

Iron River
PIKE CHAIN OF LAKES
Association
Newsletter



P C L A : W O R K I N G T O K E E P T H E L A K E S
H E A L T H Y F O R E V E R Y O N E

PCLA 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

AGENDA

Doors Open at 8:30 a.m.

- Enjoy coffee and refreshments

- Order Pike Chain t-shirts
- Opportunity to pay member-

dues and lake management contribution

Business Meeting 9 a.m.

- Committee reports

- Election for open board of director positions

- Speaker: Jeremy Bates, Bayfield County AIS Project Coordinator

Adjourn by 11 a.m.

HERE'S what's going on...

HERE'S why we need you at PCLA meetings...

HERE'S our **NEXT** meeting...

Sat. August 3, 2013

Iron River Community Center

9 a.m. to 11 a.m.



See you there!

SAVE THE DATE: The PCLA General Meeting is held on the first Saturday in August.

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Al Bochler, President

Tony Mullozzi

Eddie Wangenstein, Vice President

Debb Sharbonno

Robert Ruef, Treasurer

Greg Ogren

Bill Swenson, Asst. Treasurer

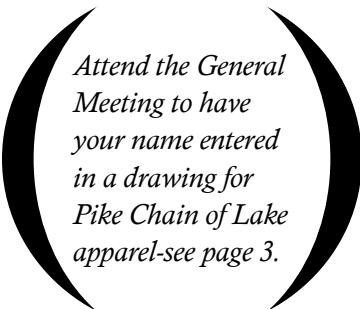
Jim Swenson

Kristen Sandager, Secretary

Howard Lehman

John Joseph, Past President/website

Ed Brunner



Attend the General Meeting to have your name entered in a drawing for Pike Chain of Lake apparel-see page 3.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR 2012 DONATIONS FOR LAKE MANAGEMENT!

Ahrens, Curtis & Patricia Le
Doux Ahrens
Ames, Ronald & Joyce
Angster, John & Susan
Anonymous
Bassett, Bob & JoAnn
Bender, James & Julie
Bender, Robert & Thurza
Black, James & Dorothy
Bloomquist, Eric & Ann
Bochler, Al & Barb
Bochler, John
Bochler, Mike and Amy
Bochler, Scott & Ann
Bowman, Larry & Karen
Bretting, Paul & Terri
Brickson, John
Brooker, Valerie & Duncan,
Melvin L.
Brouch, David & Gretchen
Brown, Dennis & Susan
Brown, Scott & Gail
Brunner, Edward & Linda
Coffey, John & Sharon
Dietzler, Dennis J
Erlanson, Harris W. Jr
Fowell, John & Nancy
Fugelso, John & Shafransky,
Nessia
Gilbaugh, Craig & Sue
Glew, William
Gregor, Raymond A Sr.
Hagstrom, Gary
Halada, Andrew & Densie
Hazel, Stewart & Schlosser, Mary
Herman, Ken
Higgins, Michael & Linda
Howenstine, Richard & Susan
Huhn, Gerald & Carole
Jensen, John & Jeanne
Jerome, Jim & Dale
Johnson, Lyle A
Johnson, Mary B
Johnson, Richard & Kathleen
Johnson, Todd & Susan
Johnston, Jim and Mary
Keller, John
King, Daniel & Chris

Kohlhepp, John & Jann
Koval, Lois
Krutsch, Ken & Phyllis
Kukull, Don & Pat
Lehman, Howard & Patty
Lemke, Robert & Heytens,
Rhonda
Leonidas, John & Beth
Leonidas, Katherine
Mader, Ralph & Mary Anne
Magnuson, Violet
Mahan, John & Mary
Manion, Jonn & Mary
Manion, Mark & Shelly
Marcovich, Toby
McConnell, J R
McKinney, Clayton & Betsey
McLennan, John
Melander, Donald & Nancy
Mellum, Brent & Lisa
Mellum, Gale & Julie
Millar, Tom and Paula
Miller, David & Carol
Morrin, Larry & Lori
Nelson, James & Judith
Ogle, Derek & Kim
Ogren, Greg & Christine
Ogren, Scott & Melanie
Ogren, Scott & Melanie
Ogren, Willard
Olson, Donald & Barbara
Olson, Robert & Doris
Onan, David & Patricia
Peck, Gerald & Julie
Peterson, Phil & Burkel, Rachel
Podlesny, John & Mary
Prell, Howard & Ann
Prescott, Robert K. & Mrs R.K.
Prettner, Robert & Janet
Puffer, Duncan & Stephanie
Pyykola, Clyde & Sally
Ramsland, James & Elizabeth
Rantala, Robert & Velvet
Rapacz, Joesph & Mary
Riley, Michael & Joyce
Ritchie, Robert
Rouse, Leonard T.
Ruef, Robert & Roberta

