



# CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA

## PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

*Established 1983*

W I N T E R 2 0 1 0 N E W S L E T T E R

### FROM DOUG KURTZWEIL, CHAIR

Winter greetings from the frozen shores of your Chippewa Flowage! Enough snow for skiing and snowmobiling but not so much as to ruin the ice—just about perfect conditions for playing outside in the best place on earth!

I feed the birds. I start right after deer season; I figure just about all the bears should be in dens by then. I quit as soon as the first one shows up in spring, usually late in March. I really enjoy the little feathered fellows (and gals). Finches, siskins, juncos, 2 kinds of nuthatches, 3 kinds of woodpeckers, and of course chickadees and bluejays, all contribute to put on a delightful show as they shop and dine. The red squirrels are cute — as long as they stay out of my house. And I'm watching a couple of grey squirrels that are tempting me to go look for Grandma's recipe. They'd better watch out!

All in all, there's plenty to see and do. I can't imagine things being quiet enough to get even a touch of "cabin fever."

But, all is not well. Last year (2009) was the third year in a row of reproductive failure for our walleyes — actually, the poorest year ever seen — 1, yes ONE, little walleye was found after surveying 30 MILES of shoreline. Our walleye fishery HAS COLLAPSED!!! Mark my words, by 2013, a walleye will be a rare catch on the Chippewa Flowage.

I am not optimistic about the future at this time. Before any recovery effort can have any chance at all, the Largemouth bass population must be reduced substantially. The WDNR is proposing a miniscule baby step toward doing that — elimination of the 14 inch minimum size limit. However, they are refusing to consider changing the late June opener, and, in a classic bureaucratic screw-up, refuse to acknowledge the fact that largemouth bass and smallmouth bass are different fish. In addition, they are proposing an 18 inch minimum size limit on walleyes to "protect" all the little walleyes that aren't there. I think I'm going to be sick.

The problem is NOT our local DNR staff. The problem is the desk-jockeys up the line in the bureaucratic chain of command. One of these public servants basically said, "Let them eat bass." I'm at 'wit's end.' I don't know what to do. HELP!!!

I really hope I have better, happier news in April. Til then, keep warm and enjoy.

### **32nd Wisconsin Lakes Convention**

#### ***Fringe Benefits: Restoring Wisconsin's Shorelands and Shallows***

*March 30 - April 1, 2010 (Tuesday - Thursday)*

by Chris Jeffords

Looking for deals and incentives these days? The 2010 Wisconsin Lakes Convention will be the perfect educational venue to find the answers to all your lake related questions, participate in hands on workshops, and network with experts in the field all in one place for one low price.

- Waterfront History, Policy and Regulation
- Updates to NR 115
- Water Quality and Ecological Health
- Research on Shorelands & Shallows
- Economics of Shoreland Management
- The Land & Water Interface
- Human Dimensions of Shorelands & Shallows
- Lake Organization Capacity Building

Other important issues and topics, including shoreland restoration, basic limnology, and trainings for lake district commissioners, Clean Boats Clean Waters and Citizen Lake Monitoring Network volunteers will also be offered. Questions? Call Chris Jeffords.

**MORE CFAPOA  
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES  
ON PAGES 2 & 3**

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## **CLEAN BOATS CLEAN WATERS** by Jim Montag

It was my pleasure to meet many of you and to discuss the Clean Boats Clean Waters program at the Holiday Party at Ray Jay's. Many thanks to our first, and only volunteer to date, Larry Gilmer. Larry will be working the CC North boat landing. **WE NEED MORE HELP!**

We are looking for Volunteer Boat Inspectors and Data Entry personnel. Can you afford to donate 15 hours of your time in all of 2010? You will attend a 3 hour training class, and then all that I am asking is that you work 4, three hour shifts at your local boat landing. You will be able to pick the dates and times that work best for you. We will be monitoring the following boat landings: Chief Lake, Winter Dam, CC North, CC South and Hay Creek. Please consider volunteering.



