



# District of Powers Lake NEWSLETTER

Published for all those who use and love Powers Lake

**A P R I L**

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## Hello, District of Powers Lake and Friends of our Lake:

We have an exciting speaker lined up for the next quarterly meeting of the District of Powers Lake, April 17, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in the Bassett Town Hall. Thomas M. Slawski, PhD, from Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission has agreed to speak with us on issues of shoreland studies and protection. You may recall with appreciation Dr. Jeffery A. Thornton's service to the District as an expert from SWRPC and who drafted our Lake Management Plans. Dr. Slawski has worked with Dr. Thornton over the years co-editing papers, making presentations and conducting workshops. Dr. Slawski has extensive qualifications that are outlined in a nine page resume! Bob Stoll, Chairman of the Town of Randall, will be on the agenda to discuss Chapter 20 and the Town's effort to more closely align Chapter 20 with State Statues.

This will be a busy meeting with a lot of lake related discussions and educational pieces; including a discussion of potential changes with Randall ordinances. Please plan on joining us to learn something new, or to express your opinion/position. An agenda will be posted prior to the meeting at the Powers Lake Post Office, the Bassett Town Hall, and online. Hopefully we will see you soon!

## Ice on, ice off dates

Summer is just a few months away and soon ice and cold winter winds will be distant memory. But, it is always interesting trivia for family and friends to know the "official" ice on/ice off dates for Powers Lake.

Thanks to Nancy Crabtree, we have "declared" the following dates as the official ice on/ice dates for the 2014-2015 winter season.

**Ice on: January 7, 2015 - Ice off: March 31, 2015**

## Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)

Watermilfoil is an invasive aquatic plant. The DPL oversees the management of reducing watermilfoil in our lake.

Eurasian watermilfoil was accidentally introduced to

North America from Europe. Spread westward into inland lakes primarily by boats and also by waterbirds, it reached Midwestern states between the 1950's and 1980's.

In nutrient-rich lakes it can form thick underwater stands of tangled stems and vast mats of vegetation at the water's surface. In shallow areas the plant can interfere with water recreation such as boating, fishing, and swimming. The plant's floating canopy can also crowd out important native water plants.

A key factor in the plant's success is its ability to reproduce through stem fragmentation and runners. A single segment of stem and leaves can take root and form a new colony. Fragments clinging to boats and trailers can spread the plant from lake to lake. The mechanical clearing of aquatic plants for beaches, docks and landings creates thousands of new stem fragments. Removing native vegetation creates perfect habitat for invading Eurasian watermilfoil.

Eurasian watermilfoil has difficulty becoming established in lakes with well established populations of native plants. In some lakes the plant appears to coexist with native flora and has little impact on fish and other aquatic animals.

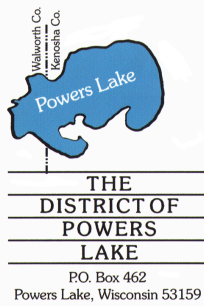
Likely means of spread: Milfoil may become entangled in boat propellers, or may attach to keels and rudders of sailboat. Stems can become lodged among any watercraft apparatus or sports equipment that moves through the water, especially boat trailers.



Eurasian watermilfoil typically has 12 to 21 pairs of leaflets. The native northern watermilfoil, with which it is often confused, usually has 5 to 9 pairs.

For more information about Eurasian watermilfoil and other invasive aquatic plants, please visit our refreshed website at:

<http://www.districtofpowerslake.com/index.html>



**Elected Commissioners:**  
 Jim Michels, Chair  
 Deron Johnson, Sec.  
 Brooke Jensen, Treas.  
 Neal Kuhn  
 Mary Adams

**Appointed Commissioners:**  
 Judy Jooss, Kenosha Co.  
 Mark Halvey, Randall Twp.

- Ecology
- Groundwater/Water Levels
- Aquatic Invasive Species
- Public Health
- Eutrophication/Non-Point Pollution, and more

More breakout sessions and inspirational speakers will be followed by field trips and workshops to round out the final day. Throughout the convention you will be able to visit educational tables and business displays, network with watershed/lake colleagues and other lake enthusiasts, and reconnect with friends and neighbors. Please join us in helping to reach the goal of Healthy Watersheds, Healthy Lakes, Healthy People.

The event is April 23-25 at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center, 1001 Amber Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54482

For interested citizens, the DPL has budgeted money to cover the cost of registration. If one intends to attend the event and apply for reimbursement for the registration fee, he must attend the DPL meeting on April 17 for approval. The approval for reimbursement of the registration fee must be granted prior to attending the event. Thank you.

**The District of Powers Lake seeks to be diligent about keeping you informed of all issues affecting our lake and community. Please come to our next meeting to vocalize your concerns. You can make a difference! We welcome your feedback!**

**Quarterly Board Meeting**



Our next meeting will be held Friday, April 17th, at 5:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public at the Randall Town Hall, 34530 Bassett Road, Bassett, WI.

**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.

**Clean-ups or changes to shoreland**

Our citizens generally demonstrate exemplary lake stewardship whilst cleaning up or changing the shoreland. Most of us have learned to appreciate the extreme importance of trees and vegetation to erosion control and water filtration (to keep our lake clean and clear). When there is a necessity to cut down a tree or modify the shoreland, we advocate that you and your contractor contact the DNR prior to beginning work. The DNR will help you determine if permits are necessary, offer mitigation strategies, and most importantly, if your actions will have any ill-effect on our beautiful Powers Lake. The professionals that work for the DNR are well versed in lake and Lakeshore issues and have a reverence for the preservation of our natural resources (our lake). As citizens, we have a common goal to keep our lake as clean and beautiful as possible.

Please demonstrate good lake stewardship. Before cutting, clearing, modifying the shoreland, contact or have your contractor contact the DNR to ensure your actions will not adversely affect the lake or shoreland. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact one of your Commissioners who can help get the information you may need. Thank you for preserving the beauty of Powers Lake for future generations!

**2015 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention**

Each year the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership plans a statewide convention, and in April, they will celebrate the 37th year of the event. This unique convention brings together citizen scientists, businesses, and lake, river and wetland professionals to interact, learn, share and engage with one another to ensure a healthy future for our waters.

"*You are what you eat*" is a common phrase that has often been used to describe how the food we eat has a bearing on our state of mind and health. The theme for the 2015 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention is: **Healthy Watersheds, Healthy Lakes, Healthy People.**

The schedule for the 2015 will include pre-convention workshops and technical sessions the first day, followed by a full second day including the keynote address, breakout sessions & poster displays covering topics like: