

Early Weed Cutting in Rice Lake

Compiled by Dan Graff while working as an educator for the Lake District to share with residents at the 125th year celebration of the City of Rice Lake on August 4th, 2012. The Lake District was represented in the parade and had a booth at the fairgrounds to discuss the history of the Lake District as well as current topics.

- It was not exactly known what year the city started to cut weeds in any organized fashion, however, there does seem to be a lot of mention of weeds and lake problems in the past. Local historian Don Carney said the lake saw its worst years in the 1930's and 1940's because many septic systems ran into the lake. He said the lake was "pea soup".
- Don Carney worked on the City cutting crew in 1958. The City hired people in the summer. There was a 3 man crew that went out with a raft that had a huge motor on the back (100-200hp). They charged forward into thick weed beds with a large rake like device that dipped into the water. 2 men would pull this device up and use pitchforks to move the weeds onto the raft. This was a slow operation.
- The work was almost always done between the mouth of the river to Indian Mounds Park to the Moose Lodge.
- The City removed the weeds at the foot of Marshall Street and discarded them in the Sherwood Forest near highway 53 north of Bear Paw.
- This occurred in the 50's and 60's with the unloading point moved to Bundy Street in the 1960's.
- Sometime in the 60's or 70's the City purchased mechanical harvesters and seasonal employees of the Park and Recreation Department cut weeds. This continued into the 1980's with the City turning the harvester operation over to the Lake District in 1985.

1975

Commissioners and Representatives: None, district wasn't formed yet.

- Bob Casperson went to the city hall and requested to circulate a petition to form a lake district. He represented the Rice Lake Improvement Association.

1976

Commissioners and Representatives: None, district wasn't formed yet.

- Petition was filed with county clerk to start a lake district. The petition had over 51% of land owner signatures. The district would promote public

welfare and property will benefit by its establishment and formation of the district will not cause and contribute to long range environmental pollution. A hearing was held on December 6, presided by the Barron County Zoning.

1977

Commissioners and Representatives:

V. Gordan Greener, Eugene Hartman, Harold A. Nelson and Forest Nutter were appointed by the County Board of Supervisors on April 19, 1977 to be commissioners and represent the Lake District until the first annual meeting.

- On June 8 there was a meeting to nominate 4 commissioners for annual meeting on June 27
- Interim budget \$1500.
- A letter was drawn up and formed to send to the public for nominations and notice of the first annual meeting on June 27.
- At the June 27 annual meeting the following commissioners were elected: Eugene Hartman (Chair), Robert Casperson (Secretary), Jim Lucas(City), Bob Houkam (Treasurer), Gordon Greener(County)
- At the July and August meetings they discussed a feasibility study and talked about the types of things they could do to help the lake. They received reports on parks, public access, water quality, fish types and a breakdown on the number of houses on the lake.
- November 2 meeting: DNR Representatives and commissioners discussed feasibility study and the future of the lake. This focused on diverting storm water from the lake, and the difficulty of controlling algae on a flowage, bacterial counts at the beach, and dropping the lake level to dredge, remove sludge, repair the dam and to do an annual draw down to expose weeds to frost.

1978

Commissioners and Representatives:

Eugene Hartman (Chair), Robert Casperson (Secretary), Jim Lucas (City), Bob Houkam (Treasurer), Gordon Greener (County)

- March 1 discussed 5 bids for feasibility study. Finley Engineering is low bidder and will do the study.
- Commissioners attend conference in EauClaire
- September 13 Finley Engineering discusses what they would like to do. Finley started sampling which included drilling wells. (Chronotype article-Oct 1978)
- Finley tried to figure out what it would cost to dredge the river.

1979

Commissioners and Representatives:

Eugene Hartman (Chair), Robert Casperson (Secretary), Jim Lucas (City), Bob Houkam (Treasurer), Gordon Greener (County),

- Lake level fluctuated due to faulty dam.
- Finley Engineering suggests sampling sites.
- Hartman reviews well and monitoring sample data from Finley. Lucas suggests the lake level be brought down due to hazards from the faulty dam.
- Rice Lake dam was discussed at the May meeting and talked about what to do with the faulty dam.
- Dean Jesse was elected for a 3 year commissioner term to replace Bob Houkam.
- Tentative date on completing feasibility study in 1980.
- Feasibility study costs about \$10,000.

