

## A View from the Lake by Tom Schroeder – President, Beaver Dam Lake Management District

At the end of my last letter I said, “I’ll see you on the Ice”. With the ice going out in March it seemed like we had a short winter. Then with the warm weather in early April, many lake residents including Chris and myself got spring fever and put in docks, started raking the lawn, cleaning up flower beds and other outside activities. Although the rest of April was cooler than normal, hopefully May temperatures will be more normal.

On Feb. 1, 2021 the Lake District applied for a WDNR grant to support the cost of constructing the SE Library Lake storm water project. The location of the project is where the three houses were demolished last fall just west of the Corner Bar. Mid-March 2021, I received notice that the Lake District was awarded the \$200,000 grant. Because of the design and projected cost of the SE storm water project it will be completed in 3 phases. Construction is currently planned to commence shortly after Labor Day and will involve connecting three storm water catch basins along the Library Lake Parking lot plus several other drains to the south to a new pond just southwest of the Utility relay building. Phases 2 and 3 (2022 and 2023 respectively) will include additional ponds and public amenities. Concurrent with the SE Pond project, permitting for the dredging of various areas of Library Lake is being pursued. Additional "creative" funding for phase 3 of the SE corner and any dredging of Library Lake will need to be secured from other government bodies, local and private sources. The BDLMD will continue to explore additional avenues of funding.

Last fall the buoys at the narrows were removed and two of the 3 buoys were found with damage from boat props hitting them. The buoys have been repaired and painted for better visibility so please stay safe distance from all the buoys. Also; a reminder that playing with, anchoring to and other unauthorized contact with navigation buoys is a violation of Federal navigation regulations. The buoys will be placed by the middle of May. The “No Wake” buoy placement across the lake just west of the beach area is being discussed with the WDNR. The original permit for buoys in this area was for the buoys to be lined up in a NE direction from just west of the city beach to the shoreline in line with Nedvidek St. and Hwy 63 interchange.

Currently the WDOT is in the design phase of rebuilding the highway 63 bridge and hopes to have design plans available by the end of 2021. Besides the design concerns, the WDOT and the City of Cumberland are working at keeping the traffic pattern as “normal” as possible during the construction of the “Bridge” and the resurfacing project. If the schedule holds, 2025 will be a busy summer.

During the fall 2019 aquatic plant survey, the EWM was found to be at one of the lowest levels since the early 2000’s. However, by the fall of 2020, EWM was found to have unexpectedly rebounded. It was very disturbing and disappointing to see that the effort to control the invasive plant over the past years “go down the drain” so quickly. After consulting with a number of experts in the field of EWM, the consensus was that because of the warm water temperatures in the high 70’s for at least 5 weeks during the summer of 2020, dormant EWM seeds had the right conditions to grow. EWM seeds can lie dormant for 6 to 7 years. As a result of this unexpected regrowth of EWM the Lake District board reallocated dollars within this year’s budget to cover the additional expense of this year’s treatment plan. The plan can be found at the BDLMD website at [beaverdamlake.org](http://beaverdamlake.org). When water temperatures are within the desired range of 55F to 60F, this year’s treatment will commence. The BDLMD is actively reviewing areas of the lake with need for non-EWM weed control mitigation due to restricted lake access and navigation issues.

Finally, this year's Annual Meeting will be held at the Cumberland Middle School on Sat. July 10, 2021 at 9:30 AM. During June, there will be more information about the meeting, including the proposed 2021/2022 budget and my annual letter. Hope to see you there. With the appearance that the Covid-19 pandemic is becoming better understood and under control, I hope for a wonderful summer on the lake for everyone. Remember to practice good safe operation of all watercraft while on the lake.

See you on the Lake.