

Established 1983

Summer 2021



# The Big Chip News

## *View from the Chair*

*by Mike Gardner CFAPOA Chair*

The Chippewa Flowage Area Property Owners Association is a voluntary group, qualified lake association and YOUR organization. We have been fortunate during the past year and one half to function successfully in a virtual meeting environment. The Board is looking forward to our 2021 Annual Meeting in person. Many of our programs are long standing and we all enjoy the benefits of the Clean Boats Clean Waters efforts, purple loosestrife monitoring/control, LoonWatch, and participation in the Partners Group.

Currently, it is important that we hear from you regarding your issues and interests. The recent survey has informed dialogue and decisions, but your active input at the Annual meeting can add focus to the months ahead. Please plan to attend to engage the Board, your neighbors, and friends. We

have openings available on the Board of Directors should you feel compelled to get more involved in learning more how your membership supports a healthy lake ecosystem, balances the rights and demands of the public and those who own property near the water's edge.

### **In this Issue.....**

- History of the Flowage.....2
- Nominating Board Members.....3
- Wake Boat Ordinance .....4
- Musky Study .....6
- Invasive Species Update .....7
- Q&A Kyle Marinoff.....8

**Summer Picnic and  
Annual Meeting  
Sunday, August 1, 2021  
11:00 a.m.  
Deer Run Resort**

# Where It All Started

Do you ever wonder what this place looked like 100 years ago? It was of course much different then. We are approaching the 100 year anniversary of the Chippewa Flowage, so it may be interesting to look back at some of its history.

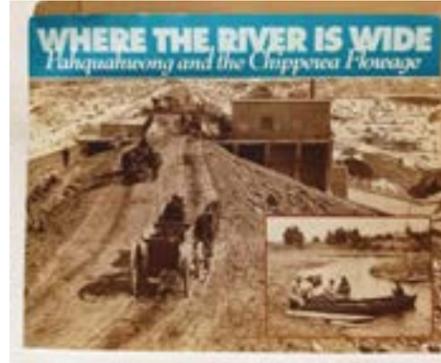
On September 8, 1921 a 50 year lease was signed by Wisconsin Minnesota Power and the LCO band to allow the Winter dam to be built. 525 acres of LCO land was flooded along with their town Old Post. The purpose was to control flooding downstream and produce

power. Construction of the dam began in 1922 and the Chippewa River filled up our 15,300 acre flowage in 1923.

Below is a map of the area drawn in 1912. You may be able to figure out where your place is now on this old map.

If you would like more information on the early days of the Flowage, there is a book named "Where The River Is Wide Pahquahwong and the Chippewa Flowage" by Charlie Otto Rasmussen

It was written in 1998 and details some of the problems the LCO had with the Agreements and success's of Chippewa Flowage as a recreational area. We hope to give you more history of the Chippewa Flowage in future newsletters.



## ORIGINAL WATERS PRIOR TO CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE



Compiled from Chippewa & Flambeau Improvement Company map of 1912  
Drawing reduced-W.C.D. March 1949-Copied by E.L.D. August 1955

# CLEAN BOATS CLEAN WATERS

## BOATERS, PADDLERS AND ANGLERS

- **INSPECT** your boat, trailer, and equipment.
- **REMOVE** any attached aquatic plants or animals (before launching, after loading and before transporting on a public highway).
- **DRAIN** all water from boats, motors, and all equipment.
- **NEVER MOVE** live fish away from a waterbody.
- **DISPOSE** of unwanted bait in the trash. BUY minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer. You may take leftover minnows away from any state water and use them again on that same water. You may use leftover minnows on other waters only if no lake or river water or other fish were added to their container.



Your Clean Boats Clean Waters  
Co-Coordinator –  
Diane Hulke and Barb Salomon

## Nominating Board Members

We are approaching our Annual Meeting when we vote on who will be on the Board of Directors. This year 3 board member's terms are set to expire. Two have agreed to serve another term should the members vote them into office. These two are Mark Zich, and Tony Schubert. The third Ray Fleszar will be leaving the board.

