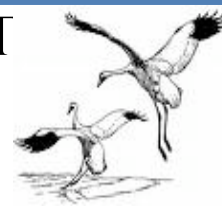




PICKEREL/CRANE LAKE P&R DISTRICT

Protection and Rehabilitation District

Newsletter



From the Chairman's Desk...

I would like to provide you with an update concerning the lowering of the lake levels on Pickerel and Crane Lakes.

Last August, the WI Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) ordered the Town of Ainsworth to lower the water level at the Pickerel Creek Dam by at least two inches. This basically translates into lower lake levels on Pickerel Lake, Crane Lake and Rolling Stone Lake.

After being alerted of this situation by the Town of Ainsworth, the Board of Commissioners felt this was a direct threat and would cause a negative impact to our lakes. A meeting was quickly scheduled, and we invited the Ainsworth Town Board, WDNR representatives, Tom Jerow and Terry Cummings, WI State Representative Jeff Mursau, and WI State Senator Jim Holperin, who all took time from their schedules to attend.

At this meeting we found the order to lower the lake levels resulted from the WDNR

receiving one complaint from an individual who was concerned that the water level in the Pickerel Creek was low. The WDNR responded to the complaint and found that the state required water flow over the dam did not meet the State of WI standards which resulted in the order to lower the water level at the dam 2", thereby, sending more water flow down the creek.

Even though the state has been experiencing drought conditions and water levels are low everywhere, the WDNR decided that the solution to the low water level in Pickerel Creek was to cause lower water levels in Pickerel, Crane, and Rolling Stone Lakes. Instead of having drought conditions affecting one body of water, it now affects four bodies of water.

Naturally, this was hard for us to understand.

We reminded the WDNR that our lake district has been very pro-active in protecting the water levels in our lakes and

have undertaken many projects at our own expense to ensure that our lakes are protected. These projects included the purchasing of the 47 acres of wetlands that included an artesian well so that bottling companies could not pump the water from our lakes. It was with the help of state taxpayers through a WDNR grant that allowed us to purchase this property for lake level protection.

The only possible way to appeal the WDNR decision is through a petition process that would ultimately require us to have a petition signed by 100% of the members of both our Lake District and the Rolling Stone Lake District.

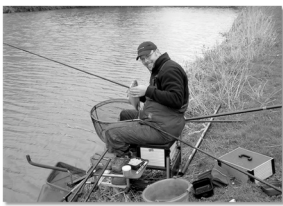
We can discuss this further at the spring meeting on May 29th.



Sincerely,
Chuck Sleeter

Lake District Planning Meeting

The Resident's Meeting component of our Lake Management Plan has finally been set for May 15th. We could still use some volunteers from Crane Lake. If you are interesting in joining this group and having your voice heard, please call Lauren Freston at 715-623-6785. We are looking forward to creating a comprehensive plan that includes as many voices as possible.



Weed Removal

It's that time of year again! Attach a green flag to your pier and the harvester will cut your weeds. If you do not have a flag in plain sight, the harvester will not clear away any weeds.



Fishing News

With the early ice-out conditions and warm weather, northern pike have been done spawning since mid-April. The warming water has brought many pan fish and some bass into the shallows as well. Crappies have been showing up on the edges of the shallow base and many males have even been sporting the darker coloration in anticipation of spawning when the temperatures reach the upper 50s. It is possible that smallmouth bass and crappie may begin their spring nesting period, which is almost unheard of for the latter part of April in the Northwoods.

Source: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/news/or/>

Wisconsin Outdoor Report

While most of us have enjoyed the unseasonably warm spring weather, it is wise to remember that these dry conditions are also increasing the fire danger throughout Wisconsin. At the writing of this newsletter, there are 19 counties that have implemented a Red Flag Warning. Here in the Pickerel area, the fire level is currently at the high level. It is important that all residents and visitors be aware of the fire condition on a day-to-day basis. This information is updated daily on the DNR website: http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire/fire_danger/wis_burn/statecounties.asp.

There are simple steps each of us can take to keep our beautiful surroundings safe. Ensure that you have at least a three to five foot shrub clearance around your home. When landscaping, attempt to plant as many native plants as possible. These plants are already adapted to our weather conditions and easily thrive while also providing a shoreland buffer that will attract more wildlife and provide a better habitat for fish and wildlife while also reducing erosion. Prune your trees so that they are six to ten feet high to prevent fire on the ground from spreading to the tree-tops. All lawns should be kept mowed and raked as well as removing all fallen leaves and needles. Firewood should be kept 30 feet away from your home, fences, or decks.

