



# Bone Lake Newsletter

*Bone Lake — Once called Onondogacona which means lake of small pines*

SPRING 2014

## BONE LAKE WATERFRONT PROJECT:

### Ohlrogge Family Supports Lake Quality

by Ken Ohlrogge

**M**y wife’s family has had a cabin on Bone Lake for more than fifty years and we’ve enjoyed many great times there. Our daughters are now bringing their families, too, and it’s important to us that the lake stays healthy and beautiful for them and generations to come. That’s why we were happy to participate in the Bone Lake Waterfront Program, and more than happy with the results.

Cheryl Clemens of Harmony Environmental has been a wonderful resource and a great help. She explained all of our options, listened carefully to our concerns, and helped us develop the plan that works best for us environmentally, aesthetically, and financially. She also helped us with the paperwork and oversaw the implementation.

Now, runoff from the hill and farm behind our cabin that used to flow down our driveway and into the lake, will be filtered through a bed of flowers, foliage and underground sand and rocks. While helping preserve the water quality of Bone Lake we’ve also enhanced the look of our property. ■



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**BONE LAKE  
SPRING SOCIAL  
MAY 3 AT WILKINS  
4-7 P.M.** See page 10

Comments? Suggestions?  
Contributions? Contact  
karen@kje.com

[www.bonelakewi.com](http://www.bonelakewi.com)



The porous paving systems installed at the Ohlrogge property capture runoff water and prevent sediment and nutrients from entering Bone Lake.

#### **Native Plantings: Web Resources for Guidance**

Interested in pursuing native planting on your own time? Here are some helpful web resources.

**Minnesota DNR’s excellent web based source** for shoreline restoration steps and techniques.  
[www.dnr.state.mn.us/restoreyourshore](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/restoreyourshore)

**Shoreland Restoration, A Growing Solution.** A step-by-step video guide to shoreland restoration and native planting.  
<http://youtu.be/p3z0ZTB87NM>

**The Blue Thumb Plant Selector** is a great tool. It allows you to choose the purpose, type, soil, sun, and bloom time and color to select plants.  
[bluethumb.org/plants](http://bluethumb.org/plants)

**Polk County native plant lists**  
[www.co.polk.wi.us/landwater/native%20plants.asp](http://www.co.polk.wi.us/landwater/native%20plants.asp)

**Greetings Bone Lakers,**

**W**e are finally seeing some signs of spring after a long, tough winter. I hope the ice will be off for the opening of fishing. We'll see!

The Bone Lake Management District Commissioners met Saturday, April 12, for the spring meeting. Our newly appointed Polk County board representative Pat Schmidt was in attendance to meet the commissioners and learn about the activities of the board.

The financial report and the auditor's report were reviewed and discussed along with the grant programs. We will not receive grant money for Curly leaf pondweed spraying this

year. The district will make up the shortfall as we will be spraying approximately thirty acres of Curly leaf.

We have contracted with Dr. Mark Edlund of the St. Croix Watershed Research Station and the Science Museum of Minnesota who will study sediment core samples from Bone Lake to determine the lake's environmental history over the last 200 years. This information will be very valuable in analyzing today's condition of the lake compared to years gone by. The study should be completed by the year end 2014.

The commissioners heard reports from the chairs of the committees: Watershed; Wildlife and Natural Beauty, and Fisheries. All have many activities planned, assisted by the large group of our very capable volunteers who are at the heart of our active lake programs.

We will do our Beach Water Testing Program again this summer to monitor our water for swimming. We received a report of last year's monitoring two weeks ago. The fecal coliform levels should not exceed 200 CFU per 100 ML based on the log mean of 5 equally spaced samples. In 2013, ten samples were less than 10 CFU per 100 ML and two samples were just 10 CFU per 100 ML. In summary our swimming beaches are in excellent shape. Again, this sampling and the delivery of the samples to the Polk County Health Department is done by our volunteers.

The next meeting of the Bone Lake Management District Commissioners is the proposed budget meeting on July 12th, 9 a.m. at Georgetown Hall. Don't forget the Annual Meeting on August 9, 2014 at Wilkins at 9:00 a.m.

