW THIS?

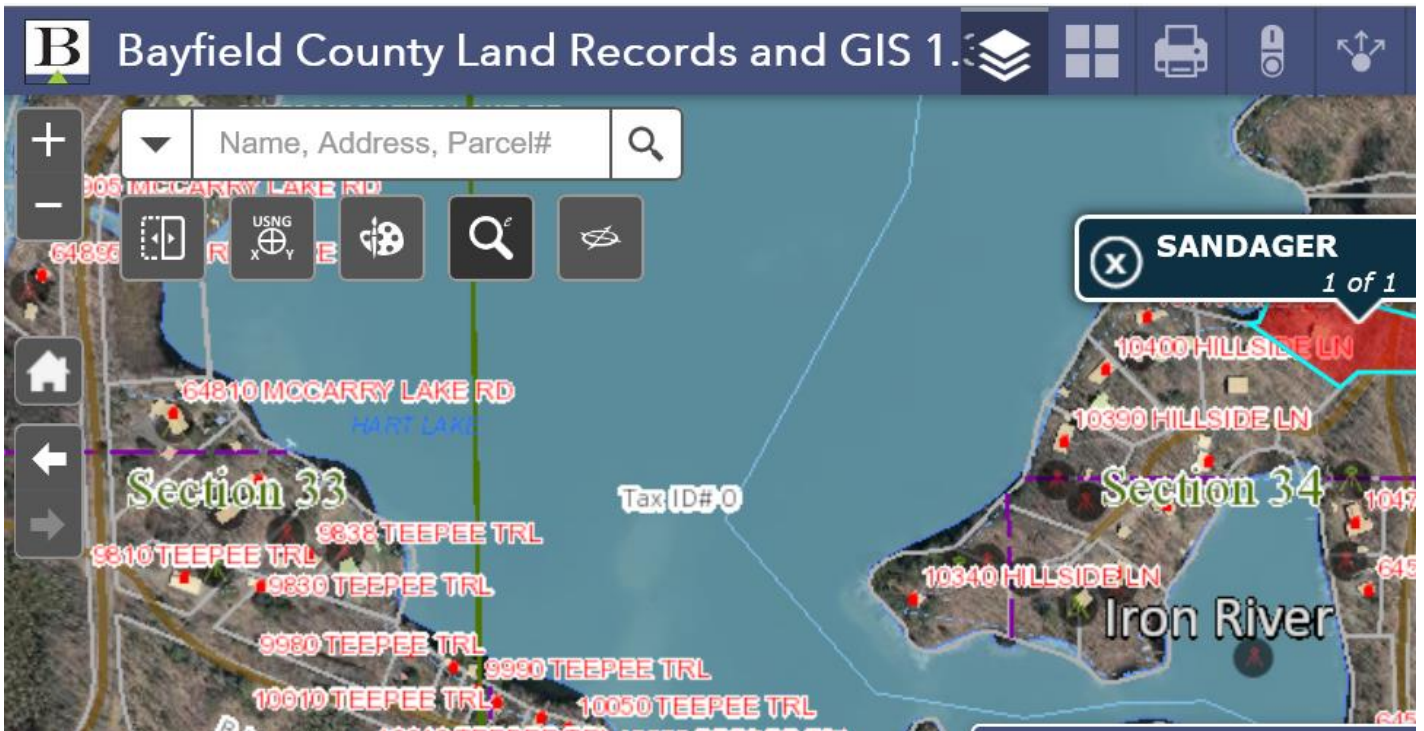
At the Town Boat Landing on Buskey Bay now 100% of the Launch Fee (\$5.00) goes to the PCLA to help our lakes. We hope next Spring you can use this Landing to contribute funds to improve our Lakes. This Landing is off of County H, turn on Wheeler Road and take it to the end where you can find the landing. Thank You for helping our Lakes!



WHO ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS?

Many of us have been going to the lake for decades, yet we may not know our neighbors around the lake. Now, there's an easy way to know who the other cabin owners are by using the Bayfield County Zoning Web site. Just "Google Bayfield County GIS map" and put in your name to find your cabin. Then you can click on properties near yours to find out who the other lake owners are. Obviously, an even better way is to simply drop by and say hello, but sometimes we are not sure how people might respond and doing a little homework first is helpful. If you're a walker, you might consider driving to a different spot on the Chain to take your walk so that you explore other areas. Hopefully, you'll run into someone you didn't already know and meet someone new.

Since many of us are not living in our cabins year round, having a good relationship with our neighbors makes sense when it comes to security and sometimes getting help with projects we might get into. It's also critical in dealing with big, expensive issues like Eurasian milfoil and other threats that we can't deal with as individuals. We have people from very diverse backgrounds on the Chain and can learn from our neighbors who have had different experiences than us. So, try and get know the people living near you and around the Chain.