1980

Commissioners and Representatives:

Eugene Hartman (Secretary), Robert Casperson (Chair), Jim Lucas (City), V. Gordon Greener (County), Dean Jesse (Treasurer),

- Commissioners want to raise the tax levy to bring more funding for work needed to be done in the district.
- Annual meeting on June 30. John Pelto replaces Gene Hartman as a commissioner.

1981

Commissioners and Representatives:

John Pelto (Secretary), Robert Casperson (Chair), Jim Lucas (City), V. Gordon Greener (County), Dean Jesse (Treasurer),

- 15 people at the annual meeting on June 29, 1981. DNR representative gives a slide show of the lake and discusses options for treating the lake.
- Suggested to raise taxes from .32 to .50 per 1000 to clean the lake and coordinate this with a draw down for work on the dam.
- Harvey Lorfeld elected Chairmen, Dean Jesse for secretary and Jim Lucas becomes treasurer.

1982

Commissioners and Representatives:

Robert Casperson (Secretary), Jim Lucas (City), John Pelto (Commissioner), Harvey Lorfeld (Chair), Lester Nelson (County), Wayne Arnold (Board Attorney)

- Special meeting in April of property owners to discuss chemical treatment, dredging, hiring a manager for lake projects, upland pollution, pulling stumps and spraying lake.
- Owen/Ayres and Associates (EauClaire) gave a report on the Rice Lake dam project.
- June 28 annual meeting people voted no for dredging (\$800,000), no for new equipment (75,000.), no for upstream improvement (97,000.) and no for an electric weir (10,000.). People voted yes (10,000) for regular Lake District operation which included treatment of aquatic weeds. 165 people appeared to voice their concerns about these issues and especially about a huge possible increase in the tax levy for the Lake District.
- Budget is about \$30,000./ year.
- Application for chemical permit from DNR was \$5.00 and the district contracted with Lake Management, Inc. from St. Croix Minnesota
- The district treated 29 acres at the mouth of the river, the hospital area and in front of the city park/ band shell area. They paid \$224 per acre for filamentous algae and submersed weeds and \$80/acre to fight snails (intermediate host of Swimmer's Itch). Chemicals used were diquat, aquathol, hydrothol 191 granular and copper sulfate.
- June 28 Annual Meeting, Dale Hanson from Barron County Conservation discusses nutrient problems and coming from farm areas causing sediment build up in Rice Lake. Also a recommendation was given for the city to study sediment problems coming from storm sewers.
- December 1 special meeting on weed control, stump removal, shoreline improvements (walls falling apart) and discussing draw down and dam repairs in the future. \$15,000. Was allocated for work on the lake the following summer when the lake gets drawn down.

1983

Commissioners and Representatives:

Robert Casperson (Secretary), John Pelto (Treasurer), Harvey Lorfeld (Chair), Lester Nelson (County), Wayne Arnold (Board Attorney), Rich Geisness (City)

- July 28th Annual meeting
- Operating budget \$47,000 (July 82-June 83)
- Operating budget \$81,000. (July 83-June 1984)
- 82 voters at the annual meeting, 56 yes and 26 no votes on the new budget which lead to a tax of 15.00/per \$50,000 home

- Many questions centered around the draw down, removal of silt and stumps and what would be legal to do in front of your property when draw down occurs.
- Draw down occurred in the fall and winter

1984

Commissioners and Representatives:

John Pelto (Treasurer), Harvey Lorfeld (Chair), Wayne Arnold (Board Attorney), Rich Geisness (City), Lester Nelson (County), Bill Heilland (Secretary)

- Pelto shares slides of draw down
- State recommends major weed cutting as the best possible cure to weed issues.
- Clam Lake officials discuss the success of their weed cutting program. Clam Lake residents pay \$2.60/\$1000.00 and Rice lake pays \$.31/\$1000.00
- City owns weed harvester and wants the district to take over weed cutting operations.
- 69,000 budget July 1,1984-June 1985

1985

Commissioners and Representatives:

