



DISTRICT DIALOGUE



VOLUME 25, NUMBER 1
AUGUST, 2015

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Dear Fellow Lauderdale Lakes Property Owner,

This edition of the “District Dialogue” focuses upon our upcoming Annual Meeting where we will be voting for two commissioners, setting the 2016 budget, and providing an update on various Lake District projects. The Annual Meeting is the Saturday of Labor Day weekend, September 5th.

During the past year, the District has been very busy managing familiar projects and taking on some new initiatives on your behalf. Remedial efforts on the “Leak in the Lake”, were finished, and we continue restoration of our wetlands property. These activities are in addition to our ongoing projects of managing weed harvesting, the water safety patrol, septic pumping, and golf course operations. More details on these and other subjects follow in this District Dialogue, and will be briefed at our annual meeting.

Last fall, the District engaged the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to begin developing a long range plan for our property, which includes the golf course, wetlands and community center. A special meeting was held at Lutherdale on August 15th to roll out the preliminary ideas. A condensed version of these findings will be presented at our annual meeting.

Your Board has worked hard to manage the budget for 2015 and 2016. The proposed 2016 budget has a decrease of more than \$40,000 from 2015, primarily due to completing the repair of the “Leak in The Lake”. The Board works very hard to control expenses while executing the programs upon which you have come to rely. Much of the Lake District work is performed by the volunteer commissioners. The budget will be fully explained and voted upon at the Annual Meeting.

Although it seemed like winter would never let go, we have had many excellent days to enjoy our lakes. Labor Day is fast approaching, but many great days remain to enjoy the lakes. Late summer and fall are an excellent time to enjoy Lauderdale. Enjoy and be safe.

Scott Mason
District Board Chairman

LAUDERDALE LAKES
LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING

LUTHERDALE CHAPEL, N7891 HWY 12

SEPTEMBER 5, 2015

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9:30 AM
MEETING BEGINS AT 10:00 AM

BUDGET HEARING & AGENDA

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of 2014 minutes
3. Commissioner Election
4. Treasurer's report
5. Water Safety Patrol report
6. Golf Course report
7. Long Range Planning Update
8. Environmental Projects
9. Septic pumping report
10. Weed harvesting report
11. Update on Sterlingworth Bay leak & Outflow Dam
12. Amendments
13. Approval of 2016 budget & tax levy
14. Other business for discussion

COMMISSIONER NOMINATIONS / RETIREMENT

Scott Mason

The District Board is comprised of five elected Commissioners, each serving three-year terms with a rotating election cycle. In most years, two Commissioners are up for reelection, although every third year only one commissioner is up for election. This year, the positions held by Peter Van Kampen and Jack Sorenson are up for reelection. Both commissioners have filed nomination papers and are willing to serve another term.

After 18 years of service on the Lake District Board, Nestor Dyhdalo submitted his resignation effective 12/31/2014. Nestor has skillfully managed many projects for our community and we are immensely grateful for his tireless contributions. During these 18 years, Nestor has managed our finances as treasurer, started the water safety patrol, created and continues to manage a district-wide data base, created and managed our web site, and has taken on many other special projects. We are not letting go of Nestor quite so easily, as he will continue to manage our data base and assists with the transition without hesitation. Thank you for your contribution and for your friendship.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our new Lake District Commissioner, Debbie Ferrari. Debbie has been on our lakes for many years and has volunteered with various lake organizations. The District Board appointed Debbie to the Lake District Board to complete the remainder of Nestor's term. Debbie is an experienced CPA and the Board wisely asked her to assume the role of Treasurer. Many thanks.

GOLF COURSE UPDATE

Scott Mason

In December, the golf course loan was paid off two years ahead of schedule. The golf course is now fully self-sufficient without a tax subsidy.

Restoration of the historic water tower continues to look better as the plantings in the park area grow in and mature. Long-time lake resident Larry Myers worked with the District on the design, and personally funded the restoration of the water tower and the landscaping of the park. The water tower has been a landmark at the golf course for over a century, formerly providing water for the clubhouse. This generous contribution to the community by the Larry Myers Family looks fantastic and has been the focal point of several parties and weddings.

