

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

July 2023

DDLD Newsletter

Quarterly Meeting Wednesday, July 19th

TIME: 6:30pm – 7:30pm

AGENDA:

- Approval of 4.19.23 Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- Old Business **Updates**
 - Township of Dunkirk
 - Dane County
 - Safety Committee*
 - Lyon's Park Expansion
- **New Business**
 - Open questions & suggestions from Members
 - Educational Presentation: "Protecting Your Waterfront Investment – 10 shoreline stewardship practices" **

LOCATION:

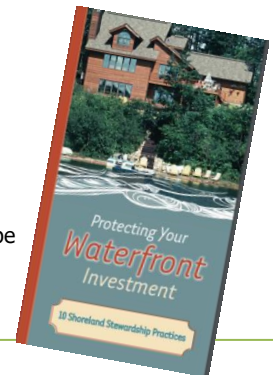
In-Person: Dunkirk Town Hall

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.

***important issues:**

- recent incident
- address safety around the dam
- fencing around the dam
- ticketing trespassers

**A 15-page booklet by this title will be distributed to all who attend.



A Note from the Chair: *Laura Davis*



Here, in early July, Dane County is under a severe drought. The effects are easy to see in the yellow lawns and droopy plants, and the riverbed below the Stoughton Dam is largely exposed. Within the DDLD, the water levels have remained fairly stable, but we can see the effects of the drought in other ways. The last two years, there has been very little issue with the aquatic plant growth within the DDLD. This is possibly related to the weed harvesting and dredging by our neighbors to the north, which helps the water run faster and cooler. But, this year, because the water is moving so slowly, we're seeing more plant growth on the surface - algae and other stuff. Let's hope the rain comes soon and gets everything moving along.

Please mark your calendars and come to our quarterly meeting on Wednesday, July 19th, 6:30-7:30 at the Town Hall. We'll be discussing plans to shore up our safety measures around the dam to enhance security. It seems there has been some illicit activity in addition to the ongoing issue of trespassing anglers. I'll also be sharing the current state of our plans to develop safe, accessible kayak/canoe access and portage around the dam. See you then!

"Happy Trees For the Shore"

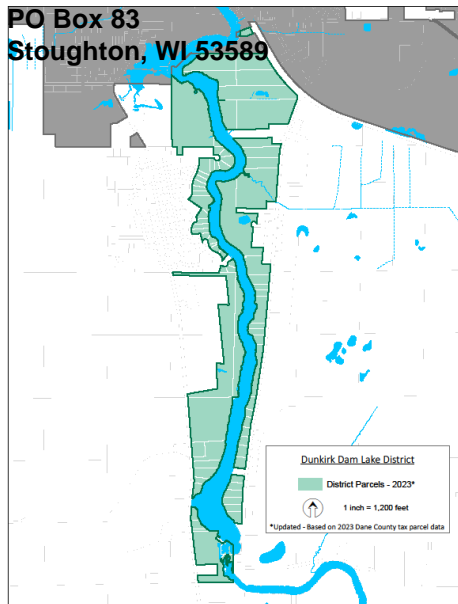
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. . . Trees contribute a great deal to any home landscape: shade, structure, a canopy "ceiling," filter for clean water, carbon absorption, and wildlife habitat. The following 10 trees can handle the fluctuating water level conditions currently found along Wisconsin lakes and most grow well in medium to wet, well-drained soil. If you're thinking about planting a tree, or need to replace some that have been damaged by storms or fluctuating water levels, give one of these a try along your shoreline. . .

<https://dunkirkdam.com/documents>

DDLD

PO Box 83
Stoughton, WI 53589



DDLD Newsletter – July 2022

Presentation at July 19th Meeting:

“Protecting Your Waterfront Investment – 10 shoreline stewardship practices”

Laura Davis, DDLD long-time resident and DDLD Chair will lead this interactive conversation. At our meeting in January, Arthur Watkinson from the DNR shared many resources regarding “Managing Erosion on Your Riverfront Property.” This month’s presentation will provide follow-up and additional information to this important topic. **Come and share your experiences with managing your own shoreline.**



The osprey nest (located at the north end of the Lake District on top of the big black pole) has two eaglets that are starting to spread their wings. Bring your binoculars while you meander up the river and take a look.

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, David & A.J. Hammonds

Being semi-retired, four years ago, we decided it was time to downsize after living in McFarland for almost 20 years. When we saw this house on the river we just stood there, speechless, looking at the view. We were in awe of the miraculous beauty of the river – it stole our hearts. Early morning is our favorite time meditating and listening to the numerous birds. Sitting on our deck we are surrounded by natural beauty – the peaceful quiet – it’s incredibly serene and calm. It’s like hanging a new painting right outside your window every day. Our combined family of grown children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren live all over the country. They visit often, we travel to see them, and we also enjoy the adventures of traveling the world. We are so-o-o blessed to have the *very best* neighbors imaginable who keep an eye on us and have become very good friends. We like life; we like staying busy; we like living.

Your neighbor, Sherry Webb - *The river is home to me.*

I grew up in Dunkirk just a few houses away from where I live right now. My grandma lived next door and many other relatives lived nearby. Life on the river was always deeply ingrained in our way of life going back many generations. As time moved on, I grew up and moved away for a few years and then when the opportunity came, I moved back to Dunkirk and this time brought my husband and son. We built our house along the river in 2004 so I could share the experience with them. My Dad still lives a few houses away, and now someone else lives in “Grandma’s house” and the house I grew up in, along with many other places I knew so well. One of my favorite memories as a kid that I’m estimating was in the early 80’s, was ice skating on a makeshift skating pond my Dad made by running a few garden hoses down the bank to make the ice smooth enough so we could skate and have a “toboggan run” that went out onto the river. These great memories will always mean “home” to me!