John Pelto (Treasurer), Harvey Lorfeld (Chair), Wayne Arnold (Board Attorney), Rich Geisness (City), Lester Nelson (County), Bill Heilland (Secretary)

- New weed cutter has had mechanical problems.
- First year Lake District takes over weed cutting and they get a second weed cutter.
- Disposal sites are needed, many bugs to work out with cutting
- 85-86 57,000 budget, 25 voters approve

1986

Commissioners and Representatives:

John Pelto (Chair), Wayne Arnold (board attorney), Rich Geisness (City), Lester Nelson (County), Bill Heilland (Secretary)

- 86-87 57,000 budget 25 voters no changes to budget
- Pelto reelected
- Weed cutting operation continues
- B&D services contracted to haul weeds

1987

Commissioners and Representatives:

Maurice "Bass" Paul (Chair), Rich Geisness (Treasurer, City), Lester Nelson (County), Bill Heiland (Secretary), Hans Buchman

- Annual meeting shifter from late June to November of 87
- Lots of weeds this year (2622 cubic yards)
- No major breakdowns on machines
- Each operator is in charge of their own machine
- Park plans on south end of lake (Orchard Beach) are being discussed
- DNR approaches Lake District on stocking muskie, commissioners unanimously vote yes and muskie stocking begins in the fall
- Lake District tried to get lake levels lowered for residents to save shoreline retaining walls they built but it didn't work out
- Discussion on dumping weeds on north end of clear water bay, but the area was too shallow so no dumping could occur.
- Hans Buchman elected with Bass Paul

1988

Commissioners and Representatives:

Maurice "Bass" Paul (Chair), Lester Nelson (County), Hans Buchman, Rich Geisness (City), William Heiland, Les Litscher,

- Lake levels were drawn down 6 inches to protect the shoreline from ice damage.
- 29 applicants for weed cutting job
- Weed Hauling services were contracted out
- Tool shed was purchased from Lamperts and installed at the Bundy Street landing
- Chairman does fly over to pinpoint areas of cutting
- Commissioners set 36 hours /week as limit at \$5.50/hour
- Machines were running for 2 shifts a day with 4 men
- Annual meeting was in August with 23 people
- Need for rock at Bungalow landing for weed removal machines

1989

Commissioners and Representatives:

Maurice "Bass" Paul (Chair), Lester Nelson (County), Hans Buchman, Les Litscher Mark Krebs (Treasurer)

- Discussion of chemical treatment

- Discussion on names of bays on the lake for mapping, buoys and new harvesters
- 25 at annual meeting on August 14.

1990

Commissioners and Representatives:

Maurice “Bass” Paul (Chair), Lester Nelson (County), Hans Buchman, Les Litscher (Secretary), Lee Johnson (Treasurer)

- Fiscal year will be changed from June –July to January-December
- District investigated chemical treatment but residents turned it down
- Budget was approved at \$61,000.
- 19 attended annual meeting in August

1991

Commissioners and Representatives:

Doug Litscher (Chair), Lester Nelson (County), Les Litscher (Secretary) , Lee Johnson (Treasurer), Hank Drinken (Town), Hank Jergusen (City)

- District owns 2 harvesters
- 2 full time lake cutters and 1 part time guy
- Resolution was passed to pay commissioners \$30.00 per meeting, with a total of 4 commissioners and a representative from the town, county and city. The Lake District will now be composed of 7 people rather than 5.
- 27 people at the annual meeting

1992

Commissioners and Representatives:

Doug Litscher (Chair), Lester Nelson (County), Les Litscher (Secretary) , Lee Johnson (Treasurer), Bob Tone, Frank Ferguson, Leonard Schieffer

- Purchased a truck for \$12,000.
- Lester Litscher reported on the Wisconsin Lakes Convention Conference he attended.
- Condolences to “Bass” Paul’s family on his death. Commissioners remember Paul and recognize all the hours of service.
- Annual meeting November 2 drew 2 visitors
- Recommendation to hire a “foreman” weed cutter and pay him more
- Group researched buying land by “Zabel” landing to build a garage for weed cutters
- District owns two harvesters and a pontoon

1993

Commissioners and Representatives:

Doug Litscher (Chair), Lester Nelson (County), Les Litscher (Secretary) , Lee Johnson (Treasurer), Bob Tone, Leonard Schieffer (Town),

- Land acquired free of charge from the city to build storage site at Nora Cemetery
- Purchasing 2 harvesters was approved
- 25 at annual meeting, Bob Herzog and Frank Hougas will become commissioners
- Ayres and Associates are contracted to do a Lake Management Plan- they suggest dredging the river channel for about 1.25 million and constructing a sediment trap in the river for about a half a million dollars.