The newsletter is mailed to the names on the Polk County real estate tax statements. If, for example, you are a member of a trust or a multiple ownership, the only person receiving a newsletter is the one receiving the tax statement. If you would like to be placed on the mailing list, send your information to the newsletter editor. ■

**Happy Summer!**

**—Bob Murphy**

**Bone Lake Management District Officers and Commissioners**

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TERM EXPIRES AUGUST, 2016

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Fisheries, Wayne Liepke  
Waterfront Runoff, Alex Chorewycz  
Watershed, Ann Miller  
Wildlife and Natural Beauty, Karen Engelbretson

Aquatic Plant Management, Bob Boyd, Phil Foster  
Clean Boats Clean Waters, Dick Mackie  
Communications Committee, Karen Engelbretson  
Social Committee, Phil Foster  
Boating Safety & Buoys, Wayne Liepke  
Audit: Frank Schlick

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**Correction**

**There is no law that limits the number of people you can tow behind a personal watercraft (PWC), however, Wisconsin DNR Water Guards recommend that you tow only one person.**

The Fall 2013 issue of *Bone Lake News* stated only one person could lawfully be towed from a three-person PWC.

To tow behind your PWC, your machine must be rated as three-person or better. There must be two on board: the driver, and a spotter facing backward. You can tow as many persons as you want, but keep in mind that WDNR water safety regulations end where common sense begins.

## \$40,000 in Grant Dollars Remain Available this Year

Our Lake Protection grant has approximately \$40,000 left to spend. One of the primary goals of this grant is improving our water clarity 20 percent by the year 2020. Achieving this goal is possible — Deer Lake improved their water clarity by over 50 percent over a fifteen year period. Secchi readings there are now 22 feet!

Your participation is **key** toward achieving our goal. While elevated and steeply sloped properties have the best opportunity to mitigate runoff, we all can be doing something on our property.

Any property around the lake would benefit from a 10X30 Planting. These small areas of plants along the shore add to the lake's natural beauty and provide wildlife habitat, while helping with water infiltration. Once established, they're nearly maintenance-free.

The Bone Lake Management District pays 70 percent of the cost of a 10X30 Planting up to \$400. The total cost of an installation, if you do the planting yourself, is usually between \$500 and \$600.

When applying for future grant dollars, one of WDNR's measures will be how well we used our prior grant dollars. It is important that all property owners help to put these grant dollars to good use.

Here are three easy ways to get started:

- **Learn more** at [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com) — follow the link to our water quality page;
- **Evaluate runoff** at your property by completing the online survey and arrange a no cost, no obligation site visit by Cheryl Clemens, our consultant;
- **Call Mary Chorewycz** at 715-857-6733 or 651-454-9456 for information about how you can use our grant dollars to improve your lakeshore property!

**Put our grant dollars to work to reach our water clarity goal. Get started now to complete your project this year, improve Bone Lake, and your property, too.**



Above: Plan for a wet meadow 10X30 Planting. Three other plans are available — there's one to suit conditions at your property.

### Bone Lake Septic Replacement Incentive

Three \$1000 grant awards are still available to replace a failing septic system this year.

Now is the time to take advantage of this partial reimbursement incentive. Contact Richard Mackie at 715-857-5205 or [seesallyrun@lakeland.ws](mailto:seesallyrun@lakeland.ws).

*Fifteen Bone Lake property owners have already used this program!*

A failing private sewage system is one which causes or results in any of the following conditions:

- A) The discharge of sewage into lake surface water or groundwater.
- B) Leakage from the drain field or holding tank in a zone of saturation e.g. not three feet above the water table.

## Burning Questions

**Before you burn, check fire conditions and burning restrictions.**

Check this website for up-to-date, daily fire conditions, burning guidelines, and the burning permit process: [dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestFire/restrictions.asp](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestFire/restrictions.asp)

To check for daily fire restrictions by phone, call 1-888-WIS-BURN (1-888-947-2876) and enter Polk County code 49.

