



# CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

*Established 1983*

S P R I N G 2 0 1 4 N E W S L E T T E R

## *INSIGHTS FROM THE CHAIR BY DOUG KURTZWEIL*

**S**pectacular sunny spring greetings from the shores of your Chippewa Flowage! Even though we had been steeled by last year, a lot of us were starting to get a little worried. The calendar said we were over 2 weeks into spring but on the first weekend of April I woke to over 8" of snow Friday morning. Saturday it was 6 degrees—at least it was 'above.' As I was getting ready to go to the 'dump' I measured the snow out south of the house—where the sun hits it and it doesn't drift. Thirty one inches!

But then it started to warm up. It was actually nice out! Sunday morning I heard a robin as I walked up the church steps. That afternoon I saw a pair of sandhill cranes and heard another robin down by the 'dock.' I re-measured the snow at 26 inches. Monday I saw robins for the first time this year and the forecast is for 50s all week. Spring has arrived!

It has been a tough winter, on all. Freeze up by the end of November. Early, deep, and frequent snows. By many accounts, record and near-record stretches of subzero temps. I logged 25 mornings of -20 or colder and several additional mornings of -30 or more. Not even a hint of a 'January thaw.' Oh, and \$5 a gallon propane! The winter has taken a toll on a lot of our resources. We have lost deer and we will see fewer fawns this summer. Our fledgling wild turkey population has taken a hit. And, we have lost fish. Crane Lake was in trouble by mid-February. While in many ways this winter's conditions have been every bit as severe as 1996-97 (when the fishery was decimated on the west side) over 90% of our Flowage seems to have come through okay. Some say that last fall's pre-ice drawdown may have 'saved the day.'

Your CFAPOA has a number of projects in the queue for this summer but I believe the most important one for all of us is: to enjoy! Relax and allow yourself to be immersed in the Chippewa Flowage experience! The loon's call, the bouncing fish in the cooler, the majestic soaring flight of an eagle, even the buzzing of the 'occasional' mosquito—all are an integral part of our life—of all life.

I plan to enjoy a legal largemouth bass fish fry on Opening weekend for the first time in 20 years. I'd ask everyone to give the walleyes a bit of a break for another year or 2. I am confident that by 2020 we can have that fishery back close to what the Flowage has been famous for. It has taken 8 years but we are getting the regulations fixed and we have gotten the attention of the somnambulant bureaucracy in a number of ways.

I want to remind everyone to be careful, be safe, and be kind. Let's all have the greatest and most enjoyable season we have ever had on our Flowage. And I also want to remind you that your questions, comments, and concerns are most appreciated. We all have our ideas and notions. We can't address yours unless you tell us what they are. Don't hesitate to let us know how we are doing—representing you, and looking out for our Chippewa Flowage.

Hope to see you at the Spring Fling, and on the water, before and after. And, I thank you for your support.

# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Carolyn Fritsch - Membership Committee Chair

**Please welcome the following new members:**

Steve & Connie Kopecky – Deerfoot Road  
Lee & Tammy Litzau – Tiger Musky Road  
Jeffrey & Julia Richards – Tamarack Trail  
John & Linda Stoddart – Twin Bay Road

**The following new and returning members included a donation to the CFAPOA:**

**CONTRIBUTORS (\$26 - \$99)**

Stephen & Rebekah Dupont  
Steve & Connie Kopecky  
Robert & Donna Koza  
Jim & Diane Mazzone  
Thomas Sweeney  
Doug & Lynne Tripamer

**STEWARD (\$100 - \$999)**

Jeffrey & Julia Richards

*Thank you for your contributions to our Fund accounts!*

- General Fund – annual operating costs.
- Conservation Project Fund – current projects.
- Conservation Trust Fund – long term endowment for future projects.

The annual Membership Directory was mailed in mid-December to all current members. If you did not receive a copy, please let us know at: [cfapoa@yahoo.com](mailto:cfapoa@yahoo.com).

**Watch for the 2014-15 Membership Registration form in your next newsletter.  
All memberships expire on July 31st.**

**QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?**

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[www.cfapoa.org](http://www.cfapoa.org)

Be Safe and Good  
Luck Fishing on Our  
Beautiful Chippewa  
Flowage this Summer !



# Aquatic Invasive Species

By Dennis Clagett - Invasive Species Chair

Greetings from the great white North. My calendar tells me it is spring, but my eyes and body tell me otherwise.