1994

Commissioners and Representatives:

Doug Litscher (Chair), Lester Nelson (County), Les Litscher (Secretary) , Lee Johnson (Treasurer), Bob Tone, Leonard Schieffer (Town), Bob Herzog, Frank Hougas,

- District works out agreement with city and builds a storage building at Nora Cemetery to hold weed cutters and pontoon during the winter months.

1995

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bob Tone (Chair), Bob Herzog (Secretary), Jim Drost (Treasurer), Frank Hougas Lester Nelson (County), Leonard Schieffer (Town), Jeremy John

- Weed cutters made \$8.40/hour, there were 2 or 3 guys
- Rice Lake Middle School kids doing "Adopt a Lake" on Rice Lake (Julie Stephens-advisor)
- Recycled black top road put in at Hansen's landing for unloading weeds
- Safety Deposit Box purchased for all important papers
- DNR grant money

1996

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bob Tone (Chair), Bob Herzog (Secretary), Jim Drost (Treasurer), Frank Hougas
Lester Nelson (County), Norm Rhode (Town), Carla Radtke (City)

- New conveyor purchased and installed in May
- Jeff Smith named foreman of the cutting crew.
- Purpose of the district is to remove weeds and clean the lake.
- Thank you to Tom Hanson for letting the district use his property to remove weeds from the south lake area.
- Iverson takes lake weeds and is given a gift certificate.
- Weeds are trucked to several people who use them for fertilizer
- Chemicals are not used on Rice Lake to eradicate weeds.
- Harvesting occurred from May 20- September 30
- 1,008 tons of weeds were removed form Rice Lake this summer.
- No trespassing signs placed on harvesters
- Research done to get a second truck to move weeds or hire someone to transport weeds.
- City fireworks crew allowed to use district pontoon for 4th of July.
- No meeting in January or February and only 3 people at the annual meeting

1997

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bob Tone (Chair), Bob Herzog (Secretary), Jim Drost (Treasurer), Frank Hougas
(Treasurer) Lester Nelson (County), Bud Conroy (Town), Carla Radtke
(City)

- Loose floating weeds irritate property owners
- Problems with hydraulic pumps on harvesters
- Problems with neighbor at Arnold's Landing
- GTE cable accidentally damaged by weed cutter, Lake District pays \$658.
- Major audit performed
- Red Cedar Basin Study is done on the watershed and Lake District officials hear results
- Paul Rust puts fish cribs in lake
- County wants Lake District to pay for dam operation but district officials vote against it
- Phone "hotline" is up and running

- 1,104 tons harvested
- Purchase of lot on South Basin (\$5,000.) with road easement for harvester operation in Clearwater Bay
- Lake District contemplates purchase of uniforms for employees

1998

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bob Tone (Chair), Bob Herzog (Secretary), Frank Hougas (Treasurer)
Lester Nelson (County), Bud Conroy (Town), Carla Radtke (City), Drost replaced by Arntson

- Jim Drost resigns from Lake District and is later charged for embezzlement. Hougas appointed treasurer by unanimous vote.
- District looking to purchase a transporter and trailer at \$88,000. DNR would provide \$44,000 in matching funds.
- Floating weeds in beach area a problem
- District struggling with unemployment issues
- 6 people at the annual meeting
- 1432 tons harvested, 179 loads
- Red Cedar Watershed Survey is done
- District studies harvesting operation rules and procedures from 8 similar lakes in the state and sets guidelines for pay, overtime, holidays, etc.
- Arntson replaces Drost
- Audit being done by Anderson, Hagar and Moe
- Jeff Smith/ Al Frank harvesters

1999

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bob Tone (Chair), Bob Herzog (Secretary), Wayne Arntson, Frank Hougas (Treasurer) Lester Nelson (County), Pat Streuli (Town), Carla Radtke (City)

- Lake District looking to get \$59,000. With DNR matching funds to purchase a new harvester
- Worker files for workman's comp due to back injury- district looks to purchase a gas delivery system
- Operator repairs GTE cable and district must pay \$4,487.
- Water level issues
- 972 tons harvested
- Vandalism to Lake District equipment
- Sold 27 year old harvester to Altoona for \$7,000.

