



CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Established 1983

S P R I N G 2 0 1 3

N E W S L E T T E R

FROM DOUG KURTZWEIL, CHAIR

Amazing April greetings from the shores of your Chippewa Flowage! What a difference a year makes! Saint Patrick's Day last year was 75 degrees above—this year 16 degrees BELOW! Last year at this time the lawn was green; this year it's white, and a foot deep! Right now it's sunny and 40, I saw my first robin at noon, and they're predicting 4 to 6 inches of snow tomorrow. Obviously, spring is here!

It is beginning to look like a busy year. All of us should do some follow-up work on the results of the votes on the bass season and motor trolling proposals. Thanks to everyone who was able to get to a Hearing and vote. And whether you were able to vote or not, a big Thank You to all who made the effort to submit comments/opinions. The proposals will be acted on, officially, by the Natural Resources Board (NRB) perhaps as early as May 21. They can be encouraged to do the right thing by contacting them through Laurie J. Ross, NRB Liaison, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921. Or you can call 608-267-7420 or email Laurie.Ross @wisconsin.gov.

And then, we all have boats, tackle, piers, and hopefully, frying pans to get prepped. Offering to help Jim with the Clean Boats, Clean Waters or Dennis with the Purple Patrol for a few hours are great ways to give a little something back to our Flowage. Oh, and then there's the Big Chip Fish Fest on June 16. Regardless of if you work, play, fish, eat, or just party, it's a 'must do' event! There is serious consideration being given to modifying the off-season water level regime. (See 'Fisheries' and 'Partners' columns) The more we all know and understand about it, the better decisions and choices we will make for our Flowage.

Oh boy! Then there's the lawn, the garden, and the woodpile. I sometimes think if I knew how to golf I'd have to quit work to have enough time to fit everything in.

As I ask every year, when you're out there enjoying our fabulous Chippewa Flowage, please relax, slow down, be patient, be courteous, and be kind. And don't ever forget...to give thanks. It is good, to always...and everywhere...give thanks.

Chippewa Storage Reservoir Forecast

Elevation as of April 6, 2013: 1308.73 ft.

Season: Spring 2013

Typical Max: Spring Full Elevation: 1313.0 ft.

2013 Projected Spring Full Low Elevation Range: 1312.0 — 1313.0 ft.

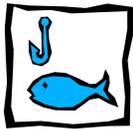


Comments

- ▶ The snowpack from this past winter was below normal. The snowpack has held on much longer than last year and the reservoir has only begun to refill. This is almost one month behind last year's early warm spring. Last spring's ice-out and refill of the reservoir was one of the earliest in recent history.
- ▶ The winter low elevation of 1308.70 ft. was reached on March 29 and refill has finally begun. A reduced snowpack condition in the Upper Chippewa River basin this winter combined with the dry conditions that have existed since August 2011, may negatively impact the refill rate. The melting of the snowpack to date has not yielded much inflow into the reservoir.
- ▶ Discharge from the dam will be maintained above the minimum flow requirement (250 cfs) throughout the spring season refill.
- ▶ Spring rains and any resulting river inflow to the reservoir are impossible to predict in advance. As such, the discharge from the reservoir is also difficult, if not impossible, to predict with any degree of accuracy.
- ▶ Discharge from the dam will be (re)adjusted as necessary during the spring period to try to maintain the reservoir elevation between 1312.0 ft. and 1313.0 ft.
- ▶ The upper Chippewa River watershed remains below normal for long-term precipitation dating back to summer 2011. Above normal precipitation over an extended period of time will be required to offset this deficit and to restore inflow and groundwater levels to more normal levels.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FISHERIES by Doug Kurtzweil



Many of you who have been around the Flowage for a while began to notice some changes back 10 years ago or so. Seemed like more aquatic vegetation (weeds), more largemouth bass, and if you were here year-round, higher water levels in the winter. There is a connection.

From 1970 to 1997 the average winter drawdown was 10.6 feet. The range was from 2.8 to 22.9 feet. Since the winterkills of 1997 the average has been just 4.1 feet and has never exceeded 5.3 feet. One of the biggest determining factors of populations of both fish and game is habitat.

There is considerable evidence that fluctuations in water levels can significantly alter habitat. Many waters in northern Wisconsin whose levels fluctuate generally have more productive walleye fisheries. Most waters that are relatively 'flat' tend to be dominated by largemouth bass and bluegills.

