



NEWSLETTER

PCLA AWARDED A 3 YEAR GRANT FOR EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL CONTROL

In April 2016, PCLA was awarded a 3 year matching grant from the State of WI Surface Water Grants Program for Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) treatment and monitoring. The total project cost estimate for our 3 year EWM management plan is about \$160,000 with the grant covering about 75% of the cost (approximately \$120,000) and PCLA needing to cover the remaining 25% (approximately \$40,000) from matching funds and volunteer labor. **Volunteer hours for hand pulling, AIS monitoring, and other volunteer areas are an integral part of this grant funding.**

A brief overview of the 3 year plan for EWM:

- **Year One – 2016 Assess.** An inventory of all plant species in the Chain will be completed in order to document EWM, other invasive species and native species prior to the herbicide treatment in year two.
- **Year Two – 2017 Treatment.** A herbicide will be distributed in Buskey Bay, Millicent, Hart and Twin Bear lakes. Rather than treat specific areas that have EWM, the herbicide will be distributed in the whole lake(s). The goal is to have a low level of herbicide in the lakes for about a month.
- **Year Three – 2018 Evaluate.** An inventory of all plant species will be completed to evaluate the effect of the herbicide on EWM, other invasive species and native plants.
- **Ongoing all three years.** Hand pulling of EWM by volunteers. Mechanical harvesting of larger EWM colonies. Boater Education at the landings.

AFTER THE 3 YEARS... WE WILL STILL HAVE EWM ON THE CHAIN. It is hoped that the whole lake treatments will reduce the number and size of EWM colonies. Treatment and control of EWM is now a permanent feature of life on the Pike Lake Chain.

For more information:

- www.pikechain.org
- 3 year project summary written by our consultant Onterra
- <http://dnr.wi.gov/aid/surfacewater.html> (2016 AIS Control Grants)
- Attend the informational presentation by Onterra at the annual meeting on August 6.

SAVE THE DATE

► EURASIAN WATER MILFOIL LOCATION & IDENTIFICATION TRAINING:

Saturday, June 18 @ 10 a.m. at Twin Bear boat landing (see p. 2 under AIS for more information)

► ANNUAL PCLA MEETING:

Saturday, August 6 @ 9 a.m. at the IR Community Center (business meeting & presentation by Onterra on EWM treatment plan)

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES UPDATE

The PCLA Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Committee is offering training on Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) location and identification for anyone interested on Saturday, June 18th at 10:00 a.m. at the Twin Bear boat landing. Pontoons will be available for lake observations. This training can be done both from the surface and in the water for those who wish to get wet. This should be less than one hour and will be very informative.

Our Association has received a 3 year DNR Grant of \$119,597.25 to assist with our lake management and control of EWM. We had major expansion in areas with EWM in 2015. In November of 2015 members of our association board met with our consultants Onterra and WI DNR staff to develop a plan to effectively slow the spread of EWM in the Pike Chain. Jay Johnson, Martha Oie, Eddie Wangenstein and Al Bochler attended. The plan developed resulted in the grant application and DNR funding received. The 3

year plan calls for a study in 2016 of the existing aquatic plant life; whole lake chemical treatment of the top 4 lakes on our Chain (Buskey Bay, Millicent, Hart and Twin Bear) in 2017; and a follow-up study in 2018 showing the results. Our past spot chemical treatments required 4 parts per million of 2-4-D for effective control in the location treated. With whole lake treatment, the concentration will be .3 parts per million which is less concentration than the spot treatments by a major percentage. The chemical will not mix below the thermal which is at about 16 feet in early June. With this concentration no water restrictions will apply as they did in the past with spot treatments at higher concentration.

The grant also calls for hand pulling with a DASH vacuum system on Eagle Lake in all three years. We will be needing volunteers to monitor and hand pull in all the lakes on the Chain. Our past grants also included this ac-

tivity. We had about 20 individuals who provided volunteer hours for this activity in the past and completed the needed volunteer paper work. We will be asking for assistance over the next three years.

