

May 2010



Crescent Lake News

crescentlakewi.org



HELP!

WE HAVE A
CRISIS!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our next door neighbor Squash Lake has been infected with Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM). According to their lake AIS coordinator Stephanie Boismenu, "We have a real mess on our hands." Needless to say, this is a **SERIOUS** concern for us here on Crescent Lake.

As you are also aware, we have been conducting Clean Boats/Clean Water inspections at the boat landing during the past six years. That has been the one practical proactive project that we can do to

continued on next page

Come to our May Potluck!

Crescent Lake Septic Systems

May 15, 2010
9:00 a.m.

Town of Crescent
Fire Hall

Turn south off Hwy 8 at
entrance to Northwood
Golf Course

Guest speaker:
Tom Arts
owner, A-1 Septic Service

You are invited to attend our Association meeting on Saturday, May 15, for a potluck breakfast and discussion about local septic systems.

Guest speaker is Tom Arts, owner of A-1 Septic Service & Installation. Tom is licensed with the State of Wisconsin as a Master Plumber Restricted MPRS (external master plumber) and a Certified Tester (CST) He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Wisconsin Liquid Waste Carriers Association.

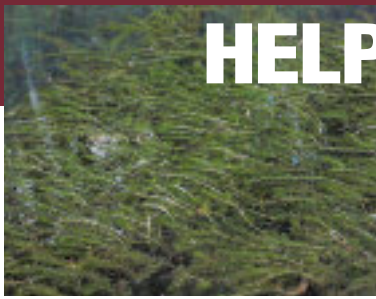
Tom plans to address:

- Basic operation of septic systems
- County and state requirements
- Concerns with steel tanks and repair options
- DNR regulations pertaining to waste treatment
- Questions and answers

Our business meeting will address current lake topics, including the critical need for boat landing monitoring, so we avoid the Squash Lake dilemma. See you on Saturday, May 15!

**Please bring a
breakfast dish
to pass**

HELP! CRISIS!



These are all pictures of the Squash Lake mess of Eurasian Watermilfoil taken last year by Stephanie Boismenu. Don't let this happen to Crescent Lake.

continued from front page

DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO OUR LAKE!

prevent the introduction of EWM into our lake. Therefore, we need to continue these inspections and, if we can, increase the number of inspection hours. We have been averaging 10 hours/week. We feel it is VITALLY important to increase that number to at least 20 hours/week.

We currently have 30 volunteers trained. In recent years it has been difficult to find enough volunteers to cover just the 10 hours/week. We MUST do better to have any chance of keeping EWM out of our lake.

EVERY property owner on the lake, permanent and seasonal resident, has a stake in keeping EWM out of Crescent.

We are asking everyone to consider volunteering three to four hours per month. In the past we have suggested one 4 hour shift per month. If it would help with your schedules, we are willing to suggest two 2 hour shifts per month or even one 2 hour shift. We will adjust to whatever you desire.

Fishing season has opened; we still need volunteers Memorial Day weekend. We will be conducting training sessions from 8-10 a.m. on the following Saturdays: May 8, May 22, May 29, and June 5.

**boat inspection
volunteers
needed!**

Contact Glen Peterson
(847-742-6532) or email:
glenrpeterson@aol.com

message from Eileen

Hi Lake Neighbors,

It's a glorious time around Crescent Lake this spring. Our cold winter weather left us on February 25th, the lake ice was gone by March 31st and we've been spoiled by daytime temps in the 50's, 60's and 70's.

The Maple syrup season was early and short and sweet and it's already time to put in the docks and get the boats in the water. This may seem like we're rushing it, but who knows, with Wisconsin's weather so unpredictable, this could just be our summer!

We had only a half inch of rain in March and no snow. The incredible greening of spring is just unfolding now and very soon the grasses and fields will turn to vibrant green. The buds are swelling and popping open lacy baby leaves; the geese are honking their way north; the herons and loons are starting to take their rightful places in our waters. Our spirits are soaring as nature awakens.

Be sure to get outside and drink in the fresh spring air. It's a tonic unparalleled in the pharmaceutical world...