**Reminder:** Burning permits are required for fires other than campfires for warming or cooking. Obtain the annual permit at the above website address or call 1-888-WIS-BURN to have a permit mailed or emailed. Permits are also available at a local Ranger Station, or from a Business Emergency Fire Warden. Find more information here: [dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestfire/emergFireWardens.asp](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestfire/emergFireWardens.asp).

## It's Easy to Recycle Around Bone Lake

Cans, bottles (plastic and glass), newspapers, cardboard and magazines can easily be recycled at these locations:

### St. Croix Falls

Hwy. 8 across from Menards, any weekday.

### Balsam Lake

Hwy. 46 by the Government Center, any day, 24/7.

## Yard Cleanup and Water Quality

When cleaning up around your property in the spring and fall, be sure to prevent leaves and grass clippings from getting into the lake.

Why? Leaves and grass add phosphorus to the water and deplete oxygen as they decay in the lake. Every effort helps as we strive to improve Bone Lake's water quality.

# Milltown Public Library Building Project

by Deanna Wheeler, Director, Milltown Public Library

*The Village of Milltown, Wisconsin through its village board, library board and director, has embarked on a major project that will enhance the village, the surrounding townships and all of Polk County. We have plans in place for a new library to meet the growing demands of its patrons and visitors for more books, services and programs.*

The mission of the Milltown Public Library is to meet the needs of our community as a resource or retreat. The Milltown Public Library was established in 1934 and has served the Village of Milltown and surrounding areas for 80 years. Serving over 2,610 municipal and rural residents, the library offers more than 15,360 items and six public access computers as well as free Wi-Fi connection.

The library offers a plethora of programming including: preschool story time, after school events, author visits, and outdoor movies. Adult and youth reading programs are also offered throughout the year with many events and activities. The library strives to create a welcoming environment where local residents and visitors alike may study, find entertainment, or gather with others.

An existing, 12,000 square foot building has been purchased for renovation and remodeling. An architect has been chosen and they have some exciting visions of what our new library will look like and how it will serve our patrons and citizens and well into the future.

A guiding vision for us is to focus on our local communities and businesses for ideas, partnering and support. We value our small town heritage while recognizing there is a world beyond to be explored. We envision our new library to be a destination library, one that will attract businesses and patrons of all ages and interests seeking information, knowledge and entertainment.

The estimated cost for the project is \$3.3 million with a goal to raise \$4 million. We raised nearly \$150,000 in the first few months of our fundraising campaign that enabled us to purchase the building and hire our architect firm.

We are applying for grants from foundations and philanthropists to cover a major portion of our goal. For the

rest, we are looking to our stakeholders, partners, patrons and businesses in our communities to share their resources however they can. It is a challenge but one that we eagerly take on because the result will be a major new resource for all.

## Please join us in our project as we move forward

Visit our website at [milltownpubliclibrary.tumblr.com](http://milltownpubliclibrary.tumblr.com). The site is updated on a regular basis. You can also call Deanna Wheeler, Library Director, at 715-825-2313 and/or Mike Fralick at 715-825-3626. ■



Conceptual Design provided by HGA, Inc.

## Polk County's Health Ranking

Polk County ranks about average in health per a recent study by the University of Wisconsin Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This study ranks health by two outcomes: how long people live and how healthy they feel while alive. This also takes into account health behaviors, clinical care, and social, economic and physical environment factors. The full report is available at [www.countyhealthrankings.org/wisconsin/polk](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/wisconsin/polk).



# Spring again! Well, almost.

## Birds around Bone Lake by Cris Dueholm

It's that time of the year when you see the ice houses trying to get off of the lake and you don't expect to find anything "spring" outside but then, there is!

The eagles near Fox Creek have nested! The Creek Eagles started to sit around March 11 and the egg or eggs should hatch around April 15, about 2 weeks later than last year. Both parents will take turns sitting for about 34-36 days and take turns feeding the hatchlings before they fledge at about 56-90 days. Once fledged they will sit on near-by branches and scream to the parents to come "feed me." Once heard it's a sound you won't soon forget.

The immatures will stay with their parents for about a month to "learn the ropes" before they are finally on their own. The distinct white head and tail will not appear for 4-5 years at which time they are able to breed. Until then they have a mottled black and white plumage.

