



www.districtofpowerslake.org

District of Powers Lake NEWSLETTER

Published for all those who use and love Powers Lake

april

2021

Ice On/Ice Off

Happy Spring to all after a rough winter with up to 14 inches of ice reported. The ice on date was December 30th, 2020. The ice off date was March 30, 2021.

Treasurer's Duties

The DPL Treasurer, Brooke Jensen, has announced his resignation from the DPL. He has been a valued member of the board for 20 plus years. His contributions have been significant. We have been fortunate to have both his devotion and historical knowledge of Powers Lake at our disposal. The Board is sorry to see him resign and applaud his commitment to the District. If you happen to see him on land or water, please take the time to thank him for his valuable contribution.

Dave Anstett was appointed as the new Treasurer.

Mythbuster #2:

Abundance of Aquatic Plants

In our 2020 Resident Opinion Survey, aquatic plants continued to be an issue of concern among the Powers Lake community. However, the numbers of respondents indicating significant concern over the abundance of aquatic plants and algae on the Lake has actually declined with each survey.

The percent of respondents who felt Powers Lake had excessive algal and aquatic plant growth:

2000 survey; 64%
2010 survey; 53%
2020 survey; 46%

Respondents offered the following reasons for their concerns:

- An increase in abundance and density of aquatic plants compared to previous years

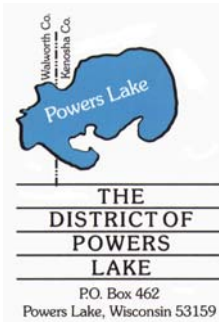
- Chemical application has killed high quality aquatic plants
- Low water depth in some areas of lake

Facts:

- Not ALL plants are bad
- Native plants are GOOD for the lake
- Powers Lake has a healthy population of native plants which are paramount for a healthy lake ecosystem
 - Powers Lake has a very diverse plant population with 24 species of native plants
 - Chemically treating is not only approved by the DNR but recommended as the preferred method of controlling non-native plants (invasives) because it does NOT impact the growth of native plants
 - We have reduced the population of non native, (invasives) species from over 70 acres in 2008 to less than 5 acres now.
 - Water levels will vary year to year due the amount of precipitation and the District has been tracking those levels since 2013 as outlined on our website

When it comes to treating invasive species, chemical treatment is only 1 of the options available. Responses to our survey included other suggestions, including:

- Dredging Jefferson Bay
- Dredging and maintaining the channel between Jefferson Bay and the lake
- Dredging the entrance to the East Branch of Nippersink Creek, outlet
- Provide more information to lake-shore residents about control options
- Controlling water let out of the lake
- Cleaning dead aquatic plants from the shoreline



Elected Commissioners:

- Neal Kuhn, Chair
- Lou Manfredini
- Dave Anstett, Treas.
- Jim Michels

Appointed Commissioners:

- Judy Jooss, Kenosha Co.
- Bob Stoll, Randall Twp.

Facts:

- Mechanical harvesting is NOT recommended since any part of a harvested invasive that is left in the water is basically repopulating and thus spreading the infestation.
- Dredging is strongly discouraged since it disrupts all plant life and provides fertile habitat for invasives to take over where native plants once flourished
 - Raking or cutting the plant is not recommended for the same reasons
 - Harvesting by hand is a viable option so long as ALL portions of the plant are removed from the water and shoreline to prevent spreading/repopulating
 - Powers Lake does not have a dam or any means to control the flow of water out of the lake. It is a spring fed lake with an inlet on the East side of the lake and an outlet on the west side
 - Lakefront residents are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of their shoreline. Wild celery (eel grass) which is a native plant will wash up on the shore. This is a natural, yearly occurrence that happens each fall. Eel grass will uproot in mats and drift around.

Fish Stocking Update:

Dave Anstett, who spearheads our fish stocking program, has confirmed that the DPL will stock Northern Pike in 2021 and the hope is the DNR will stock Walleye. The Sportsman's Club and the Town of Randall continue to partner with us in this effort. Their financial support & participation is greatly appreciated.

Website Signup

If you have not already done so, please visit our website and sign up for notifications of lake events such as E. coli advisory/closure at the Knolls Beach or Slow No Wake. www.districtofpowerslake.com



Quarterly Board Meeting

Our next quarterly meeting will be held on Friday, April 9th, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Due to Covid 19, this will be a Zoom meeting. Several days before this meeting, the Zoom link will be posted at the Randall Town Hall, the Powers Lake Post Office and on our website www.districtofpowerslake.org.

DISTRICT OF POWERS LAKE MISSION STATEMENT

Within the scope of the powers vested in it under Chapter 33 and in furtherance of the Public Trust Doctrine of Wisconsin, the mission of the District of Powers Lake is:
To support, protect, preserve and enhance the native ecosystem of the watershed, shoreline, and waters of Powers Lake as a natural resource for generations to come;
To be responsive to the interests and concerns of the district residents and the public; and
To proactively advocate when faced with potential damage to Powers Lake's environmental values, wildlife, natural beauty, peacefulness, safety and/or recreational value.