Sandager, Tom and Kris
Sederberg, Robert & Jeanne
Sellung, Lloyd & June
Sharbanno, Randy & Deborah
Suo, Francis Guy & Katherine
Swenson, Bill
Swenson, Dan
Swenson, Jim and Susan
Tenerelli, L. Donald Jr. & Kaye
Torrey, Wiliam
Tuttle, Rick & Kathy
Varisco, Bud & Rosemarie
Vesterstein, Paul & Carolyn
Viggiano, Glenn & Susie
Wangensteen, Edwin
Wangensteen, O. Douglas
Weber, Jeff & Peterson, Debbi
Westman, John & Bonnie
Wheeler, Donna
Wilson, Brad & Sally
Wimmer, Virginia
Witz, Steven & Sally
Zak, Daniel
Zinnecker, Tom & Marion
Zivic, Kenneth & Ann

While every effort was made to acknowledge everyone, some names may have been accidently missed. If you donated in 2012 and your name was not listed, please contact Kristen Sandager at sandagk@yahoo.com or call 715-839-7663 and your name will be in our next newsletter.

FOR SALE: Pike Chain of Lakes Apparel

- Pike Chain of Lakes “logo” on the front
- Pike Chain of Lakes OR an individual lake on the Chain on the back
- Sweatshirt has embroidered Pike Chain “logo” on the front

T-shirts \$15.00
Sweatshirts \$25.00

- Available for purchase or order at PCLA booth at the Blueberry Festival
- Order by calling Ed or Linda Brunner at 715-372-5052



The Clayton/Betsey McKinney Family

THANK YOU RICK TUTTLE-TUTTLES ACCOUNTING, INC.



Rick Tuttle of Tuttle Accounting, Inc. will be preparing PCLA taxes for free. Last fall, Rick generously volunteered his services to do this for the Association. Rick's folks have had a place on the channel on the Eagle Lake side of the bridge since the 1960's so he has a long history of spending time on the Pike Chain and spends a week or three there during the summer.

Rick has an MBA and earned his bachelor's degree from UW-Superior. He runs Tuttle Accounting in Ashland which primarily caters to small area businesses and individual tax returns.

Rick lives in Ashland with his wife Kathy. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army and spent time in Korea in the 1970's. He's an avid hunter.

NORTHLAND STUDENTS TO EXPAND BOATER EDUCATION AND INSPECTIONS

By Bill Swenson, PCLA Board Member

For many years, property owners have had concerns over the lack of boat inspections/boater education at Hydes and the Iron River town landing, both located on Buskey Bay. A proposal titled the "Pike Chain Defense Project" was created last year that called for investments of up to \$10,000 to expand boater education/inspections at these two landings and for hand removal of EWM. Last fall, lake residents were able to donate to the project. So far, \$500 has been donated. Irrespective of the limited contributions, the PCLA Board

voted unanimously at their spring meeting to support a proposal by Northland College, Ashland, WI, to conduct boat landing inspections and education at these two landings this summer.

Northland College has been working with other lake associations and will conduct 14 weeks of boat launch monitoring and education- 3 days per week, 8 hours a day for \$4,700. The work will be coordinated with the Bayfield County monitoring program to gain better under-

standing of the amount and variation in time of day and type of day that these landings are used as well as who uses these landings. In addition to helping to prevent the spread of AIS, the program will provide Northland College students with experience and financial support to further their education.