**FUN FACT:** In the fall, eagles will come back to their nest with building supplies as if to state, this is our nest and territory!

The loon is another favorite bird on Bone Lake with its illusive haunting calls. Loons need up to a one-fourth mile for taking off, so when the male comes back he seems to know exactly when enough ice has melted for him to declare "this lake is now open!"

You don't see this water bird walking on the land as their legs are positioned more towards their rump, making it extremely hard to walk, but they are expert swimmers and divers. Their dagger like beak makes them extremely dangerous!

The male picks a secluded area near the water's edge for the nest and waits for the return of his female. Courtship begins and soon 1 to 2 eggs will be laid. Incubation time is about 26-29 days and lessons in staying alive and searching for food start immediately. The chicks will fledge from parents in about 12 weeks. Both parents are attentive to the chicks during nesting and feeding. Mating for life seems to be the popular notion, but if they lose a mate a new one will be found.

I've noticed when the chicks are old enough the adults will congregate with other adults almost like a night out. The adult Bone Lake loons leave around Labor Day every year.

They take on a gray color for winter and make no sounds at all. Once in a while you can hear them "bark" in late fall as they start to change over to winter plumage. The immatures will stay longer and gather together to leave just before the lake freezes. You can watch them exercise their wings daily before they fly to the southeastern U.S. coastal areas; they'll return in about 2-3 years and breed at 5-6 years of age.

This summer as you look out on the lake, keep track of the loons and eagles in your area and you'll find that the same ones come back to you year after year. ■



photos: Brian Collins

### Eagle nest locations

These Bone Lake eagle nests are visible from the water.

#### Eagle Nest # 1

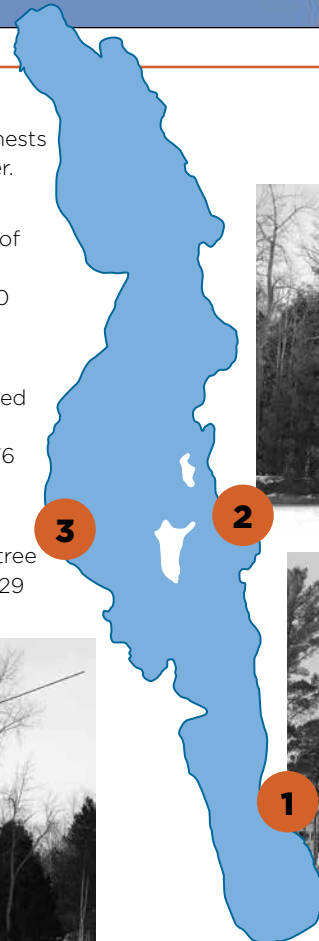
East side, 1/4 mile north of Fox Creek, White pine  
N 45.50721, W 092.37470  
WP 1.88

#### Eagle Nest #2

East side, 1/3 mile N. of red roof cabin, White pine  
N 45.52397, W 092.38076  
WP1.89

#### Eagle Nest #3

West side, Cottonwood tree  
N 45.53083, W 092.40029  
WP 1.90



## Black Crappie Sarcoma

by Bob Boyd

We have been noticing sores on Black crappies for several years on Bone Lake. To the right is a Black crappie with a sore on its side.

Not all the sores are this visible, some are much smaller and on different parts of the fish. The lesions are caused by a virus that infects the skin and muscle of the fish, causing a growth or tumor to form, which breaks through the skin. This condition has been observed since the 1990s in just a few areas of Wisconsin: Bone, Staples and Pipe Lakes are affected as are a few others in the Polk, Barron, and Cumberland area. It is also present in the Madison Chain of Lakes and Little Lake Butte Des Morts near Oshkosh.

DNR Fisheries Biologist, Aaron J. Cole states, “The Wisconsin DNR is interested in learning more about Black crappie sarcoma. Unfortunately, little is currently known about this unique virus that occurs in relatively few places. Research on the life history and transmission of this virus is being considered. The recommendations of how to handle crappies caught with this condition are still the same as in the published article in the Bone Lake newsletter.” [Spring 2012].