And don't forget to try and get to our association meetings - it's so nice to meet our neighbors and keep up on all the topics that help keep our lake the very special treasure that it is.

- Eileen Ronyak



2010 ice out

Lake ice breaking up; this image was taken March 18, 2010, showing Radtke Bay open shoreline. Wasn't long before entire lake opened.

address changes

Contact Joanne Hibbard with your address changes (local and home, if different).

Call Joanne at 282-5922 or email her at: joanneanddavid@live.com



we are looking for an AIS Grant Coordinator

Crescent Lake, Lake Julia and Squash Lake are looking for an Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator.

See job description below. It is our hope that we can accept applications through May 17th and fill the position the next week. Anyone interested should contact the Grant authorized representative Jim Gehrke, by calling 715-490-6652 or 282-5924.

If you know of someone that you feel has the qualifications for the job, please talk to him or her and encourage them to call. If anyone knows of someone that they feel would be good, you can also call me and I will call them and encourage them to apply.

An annual stipend for the position is \$4,000 per year for each of the next 3 years. I will be happy to provide further details by phone.

– Jim Gehrke, president

job description

Department of Natural Resources grant money will be used to contract with an individual or agency that can perform the duties of AIS grant coordinator for the summer of 2010, 2011 and/or 2012. Duties will include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Enlist, train and schedule volunteers to inspect boats at the boat landings on each of the lakes involved in the grant. The Clean Boats/Clean Waters program will be used as the basis for all inspection activities, and an adequate inventory of the related materials will be ordered and maintained for each lake association.
2. Assure that the total number of hours specified in the grant for each lake association is completed, and keep a record of the hours by volunteer and lake.
3. Record data taken by the inspectors at all three lakes on the DNR website.
4. Assure that any suspicious vegetation taken from boats is taken to the DNR for AIS verification. If it is verified as AIS, follow up with boat/equipment owner and law enforcement.
5. Work with lake association members to schedule and conduct lake monitoring activities twice a year on each of the three lakes.
6. Work with lake association members on the production and distribution of the AIS calendar.
7. Work with lake association members on the

securing of and placement of AIS signs at the boat landings.

9. Plan and conduct a recognition program for all AIS volunteers. This will be done with the help and approval of the lake association boards of directors.

10. Attend lake association board meetings and member meetings and make AIS reports when called upon to do so.

11. Provide written reports for association newsletters and web sites.

12. Compile the final written report for Board of Directors of each lake association and the department of Natural Resources upon the completion of the grant activities.

13. Work with the treasurer of each lake association to compile accurate and detailed records of all expenses related to expenses related to the grant.

14. Perform other duties as requested by the boards of directors of the three lake associations.

The AIS Coordinator will be required to keep a log of his/her hours worked for each lake association. Duties will be performed from the date of hire until the end of the AIS activities, as determined by the three lake association's boards of directors. It is anticipated that this will be from approximately mid-April to early December each year.

ANGLERS! Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers

To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and VHS, Wisconsin Law requires that you:

INSPECT your fishing equipment and

REMOVE any attached aquatic plants or animals (before and after entering lake).

DRAIN all water from equipment including buckets or containers with fish when leaving water.

DON'T MOVE live fish away from a water body.

BUY minnows from a Wisconsin Bait dealer. Use leftover minnows only under certain conditions.

For more information, visit:
www.dnr.wi.gov/invasives/aquatic

would you like this newsletter emailed?

Many of you enjoy receiving this newsletter via email, instead of by mail. It arrives faster, saves money and work for the volunteers who fold, tape, stamp, and mail - and saves a tree!

The email looks just like this print newsletter, with all the pictures included! Plus, we can send you quick updates between newsletters. Help us save – plus get more!

Please contact Jim Gehrke with your email address: kayjim@charter.net

get your news by
email – fast, easy!

dues are due

Dues are due at the first of every calendar year and cover the entire year. So dues are due now. (If you have already paid, you can ignore this plea.)