WALLEYE STOCKING: A SOLUTION OR PROBLEM

By Dr. William Swenson

Governor Scott Walker recently announced the investment of millions of dollars to stock walleye on Wisconsin lakes to rebuild their populations. The Wisconsin DNR draft report for the Pike Chain shows walleye have declined drastically and therefore, the investment should be welcome news. However, several research studies demonstrate that traditional stocking methods do not work. Walleye population declines appear directly related to the explosion of Wisconsin Bass populations. Prior to 1989, the bass bag limit was 6 fish of any size and the season ran from May through October. Abundances were low and their size was small. To improve the quality of the bass fishery, a 12 inch size limit was introduced in 1989 for Northern Wisconsin, the season was restricted to catch-and-release until the third week in June in 1992 and a statewide size limit of 14 inches was introduced in 1998. As a result, bass are very abun-

dant, larger, and the quality of bass fishing has increased.

Decline of walleye populations appears to be another effect. The research reports show that although walleye do not prey heavily on bass, the opposite is not true. In one Northern Wisconsin lake where 32,300 juvenile walleye (1.5- 2 in.) were stocked, the analysis indicated the bass population could consume up to 82,500 juvenile walleye annually. Bass were also more abundant in lakes heavily stocked with juvenile walleye, indicating that stocking may provide an additional food source for bass. Juvenile walleye are stocked at 1.5 -2 inches, just before they switch from feeding on zooplankton to fish. If left in the rearing ponds, they eat one another.

Growing larger walleye for stocking requires that minnows seined from other ponds or lakes are pro-

vided as food. These extended growth juveniles are less susceptible to predation but are expensive to grow and stock. Because rearing involves moving water and fish from several bodies of water, stocking extended growth walleyes increases the likelihood of spreading diseases and invasive species. Abundance of yellow perch populations also appears to have declined in response to expansion of bass populations in many lakes including the Pike Chain. Yellow perch are the primary food of walleye in most "walleye lakes". Stocking extended growth walleyes in lakes where bass have depleted perch populations could negatively impact walleye populations. Increased walleye stocking may be good politics. However, some scientists doing the research suggest that stocking walleye may be ill advised in lakes with even moderate largemouth bass populations.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE REPORT

By Al Bochler

Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) has been known to exist in the Pike Lake Chain since August 2004 when it was discovered in the channel between Twin Bear & Hart Lake. We have been working on control since this date by hand pulling and use of chemicals. Areas have been successfully controlled with EWM appearing in new locations including Eagle Lake. The early warm Spring in 2012 produced increased growth.

We have one year left of our \$161,000.00 Wisconsin DNR Grant for EWM control and will be applying for a new grant. Our chemical

treatment this June will be approximately 21 acres. See legal notice for additional information.

Our dedicated group of volunteers have made great efforts to locate and hand pull the EWM. Our Association and Aquatic Invasive Species Committee consisting of John Westman, JoAnn Bassett, Barb Bochler and Al Bochler thanks this group of dedicated individuals for the hours reported for hand pulling and monitoring. These hours are needed to locate and hand pull EWM. Without this effort we would not meet the conditions of our DNR Grant.

The following individuals provided hours for hand pulling and monitoring for 2012: John Westman, Brad Wilson, John Podlesny, Tom Sandager, Larry Marrin, Scott Mitchen, John Bochler, Eric Bochler, Barb Bochler, Robert Ruef, JoAnn Bassett, Kim Bassett, Roberta Ruef, Bill Swenson, Scott Bochler, Ricky Nye, Kristin Nye, Mike Bochler, Ann Bochler and Al Bochler.

Volunteer labor forms are on the website www.pikechain.org and ask individuals interested in information or reporting of hours to review the website. Individuals interesting in receiving training on monitoring or identification of EWM can contact Al Bochler @715- 682- 6372.

KILLING THEM SOFTLY

By Jane Swenson Credits: MN DNR

It started when the DNR received a report of a loon that had not migrated. It was the day after Thanksgiving and the lake was freezing. The loon was keeping a small hole open in the ice. Members of the local fire department retrieved the loon. It was taken to the nearest animal hospital. An x-ray showed that a lead jig-head was in its stomach. By the time the lead jig was removed, it was too late. Lead poisoning occurs in birds of blood levels greater than 0.2 ppm (parts per million) and birds usually die with levels greater than 1.2 ppm. This loon had 2.28 ppm.