According to Sue Marcquenski, WDNR Fish Health Specialist, “The best thing to do, which does take some sacrifice, is to remove the affected fish from the lake and dispose of them in the garbage, rather than throwing them



The sores that appear on this fish caught on Bone Lake are now known as *Black crappie sarcoma*. Please report the percentage of Black crappies you catch with sores like this. Email Bob Boyd at [boydsnest@lakeland.ws](mailto:boydsnest@lakeland.ws)

back. The fish with the lesions would be counted as part of your bag limit even if you throw them away.

“We advise people not to eat affected fish because the quality of the muscle deteriorates and in general, it is not advisable to eat any animal that has open sores/lesions. We only see this in Black crappies; Northern pike can develop a similar lesion which is caused by a different virus and that disease is called lymphosarcoma.”

Over this past winter, 40 percent of the Black crappies taken through the ice on the north end of Bone Lake were infected.

Please let me know what percentage of crappies you catch that have sores on them. Send me your observations about this as the fishing season progresses. Email [boydsnest@lakeland.ws](mailto:boydsnest@lakeland.ws) or call 715-553-0629. ■

### BACK IN THE DAY

#### NINETY YEARS AGO, MARCH 13, 1924

*Amery Free Press*

Submitted by Cris Dueholm

#### JAS. MALONEY LANDS BIG FISH

Jas. Maloney, formerly of this city, now agent at Luck, landed, according to the Luck Enterprise, a 25-pound pickerel a week ago while fishing through the ice on Bone Lake. The fish was three and one half feet long, 23 inches in circumference and is claimed to be the largest one landed from Bone Lake this season.

Wisconsin DNR first stocked Bone Lake for muskys in 1935 and has stocked and managed the fish ever since. Muskys are not native to Bone Lake and have very limited natural reproduction.

Regarding Northern Pike and Chain Pickerel they are different but along with muskys belong to the pike family called *Esocidae*. Regarding growth: Musky are the largest, Northern pike next and Chain pickerel the smallest. The average size of a Chain pickerel is 2 pounds.

Regarding this 1924 article, I'm confident that was a Northern pike. I personally know of two 42-inch Northern Pike caught in recent years in Bone Lake. That is a trophy for Bone Lake now, and in 1924. They can grow larger in Canada but 45 or larger inches would be a trophy just about anywhere.

Northern Pike are also called; Northern, Pike, Snake, and some times Pickerel (but it's not a Pickerel). Walleyes belong to the *Percidae* family, or perch family.

—Bob Boyd

**What's your story? Have a bit of history you'd like to share about life and times around Bone Lake? Contact the Editor.**



# Duck...Duck...GOOSE!

by Breanna Draxler, former Balsam Lake Waterfront Runoff Program Consultant, with information from John Haack, UW Extension Basin Educator.

Most waterfront property owners can appreciate the waterfowl that call Bone Lake home. For the Canada goose, however, the reception is not quite as warm. These bi-colored birds are a hassle for many property owners, but what is it about geese that make them so darn pesky?

## Canada geese are...

**...prolific.** The average female goose lays 5 to 6 eggs per year, which means she mothers about 50 goslings in her lifetime.

**...populous.** There are five million Canada geese in United States today, and this number is increasing at a rate of 10 to 15 percent a year.

**...residential.** Although they do migrate, geese tend to return to the location of their birth, year after year, to nest and feed.

**...messy.** On a daily basis, an adult goose consumes four pounds of grass, digests it, and deposits it onshore in the form of 1½ pounds of greasy white lawn décor.

The bottom line is that there are a lot of geese, they make a lot of excrement, and they aren't going anywhere anytime soon. But fear not! There is something you can do to keep Canada geese off your waterfront property:

## Goose-Proof Landscaping!

Native flowers and grasses planted along the shoreline can act as a fortress to protect your property against these avian invaders. Not only will geese be unlikely to break through

the barrier, but they will be too afraid to try. Tall plants are a warning sign for geese to beware of concealed predators, and therefore they steer clear of your property.