I have my fingers crossed that our Purple Loosestrife eating beetles will survive the winter. Last year I found six colonies that are reproducing on their own and are dining close to home. This is very good news. I plan to raise another batch this year.

I hope I can count on Adopt-A-Shoreline volunteers to continue their efforts, and also pay extra attention to our other invasive troublemaker Eurasian water-milfoil. This year's lower drawdown should have a negative effect on its population and density. Please feel free to call me with your observations. As always new volunteers to fill our ranks are needed and welcomed.

## ADOPT-A-SHORELINE (aka Purple Loosestrife Patrol)

Under the careful direction of Dennis Clagett, this program officially began in 2006 when 15 CFAPOA members began monitoring our shorelines for purple loosestrife, an invasive species. Those original teams were Chuck Block, Dennis & Barbara Clagett, Al & Delores Hixson, Chris & Patti Jeffords, Jerry & Nancy Johnson, Jack & Marl Reeder, Carmen & George Sipes, Nancy Ruhlow & Barb Schweig. Over the years, the program has grown and the members listed below now each have a section they monitor and control.

**THANK YOU** to all volunteers for your time and dedication! If there are any volunteers unable to work their sections, please let me know. See you on the lake.

<b>Member</b>	<b>Section(s)</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Section(s)</b>
Sue Baron	T	Rick Marks	T
Ron & Jan Bergman	1	Tom & Laura Marquardt	12
Dennis Clagett and		Al & Nancy McElroy	J,O
Herman the Big, Black Lab	M,P,Y,7,13,X	Dan & Denise Lessard	A1
Tony DeJoode	T	Terry & Kay Moe	A2
Jim & Marion Dier	S	Jim & Jane Montag	R
Karl & Kathleen Euler	U	Rick & Linda Olson	I,Z
Alan & Lynda Fish	17	Jack & Marl Reeder	5
Whitey & Donna Gilbertson	2,18	Don & Sue Reinardy	E1,E2
Larry Gilmer	10,14A,14B	Steve Richardson	W
Gary & Mary Lou Hosler	E1,E2	Nancy Ruhlow	15,16
Chris & Patti Jeffords	4	Barb Schweig	15,16
Jerry & Nancy Johnson	6,9	George & Carmen Sipes	3
John & Marlen Kaiser	11	Jack Sweeney	8
Steve & Louise Paulson	H	Dick & Karen Terry	Q
Terry Kinderman	O	Terry & Debra Wall	D
Larry & Sharon Kirby	10,14A,14B	Darrel & Jean Weihert	E1,E2
Roger & Kathy Kisch	W		

**6 SHORELINES STILL AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION. CONTACT DENNIS CLAGETT IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.**



**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  
2014-2015 Fishing Regulations**

**General Gamefish Season: May 3, 2014 - March 1, 2015**

Walleye (closes November 30): Daily Bag 3 - No Minimum Size  
 Northern Pike: Daily Bag 5 - No Minimum Size  
 Largemouth Bass: Daily Bag 5 - No Minimum Size  
 Smallmouth Bass: Catch-and-Release Only (No Harvest)  
 May 3 - June 20

**Smallmouth Bass Harvest Season:  
June 21, 2014 - March 1, 2015**

Bass: Daily Bag 5 (both species combined)  
 Smallmouth Bass - Minimum Size 14"

**Musky Fishing Season: May 24 - November 30, 2014**

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 1 - May 2, 2015**

**Motor trolling is NOT permitted**

**TOWN OF HUNTER DUMP HOURS**

[www.townofhunterwi.net](http://www.townofhunterwi.net)

**SUMMER HOURS BEGIN Saturday, May 3, 2014**

Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mondays and Wednesday 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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.)*

**2014 Dissolved Oxygen Monitoring Results**

By Dennis Clagett - CFAPOA Board Director

Again this winter I have been part of a team that is monitoring the amount of dissolved oxygen on the East side of the lake. The amount of dissolved oxygen in the water is as important to fish as air is to humans.

This is a slimmed down spread sheet showing just the dissolved oxygen content in mg/l (milligrams per liter). A more complete document will also show the % of dissolved oxygen and the temperature in one foot increments.

