



34th Annual Lakes Convention

For several decades, the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention has provided an exceptional opportunity for people to come together and network with others on joint lake and water interests. This year, over 450 attendees united to celebrate and protect Wisconsin's legacy of lakes. Bill Tischendorf represented the Hancock Lake Association at this year's convention in Green Bay.

The convention theme, "Partnering for Lakes," focused on how we can continue to work together to protect nature, control pollution, advocate for clean water, and enhance wildlife conservation on our state waters. Who was there? Attendees included lakefront property owners, farmers, swimmers, scientists, builders, business owners, anglers, realtors, lake groups, government officials, boaters, foresters, and teachers – taken together these lake citizens

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Message from the Board

The purpose of the Association is to maintain, protect, and enhance the quality of the lake and its surroundings for the collective interests of the members.

Board of Directors:

Dick Statton, President 715-282-7147 (Term expires June 2012)	Bill Tischendorf, V. P. 715-282-5843 (Term expires June 2012)
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Joann Beltz, Treasurer 715-282-6822 (Term expires June 2013)	Gene Klawikowski, Secretary 715-282-5472 (Term expires June 2013)
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Lou Mezei, Director 608-276-5908. (Term expires June 2013)	Randy Fechter, Director 715-282-7571 (Term expires June 2012)
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George Beltz, Director
715-771-9011
(Term expires June 2013)



Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held on **June 9, 2012 at 9 am** at the Woodboro Town Hall at the junction of Oneida Lake Road and Old Highway K. The items on this year's agenda included nominations for President, Vice President, and one director, updates on the AIS issue, fishery, Hancock Lake dam update, picnic update, a winter gathering.

Lake Association Picnic

The Lake Association's summer picnic will be July 21 held at the Alpine Resort on Oneida Lake. The Association will provide the meat, buns, soda, paper plates, utensils, and everyone should bring a dish to pass.

State of the Lake:

With the early ice off it looked like a long growing season for the weeds and algae, but Mother Nature was only teasing

are the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership. Everyone learned how they can make a difference by doing their part to help lakes.

Continuing the tradition, the convention offered interactive workshops, offering hands-on training and discussion on many important lake topics, including aquatic invasive species prevention and control, lake planning and assessment, shoreline erosion control, aquatic plant management research and practice, citizen volunteer monitoring, lake district commissioner training, interpreting and using lake data via the web, and educating for lake stewardship. Lake professionals and enthusiasts from around North America listened intently during the many concurrent sessions ranging from native plants and animals to county-level land and water resource activities to advocating for Wisconsin's lakes. Researchers, lake managers, citizen volunteers, and agency personnel shared ideas and approaches for enhancing lake water quality and bolstering wildlife habitat.

People from over 60 Wisconsin counties, 7 other US states and one Canadian province participated in this year's Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention. The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership, a nationally recognized and successful collaboration of Wisconsin Lakes, UW-Extension Lakes and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources hosts the lakes convention each year. For more information on the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention, contact UW-Extension Lakes at (715)-346-2116 and visit. □

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/conventions>.

Edited press release by Wisconsin Lakes Partnership

Manual Removal of Eurasian Watermilfoil

One of the many workshops at this year's lake convention covered the manual removal of Eurasian water-milfoil. Manual or hand pulling of the milfoil can spark involvement and volunteer teamwork. It can also save a lot of money compared to other means of control. When done properly, manual removal is often a very worthwhile management strategy, which can be applied by itself or as an integrated management component. The presenters used photographs and underwater video to demonstrate the steps involved in planning and implementing a manual removal activity from start to finish. A display of helpful tools was on hand, and identification of water-milfoils and look-alike native species was covered with actual specimens of these plants.

Manual removal could be defined as any method not using a mechanical advantage. Examples could be pulling with a rake, or by hand pulling either with divers or wading in the shallows. Presenter Paul Skawinski and his team have had considerable success snorkeling to hand pull milfoil. By

using one person in a support boat to collect the milfoil and a couple of snorkelers, his team successfully pulled small patches of milfoil, thus reducing the need to hire professional divers.



Stephanie Boismenu from nearby Squash Lake also provided photos and spoke on their ongoing manual removal project using diver. The Squash Lake Association has partnered with a local fire department to utilize the fire department divers, reducing the Association costs at the same time providing valuable training time for the divers.