WHY SHOULD I JOIN PCLA?

When I grew up in Southwestern Minnesota, I didn't know that there were lakes where you could see your feet in water up to your waist. I must admit that I am proud of being able to say that on the Pike Chain we have some of the clearest lakes in the State of Wisconsin. My hope is that we can preserve that for generations to come and this is the goal of the Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association (IRPCLA or PCLA for short).

Who among us is not for clear water without Eurasian milfoil or zebra mussels to spoil it? Fighting for clear water and dealing with invasive species can't be done without a community effort and that's why the IRPCLA was started. Currently we have approximately 160 members but there are over 350 households on the Chain.

It's also a great way to get to know people around the Chain. We have a lot of very interesting neighbors all around the lakes. So, if you are not a member, consider joining up for something that we can all take pride in. If you are a member, talk to your neighbors and encourage them to be members and contribute for the greater good. (By: Tom Sandager)

WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF PCLA?

Sometimes the IRPCLA Board of Directors (BOD) will get emails and calls from people who are wondering what we are going to do about things like property taxes, gravel pit proposals and wake boats. While we acknowledge these are things that are worth talking about, we also have to tell people that the purpose of the IRPCLA Association as outlined in our Bylaws (see full copy on our website) is narrowly defined as promoting clear water and dealing with invasive species (like Eurasian Watermilfoil = EWM). Trying to deal with EWM currently in the lakes and threats posed by other invasives like zebra mussels is plenty of work and we need to stay focused.

At the same time, we realize that these other issues are important for people to talk about and discuss the impact on us all. For people who go on Facebook, there is a forum called the Iron River and Pike Chain Community Group that tackles the more controversial topics.

IRON RIVER PIKE CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION (PCLA)

PURPOSE: PCLA is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, specifically to promote the sustainable management of the Pike Chain by:

- Providing leadership in lake management through environmental education, water quality monitoring, prevention of the introduction of aquatic invasive species and controlling populations of aquatic invasive species existing in the watershed.
- Working with government agencies and private organizations to generate the necessary human and financial resources
- Purchasing or accepting the donation of property or conservation easements to promote the overall goal of sustainable lake management
- Monitoring and responding to proposed developments within the watershed, taxation and land use planning and other environmental regulation
- Promoting mutual respect, cooperation and friendship between owners of property within the watershed, other lake users and town, county and state public officials by providing a forum for exchange of information and discussion on environmental issues of importance and concern.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR 2019 CONTRIBUTIONS TO LAKE MANAGEMENT!

(Your ongoing donations will help us to continue the fight against Aquatic Invasive Species)

