

Crooked Lake Area Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District Newsletter



May 2021 Crooked Lake Area Lakes Newsletter

EWM TREATMENT NEWS

The largest concentration of EWM was located on the north end of Crooked Lake, approximately between the inlet and outlet. The area was too large for hand harvesting and would be cost prohibitive to the District. A proposed treatment area of approximately 7.9 acres was constructed. It was suspected a herbicide that requires shorter concentration exposure times would be necessary to meet control expectations in this site where water flow may impact herbicide dissipation.

The 2020 herbicide treatment showed promising results during the *year of treatment* with reductions in EWM demonstrated through mapping surveys and point-intercept sub-sampling surveys. The same surveys mentioned above will occur in 2021 and will allow for an understanding of the longer-term efficacy of the treatment as well as an assessment of the native plant communities population dynamics and recovery one year after treatment.

The Wisconsin DNR generally supports conducting a whole-lake-point-intercept survey at least once every five years to meet WDNR planning requirements. This survey is also required to have occurred in the past five year to be eligible to apply for WDNR AIS Control Grants. The District has committed to conducting whole-lake point-intercept surveys on all three lakes in 2021.

SPORTSMAN'S CLUB NEWS

The Wisconsin DNR will be locating the cribs that were built this winter in various spots in Crooked Lake sometime during the week of May 17. The Sportsman's Club at this time fund raisers will be the picnic on July 3 to raise funds for future projects and planting fish.

2021 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

February 27

May 8

May 29 (Annual Meeting)

September 4 (Alternate Date for Annual Meeting)

October 23

All meetings are held at the Wally Remic Community Center at 9:00 a.m. The meetings are always opened to the public. Mark your calendars.

IT'S THE LAW!

Recently, there have been several lake and nonlake cottage owners concerned about overly LOUD boats, jet skis, and this winter UTV/ATVs. Please read the regulations below from the DNR to see if you are violating. Thank you.

UTV/ATV Regulations

- Your machine must be equipped with a functioning muffler that prevents unusual or excessive noises.
- No person may manufacture, sell, rent, or operate an ATV/UTV in such a manner that noise emitted from the machine is louder than 96 decibels when measured on the "A" scale; measured in the manner prescribed in the reaffirmed 1998-07, Society of Automotive Engineers Standard J1287, entitled Measurement of Exhaust Sound Levels of Stationary Motorcycles.
- No one shall deny or refuse an inspection or testing of an ATV/UTV by any law enforcement officer who reasonably suspects a violation of an equipment requirement.
- Your machine must be equipped with a spark arrester at all times, even during the winter.

No person may manufacture, sell, rent, or operate an ATV/UTV that is louder than 96 decibels.

Excessive or unusually loud machines are illegal and hurt Wisconsin's trail system. Do not increase your exhaust noise or operate with your exhaust system in excess of normal operation. Excessive noise threatens riding opportunities statewide.

Mufflers and Noise Level Limits for Boats and Jet Skis

Vessel operators may not hear sound signals if the engine is not adequately muffled.

- The exhaust of every internal combustion engine on any vessel must be effectively muffled. That is, the engine's exhaust must be muffled or suppressed at all times so as not to create excessive noise.
- It is unlawful to operate a vessel that exceeds a noise level of 86 dBA.
- The use of **cutouts** is prohibited.

Just a Reminder to All!



RECREATIONAL OFFICER

The seven northernmost towns in Oconto County have a new recreational deputy.

Jess Koplinger, took over from Jim Plotkin on January 1, 2021.

In addition to the regular or directed Patrol Deputy requirements, the Recreation Deputies are responsible for enforcement of any laws pertaining to County Forestry Ordinances, and the safe operation of Recreational vehicles including ATV's, Snowmobiles, and Watercraft.

It is their responsibility to patrol over 300 miles of ATV trails, 425 miles of snowmobile trails, 49 miles of cross country ski trails, and 151 square miles of lakes and water, including 17 miles of the Bay of Green Bay. They also coordinate water rescue, search and rescue on land, and monitors timber sales.

EMAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED

If you are receiving this newsletter by U.S. mail, you can save the Lakes District money and receive the newsletter by email.

All you have to do is send an email to crooklake@gmail.com to get on the email list. Thank you.

FREE CURB SIDE CHIPPING DAYS FOR CROOKED LAKE DISTRICT PROPERTY OWNERS JUNE 2 and 3, 2021

The Crooked Lake District is considered to be a high-risk wildfire community. This means the District has a high risk of damage from wildfire to homes, property, and natural surroundings. In response, a Firewise USA site was established and nationally recognized in 2020 to address wildfire concerns. One of the action items in this plan involves working with property owners to reduce the amount of hazardous vegetation on their property.

After the success of a Crooked Lake District Chipping Day last year, we are offering

this service again this year. The Crooked Lake District's Firewise USA team is providing this service free of charge to property owners in the Crooked Lake District area on June 2 and 3. **The only investment is your time.**

This is a great opportunity for brush clean-up and tree pruning to make your home more Firewise. Plus, curb side chipping provides a safe alternative to debris burning, the number one cause of wildfires in Wisconsin.

It is easy to get involved. Please **DO NOT** assist the contractor with the actual chipping. You **DO NOT** need to be present.

1. Collect the brush around your home and in your home ignition zone.
2. Bring brush to the roadside on your property on or before **May 31**.
3. Adhere to these guidelines:
 - Brush piles should be perpendicular to the road, with butt ends near the edge of the road. Do not put your piles on the road or in common areas. Do not obstruct traffic.
 - Maximum brush diameter is 8 inches.
 - Piles should be no higher than 5 feet and may not exceed 10 feet in width. One pile per property.
 - Piles should be loosely stacked; do not pack down the piles.
4. Do not include leaves, grass, and needles, logs, stumps, rotten wood, roots or root balls, burnt or partially burnt materials, or foreign objects (household items, furniture, garbage or metal) in your brush pile. Brush piles that contain such items will not be picked up.
5. Please continue to use your Firewise USA Time sheet to keep track of your work hours and money spent in any fire-prevention activities on your property during 2021.
6. To prevent oak wilt, please do not cut or prune your oaks between April 15 and July 15.

We look forward to help making this happen. There will also be two dates in the fall for brush pick up, which hasn't been set.

CBCW COVID-19 GUIDANCE ANNOUNCED

The Crooked Lake Area Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District received a Clean Boats Clean Water (CBCW) grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for 2021. The DNR surface water grant program provides cost-sharing grants for surface water protection and restoration. Recently, the DNR issued guidelines for volunteers who inspect watercraft during the COVID-19 pandemic. Inspectors are advised to maintain at least six feet of distance from others and their boats/equipment. Use a face mask when there are additional people at the boat landing for not all individuals may have been vaccinated. Have access to hand sanitizer. Assist boaters with plant removal as requested. Offer aquatic invasive species literature to boat landing visitors.

The District is eligible for a grant not to exceed \$4,000 if the 200 volunteer hours threshold is met. Volunteers inspect boats and trailers entering or leaving area lakes looking for plant and organic material which must be removed according to state law. Volunteers also ask boaters if they have boated in nearby lakes recently and educate boaters of state laws enacted to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. CBCW volunteer kits are available at the Crooked Lake convenience store on County Road W. Please send any questions to brianwebb@new.rr.com. **Brian Webb**

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

May 29, 2021, 9 a.m.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approve Agenda
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Lake Management Plan
Educational Activity
Clean Boats, Clean Waters

Other Business

Election of Commissioner(s)
Tax Assessment Vote

Adjournment