It is always a challenge to manage the golf operation while adapting to the unpredictable changes in our weather. General Manager Chris White and his Superintendent Chris Duoss continue to do a great job of managing our resource. With winter lingering much later than typical, we had our latest opening date since 1997. In spite of this delay, Chris and his team have led the course on a path to finish the year within budget.

VOTING AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Scott Mason

As in prior years, anyone wishing to vote must be an elector of the district and be present at the time the vote is called.

Lake District permanent residents as well as property owners are considered eligible electors. We will use the Walworth County tax rolls and LaGrange & Sugar Creek voter registration lists to verify elector status and distribute ballots.

A frequent voting question involves property owners who own more than one lot. State law makes it clear that it is “one person, one vote”; this is no different than any other general election.

WEED HARVESTING

Greg Wisniewski

Harvesting quantities are similar to those from last year, and Bubbling Springs’ navigational channels, as typical, had substantial growth when we started harvesting on June 30th, which is the first day we are allowed to harvest in that area per our DNR permit. Our crew, Mike, Pat, Joe, and Don, do an awesome job in manning and maintaining the equipment, including rebuilding portions of it when it is required. We are fortunate to have such capable people manning the equipment who also have the expertise required to maintain it. This maintenance is optimizing the useful life of our equipment.

As previously reported, the DNR is now requiring that all lakes have an Aquatic Plant Management Plan (APMP) that is updated every five years. Our last plant sampling was done in July 2008, and our APMP was completed in July, 2010. Also, to comply with the new regulations, we must now use a point intercept method for our plant sampling. This GPS

grid of 1,779 points on the lake assures that all current and future samplings will be at the same location, enabling us to analyze the movement of plants and any trends that need to be addressed in our management. To assist us, the DNR generously performed the plant sampling on Middle Lake in mid-August, 2014. Stantec, our contractor, sampled the aquatic plants in Green and Mill Lakes in late July, 2014, and issued our updated APMP in April, 2015. We worked with Stantec to revise draft plans to provide optimum latitude in our harvesting procedures. The current draft of our APMP allows deeper cutting of plants and recovery of floaters in most locations where adequate access is available. The DNR will finalize the APMP in September, 2015. The DNR has issued a five-year harvesting permit based on our current APMP draft.

For Weed Harvesting questions or concerns call 742-4511 and ask for Mike Bromland.

CLEAN BOATS CLEAN WATERS

Greg Wisniewski

This is our seventh year for the Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) program. We received a grant from the DNR to fund a portion of the program. Connor Hamilton is our current CBCW inspector. He is very personable and obviously familiar with the lakes, as his family has been here since the 1960s. Connor is a student at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, so he can provide good coverage of weekend hours. He is focusing on the Sterlingworth and Green Lake launches, and endeavoring to educate boaters on how to contain invasive species and prevent transport to other lakes. Thank you all for your cooperation in keeping our lakes in excellent condition.

PIER INSPECTOR

Peter Van Kampen

We want to thank all the pier builders and homeowners for their cooperation in making the inspection and permitting process work so smoothly. The pier inspector, Andi White, can be contacted by email at andi@uwalumni.com or by phone at 262-903-0057. You can also download a permit application that includes instructions from the Lake District Website: lauderdalelakedistrict.com. Although there is not any new shoreline and very few new piers, we see plenty of replacement piers each year. Keep in mind that your pier must be far enough away from your lot line so that you do not infringe upon your neighbor's riparian rights when you put your boat or boat lift in the water. If you have any questions about this, Andi can help. The most frequently asked questions concern the number of moorings that are allowed. According to the Town's Ordinance, you are allowed:

One mooring for each 22 feet of frontage.

One pier counts as two moorings, even if there are not two boats moored.

Those with 44 feet of frontage are allowed two moorings.

One additional mooring (wave runner or sailboat lift, for example) is allowed for those with 66 feet of frontage.

Two piers, or four moorings, are permitted for those with 88 feet of frontage.

