

# Pickereel - Crane Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District Spring Newsletter, 2018

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK CHUCK SLEETER

Hi folks,

After another winter I'm sure you're ready to enjoy a great spring and summer on the lakes. Speaking of which, be sure to check out the north Pickereel Lake Road boat landing. Our volunteers and Mr. Steve Bailey from Bailey Services got together again and widened the landing. It is now eighteen feet wider and will allow us to move the harvester that much farther to the west giving the other lake users more room and less congestion at the water's edge.

I would like to thank all of our volunteers for their help and support which enabled us complete our projects. I would also ask anyone who would like to volunteer this summer to please do so. We are in desperate need of a Weed Boss on Pickereel Lake.

Finally, please make note that the Spring Meeting date has been permanently changed. As voted on by the members, the Spring Meeting will now be held the weekend before the Memorial Day allowing members to enjoy the holiday weekend with family and friends. The meeting will be held on May 19, 2018 at 9:30 am at the Nashville Community Center located at 1038 CTH "Q" Pickereel WI.

Have a great and safe summer.

Chuck Sleeter

## Weed Harvesting

The overall 2017 harvest was very successful and met all expectations. Targeted areas were harvested with no issues and in accordance with set guidelines. Tonnage removed aligned to previous year's harvest.

### 2017 Summary

Pickereel Lake	45 loads / 180 tons
Crane Lake	11 loads / 44 tons

**Just a reminder. Please remember to place a green flag at the end of your dock if you would like your dock area weeds harvested.**



## Lake Management Planning

The District voted at the 2017 Fall Meeting to move forward with an update to our Lake Management Plan for both Pickereel and Crane Lakes. The last comprehensive LMP was completed in 2012 and was financed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Grant Program. Currently, viable consultants are being evaluated with an expectation to sign an agreement late summer and submit a grant request prior to the December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Traditionally LMP's should be updated every 3 – 5 years depending on the condition of the lakes.

### Key Areas of Focus

- Water Quality
- Aquatic Plant Survey
- Aquatic Invasive Species Eradication Options
- Changes to the Watershed
- Shoreline Condition & Improvement Opportunities
- Shallow Water Habitat Assessment

Special attention will be given to the current state of the invasive species Eurasian water-milfoil located on Pickereel's west end. Additionally, there will be a thorough review of the shoreline condition that will be the basis for developing improvement opportunities that will enhance water quality and shallow water habitat.

## District Member Remembered

*Edward Jacobs, a resident of Pickerel Lake since 2011, passed away in March of this year after a courageous battle with cancer. The family of Ed Jacobs created a memorial to the Pickerel/Crane Lake District in his name. As per Ed's family's request, the monies donated, along with any future donations, will be used to update the pier on Pickerel Lake. We are very grateful to the Jacobs family for this considerable donation. Below is a brief message from Ed's family.*

If you live in Wisconsin, or even the Midwest – you always dream of having a cabin in the woods up north. Most people refer to it as “God’s Country” and after being lucky enough to enjoy it, the sentiment is absolutely true.

Ed Jacobs worked as the president of a community bank, a job that while very fulfilling was high energy and often stressful. Ed loved to escape the stress of everyday life through golf and spending time outdoors with friends. In June of 2011, he decided to spend a relaxing weekend golfing at Bass Lake with friends. They spent the evening on Pickerel Lake at his friend’s cabin. The next morning, while sitting on the bench overlooking the lake, Ed asked if there was anything for sale. To his good fortune, the answer was yes. In fact the Cedar Cabin next door was for sale. It was literally love at first sight. Then, Ed got a twinkle in his eye and a plan formed.

Ed and Mary purchased the Cedar Cabin in July of 2011. At the time, they didn’t know the area was a prime fishing spot and had miles of gorgeous ATV/UTV and snowmobile trails. They quickly discovered how friendly and welcoming the Pickerel/Crane area is and what started out as a seasonal cottage became their second home in the north woods – fulfilling that lifelong dream. Ed always referred to Pickerel as his “happy place” where he greatly enjoyed fishing, socializing, trail riding, and best of all – relaxing. In his honor, the cabin in the north woods will still be cherished by family for years to come.

## Fisheries Report

In April the commissioners met with Greg Matzke - DNR Fisheries Biologist and Mike Preul – Director Mole Lake Fish Hatchery. The outcome of the meeting was a 5 year fisheries plan for both Pickerel and Crane Lakes.

Overall the condition of the fisheries is good, with the lakes making a positive transition toward, a bias for walleye and perch. The removal of bullheads in the last two years has played a key role in the sustainment and growth of the other species. Whereas the ultimate goal is to reestablish natural walleye reproduction, the next major project is the introduction of a walleye spawning reef on the south end of Crane Lake. Project planning remains in progress with a completion date of February of 2019. With respect to fish stocking, and consistent with previous years, walleyes will again be stocked this fall with the majority of fish being released into Pickerel Lake. Additional details will be conveyed at the spring meeting.

The data below is a summary of the WDNR comprehensive survey completed on Crane Lake in 2017. The results for Pickerel will be released in June.

