

The RIPPLES

Volunteer opportunities are available for ELPOIA projects around Eagle Lake. Can you spare some time? Can you become part of the solution to improve Eagle Lake?

At right: Brian Younger, Mike Yost, Chuck Glover



Spring Issue 2016

Ways to Volunteer

Throughout the summer and fall	Volunteer at the Zinnen Boat Launch Site Demonstration Garden
Immediate help needed	Herbicide Monitoring Volunteers to work with DNR after lake chemical treatment.
June/July	Help plan social activities for the lake.
Throughout the summer	Help plan educational programs to lake residents and lake users.



EAGLE LAKE—IT'S UP TO US!!!!

Since 1954, the Eagle Lake Property Owners Improvement Association (ELPOIA) has been working with lake residents, the DNR, local sporting groups and area legislators at the Town, County and State levels to make sure Eagle Lake remains a prime asset to our community.

Early lake volunteers, such as John and Loraine Zinnen, demonstrated the power of motivated people to get things done. In the 1950's and 60's, the lake was treated to reduce algae, increase water clarity and remove rough fish that dominated the fishery. Later, there were fish kills and restocking of game and panfish. Grants were obtained to help ELPOIA fund shoreland restoration projects around the lake, hold educational Lake Fairs and begin preliminary attempts to work with farmers to control agricultural runoff into the lake. All of these projects depended on volunteers. If you can give us a few hours this summer, please contact Judy Amundsen, 878-2195, jwamundsen@aol.com

Clean Boats~~Clean Waters Staff Training Session

Training was held recently at the Eagle Lake County Park Launch Site for this year's CBCW workers. They learned such things as how to interview boaters, use the power washer and brushes, identify invasive species found in area lakes and what to do if boaters are non-compliant with DNR laws. The program will operate on weekends from 9-1:00 and on holidays—through Labor Day.



What summer residents miss

Winter activities can be quite exciting here at Eagle Lake. Moderate temperatures and lower levels of snow encouraged ice fishermen to try their luck. Some weekends, Eagle Lake looked like a little city featuring tents, ice shanties and outdoor grills. Several larger Northern's were caught, including the 51.5" Northern pictured above. How exciting is that? There also was the annual Winter Golf Tournament on the ice, which drew 144 players this year. This year's outing was a fundraiser for the non-profit Love, Inc. in Burlington.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND

The Eagle Lake Management District is holding their Annual Meeting on SATURDAY, MAY 28 at the Dover Town Hall, beginning at 9:00 a.m. This is an important meeting for all Eagle Lake residents, as the annual budget will be presented, discussed and approved. This is your chance to be heard, so plan to attend.

NO KANSASVILLE HOMETOWN PICNIC THIS YEAR:

After 10 years leading the Kansasville Hometown Picnic, Betterment Committee Chair Patrick Haley decided to focus on other events. The picnic 'will take a year off' as a new organization is formed to stage this annual event. At least a dozen people will be needed to take an active role in implementing plans. If interested in joining the team, please contact Marie Frederick at 878-5047.

New Buoys in the Lake

The Water Patrol has put brand new buoys in the lake using ELMD's GPS map. It will be important that no one moves them to a new location without permission of the Water Patrol. Buoys needed to be replaced early due to damage by boaters running into them. The new ones were more expensive, because a thicker, tougher coating was ordered in hopes that they will hold up better. Please avoid hitting them!

A few things to remember.....

-You need a fishing license, even if you are only fishing off your pier.

-For now, there still are special size and number limits on the following fish in Eagle Lake:

Northern Pike: one fish, at least 40 inches in length.

Bass: one fish, at least 22" long

Panfish: daily limit of 10, at least 8" long

-**Slow No Wake rule** is from Sunset or 8 p.m. (which ever is earlier) until the following 10 a.m. Most citations last year were issued for this violation.

-The **speed limit** on Eagle Lake is 45 M.P.H.

-**Traffic flow** is counterclockwise for all water 'vehicles' except when going at Slow-No-Wake.



-If boating between the buoys and shore, please watch for swimmers and people playing in the water.

-Don't operate a boat or PWC and drink. Boat responsibly, PLEASE.



Eagle Lake in the News

Eagle Lake made the Public Broadcasting Weekend Edition on May 6, 2016. Reporter Susan Bence interviewed Sr. Fisheries Biologist Luke Roffler, WDNR, about the lake's "long journey toward a healthy ecosystem." Roffler pointed out that 30 years ago, the lake was overpopulated by common carp and had runoff of nitrogen and phosphorus from area agriculture. When the carp population reached crisis numbers, the DNR treated the lake with the powerful chemical rotenone. Two more treatments to correct various fish imbalance problems, the last being eight years ago, has allowed the lake to finally recover and once again become a great fishing lake.