Those with 110+ feet of frontage are allowed five moorings. No more than five moorings are allowed, regardless of the length of frontage. This is strictly enforced, since it puts some control on the number of boats on the Lakes. Boat density, as measured by number of boats per navigable acre of water, on Lauderdale Lake is the highest in the State of Wisconsin. As boats get bigger and faster, they occupy many acres per minute. Drive safely.

SAILING CLUB

Peter Van Kampen

The Lauderdale Lakes Sailing Club wishes to thank all the big wake boat owners who move to one of the other lakes from 10:00 to 11:15 on Sunday mornings. We know that the Lakes are for everyone, and that you have the right to boat anywhere, so we really do appreciate it when you take the time to go to another lake for this short period of time. We know the big wake boats need deep water, but each of the lakes have lots of acres over 30 feet deep. The big wake boats are very disruptive to sailboats. Sailboats do not have the power to punch through the waves so they get pushed and shoved in every direction from these waves. Going along the shore is not a solution, since the waves will carry right across the lake with most of their weight and momentum. We only have about 20 boats in the Club, but we have many spectators and supporters who enjoy the races from shore and on boats. If you are one of those who surfs or wakeboards on another lake for an hour or so on Sundays, the sailors, their families, friends, and supporters thank you. It is greatly appreciated.

LEAK IN THE LAKE

Jack Sorenson

I am very happy to report that the Sterlingworth Bay Project has been completed. A number of years ago, a vortex was noticed and water was leaking from the Sterlingworth Bay into Honey Creek. The Town of LaGrange took quick remedial action to stop the immediate leak.

The Lake District has since explored the site in various ways, reviewed old building and engineering plans, and finally found and plugged a very suspicious looking old pipe and manhole that had the bottom of it "blown out" from previous water flow. The faulty pipe and manhole were pumped full of a slurry of concrete which will cut off the conduit for water flow from the bay to the creek. While the investigation phase of this project took more time than we had anticipated, the overall repair to

the pipe structure and the fortification of the water's edge in the bay has been considerably less expensive than earlier repair considerations would have cost.

We feel that as a direct result of this repair, the reoccurrence of a leak resulting in a precipitous drop in water elevation is now much less likely to occur.

Additionally, the south shoreline of the Sterlingworth Bay along with the dam will be subject to regular inspections.

WATER SAFETY PATROL

Debbie Ferrari

We are now about half-way through our summer boating season. Our Water Safety Patrol continues to be led by Chief Ken Blanke, who has served on our patrol team for 38 years. He is assisted by Sergeant Janene Littmann, who has 28 years of experience on our lakes. In addition to Ken and Janene, we have 16 officers on our patrol team; twelve or whom have experience on our lakes ranging from 2 to 14 years, and four new officers, some with prior law enforcement experience on lakes, and some new to the field.

Each of our officers is certified in law enforcement and takes an oath to uphold the law. Our primary focus, however, is safety. An important part of safety is education. Our team is engaged in our community to promote safety and to provide information, since each of us has a role in maintaining a safe environment on the Lake. In addition to their patrols, you may see our officers out and about in our lake community.

- Officers Adam Freund and Kim Jackson were the instructors for the boating safety courses held this summer.
- Sergeant Janene Littmann and Officer Kim Jackson shared information about the Water Safety Patrol at the LLIA Annual Membership Meeting in June.
- Officer Chris St. Clair brought one of our patrol boats to the annual Kids' Fish Jamboree in July.

Cool and rainy weather in May and June caused our patrol hours to be a bit less than last year, however summer arrived in July. With the warm weather and increased activity on the lake, our patrol is in full swing. We were confronted with several significant mechanical problems in our boats early in the season, which caused higher than normal maintenance expenses. We are fortunate to have two fully equipped boats on our lake, and access to an additional boat from Pleasant Lake, which helped bridge some required off-lake repair time.

