

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

Last Friday, Commissioner John Epple and I were returning from attending the annual Wisconsin Lake Partnership Conference, when we noticed that WE Energies had started lowering the gas main along hwy. 63/48 by the Library Lake SW storm water pond project. WE Energies has been waiting for the weather to moderate a bit so this work could be completed. The lowering of the gas main was necessary to provide clearance for new concrete storm water piping. Within the next few weeks Hwy. 63/48 will be detoured to allow the installation of new concrete piping that will carry the storm water from the highway, 4th and 5th Ave, and adjacent drainage areas to the completed pond structure at the SW corner of 5th and Hwy 63/48. Once complete, this project will prevent a significant amount of silt, sediment and phosphorus laden water from entering Library Lake. Watch for further notices about the highway closure and the detour.

In my previous “A View from the Lake” article I referenced that the Beaver Dam Lake Management District, (BDLMD), applied for a WDNR Lake Protection grant to support storm water infrastructure upgrades along Jeffery Blvd. and 3rd Ave. I am pleased to report that the grant in the amount of \$200,000 was awarded to the BDLMD. Engineering of the upgrades to the various catch basin and outfall infrastructure is currently being completed by Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc. – EOR. The present schedule is to do the work after Labor Day.

I again learned a lot from attending the Wisconsin Lake Partnership Conference. First and foremost; we are very fortunate to have the continued support of everyone to keep invasive species from entering Beaver Dam Lake. It is scary to hear the challenges and problems that invasive species have created for other lakes in Wisconsin. Many are dealing with such invasive species as the Starry Stonewort, Zebra and Quagga mussels, Rusty Crayfish, Chinese Mystery snail, the round goby (a small minnow like fish) and New Zealand mud snails. Then there are the invasive aquatic and land plants that are not in our lake but are appearing in Wisconsin such as Yellow floating heart, Parrot feather, Hydrilla, Water Lettuce and Yellow Iris. All these plants plus many others threaten our Lake and surrounding lands. For more information about Invasive Species please go to www.dnr.wi.gov key word “invasives”.

For now, let the snow and lake ice continue to melt and bring on summer. Remember to mark your calendar for the BDLMD Annual Meeting on July 14, 2018.