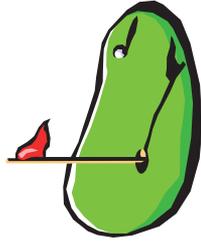




DISTRICT DIALOGUE



VOLUME 26, NUMBER 1
AUGUST, 2016

DISTRICT DIALOGUE

Volume 26, Number 1 August, 2016

Dear Lauderdale Property Owners,

My grandparents purchased our family lake house in the early 1930s. My father, uncles, and I had the unique opportunity of growing up on the lake; my wife, Janis, and I have been able to watch our two daughters grow up on the lake as well. It has been a great experience which many long-time Lauderdale families have also had. During this time, we have seen many changes, but we have also been able to preserve and manage many important characteristics of our lake community. With my passion for the lake, it's always been rewarding to serve on the Lake District Board. Looking back at our accomplishments, it's amazing what this small organization has done in a short amount of time. I am proud of all of our accomplishments, and am especially pleased that we have protected our lakes and that we were able to acquire Lauderdale Lakes Country Club.

Our water quality has remained excellent, and the efforts of the Lake District and the Improvement Association have been key to this accomplishment. We have worked to prevent surface run-off, have monitored and reduced waste water from septic tanks, and have managed an aquatic plant plan to reduce weeds and muck in our lakes. We have been able to ensure that the water quality of Lauderdale Lakes is one of the best in the state, even while our boat density is among the highest in the state.

In spite of growth pressures in the 1990s, our community prevented the development of the golf course and adjacent wetlands on Don Jean Bay, preserving over 65 acres of green space on our lakes. This is a real success story because we are maintaining a great 9-hole golf course which is self-sufficient without any continuing cost to the tax payers. Over the past 20 years, we have seen the course conditions improve, we have protected the adjacent wetlands, stabilized

the shoreline, and reintroduced native plants. We constructed a new maintenance facility to house our golf course, weed harvesting, and water patrol operations, and with the help of the Larry Myers family, we have added to the beauty of the area with a newly restored tower and a new water feature and landscaping.

Long range planning is covered in detail later in this issue, but there are two main things to remember as we move forward;

- The community will shape the plan through public meetings in 2017.
- The community will make the decisions regarding any improvements.

Al Busa, a long-time Lauderdale resident, was instrumental in developing the plan regarding the golf course acquisition. I was saddened to learn that Al Busa passed away just a few weeks ago after dealing with a significant health challenge. Al made immense contributions to our lake community and will be missed.

The Board is busy preparing for the upcoming annual meeting at Lutherdale on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. We will be presenting the proposed budget for 2017, which I am pleased to announce is resulting in a decrease of the tax levy by more than 30% from 2016. Our overall budget is the lowest since 2004, without any reduction in the services you have come to expect.

As the days begin to grow shorter, we still have many excellent days on the lake. Enjoy the gem we have and thank you for your support!

Scott Mason
District Board Chairman

LAUDERDALE LAKES
LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING

LUTHERDALE CHAPEL, N7891 HWY 12
SEPTEMBER 3, 2016
REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9:30 AM
MEETING BEGINS AT 10:00 AM

BUDGET HEARING & AGENDA

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of 2015 minutes
3. Commissioner Election
4. Water Safety Patrol report
5. Golf Course report
6. Long Range Planning Update
7. Environmental Projects
8. Septic pumping report
9. Weed harvesting report
10. Outflow Dam
11. Treasurer's report
12. Amendments
13. Approval of 2017 budget & tax levy
14. Other business for discussion

COMMISSIONER NOMINATIONS

Jack Sorenson

This year only one Commissioner is up for reelection.

Commissioner Scott Mason submitted his nomination form, as did lake resident Rickard Mikulecky. Hence both names will appear on the ballot.

VOTING AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Jack Sorenson

As in prior years, anyone wishing to vote must be an elector of the Lake District and be present at the time the vote is called. Absentee and proxy voting is prohibited by state statutes.

Lake District permanent registered voters, who have resided in the Lake District for no less than 10 days prior to the election and are qualified to vote in general elections, as well as property owners within the Lake District are considered eligible electors, provided each elector / owner is a U.S. citizen and 18 years of age or older prior to the election. We will use the Walworth County tax rolls and LaGrange & Sugar Creek voter registration lists to verify elector status and distribute ballots.

A frequent question involves property owners who own more than one lot. State law is clear “one person one vote” rule; this is no different than any other municipal election.

