



Sustaining the lakes for everyone.

FALL NEWSLETTER

Hello PCLA members and Pikechainers,

I'm not sure how many of you have been around the Pike Chain recently but Wow, I think we all agree 70-degree Halloween weather is the way to go. In our case, we really appreciated the nice days seeing it was a banner year for leaves and has anyone ever seen so many acorns? This summer and fall also brought a ton of beautiful sunsets and for a few lucky ones even the Northern Lights.

In 2021 the PCLA created a new Lakes Management Plan allowing [Eurasian watermilfoil](#) (EWM) treatments in 2022 based on our consultant's recommendations and DNR approval. Al Boehler will cover more about the Invasive Species control in his outline later in this newsletter. The DNR Grant we applied for in 2021 covered the majority of the costs of the treatment and follow-up surveys which took place this fall and will continue in 2023. We are also applying for a [DNR Surface Water Grant](#) to cover some of the costs of additional EWM treatments in Buskey Bay and Lake Millicent in 2023. What is very important for all Association members to understand is your donations are crucial as we need to continue with the treatments whether we get the grant or not.

Maybe you saw photos on our [Facebook](#) site or the Annual Meeting presentation of the "barrier curtain" project to treat EWM. Perhaps you thought, "Sweet, I'd like to be involved with that." Well, you are in luck. We will most likely be building another one in 2023 for installation on Lake Millicent in the 3rd week of June. We will post updates on [Facebook](#) next year and let folks know how to volunteer.

Pike Chain of Lakes Association Board of Directors

Jay Johnson, President

Jim Bender

Paula Millar

Joe Rapacz, V President

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Kristina Sorensen

John Coffey, Treasurer

Jake Gress

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Mike Higgins

Al Boehler, Past President

In 2022 Bayfield County made us aware that they and the other entities who have been providing payroll services for the Clean Boats, Clean Waters ([CBCW](#)) program would no longer be able to complete them. This includes all the landings on the Pike Chain as well as Delta and Long Lake. PCLA Treasurer John Coffey volunteered to provide payroll services for all the landings. Suffice it to say that without Karen Austin, who has been running the program as long as we can remember, and John Coffey there would no longer be a CBCW program on the Pike Chain. Bayfield County receives a grant for the majority of the inspection costs, but our Association pays for the worker's comp insurance and the fall inspection costs. We see this as a value-added cost. It also helps our "Score" when the DNR ranks our grant applications.

Last fall the [DNR stocked](#) Buskey Bay with 9801 walleye fingerlings. This is supposed to continue with stocking taking place every other year. We also received word that in early November the DNR stocked 8-10" musky fingerlings. The Fisheries Committee continues to work with the DNR to enhance the health of the Pike Chain fishery.

Here's hoping everyone has a great Holiday Season.

Jay Johnson, President IRPCLA

Eurasian Watermilfoil Update for 2022 and Looking Ahead

Greetings from our IRPCLA Aquatic and Invasive Species Committee for 2022.

This year we continued to make great progress in our efforts to control and manage invasive [Eurasian watermilfoil](#) (EWM). EWM in the Pike Chain was first noted in 2004, when one of our boater education and inspection staff found it. We have been able to keep our channels open for navigation by treating the EWM since it was discovered. EWM will never go away completely but it can be controlled with regular monitoring and treatment.

In June a total of 38 acres was treated for EWM. Spot treatments included 13.3 acres on the South end of Hart, 9 acres in the Southwest end of Twin Bear, and 15.4 acres in various areas of Eagle Lake. Since [2,4-D](#) has become less effective, a new herbicide called [ProcellaCOR](#) was used in all the areas except for a "barrier curtain" EWM treatment/experiment done in Twin Bear Lake. ProcellaCOR can be used at lower concentration and is more effective

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www.facebook.com/PikeChainofLakes



www.pikechain.org

than 2,4-D although a lot more expensive. It's also worth noting that the amount of ProcellaCOR used for spot treatment in Eagle this year was equivalent to whole lake treatment. This treatment was still approved by the DNR even though they consider whole lake treatment with ProcellaCOR experimental. Extensive water sampling and testing following the treatments was required by the DNR to assess effectiveness. This data is reviewed by the DNR professionals to try and help lake associations throughout the state use methods that are data based and effective. With some resistance to 2-4-D, what's effective changes with time, so continuous monitoring of techniques and results is important. Special thanks to volunteers Kristina Sorensen and Jay Johnson for doing sampling before and after treatments that help us better understand what's happening.

We have been asked many times why treatments are not always done wherever there is an infestation. Levels of infestation must meet DNR expectations before we can get a permit to treat. [Onterra](#), a Lake Management Planning company from Green Bay, has worked with us for many years to conduct surveys each fall. These detailed surveys describe the locations and acreage of EWM. Treatments in the spring are based on these fall surveys followed by DNR approval of a permit request, which takes several months and typically occurs over the winter. In addition, property owners must also be notified at least several weeks prior to treatments. The treatment works better on a day with little wind and the water temperature must be in a narrow range to get the best results. A lot of planning goes into our treatments by the time they occur.