Currently we have 10 Board members, but we are

allowed to have as many as 13. So, we are looking to expand the Board. We welcome any member to nominate themselves at the Annual Meeting August 1st. Board members serve a 3 year term. We hold meetings monthly, but have skipped meetings during past winters. Recently we have conducted our meetings by using the Zoom application online. We expect to continue to use this tool in the future, but we are not sure

exactly how it will be used in the long term.

There is much important work the Board of Directors do for the lake. We will surely benefit from the skills and knowledge you can bring to our organization. Please come join us and help make good things happen on the Big Chip.

## Membership Update

by Patty Swaffield, Membership Chair

### Welcome New Members

Eric Locher  
Jim & Tracy Otis\*  
Dr. Jennifer Toutant-Teptow\*\*

\* Contributor  
\*\* Lifetime

### Contributor

Michael & Dori McCastland & Family  
Nancy McDowell

### Steward

Bill & Sulvia Nasla Whealon

### Membership Levels

**\$25:** Individual/Property | **\$26 to \$124:** Contributor – newsletter recognition. | **\$125 to \$999:** Steward – newsletter recognition and a gift. | **\$1000 and up:** Lifetime Conservationist – newsletter recognition, a gift, and lifetime membership.

# New Rules for Wake Boat Surfing

We are heading into the heat of the summer season and all anxious to get out on the beautiful Big Chip. This year things may be a little different for wake surfers. In April of this year the Town of Hunter passed a new ordinance regarding the use of wake boats near our shorelines. When you use your boat to make "excessive wakes," you cannot be within 700 feet of

any shoreline. This includes the mainland shoreline and all island shorelines. The actual Town of Hunter Wake Ordinance is printed below.

## SECTION 8 – MOTORBOAT WAKE PROHIBITION AREA

No person shall operate a motorboat, as defined in s. 30.50(6), Wis. Stats. on the waters within the Town of Hunter in a manner to enhance an elevated wake for over 50 feet in length closer than 700 feet from any shoreline, dock, pier, raft or other restricted area(s) within the Town of Hunter. An elevated wake is a trail of disturbed water left by the passage of a watercraft in excess of 24 inches. Such prohibited operation shall apply to wake enhancement watercraft by the use of ballast, mechanical hydrofoil(s), uneven loading or operation at transition speed. Transition speed means the speed at which the boat is operating at greater than slow-no-wake speed, but not fast enough so the boat is planning.



Here is an illustration that may help you understand the difference between normal boat operation and wake boat operation.