GOLF COURSE UPDATE

Scott Mason

It's remarkable that this is our twentieth year of community ownership of Lauderdale Lakes Country Club. It is equally remarkable that we were able to exceed the promises and projections made in 1996.

- In 1996, we told the community that the golf course could be paid off in 20 years. This course was paid in full in 18 years.

- In 1996, we projected that the golf course would be self-sustaining once the loan was paid off. This is now a reality without any tax subsidy.
- Over the past 20 years, protective measures have been taken to prevent the future sale or development of the golf course and to preserve the open space and recreational opportunities for all.
 - The property was rezoned from condominiums to park
 - The land was placed into a conservation easement
 - With the lake district's acquisition of the community center and wetlands, the tax keys have been combined, yielding one contiguous parcel.

Our golf course is a gem, which is now providing valuable infrastructure for the district's water safety patrol and weed harvesting programs, the Yacht Club's annual fireworks, and the ski team for their Don Jean Bay performances. With the operations (maintenance) building on site, all of our programs are able to perform more maintenance in-house, reducing expenses and downtime.

As always, it is a challenge to manage the golf operation while adapting to the unpredictable changes in our weather. Spring 2016 was difficult with significant poor weather, resulting in financial results below expectations, however summer performance has been excellent and we are ahead of projections in rounds and corresponding revenue. General Manager Chris White and his team continue to do a great job of managing our resource. Without reservation, we expect to finish the year within our projections.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Scott Mason

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program is an education and certification program that helps organizations protect our environment while reducing expenses. The program offers information and guidance to implement an environmental

management plan that improves efficiency, conserves resources, and promotes conservation efforts. Audubon International awards certification to publicly recognize and reward the environmental achievements and leadership of program members. There are six certification categories. We are now fully certified in three categories and are continuing the certification process in the remaining three.

- Environmental Planning
Certified 2014
- Wildlife & Habitat Management
Certified July, 2016
- Chemical Use Reduction & Safety
Certified August, 2016
- Water Conservation
- Water Quality Management
- Outreach & Education

Goose Harvest: There is a three to four week period during June and July when the non-migratory geese on our lakes do not fly. These are the geese that stay at Lauderdale year-round and leave evidence of their activity on lawns, beaches, and in our lakes. The goose harvest coincides with the time of year when the migratory geese are farther north and not in this area. The live capture occurs only once a year. This year, on June 21st, we were able to locate 20 birds. A big thank you goes to Bruce Bauman and Doug Ward for helping my wife Janis and me with the day's project.

Goose trivia: Geese mate for life and typically have five to nine young each year. Within a year the young are beginning their own families.

We began this program in 2007 and have had excellent results, drastically reducing the numbers of nuisance geese on our lakes and shorelines. If you have a problem with geese at your property, please contact me so that we can help remedy the problem.

Wetlands Maintenance: We continue to work on the wetlands adjacent to the golf course on Don Jean Bay. Our contractor has done a great job of introducing native plants along the shoreline to help stabilize the land and add beauty to the area. A significant

change under our ownership has been to limit mowing. We now mow just the areas required for the ski team performances and to provide access to the weed harvesting and water safety patrol piers. On an annual basis, we mow the site for the Yacht Club fireworks display...which was exceptional this year!

Blue Spruce Fungus: I have learned from an Arborist that many Blue Spruce are developing a fungus that is killing the trees. The insides, and especially the lower branches are losing lots of needles. He says it's treatable. Since then, I have noticed a lot of them with the same look around the Lakes. If one of these trees is in your yard it may not be too late to save it. I did some research, and there are different types of Blue Spruce diseases - some are treatable with fungicide and others are not. If you are concerned about trees on your property, the best recommendation would be to contact a certified arborist. There are several in our area.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT ALIAS WEED HARVESTING

Greg Wisniewski

For over 25 years, the Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District has been performing what the DNR calls "mechanical plant harvesting". To be allowed to perform mechanical plant harvesting, we are required to have an aquatic expert sample the lake plant material and develop harvesting recommendations in accordance with good practices. Our Aquatic Plant Management Plan was updated in 2015, and, based on that plan, we have been issued a Five Year Mechanical Harvesting Permit. Our well-seasoned crew of Mike, Joe, Pat, and Don do an awesome job of manning and maintaining our equipment. This maintenance keeps our 25-year-old equipment operating satisfactorily and is optimizing the useful life of the equipment, without paying the high cost of returning the equipment to the manufacturer for rehabilitation. This year we are also training Steve Taylor, a long-time town of LaGrange resident, on operation of all the equipment. Mike Bromeland is our crew chief, and Joe Johnson is now the assistant crew chief. All personnel are being trained on all equipment to provide personnel flexibility and to avoid any interruptions when we do not have all of our manpower available.