- 29 people attend the annual meeting
- 2 year study to be done on phosphorus loading in Rice Lake

2000

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bob Tone (Chair), Bob Herzog (Secretary), Wayne Arntson, Frank Hougas (Treasurer), Lester Nelson (County), Bud Conroy (Town), George Richter (City)

- Lake district gets DNR matching funds and seals the deal on a \$117,000 weed harvester, district borrowed \$59,000.
- 1122 tons harvested and 102 hotline calls, terrible year for weeds
- Loading area behind hospital is widened to provide more area to work
- GTE cable underwater is a problem
- Umbrellas purchased for harvesters
- Weed harvester reprimanded for cutting in spawning area

2001

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bob Tone (Chair), Bruce Williams, Wayne Arntson (Secretary), Frank Hougas (Treasurer), Lester Nelson (County), George Richter (City), Bud Conroy (Town)

- Lake Shore Terrace ditch problem needs to get resolved
- 5 sites investigated for weed disposal, district having trouble finding places to dispose of weeds
- Some weeds are disposed behind Quinn liquor and district is thinking about purchasing 2 acres for \$50,000. At this site.
- 134 truckloads harvested or 804 tons, with 71 hotline calls
- District purchases 100 gallon fuel tank with delivery system to be installed in a district truck for fueling the harvesters
- District invited to use the new city hall for meetings

2002

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bruce Williams (Chair), Wayne Arntson (Secretary), Frank Hougas (Treasurer), Don Putnam, Buhrow, Goettl (City), Stan Bergum (County)

- Audit company reviews paperwork
- Juveniles damage district property

- Frustration with water levels changing, district gets word from dam operators that the water won't fluctuate more than 6 inches
- Lawrence and Associates doing accounting for Lake District
- Weed disposal continues to be a problem
- District is looking for land for weed disposal
- Some lake cutting parameters established
- Discussion of dam operation by Gary Neuman, the dam is owned by the county and operated by the city (Jim Anderson) under certain restrictions. Water is not supposed to fluctuate within 6 inches.
- 966 tons of weeds were harvested

2003

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bruce Williams(Chair), Wayne Arntson (Secretary), Frank Hougas(Treasurer),Don Putnam, Buhrow/Carlson (Town), Goettl (City), Stan Bergam(County)

- 1st year DNR requires a license for cutting weeds (\$300 permit)
- Controversy over new house built by Narrows Park, lake district sends a letter to mayor asking him to review zoning ordinances
- Low lake levels present harvesting problems
- Lots of weeds and all 3 cutters are working
- H&E will dispose of weeds for \$1000.
- A truck was purchased
- 1128 tons of weeds harvested

2004

Commissioners and Representatives

Bruce Williams (Chair), Wayne Arntson (Secretary), Frank Hougas (Treasurer)

Stan Bergum (County), Don Putnam (Town), Ken Goettl , Carlson (City),

- Audit company to review records again
- Discussion on display boxes to be put at landings, but district didn't do it
- 26 hotline calls
- County wants district to pay for dam maintenance, this would be \$3,000. and county would continue to have complete control on lake levels. District refuses to pay
- Problems at Bundy street landing with neighbor threatening a law suit, district appoints lawyer Coe
- Township agrees to hold all district records
- 912 tons of weeds harvested

2005

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bruce Williams (Chair), Wayne Arntson (Secretary), Frank Hougas (Treasurer)
Stan Bergum (County), Don Putnam (Town), Ken Goettl , Carlson (City)

- Harvester operator suffers hand injury on clam truck
- Discussion with lawyer on Bundy street landing
- District asked to cut on Moon Lake but the lake is too shallow with no good landing sites
- Talk of more signage at landings
- Barron County Administrator Duane Hebert proposed the Lake District to pay for the daily cost and maintenance of dam but the Lake District voted no.
- 11 people at annual meeting
- 1056 tons of weeds removed