Please send \$10 membership dues, payable to Crescent Lake Association, to PO Box 265, Rhinelander WI 54501. Or pay in person at the next meeting. Those of you who wish to have two votes at meetings (or simply wish to support the Association by contributing two membership fees), please send \$20.

Please also include your donation to the July 4th fireworks display.

The strength of Crescent Lake Association is the support of its members. Thanks for your help!



3 Lake Associations team up to STOP invasives!

2010-2012 grant approved!

Three lake associations in the Town of Crescent have joined together to apply for – and have received – a joint DNR grant to fund township-wide efforts to contain and prevent invasive species in our lakes.

Jim Gehrke of Crescent Lake Association, Janet Appling of Squash Lake Association and Harry Helwig, Tom Vanderbloemen and Ken Parker of Lake Julia Association spent many hours writing and working together with Kevin Gauthier of the DNR.

We have been awarded state funds in the amount of \$48,100 to prevent the spread of invasive species in the three lakes. Crescent Lake residents will be continuing current efforts established through the last grant.

- We will be able to have a coordinator for recruiting, training and scheduling and inspectors at the landings on all three lakes. This person will do what Joel Flory did for us the past two years and Glen Peterson did the three preceding years. Joel cannot continue with the duties due to increased demands from his own business.
- We will be able to purchase Clean Boats/Clean Waters supplies.
- We will continue to monitor the lake and identify all vegetation and the density of vegetation at least two times a year.
- We will have a recognition program for volunteers.
- We will purchase and erect appropriate signage at the landing.
- We will conduct education activities for the lake property owners and the general public.

Some of these activities will be:

- Printing and distributing bar coasters with AIS information
- Producing the AIS calendar
- Building and showing AIS float in the Rhinelander 4th of July parade
- Continuing development of our web site to address AIS information
- Producing news articles and press releases about AIS activities on the lake.

The grant is for three years, so we should be able to conduct the activities listed above for the summers of 2010, 2011 and 2012 without any significant reduction of our treasury and without an increase in dues if our calculations are correct. The actual amount of money that Crescent Lake asked for and received in the grant is \$8,000 for 2010; \$6,800 for 2011 and \$6,800 for 2012.

One significant difference in this grant is that we need to be ready with an action plan if we should actually identify Eurasian Watermilfoil. To do that, we will need to have some people lined up to take action, that day if possible. We also want to design and build some kind of containment apparatus to prevent particles of the plants found from getting to other parts of the lake. We have put money in the first year of the grant to do this. We will be appointing an Association member to lead this project and determine the appropriate steps to be taken to make us as ready as we can be. If you are willing to lead, or help with this project, please contact a board member and volunteer.

Of course, the state does not give this money to anyone unless there is local effort involved. We

have committed our membership to a donation of time to the prevention of AIS in the Town of Crescent and Crescent Lake.

We MUST put in 288 hours of boat inspections, 70 hours of lake vegetation monitoring, 24 hours training volunteers, 30 hours of float building, 40 hours of calendar creating and editing, 5 hours of calendar distribution, 5 hours of bar coaster distribution, and 12 hours of grant writing and meetings EACH YEAR!

So, there is something for every member of our association to volunteer to do. PLEASE call a board member and tell us what it is that you want to do to help. We will be happy for greater involvement from our membership.

Jim Gehrke

board nominations

Four Crescent Lake Association Board positions will need to be filled at our Annual Meeting in July. This is your opportunity to get involved in the issues affecting our lake.

Please contact Nominations Committee chairman Glen Peterson with your nominations: glenrpeterson@aol.com or 847-742-6532.

Joelle Underwood, DNR
John Kubisiak, Oneida County Fisheries Biologist

DNR fish monitoring on Crescent Lake



The DNR Fisheries crew out of Woodruff conducted a fish survey along the shoreline of Crescent Lake in early April. The survey consisted of netting at ice-out, targeting northern pike and walleye, followed by several nights of electrofishing the entire shoreline.

how it's done

Electrofishing works by putting an electrical field in the water to temporarily stun any fish within about 4 feet of the boat, allowing them to be scooped up in dip nets and later released. Muskies spawn later, so nets were reset in shallow spawning bays when water temperatures reached about 50 degrees. All gamefish receive a fin clip with about half of a fin removed, with a different clip for each lake. The fin will grow back in about a year, but the mark will still be visible as a distinct bend in the fin rays.