For the most effective goose-proofing, choose species of native plants that are 20 to 30 inches high. The planting area should be 6 to 10 feet wide, and run the length of your shoreline. As an added bonus, the shoreline plants will also help to slow runoff and improve water quality in the lake!

## Need a hand?

Harmony Environmental, Bone Lake's consultant, is here to help! Whether you are concerned about goose poop, waterfront erosion, or lake water quality, call or send an e-mail to set up your very own property visit. **Visits are free, non-regulatory, and have no strings attached.**

## What exactly does a property visit entail?

- A visit to your Bone Lake property
- Technical assistance with waterfront property runoff concerns
- Individualized landscape designs
- Native plant lists specific to your property
- Step-by-step instructions for project installation
- Do-it-yourself guides and educational materials

The Bone Lake 10X30 plantings fit the bill perfectly as geese deterrents. The Bone Lake District provides up to 70 percent of the cost of materials for these projects, up to \$400. See page 3 of this newsletter for more information on our remaining grant dollars.

**Visit [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com) or call Call Mary Chorewycz at 715-857-6733 or 651-454-9456 for more information.**



## Landing Camera Results

**NORTH LANDING** — I-LIDS (Internet Landing Installed Device Sensor) ran at the boat launch from 5/9/13 thru 10/15/13 and captured 4666 videos. Environmental Security Protection, LLC was able to review 3960 of those videos. There were seven suspect videos that were documented showing boats entering the water with some type of plant attached. Most of these were single or small fragments. There were numerous videos where boaters were seen cleaning off their boats prior to entry.

**SOUTH LANDING** — I-LIDS ran at the boat launch from 7/1/13-10/15/13 in its first year of installation. It captured 494 videos and all were reviewed. This camera uses solar power with a wireless access point from the neighboring residence. In its first day of operation the I-LIDS captured two boaters launching their boat/trailer with plants on them which were reported. The District followed up and brought the violation to the attention of the boaters. No further launches with plants attached were seen at this site the rest of the season.

## Clean Boats Clean Waters Program



**EDUCATING BOATERS** about the dangers of AIS and how they can help to prevent them from spreading is a major goal of the Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) program.

Last year the youth in our CBCW program had an opportunity to earn some extra money monitoring our boat landings. Stationed at the Bone Lake north and south landings they inspected 558 boats over the summer of 2013. They personally contacted 790 boaters educating them on the importance of inspecting their watercraft, removing attached plants, and draining all water.

Many of the monitors were relatives of Bone Lake residents and ranged in ages from 14 to 18 years. Most of the hours worked were on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

*If you have a family member or friend who is interested in working in the 2014 CBCW Program, contact Dick Mackie at 715-857-5205 or Bob Boyd at 715-553-0629.*

## Keep in Touch

**Subscribe to Bone Lake eNews!** Go to [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com) and sign up at the front page. Once you've entered your information you'll get an email confirmation message. *Be sure to reply to the confirmation to complete your subscription.*

## Lake Monitoring Team

**MEMBERS OF THE LAKE MONITORING TEAM** will be out again this summer. You might see them in their blue shirts throwing rakes into the water and looking at the vegetation that they bring up. They are looking for any new aquatic invasive species (AIS) and monitoring the spread of Curly leaf pondweed that we presently have in the lake.

They are on the front line of our efforts to detect and control AIS in Bone Lake. Without these volunteers and our CBCW youth we would not qualify for our AIS grants.

Its simple, no volunteers no money. A number of these folks have been on the Lake monitoring team for six years. We don't have as many volunteers as we started with and we could use more help. It is a simple task requiring only a couple of hours a month on the water.

Training and material is provided. If you have been wondering about how you might help in our efforts to protect Bone Lake this is one of them. Curly leaf pondweed, Rusty crayfish, Banded mystery snail, and Chinese mystery snail are present in Bone Lake, all four are invasives. Let's keep it at four. Call me. Bob Boyd 1-715-553-0629



## New Billboard on Highway 8

Bone Lake Management District has worked with federal, state, and local organizations to develop this billboard which will be installed along Highway 8 going east, near Deer Lake. Expenses were paid using our AIS grant dollars and District dollars as part of our AIS education process.