Our consultants Onterra will have an informational presentation at our annual meeting on 8-6-2016 at the Iron River Community Center. They will go into detail on the entire project. Individuals interested in working with us on this volunteer need should contact Al Bochler 715-682-6372. Information on our web page www.pikechain.org will provide more detailed information on our activities.

Thank you for your past and continued support.

Barb Bochler, JoAnn Bassett, John Westman, Al Bochler-Aquatic Invasive Species Committee

CLEAN BOATS CLEAN WATERS NEEDS YOUR HELP WITH LANDING INSPECTIONS

The 2016 Clean Boats Clean Waters grant no longer accepts the majority of the practices we have been using for the past 5 years, to meet our volunteer hour requirements. Raking of beaches, disposal, monitoring of beds, pulling, marking, mapping, and equipment use are NO LONGER accepted for in kind pay back. Inspection and data intake at the landing are one of the very few options available to meet our volunteer hour requirements.

Any effort to help us with landing inspections are more than appreciated. We need 600 acceptable volunteer hours to keep the grant intact. Sit by the lake, read a book, do a crossword, swat some gnats, and chat with some fine people. Don't be shy, all the information you will need will be provided. If you are available to help please contact me at: 715-372-4838 or knb@cheqnet.net.

Karen Austin
Clean Boat Clean Water Landing Coordinator
Pike lake Chain and Lake Delta



PROTECTING AND PRESERVING THE PIKE CHAIN

The Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association (PCLA) was organized in 2010 as a tax exempt organization exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, specifically to promote the sustainable management of the Pike Chain. The PCLA Board of Directors continues to dedicate its efforts towards preserving and protecting the beautiful chain of lakes from environmental threats, with a major focus on Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

AIS takes many forms such as Eurasian water milfoil (EWM), zebra mussels, rusty crayfish, and purple loosestrife. The potential for invasion of zebra mussels and the ongoing battle against Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) are posing the biggest threats to our Chain at this time. As you may know, once introduced into a lake, EWM will never go away. But we can and have been aggressively treating it to try and minimize its hostile spread through chemical treatments, hand pulling and boat inspections and education. Despite these efforts, 2015 saw a significant increase of EWM in our Chain.

Battling EWM takes a lot of money, and for that we appreciate those who have contributed time or money to help fight this problem. In addition to your contributions, the Board of Directors has worked tirelessly with the Wisconsin DNR, Bayfield County AIS staff and others. We are pleased to inform you that PCLA received a grant to cover some costs.

But it's simply not enough. The grant covers only 75% of the projected costs. We need your help through financial support and volunteer efforts.

If you are not already member, please join the PCLA. Whether or not you are a member, please consider making a contribution to lake management. Consider volunteering your time-we have a number of volunteer needs.

To learn more, please go to our website www.pikechain.org and follow our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PikeChainofLakes. And always feel free to contact any member of our board of directors, a list of which can be found on our website.

Thank you so much for your consideration and support. Your generosity will continue to help preserve and protect the Pike Chain for generations to come. Here's to the Pike Chain!



Paradise Point Resort on the south point of Lake Millicent in the 1920's.
(Photograph from Debb Sharbanno)

PCLA Revenue and Expense Analyses for 2015

The cash balance as of 2/28/2016 is \$82,853 (combined balances of our checking and money market accounts).

The 2015 revenues were \$41,252. Revenues in 2014 were up at \$78,842. The decrease in revenue in 2015 is because of reduced grant income of \$34,000; reduced dues/contribution income by \$2,400; and reduced apparel income \$1,200.

Dues and contributions were down almost \$2,400 from 2014. Contributions were down \$2,530 and dues were up just \$140.00 despite the increase from \$15 to \$20 per member.

There were approximately 143 contributors in 2015 which is down from 2014.