If we are serious about restoring the Chippewa Flowage walleye fishery to anything approaching what it used to be, water level management may have to be a little more like it was 25 or 30 years ago and less like it has been the last 15.

A big factor in the winterkills of the late 1990s was not so much the degree of the drawdown but rather the timing. A substantial late winter draw, when dissolved oxygen is at its lowest, is a proven recipe for disaster. The October drop under consideration eliminates much of that risk plus gives herptiles (turtles, frogs, salamanders, etc.) an opportunity to get out of those exposed near-shore areas before burrowing in for the winter. It also provides time for fish to leave shallow basins before becoming lethargic or trapped. The exposure of these areas to the elements would allow the substrate to desiccate, oxygenate, and compact, which could improve its ability to support invertebrates and reduce its ability to support vegetation.

There are multitudes of potential impacts being considered as this planning process goes forward. I believe the decision of what to do and to what degree to do it will be greatly influenced by you. We will do our best to keep you informed. The speaker(s) at

the Annual Meeting/Picnic will be chosen for their knowledge of these matters. Always feel free to talk to your CFAPOA leaders. If we don't have the answer, we'll find you someone who does.

It has been a long winter. We have lots of ice yet on April 5. I expect we have already lost some fish. The 'old-timers' said we lost some every year. We never again want a reprise of 97. With quality habitat things bounce back quicker than without it. Habitat and regulations are really the only things we people have much control over. The rest is pretty much a matter of trusting Mother Nature and then hanging on for the ride.

INVASIVES SPECIES by Dennis Clagett

Just how did invasive species become such a problem? Simply put, they left their enemies behind when they moved here. Not having to deal with their natural predators and competitors, they are able to rapidly reproduce and out-compete our local native species. This is where our beetle bio-control program comes in. These beetles were imported from Europe about 15 years ago and are purple loosestrife's natural enemies.



Each spring I help gather seed beetles to raise and multiply. After reproducing, they are released to areas around the Flowage that are populated by purple loosestrife to be controlled by our Adopt-A-Shoreline volunteers. I will be raising beetles again this year as our bio-control project to control purple loosestrife is proving successful in controlling this invader.

Today (04/06/13) most all of the local invasives are in check as winter is still with us! Hopefully by the time you read this, the 27" of ice on the Chip will be turned back to water.

I am looking forward to working with all the many Adopt-A-Shoreline volunteers whose efforts are so important to help identify and control invasives in and around the Big Chip. If you cannot work your section this year please call or email me at 715 462 4814 or rclagett@centurytel.net. As always new volunteers are needed and will be appreciated by all our members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP by Carolyn Fritsch

New members: Please welcome Marcella and Tom Trost of Sandy Point Road.

Donations: A donation has been received in memory of Steve Sisko from Mary Mueller and Terry Dis-sault.

CFAPOA Directory Changes: Earlier this year, BEVCOMM purchased Indianhead Telephone Com-pany, which served much of the Chippewa Flowage Area. This change also affected many e-mail ad-dresses in our Directory. E-mails with addresses ending “@indianheadtel.net” were changed to “@bevcomm.net”. Of course, some members may have elected to use another e-mail server.

SHORELINE PROTECTION by Dennis Clagett

It’s spring and it’s time to consider having your well tested and your septic inspected and pumped in preparation for the summer season.

To schedule to have your tank pumped and in-spected, contact one of the following:

Hayward Area Septic Tank Pumpers

Affordable Septic Inc. (Hayward)	715-634-3355
Amundson Septic Service (Cable)	715-794-2138
H& K Septic Service (Cable)	715-798-3494
Lynn’s Honeywagon (Sarona)	715-469-3322
Northwest Sanitary (Hayward)	715-634-2394
Ron’s Septic Pumping (Hayward)	715-634-1450
Scott’s Septic Pumping (Hayward)	715-634-1450

If you think your POWTS isn’t functioning properly, contact one of the following:

Hayward Area Licensed Plumbers

A B B Excavating (Hayward)	715-699-1062
Amundson Septic (Cable)	715-794-2138
Rasmussen & Sons (Cable)	715-798-3355
Butterfield, Travis (Hayward)	715-634-8176
Gidley, Carey (Hayward)	715-634-3577
Lintner, Wayne (Hayward)	715-634-8057
Mark Thompson & Son (Hayward)	715-699-4081
Metcalf, Curtis (Hayward)	715-634-2827
Ruid, Jerry (Stone Lake)	715-865-4081

Schultz, Greg (Stone Lake)	715-865-4210
Sprekels, Ronald Jr. (Hayward)	715-634-8250
Uttech, Shannon (Hayward)	715-462-4461
Visocky, Ray (Cable)	715-798-3885

Wisconsin DNR website for Septage Hauling Busi-ness licenses sorted by county and city:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/es/science/opcert/BusinessList.pdf>

For more information on your septic system history or for more general information, go to the Sawyer County Zoning and Conservation website: <http://www.sawycountygov.org/Departments/ZoningandConservation/tabid/70/Default.aspx>.