Alan & Gina Amatusio	Jake Gress-Gillick Family	Toby & Sharon Marcovich	Robert & Jeanne Sederberg
Mark & Judi Anderson	Jonathan & Erin Grimsby	Robert & Kathleen Marincel	Randy & Deb Sharbonno
John & Susan Angster	Richard & Dianne Grimsrud	JR McConnell	William & Kay Slack
Abbot Apter	Catherine Gunderson	Betsey McKinney	Kris Stefani
Karen & Bart Austin	Aaron Guska Construction	Susan McLennan	Steve & Jane Strome
Kaye Barczak	Gary Hagstrom	Nancy Melander	Vic & Katie Sunderland
William & Cynthia Barker	Lucas Harguth	Brent & Lisa Mellum	Francis & Katherine Suo
Bob & JoAnn Bassett	Marty & Shelley Herman	Gale & Julie Mellum	William & Danna Swenson
Kurt & Barb Beeksma	Robert & Rhonda Heytens	Tom & Paula Millar	Ronald & Shelley Tallman
Robert & Thurza Bender	Mike & Linda Higgins	Larry & Kathy Miller	Gary Teigen
James & Julie Bender	Thomas & Diane Hoeltgen	Dave & Carol Miller	Mark & Misty Teigen
James & Dorothy Black	Kristin Hope	James & Patti Mitchen	Don & Kay Tenerelli
Eric & Anne	Carole Huhn	Mark & Johanna Mulder	Richard & Gwen Theien
Marie Bloomquist	Marge Hunt	Mary K. Mullozi	Johnny & Patricia Thompson
John Bochler	John & Jeanne Jensen	Anthony Mullozzi	Richard & Kathryn Tuttle
Alvin & Barb Bochler	John & Melanie Jensen	James & Judith Nelson	Brad & Rose Varisco
Scott & Ann Bochler	James & Dale Jerome	Thomas & Margaret Nolan	Glen & Susan Viggiano
Michael & Amy Bochler	Kathy Johnson	Kim & Derek Ogle	Don & Barbara Vlasaty
Lawrence & Karen Bowman	Keith & Cynde Johnson	Willard & Jeri Ogren	Ross & Andrea Wangensteen
Terry & Ann Boyle	Carolyn Johnson	Greg & Christine Ogren	Doug & Peg Wangensteen
John Brickson	Jay & Margie Johnson	Scott & Melanie Ogren	Eddie & Amy Wangensteen
Eugene Brinker & Bernard Briner	Mary Johnson	Don & Barbara Olson	Carla Ward
Thomas & Diane Brouch	Jim & Mary Johnston	Dave & Trish Onan	Jean Weber
David & Gretchen Brouch	Paul Kanehl	Terry & Patricia Pajtaxh	John & Patricia Weiss
William & Nancy Bruen	Mary Kennesen & Collete	Gerald & Julie Peck	Arnie Whitman & Terri Lundberg
Edward & Linda Brunner	Barb Kernan	Phil Burkel & Rachel Peterson	Bradley Wilson
Dan & Chris Burgess	Dan & Chris King	Fred & Carolyn Petroske	Sally Witz
Joanna & Robert Carlson	Pam Koepsel	John Podlesney	Dan Zak
David & Debbie Christianson	John & Jann Kohlhepp	Howard & Ann Prell	Thomas Zinnecker
John & Sharon Coffey	Frances V. Koski	Robert & Janet Prettner	Kenneth & Ann Zivic
Ken & Donna Compton	John Kotleski	Yvonne Prettner Solon	#2 Septic Plumbing & Excavating
Soph & Brook Courchaine	Lois Koval	Joseph & Carol Prohaska	Boat Land Fees
Thomas & Helen DeBriac	Kenneth & Phyllis Krutsch	Robert & Velvet Rnatala	Boker's Inc/Tedlunds
Lois Doty	Donald & Pat Kukull	Joseph & Mary Rapacz	Dykstra Construction
Timothy & Lindsay Dykstra	Gordon & Betty Lhati	Douglas Redwine	Flying Eagle Resort
Ian & Pamela Elverum	Howard & Patty Lehman	Charles Richards	Ideal Design Studio
David & Bonnie Fetzek	Gina Lemcke	Anthony & Margie Ronchi	Longtine & Daughters Construction
Patricia Flynn	David & Lisa Leonidas	Leonard Rouse	Lumberman's Mini Storage
Nancy Gillick	Katherine Leonidas	Tom & Kris Sandager	Pine Ridge Land Surveying
Marian Glew	Peter Lu & Bonnie Lulich	Janet Schaller	
Luke & Shana Gliniecki	John MacFarlane	John & Nancy Schaus	
Raymond A. Gregor, Sr.	John & Mary Mahan	Mary Schosser & Stewart Hazel	
	Mark & Shelley Manion		

(While every effort was made to acknowledge everyone, some names may have been accidentally missed. If you donated in 2019 and your name wasn't listed, please contact Tom Sandager at sandagk@yahoo.com or call 715.214-8808 and your name will be listed in a future newsletter.)

Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association, Inc.

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Membership & Lake Management Donation Form

All information is confidential and used only by PCLA. Thank you for printing clearly.

Type of Membership: (circle one) New Renewal
(circle one) Individual/Family* Business** Trust**

Name(s) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

Lake address (if different from mailing address) _____

Lake Name _____ Email address _____

If a business membership, would you like your business listed on our website (circle one): yes no

*Two votes per membership ** One vote per membership

Please list voter's name(s) _____

Volunteer Opportunities:

PCLA Board Member

PCLA Committee (please circle)

 Aquatic invasive species

 Education and communications

 Fishery

 Water quality

 Fundraising/Membership

Road-side clean-up "Adopt-a-Highway"

Other (please specify)

**Please make checks payable to
Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association and
mail form and check to:**

Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association
Attention: Treasurer
PO Box 602
Iron River, WI 54847

• Annual Membership Dues	\$20.00
<i>Tax Deductible</i>	
• Annual Donation for lake management	_____
<i>Tax Deductible</i>	
(Suggested donation \$1.00 per front foot. But any amount is greatly appreciated!)	
TOTAL (Thank you!)	_____

Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Assoc., Inc.
P.O. Box 602
Iron River, WI 54847

PCLA Annual Meeting August 7, 2021



It's the perfect time of year to send our sincere thanks for your continued support and commitment in preserving our beautiful Chain of lakes. We look forward to another great year working together. Best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving!

PCLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS