



Pickerel/Crane Lake P&R District Fall Newsletter, 2022

From the Chairman's Desk – Chuck Sleeter

Hello everyone,

I would like to take this opportunity to point out a few things that we sometimes overlook.

First, early this summer we were advised by a number of folks that the Crane Lake boat landing had several very deep holes and the landing was not usable. Contact was made with the Town of Nashville, who then attempted to fix the deep holes at the landing. We found that the attempt to repair the landing had failed and the district proceeded to make more extensive repairs. The folks on Crane Lake and the Lake District, with the aid of Dan Welhouse, Steve Bailey, and Chuck Jackson dug out the existing frost pockets with our trucks and filled each pocket with stone. These areas were then covered with crushed stone and a special road gravel mix. A special thanks to Dan Welhouse for a great job using his equipment to level the gravel and stone. All the folks did a great job! Without these folks and the Pickerel/Crane Lake District funds, the landing would still be unusable.

For the folks who are wondering, the Town of Nashville owns all the boat landings in the district and the Lake District owns all the boat docks on Pickerel and Crane Lake landings. We install the docks in the spring, maintain and remove them in the fall, and this is all done by volunteers. What about all the signage at the boat landings? If you guessed that this is the result of the Lake District, your guess would be right. So, while the town owns and is responsible for maintaining all the boat landings, we funded this project and took over to make sure it was usable for Crane Lake.

Secondly, our Lake District Commissioner Curt Haga, the Forest County Tourism Committee and the Town of Nashville teamed up to greatly improve the access to the northside Pickerel Lake

boat landing. If you haven't checked this out yet, take a look. Curt says it looks like we may be having more landing maintenance in the future.

Finally, I would also like to make it clear that the north and south Pickerel Lake landings, in addition to the Crane Lake landing, are not scheduled for major improvements. The landings are simply getting the maintenance they have needed for quite some time.

Hope this helps clear up some questions. Thanks for your time and interest in our lakes,

Chuck

Aeration Report 2022

Our aeration "Boss" Jerome Heiptas advised that the system started January 4, 2022 and stopped on March 5th. Unfortunately, on the night of the jump-in at Sportsman's Lodge, one male snowmobile rider ran through the safety fence and was thrown from his machine. Luckily, he was not seriously hurt and did not enter the open water.

The District Board of Commissioners and the folks in the district would like to thank the volunteers who installed/removed the safety fence this year. They are; Keith Verhaegen, Dan Welhouse, Dennis Welhouse, Mark Donnermeyer, Gene Ebben, Gus Turk, Mark Starich and Mat Kercisnik. These volunteers and their efforts may have saved a life, and again this year, avoided a winter fish kill. Due to their help, the lake has not had a notable winter fish kill since the aeration system was installed many years ago.

We would also like to thank the Smith family who are located on the north side of Pickerel for allowing us to have our aeration system on their property.

For Your Information

Board of Commissioners – Please contact Craig Farah (920-470-8845) if interested in being nominated to the Board of Commissioners. The following positions will be up for nominations in the fall: Treasurer and Commissioner at large.

Weed Harvesting – Pickerel Lake

Please remember to place a green flag at the end of your dock if you would like your dock-area weeds harvested. If interested in volunteering to help, please contact **Jim Huss at 715-216-2453**.

Mailing List Update – 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!

Volunteers Needed – Check out our website's Home Page at pickerelcranelakedistrict.org for a list of all the volunteer opportunities within our Lake District.

Fishing Report

There will not be a stocking of walleyes in either lake this fall as we are now on the schedule for odd-numbered years. There will be a fall shocking to determine fish densities in both lakes.

We have had numerous reports of small walleyes 6"-7" being caught. These could be stocked fish from the fall or hopefully these might be 2-year-old naturally-reproduced fingerlings. This initiative began in 2012 and has taken us 10 years to rehabilitate the walleye population. Much time, effort, and money donated on the part of the Lake District, the Mole Lake Fish Hatchery and the DNR, has gone into this project.
Remember: This is not an unlimited resource. Please harvest selectively and encourage your neighbors and friends to do the same. If you see someone abusing their privilege, please notify the DNR @ 1-800-847-9367.

Lake Management Plan Initiatives Crane Lake Eurasian Milfoil Initiative

We have been approved for a 3-year grant to locate, manage, and remove pockets of Eurasian milfoil beds on Crane Lake. White Water Associates began work on Crane Lake on June 18th, locating beds of Eurasian Milfoil and applying GPS coordinates to those areas. Aquatic Plant Management spent one day on Crane Lake on July 21st. Following their extraction process, White Water Associates will conduct a follow-up survey to determine the effectiveness of the removal process. This work will continue through 2024.

New Signage at Boat Landings and Culvert

As of this writing, we have two new signs entering the culvert from Pickerel Lake. We are asking boaters to

either physically remove all weeds from their props and anchors BEFORE entering the channel. This will help slow down the transmission of Eurasian milfoil from Pickerel into Crane. Although the water flows from Crane into Pickerel Lake, the majority of the milfoil discovered by White Water is located in the channel. Hopefully this can be removed by Aquatic Plant Management divers, as mentioned in the Lake Management Plan Initiative article.
We have a new boating regulation and hours for recreational use on Crane Lake. We are asking that after 6:00 P.M., no wave runners, tubing or skiing take place until 9:00 A.M. the following day. This regulation came directly out of the Lake User Survey as a majority of the people responding thought that a no wake regulation at 4:30 P.M. was too early. Please inform people of this new rule, so that we can all enjoy the lake.
Thank you.