This year, plant growth seemed to be more aggressive than usual in Sterlingworth Bay. Also, just as a reminder, the reason we cannot go into Bubbling Springs earlier in the year is because the DNR permit does not allow us to cut in environmentally sensitive zones before June 30th.

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

We have posted on the website an overall schedule to communicate when we hope to be in your area. As you have probably observed, when the harvester moves forward it cuts the plant material and the conveyor collects the plant material and brings it out of the water. When rafts, play toys, mooring buoys, etc. exist beyond your pier head, we try to safely maneuver around these objects; however, that interrupts the collection of plant material due to the up and back action of the harvester. If it is possible for you to move these obstructions to an area within your pier head before we get to your area, it will assist and improve our collection of plant material. We certainly understand that in some areas relocation is not possible and we will continue to safely maneuver around those objects the best we can.

Our permit is only for mechanical plant material cutting and collection from the pier head to open water. Some riparian owners have used various vendors to manually clean the shoreline of aquatic plant material and muck. One of the vendors performing this service in the area is Sweeney's (262-501-0521). A new method being used on our lake to assist in the control of plants around piers is the DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) method done by Eco Waterway (262-468-6510). This method sucks out plant material with the roots, to assist in future reduction of plant material and degradation of those plant materials. This method is costly; however, if numerous riparian owners opt for this work, Eco Waterway's DASH method would become more economical. Lastly, the DNR allows muck removal of 3 cubic yards, or less than 100 cubic feet, each year for every riparian owner without a permit. However, the catch is it must be done manually. We are investigating whether the DNR would allow a mechanical collection of a controlled quantity of muck annually in multiple pre-approved locations, as this could significantly improve the shoreline and water quality.

CLEAN BOATS, CLEAN WATERS

Greg Wisniewski

This is our eighth 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.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Scott Mason

Last year, we assembled a long range planning team headed up by Kehoe-Henry & Associates in Elkhorn. Many of the details of the long range planning process were explained in detail in the January publication of the District Dialogue, and are included on our website. Our primary objective is to develop a good comprehensive long-range plan for the Lake District property, including the golf course.

What's next?

- Public informational meetings will be held between Memorial Day and Labor Day next summer. These meetings will determine the final plan.
- The Board will facilitate public input meetings to develop a plan, but in the end implementation and capital expenses must be approved by a vote of the District Property owners.

Suggestions and comments are welcome and encouraged. The website has a long-range planning section on the right-hand side, where you can click to read more about the stages of the planning, and submit comments through the "contact us" feature.

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 lake district's website has a "pier inspection" page under the "projects" section, where you can find information about piers and download a permit application and instructions. If you have any questions, the pier inspector, Andi White, can help. She can be contacted by email at pierinspection@lauderdalelakedistrict.com or at 262 903 0057. 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

Lauderdale Lakes Sailing Club: Our club continues to grow and it shows. We are averaging 17 boats on Sunday morning for our races at 10 a.m. What a sight it is! We see folks sitting in their yards and on their piers or out on their boats to watch it happen. It doesn't happen too fast since we are dependent upon the wind, but it's pretty to see. If you or anyone you know would like to learn more about sailing on Lauderdale they can contact me at: pvk1655@gmail.com.



Glenn Hansen is this year's leader in the summer long series. Glenn has been coming to Lauderdale since he was a teen, but just joined the club a few years ago. He obviously learns quickly. This picture was taken by Brenda Wisniewski, our unofficial photographer.

WEBSITE

Scott Mason

In 2015 we completely revamped our website to provide an easy to navigate and comprehensive resource for our constituents. The website has a calendar of community events, information about each of our projects, including a weed harvesting schedule and pier permit application, a news section, and documents relating to the lake district and our lakes. We post meeting minutes and

agendas on the site, and we have included a long range planning section to be updated as we move forward.

