

DUNKIRK
DAM

LAKE
DISTRICT

Riverfront properties on the Yahara River south of the City of Stoughton,
within the Township of Dunkirk, extending to and including the Dunkirk Dam

April 2024

DDLD Newsletter

Quarterly Meeting Wednesday, April 17th

TIME: 6:30pm – 7:30pm

AGENDA:

- Approval of 1.17.24 Minutes
- Old Business **Updates**
 - Township of Dunkirk
 - Dane County
 - Safety Committee*
 - Lyon's Park Expansion**
- **New Business**
 - Treasurer's Report
 - DDLD Budget Adjustment

LOCATION:

In-Person: Dunkirk Town Hall

Who Should Attend? Riverfront property owners on the Yahara River south of the City of Stoughton, within the Township of Dunkirk, extending to and including the Dunkirk Dam.

***Projects around the dam:**

- fencing replacement/repair in April
- signage behind the fence
- Thank you to Tom Reiss!*

****Project Plans:**

- Clearing of the land
- Archeological Survey
- Planning & Costs

You are invited to attend a public meeting to review and comment on preliminary plans for the development of boating (kayak/canoe) access around the Dunkirk Dam, and other park amenities, at the recently expanded Lyon's Memorial Park.

Host: Lyon's Park Stewardship Committee
Date: Monday, April 8, 2024
Time: 6:30-7:30pm
Place: Dunkirk Town Hall
Guest Presenters: Blake Theisen & John Reynolds with Parkitecture+Planning, LLC

A Note from the Chair: *Laura Davis*



I hope many DDLD members and Town of Dunkirk residents will attend the special meeting on **April 8th**, detailed in the announcement above, to share feedback and comments on a first draft of plans for the development of Lyon's Park surrounding the Dunkirk Dam. The plans will include accessible kayak/canoe access to the Yahara River above and below the dam, with portage between, as well as other potential park features. There have been many important milestones achieved leading up to where we are in this process, and there are many more milestones to accomplish. We are very optimistic that providing accessible river access at Lyon's Park will help to preserve and protect the fragile shoreline along the Dunkirk Dam mill pond, and provide safe access to the wild and beautiful Yahara River downstream from the dam.

Equally important, please consider attending our quarterly meeting on April 17th. If you are receiving these newsletters, you are a member of the Dunkirk Dam Lake District. As a Lake District member, you have a stake in achieving our purpose to preserve, protect, and improve our beautiful stretch of the Yahara River. Come and contribute; it's important.

RESOURCES for YOU



Wisconsin has an incredible team working for the continued well-being of our lakes and rivers.

With 15,000+ lakes and over 84,000 river miles connected to millions of wetland acres, no one entity can do the job alone. The Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Partnership joins science, education, and citizens to empower people to work together to care for our waters. Since its genesis in the early 1970s, this partnership has been recognized as a national model of collaboration. The Partnership has three core partners:

The **Department of Natural Resources** (*supplies the scientific research, technical expertise and regulatory authority for our waters*), the **Extension Lakes Program** (*connects stakeholders and provides supporting educational materials and programs*), and the statewide association **Wisconsin Lakes** (*mobilizes citizens to be advocates for our waters*). More info . . .

<https://www3.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/partnership.aspx>

DDLD
PO Box 83
Stoughton, WI 53589



DDLD Newsletter – July 2022

Birds, Birds, Birds



Living along the Yahara River provides a constant opportunity to bird watch in open spaces and enjoy the birds of all sizes flying up and down the river. Those of you who have seed or suet feeders have a “bird’s-eye” view of our smaller frequent flyers. Keep an eye on the nesting poles. The Ospreys have returned!

Check out:

birdcast.info The *BirdCast* site began in 2018 featuring migration forecasts that predict how many birds are aloft over the continental US and displays live migration maps that report how many birds actually took flight.

Swibirds.org *Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance* (formerly known as Madison Audubon) is your local Audubon chapter for folks living in Adams, Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green Lake, Iowa, Jefferson, Marquette, Richland, and Sauk counties.

Stoughton Wisconsin Bird Watching Group on Facebook. This group is for all the Stoughton residents and surrounding townships who love birding.

There are a TON of resources for dedicated and just-for-fun bird watchers. Email your favorite resources to ddld@dunkirkdam.com

DDLD

E-Mail:
beckyjdakin@gmail.com
(Secretary, Becky Dakin)

DDLD Website:
dunkirkdam.com
*Reports/documents, resources
committees, photo gallery*

*Dunkirk Dam Lake District Group
Facebook Page:
Join the ongoing casual
conversation with your
DDLD neighbors*

Living on the River . . . a neighbor's perspective

Your neighbors, Chris & Joann Kleitsch

We moved to our home in November of 2015 after immediately falling in love with the area and the beautiful river views. While both of us are transplants from small towns in Iowa, the community here has a very welcoming and familiar feel. Our family enjoys boating, fishing, kayaking, canoeing and everything in between on the river. You can find our three kids running around our backyard or playing on our dock all summer looking to catch minnows, crawdads, and bullfrogs - oftentimes, bringing the river "treasures" (clam shells, etc.) inside!

Our kids are still excited every time they see a deer, fox, turkey, sandhill crane, and the occasional coyote running through the back yard. We love it here!

Your neighbors, Sarah & Chris Bukrey

Sarah and Chris have lived on the river for more than twenty years where they've raised two children and daily, enjoy the many birds, critters, and unbelievable views! Chris loves birds and keeps his bird feeders full so he can see them up close. Just last week they saw a variety of critters in their yard – 11 turkeys, fox, raccoon, possum, and of course, deer. Sarah and Chris grew up in British Columbia and Illinois, respectively, and settled in Dunkirk. “We just love it here. Sitting in our living room, seeing the water glitter, is incredibly beautiful. The river bends in front of our house so we say we have an ‘infinity view’ because it looks like a lake and a river.” We love seeing people floating by enjoying what the river has to offer - fishing, kayaking, boating - it’s great! Sarah and Chris’ two children are almost grown; one in high school and one in college. Sarah works at the Stoughton Library managing Tech Services. You may have seen her videos on Facebook or Instagram opening boxes of the new books. Chris works for a national IT consulting firm and works from home. “We’re looking forward to warmer weather so we can put our dock in the water and enjoy the river even more!”