### REMEMBER:

**INSPECT** your boat, trailer, and equipment.

**REMOVE** any attached aquatic plants or animals (before launching, after loading, and before transporting on a public highway).

**DRAIN** all water from boats, motors and all equipment.

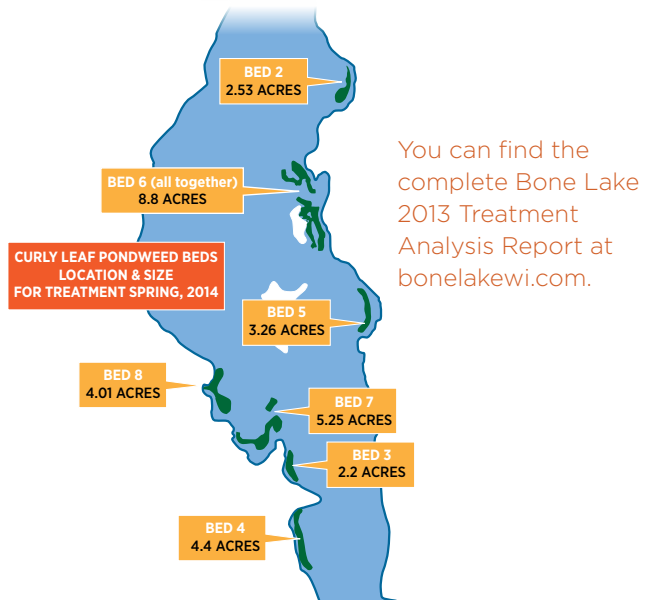
**NEVER MOVE** live fish away from a waterbody.

## Aquatic Plant Management Notice

The Bone Lake Management District has received a permit from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to treat 33 acres of Bone Lake with an aquatic herbicide to control the invasive plant Curly leaf pondweed. This proposed treatment would occur between April 15, 2013 and June 1, 2014.

The District has been using the herbicide Endothall to treat four test beds of curly leaf pondweed on the lake since 2006 and three navigation channels since 2009. The 2013 and 2014 permit application is for treatment of a total of seven beds of curly leaf pondweed. Herbicides are used early in the season at a low dose to avoid harm to native plant species. The APM plan recommended continuing this treatment in order to minimize navigation problems, prevent the spread of curly leaf pondweed, and protect native plant populations. Recent studies suggest that CLP treatment may reduce mid-summer algae blooms.

A map of the treatment areas is shown here. A copy of the permit application is available at [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com) or from Bob Boyd 715-553-0629. ■



### SAND BEACHES NOTICE

It has been brought to the attention of the Bone Lake Management District that in the last few years, several property owners of waterfront lots have installed sand beaches. This appears to be a growing trend.

The Bone Lake Management District wishes to remind all lake-front owners that installing sand beaches is contrary to shoreline ordinances. Sand beaches are not a good practice, as they do not help improve the quality and clarity of our lake.

## Rusty Crayfish Update

Late in the summer of 2012, WDNR personnel Craig Roesler and Joe Cunningham discovered Rusty crayfish in Fox Creek, the stream runs out of the south east corner of Bone Lake. A few days later Joe Cunningham and I worked our way upstream to Bone Lake searching for and finding Rustys at various locations along the way. We found one Rusty in Bone Lake close to where Fox Creek leaves the lake.

During the summer of 2013 Craig, Joe and myself conducted a survey of Rustys using 30 traps. No native crayfish or Rustys were captured. We then used hand nets and captured a few native crayfish but no Rustys.

The bottom line is that there was a least one Rusty in Bone Lake, if there is a population of them it is small in number and we haven't located it. If you find a Rusty crayfish in Bone Lake please save it in lake water and give me a call. Bob Boyd 715-553-0629.

**Adult Rusty crayfish average 4 inches in length but often grow to be much larger. Go to [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com) for more on how to identify Rustys.**



In 2013, Rusty crayfish traps were set at the 30 numbered locations above. No Rustys were found.