Size and daily fish limits are still maintained to further give the new population of fish a chance to grow and reproduce. Most lake residents and area fishermen don't realize the cooperative effort that took place between the DNR and the Eagle Lake Management District to restock the lake. According to Ed Furey,

ELMD Chairman, when it was time to restock the lake after the most recent fish kill, the DNR hatcheries were closed down because of a virus. The District was asked if they would be willing to help out by buying certain fish, including minnows, from private hatcheries. "All in all, we invested some \$40,000 in the restocking," said Furey, "including fingerling big mouth bass and northern, larger 11" bass, 800 16-inch northern and also some perch." As a result of this partnership, Eagle Lake is again a balanced and healthy ecosystem capable to supporting good fishing.

FIREWORKS: ELPOIA is willing to coordinate a fun night of fireworks this summer, if there is enough interest and if people will again be willing to donate money. We also need resident input about when to hold them. The outfit that does the fireworks is not available on July 4th. Labor Day Weekend is a possibility. Please send your comments to: [Judy Amundsen at Secretary@elpoia.org](mailto:Judy_Amundsen@elpoia.org).

Saving the Monarchs

Monarch butterflies are colorful, beautiful, amazing and in serious decline. According to scientists, the continent's monarch population has declined by more than 90 percent, primarily due to loss and degradation of their U.S habitat.

The National Wildlife Federation has made monarch butterfly conservation a national priority, citing ways to help with their critical efforts:

--Help Save Grasslands, which are disappearing faster than any other ecosystem in North America.

--Support Highway Habitat Corridors that encourage planting of milkweed and nectar plants along monarch migratory pathways.

--Plant Milkweed in your yard or garden, which helps butterflies and also brings more color and beauty to your life.

--Don't use Pesticides, which are a major threat to monarchs and other pollinators.

--Modify mowing practices, especially on lake banks, by planting native plants that help the monarchs and also help you stabilize your lakebank. Go to www.nwf.org/monarch.



Hot Dog Day at Terrace

ELPOIA is sponsoring an Eagle Lake Terrace Hot Dog Day on Sunday, June 5th any time between noon and 3:00. This FREE event for Terrace residents will include a hot dog lunch, drawings for gift certificates and a watermelon seed spitting contest! We will also be showcasing our shoreline restoration project on site and sharing native plant and lake information. Come share some camaraderie with your neighbors, a picnic lunch and fun activities. RSVP's would be helpful for food planning. Call 262-534-6241 or email info@ELPOIA.org. We'll see you there!

2016 ELPOIA Board of Directors

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Board members are elected to serve for 2-year terms and each area of the lake has their own people who are there to answer questions and encourage their residents to 'nurture the lake'. Please contact them with any concerns you might have.

LAKE WEBSITE: www.eaglelake-racinecounty.org

BOATER SAFETY CLASS TO BE HELD

The Dover Water Patrol, along with ELMD, will be coordinating a boater safety certification class in the near future. The class is limited to only 10 participants, so if you are interested, sign up early.

Anyone wanting to operate a boat or PWC and was born on or after January 1, 1989, is required to have boater certification in the State of Wisconsin. The class will be held locally during June, with specific dates being announced shortly. Class materials are designed for a 6th grade level and higher and will be held over 2 days. The cost is only \$10. If you are interested, please contact Jay Golla at jgolla@wi.rr.com.

OLD BUOYS FOR SALE

For a limited time, ELMD is going to be selling the old buoys that were recently 'retired' due to excessive wear and tear. They will be sold for \$20 a piece and will be available to any interested lake resident to use as yard art or inside decoration. You should not put them in the water near your pier, as this might be confusing to boaters. Contact ELMD board member Jay Golla at jgolla@wi.rr.com.

QUESTION & ANSWER SECTION

The following question has surfaced regarding citizens' rights vs our residents' riparian rights: *Is a person allowed to hike around the lake, even if they have to walk across someone's private property or pier?* Answer: According to Lake Consultant Kathy Aron, "No. Unless there is a deeded path, such as one found around Lake Geneva, property owners are completely within their rights to keep others out. You only have the right to walk in the WATER, but you cannot walk in the water and go onto people's piers to continue. These are private property."

It's Tick and Mosquito Season

The CDC recently reported that the black-legged ticks responsible for Lyme disease are exploding in number and have now migrated to new areas of the country. **How to stay safe:** After spending any time outdoors—especially in wooded areas—do a head-to-toe body check. If you find a tick, remove it with tweezers and then consult a doctor. If over the next four weeks—or in some cases, months—you develop a red bull's-eye rash, experience extreme fatigue or have a fever, follow up with your doctor.

To prevent mosquitoes from ruining your summer, know that anything that can collect water can harbor mosquito breeding grounds, such as birdbaths, buckets, boats, canoes, discarded tires, soda and tin cans, planters and unused swimming pools. Toss any debris that can collect water. Flush birdbaths and

fountains every few days, change pet water daily and wipe out dishes to remove eggs. Store boats, canoes and other items so they don't collect rainwater; remove water from depressions in tarps covering boats, cars and other items. Outdoors, wear loose-fitting, light-colored clothing, long sleeves and pants when mosquitoes are present. Use repellent specified to prevent bites. Have a safe summer!

