

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

It is hard to believe that over ½ of the “summer” has passed but the best is yet to come! After all, the lake temperature is finally comfortable, the water is clear, fishing is steady and Rutabaga is just ahead! The Lake District Annual Meeting was held on July 8th with 45 in attendance. Senator Janet Bewley took time from her busy schedule to attend and gave an update on the State Budget discussion and commented on several lake and local issues. Dr. Alan Carson was elected to another term and will remain as Treasurer for 2017. The proposed budget that was published in the Advocate and in the BDLMD Annual Letter was approved. Almost 2/3 of the budget is covered by WDNR grants. Besides continuing to evaluate how invasive species, especially EWM (Eurasian water milfoil) and CLP (Curly leaf pondweed) are impacting the lake, the major project for the coming year will be the construction of the SW Library Lake storm water pond. So far the planning/design is almost complete, the property has been acquired and bids for the construction should be let soon. If everything goes as planned the construction should commence about mid Sept.

Two new navigation buoys were purchased and one each was placed at the “sand dam” between Williams and Rabbit Bay and at the “narrows”. Please don’t play with, move or anchor to the Buoys.

I again want to remind everyone to practice safe use and operation of your water craft whether it is a boat, Personal Water Craft (PWC), paddle board, paddle boat or canoe/kayak, including awareness that Personal Flotation Devices “PFD” are required for each member on board the boat, etc. Wave runners and jet skis are a blast to drive through big waves, making quick turns, etc. but remember that there are regulations that specify the distance you must keep from each other and nearby boats. Keep in mind that on Wisconsin waters a spotter is required on the craft when pulling a skier or tube. A wave runner or jet ski needs to have sufficient capacity for the driver, spotter and all occupants being pulled. I continue to observe passengers sitting on the front of pontoon boats splashing and/or dangling their feet outside the pontoon boat railings with the boat under power. Please don’t allow passengers to be outside the railing of pontoons while the boat is in motion. Anyone falling off the front deck would be exposed to severe injury or possible death. Comply with boating regulations by observing “No Wake” zones, not skiing, wake boarding, tubing, etc. between sunset and sunrise, having spotters on your water craft, keeping a safe distance from people fishing, paddle boarding, etc. Following boating and water safety regulations may save you an investment of \$175 or more in potential fines.

Remember to check the BDLMD website at beaverdamlake.org for the latest news about the Lake.