You may also contact Eric Wellauer, Sawyer County Sanitarian at 715-634-8288 with any questions that you might have.

SOCIAL by Carolyn Fritsch

SPRING FLING! Don’t miss the first CFAPOA social event of 2013! Our annual Spring Fling will be held Saturday, June 1st, at Treland’s Resort. Come, meet your neighbors, and enjoy scrumptious hors d’oeu-vres. There will be door prizes and raffles for mem-bers attending the Spring Fling. Look for your regis-tration form page 6.



Results of statewide vote!

**Restoration of normal May Opener
for largemouth bass**

Yes — 2877 No — 1672

Motor trolling ‘statewide’

Yes — 2391 No — 2775

It's a fundraising party!

Big Chip Fish Fest

Sunday, June 16th

at

The Landing

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Hi AIS Enthusiastists!

Spring is having a hard time arriving this year, but it's still time to start talking about Aquatic Invasive Species! I will be holding another AIS Coffee Hour on Friday, April 12th, from 10:30-12:00 pm at the Weiss Community Library, Community Meeting Room. This month's topic will be Controlling AIS. We will discuss control options for the common AIS found in Sawyer County, what recent research is discovering, and what a lake association can expect if a control project is done on a lake. Please forward this on to other interested persons and come full of questions!

The AIS Coffee Hour Schedule for the rest of the year looks like this:

April 12	Controlling AIS
June 14	Mapping and Monitoring AIS
July 19	What do plants do in the lake?
August 16	What should we do with data?
September 20	What's new in Sawyer County?

Please publish the dates in any newsletters that might be appropriate. All Coffee Hours are from 10:30-12 pm at the Weiss Community Library.

Hope to see you at the Coffee Hour!

Kristy

Kristy Maki

Sawyer County AIS Coordinator

10601 Main Street — Suite 49, Hayward, WI 54843



**QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?
CONCERNS?
SUGGESTIONS?**

Contact us at:

CFAPOA

PO Box 555

Hayward, WI 54843-0555

OR

cfapoa@yahoo.com

OR

www.cfapoa.org



FISHING & BOATING VIOLATIONS

Please remember, if you see something that you know or suspect is against the law or dangerous, please contact a local DNR warden. Our eyes and calls can assist them in making the Chippewa Flowage a safer and better place for all. All calls are kept confidential.

1-800-TIP-WDNR

CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE 2013-2014 Fishing Regulations

General Gamefish Season: May 4, 2013 - March 2, 2014

Walleye (closes November 30): Daily Bag 3 - No Minimum Size

Northern Pike: Daily Bag 5 - No Minimum Size

Bass: Catch-and-Release Only (No Harvest) May 4 - June 14

Bass Harvest Season: June 15, 2013 - March 2, 2014

Bass: Daily Bag 5 (both species combined)

Smallmouth Bass - Minimum Size 14"

Largemouth Bass - No Minimum Size

Musky Fishing Season: May 25 - November 30, 2013

Muskellunge: Daily Bag 1 - Minimum Size 50"

Panfish (Perch, Crappie, Sunfish): Open All Year

Panfish: Daily Bag 25 (all species combined) - No Minimum Size

All Gamefish Seasons Closed: March 3 - May 2, 2014

Motor trolling is **NOT** permitted

Chippewa Flowage Partners

by Doug Kurtzweil



The Chippewa Flowage Partners group meets several times a year. The meeting held on March 21 was most informative and productive. After dealing with some 'housekeeping' matters we were treated to a comprehensive and impeccably organized presentation by local DNR Fisheries biologist Max Wolter. The focus was a study of over 30 years of data on walleye recruitment rates, water levels, and their possible relationships on 4 impoundments managed by Xcel Energy in northern Wisconsin including our Chippewa Flowage.