The website also has a “Subscribe” function that we have recently improved to increase communication. Subscribers will receive email notifications when meeting agendas or newsletters are posted to the web site. Presently, we only have 94 email addresses for lake property owners, which makes it difficult to communicate well. I encourage you to wander around the website, provide your email address, and stay informed.

www.lauderdalelakedistrict.com

OUTFLOW DAM

Jack Sorenson

The dam dates back to the mid-1800s when there was a saw mill built where the lake flows into Honey Creek (currently the location of the culverts). In the early 1900s, an electric generator was installed on the east side of the mill pond, forming the existing old dam building structure. The old saw mill was then replaced with culverts that are still at that location. Several years ago, the Lake District replaced these culverts, resulting in improved storm water outflow. In the mid-1900s, the existing spill ways were added to the front of the old dam building which formerly housed the electric generator.

We are currently planning a renovation to the dam to improve its safety from a human perspective, as well as insuring smooth unimpeded water flow over the dam. Plans have been drawn, and the Lake District is working with both the Sterlingworth Condominium Association and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to finalize plans for a grant and the approval to move forward with the construction.

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, and assisted by Sergeant Janene Littmann. All of our more experienced Officers returned this year and we have added two new Officers to our team.

This year we again faced some significant equipment problems with one of our patrol boats, which required us to replace the engine and incur higher than expected maintenance costs. 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.

In 2015 we wrote six citations for Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) for the entire season. To date for 2016, we have already written six citations for OWI. This is a serious offense not only for the individuals involved, but it endangers others on the lake. The next time you are out boating, why not consider identifying a “designated driver” to keep everyone safe and avoid a costly violation? Other common offenses that directly impact safety for all of us include:

- PWCs not operating at slow-no-wake where required;
- Exceeding the speed limits; and,
- Towing more than 2 people behind a watercraft.

Two new Ordinances are in the final stages of becoming laws that will cover Lauderdale Lakes. Both Ordinances address safety concerns that were raised by members of the lake community. We have publicized both of them, and once they are signed by the Town Boards of both LaGrange and Sugar Creek, they will become enforceable by our Water Patrol. They are:

1. Mooring is prohibited within 75 feet of the shoreline in those areas designated with “No Anchoring” buoys near the Pebble Beach on Green Lake.

Buoys have been in place for the last two years so please be sure you do not anchor between the shore and these buoys.

2. Tether Towables within certain Slow No Wake Areas. Towing is prohibited in channels marked Slow No Wake between Green Lake and Middle Lake, and between Mill Lake and Sterlingworth Bay. All towables including, but not limited to, tubes, ski ropes with or without skiers, or any other item that might otherwise be pulled behind the boat must be brought onboard and/or tethered directly to the boat and must be unoccupied while within the Slow No Wake zone.

Where do you find all these laws and rules? Wisconsin boating falls under the jurisdiction of the WDNR. *The Handbook*

of Wisconsin Boating Laws and Responsibilities is a free publication available from the WDNR, or you can view or print it off their website, and our Officers carry extras on the patrol boats. 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 at www.townoflagrangewi.com. (They can be found by selecting “Government” on the menu bar, and then “Ordinances” in the drop down menu.) 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 and our Officers carry them in the patrol boats. Both documents are also available on the Water Patrol page on our district website at www.lauderdalelakedistrict.com.

Enjoy the remaining days of the 2016 boating season, and please be safe!

SEPTIC PUMPING

Peter Van Kampen

Associates Septic Services is working to complete pumping for all the properties due to be pumped in 2016. They will continue into the fall, so if they haven't been to your property yet, don't worry. Andi White deals with most of the day-to-day work involved with this program. She is experienced and very capable of dealing with any problems that may arise.

If you need assistance or have a question about when your property is due to be pumped, please give her a call at 262-903-0057. If you wish to speak with me, please call 742-2567.

LUTHERDALE

Jeff Bluhm

It has been another busy year here at Lutherdale and I would like to share with you a few highlights.

Lutherdale continues to grow community connections. We are proud to be the host site for the annual Cancer Assault Challenge



5K Mud Run event. This was the fourth year with the highest participants yet. Over 900 runners came to support those families whose children are battling cancer.

The local Tibbets Elementary School had an ongoing construction project this spring that did not allow for the end of the year PTA Family Fun Night to be held at school. Lutherdale offered to be an alternative site for the school. The event was a huge success with a large crowd of kids and parents playing outdoor games and having a cook out.

Most children from the community participate in the summer school program offered by the Elkhorn Public School System. The half day school program ends at 12:00 noon. This year Lutherdale offered a day camp program for the students, enabling parents to send the kids to summer school and then have them bussed directly to Lutherdale after school.