Crane Lake - 2017	Adult Population (Abundance)	Adult Population (Per Acre)	Size Structure	Average Adult Size
Walleye	Low	1	Moderate	15"
Large Mouth Bass	Average	5.4	Below Average	13"
Nothern Pike	Average	3.1	Poor	18"
Yellow Perch	Average	NA	Average	7"
Black Crappie	Low	NA	Very Good	9"
Blue Gill	Low	NA	Very Good	7"
Yellow Bullhead	Moderate	NA	Good	10"

**Year-End Treasurer's Report 1/01/17 - 12/31/17**

<b>Opening Balance</b>		
CD's Capital Purchases		45,445.05
CD Septic Inspections		13,564.95
CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control		37,610.47
Savings		20,198.58
Checking		7,379.68
Money Market/Contingency Fund		39,616.50
	<b>Prior Year Balance</b>	<b>\$163,815.23</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Boat Landings		433.38
Donation/Grant		5,000.00
Interest		1,522.38
Tax Levy		27,800.00
	<b>12-Month Revenues</b>	<b>\$34,755.76</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Administrative		73.25
Aeration		1,208.80
Boat Landings		2,003.07
Dues		75.00
Insurance		2,656.09
Lake Monitoring		104.32
Meetings/Mileage/Telephone		2,331.63
Postage		422.85
Printing		265.94
Rent		3,000.00
Webpage/Newsletter		353.19
Weed Harvesting		7,432.78
	<b>12-Month Expenditures</b>	<b>\$19,926.92</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>		
CD's Capital Purchases		48,916.57
CD Weed Harvesting		13,698.43
CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control		37,962.10
Savings		29,074.22
Checking		3,005.24
Variable Rate/Contingency Fund		45,987.51
	<b>2017 Year-End Balance</b>	<b>\$178,644.07</b>

**1st Quarter Treasurer's Report 1/01/18 - 3/31/18**

<b>Opening Balance</b>		
CD's Capital Purchases		48,916.57
CD Weed Harvesting		13,698.43
CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control		37,962.10
Savings		29,074.22
Checking		3,005.24
Money Market/Contingency Fund		45,987.51
	<b>Prior Year Balance</b>	<b>\$178,644.07</b>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Donations/Grant		3,000.00
Interest		140.33
Tax Levy		18,904.78
	<b>1st Quarter Revenues</b>	<b>\$22,045.11</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Aeration		668.02
Dues		25.00
Rent		500.00
	<b>1st Quarter Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,193.02</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>		
CD's Capital Purchases		49,057.52
CD Weed Harvesting		13,740.45
CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control		38,064.60
Savings		41,240.60
Checking		11,292.54
Money Market/Contingency Fund		46,100.45
	<b>2018 First Quarter Balance</b>	<b>\$199,496.16</b>

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Kupfer, Treasurer

**Important District Communication Changes**

**Spring / Fall Meeting Changes:** At the District's request, the spring and fall meetings have been moved up one week from their traditional holiday weekend dates. The changes will free up valuable holiday weekend hours for members as well as provide a more suitable timeframe that will increase attendance.

Spring Meeting: May 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00am

Fall Meeting: Aug 25<sup>th</sup> 9:00am

Please join us to hear the latest updates on current and proposed activities that have an impact on our lakes. We want and need to hear your feedback.

**New P&C District Web Page:** As many of you are aware the District's web page is outdated and has not been updated in a timely manner. I am happy to convey that we are working through a renovation which will bring the web page up to current technology standards. The overall expectation is to develop a site that can be utilized as an additional mechanism to communicate with District members. The renovation is currently in progress and is projected to be available in June.

Address: [PickereLcranelakedistrict.org](http://PickereLcranelakedistrict.org)

**A Big Thank You for Continued Support**

At a reception and check presentation on Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, the Sokaogon Chippewa Community, once again, chose to recognize the Pickerel/Crane Lake P&R District in our efforts to protect our lakes for present and future generations. Their generous donation of \$3000 will help to defray the expenses of our aquatic plant harvesting and walleye restoration programs. We are very thankful for their continued support.



Pickerel/Crane Lake P/R District  
PO Box 18  
Pickerel WI 54465



2018 Pickerel/Crane District Spring Meeting  
May 19, 2018 9:00 AM.  
Town of Nashville Community Center  
1038 CTH "Q" Pickerel, WI 54465

- (1) Call to Order
- (2) Pledge of Allegiance
- (3) Welcome New Members to the Meeting
- (4) Introduce Commissioners
- (5) Reading of the fall 2017 Meeting Minutes
- (6) Commissioners' Meeting Minutes (Handouts Available)
- (7) Treasure's Report
- (8) Old Business
  - (a) Aeration Report/Snowmobile incident /Discussion
  - (b) Aquatic Plant Harvesting Report for 2017 / 2018
  - (c) Walleye Stocking Overview for 2018
  - (d) Pickerel Lake Northside Landing Update
  - (e) Update on Crane Lake Walleye Spawning Reef
  - (f) Web Page update
  - (g) Donation to Pickerel Tombstone Snow Club
- (9) New Business
  - (a) Discuss Rental Agreement with Town of Nashville
  - (b) Sokaogon Chippewa Lake Protection Award
  - (c) Mr. Edward Jacobs Donation
  - (d) Crane Lake Fish Survey Update (Handout available)
  - (e) Discuss Five-Year Plan for P/C Lake District
  - (f) Discuss the Required update to the Lake Mgmt. Plan
  - (g) Mike Preul request to practice their Harvester on Lakes
  - (h) Mike Preul possible additional bullhead removal
  - (I) Select Nomination Committee for fall election
- (10) Public Comment
- (11) Adjourn

**Pickerel/Crane Lake District  
Commissioners & Representatives**

Chuck Sleeter, Chairman	715 219-0835
Rod Sternhagen, Vice Chairman	920 540-4507
Dan Vosters	920 419-0317
Kathy Kupfer, Treasurer	715 484 2520
Mike Zelinski, Secretary	715 338-4343
Jamie Anderson, Town of Nashville	715 478-1038
David Solin, Langlade County Rep.	715 627-4221

In order for us to keep the mailing list current, please notify us if your address has changed. It would also be helpful if you would contact us with the name and address of the new owners in the event your property is sold.

Thank You