Through the Clean Boats Clean Waters program, you will be trained to organize and conduct a boater education program for the users of our Chippewa Flowage. The training classes will be open to anyone interested in learning about invasive species and what we can do to stop the spread of them. We will be conducting training classes in April or May. We will offer an evening class and a weekend class for everyone's convenience. You will be trained to:

- ▶ Identify invasive species.
- ▶ Perform voluntary visual inspections of boats and trailers to make sure they are "clean" of invasive species.
- ▶ Educate boaters on how and where invasive species are most likely to hitch a ride into water bodies.
- ▶ Perform demonstrations to the public on how to take the proper steps to clean their boats, trailers, and boating equipment.
- ▶ Distribute informational brochures to anglers and recreational boaters to make them aware of what invasive species look like and what precautions they should take to avoid spreading them.
- ▶ Collect and report any new water body infestations.
- ▶ Install signs at boat landings informing boaters of infestation status, state law, and steps to prevent spreading invasive species.
- ▶ Perform other duties as assigned.

If you or someone you know would like to attend the training, please contact me. My e-mail is [jim@haywardoutfitters.com](mailto:jim@haywardoutfitters.com). Volunteers make all the difference, please help if you can.

I am now working with Kristy Maki, Invasive Species Specialist for Sawyer County. We are writing to the Wisconsin DNR for a grant to help pay the costs of our collective Invasive species programs, including Dennis' purple loosestrife program. The Grant is due on February 1<sup>st</sup>. We should know if we are awarded any grant money by the end of April. If we are awarded grant money, we will be able to hire and pay volunteers to monitor boat landings. The CFAPOA will have to provide 1 hour of volunteer labor for every 3 hours of paid labor. Keep your fingers crossed. I will keep you posted on progress. Respectfully.....Jim Montag, Director and Clean Boats Clean Waters Coordinator 715-266-2990 [Jim@haywardoutfitters.com](mailto:Jim@haywardoutfitters.com)

## **INVASIVE SPECIES** by Dennis Clagett



The diligent monitoring and plant and flower head removal by our Adopt-A-Shoreline volunteers and property owners, and the establishment of several self-sustaining beetle colonies has resulted in purple loosestrife showing signs of being under control in several previously infested sites on the east side. Although we are beginning to manage one invasive species, it is unfortunate that increasing numbers of non-native species are taking up residence in our area. Early detection is critical.

To help minimize the spread of invasives and their impact on our lakes and landscapes, the state legislature authorized the DNR to develop rules to help identify and classify problem

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## **INVASIVE SPECIES** (continued)

plants. The result is NR-40, a classification and control rule passed September 1, 2009. The Wisconsin DNR will soon be printing a finalized version of a draft field guide located at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/UF/Resources/Insider/pdf/DNRFieldGuideDraft090825.pdf>. The guide contains excellent color photos, descriptions and control methods for over 60 plants that are classified as invasive.

Imagine going out to your favorite island for a shore lunch and discovering a colony of bamboo-like stems taller than 8 feet and almost impenetrable without a chain saw. What you would be looking at is one of the most recent invasive species causing concern: Japanese knotweed, sometimes erroneously referred to as Mexican bamboo. The plant is an aggressive perennial from Asia that arrived in the United States and other European countries in the late 1800s. Similar to purple loosestrife, it was imported without the diseases and insects that control it. Sawyer County now has it. The Town of Hunter has it, and one stand is only a quarter mile from the shores of the Chippewa Flowage. The stems are a reddish-brown color; the mature, egg to spade shaped dark green leaves are 3-5" wide and 4-9" long; and the late summer flowers are lacy, 2" greenish-white clusters appearing at the leaf base. The plant sprouts early in the spring, and it grows quickly.

Much like purple loosestrife, this is a plant that defies control. Roots can reach a depth of ten feet and grow horizontally up to 60 feet. It can damage pavement and penetrate building foundations. With a tendency to invade wetland habitat, the thickets it produces leave shorelines and banks vulnerable to erosion, because it crowds out native vegetation. Cutting and chemicals will barely contain it. I am planning to obtain a photo and information for the Adopt-A-Shoreline volunteers, but if you are interested, you can check it out now at: [http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/publications/pdfs/japanese\\_knotweed\\_brochure.pdf](http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/publications/pdfs/japanese_knotweed_brochure.pdf), or in the draft field guide mentioned above.