Aquatic Plant Harvesting Summer of 2022

This is one of those summers that we haven't seen in over 20 years due to the lack of weeds. The harvester wasn't launched until July 11th. This was one of the latest launches in our history. We soon realized that the lake level was about fourteen inches lower than usual. Due to the shallow landing, we had our hands full trying to get the machine off the trailer. With some quick thinking by Snow Club tractor operator Marty Birschbach and some great equipment, we finally were able to free the machine. It was tense for a while!

The Sunday prior to the unloading I went around the entire lake and didn't have to unload any weeds from my boat propeller. This was a first for me. I know the older folks on the lake can remember the weeds so bad that you could hardly cross the lake with your boats. As of the middle of July there has only been one load of weeds harvested from Pickerel Lake.

The district encountered a problem with getting fuel for our trucks and harvester. The Town of Nashville advised us that we would no longer be able to get our fuel through the town. Mr. Jim Huss, our Harvester program "Boss", came to our aid. He was kind enough to allow us to use his indoor fuel tank on his property. Insight FS will provide us fuel and we will now be tax exempt and the fuel will be purchased at a reduced rate. The district is again very grateful to Jim for his generosity.

Mission Statement:

Citizens dedicated to the preservation and rehabilitation of Pickerel and Crane Lakes for present and future generations.

Pickerel/Crane Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District Mid-Year Treasurer's Report 1/01/2022 - 7/18/2022		
Opening Balance		
CD Boat Landings		9,577.48
CDs Capital Purchases		51,762.50
CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control		40,145.75
CD Walleye Restoration		8,006.57
Savings		15,534.42
Checking		24,169.13
Money Market/Contingency Fund		48,802.91
Prior Year Balance		\$197,998.76
Revenues		
Boat Landings		250.00
Interest		585.12
Tax Levy		19,647.66
Mid-Year Revenues		\$20,482.78
Expenditures		
Administrative		0.00
Aeration		858.30
Boat Landings		651.87
Dues		100.00
Insurance		4,874.00
Lake Management Plan		8,397.70
Meetings/Mileage		160.92
Postage		161.44
Printing		36.99
Rent		700.00
Webpage/Newsletter		982.71
Weed Harvesting		4,731.78
Mid-Year Expenditures		\$4,860.31
Closing Balance		
CD's Boat Landings		9,636.66
CD Capital Purchases		51,921.62
CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control		40,265.10
CD Walleye Restoration		8,030.38
Savings		15,553.71
Checking		8,515.36
Money Market/Contingency Fund		79,698.40
Mid-Year Balance as of 7/18/22		\$213,621.23

Pickerel/Crane Lakes Protection & Rehabilitation District 2023 Proposed Budget	
Expenditures	2023
Administrative	1,000.00
Aeration	2023 Proposed 2,000.00
Boat Landings	Tax Levy 5,000.00
Capital Purchases	\$27,800 2,000.00
Dues	(0% Change) 100.00
Insurance	5,000.00
Invasive Aquatic Plants	3,000.00
Lake Management Plan	4,500.00
Lake Monitoring	200.00
Meetings/Mileage/Phone	1,500.00
Misc./Contingency Fund	1,000.00
Postage	750.00
Printing/Ads	750.00
Rent	1,000.00
Walleye Restoration Project	1,000.00
Webpage/Newsletter	2,000.00
Weed Harvesting	10,000.00
	\$40,800.00
Revenues	2023
Boat Landing Donations	0.00
Interest	0.00
Invasive Aquatic Plants Reserve	4,000.00
Lake Management Plan Reserve	7,000.00
Weed Harvester Reserve	2,000.00
Tax Levy	27,800.00
	\$40,800.00
Respectfully Submitted, <i>Kathy Kupfer, Treasurer</i>	

Lake District Annual Fall Meeting

You are invited to attend our Fall Meeting to be held on Saturday, August 27, 2022 at 9:00 AM in the Town of Nashville Community Center located at 1038 Cty Rd Q, Pickerel, WI.

There will be a **Door Prize Drawing** for those attending.

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



NOTICE OF PICKEREL/CRANE LAKE P&R DISTRICT FALL MEETING
August 27, 2022 9:00 AM
TOWN OF NASHVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER
1038 CTH "Q", PICKEREL, WI
AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Welcome
5. Approval of the May 21, 2022 Spring Meeting Minutes
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Old Business
 - (a) Aeration Report, Jerry Hietpas, Aeration Boss
 - (b) Summer 2022 Harvester Report
 - (c) Wild Rice Report
 - (d) Walleye Stocking for 2022
8. New Business
 - (a) Boat Landings Update
 - (b) Three vol. needed for our Audit Com.
 - (c) Major Harvesting Permit fee increase
9. Budget Hearing / Adoption of Tax Levy
10. Election for two positions: Treasurer and Commissioner
 - (a) Nominations from the floor
 - (b) Written ballot vote
 - (c) Announcement of results
11. Public comment
12. Adjourn

COVID NOTICE

No Mandates. If someone is ill, stay home. Masking is optional, social distancing is recommended.

Pickerel/Crane P&R Lake District Commissioners' Meeting will be held immediately following the fall meeting adjournment.

AGENDA:

1. Selection of Positions on the Board
2. Approve 7-6-22 Com. Mtg. minutes
3. Revisit "action items" from fall meeting
4. Adjourn

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

Chuck Sleeter, Chairman chucksleeter@gmail.com	715-219-0835
Craig Farah, Vice Chairman aznwis@yahoo.com	920-470-8845
Curt Haga, Commissioner chaga@wi.rr.com	262-385-7398
Kathy Kupfer, Treasurer kathykupfer52@outlook.com	715-484-2520
Dan Stoehr, Secretary dstoehr@gmail.com	715-484-2393
Barb Szopinski, Town of Nashville	715-478-2524
Steve Kircher, Forest Cty. Conserv.	715-478-1387

Please visit us online for more information at:

pickerelcranelakedistrict.org