2006

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bruce Williams (Chair), Wayne Arntson, Frank Hougas , Jerry McRobert(County),
Don Putnam (Town), Doug Pitts (Treasurer), Shannon Severud (City & Secretary)

- Weed cutting produces 144 loads or 1008 tons, 20 hotline calls
- Lake District joins the Wisconsin Association of Lakes (WAL)
- Lake District boundaries discussed
- Rain Garden discussion
- New Mission statement is produced by the district
- Amundson suit at Bundy street has been dismissed
- Lake tour and weed cutter demonstration occurred for the commissioners and representatives
- Mark Sundeen, water quality specialist with the DNR, talks to group about the need for a new management plan
- Mayor Jarvula would like the boundary change to include new area city has acquired since the original boundary was drawn up
- Lake District assets at \$115,000.
- Dennis Trigg is the new commissioner to replace Wayne Arntson

2007

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bruce Williams (Chair), Dennis Trigg, Frank Hougas , Jerry McRoberts (County),
Don Putnam (Town), Doug Pitts (Treasurer), Shannon Severud (City @ Secretary)

- Commission draws up a proposal for new boundary lines
- Commission lists several ideas for volunteer groups to help the district
Rian Garden education, literature at landings, no feeding birds signs, etc.
- McRoberts presents Lake District boundary proposal to the county board
- A discussion about an aquatic plant survey with GPS for next summer to be done in order for the DNR and a lake consultant to build a sound management plan
- Frank Koshere, DNR Aquatic Plant Management Specialist, talks to the group about the need to do this study and how DNR grants can help fund it
- Don Pelto talks to the group about the goose and duck feeding problem and how the city will draw up an ordinance to prevent this
- District takes a serious look at purchasing the Broten property (Alcatraz) on the lake
- Lawrence and Associates will be contracted to do book keeping and bill paying for the district
- District having trouble with finding site to get rid of weeds
- Discussion about starting a website

2008

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bruce Williams (chair), Doug Pitts, Frank Hougas (Treasurer), Don Putnam (Secretary, town), Jerry McRoberts (county), Shannon Severud (city), Dennis Trigg

- April 21-September 22 Weed Harvesting-Total loads hauled 129 or 744 tons
- SHE is contracted to produce a new Lake Management Plan based on the plant survey to be done in June of 2008
- Dave Blumer (Lake Consultant-SEH) outlines Lake Management Plan
- Lake grant allows \$3000 for web design
- Spent \$7330.50 (from grant) on native plants from Dragonfly Gardens to use at the Lumbering Hall of Fame Site
- 332 people took a lake survey
- Start of CBCW (Clean Boats Clean Waters), 41 boats checked, 86 people contacted, 62 hours of volunteer work at landings
- Research on Alcatraz Property
- City annexations did not include new properties into the Lake District, boundary chnge is complicated

- Aquatic Plant Survey was completed and many additional projects were done according to the new management plan and grant money was used. Ore volunteers are needed.
- Grant money dictates several tasks which need to be completed, this is all tied to the new management plan
- Total assets for the Lake District reach an all-time high of about \$500,000.
- About a 1000 surveys were mailed out and about 300-400 were completed and returned
- Improvements were made at Arnold's landing
- Budget levy is at \$85,000.
- Zoellick farms receive \$3,000. From Lake District to take weeds

2009

Commissioners and Representatives

Bruce Williams (Chair), Doug Pitts, Frank Hougas (Treasurer), Don Putnam (Secretary, town), Jerry McRoberts (county), Eric Kasper (City), Dennis Trigg

- Proposed budget (levy 96,000.), grants 50,000
- April 20-September 18- truck loads =99 and 643.5 tons
- All weeds delivered to Zoellick farm
- CBCW work continues with 110 boats inspected, 208 people contacted, and 174 volunteer hours at the landing
- Survey reveals that residents want better water quality and a lot less weeds.
- Lake District receives memorandum from city outlining storm water utility plan
- District bids on property for weed disposal (\$39,000 for 17 acres)
- Web site started with Putnam named the webmaster
- Rain Gardens planted at Lumbering Hall of Fame
- Zoellick farms takes weeds
- First year of using endothall to treat Curly Leaf Pondweed, Midwest Aqua Care from Chaska Minnesota will do the work on about 20 acres.
- Boundary changes not completed yet
- Management Plan outlines and dictates where and when harvesting should be done