### Water sport boat comparison at operating speed...

**WAKE SURFING**  
10 mph

**WAKEBOARDING**  
18 mph

**WATER SKIING**  
32 mph

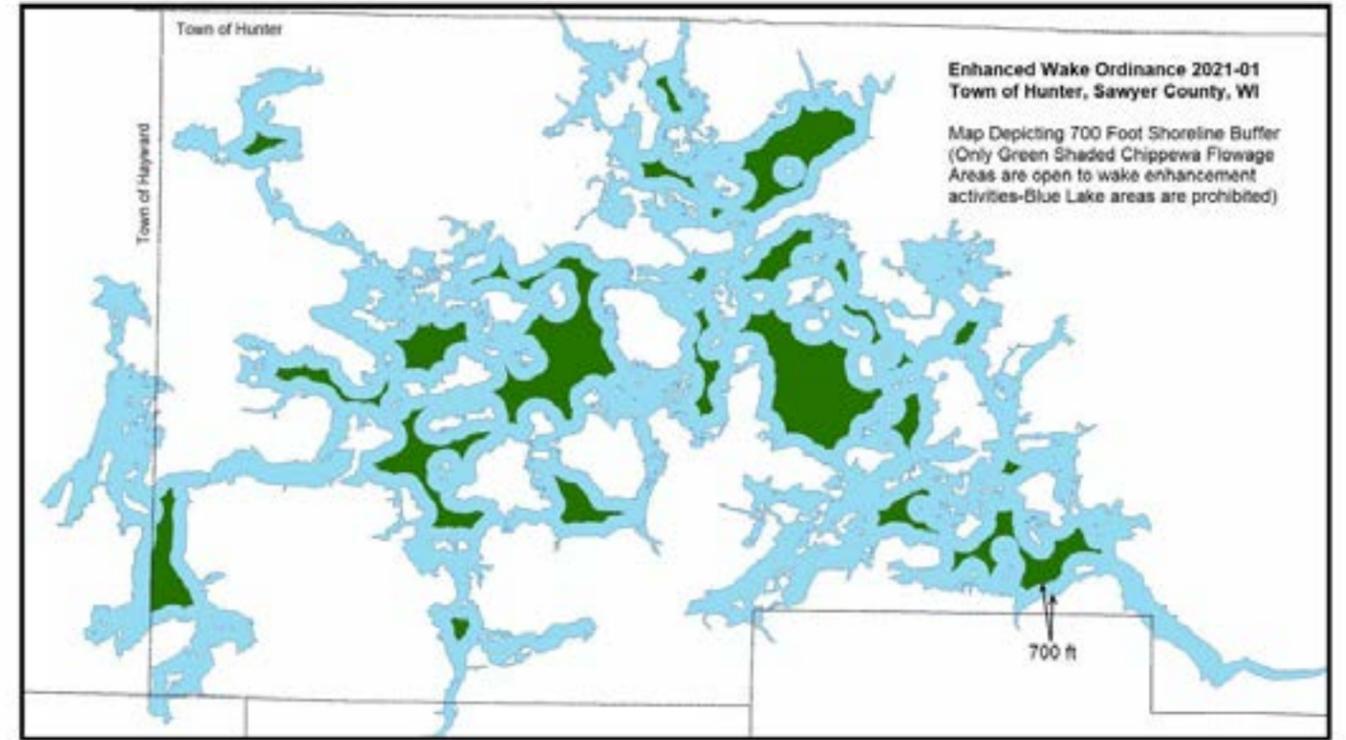


The impetus for this ordinance is to protect our shorelines from excessive erosion. Various studies have been done in Wisconsin and other States on the effects of wake boat surfing on shorelines and lake bottoms. These studies found that excessive wakes made by modifying ski boats are 2 to 3 times the size of wakes made by our normal boating activities, i.e. fishing boats, large pontoons, ski boats and jet skis. A wake boat is designed to plow through the water and never gets up on plane. This

creates a very large wake behind the boat on which a person can surf without a rope. Studies found that wake boat's excessive wakes travel up to 500 feet further than normal wakes before they dissipate. These excessively large wakes cause more damage to our shorelines than any other wakes or natural waves in our lake. Also, because the wake boat never gets up on plane, the slip stream behind the boat is directed down towards the bottom of the lake. In normal boat operation, the slip stream is directed horizontally

behind the boat. The difference has been proven to affect the bottom vegetation up to 10 feet below the surface. It can also re-suspend the bottom sediments which creates cloudy water and releases harmful phosphorus back into our water. Phosphorus causes algae blooms that suck oxygen from the water and kill fish.

In order to keep our lake clean and healthy, the CFAPOA board unanimously supported the ordinance. We will be trying to educate people on how to safely operate these boats on our waters. The map below illustrates the area in which the wake boats can operate. It shows all shorelines buffered 700 feet on the Flowage.



# Spring Fisheries Committee Update

by Terry Wall

## Warm Water Musky Mortality Study

Last December the CFAPOA board received a request from the WI DNR to help fund a study to determine the catch-and-release mortality rate on Muskellunge caught during periods of water temperatures above 80 degrees. This study was to be funded entirely by outside groups and not the DNR. Because muskellunge are abundant in the flowage and receive considerable fishing pressure all summer long, this study could shed some light on this subject for all concerned with the fishery.

After some discussion, your board elected to make a \$500.00 donation to help fund this research. Last May we received an update on the project, reporting that 20 fish had been captured and transferred to a pond at the Bong Recreational Area in SE Wisconsin. The fish ranged in size from 32.9 to 41 inches. The plan was to recapture 5 fish using hook and line when water temperature reached 75 degrees and another 5 fish when the water reached 80 degrees. The remaining 10 individuals will act as control fish.

