



# Bone Lake Newsletter

Bone Lake — Once called Onondogacona which means lake of small pines

FALL 2019

## LIFE AT THE LAKE



A common scene after the storm

### Bone Lake Water Elevation 2019

Date	Elevation in feet
Aug. 9	1151.83
Aug. 22	1151.94
Sept. 13	1151.87
Sept. 19	1151.98
Oct. 22	1152.94

Bone Lake's water level rose over one foot between August 9 and October 22 before starting to recede. On November 6, the water level was down 8.5 inches, from the October 22 high and dropping about one-half inch per day.

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[www.bonelakewi.com](http://www.bonelakewi.com)

## High winds and high water

Bone Lakers endured a summer of extremes and for many of us, things just won't be the same. On July 19, about the time folks were easing into a mid-summer weekend, the storm came—a rare *derecho*—a widespread, long-lived, straight-line wind storm that over the next few hours blew eastward across Wisconsin, ravaging property and flattening forests with hurricane-force winds, tornadoes and heavy rains.

In the aftermath huge trees had fallen across roadways, along the lakeshore, and onto Bone Lake cabins. Boats and lifts capsized and docks disappeared in the lake. Hundreds of power poles were down and widespread outages taxed everyone's patience while repair crews from across the country worked around the clock to restore power.

Then on the evening of Sunday, July 28, an EF1 tornado with winds of 90 mph touched down near Balsam Lake and tracked to the northeast across Bone Lake, striking the Woodland Shores area before dissipating a few miles east.

We were left asking, is it over yet? Not quite.

Heavy rainfall throughout August, September and into October raised the lake level over one foot, (see the elevation table), floating watercraft off lifts, submerging docks, flooding basements and crawl spaces for the first time ever. Some septic tanks filled with groundwater, some drainfields became saturated.

Above normal precipitation has been noted across much of Wisconsin this year with recorded totals 150 to 200 percent of normal amounts,<sup>1</sup> contributing to ground water levels that are now higher than ever. The U.S. Geological Survey groundwater well in Webster, WI records the October, 2019 *land surface depth to water level* reading at the highest median in eighty-one years.<sup>2</sup>

According to Eric Olson, Director, UW Extension/Lakes, "Every lake is intimately connected to groundwater. If the groundwater table in the region goes up, the lake and stream levels will also go up. Rivers in Wisconsin are running about three times or more their average flow for this time of year [October]; the St. Croix River at St. Croix Falls is 5-6 times normal flow."<sup>3</sup>

Be prepared for next year. It is reasonable to expect high water levels again in 2020. Take time to consider lakeshore stabilization practices to prevent erosion, like plantings of deep-rooted native grasses that hold soils together. Address any septic system issues. Make plans to plant trees and shrubs. Review and use the resources in this newsletter.

As of this writing in mid-November it seems winter is setting in already. The hard work is ending for the year and thoughts turn to celebrations, family and friends. It's a time to be thankful for many blessings amid the chaos of this summer's events, to be grateful for the help of neighbors, volunteers and responsive contractors, and to remember—it could have been worse. ■

—Karen Engelbretson

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov>

<sup>3</sup> <https://waterdata.usgs.gov>

## Dear Bone Lakers,

It is an honor to be serving as chair of our very dedicated board of commissioners and to the property owners of the District. I regret, however, that our chair Bob Murphy suffered health problems and resigned after serving on the board for more than 30 years.

This has been a year of extremes with wind storms, tornados and heavy rains resulting in property damage and high-water levels on the lake. While most of us have recovered from the storms, unfortunately some owners will need much longer to recover.

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##### Aquatic Plant Management

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Clean Boats Clean Waters  
Richard Mackie

##### Communications

Karen Engelbretson

##### Boating Safety & Buoys

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##### Audit

Kirk Larson

Website: [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com)  
Facebook: BoneLakers  
#bonelakewi

Bone Lake water data:  
[dnr.wi.gov/lakes/clmn/](http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/clmn/)

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**ADVERTISING COORDINATOR** Please consider this paid position. Contact the editor.



PHOTO: SUE FOSTER

Phil Foster (right) thanked Bob Murphy for his service and presented him with a garden ornament at the annual meeting on August 11, 2019 at Bone Lake Lutheran Church.

Heavy rains this autumn have caused most of the local lake levels to rise. Bone Lake's high level was exacerbated by a small beaver dam and other debris blocking Fox Creek which is our lake's only outflow. The dam has been removed and volunteer Al Koester will monitor the Fox Creek culvert at CR I for blockages going forward.

**New committee.** Due to concerns about shoreline erosion during high water times, a committee is being formed to investigate if Bone Lake should have reduced wake rules when the water is high. Many lakes have such ordinances in place to exercise when needed. The ordinance would be pre-approved by WDNR, the Town of Bone Lake and Town of Georgetown so the District could act when needed. It is something we'd rarely need to use but would be beneficial to control erosion from boat wakes when the water is at high levels.