Our summer camp programs have been expanding to serve more and more. This summer we hosted a camp for kids who were adopted from another country through the Holt International agency. We had a camp for foster children who live in the Rockford area. The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation from Chicago ran a week for kids who suffer with this disease. Next summer we will have a special camp for kids who were born with congenital heart conditions. It is a wonderful thing when kids can gather

together and spend time being kids. Especially those who live with health burdens.

The local LaGrange Fire and Rescue Squad has always provided excellent service when the need arises. They are a great group of folks who serve the community with highest priority. To help our local departments in their training this summer, we accepted an offer to be the site of a mass casualty exercise. LaGrange, Whitewater and Elkhorn all participated in a mock tornado disaster here. About 50 of our campers played the part of injured persons and were treated by the Fire and Rescue Squads. It was a busy night with all the emergency vehicles coming and going. Flight for Life also landing in one of our fields. As a special treat our campers were allowed to peak into the copter and meet the flight crew.

We give thanks for all the wonderful neighbors and friends here in our lake community. We often receive calls from folks looking to donate items to our ministry. This past year we have received donations of boats, equipment, furniture, building supplies, and other useful items. Your generous hearts are greatly appreciated.

Jeff Bluhm, Executive Director

Proposed 2017 Budget

Below is the proposed 2017 budget.

We will discuss and vote on this at our Annual Meeting.

	2016 Approved Budget	2017 Proposed Budget	Inc/(Dec) from 2016	
			\$	%
Aquatic Plant Management	\$ 46,000	\$ 46,000	\$ -	0.0%
Water Safety Patrol	59,500	25,800	(33,700)	-56.6%
Dam Maintenance	2,500	4,000	1,500	60.0%
Dam Modification	40,000	-	(40,000)	-100.0%
Environmental Projects	21,000	23,500	2,500	11.9%
Communications	3,500	4,500	1,000	28.6%
Insurance	14,000	14,000	-	0.0%
Legal	15,000	13,000	(2,000)	-13.3%
Community Center	4,400	5,400	1,000	22.7%
Certified Audit	3,675	4,000	325	8.8%
Lake District Maintenance Bldg	6,800	7,100	300	4.4%
General Lake District Operation (incl Pier Insp & Septic Admin)	13,730	16,900	3,170	23.1%
Addition to Lake District Reserve	5,000	5,000	-	0.0%
Golf Course Loan	-	-	-	
Capital Reserve	85,000	85,000	-	0.0%
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 320,105	\$ 254,200	\$ (65,905)	-20.6%
Available Cash Balance		\$ (40,000)	\$ (40,000)	
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$ 320,105	\$ 214,200	\$ (105,905)	-33.1%

LAKE DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION

For the most current information, go to our website:

www.lauderdalelakedistrict.com

Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District (262) 642-1690
N7498 Country Club Drive
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Scott Mason – Chairman smason@lauderdalelakedistrict.com
Golf Course, Environmental 262-642-1690
Long Range Planning – Property Development

Debbie Ferrari – Treasurer dferrari@lauderdalelakedistrict.com
Water Safety Patrol 262-742-4066
Long Range Planning – Communication

Jack Sorenson – Secretary jsorenson@lauderdalelakedistrict.com
Outflow Dam & Insurance 847-498-4613
Long Range Planning – Traffic Management

Peter Van Kampen pvankampen@lauderdalelakedistrict.com
Pier Inspection & Septic Pumping 262-742-2567
Long Range Planning – Additional Recreational Activities

Greg Wisniewski gwisniewski@lauderdalelakedistrict.com
Aquatic Plant Management & Clean Boats Clean Water 262-742-4800
Long Range Planning – Inventory & Analysis of Current Infrastructure

Rick Callaway rcallaway@lauderdalelakedistrict.com
Walworth County appointee 262-374-2387

Don Sukala dsukala@lauderdalelakedistrict.com
Town of LaGrange appointee 262-742-2177

Andi White 262-903-0057
Pier Permits & Septic Pumping Information

Water Safety Patrol 262-742-4300

Chris White 262-742-2454
Lauderdale Lakes Country Club

LD Operations Building: Weed Harvesting prompt #1 262-742-4511

Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District
N7498 Country Club Dr.
Elkhorn, WI 53121

TEMP – Return Service Requested