On June 4th, DNR staff, with the help of some young members

of a local Musky club, caught three fish using surface baits. The fish were subjected to normal handling such as measuring and picture taking prior to release. The next day, two more fish were caught and released to complete the first segment of the study. All of the fish swam off after release and appeared to have suffered no ill effects.

When the water temperature reaches 80 degrees, they will attempt to catch 5 more fish using the same methods. It may take some time for the final results of the study to be known because of delayed mortality and compilation of data by biologists. So, as we receive the updates on this project, we will pass them along to membership.



Photo by Holden Smith.

The most important time for loons, in terms of ensuring successful reproduction, is from May through mid-to-late July. This is when adults are sensitive to intrusions at the nest site, and, later, when young are most dependent on the parents. Any sustained disturbance during the nesting season or during the early stages of chick-rearing can be detrimental to a loon pair's nest success for that year.

Because loons lay only two eggs per nest, and usually only have one or two (if the first nest is lost) opportunities to lay eggs each season, even one year of disturbance can have negative effects on an area's loon population over the long-term.

Here are some things we can do to help loons while enjoying the lake ourselves:

- Observe loons from a distance with binoculars or a spotting scope rather than trying to get close to them.
- Stay 200 feet away from loons on nest or on the water whenever possible.
- Give islands and marshy areas of a lake a wide berth to avoid disturbing loons on nests.
- Post Loon Alert signs at public boat launches to let visitors know that loons use the lake and that the people who live there care enough to protect them.
- Protect or restore important loon nesting and chick rearing areas on a lake.
- Use alternatives to lead fishing tackle made from materials such as bismuth and steel. It only takes one lead sinker or jig to poison a loon.

LoonWatch is a program of the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute, Northland College, Ashland, WI 54806

## Adopt-A-Shoreline Volunteers

Name	East	West
"Needs Adoption"	T	
Ron & Jan Bergman		1
Mike & Lynn Muench	M	
"Needs Adoption"		12, 13
Gary & Lind Crank		3, 5
Tony DeJoode	T	
LCO Conservation Dept.	H, I, Z	
Jim & Marion Dier	S	
Alan & Lynda Fish		8, 17
Whitley and Donna Gilbertson		2, 18
"Needs Adoption"		10
Roman Rowen	U	
Chris & Patti Jeffords		4
Jerry & Nancy Johnson		6, 9
Larry & Sharon Kirby		10, 14
Roger & Kathy Kisch	W	
Wayne and Sharon Koenig		7, 14
Rob and Rebecca Nesse	J	
<b>Brian and Sara Priester</b>	<b>O</b>	
Terry and Kay Moe	A2	
Rick & Linda Olson	R	
Tony & Laurie Schubert	T	
Dave Carland Family and Friends	X	
Don & Sue Reinardy	E1-2	
Steve & Jane Richardson	W	
"Needs Adoption"		15, 16
Barb Salomon & Connie Peterson	T	
Terry & Debra Wall	D	
Darrell & Jean Welihert	E1-2	
Greg and Amy Sanders		11
Mike & Phyllis Gardner	Q	
Gage Muench	P	
Dennis Clagett	Y	
Linda Treland	A1	



# Invasive Species Update

by Dennis Clagett



We have a new invasive species! It's called yellow iris or yellow flag. First noticed in Callahan Lake about 10 years ago during a purple loosestrife survey. It has slowly made its way south down the Chief River from Mud and Callahan Lakes. I had hoped that it wouldn't spread past the mouth of the river, but reports tell me that it is moving down the shorelines in Musky Bay. The danger is that it may displace our native aquatic plants the way that cattails have done in many areas. Yellow flag iris is Noxious Weed! It has resins that cause skin irritations so be careful handling it. Most animals avoid it, and it will sicken livestock if eaten. Yellow flag is an aquatic perennial, that comes back every year, and survives both winter and drought. Easily spotted with yellow flowers with 3 petals, is about 2-3 feet tall, grows along our shorelines in shallow water or mud so getting to it by boat will be difficult if you plan to help control this new threat. It spreads by both seeds, roots, and root fragments. Control is by pulling or digging but this must be done carefully because fragments can grow to form new plants. Don't

burn! Dispose of in a landfill. As with purple loosestrife cutting the seed heads will limit spreading. Careful application of an herbicide might be warranted by cutting the stem off and applying the appropriate herbicide to the stump, but great caution is required working around the water. It is unfortunate that last fall and previous early draw-downs (habitat draw-downs) had little effect on this invasive as it does with our Eurasian watermilfoil. Our purple loosestrife population last summer was about the same as the previous year as reported by the vigilant Adopt-A-Shoreline