Our 2022 DNR Grant included funds for a research project called "barrier curtain treatment" for EWM. An impermeable curtain was constructed that went from the surface to the bottom of the lake on the Southwest end of Twin Bear. The idea was to confine the 2,4-D so that it didn't disperse to surrounding areas, which normally occurs with spot treatment. The curtain had to be built before treatment then removed 96 hours later to comply with US Army Core of Engineers requirements. Our willingness to take on this research project scored some extra points with the DNR that helped get our last DNR Grant for \$87,378.00 (75% of the projected cost) approved. Although we've had a lot of success in getting grants, it's a very competitive process and not a sure thing. The DNR gives more weight to requests from lake associations that have not had prior grants. Our prior success puts us at a disadvantage compared to lakes that have not had recent grant requests. In other words, we've been very fortunate to have landed grants almost every year. This "barrier treatment" appears to have been very successful. The data goes into the DNR database so that this will benefit other lake associations treating EWM in Wisconsin too.

I wish to thank Jay Johnson, who organized a volunteer group to complete this curtain project meeting DNR guidelines, and his volunteer team. They worked hard to get this done in a couple days in June. Funding for this demanded it be done properly. They did a commendable job that met all the DNR requirements.

Other volunteers included Ron and Judy Pajac for use of their driveway, Kristina Sorensen, Scott and Ann Bochler, Logan Nelson, Amy Wangensteen, Margie Johnson, Julie Bender, Eric and Mike Bochler, Dan Vlasaty and Dan Zak.

We still have some funds from our previous 2022-2023 Grant for follow-up hand pulling by [Dive Assisted Suctioning and Harvesting \(DASH\)](#). Although results with this DASH technique have not been as successful as the herbicidal treatment, it might be of use in 2023 for limited areas of EWM since we have some funds to do this.

This year's Fall Survey by [Onterra](#) had excellent conditions with visibility to at least 15 feet deep when they came in September. They saw no EWM in Eagle, so it looks like this was a success so far. Significant areas of EWM were found in Buskey Bay and Millicent as expected.

Looking to the future, the IRPCLA board voted unanimously for the following actions in 2023. We are applying to the Wisconsin DNR for a new Grant covering 75% of the cost to treat invasive EWM in 2023-2024. As a part of the grant, we are planning extensive treatments in Buskey Bay with ProcettaCOR. Given the acreage of spots in Buskey Bay, this may end up being equivalent to whole lake treatment similar to what happened in Eagle this year. Spot treatments are also planned in Millicent plus another "curtain research project" with 2,4-D at the North end of Millicent. We hope that another "barrier treatment" will make our grant more attractive to the DNR. This will require a lot of volunteer time and extensive water testing to accomplish. This will be the first time since whole lake treatment in 2017 that EWM treatment in Millicent has been needed.

In summary, we are continuing to learn and educate our members on EWM control and treatment methods. We encourage people to check out the web page at www.pikechain.org managed by John Joseph for more detailed information like the [Onterra](#) reports, some of which are over 100 pages and very interesting reading. You can also check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/PikeChainOfLakes> managed by Amy Wangensteen for updates on more urgent matters and announcements.

Our Aquatic and Invasive Species (AIS) Committee and the IRPCLA board thank you all for your continued support. Please encourage your neighbors, family and other property owners to support our organization by being members, donating and volunteering. A form for paying dues and donations is included with this newsletter.

Our Aquatic and Invasive Species (AIS) Committee members are Barb Bochler, JoAnn Bassett, John Westman (who we never get to speak to as he is always underwater pulling his "tankless dive station" to look for EWM), Eddie Wangensteen, Jay Johnson, Kristina Sorenson and Al Bochler.

Al Bochler, Chair of AIS Committee

THANK YOU FOR YOUR 2021 CONTRIBUTIONS TO LAKE MANAGEMENT!

Note that 2022 contributions will be included in the next newsletter.