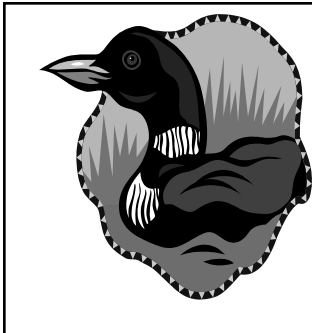
A loon with lead poisoning behaves strangely. It may fly poorly, have crash landings or stagger onto the ground. The loon begins to gasp,

tremble, and its wings droop as lead is carried through its blood stream. As the poisoning worsens, it eats very little and hides among aquatic vegetation, staying behind when other birds migrate. It becomes emaciated and often dies within two or three weeks after eating the lead. It takes only one lead sinker or jig to poison a loon or other waterfowl. (Two loons have been found on the Pike Chain over the years that possibly died from lead poisoning.)

When fishing sinkers are lost during fishing and drop to the bottom of the lake, they can be picked up by loons, or by waterfowl like ringneck ducks and trumpeter swans. Some loons also swallow fishing jigs when they mistake them for minnows. "Get the Lead Out" is a program started several years ago to encourage both

fishing and hunting enthusiasts to think twice before using lead on our lakes, rivers, and streams. Before going out on the water, clean out all your lead weights and jigs and dispose of them properly. Ask your local bait shops for alternatives to lead weights. If they don't have them, then strongly encourage them to start providing them. The same program applies to our hunters later in the season.

Often we think there's little we can do to stop the senseless killing of our wildlife, but here is a perfect example of what the actions of many can do to save our most precious and loved loons for future generations to enjoy.



We are looking for folks on the Pike Chain who have resident loons that "hang out" near your homes/cabin for the season, regardless whether it is a single loon, a pair, or several. We want to be sure all of these loons are counted by our official Loon Watch monitor on each of the lakes. Please contact Jane at swensonje@cheqnet.net or call 715-372-4027. Thanks!

Board of Directors

Thank you to Judy Barber, Al Bochler, and Greg Ogren whose terms were completed in 2012 and to Al and Greg for agreeing to serve another term. Debb Sharbonno was also elected to serve on the board at the August 2012 general meeting.

Debb Sharbonno: Debb lives on Millicent Lake with her husband and yellow lab! She was born and raised on the lake but has only lived back in the area year around for the past four years. She enjoys water skiing, fishing, kayaking and Sunday afternoons on the pontoon.

"My husband and I feel very fortunate to be living on the Pike Lake Chain.....beauty at its best!"



Stop by and visit the PCLA booth at the **Blueberry Festival** **July 27 & 28**

- Pike Chain of Lakes t-shirts/sweatshirts available to purchase or order. See p. 3 for more info.
- Any member interested in working at the booth for a 1-2 hour shift call Ed Brunner @ 715-372-5052.

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 to:

Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association

Attention: Treasurer

P.O. Box 602

Iron River, WI 54847

• **2013 Annual Membership Dues** **\$15.00**

• **Annual TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation for 2013 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

**2013 PCLA Annual Meeting
Sat. Aug. 3 at 9 a.m.**

We're on the web!
www.pikechain.org

NOTICE OF AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT ON THE PIKE CHAIN IN BAYFIELD COUNTY

Dear Lake Shore Property
Owner,

The intent of this letter is to notify you that the Iron River Lakes Association has hired Northern Aquatic Services, an herbicide application company for hire, to treat the nuisance exotic Eurasian watermilfoil in the Pike Chain. The Wisconsin DNR has issued a permit to treat roughly 22 acres of EWM in the Pike Chain. The herbicide I will use (Sculpin Gand possibly DMA 4) are approved for aquatic use by the Environmental Protection Agency. *Any*

water usage restrictions for the treated area will be posted on yellow signs in that area.

The permit application requires all property owners to be notified that the permit application is being made and that they may obtain a copy of the application to personally review. The planned treatment is in accordance with the Pike Chain's Aquatic Plant Management Plan (APM Plan) to control Eurasian Water Milfoil. Questions concerning the APM Plan can be directed to Al Bochler of the Iron River Area Lakes Association. A copy of the permit may

be obtained from the Lake Association.

I am scheduled to make the treatment in late May or sometime in June 2013.

If you have any questions you may contact Northern Aquatic Services at 715-755-3507 or the Wisconsin DNR's Water Resources Management Specialist Craig Roesler, 715-634-9658 at Hayward. Chemical fact sheets are available upon request.

Sincerely,

Dale Dressel
Northern Aquatic Services