Volunteers' tireless commitment to controlling this invasive. No beetles this year to help as it was an unusual spring that started cool and then got to hot. Start looking for purple flowers now. Look for new infestations in spots not noticed before as I have discovered a few. We need new help to step in for members that have moved on. There are a number of sections that need adopting. Call me at 715 462 4814 or rclagett@centurytel.net to join our group

Thank you volunteers for all you do!

# Q&A with Kyle Marinoff

by Brian Priester

Kyle is the new DNR Property Supervisor for the Chippewa Flowage.

## **So Kyle, can you give us a brief bio?**

Hello, my name is Kyle Marinoff and I am the new Property Supervisor for the Flambeau River State Forest, Tussock State Trail and the Chippewa Flowage. I am originally from Green Bay, WI and I have a Bachelor's of Science degree from UW-Stevens Point in Natural Resources. I have held many field positions and management positions with various employers, and I would be happy to discuss all of that if anyone wanted to reach out. I have a wife and 3 children, and we are looking forward to this new adventure!

## **How long have you been in your new role? What was your previous role at the DNR?**

I have been in this new role for 3 months. I was not previously employed with the DNR. My most recent position involved sales and operations management at an outdoor retailer.

## **Are you responsible for other lakes or just the Flowage?**

Just the Flowage. In some rare cases I do work with our Recreation Operations staff that service DNR landings throughout Sawyer County but it is rare.

## **I think what you do is a bit of a mystery to many property owners, can you give us an idea of your primary responsibilities?**

As far as the Flowage is concerned I oversee 4 seasonal staff members, with one being employed year-round. These staff members take care of all of the cleaning up of the Flowage landings, garbage collection, kiosks, signs and over landing condition. I also write the improvement projects for these landings when needed. I work with Lake Association members, town and county boards, LCO members and the US Forest Service to take care of any public use issues or areas of concern. Lastly, I also enforce all of the restrictive covenants on the Flowage when it come to any property development.

## **Do you have any specific goals for the Chip that you'd like to share?**

Provide property owners with more information on the restrictive covenants so everyone is educated. Work with Town and

County zoning to support their efforts on establishing new zoning requirements if and when they would arise. I will also write capital development projects as needed to fix landings when necessary.

## **How can property owners help you in your responsibilities?**

Property owners are encouraged to reach out anytime they will be building a structure, construction of a new dock or trail to the water or even the addition or replacement of a septic system/holding tank. I also encourage property owners to make me aware of any ongoing issues they see on the flowage. This can be from someone cut down several trees to their neighbor just dumped a whole bunch of sand to make a private beach. All of these land use activities that are seen we often do not see and I am hopeful to make a presence and educate property owner on the do's and don'ts. I can also be made aware of water or fishing violations and get them to the right authorities. Lastly, spread the word that I am there to help with anything that would involve the DNR.

## **Can you give me a few examples of how you might work with a property owner in your job?**

Most commonly is a property owner applies for a land use permit through the County to build a new garage or even a new cabin. That permit application will come to me for review. I will determine if there are restrictive covenants involved on that specific piece of property. If not, and approval letter is issued and handed back to the County. If so, I will then typically (not always) reach out to the landowner and schedule a visit to go over the project plans. Once on site I can determine what they can do and what they can't do and then once an understanding is met I will then write up a letter depicting the restrictions and send that back to the County. This is the most common property owner interaction that I have.

## **Is there any message you'd like to share with property owners as you settle into your role?**

Always reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

We are hearing lots of complaints about people ignoring the no wake rules. I see it on a daily basis as people come charging into a channel that is only 70 or so feet wide.