The DNR has a vast amount of information in regards to this subject. It is worth your time to explore their website. <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire/prevention/firewise/>

**Notice of Pickerel/Crane Lake P&R
District Spring Meeting**

May 29, 2010 - 9:30 a.m.

Ainsworth Town Hall

(Corner of T & TT, Pearson)

Agenda

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Reading of the Fall Meeting Minutes
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Old Business
 - a) Aeration Report
 - b) Lake District Docks
 - c) Port-A-Potty
 - d) Fish Stocking, 2010
 - e) Aquatic Plant Harvesting, 2010
 - f) Lake Management Plan Update
 - g) Proposed Nashville Community Facility Update
6. New Business:
 - a) Pickerel Dam
 - b) Possible Repairs - North Side Pickerel Lk. Boat Landing
 - c) Appoint Nominating Committee
 - d) Public Comment
7. Adjourn

**Pickerel/Crane Lake P&R
District 2009 Treasurer's Report
1/1/09 - 12/31/10**

Opening Balance

Savings, Checking, & Var. Rate	23,130
CD - Septic Inspections	-0-
CD's Capital Purchases	32,902
Total	56,032

Receipts

Tax Levy	27,800
Interest	1,911
Boat Landing Donations	218
Donations	150
Lake Management Planning Grant	16,409
Void #1305-Harvester Permit	300
Total	46,788

Disbursements

Printing	322
Postage	570
Admin. Supplies	5
Meetings/Mileage/Telephone	198
Office Rent	780
Dues	90
Insurance	2,105
Lake Monitoring	99
Boat Landings	273
Aeration	1,487
Weed Harvesting	1,772
Lake Management Plan	320
Inv. Aquatic Plant Control	-0-
Misc. Street Light	138
Total	8,159

Closing Balance

Savings, Checking, & Var. Rate	43,031
CD - Septic Inspections	12,622
CD's - Capital Purchases	39,008
Total	94,661

Respectfully submitted,
Peg Hollmann, Treasurer

**Treasurer's Report
1/1/10 - 12/31/10**

Opening Balance

Savings, Checking, & Var. Rate	43,031
CD - Septic Inspections	12,622
CD - Capital Purchases	39,008
Total	94,661

Receipts

Tax Levy	17,315
Interest	503
Total	17,818

Disbursements

Harvester	602
Dues	40
Admin. Supplies	22
Aeration	680
Postage	63
Total	1,407

Closing Balance

Savings, Checking, & Var. Rate	59,143
CD - Septic Inspections	12,696
CD's - Capital Purchases	39,233
Total	111,072

Pickerel/Crane Lake District Commissioners & Representatives

Chuck Sleeter – Chair (715) 484-8166 or (715) 484-4501
email: townnash@solarus.net

Brian King – Vice Chair (715) 484-2807 or (920) 347-0245

Dan Vosters (715) 484-3142 or (920) 766-9202

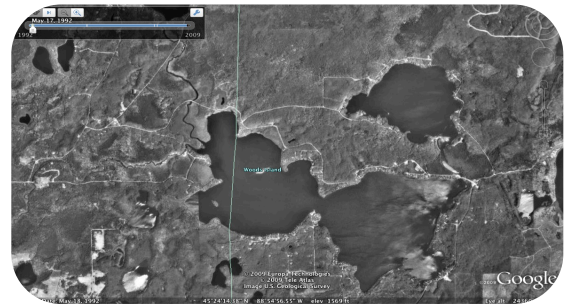
Peg Hollmann – Treasurer (715) 484-7800

Lauren Freston – Secretary (715) 484-2910 or (715) 623-6785
email: lafreston@yahoo.com

Duane Marshall – Town of Nashville Rep. (715) 484-8198

Jim Stormer – Forest County Liason (715) 484-2022

Dave Solin – Langlade County Liaison (715) 627-4221



Pickerel/Crane Lake

www.earth.google.com

In order for us to keep our mailing list current, please notify us of your new address if you move. It would also be helpful if you would let us know the name and address of the new owners in the event your property is sold, so we can include them in our mailings. Thank you.

PICKEREL/CRANE LAKE P&R DISTRICT

P.O. Box 18

Pickerel, WI 54465

[Recipient]