Total expenditures were \$18,400 of which \$16,800 (over 91%) was spent directly on treatments, related permits, hand pulling.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u># MEMBERSHIPS</u>	<u>#CONTRIBUTIONS</u>
2010	85	62
2011	93	65
2012	108	80
2013	140	118
2014	161	144
2015	125	130

- APPROXIMATELY 336 PROPERTY OWNERS ON THE CHAIN
- NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED TWICE A YEAR REACHING OVER 400 EACH MAILING

Josh Teigen was appointed by the board of directors to fill the vacancy of Martha Oie who resigned this spring. Thank you Martha for serving on the board and welcome Josh!.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Al Bochler, President	Debb Sharbonno	Kari Wangenstein
Eddie Wangenstein, Vice President	Greg Ogren	Jay Johnson
Jay Kernan, Treasurer	Howard Lehman	Joe Rapacz
Kristen Sandager, Secretary		Josh Teigen
John Joseph, Past President/website		

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



We are in need of volunteers to serve in the following areas. If you are interested in helping out, contact the appropriate chair person or indicate your willingness to help on the membership form included in this newsletter.

Education and Communications Committee: Works to develop and implement educational approaches and programs to promote the goal of sustainable lake management. Contact Howard Lehman (chair) at 715-372-5273/lehmanha@cheqnet.net

Fisheries Committee: Established to improve the fishery resource and fishing. Contact Howard Lehman (chair) at 715-372-5273/lehmanha@cheqnet.net

Aquatic Invasive Species Committee: Functions to coordinate volunteer monitoring and control of Aquatic Invasive Species in the Pike Chain of Lakes. Volunteers are needed to serve on the committee and for handpulling of Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) as specified in our 2016 AIS grant for EWM treatment/control. Contact Al Bochler (chair) at 715-682-6372/bochofa@centurytel.net.

Water Quality Committee: Functions to monitor water quality of the lakes in the Pike Chain to provide the long-term data required to define trends in water quality. Contact Eddie & Amy Wangensteen (chairs) at 651-308-7008/eddiewangensteen@gmail.com.

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Fundraising: Contact Jay Johnson (chair) at 715-271-2885/jaysatthelake@gmail.com.

Adopt a Highway: Volunteers clean up a 3 mile section of Highway H from Buskey Bay Dr. to Twin Bear Park twice a year (spring and fall). Orange vests and bags are provided. Contact Julie and Jerry Peck at 715-372-6005 or gjpeck@cheqnet.net to be placed on a phone/email list to be notified of clean-up date.

Membership: Retain and increase PCLA membership. Contact Kari Wangensteen (chair) at 651-261-4106/kwangensteen@comcast.net

OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) Program: Anyone interested in volunteering contact Karen Austin at 715-372-4838 or knb@cheqnet.net. (training provided)

www.pikechain.org: send your photos or any interesting information on the Pike Chain. Contact John Joseph at iron.river@hotmail.com.

www.facebook.com/PikeChainofLakes: like us or post on our facebook page.

Thank you to all volunteers-your work is important to PCLA !

THANK YOU FOR YOUR 2015 DONATIONS TO LAKE MANAGEMENT!