I hope I can count on our excellent and hard-working corps of volunteers to continue the battle with invasives. It is up to all of us to prevent their spread. As always, we can use more volunteers!

## **MEMBERSHIP** by Carolyn Fritsch

Currently, 356 properties belong to CFAPOA. Please join us in welcoming the following new and returning members:

Jerry Bechard ..... State Hwy 27  
 Scott & Judy Coulson ..... Lesniak Rd  
 John & Elaine Ebert ..... Moores Bay Trail  
 Gaiashkibos ..... Chippewa Flowage Rd  
 Randy & Diane Hulke ..... Fawn Trail  
 David & Gerri Lang ..... Flowage Rd

**WELCOME!**

Leonard Mikuta .....Flowage Rd  
 Dennis & Peggy Reno .....Hwy 8  
 Roman Rowan & Connie Fortin ...McGilligan Rd  
 Jim & Collen Seabloom .....Hay Creek Rd  
 Gary & Diane Sisko .....County Rd CC  
 Len & Sharon Szulc .....Twin Bay Rd

*Correction from our last newsletter: Mike & Diane Whetson are from Couderay, WI.*

Anyone owning property or residing, for at least 30 days or more, within two miles of the high water mark of the Chippewa Flowage is eligible to join. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join us if they're eligible and are not current members. CFAPOA annual membership runs from August 1st to July 31st, annually; however, new and returning members are always welcome. An application is located on page 4 or online at [www.cfapoa.org](http://www.cfapoa.org). Just click on "JOIN."

## **7th ANNUAL TURKEY BOWL** On Saturday, March 13th, Schultz's Restaurant & Bar will sponsor this



event for the Northwoods Humane Society. Whether you chose to fling a turkey (or slide a chicken) or not, this is a fun day on the Flowage. CFAPOA members Scott and Charlotte Schultz and their friends/family go all out. There is an abundance of free food, 2 bonfires, music, raffle prizes and yes, Bowling on the Lake! People bring their dogs, kids, friends and everyone has a good time. It runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 715-945-2223 if you have questions.

**GOVERNOR SIGNS BILL BANNING PHOSPHORUS FROM DISH DETERGENTS**

*Reprint of 11/12/09 email from WAL*

Nov 12, 2009 - Wisconsin Association of Lakes is pleased to announce that the State of Wisconsin today took another important step in controlling nutrient pollution in Wisconsin's waters, as Governor Jim Doyle signed legislation prohibiting the use of phosphorus in dishwasher soaps. We wanted to take a moment to say "thanks" for your support of us, which helped make this law possible.

A 1970's Wisconsin law prohibited the sale or use of most cleaning products containing more than 0.5 percent phosphorus by weight, but made an exception allowing dishwashing detergents with as much as 8.7 percent phosphorus. The new law eliminates that exception and limits dishwashing detergents to the same low phosphorus level permitted in other cleaning products beginning in June of 2010.

The bill (AB 281) was passed by the Assembly in June and the Senate in October and is the second in a series of legislative initiatives to improve water quality. Earlier this session, Wisconsin Association of Lakes and others led efforts in which the Legislature established a ban on the use of phosphorus compounds in lawn fertilizer and these efforts extended to the dish soap ban.

"This new law banning phosphorus in household dishwasher detergents is one more important step to protecting and restoring our lakes so they may continue to be enjoyed by all," said Karen von Huene, Wisconsin Association of Lakes Executive Director. "We are proud as an organization to have again been at the forefront of this important issue and thank the legislature and Governor for understanding how crucial it is to the health of Wisconsin's waters."

Our member lake organizations, individuals and corporations have long supported measures to remove phosphorus from the runoff flowing into our waters. Nutrients like phosphorus are degrading 90% of Wisconsin's inland lakes, causing smelly algae blooms, fish kills, and declining water quality.