2010

Commissioners and Representatives:

Bruce Williams (Chair), Doug Pitts, Don Putnam (Treasurer, Town), Mick Michaelson (Secretary), Jerry McRoberts (County), Dan Genereau (City), Dennis Trigg

- Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) season (May 10-June 28) - 312 hours- 59 harvester loads or approximately 236 tons of CLP, 105 acre area was harvested.
- Chemically treated 58 acres
- Aquatic plant harvesting in navigational channels and cleanup of shorelines ended in September, 334 hours- 45 acres- 75.5 harvester loads- 209.5 tons
- Season Totals= 646 hours-129.5 harvester loads, 445.5 tons of plants harvested.
- Proposed budget- \$147,000.
- \$72,000. AIS Grant from DNR for 2010-2013
- Lake District hires first ever intern, Ben Houghton to help implement CBCW, shoreline buffer education, web site building and other projects
- CBCW continues with 108 boats inspected, 216 people contacted and 158 volunteer hours spent at the landings
- District in need of more volunteers to help carry out Lake Management Plan
- District purchases 17 acres near Brill to dispose of weeds

2011

Commissioners and Representatives:

Doug Pitts (chair), Don Putnam (Treasurer, town), Mick Michaelson (Secretary), Jerry McRoberts (County), Dan Genereau (City), Dennis Trigg, Don Clemens

- Dan Graff was hired as Lake Educator; he is working on many projects which involve educating people about the lake. He has spoken with service groups and has been talking with lakefront property owners about the Lake Management Plan and what lakeshore owners can do to help the lake. Radio features and panorama was done.
- CLP Harvesting= 201 hours, 47 loads- May 31-July 5- 539 tons – 110 acres harvested
- Navigational areas and nuisance relief =287 hours, 114 loads, 326 tons, July 6-September 15, treated 60 acres

- Chemically treated 41.5 acres, proposed to do 58 acres but pre-treatment dictated what we did.
- 3 year AIS control grant awards \$97,795.
- 39,065 of the 3 year AIS control grant spent in 2011
- CBCW data shows that 706 boats were inspected, 1,463 people were contacted and 698 volunteer hours were spent at the landings
- Boundary changes are finally in place with annexed sections paying their fair share
- Lake District happy and supportive with the work done by Don Clemens and the Rotary Club involving native plants on the main street boulevard.
- Citizens Lake Monitoring is happening on a regular basis, data is on the DNR website
- District working hard with City to get more people restoring shorelines, Dan Genereau works with Park and Recreation to let plants grow on selected city sites.

2012

Commissioners and Representatives:

Doug Pitts (chair), Don Putnam (Treasurer, town), Mick Michaelsen (Secretary), Jerry McRoberts (county), Dan Genereau (city), Dennis Trigg, Don Clemens

- Dan Graff works as Lake Educator
- \$42,143. Spent as part of the 3 year \$97,795. 3 year AIS grant.
- Awarded a 9,845. AIS Education Grant
- CBCW up to July 15 tells us there were 581 boats inspected, 1310 people were contacted and 535 volunteer hours were spent at landings
- School students helped with work at the Lumbering Hall of Fame
- The football team and others helped to clean the beach for the 1st ever Rice Lake triathlon
- The Park and Rec Board approves to opening the beach with no lifeguards for the 2013 season. District officials working with Park and Rec to make this happen.
- District very active in communications with the Red Cedar Lakes Association and with the Red Cedar Watershed. Several members have been attending conferences.
- District working with the City on Shudlick park native plantings and will continue to work at the Lumbering Hall of Fame.

2013

Commissioners and Representatives:

Doug Pitts (chair), Don Putnam (Treasurer, town), Mick Michaelsen (Secretary),
Jerry McRoberts (county), Dan Genereau (city), Dennis Trigg, Don
Clemens

- \$16,587. Will be spent as part of the 3 year \$97,795. 3 year AIS grant.
- Total grant funding over 4 years is \$179,640.