Anonymous	Johnson, Jay & Margaret	Petroske, Carolyn
Anonymous	Johnson, Lyle	Podlesney, John
Ahrens, Curtis & Patricia	Johnson, Mary	Prell, Howard & Ann
Ames, Ronald & Joyce	Johnson, Richard & Kathleen	Prettner Solon, Yvonne
Angster, James	Kanehl, Paul (by Thomas Fratt)	Prettner, R.B.
Angster, John & Susan	Keller, John & Priscilla	Prohaska, Joe & Carol
Barker, W.G. & C.	Kernan, Barbara	Puffer, Duncan & Stephanie
Bassett, Joan	Kernan, Jay & Laureen	Ramsland, James
Bender, James & Julie	Kohlhepp, John & Jann	Rantala, Robert & Velvet
Bender, Robert & Thurza	Koski, Francis	Rapacz, Joseph & Mary
Black, James & Dorothy	Koval, Lois	Ronchi, Tony & Margie
Bochler, Al & Barb	Krutsch, Kenneth & Phyllis	Ruef, Robert & Roberta
Bochler, John	Lahti, Gordon & Betty	Sandager, Tom & Kris
Bochler, Michael & Amy	Leach, Mary	Schaus, John & Nancy
Bochler, Scott & Ann	Lehman, Howard & Patty	Sederberg, Robt. & Jeanne
Bowman, Lawrence & Karen	Leonidas, Katherine	Sharbanno, Randy & Debb
Brickson, John	Mader, Ralph & M.A.	Swanstrom, Mrs. John
Brown, Dennis & Susan	Magnuson, Violet	Swenson, James & Susan
Brunner, Ed & Linda	Mahan, John & Mary Jo	Swenson, William & Dana
Buran, Robert & Linda	Manion, John & Mary	Tenerelli, L. Donald & Kaye
Compton, Ken & Donna	Manion, Mark & Shelly	Theien, Richard & Gwen
DeBriae, Thomas & Helen	McConnell, J.R.	Thompson, Johnny & Patricia
Doty, L.A.	McKinney, Clayton & Betsey	Thompson, Mary & John
Flynn, Patricia	Melander, Don & Nancy	Varisco, Bud & Rosemarie
Glew, William & Marion	Mellum, Brent & Lisa	Vesterstein, Paul
Gloe, Ronald & Susan	Mellum, Gale & Julie	Viggianno, G.R. & S.J.
Gregor, Raymond	Miller, David & Carol	Wangensteen, Eddie & Amy
Hagstrom, Gary	Mulder, Mark & Johanna	Wangensteen, Doug & Peg
Stewart, Hazel & Schlosser, Mary	O'Connor, Robt. & Alice	Witz, Steve & Sally
Herman, Martin & Shelly	Ogren, Greg & Christine	Zivic, Donna
Heytens, Rhonda & Lemke, Robt.	Ogren, Scott & Melanie	Zivic, Ken & Ann
Higgins, Michael & Linda	Ogren, Willard & Jeri	
Huhn, Carole	Oie, Martha & Maki, Suzi	
Jensen, John and Jeanne	Olson, Donald & Barbara	
Jensen, John and Melanie	Onan Family Foundation	
Jensen, Margaret	Peck, Gerald & Julie	
Jerome, Dale	Peterson, Philip & Burkel, Rachel	

THANK YOU John and Nancy Schaus for your 2014 donation to lake management that was missed in our fall newsletter.

While every effort was made to acknowledge everyone, some names may have been accidentally missed. If you donated in 2015 and your name wasn't listed, please contact Kristen Sandager at sandagk@yahoo.com or call 715-559-8622 and your name will be in our next newsletter.



- **RICK TUTTLE OF TUTTLE'S ACCOUNTING** in Ashland for continuing to generously volunteer your time preparing PCLA taxes for free. Rick has been providing this service to us for many years.
- **PINE POINT LODGE** for use of your facility for the fishery presentation sponsored by the PCLA Education Committee last fall.

PCLA MEMBERSHIP & LAKE MANAGEMENT CONTRIBUTION

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

Name _____ Lake _____

Permanent mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Preferred mailing method for FALL newsletter (please circle) email mail

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 Monitoring & Hand pulling

Aquatic Invasive Species

Education/Communications

Water Quality Monitoring

Fishery

Water Quality

Purple Loosestrife Control

Fundraising /membership

Shoreline Restoration

Fundraising/Social Activities

Road Side Clean Up- " Adopt-a-Highway"

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

• **2016 Annual Membership Dues** **\$20.00**
(TAX DEDUCTIBLE)

• **Annual TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation for 2016**
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



SAVE THE DATE: Iron River Lakes Association Annual Meeting !

PCLA ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, August 6, 2016
Iron River Community Center
9 am –11am
Doors open at 8:30

Mark your calendars for the annual PCLA general meeting on Saturday, August 6. The annual meeting is a great opportunity to share your ideas and concerns, network with others who love the Pike Chain and learn what issues are facing our lakes and the significance of the work PCLA does. **Our guest speaker will be our consultant from Onterra who will talk about the 3 year Eurasian water milfoil grant-treatment plan and answer your questions.**

PCLA is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization working specifically to promote the sustainable management of our beautiful Pike Chain.



www.facebook.com/PikeChainofLakes



www.pikechain.org