

# Upper Turtle Lake District 2019 Summer Newsletter

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## 2019 July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade Winners!

**Congratulations to the Studnicka and Miller families!**



The 2019 July 4<sup>th</sup> parade was a huge success! Raindrops were dodged throughout the long weekend, but the parade was held as scheduled. Over 50 boats participated in the parade, and a band even joined the festivities! Parade watchers were in the mood too, and there were great decorations on the shoreline. Congratulations to the Studnicka family for winning the most Creative Award for their "Dumb and Dumber" float. This is their third



## 2019 Upcoming Events:

### **Lake District Social Event:**

Bowling Alley, Turtle Lake August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019, 10:00-12:00 a.m. Spare Time Bowl, Turtle Lake.

## 2020 Upcoming Events:

### **Lake District Public Forum:**

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 10:00 a.m., Turtle Lake School Library. Use Door #1.

### **Lake District Annual**

**Meeting:** June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 10:00 a.m., Turtle Lake School Library, 205 Oak Street North, Turtle Lake, WI. Use Door #1.

### **2020 Independence Day**

**Boat Parade:** Meet near the island and follow the Lake District Lead boat around the lake. Trophies for "Most Creative" and "Most Patriotic" decorated watercraft will be awarded. Be mindful of boats that don't want to be bombarded with water balloons. Be careful and have fun! Inclement weather date July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m. Notification of the parade being rescheduled will be posted on the Facebook site by 12:00 p.m. on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

year in a row for winning this award! Congratulations also go to the Miller family for receiving the Most Patriotic Award for their colorful float. Fun was had by everyone!

## Lake District Social Event

*Please join your Lake District Neighbors on Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. for a Labor Day Bloody Mary Morning at the Spare Time Bowl, 440 Industrial Ave, Turtle Lake. Order up your favorite beverage, and the Lake District will provide the appetizers. Get to know your lake neighbors at this informal event.*

## Zebra Mussels

Zebra Mussels are considered to be one of the world's worst aquatic invaders. They attach to almost anything; plants, other mussels, docks, boats, boat lifts, pipes, rocks, sticks etc. They typically come into lakes through infested water transfer in ballast water, bilges and live wells as undetectable larvae. Once present they disrupt the food chain, encrust boats and create hazards for swimmers with their sharp shells. Effective control is nearly impossible to achieve. The good news is Upper Turtle Lake has no confirmed case of zebra mussels. The bad news is zebra mussels have been confirmed in Deer Lake (Polk Co), Bass Lake (St Croix Co), Big and Middle MaKenzie Lakes in Burnett/Washburn Co and in the St Croix and Mississippi Rivers.

Several lakes in Barron County (Silver Lake, Bear Lake and Sand Lake) have installed decontamination stations with a sprayer and mild bleach solution (1 oz per gallon of water) asking boaters both entering and leaving to spray their boats, trailers, live wells, and bilges. It takes about 10 minutes for this solution to do its job. The Property Committee of the Barron County Board of Supervisors passed an order requiring use of a decontamination station if there is one available.

The feasibility of installing such a station will be discussed at an upcoming meeting of the UTLD Commissioners.

What can we do right now?

1. If you are using your boat on other lakes please decontaminate it at home using the mild bleach solution. Even a dry boat will still have areas of water and the larvae can live for more than 3 weeks in these areas. If you know boaters who take their boats to other lakes please encourage them to do the same.
2. Help us staff our Clean Boats Clean Waters program at the landing to educate boaters regarding the risks of moving water from lake to lake and encourage decontamination at home.
3. When you take your boats, lifts and docks out this fall inspect them carefully for any sign of zebra mussels. If you detect anything suspicious scrape into a plastic bag and contact one of your UTLD Commissioners. We will consult with experts in this field.

## Lake Weed Disposal

The Almena Township Village Landfill is open the second Saturday of the month for disposal of your lake organic matter. This includes lake weeds, leaves, brush, grass, etc. The landfill is located north of Turtle Lake on Hwy 63 on the west side of the road, south of 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Contact Gary Kreckler at (715) 296-1612 for more information.

## Lake Raking

Don't forget about raking next to your dock. Dave Blumer of LEAPS mentioned this a good practice for more lake clarity. Many residents on the lake have started it and have had good results, and it keeps the sludge at bay. If you have any questions call Sherry at (651) 261-0205.