Fish marked in the nets leave a known number of marked fish swimming around in the lake. During the electroshocking run, the ratio of marked to unmarked fish is used to estimate the population. For example, if 1,000 walleye are given a left-ventral fin clip on Crescent Lake, 500 are captured during electroshocking and 200 of these have the fin clip, then the estimated population = $1000 \times 500/200 = 2,500$ walleye.

Muskies do not electrofish well, and some of them learn to avoid the nets after one experience. To estimate the muskie population, the fish were netted and marked and then given a year off to 'forget' whatever they learned about avoiding nets and locations. In 2011, a crew

will return to net muskies for the recapture portion of the population estimate.

creel study

In addition to about 2 weeks of netting and 2 nights of electrofishing, a nine-month angler creel survey will be conducted during the entire gamefish season (May 1 through March 6, 2011, excluding the month of November). Creel surveys are conducted by creel clerks at the boat landing; they work all weekend days, most holidays, and randomly-selected weekdays. Shift times each day, either early or late, are also selected at random.

The creel clerk will collect three types of information:

- Angler counts - a count of all anglers fishing on the lake, two counts per work day. This is used to estimate angler fishing effort.
- Interviews of angler parties who have completed their fishing trips. This is used to estimate angler catch and harvest.
- Biological information on harvested fish: Fish species, length, fin clips. This is used to characterize what anglers are harvesting and movements of fish among the lakes.

The information gained is useful for determining fishery management strategies and evaluating the effects of various management actions. The walleye sport harvest and exploitation information is critical to assure that the total harvest of walleyes, after

tribal harvest is added in, does not exceed a safe level. Thirty-five percent is considered to be the maximum safe level of exploitation that a walleye population can sustain. The estimates of catch and harvest from this subsample can also be used to make projections of catch and harvest over broader geographic areas.

The full results of the survey will not be completed until 2011. A preliminary report on the spring netting and shocking will be available by June - the creel clerk will be given copies to hand out.

In the meantime, feel free to talk to the DNR staff working at the boat landing this summer.

preliminary results

Preliminary Crescent Lake results show that 1500 walleyes were netted by the DNR. Native American spearing results include:

- Walleyes allowed: 203; taken 203
- Muskies allowed: 8; taken 2

You can find previous years fish survey reports on the DNR website; scroll down to Oneida County <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/reports/>

A-1 SEPTIC SERVICE

- Pumping of Septic & Grease Traps
- Sewer & Drain cleaning (city & rural)
- Sewer Roding - Steam Thawing
- Holding Tank Contracts
- Portable Toilet Rentals (day, week, mo.)
- Soil Testing - Septic/ Well inspections
- Septic Installation

MPRS 261251 24 hour Emergency Service

Rhinelanders 369-3553 6760 Co Hwy K
Tom Arts. Owner

Hanson & Sons

Remodeling
Home Maintenance
Repair

Kerry M. Hanson

Owner

"No Job is Too Small"

RHINELANDER, WI
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201 E. Anderson Street
Rhinelanders, Wisconsin 54501

crescent lake association board

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SPECIALS

FRIDAY: Shrimp Basket or Fish Fry

SATURDAY: Mexican Day 11am - 9pm

SUNDAY: Buckets of Chicken

Grill open every day for Burgers, Sandwiches, Pizza
Party Room Now Available

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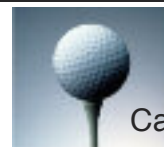
NORTHWOOD GOLF SHOP

BUY 1 - GET 1 FREE!
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Bring this coupon