Enactment of this new law enhances Wisconsin's status as a national leader and model for other states in preventing phosphorus in runoff from contaminating its waters.

And don't worry, we'll keep working for more ways to protect Wisconsin's lakes.



*Please share this with a friend or neighbor!*

CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE AREA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

**2009 — 2010 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

(Please print or type)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Town, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Local Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Local Area Address \_\_\_\_\_

Local Area Town, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*2009 — 2010 membership = \$25 per property*

*Please return this form and your \$25 check to: CFAPOA, PO Box 555, Hayward, WI 54843-0555*

Please check this box if you'd like someone to contact you about volunteering.

# CHIPPEWA FLOWAGE STORAGE RESERVOIR FORECAST FROM XCEL

**Elevation as of December 4, 2009:** 1312.08 ft.  
**Season1:** Winter 2009-10  
**Typical Winter Low Elevation:** 1308.0 ft.  
**2009-10 Projected Winter Low Elevation:** 1308.0 ft.



**Comments**

- ▶ Based on the current reservoir level and the relatively low inflow going into the winter season, Xcel Energy forecasts to draw down the reservoir to an elevation of 1308.0 ft. this winter. The drawdown last winter was 4.1 ft. (elevation 1308.92 ft.).
- ▶ The projected 1308.0 ft. drawdown elevation is based on an average winter snowpack and average river inflows into the reservoir during the winter months.
- ▶ Discharge flows from the dam will be maintained slightly above minimum levels (>250 cubic feet per second) at the onset of winter with increases in discharge through the winter months to reduce the reservoir to the projected 1308.0 ft. elevation.
- ▶ Xcel Energy intends to re-evaluate the reservoir level and snowpack throughout the winter season to determine if a modified forecast is necessary due to deviations in snowpack or inflow changes.
- ▶ If significant snowpack begins accumulating during the winter season, additional water will be drawn from the reservoir, which will reduce the reservoir level below the projected 1308.0 ft. elevation.

*Definitions of Seasons of the Year for Operating the Chippewa Storage Reservoir:*  
 Winter: December 1 – March 30                      Summer: June 2 – September 30  
 Spring: April 1 – June 1                                      Fall: October 1 – November 30

**2009 - 2010 CFAPOA DIRECTORY**



Thanks, Carolyn, for another good job on the CFAPOA Membership Directory! Keeping all those pieces of information accurate is a huge job and we appreciate all your efforts. 2009 - 2010 directories were mailed in December. If you did NOT receive your copy or if your information is incorrect or incomplete, please advise Carolyn Fritsch. Carolyn is our Membership Chair and Directory Editor. You can contact her through CFAPOA.

**SYMPATHIES**

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Chuck Gunderson (Sandy Point Rd) who passed away on November 22nd. Chuck loved to fish and spend time up north. He and his wife, Sharyn, have been long time members of CFAPOA and have enjoyed the Chippewa Flowage with four generations of family and lots of friends for many years.

## **CFAPOA 2009 — 2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Doug Kurtzweil, Chair	462-9679	Chris Jeffords	945-3085
John Kaiser, Vice Chair	462-3450	Terry Kinderman	462-3733
Barb Schweig, Secretary	945-2340	Rick Marks	462-3072
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Barb Czarnecki	462-9731	Nancy Ruhlrow	945-2340
Donna Gilbertson	945-2817	<i>Email all Board members at cfapoa@yahoo.com</i>	

*Newsletter Editor: Barb Schweig    Newsletter Advisors: CFAPOA Board Members*

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



## Please mark your calendar

- 2/4/10 CFAPOA Board Meeting — 6 pm at Town of Hunter Hall
- 3/4/10 CFAPOA Board Meeting — 6 pm at Town of Hunter Hall
- 4/1/10 CFAPOA Board Meeting — 6 pm at Town of Hunter Hall

### HOW TO CONTACT US

CFAPOA  
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cfapoa@yahoo.com  
www.cfapoa.org