To date, we have unfortunately had to write four citations for Operating While Intoxicated (OWI). This is a serious offense, not only for the individuals involved, but also for everyone else on the lake. Our lakes are often crowded on weekends and holidays, and, as reported in a 2010 SEWRPC study, these crowds “may produce high-speed boating densities that temporarily exceed the standard”. Therefore any unsafe behaviors carry a much greater risk for causing injury or loss of life. Other common offenses that directly impact safety for all of us include PWCs not operating at slow-no-wake where required, individuals exceeding the speed limit, and towing more than 2 people behind a watercraft.

As a reminder, the following are State Laws and local LaGrange Ordinances that are most frequently an issue on our lakes:

- ✓ **Boating Safety Certification** – anyone born 1/1/89 or after must have completed a Boating Safety Course approved by the WDNR and carry their certificate to operate a motorboat or PWC
- ✓ **Registration** - make sure yours is current and properly displayed
- ✓ **PWCs** - you must operate them at slow-no-wake within 100 feet of another watercraft (tow rope, skier, towable, etc.), pier, or raft; or within 200 feet of the shoreline (see boating laws for details)

- ✓ **Speed Limits** – observe the special speed limits for Lauderdale Lakes on weekends and holidays... max 10 mph from sunset to 9 am and max 50 mph at all other times
- ✓ **Lights** – **DO** use navigation lights between sunset and sunrise (both the red and green bow light and an all-around white stern light) and **DO NOT** use docking lights while on open water
- ✓ **Skiers & Towables** – you must have a “spotter” and no more than 2 people may be behind the boat (regardless of the capacity of your towable)
- ✓ **PFDs** – there are two different types you may need:
 - “wearable PFD” – one on board for each person, *this includes paddleboards*, and,
 - “throwable PFD” – one on board for all boats 16’ long or longer (except for canoes and kayaks).

There were also several new Wisconsin boating rules recently enacted which impact our lakes.

1. Similar to the slow down, move over roadway law in Wisconsin, a new rule stipulates that “No motorboat shall be operated in excess of slow-no-wake speed within 100 feet of a stationary or drifting authorized patrol vessel or emergency vessel displaying an emergency light or siren.”
2. You may need to curb your desire to trick out your boat because another new rule provides that “No vessel may be equipped with or display any blue colored light or lamp unless the vessel is a patrol boat.”

Where do you find all these laws and rules? Wisconsin boating falls under the jurisdiction of the WDNR. With your boat registration, you should receive *The Handbook of Wisconsin Boating Laws and Responsibilities*. This free publication is available from the WDNR, or you can view or print it off of their website, and our officers carry extras on the patrol boats. (If you have a real hankering for the details, you can always go to the Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 30 Navigable Waters, Harbors and Navigation and Wisconsin Administrative Rules NR 5 Boat Rules and Registration.) Local boating laws are covered by the Towns of LaGrange and Sugar Creek Boating Ordinance, which you can view or print off the Town of LaGrange website. The Water Safety Patrol prepared a handy tri-fold brochure entitled “What you need to know when boating on Lauderdale Lakes” which summarizes these local laws. This tri-fold brochure is available in plastic boxes at the boat launches, were distributed to all LLIA members in the new Directory, and our officers carry them in the patrol boats.

Here’s to hoping the rest of summer brings us warm and sunny days to enjoy our Lauderdale Lakes. For those of you who remember Sergeant Phil Esterhaus from *Hill Street Blues* ... “HEY, let’s be careful out there!”

SEPTIC PUMPING

Peter Van Kampen

The new record keeping system for septic pumping is working really well. Everyone now pays the same septic pumping fee on their taxes instead of paying one of seventy-two different codes and prices required under the old system. If you would like to know if you are paying the correct amount, you can check your tax bill under “assessments” and you should see \$46 for Septic pumping. District homeowners with special aerobic systems and those with holding tanks should not be

charged for septic pumping on their property tax bill. These folks need to contract with one of the local pumping companies to service their systems as needed.

Since we have started the new record keeping system, we did have one homeowner with a holding tank find out she was being assessed for pumping on her taxes. We corrected that within the week, and she was fully reimbursed. Check your tax bill and please let us know if something is not right. You can contact Andi White at 262-903-0057 with questions or concerns. Please feel free to share your comments on the pumping service. Collectively, we are getting a very competitive price from Associates Septic Services, but we also expect good service.



