



Chetek Lakes Protection Association

MAY - 2007

Volume 1, Number 1

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Barron County Lakes Report

Protecting spawning habitat critical to Wisconsin's state fish

2007-2008 Ceded Territory Walleye Bag Limits.

Public has opportunity to give input on fish and wildlife priorities

Contact Us

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August to get stewardship award from state



The Wisconsin Association of Lakes and partners at the UW-Extension Lakes program and the Department of Natural Resources have selected Bob August, Chetek resident and director of the Chetek Lakes Protection Association, as the winner of the 2007 Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Award in the Special Recognition category, along with 16 of his peers from across the state who have also served as citizen lake monitors for at least 20 years.

The winners of this award join a select group of women, men, students and organizations whose unmatched dedication, vision, and commitment ensure that Wisconsin's legacy of lakes will be safe and secure for generations to come.

All award winners will be recognized at the Wisconsin Lake Stewardship Luncheon at the Wisconsin Lakes Convention on Friday, April 27, at the KI Convention Center in downtown Green Bay.

Prairie Lake Aerator removal



With ice-out every spring comes the removal of aerators, buoys and 4 miles of rope on the upper North end of Prairie Lake. . On Friday April 13, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources personnel with Chetek Lakes Protection Association volunteers, Ron Brewster, David Brewster, Water Wozniak, Ryan Schulz and Mike Chlopek of Morningside Resorts completed this work.

Aerators were installed during first safe ice in January by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources crew and volunteers from the Chetek Lakes protection Association. The placing of the aerators helps prevent fish kill due to lack of oxygen in the water.

If anyone is interested in protecting our fishery by volunteering for the placement and removal of ropes and buoys in 2008 or joining the Chetek Lakes Protection Association, please contact John Plaza at 859-2816, no experience is required.

Boat Landing sign inspection



Every spring Don freeman, CLPA director updates and inspects the information board that is located at every boat landing. Items posted on this board include state rules and regulations concerning boating, fishing, littering and other important lake use information. If you have time and want to give Don Freeman a hand give him a call at 924-3658.

Fish crib activity for 2007 -2008



This year we will be placing fish cribs in Prairie lake. A fish crib is made up of 5 pallets strapped together. We normally create a fish crib cluster using 8 cribs. The DNR's definition of Fish crib" means a man-made 3-dimensional habitat structure composed of biological or inert materials designed specifically to attract and concentrate fish.

Fish crib standards. fish cribs shall meet the following requirements:

1. Fish cribs shall have a minimum of 5 feet of water over the top of the structure. The depth and clearance of the fish cribs shall be based on the normal lowest water level condition during a calendar year.
2. Fish cribs shall be constructed of biological materials, with the

exception of fastening and anchoring devices.

3. The dimensions of a fish crib shall be no larger than 8 feet tall by 8 feet long by 8 feet wide.
4. Fish cribs may not be placed within 100 feet of swimming beaches or swim rafts.
5. Fish cribs may not be located in soft sediment or muck that is greater than 12 inches in depth.
6. Fish cribs may not be placed where the bottom contour of the waterway exceeds a slope of 4-foot horizontal to one-foot vertical.
7. Fish cribs shall be adequately anchored to prevent movement.

If you are a Riparian" means an owner of land abutting a navigable waterway and wish to have fish crib placement on your lake please contact Don Freeman at 924-3658 to discuss requirements and future crib placement. Don can also use a hand in building the cribs and placing them in the lake, if you are willing to help give him a call.

Shoreland restoration project



Coming to your mailbox soon, information on how you can play an important part in the future and continued health of the Chetek Chain .

The concept of a natural shoreline does not mean neglected, weedy, or unkempt properties! How many lawns can you count around lake? Probably more than you used to, as increasing numbers of people are retiring to live full time at their cabins. While grass has its place, lakes and lawns have a relationship that is uneasy at best and poisonous at worst. Indolent things that they are, lawns displace the hard-working native plants that protect the lake. When heavy rain comes, the floppy blades lay down and let the rain beat all over them, eroding the topsoil and carrying it into the lake. According to one study, 90 percent of the rain falling on a natural shore is absorbed before reaching the water, while up to 55 percent of the rain falling on hard surfaces, including lawns, flows right into the lake. This runoff carries with it, pesticides and playing havoc on the aquatic ecosystem.]

Watercraft Inspection Program



Did you know that hundreds of plants and animals are taking over the natural resources of our state by displacing native species and disrupting ecosystems? Did you know that these 'invasive' species affect outdoor recreation like swimming, fishing, and hiking and take an economic toll on commercial, agricultural, forestry, and aquacultural resources?

The Watercraft Inspection Program involves dissemination of information to anglers and recreational boaters to make them aware of what invasive species look like and what precautions they should take to avoid spreading them. It also involves visual inspection of boats to make sure they are "clean" and demonstration to the public of how to take the proper steps to clean their boats, trailers, and boating equipment. Watercraft inspectors also install signs at boat landings informing boaters of infestation status, state law, and steps to prevent spreading invasive.

This project is headed by Don Freeman from Memorial day through Labor day. Don is always looking for volunteers to help out at various boat landings; all will be trained and will partner with an experienced volunteer. If you are interested in protecting our lakes and giving up an occasional few hours, then give Don a call at 924-3658.

CLPA Annual meeting

This year's CLPA meeting will be held on Sunday, August 5th at Sportsman's Supper Club at 2 PM. Watch for your invitation in the mail and please RSVP if you plan on attending.

Did you know?

A pound of phosphorus fertilizer washed off the lawn and into the lake fuels the growth of 500 pounds of aquatic plants.

What do you think of this newsletter?

Should we continue it?

What would you like to see in it?

Send your comments to info@cheteklakespa.org attention John Plaza