Continued on Page 5

### Chippewa Flowage East Side Dissolved Oxygen Content March 2014

Date	3/4/2014	3/4/2014	3/4/2014	3/5/2014	3/5/2014	3/5/2014
Location and Site Number	Hay Lake Site # 8	New Bridge Site # 1	East Central Site # 12	Dam Site # 10	Pokegama Lake Site # 11	Moore's Bay Site # 9
Sample Taken By	Dennis	Dennis	Dennis	Dennis/Cindy	Dennis/Cindy	Dennis/Cindy
Water Elevation	1304.91	1304.91	1304.91	1304.9	1304.9	1304.9
Water Depth	13'2"	7'7"	11'11"	11'	17'7"	10'10'
Snow Depth	10"	7"	15"	12"	5"??	10"
Ice Depth	28"	24"	25"	24"		29"
1'	6.85	6.41	10.06	12.08	9.62	11.71
2'	6.85	6.24	10.09	12.04	8.37	11.66
3'	6.61	4.85	9.97	10.99	6.85	11.62
4'	7.28	3.07	9.24	10.72	8.83	11.56
5'	6.71	2.37	7.95	10.48	10.01	11.43
6'	6.12	1.99	5.95	11.74	9.84	11.18
7'	5.81		5.85	12.51	9.38	10.54
8'	4.55		5.98	11.99	8.01	7.66
9'	3.74		5.44	11.6	6.99	5.45
10'	2.79		4.75	10.77	6.91	
11'	2.93		4.11		5.99	
12'	2.05				5.75	
13'					5.19	
14'					4.91	
1 foot off bottom	2.05	1.99	4.11	10.77	4.91	5.45

As can be seen, there are two sites that are at the minimum for fish survival: Hay Lake-Site #8 and a new test site between Fleming's Bar and the Hwy CC bridge, New Bridge-Site #1.

Since 2 mg/l is the critical amount for fish survival and usually occurs close to the bottom, fish will move higher in the water column if the water closer to the surface has more oxygen.

## Chippewa Reservoir Partners Group Meet to Discuss Flowage Drawdown and Hwy CC Bridge Replacement

By Doug Kurtzweil – Fisheries Committee Member

The Chippewa Reservoir Partners Group had its origin in the aftermath of the communication failures surrounding the low water in late summer of 2006. The Group is comprised of representatives of all the Chippewa Flowage stakeholders—the WDNR, US Forest Service, The Lac Courte Oreilles Band, Xcel Energy, the LCFRA (resort association), and the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, as well as your CFAPOA. The Group meets at least several times a year. The meeting on March 20 dealt with a busy agenda.

The water level that morning was 1304.97 feet—about 8 feet below ‘plump full.’ Outflow at the dam was reported to be 320 cubic feet per second (cfs) and inflows were said to be at 340 cfs, both more than 25% above the ordered outflow of 250 cfs. There was still a lot of snow, a lot of water in the snow, and not much frost. All bodes well for a certain re-fill before the Opener. Last winter’s low level was 1308.70 feet.

Dissolved oxygen levels are a perennial winter concern, especially on the west side. With the exceptions of Crane Lake and the Blueberry Flats, oxygen levels appear to be fine—in some areas the best in years—in spite of the toughest winter since the 1990s. We had freeze-up by December 1<sup>st</sup> followed immediately by significant snow cover, extended sub-zero temperatures, and absolutely no mid-winter thaw. In nearly every way as bad, or worse, than 1996-97 when we lost a huge part of the fishery on the west side. We have lost fish in Crane Lake. We won’t know for sure how many until ice out but it doesn’t look good. It appears that this winterkill will be confined to Crane and perhaps Crystal. It should prove to be a small fraction of the carnage of 96-97. People whose families have been on the Flowage for generations tell me we lose some fish every winter but that some years are worse than others. Did this year’s drawdown play a role? Almost certainly! But not the one you might expect.

The biggest consumption of dissolved oxygen (biological oxygen demand-BOD) in winter in the Flowage is caused by the process of the decomposition of aquatic vegetation. In other words, as last summer’s weeds rot, they are a major cause of oxygen depletion. The 5 foot drawdown done before freeze-up removed about 3000 acres of shallow lakebed from the area under the ice—much of those acres covered with dead/dying plants. Flowage ‘veterans’ as well as biologists believe that had this not been done, we would likely have had a replay of the disaster of 96-97. However, it does seem the possible contribution of the aerator on Crane was not adequately considered.

There are plans for a comprehensive survey of plants/weeds to be done throughout the growing season to measure the impacts of the drawdown on them. There will likely be some work done to ascertain effects on furbearers, herptiles, and a variety of other Flowage life forms.

The WDNR will be moving forward with erosion control work at 3 island campsites—Pine Island, Little Banana, and Crane Creek.