Celebrating 70 Years 1944-2014

*With A Strong Vision For The Future Lutherdale
Proudly Announces Our New Ministry Logos:*



In celebration of the 70 years of Lutherdale's growth in ministry and service, a new logo and branding identity has been designed. As you drive by our campus you will notice a new sign at our entrance that will be much more visible to travelers and the public. Pay close attention and you will also see the addition of a new secondary name –Lauderdale Lakes Conference Center.

Lutherdale is committed to being a resource and a partner with the local community. We have been doing more to invite the community to our campus through programs and outreach. The Friday night Fish Fry events are well attended and many people comment on the wonderful setting. The Cancer Assault Challenge keeps growing and had over 500 in attendance this year to support a great cause.

When Lutherdale was founded in 1944 it was incorporated as the Lauderdale Lutheran Bible Camp. We are bringing back the Lauderdale connection with the addition of the Lauderdale Lakes Conference Center. Plans are underway to raise the needed funds to build a new adult high comfort lodge to serve more adult groups, families, and meeting groups.

Additional plans are being prepared for an Activity and Recreation Center to provide year round recreation opportunities for our many guests. This fall work will begin on a professional grade soccer field and baseball field, thanks to a generous gift from Arthur and Josephine Anderson. The sports fields will be adjacent to the future rec center.

The Lutherdale Garden has been operating for three years now. Everybody enjoys eating the greens and vegetables that are grown right here on our campus and served in our dining hall. People are surprised that even in the cold winter months we can still serve fresh produce grown on site because of an indoor growing room and our 100" hoop house. This fall work will begin on a new and much larger growing room that will be located in the lower level of the dining hall. This will greatly increase our year round food production capabilities.

We are proud to be a member of the Lauderdale Lakes community and appreciate great neighbors and friends. Over the years many of you have generously donated items for the camp to use or given gifts of support. For that we are eternally grateful. Your generosity continues to provide the means for Lutherdale to grow into something far beyond what we could ever ask or imagine.

PROPOSED 2016 BUDGET

The following page is the proposed 2016 budget. We will be discussing and voting on this at our Annual Meeting.

	2015 Approved Budget	2016 Proposed Budget	Inc/(Dec) from 2015	
			\$	%
Weed Harvesting	50,000	46,000	(4,000)	-8.0%
Water Safety Patrol	61,300	59,500	(1,800)	-2.9%
Dam	9,000	42,500	33,500	372.2%
Environmental Projects	26,000	21,000	(5,000)	-19.2%
Communications	3,000	3,500	500	16.7%
Insurance	13,650	14,000	350	2.6%
Legal	15,000	15,000	-	
Community Center	9,800	4,400	(5,400)	-55.1%
Certified Audit	3,500	3,675	175	5.0%
Lake District Maintenance Building	5000	6,800	1,800	36.0%
General Lake District Operation	9,250	13,730	4,480	48.4%
Addition to Lake District Reserve	5,000	5,000	-	
Lake Leak Engineering	65,000	-	(65,000)	-100.0%
Golf Course	-		-	
Capital reserve	85,000	85,000	-	
TOTAL (Incl Reserve Increases)	360,500	320,105	(40,395)	-11.2%
Use of Reserves	-		-	
Total Tax Levy	360,500	320,105	(40,395)	-11.2%

LAKE DISTRICT CONTACTS

LL Lake Management District
N7498 Country Club Dr.
Elkhorn WI 53121
(262) 642-1690

Scott Mason, Chairman	642-1690
Debbi Ferrari, Treasurer Water Safety Patrol	742-4066
Jack Sorenson, Secretary Outflow Dam & Insurance	742-3161
Greg Wisniewski, Weed Harvesting & CBCW	742-4800
Peter Van Kampen Pier Inspector & Septic Pumping	742-2567
Rick Callaway (Walworth County)	374-2387
Don Sukala (Town of LaGrange)	742-2177
District Water Safety Patrol	742-4300
Weed Harvesting	742-4511
Lauderdale Lakes Country Club	742-2454