## **Do you have any responsibilities for enforcement of lake regulations? Do you have any suggestions for how to deal with this?**

I do not have enforcement responsibilities for this. However, property owners with these issues are encouraged to see out their Town Members and apply for an ordinance. The Town will then usually hear these at their monthly meeting and if they vote to approve. Then they will provide instruction on buoys used and placement. Once they are there then our Conservation Wardens can enforce.

## **We also get asked a lot about placing "no wake" buoys. Can you educate us on this topic?**

Please see the above response. These need to go through the respective township and have an ordinance passed.

## **Do you help manage the camping islands? How is that going?**

I do. The islands are seeing very good use and our one reservable island site, Cedar Tops, is booked through summer already.

## **Do you have any projects/initiatives that we might be able to help with either through volunteers or fund raising?**

I am still working on a few odds and ends and still getting to know the flowage and its needs. The one item that has come up is

dog waste station at each of our 4 landings on the flowage. These run about \$375/each so this could be a fundraising opportunity if interested.

## **Any new rules or regulations on the table our members should know about?**

There has been a new wake boat ordinance passed that went into effect about mid-April. I am waiting on the official copy of this ordinance but once I have it will be posted at our boat landings. This work was done with the Town of Hunter and our Conservation Wardens. Again, I do not enforce this kind of regulation but I will be made aware.

## **What didn't I ask about that you'd like to cover?**

I think that covers everything.

## **Just for fun. Do you fish the Chip? What is the biggest fish you've caught on the Chip?**

I have fished the Chip over the past several years. I landed a 47" Musky in the Kavanaugh Bay area about 7 years ago and that remains my biggest.



**CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION**  
**PO BOX 555**  
**HAYWARD, WI 54843-0555**

**ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED**

**CFAPOA** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, formed to generally promote, encourage and foster the interests of all property owners. Its major objectives are: to keep the Chippewa Flowage area clean and safe for all people; to protect the environment; to provide a forum for the collection and exchange of ideas; to support acquisition of land for protection and conservation; and to pursue any other lawful objectives that may benefit this pristine lake, its wetlands, wildlife and tributaries.

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR**

**BOARD MEETINGS  
AND EVENTS**

August 5, 2021  
September 2, 2021  
October 7, 2021

Board meetings are currently held at 6:00 p.m. virtually on Zoom. Visitors are welcome to join. Contact Mike Gardner at [mgardner@northflow.net](mailto:mgardner@northflow.net)

**CFAPOA Board of Directors**

<b>Mike Gardner, Chair</b>	<a href="mailto:mgardner@northflow.net">mgardner@northflow.net</a> #715-462-4771
<b>Brian Priester, Vice Chair</b>	<a href="mailto:bpcfapoa@gmail.com">bpcfapoa@gmail.com</a> #715-462-4346
<b>Randy Hulke, Treasurer</b>	<a href="mailto:rdhulke@comcast.net">rdhulke@comcast.net</a> #763-577-0805
<b>Kristin Elmer, Secretary</b>	<a href="mailto:ktans8@yahoo.com">ktans8@yahoo.com</a> 608-332-5728
<b>Dennis Clagett, Director</b>	<a href="mailto:Rclagett@centurytel.net">Rclagett@centurytel.net</a> #715-462-4814
<b>Terry Wall, Director</b>	<a href="mailto:Twall26@centurytel.net">Twall26@centurytel.net</a> #715-462-3867
<b>Mark Zich, Director</b>	<a href="mailto:markzich@rocketmail.com">markzich@rocketmail.com</a> #715-214-5020
<b>Ray Fleszar, Director</b>	<a href="mailto:rayfleszar@gmail.com">rayfleszar@gmail.com</a> <b>262-623-0507</b>
<b>Tony Schubert, Director</b>	<a href="mailto:tony@contractexchange.net">tony@contractexchange.net</a>
<b>Julie Thompson (Newsletter)</b>	<a href="mailto:juliet@bevcomm.net">juliet@bevcomm.net</a> #715-492-6704

CFAPOA Newsletter Editor: Julie Thompson; Newsletter Advisors: CFAPOA Board Members;  
Newsletter Contributors: Friends, Directors and You!