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## NORTH LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

### NEWS LETTER

JUNE 26, 2021

#### Dredging Channel Between Big and Little Lake

Our original plan was to dredge the channel in 2020, but due to unforeseen events, we were unable to do it.

Our current plans are to dredge the channel in late July of this year. The channel will be closed during the dredging project. We will provide additional information as we get closer to the project date.

#### Dredging Ice House Bay

On September 1, 2020, the NLMD started the process to apply for a DNR permit to dredge 50,000 cubic yards of sediment from Ice House Bay at the mouth of the Oconomowoc River. Much of this sediment was transported to the Northeast corner of Ice House Bay when Funk's Dam was removed by the DNR in the early 90's. We are happy to report that the DNR has approved our permit on June 23, 2021. The project details will be presented to the NLMD residents at our annual meeting, and, pending approval by the residents, we will begin planning and contractor selection to complete the project in 2022. Additional permits are required (County, Town, ACOE, etc.), and we now will start that process since we have the main permit from the DNR.

#### Skimming/Harvesting Activity and Aquatic Plant (AP) Pick Up Program

We tried to start the Skimming/Harvesting Activity this week, but we were unable to off-load the AP's on the Skimmer/Harvester to the AP trailer due to the low water level.

Our area is scheduled to receive significant rain this week. We will attempt to begin on Monday, June 28, 2021, and see what happens. We have a similar

problem with the pontoon boat in picking up AP from piers. We can't off-load the AP's from the pontoon boat to the trailer due to the low water level.

Assuming we can off-load the AP's from the pontoon boat, we plan to pick up AP's from piers on Thursday, July 1, and provide the service (assuming good weather conditions) every Thursday through August 19.

### Update on Phase 2 of the Water Quality and Wave Propagation Study

This study is a collaborative effort between Carroll University (Department of Chemistry, Environmental Science and Aviation Science), the Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) and Terra Vigilis Inc. The study is funded in part through the Wisconsin DNR. The study calls for measurement of powered vessel downwash dynamics and their effects on the subsurface sediments of North Lake. In addition, the study requires measurements of wave propagation from shorelines around the lake at varying distances. Lastly, the study is looking at plume effects on redeposition of sedimentation.

To date, the research teams have gathered underwater video (subsurface drones) of current lake bottom conditions. Water chemistry samples including dissolved oxygen, temperature and water clarity have been gathered weekly at selected sites across both the small and large lakes. Aerial drone flights have mapped shorelines and archives 3D images of the lake.

The engineering of the plume downwash measuring system is completed and ready for deployment.

Finally, the initial stages of literature review and study of comparative research from other lakes throughout the United States is underway.

The Principal Investigators of the Phase 2 study have just completed (18 June 2021) an invited conference presentation for the North West Wisconsin Lakes Association.

### Boating Guidelines for North Lake

In 2019 a committee that preceded the Lake Usage Committee developed a list of safe and courteous boater guidelines to help assure enjoyable use of North Lake during the summer season. We are highlighting some of these guidelines below:

1. After 6:00 PM on Saturday, Sunday and Holidays all boats and personal water craft should observe Slow-No-Wake operation.

2. During normal operating times boats and personal water craft operating above slow-no-wake should stay at least 250 feet from shore. All power boats should operate near the middle of the lake to reduce the impact of the large waves.
3. Power boats should pass the sand bars lake side of the buoys. Don't cross over the sand bars.
4. Power boats and personal water craft should avoid sailboat race courses. There are no sailboat races over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.
5. All power boats and personal water craft should stay at least 100 feet from piers and swim rafts.

Our observations thus far are as follows:

1. Most boats and personal water craft are observing the slow-no-wake operation on weekends. If you see someone not following the recommendation, and you are comfortable, please remind them of the guidelines. Thank you.
2. Many power boats are not operating in the middle of the lake. This has a negative impact on the lake bottom and the lake shores as well as people kayaking, paddle boarding, etc.
3. Too many power boats are going across sand bars. Please go around them so we don't destroy them.
4. Most people have avoided sailboat race courses and stayed 100 feet from piers and swimming rafts. Thank you.

### Algae on Little Lake

In early June, there was a significant algae bloom on the Little Lake but not the Big Lake – it was crystal clear. Samples were taken and processed at Carroll University. The samples showed that it consisted of single celled, round and free-floating green algae. There was at least ten (10) times the single celled algae in the Little Lake than the Big Lake. We don't know why. Usually, it is the other way around.

## Annual Meeting

Tentatively, the NLMD Annual Meeting will be on Tuesday, August 24, 2021, at 6:30 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room of the North Lake School. Please save the date. We hope to see you there.

NLMD Commissioners and Committee Heads