The work area should be well defined and viewable by both those in the water and on the boat. Everyone working the patch should be able to identify Eurasian Water-milfoil from the native milfoils. A couple of minnow nets ringing the work area will help keep fragments from floating away before they can be retrieved. □

Presenter: Paul Skawinski, Golden Sands RC&D AIS Educational Specialist/Coordinator

Message from the Board

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us. The cooler weather and wind kept the water from warming up and the light from triggering early plant growth. The north patch of EWM amounts to only a few plants, the south patch is a little more pronounced. We will once again be pulling these patches as weather permits. Lake levels continue to be a concern statewide, and Hancock is no exception. The dam is schedule for its ten year inspection in 2013. The town as asked the Association to do the yearly inspection, the ten year inspection must be done by an approved engineer.



Concurrent Sessions



I'll give a short report on a couple of the concurrent sessions I found interesting at this year's lake's convention.

The first titled **"Examining the Effects of Milfoil Weevils and Sediment Characteristics on Eurasian Water-milfoil (EWM) Populations."** This presentation covered studies that are being done with weevils and Eurasian Water Milfoil, concerning population data, current statewide research of weevils, and the development of a mass rearing protocol for use by citizen scientists.

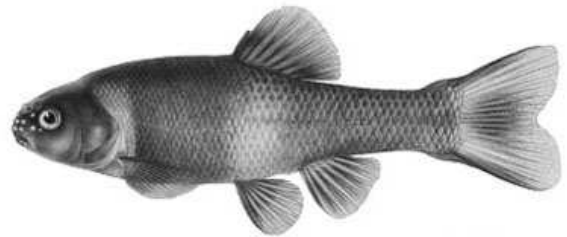
Paul Skawinski's research focused on the weevil's impact on the EWM, the lake's sediment relationship to EWM, and shoreline characteristics on EWM. Can these variables predict how susceptible a lake is to EWM invasion? What weevil population density is required to produce milfoil damage? Through the study of fifteen lakes through out the state, Paul hopes to answer these and other questions.

Study Lakes (County)	
- Ivanhoe (Walworth)	- Gibbs (Rock);
- Wingra, Fish (Dane)	- Crystal (Marquette);
- Joanis, Thomas, Emily (Portage)	- Bear Paw (Oconto);
- Montana (Marinette)	- Round (Burnett);
- Manson, Hancock,	- Bass (St. Croix)
Little Bearskin (Oneida)	

Amy Thorstenson from Golden Sands RC&D also provided a presentation on her efforts to create protocols for the raising of the mil-foil weevils by local organizations. Much like a butterfly, the weevil's life stages include an egg, larvae, pupa, and adult stage. As adults, they eat the milfoil, but also seek out healthy milfoil tips (called the meristem) to lay eggs. Once the eggs hatch to larvae they tunnel down through the stem creating holes in the stem walls, and then move to pupa stage and on to adults. In theory by purchasing a startup stock and feeding them EWM after three cycles your original stock should have significantly increased. Amy ran five separate test sites last year, with some mixed results. Several sites showed an increase, however not as high as projected, one site had a loss this was attributed to high heat. As the protocols are fine tuned and the process streamlined this could become a very feasible biological control for EWM. While both of these are in the middle of their study we look forward to seeing their results. □

The other was titled **"Effects of 2-4D Exposure on Fathead Minnows"**. The aim of this study is to assess the effects of 2-4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid aquatic

herbicides on fathead minnow reproduction and early development. For the reproduction assay, groups of reproductively mature fathead minnows will be exposed for 21 days to nominal concentrations of 0, 0.05, 0.50, and 2.00 ppm WeeDestroy AM40 (2-4D) in a flow-through system and various reproductive end points (e.g., egg number, fertilization success) will be quantified daily. At the end of the 21 day reproduction assay adult animals will be euthanized, weighed, and secondary sexual characteristics will be scored. Additionally, blood, gonads and liver will be collected for analysis of sex steroids, gonad histology, and vitellogenin hepatic mRNA expression. Early development and hatch success will be assessed by incubating fathead minnow eggs at the same ecologically relevant concentrations.



Why the fathead minnows? Because of its relative hardiness and large number of offspring produced, EPA guidelines outline its use for the evaluation of acute and chronic toxicity of samples or chemical species in vertebrate animals. Also breeding males acquire a large, grey fleshy growth on the nape, as well as approximately 16 white breeding tubercles on the snout (secondary sexual characteristics).