## 2020 BUDGET

The following budget was approved at the Lake District's 2019 June Annual Meeting.

	<b>2020 Budget \$44,000</b>	
<b>Income:</b>		
	Tax Assessments	44,000
	District Checking Account	18,000
	CBCW Grant	2,250
<b>Total Income:</b>		<b>64,250</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
	Operating Expense	2,500
	Advertising, Printing, Postage	1,500
	LEAPs Consulting and Support	4,200
	DNR Permit Application	1,270
	CLP Treatment 10 Acres Year 3 of 3	4,915
	CLP Treatment 64 Acres Year 2 of 3	31,525
	Aquatic Plant Mapping - Pre and Post Treatment	4,850
	Water Quality Testing	300
	CBCW Expenses	2,250
	Rapid Response Planning and Implementation	10,000
<b>Total Expenses:</b>		<b>63,310</b>

## YTD Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance January 1, 2019	\$2,656
Income	\$56,974
Expenses	\$50,833
Balance June 30, 2019.	\$8,797

## July 19<sup>th</sup> Storm

Homeowners, cabin owners, farmers, and businesses are all reeling from the July 19<sup>th</sup> storm. Damage in Barron County is extensive, and we are all experiencing damage and loss to homes, property, trees, boats, docks, and barns. We witnessed firsthand the devastation the storm brought, but we also experienced neighbors helping neighbors clean up property. If you find missing property, please post it on the Facebook site, if you are missing property, please check the site.

## CBCW

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) pose a great risk to the health of our lakes throughout the state. Upper Turtle Lake has the following AIS in the lake currently: Chinese Mystery Snail, Japanese Mystery Snail and Curly-Leaf Pondweed. Curly-Leaf Pondweed is being treated. As problematic as we may see these species, there are a number of others that are far more invasive, are harder to eradicate and are in waterways close to us.

Upper Turtle Lake District is again sponsoring a Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) project this year at our public boat landing on Upper Turtle Lake. CBCW includes teams of volunteers, as well as paid staff, who perform boat and trailer checks, disseminate informational brochures and educate boaters on the prevention steps to stop the spread of AIS. These steps include:

**Inspect** your boat, trailer and equipment.

**Remove** all attached plants or animals.

**Drain** all water from boats, motors, live wells and other equipment.

**Never** move live fish away from a waterbody.

**Dispose** unwanted bait in the trash.

**Buy** minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer and use leftover minnows only if used on the same body of water or if no lake water or other fish were added to the container.

Following these steps helps boaters comply with Wisconsin state law which prohibits the transport of aquatic invasive species. In 2018 there were 285 boats inspected on Upper Turtle Lake, with 564 people contacted and 248 hours were spent on volunteer efforts (81 paid, 167 volunteer). The numbers for 2019 include 144 boats inspected, with 291 people contacted. We've had a total of 86 hours volunteered (14 paid, 72 volunteer) from May through July 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in joining our efforts, please contact Kim Swenson at [kim.swenson2015@gmail.com](mailto:kim.swenson2015@gmail.com). We could use the help!

## Lake District Board

Your 2019-2020 elected Commissioners are Sherry Warrick, President, Sharon Dunemann, Treasurer, and Carol Timmerman, Secretary. **Sherry** lives in Inver Grove Heights with her husband Dan. They have three boys, Jack (21), Jamie (20), and Justin (16). Sherry enjoys traveling, gardening, supporting her family, time with friends, and the red cabin in the Northeast bay of Upper Turtle Lake. Sherry and her family have been on the lake for 5 years. Her favorite time at the cabin is 4<sup>th</sup> of July with all the kids and their friends. Right up there is Girlfriend retreats in the winter. Sherry is looking forward to meeting more people on the lake.

**Sharon** and her husband Wayne live in Rochester, MN. Both are Turtle Lake natives, and have enjoyed Upper Turtle Lake for most of their lives, and have owned Upper Turtle Lake property for the last 40 years.

**Carol** and her husband Brad also live in Rochester, and have two children and 3 (almost 4!) grandchildren. They have been on Upper Turtle Lake for 14 years. Their favorite lake time is also the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with family and friends.



President: Sherry Warrick (651) 261-0205

Treasurer: Sharon Dunemann (507) 261-9772

Secretary: Carol Timmerman (507) 398-9995

Barron County Board Rep: Jim Gores (715) 357-3720

Almena Township Rep: Ken Scheps (715) 296-5723