## Summer 2014 Events around Bone Lake

SAVE THE DATES AND JOIN FELLOW BONE LAKERS AT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS...

### Bone Lake Spring Social

**Saturday, May 3, 4-7 p.m.**  
**Wilkins on Bone Lake**

No need to bring anything. Appetizers will be served. Cash bar. Meet some new folks and have fun.

### Fourth of July Boat Parade

**Saturday, July 5**  
**Entrants meet at Wilkins dock starting at 11:30 a.m.**

Celebration for parade participants from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Parade begins at 1 p.m. and goes south along the east shore.

### Bone Lake Management District Annual Meeting

**Saturday, August 9, 9 a.m.** Wilkins.  
Participate in the workings of the Bone Lake Management District.

### Progressive Dinner

**Saturday, August 9, 4 p.m.**  
Small groups meet for appetizers at one residence on the lake, then enjoy dinner and dessert at another. Sign up at [www.bonelakewi.com](http://www.bonelakewi.com) or email [philsuefoster@lakeland.ws](mailto:philsuefoster@lakeland.ws) for more information.

### Labor Day Weekend Fireworks

**Fireworks at Wilkins**  
**Saturday, August 30, dusk**

Enjoy the end of summer celebration

**See you around Bone Lake!**



## Volunteer opportunities

Are you looking for a way to help improve Bone Lake and get connected with others? Becoming a Bone Lake volunteer can accomplish both and we have a continual need for volunteers. Last year we had over fifty volunteers doing activities that interested them. These activities include fisheries, lake's water clarity, wildlife, enhancing the lakes natural beauty, lake monitoring for new invasive species, inspections and boater education at boat landings, financial audit, communications, and social activities.

### Some specific needs we have this year include:

**Coordinate the advertising for our newsletter.** A big thank you to Lorraine Lunzer who has been doing this for several years.

**Become a lake monitor.** This involves looking for Eurasian water milfoil and other new invasive species a few times during the summer.

**Mail Bone Lake information packet to new property owners.** The first mailing of this type is going out this spring.

**Help with Bone Lake social activities.** Each year, we plan to have two Bone Lake social events and need assistance.

**Join one of several committees** which meet 2 to 3 times a year. Committees include Fisheries, Wildlife and Natural Beauty, Waterfront Runoff, Watershed, Social, and Communications.

**What is your interest?** Please contact Phil Foster at 715-857-5304 or [philsuefoster@lakeland.ws](mailto:philsuefoster@lakeland.ws). ■

## Electric Shock Drowning Explained

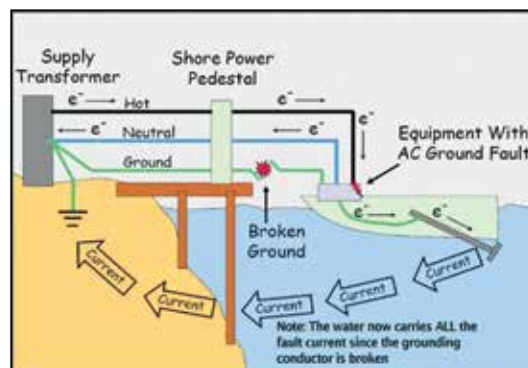
### What every boater needs to know about ESD

ESD happens in fresh water where minute amounts of alternating current are present due to an electrical fault, AC safety ground fault, and no ground fault protection.

If all three conditions exist, then some or all of a boat's underwater metals will be energized and electricity will radiate out from these fittings into the water. In fresh water, 120-volt AC will set up a dangerous voltage gradient that will pass through any swimmer who bridges it.

Figuring out if your boat has a problem requires a basic circuit tester and a clamp meter to check your dock wiring and power cord. Also, run any electrical equipment in your boat and check readings.

Electric shock drowning, sadly, is a risk at marinas and



For stray AC to get into the water, there must be an electrical fault, a fault in the safety ground, and no ground fault protection.

becoming a risk near private docks as more properties install AC over the water.

For more about testing your dock power and equipment, and what you need to know about ESD, go to our website, [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com) and download the pdf **Electric Shock Drowning (ESD) Explained.** ■



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