ACH Caterpillar	Dennis Dietzler	David & Lisa Leonidas
Mark & Judi Anderson	Shannon & Rosemary	Longtine & Daughters Construction
John & Susan Angster	Donnelly	Peter & Bonnie Lulich
Jim Angster & Suzi Horner	Lois Doty	Terri Lundberg & Arnie Whitman
Susanne & Steven Arnold	Timothy & Lindsay Dykstra	John MacFarlane
Karen & Bart Austin	Ian & Pamela Elverum	Ryan & Mallory Mackey
Laurence & Robin Baker	Patricia Flynn	Ralph & Mary Anne Mader
William & Cynthia Barker	David & Stephanie Geary	Violet Magnuson
Bob and JoAnn Bassett	Jake Gress & Gillick Family	John & Mary Mahan
Wayne & Sue Beard	Ron Gloe & Susan Wheeler-Gloe	Susan Maki
Jim & Billi Jo Beck	Raymond A Gregor, Sr	Mark & Shelly Manion
Robert & Thurza Bender	Jonathan & Erin Grimsby	Robert & Kathleen Marincel
James & Julie Bender	Aaron Guski Construction	David & Trish Marincel
John Bochler	Gary Hagstrom	Jack & Mary Martinsen
Alvin & Barb Bochler	Robert & Rhonda Heytens	Jack & Lisa Martinsen
Scott & Ann Bochler	Mike & Linda Higgins	Wendy Marty
Michael & Amy Bochler	Kristin Hope	JR McConnell
Tedlund Family Properties	Carole Huhn	Dave & Beckie McDonald
Terry & Ann Boyle	Steve Herling	Susan McLennan
Paul & Terri Bretting	John & Melanie Jensen	Gale & Julie Mellum
John Brickson	Robert & Lynn Jensen	Brent & Lisa Mellum
Bernard Brinker	James & Dale Jerome	Dave & Carol Miller
Eugene & Cheryl Brinker	Kristina Sorensen & John Jensen	James & Patti Mitchen
David & Gretchen Brouch	Derek & Emily Johnson	Timothy & Prudy Mott
Scott Brown	Mary Bowman Johnson	Mark & Johanna Mulder
Dennis & Susan Brown	Jay & Margie Johnson	Ryan & Kelly Nelson
Edward & Linda Brunner	Kathy Johnson	Thomas & Margaret Nolan
Camp Delta	Jim & Mary Johnston	Kim & Derek Ogle
Joanna & Robert Carlson	Barbara Kernan	Greg & Christine Ogren
June Richard & Cheryl A Charles	John & Donica Knudson	Scott & Melanie Ogren
John & Sharon Coffey Dan & Annmarie Collins Ken & Donna Compton CTD LLC	John & Jann Kohlhepp	Donald Olson
Dolph & Brook	Frances V Koski	The Onan Family
Courchaine Frank & Laurel	John Kotleski	Kathleen & Thomas Payne
Davis Thomas & Helen	Donald & Pat Kukull	Gerald & Julie Peck
DeBriae	Gordon & Betty Lahti	Fred & Carolyn Petroske
	Howard & Patty Lehman	John Podlesny
	Gina Lemcke	

2021 Contributions Continued.....

Howard & Ann Prell	Andrew Slack	Kathryn Tuttle
Yvonne Prettner Solon	Robert & Jeanne Soderberg	Scott & Rolene Van Vlack
Joseph and Carol Prohaska	Robert Strom ET AL	Bud & Rose Varisco
Phil Peterson & Rachel Bu	Robert & Kristine Stuhr	Glenn & Susan Viggiano
Velvet Rantala	Vic & Katie Sunderland	Don & Karen Vlasaty
Joseph & Mary Rapacz	Francis G Suo	Edwin & Amy Wangenstein
Leonard Rouse	Susan Swenson	Doug & Peg Wangenstein
Kimberley Saari-Kelly Tai	William & Danna Swenson	Sam & Jaime Wentzel
Tom & Kris Sandager	Ronald & Shelley Tallman	John & Bonnie Westman
Janet Schaller	Mark & Misty Teigen	Mike & Cindy Wiebe
John & Nancy Schaus	Gary & Sandy Teigen	Bradley & Sally Wilson
Richard & Mary Schoenke	Johnny & Patricia Thompson	Sally Witz
June Sellung	John & Mary Thompson	Dan Zak
Randy & Deb Sharbonno	Mark & Kathryn Thul	Donna Zivic

**The Pine Lake Road Pillar Restoration Project Completed!**

We know the iconic pillars on Pine Lake Road. This landmark is now restored to original form. Many thanks to Sharon Coffey and Amy Wangenstein for spearheading this effort with a fundraiser and to all of the people who donated to this project. The goal was to make the pillars look similar to the original appearance including flower pots soon. Our thanks to Robert Lahti and Russel Wade, who did the restoration with great attention to detail and solid construction that will last for many years to come. The pillars were placed c. 1915 by [Christian Wiehe](#), builder of Pine Crest and lumber executive for Hines Lumber. According to his grandson Greg Bade, the pillars were brought from Chicago on a rail car. These pillars and others like them were a part of Chicago City Hall (1885-1908). The building was damaged by a [gas explosion in 1905](#). Due to a number of faulty construction issues, that building was demolished in 1908 and a new City Hall constructed.

Membership & Lake Management Donation Form for IRPCLA

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

Type of Membership: (circle one) New Renewal

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

Volunteer Opportunities (circle if interested): PCLA Board Member Roadside Cleanup

PCLA Committee (AIS, Education/Communications, Fundraising/Membership)

Please make checks payable to Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association. Mail this 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
• 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 ASSOCIATION (PCLA) purpose is 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.

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

Next IRPCLA Annual
Meeting August 12, 2023
at the Community Center



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