

# Pickerel Crane Lake P&R District Fall Newsletter, 2018



## From the chairman's desk – Chuck Sleeter

Hi folks, first I'd like to begin by asking everyone to please do not spray roundup or any other weed or grass poison on aquatic plants (weeds) in the lake. Not only does it kill all kinds of plants that are illegal to kill but it also affects other life in the lake.

I know the aquatic plant life in Pickerel Lake is bad this year and I, like all of you are having a hard time trying to navigate our boats around the lake without always having to stop and try to clear our motors of weeds. Some may be wondering why we're not harvesting all over the lake. In short, the Department of Natural Resources does not allow us to harvest aquatic plants just anywhere we would like. We must follow a strict plant removal plan. This plan restricts the harvester from going into many areas in the lake. Sorry, I feel your pain.

Finally, I do have some good news and that is the Commissioners have voted to accept the proposed budget for 2019. Once again, this budget does not raise the Lake District tax levy for property owners. And while I know I've said this before I think it needs repeating; staying within our budget would not be possible without our volunteers and fellow Commissioners who contribute so much of their time and work hard to find ways to cut costs and reduce waste.

I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and have a great safe fall and winter.

Chuck Sleeter  
Chairman

## Priority Activities

- **Lake Management Plan (LMP):** Good progress has been made working with prospective consultants on an update to the plan from 2012. Understanding current state and proposed actions to address aquatic invasive species is of the highest priority. Shoreline condition and shallow water habit are also areas to be evaluated in the new plan. With the support of targeted grants the estimated expense to the district is ~\$13,000 - 15,000. A vote will commence at the fall meeting to select a consultant and begin the planning process.
- **5 Year Plan – Financial:** you may recall in 2017 the commissioners created a high level forecast of sizeable expenditures to provide some level of vision to District members. Below is the most recent update which highlights short term actions aligned to walleye restoration, LMP and harvester expenses. As it relates to the harvester, recent evaluations of the equipment have identified a number of major components that are in need of an upgrade and a proposed replacement has been deleted.

P&R 5 Year Plan	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Walleye Restoration	\$15,000		\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Lake Mgmt. Plan		\$15,000	10,000		\$5,000
Shoreline Condition				\$5,000	
Shallow Water Habitat			\$5,000		\$5,000
Harvester Repairs	\$17,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Harvester Replacement					
	\$32,000	\$18,000	\$21,000	\$11,000	\$16,000

- **Walleye Spawning Reef on Crane Lake:** The walleye reef project remains on track for implementation commencing Feb-2019 dependent on the integrity of the ice. Financial support is provided by a \$25,000 federal grant received by the Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa Community. Just a reminder, the intended outcome is to bolster the main spawning area habitat whereby natural reproduction can occur. Based on WDNR data, the last confirmed natural reproduction occurred in 1987.
- **Fisheries Report:** No recent updates from the reports communicated in the previous newsletters. Overall outlook is positive for the next few years with a continued focus to stock walleyes in both lakes. However there is new concern by District members on the recent increase in trolling and utilization of planer boards to catch walleyes. Whereas the technique is legal by state guidelines, there is a high number of large females being taken which could have a major impact on the future of reproduction. A petition is being developed to request the state to consider terminating trolling on Crane Lake. The topic will be discussed at the fall meeting.
- **Pontoon Classrooms:** The Langlade County Lakes Association has offered up their ecology experts to support pontoon boat classes where district members can tour the lakes and learn about the many facets of the lake ecosystems. Details on how to get involved will be communicated at the fall meeting.
- **Web Site:** The [pickerelcranelakedistrict.org](http://pickerelcranelakedistrict.org) web has been updated and available for viewing. As you can imagine it remains a work in progress with additional information being added each month.

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## Shoreline Buffers: Good for Your Lake. Good for You.

What can you do to help keep your lake health? One of the best things you can do is to create (or keep) a strip of natural vegetation- a shoreline buffer – along the length of your frontage. Shore line buffers can help limit the effects of development on the lakes. If everybody had one, our lakes would be cleaner and more beautiful. You might be surprised at all the good a shoreline buffer can do.

Good for your lake and the environment

- Protects the water by filtering runoff containing silt, salt, chemicals, fertilizer and other pollutants.
- Slows runoff, letting water soak into the ground instead of flushing straight into the lake.
- Helps keep waves and runoff from eroding the shoreline.
- Improves near shore habitat for fish and other water creatures.
- Provides a haven for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects – sanctuary for wildlife.

Good for you and your property

- Saves time you would otherwise spend mowing and trimming more lawn.
- Gives you extra privacy and helps muffle the noises of boats and personal watercraft.
- Discourages messy pests like geese and non-native plants like purple loosestrife.
- Helps make the lake more attractive to home buyers, and so makes your property more valuable.

