



Sustaining the lakes for everyone.

NEWSLETTER

TREATMENTS EFFECTIVE IN CONTAINING EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL

PCLA'S Aquatic Invasive Species Committee (AIS) worked with the Wisconsin DNR and our consultant, Onterra, to treat 8.6 acres of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in June of 2014. This year, treatments were exceptionally effective. Summer and fall follow up surveys are showing no plants in many of the treated areas. This indicates our management approaches have evolved over the past years to help control the plants in the areas where the EWM is most concentrated. **We have the problem of the plants appearing in new locations and areas where we have previously treated. Because EWM reproduces from the root system from seeds and fragments of the plants by natural fragmentation, we aren't able to eradicate it from the Pike Chain but can work to continue to contain it.** Eagle Lake has increasing areas where EWM is being found and will be a major area of concern for 2015.

Our funding from a 5 year invasive species grant with the Wisconsin DNR is now depleted. This grant had provided us with about \$160,000.00 in funding to assist with the invasive species control. Our new application submitted in February of 2014 did not receive sufficient points in the DNR scoring system to receive funds. We are working with the Bayfield County Land and Water Conservation Department and our consultant Onterra to submit new applications.

Bayfield County was able to work with us in 2014 on the Clean Boats Clean Water Program and provide education and boat inspections at the three boat landing on our Pike Lake Chain. This program represents a major part of our efforts to protect our Lake Chain for the present and future.

We did not need hours for hand pulling or monitoring in 2014. **Past work by a group of 20 dedicated individuals and families who volunteered time hand pulling and monitoring EWM along with donations from our PCLA members was what made our past grant and current management work.**

THANK YOU FOR YOU PAST AND CONTINUED SUPPORT.

Barb Bochler , Joann Bassett, John Westman , Al Bochler- AIS Committee

2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Al Bochler, President	Martha Oie	Ed Brunner
Eddie Wangensteen, Vice President	Debb Sharbonno	Kari Wangensteen
Jay Kernan, Treasurer	Greg Ogren	John Joseph, Past President
Kristen Sandager, Secretary	Jim Swenson	
	Howard Lehman	

KARI WANGENSTEEN JOINS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kari Wangenstein (not the wife of Eddie) has been enjoying the Pike Chain of Lakes with family and friends ever since her parents bought the property in the 1960s. When not spending time at the cabin, she works as an attorney in the Twin Cities and watching her son play club and high school soccer. She is happy to be a board member and looks forward to serving the association's members.

Thank you Ed Brunner and Howard Lehman for serving on the board a second term.

Thank you Bill Swenson for your dedicated work and service. Earlier this year Bill resigned during his second term on the Board of Directors. He was chair of the Education Committee and Fishery Committee and has been active in Pike Chain management issues since the 1980's.



Left to right: Howard Lehman, Kari Wangenstein, and Ed Brunner

FINANCIAL UPDATE: October 16, 2014

At our annual meeting and in comments accompanying contribution checks, many of you suggested that a Fall finance update would be helpful. Well, we actually read those things, so here's a brief update on IRPCLA finance activity since our August annual meeting.

You'll recall that the treasurer's report presented in August projected our cash balance at approximately \$59,000 after known major expenses and expected final grant receipts. At the meeting, we also pointed out that our annual consulting and chemical treatment costs run from \$35,000-\$50,000, depending on the extent of the treatments recommended. Finally, you'll also recall hearing that while future grants will be applied for as circumstances allow, our activities are beginning to rely more heavily on member dues and contributions – a trend that is expected to continue into the future.

You've clearly heard the message and care about our

lakes, because your reaction to our dues and contribution request has been very strong. As of 9/30/14, 153 residents and concerned "others" have responded with almost \$21,000 of dues and contributions. Your generous support has given us a great start toward our 2014 dues/contribution budget of \$23,000, and will help in the battle to keep the Pike Chain the pristine system that we have all come to enjoy. On the expense side, there's nothing significant to report since August - just some typical, nominal expenditures for our P.O. box, information brochures and newsletter printing and mailing.

One final pitch for 2014 dues and contributions...**there's still time for those who have not gotten around to writing their checks to help us hit our 2014 target.** A contribution form is printed on the back page of this newsletter. Contribution acknowledgement forms (for your tax records) will be sent in early January, after we've closed out the year.

Thank you DON and BARB OLSON for your 2013 contribution to Lake Management that was missed in our Spring Newsletter!

BEST ARIAL PHOTOS OF THE PIKE CHAIN

Cheryl Koval has posted an album of 23 aerial photos of the Pike Chain on her Facebook page.

To access the pictures go

to: https://www.facebook.com/cheryl.koval.3/photos_albums

PCLA MEMBERSHIP & LAKE MANAGEMENT CONTRIBUTION

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

Name _____ Lake _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Preferred mailing method for newsletter (please circle) email mail

Summer Mailing Address-Complete only if you'd like mail to a different address from above

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

From _____ to _____ (dates)

PCLA bylaws allows a household to be member. There is a maximum of 2 voting members per household and they are:

1. _____ (Name)

2. _____ (Name)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PCLA Board Member

PCLA Committee (Please circle)

Eurasian Water Milfoil Control

Aquatic Invasive Species

Education/Communications

Water Quality Monitoring

Fishery

Fundraising

Water Quality

Purple Loosestrife Control

Shoreline Restoration

Pike Chain Defense Fund

Fundraising/Social Activities

UW Extension Training-Licensed Applicator

Road Side Clean Up

Please make checks payable to Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Assoc.. Mail your completed form and check in the enclosed envelope to:

Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association

Attention: Treasurer

P.O. Box 602

Iron River, WI 54847

• **2014 Annual Membership Dues** **\$15.00**

• **Annual TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation for 2014 to lake management (Suggested donation \$1.00 per front foot or other amount)** _____

Total _____

THANK YOU!

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

It's not too late to become a PCLA
member OR make your 2014
contribution to lake management!

Yard Care without Dirtying our Lakes: the One-Two-Three Rule

Follow these three simple rules to help protect our lakes. Remember, your actions determine the quality of our lakes.

1. Keep leaves and lawn clippings out of the lakes. **Better yet**, how about mowing to create mulch and nutrients for your lawn!
2. Reconsider whether you need to fertilize and if you do, use only phosphorous-free fertilizers. **Better yet**, how about skipping the fertilizer completely and going native!
3. Reduce soil run-off by not mowing to the edge of the lake. **Better yet**, how about planting native grasses or natural vegetation near the shore's edge!

2014 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- 85 people enjoyed learning all about loons from guest speaker Chris Emory (right), from the LoonWatch Program of the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute/Northland College. Did you know that loons don't mate for life?
- Scot Eisenhauer, IR Chief of Police/Community Watch Program reported that no burglaries occurred on the Pike Chain or in the town of Iron River in 2013. Sign up for the **VACATION CHECK PROGRAM**-forms available on PCLA website.
- Motion passed to raise dues for 2015 to \$20.00.
- Minutes from General Meetings and Board of Director's Meetings are on our website.



SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 1, 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

Always the first Saturday in August at The Community Center-9 a.m.