The bridge replacement project on County Highway CC at The Landing is ‘on’ for this summer. The plan is for a temporary bridge to be put in place and to keep traffic flowing, by land and by water, nearly full time.

The next Partners Group meeting is in June. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns... please let us know!

## Catching Up On Fishing with Max

By Max Wolter, Fisheries Biologist at Hayward Service Center

Hi Folks --

Happy to report that reports for ALL surveys done on Sawyer County lakes since 2009 are now posted online here:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Fishing/north/trtysprngsrvys.html#sawyer>

We're always looking for feedback from the public on these so let me know what you like or don't like, or anything that you'd like to see in future reports (other than where in the lake to fish, that's still up to you!).

This year we will be on the Chippewa Flowage, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lake Hayward, Nelson Lake, Teal/Lost Land, Mud/Callahan, Deer Lake, Lake Loretta, Lower Holly, and Partridge Crop with maybe a couple other stops mixed in.

See you on the Lake where we'll have some 'Catching Up' to do !

As our old friend in the forest, Smokey Bear says, "Only you can prevent wildfires." Remember to keep the area around your house or cabin "FireWise".



Have a friend or neighbor who wants to join CFAPOA?

2013-14 CFAPOA membership applications are now available online at:

[www.cfapoa.org](http://www.cfapoa.org)

## Xcel Energy Urges Safety Near Dams

2014-04-07

The message is part of Dam Safety Awareness Week, April 7-12, as declared statewide by Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

With the early inland trout fishing season under way and the fishing opener just around the bend, Dam Safety Awareness Week's purpose is to emphasize the importance of safely near dams and on waterways to help prevent accidents.

Xcel Energy operates 19 hydroelectric facilities on eight Wisconsin rivers and encourages safe recreational activities in areas above and below the dams.

"Boating or canoeing above or below a dam can be very dangerous, especially if the flow changes and your boat is anchored in a hazardous area," said Rob Olson, hydro operations superintendent at Xcel Energy. "If there's a sudden water discharge from the spillway gates, you risk capsizing." Many of the accidents and fatalities that occur near dams could be prevented by using common sense, practicing safety, staying clear of dams and understanding the dangers to be found near them.

Xcel Energy is a member of the Midwest Hydro Users Group (HUG), an association of dam owners who promote safe, efficient, economical and environmentally friendly use of hydroelectric power. The group urges outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy the many recreational resources that can be found around dams in Wisconsin.

Xcel Energy, HUG, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources personnel and local safety officials offer these tips for personal safety near dams:

- Obey all warning signs, barriers and flashing lights, horns and sirens.
- Wear a personal flotation device (PFD) – a life jacket.
- Always stay outside buoy lines and away from restricted areas near dams.
- Never swim or wade near a dam.
- Never boat or fish alone when near a dam.
- Leave your boat motor running to provide maneuvering power.
- Stay clear of spillways. Changing currents and "boiling" waves can make boat control difficult near dams.
- Reverse currents occur below dams. They can pull a boat back toward the dam into the spillway and capsize it.
- Never anchor boats below a dam because water levels can change rapidly.
- Bring a cell phone and contact 9-1-1 in an emergency.

Set an example for children, who may not be aware of the dangers, even if they can read. State explicitly where they can and cannot go and make sure you are close to them and can see them at all times.

For more information, visit [www.xcelenergy.com](http://www.xcelenergy.com) and look for "Hydro Safety" under the "Safety & Operation" tab. The Hydro Safety website also includes information to help residents respond in a timely fashion in the unlikely event of a dam failure, including maps and details about the warning siren system.

# 20th ANNUAL SPRING FLING RESERVATION

Saturday, June 7, 2014 at Treeland Resort from 4:00 — 6:00 pm

(Reservation requested by May 20th, 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 20th



Just a reminder when going out on our beautiful Chippewa Flowage: Please inform a responsible person on your whereabouts and scheduled return--We want you back for many future visits.

### WANT MORE?

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[www.cfapoa.org](http://www.cfapoa.org)

for more information

PLUS

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2013-2014

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CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
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*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

- 05.01.14      CFAPOA Board Meeting — 6 pm at Town of Hunter Hall
- 05.03.14      Wisconsin Inland Waters Fishing Opener**
- 06.05.14      CFAPOA Board Meeting — 6 pm at Town of Hunter Hall
- 06.07.14      Spring Fling at Treeland’s Resort 4-6 PM**
- 07.?? .14      CFAPOA Board Meeting — TBA
- 08.03.14      Annual Meeting/Picnic - Deer Run Resort: Time - TBA

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