Although this study is still in ongoing plenary results show negative effects on reproduction and early development of the vertebrate animals at these very low PPM rates. Whether these effects are temporary or permanent will require farther study. □

Blue Green Algae

Blue-green algae, also known as Cyanobacteria, are a group of photosynthetic bacteria that many people refer to as "pond scum." Blue-green algae are most often blue-green in color, but can also be blue, green, reddish-purple, or brown. Blue-green algae generally grow in lakes, ponds, and slow-moving streams when the water is warm and enriched with nutrients like phosphorus or nitrogen. When environmental conditions are just right, blue-green algae can grow very quickly in number. Most species are buoyant and will float to the surface, where they form scum layers or floating mats. When this happens, we call this a "blue-green algae bloom." In Wisconsin, blue-green algae blooms generally occur between mid-June and late September. Many different species of blue-green algae occur in Wisconsin waters, but the most commonly detected include *Anabaena* sp., *Aphanizomenon* sp., *Microcystis* sp., and *Planktothrix* sp. It is not always the same species that blooms in a given water body, and the

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dominant species present can change over the course of the season. It is possible for blue-green algae to cause illness to both humans and their pets. Blue-green algae are capable of producing several different toxins. People may be exposed to these toxins through contact with the skin (e.g., when swimming), through inhalation (e.g., when motor boating or water skiing), or by swallowing contaminated water.

Measures You Can Take to Protect Yourself

Do not swim in water that looks like "pea soup",
Do not boat, water ski, etc. over such water.
Do not let children play with scum layers, even from shore.
Do not let pets swim in, or drink, waters experiencing blue-green algae blooms
Do not treat surface waters that are experiencing blue-green algae blooms with any herbicide or algacide--toxins are released into the water when blue-green algae cells die.

Report Blue-Green Algae Illness Humans & Animals

**Rashes Blisters Diarrhea Vomiting
Wheezing Sore Throat Numbness**

www.dhs.wi.gov/eh/bluegreenalgae
(608) 266-1120

Note from the President.

Spring came early to Hancock lake this year and we saw the ice go out on March 21. That is the earliest that anyone can remember, and magically the sandhills, geese, ducks and many other birds were back to take advantage of the early ice out. We finally got some badly needed rain last week, approximately 2 1/2" and the water level came up some and the lake looks good.

In my six years as president of the Hancock Lake Association, I have enjoyed getting to know the people that make up our Lake Association and I feel that I have many new friends because of it. I have always believed that communications and friendships are the goal of the Hancock Lake association.

As most of you know, my wife Rita and I operate Stattons General Store and we often see you stopping in. As the store takes more and more of our time I am finding it difficult to give the lake association the time it requires. I want to start you thinking about running for President as I will not be accepting the nomination this year. It is very important for the Lake Association to go forward and I hope you will consider putting your name in the hat.

I have enjoyed the time as president and appreciate all of your support in starting and maintaining the Lake Association and look forward to working with the new President.

Thank you and see you at the June meeting and July Picnic
Richard Statton

OFFICER ELECTION.

The term of office of President, Vice President and one at-large director expire this year, the board will be looking for nominations for these offices at the annual meeting. Anyone is interested in running for one of these offices and is unable to make the annual meeting may submit their name by mail.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

PLACE WOODBORO TOWN HALL

TIME 9 AM, JUNE 9TH, 2012

Annual meeting and the nomination of officers.

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PICNIC

PLACE ALPINE RESORT ONEIDA LAKE

TIME 12 PM, JULY 21ST, 2012

CBCW WORKSHOPS

PLACE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 415 MENOMINEE ST, MINOCQUA, WI

TIME 9AM-12PM MAY 30TH

Contact UW-Extension, 715-365-2750

BOATERS SAFETY CLASSES

PLACE MHLT ELEMENTARY 7450 TITUS DR, MINOCQUA, WI

TIME 4PM MAY 14-MAY 19, 2012

CONTACT: JOANNE TO REGISTER 715-356-5206 EXT. 2123

Comment: You will be required to provide your DNR ID number to the instructor.

Boaters Safety Course is also available online at:

<http://www.boaterexam.com/usa/wisconsin/>



Clean Boats, Clean Waters

- Help prevent the spread
of aquatic invasive
species in Wisconsin!



**Wisconsin
Lakes
Partnership**

Lake News Tidbits

Come one, Come All! Join your friends and neighbors at the Hancock Lake Annual Picnic, July 21st, 12 p.m. at The Alpine Resort, Oneida Lake. Everyone is welcome.