*It's far easier and cheaper to protect your lake from harm than to clean it after it's been damaged. Plan your shoreline buffer this year.*

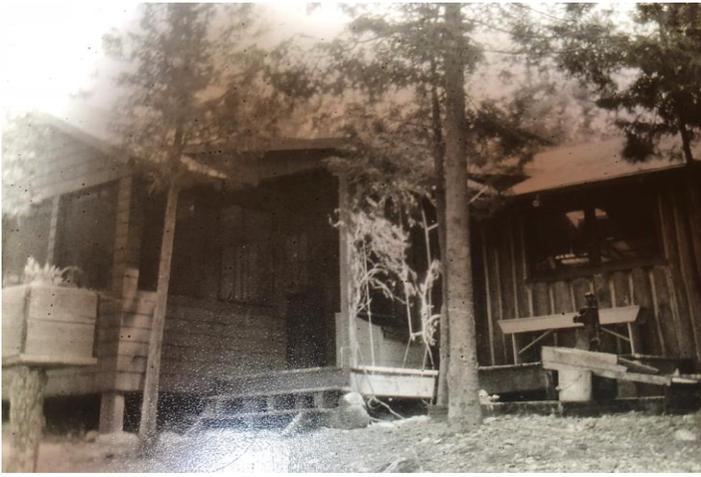
By Bob Martini, Oneida County Lakes and river Association

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## Reflecting on the Past

In July I had a great opportunity to sit down for a few hours with Sally Ferguson a long time summer resident on Pickerel Lake. Sally's Grandfather Alan Fraser from Appleton acquired a property on the east shore in 1922 and built a cabin which remains today. The amazing part of the story is that there was no road into the property from the east so Alan brought all the building materials across the bay in a scow. He would load up at Tyra's which is now Mueller's Pine Grove Resort and make the many trips to the east shore loaded with supplies. Eventually the cabin was completed and received an upstairs addition in 1947. It makes me wonder how many people today would go through this much effort to build a cabin....

The original Fraser property is now being frequented by the fifth generation of family members. Sally and her late husband Walt are Pickerel Lake area historians and have provided the following pictures. I look forward to having more conversations with Sally and bringing more history to the newsletter. Thank you Sally.



**Mid-Year Treasurer's Report 1/01/18- 6/30/18**

<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	5,325.00
Interest	1,012.89
Tax Levy	18,797.11
<b>6-Month Revenues</b>	<b>\$25,135.00</b>

<b>Expenditures</b>	
Administrative	26.31
Aeration	1,248.04
Dues	25.00
Meetings/Mileage/Telephone	455.43
Postage	204.72
Printing	146.17
Rent	500.00
Walleye Restoration	53.35
Webpage/Newsletter	668.40
Weed Harvesting	630.24
<b>6-Month Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,957.66</b>

<b>Closing Balance</b>	
CD's Capital Purchases	49,219.01
CD Weed Harvesting	13,783.07
CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control	38,168.52
Savings	41,801.67
Checking	10,597.76
Money Market/Contingency Fund	46,251.38
<b>2018 Mid-Year Balance</b>	<b>\$199,821.41</b>

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Kupfer, Treasurer

**2019 Proposed Budget**

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>2018</b>
Administrative	100.00
Aeration	1,500.00
Boat Landings	1,000.00
Capital Purchases	1,000.00
Dues	100.00
Insurance	5,000.00
Lake Monitoring	500.00
Lake Management Plan	15,000.00
Meetings/Mileage/Phone	2,500.00
Misc./Contingency Fund	1,000.00
Postage	500.00
Printing/Ads	700.00
Rent	800.00
Walleye Restoration Project	
Webpage/Newsletter	800.00
Weed Harvesting	2,500.00
	<b>\$33,000.00</b>

<b>Revenues</b>	<b>2018</b>
Boat Landing Donations	200.00
Donations	0.00
Interest	2,000.00
Tax Levy	27,800.00
Money Market/Contingency Fund	3,000.00
	<b>\$33,000.00</b>

2019 Proposed Tax Levy: \$27,800.00  
Percentage Change: 0%



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



PICKEREL/CRANE LAKES P&R DISTRICT FALL MEETING  
AUGUST 25, 2018 - 9:00 AM  
TOWN OF NASHVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER  
1038 CTH "Q" PICKEREL, WI

- 1.-4 Call to order / Roll call / Pledge of Allegiance / Greeting
5. Read meeting minutes
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Old Business
  - (a) Aeration report, Jerry Hietpas Aeration Boss
  - (b) Weed harvester report, Jim Huss
  - (c) Pickerel Tombstone Snow Club donation for use of tractor
  - (d) Crane Lake reef, Brad Kupfer
  - (e) Walleye stocking update, Brad Kupfer
  - (f) Northside Pickerel Lake dock (Donation)
  - (g) Thank the Sokaogon Community - Bullhead removal
  - (h) Discuss District's five-year plan
8. New Business
  - (a) Discuss new Web Site (presentation)
  - (b) Discuss planer boarding impact on Walleyes
  - (c) Results of the L/M/P update proposal notice
  - (d) Vote on selection of firm to complete the L/D L/M/P
  - (e) Discuss harvester repairs
  - (f) Pontoon Boat Classrooms / where to call for scheduling
9. Public comment
10. Budget Hearing/ Adoption of Tax Levy
11. Election for position of Commissioner
  - (a) Nominations from the floor
  - (b) Written ballot vote
  - (c) Announcement of results
12. Adjourn
  1. Selection of Positions on the Board
  2. Adjourn

P&R Lake District Commissioners Meeting will be held  
Immediately following the fall meeting adjournment.

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

Chuck Sleeter, Chairman	715 219-0835
<a href="mailto:chucksleeter@gmail.com">chucksleeter@gmail.com</a>	
Rod Sternhagen, Vice Chairman	920 540-4507
<a href="mailto:redhunting@gmail.com">redhunting@gmail.com</a>	
Dan Vosters	920 419-0317
<a href="mailto:Vosters10@sbcglobal.net">Vosters10@sbcglobal.net</a>	
Kathy Kupfer, Treasurer	715 484-2520
<a href="mailto:Kathykupfer52@outlook.com">Kathykupfer52@outlook.com</a>	
Mike Zelinski, Secretary	715 338-4343
<a href="mailto:mzelinski@doverprecision.com">mzelinski@doverprecision.com</a>	
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