

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

With the snow falling and the lake freezing over, I thought it would be a good time to update the projects status and issues your Lake District has been addressing plus provide some general information on topics of interest.

In early June, areas of Eurasian Water Milfoil were treated and the results of the July and Oct. plant surveys showed that this year's treatment was effective. However, several untreated areas were found to again have EWM. The west side of the lake near the highway 63 bridge, and the channel to the east as well as City Bay will need to be treated. It appears that Rabbit Bay and Cemetery Bay will be need to have a whole lake treatment next year. A number of smaller EWM locations throughout the lake will also be treated.

The Library Lake - Lake Management Plan was approved by the WDNR and is now on the BDLMD website at [beaverdamlake.org](http://beaverdamlake.org). The Plan will guide the continued restoration of Library Lake and the surrounding area.

As was previously reported, a permit to remove (dredge) cattails and sediment from the southeastern part of Library Lake has been approved by the WDNR. Permit applications for dredging the north side of Library Lake and the east channel of the "Wickre" channel located on the west shoreline of Rabbit Bay are under review by the WDNR. (*see "A bit of Beaver Dam Lake Hisrory" article in this week's Advocate*) If you are interested in joining the team of committed supporters of the Library Lake Restoration dredging project please contact me. A "Fund the Library Lake Restoration" account has been established at Cumberland First Federal for all donations for the dredging project. Also; the BDLMD has an account at Edward Jones – Cumberland office for those wishing to take advantage of the tax deductions associated with donating stocks.

One issue that continues to be of concern to many boaters, riparian property owners and the BDLMD commissioners is the issue of waves created by some water craft for wake boarding, surfing and skiing. At the July 2022 Annual Meeting, a majority of those in attendance supported promoting increasing awareness of the wake issue by additional signage at boat landings, publishing a "boating culture" document for Beaver Dam Lake, and providing sources of information on the subject. In the Dec. 2, 2022 edition of the Wisconsin Outdoors publication, an article by Tim Eisele provides a good summary of the issues and update on what regulation is evolving at the State level. On the internet you can access "A Field Study of the Maximum Wave Height, Total Wave Energy & Max Wave Power, etc, by the UW of MN, Antony Falls Laboratory, at the University Digital Conservancy website. Meanwhile, states like Michigan and Alabama have either introduced or are contemplating legislation in the form of Regulations that would limit the use of watercraft on various waters such as lakes and rivers. The size (acreage) of the lake, the depth of the water, the distance watercraft must operate from the shoreline, and other parameters are just a few of the restrictions being debated. Personally, as I have mentioned before, it really comes down to being cognizant of others near you when operating your water craft, being aware of WI. Boating regulations and using common sense.

On Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, two new grant applications were successfully submitted to the WDNR. The first is for covering the construction cost of Phase 2 for the SE storm water pond and the second is for a Planning grant for developing a Management Plan that will address all of Beaver Dam Lake. This whole Lake Management Plan is necessary for acquiring grant funding for projects that impact the lake. Several examples that could be covered by a grant are sources of water runoff from the Cumberland Golf Course and other direct storm water outfalls like those along Jeffry Blvd. The dry wash at Brigadoon Camp ground is another excellent area requiring attention to reduce runoff.

The highway 63 Bridge is still scheduled for reconstruction coinciding with the Highway 48/63 resurfacing project during 2025. On Dec.6<sup>th</sup>, members of the City administration and council along with several Lake District commissioners met with the WDOT engineers to discuss the latest proposed designs. After reviewing the details of each design, the consensus of those at the meeting was to continue to go with the 50 ft. long design that the Cumberland City Council approved in August 2021. I sure hope that the WDOT can stay on their current design and build schedule so that the new bridge is constructed in 2025.

After this year's Annual Meeting, Joe'l Brenny approached me about volunteering to administer and manage the Lake Districts website. Joe'l and her husband, David have a summer home on Beaver Dam Lake with hopes of retiring at the Lake. Joe'l is employed by Great River Energy and assists in developing and overseeing websites for other partner cooperative utilities. Joe'l has revamped the structure of our website for hopefully easier access and is continually adding information that will provide updated material about the BDLMD activities. Thank you Joe'l.

As the end of the 2022 approaches, I want to thank all those that have helped to advance the Lake Districts goals of Protecting and Preserving Beaver Dam Lake. Looking forward to 2023, it appears that there will be a lot of activity affecting Beaver Dam Lake! Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