The meat, buns, condiments, soda, paper plates, and utensils, will all be provided by the Hancock Lake Association. You are asked to bring a dish to pass, other drinks of your choice, and folding lawn chairs.



This year we will again have a few door prizes and a silent auction of some donated items. If anyone would like to donate items for the silent auction, please call Jerry Sheehan at 715-282-6665 or bring them to the picnic, and if anyone would like to volunteer to help plan the picnic, please also call Jerry Sheehan.



Come meet your neighbors, swap fish stories of the ones that got away and those that didn't., or other stories about the lake.

March 21st the ice is out which has to be a record in recent history. See the geese back March 11th, seen them with little ones April 28th. Heard and saw Sandhill cranes March 16th.

Gene & Sally Klawikowski have sent us this picture of the ice fishing tournament that took place this year on Hancock. Looks like everyone is having a good time.



Gene and Sally Klawikowski had orioles and rose breasted grosbeaks in early May along with the hummingbirds.

Several residents have been receiving visits from mother bear and her four cubs, which are getting pretty good size. Lock up your garbage and pull down your bird feeders.



The sun has set on a warm evening and a chorus erupts from the bays and wetlands. Most will recognize the "sleigh bell" like chirps of the Spring Peepers, or deep base "jug-o-rum" croak of the Bullfrog. But what is that sound back in the bay like and old man snoring; it's the Northern Leopard Frog looking for a mate. Wisconsin is home to thirteen frog and toad species, only nine of them known to reside in Oneida County. The different species will breed at different water temperatures keeping the chorus going most of the summer. April through early May as water temps rise above fifty degrees the hoarse quacking of the Wood frog, the "creak" of the Western Chorus Frog sounding like a fingernail running along the fine teeth of a comb, along with calls of the Spring Peeper and the Leopard Frog can be heard. A musical trill lasting as long as 30 seconds informs us the water temps have moved above sixty degrees and the American Toad is looking for his mate. The short loud trill of ten seconds clues you to the presents of the Eastern Gray Treefrog. Now with water temps pushing seventy degrees the Mink Frog joins in with his call resembling horse hooves trotting over a cobblestone street. Not to be out done the Northern Green Frog, with a single note not unlike the twang of a loose banjo string, make his bid for a mate, along with the foghorn, the American Bullfrog. □

Membership Application

Hancock Lake Association, Inc.

In this day and age, I believe all of us unintentionally take the beauty and uniqueness of our water resources for granted. Our society moves at such a fast pace that it's hard, not to get caught up in the rat-race! Have you ever taken the time to sit near a quiet lake shore and simply absorb the sights, sounds, and feel of the serenity? If you haven't set aside a few minutes to do so, and just enjoy the tranquility of the water and its surrounding environment. You'll also likely gain more of an appreciation for the beauty and uniqueness provided by our lakes, rivers, and streams.

Unfortunately, along with the ease of accessibility to these water resources come a number of problems that threaten their integrity, as well as the opportunities and benefits they provide for others to enjoy. Problems such as aquatic invasive species (AIS), improper shoreline development, and pollution, are a few that have the ability to quickly degrade these deceptively sensitive environments. It is critical that we, as users and beneficiaries of these water resources, respect them, and do what we can to protect, and if necessary, try to restore them.

Fortunately for us, there are lake organizations consisting of dedicated men and women willing to invest their efforts (time and money) to assure a long-lasting commitment to the protection and enhancement of local water resources, of which we all benefit from. I would encourage anyone, especially those that are fortunate enough to either have waterfront property and/or live near a waterbody, to join and support a local lake organization. If for nothing else, support them because their work helps to protect your pocketbooks! Yes, know that your property values are greatly affected by the health of the water in your surrounding area. For those of you that don't live on or near a waterbody, but enjoy the benefits they provide, you should also consider joining a lake organization, support their efforts.

I subscribe to the purpose of the Hancock Lake Association and have enclosed membership dues for _____ of \$20.

Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Address: _____ _____ Phone: _____ e-mail: _____		Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____ Address: _____ _____ Phone: _____ e-mail: _____
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Membership Dues must be paid by Annual Meeting, the second Saturday in June. Dues are \$20 and should be made payable to Hancock Lake Association, Inc.

Mail to: Hancock Lake Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 171
Tomahawk, WI 54487

Hancock Lake Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 171
Tomahawk, WI 54487

POSTAGE
REQUIRED

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321