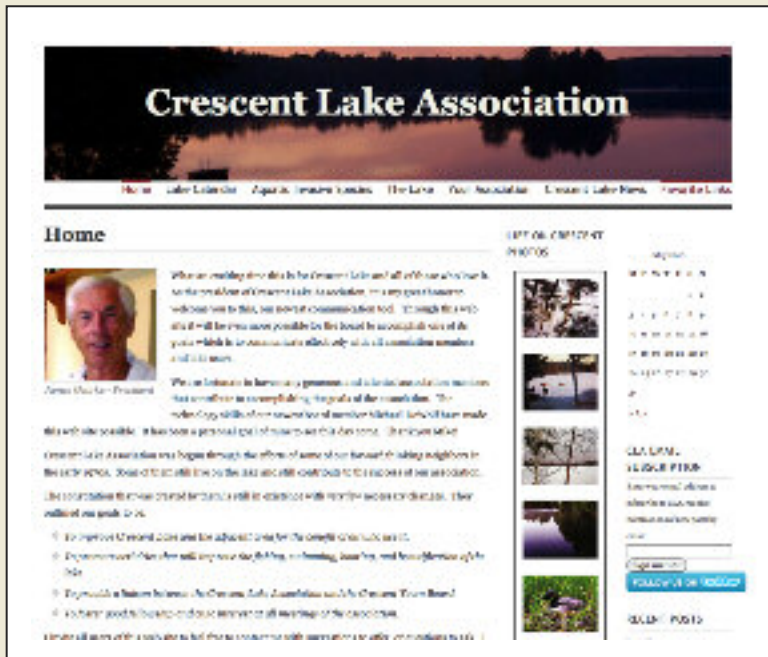
ONLY COMPLETE GOLF SHOP

NORTHWOOD GOLF SHOP



Call 282-6565
for reservations or tee times

visit our website: crescentlakewi.org



We invite everyone to visit our new Crescent Lake Association website!

Bookmark it as a favorite and come back often to visit. Great way to get your newsletter without an email or printed snailmail - and to revisit some of our rich past through pictures, past news, even past newsletters.

This very professional website was created by and is maintained by Mike DeWolf, board member and techno savvy Crescent Lake resident. He is eager to add more content, so please send him your pictures of our beautiful lake and any past information you may have collected about the lake.

Note the links at the top - just below the Crescent Lake Association masthead. Clicking on each link brings you to much more information about our lake. Be sure to check out the Aquatic Invasive Species link and watch the video. Many of the pictures were taken next door at Squash Lake. Is not pretty.

Send Mike your pictures; simply attach to an email: crescentlakewi@charter.net



support the fireworks July 4th weekend

July 4th celebrations on Crescent Lake are filled with family memories - laughter, fun on the water, excited kids, funny moments, special activities that we treasure year after year.

This unique celebration combines the comraderie of our lake residents with unforgettable moments with our families. We are specially connected through the boat parade. And the fireworks.

Four lake residents have become ATF certified to maintain our pyro-technic license. Many hours of site preparation and cleanup help make this event safe for our lake and residents. Our appreciation to the O'Melia family for allowing their property to site this family event year after year.

Please make a donation to help defray the cost for year's celebration. Any amount is appreciated. Thank you for saving this great memory-builder!



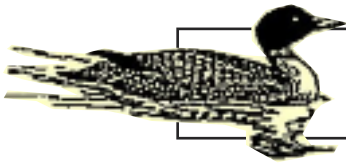
SATURDAY, MAY 15
9:00 a.m. breakfast potluck
Crescent Fire Hall

SATURDAY, JULY 3
Fireworks at dusk (rain date
July 4)

SUNDAY, JULY 4
2 p.m. Boat Parade

SATURDAY, JULY 17
ANNUAL MEETING / PICNIC
Hibbard home

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19
7:00 p.m.
Crescent Fire Hall



NOTE: If there is a red dot on your mailing address, your dues for 2010 are due.

Help support
our Crescent Lake Association

Please send your annual dues to:

The Crescent Lake Association
PO Box 265
Rhineland WI 54501

Annual Dues

\$ _____ Annual Dues (\$10 per voting member; limit 2 per household) Fiscal year: January 1 - December 31

\$ _____ Fireworks Donation: **PLEASE HELP FUND!**

\$ _____ Boat Inspection Donation (\$12/hr)

\$ _____ Total

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please help us compile a complete list of email addresses.