While the data seem to suggest there might be some correlation on the Flowage, other things have been going on that could have directly, or synergistically, affected the outcomes. On some of the other impoundments the relationship between deeper winter drawdowns and subsequently higher walleye recruitment rates seemed clearer.

Following a very detail oriented discussion of items including 'costs/benefits', 'what could go wrong', 'collateral damage', and more, the attendees (including representatives from DNR, Xcel, LCO, WI Conservation Congress, and all of the Flowage associations) reached a consensus to proceed with planning for a potential drawdown next winter somewhat greater than we have had in the last 15 years.

We are considering a drop in the water beginning in October of perhaps as much as 4 or 5 feet by 'freeze-up.' Then a usual, gradual balancing of inflow/outflow would continue through the winter that may result in as much as several feet more.

This is still in the early planning stage and your input and opinions are important and necessary. Check out the Fisheries Committee report for more details.

19th ANNUAL SPRING FLING RESERVATION

Saturday, June 1, 2013 at Treeland Resort from 4:00 — 6:00 pm

(Reservation requested by May 25th, please)

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

\$9.00 per person (hors d'oeuvres only — cash bar available)

I (We) will bring and donate a raffle item: ___ yes ___ no

Donations for the Hayward Community Food Shelf & Northwoods Humane Society welcome.

Send your reservation and check payable to CFAPOA to:

CFAPOA, PO Box 555, Hayward, WI 54843-0555

Reservations are NOT refundable after May 25th



MAKE A DIFFERENCE – GET THE LEAD OUT!

by Laura Rusk

Get the Lead Out is a campaign taking place across the US and Canada to educate anglers and hunters on the effects of lead tackle and ammunition on our wildlife species. Several Wisconsin lake associations have partnered with conservation and wildlife rehab groups to get the information out to sportsmen on the effects of lead in the environment.

As a wildlife rehabilitator, I personally witness the suffering experienced by wildlife that has been exposed to toxic doses of lead. If anyone that fishes with lead tackle, or hunts with lead ammunition could sit with a rehabber and witness the very visible suffering the animals experience for days, and weeks and even months if they do survive, their minds would tell them that as responsible stewards of our resources, we must do everything possible to make a difference.

Our Loons are a species commonly affected with lead poisoning. One sinker is deadly to a loon if ingested.. All of our diving ducks and dabblers pick up pebbles and lead bits from the bottom of the lakes and streams. Eagles get a double whammy. They feed on fish containing lead shot and jigs, and are scavengers of unretrieved deer carcasses and gut piles containing spent lead fragments. Upland game hunters leave lead shot on the forest and field floor to be picked up by grouse, cranes, and an assortment of small ground feeding birds.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to see Wisconsin as proactive in banning lead tackle and ammo? One of the first steps is education of the public on how easy it is to avoid adding to the already high lead content evident in our natural resources.

Do the research and discover the SOUND scientific evidence showing that lead has had significant health effects on our wildlife, as well as pets and people. Also research the alternatives available for lead tackle and ammo. Despite the rhetoric, these alternatives are NOT prohibitively priced. What is a few more pennies when it means the preservation of the resources that make us so proud of Wisconsin?

Fisherman and Hunters must be active conservationists. They have an important role in setting the example toward the goal of being part of the effort to MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Anyone wanting more information on lead poisoning or how to obtain hand-outs for distribution on lead in our environment can contact me by email at laura@bevcomm.net



Fertilizers that contain phosphorus promote weed growth in our lake.

Please use phosphorus free fertilizers only.

TOWN OF HUNTER

[<http://home.centurytel.net/huntertownship>]

2013 summer dump hours
begin May 4

Saturdays
8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Mondays & Wednesdays
8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Garbage stickers can be purchased at Hillman's Grocery Store located on County Hwy B

(Please cut on dashed lines and post for future reference.)

CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 555
HAYWARD, WI 54843-0555

FORWARD SERVICE REQUESTED

CFAPOA is committed to keeping the Chippewa Flowage area clean and safe for all peoples; to protecting the environment; to providing a forum for the collection and exchange of ideas and to pursuing any other lawful objectives that may benefit this pristine reservoir.



Please mark your calendar

5/2/13

CFAPOA Board Meeting — 6 pm at Town of Hunter Hall

6/1/13

Spring Fling at Treeland's Resort

6/16/13

Big Chip Fish Fest at The Landing

8/4/13

Annual Meeting & Picnic at Deer Run Resort

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