**Alum committee reinstated.** In response to the positive interest received at the annual meeting regarding treating the lake with alum (aluminum sulphate), the board has approved a District member vote on alum at the 2020 annual meeting. The alum committee will be providing you needed information so you can make a well-informed vote. Please see page 3. A big thank you to the committee for all their work.

**Save the date.** The 2020 annual meeting has been scheduled for August 15, the third Saturday in August, at Bone Lake Lutheran Church.

The District has an array of activities to improve and safeguard Bone Lake. If you would like to get involved as approximately fifty other property owners do each year, please contact a board member. ■ —Phil Foster, Chair

# Alum treatment on 2020 agenda for vote

If you've been reading the Bone Lake newsletters, you're likely aware that the District formed a committee in 2018 to study the potential use of alum in Bone Lake to improve water clarity in the late summer.

The spring, 2019 *Bone Lake Newsletter* contained the committee's findings and recommendation: "Committee members voted six to five not to recommend alum treatment at this time. The primary reason for voting against alum was that lake clarity was perceived not to be so poor and the improvement of three feet in water clarity in late summer did not warrant the cost."

The alum committee also provided a summary report at the annual meeting on August 10, 2019. A robust discussion between meeting attendees, the alum committee, and the commissioners followed.

There was significant interest in proceeding to treat Bone Lake with alum judging from response to the question: "From what you have heard so far, are you in favor of using alum in Bone Lake?" The audience responded 55 percent yes, 35 percent no, and 9 percent unsure. However, a motion to hold a *special meeting* to vote on treating the lake with alum failed: 41 percent yes, 59 percent no. Ninety-seven members signed in at the meeting.

Given the membership interest in treating Bone Lake's internal phosphorus load with alum, the BLMD commissioners, at their October 26 meeting, voted to bring the question of alum treatments to District members at the 2020 annual meeting. The resolution passed: 3 yes, 2 no, 2 abstaining.

District members will vote on whether or not to proceed with alum treatments to Bone Lake at the August 15, 2020 annual meeting. The vote will include an ongoing tax levy to Bone Lake property owners.

The alum committee and its communications subcommittee was reinstated to prepare District members for this vote. The committee and the District are planning communications to help inform and educate Bone Lake property owners on the lake's water quality, treating our lake with alum, the costs associated with alum treatments, and the treatment and tax levy vote next August.

Information about how alum works, Bone Lake water quality data, the alum committee research and report and the 2019 annual meeting minutes can be accessed from the front page at [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com). Other meeting minutes are available under the "administration" tab. ■

**Save the date...**

**BONE LAKE  
MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL  
MEETING**  
SATURDAY  
AUG. 15, 2020

**9 AM • BONE LAKE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Wisconsin Statute Chapter 33 Public Inland Waters governs the Bone Lake Management District and mandates voting must be in person. Voting rules are specified by Wis. Stat. §33.01(9)(ar) and §33.30(3). You can find an explanation of voting rules on page 8 of the 2019 annual meeting minutes at [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com).



PHOTO: SHELLEY ROSE

The Bone Lake Management District Board of Commissioners (L-R): Alex Chorewycz, Treasurer; Cary Olson; Phil Foster, Chair; Karen Engelbretson, Secretary; Mike Musial; Doug Route, Polk County Supervisor, District 2. Not pictured: Ron Ogren, Town of Georgetown; Andy Brown, Town of Bone Lake.



## How to fix an ice berm

We encourage you to protect and maintain nearshore berms pushed up by ice action along the lakeshore. These berms trap surface runoff from waterfront property and prevent nutrients and sediment from being carried into the lake.<sup>1</sup> Ice berms also stabilize shorelines when the roots of trees, shrubs, and other plants grow among rocks pushed into the soil.

Landowners may sometimes want to correct severe ice push when there is significant exposed soil and very high banks.

A landowner may level a berm created within the year without a permit if soils and materials are kept out of the lake. Typically, the material is pulled back away from the water or a tracked piece of equipment pushes the ridge down by traveling over the ridge along the shoreline. No equipment may operate below the ordinary high water mark or on the lake bed. No dredging or filling are allowed.<sup>2</sup> ■

<sup>1</sup> <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Waterways/shoreline/info-erosion.html>  
<sup>2</sup> Dan Harrington. Email communication. 05/14/2019

## Septic replacement incentive up to \$2,500

If you have a failing or non-compliant system and choose to replace it, you are eligible to receive a cost share of 50 percent, up to \$2,500, from the Bone Lake Management District.

Failing septic systems can contribute phosphorus and other nutrients into groundwater that enters Bone Lake.

Polk County Zoning Department defines a failing septic system as one that causes or results in any of the following:

- Discharge of sewage into surface water or groundwater.
- Introduction of sewage into zones of saturation.
- Discharge of sewage through a drain tile or into zones of bedrock.
- Discharge of sewage to the surface of the ground.
- Failure to accept sewage discharges and back up of sewage into the structure served by the private sewage system.

**Call Richard Mackie, Bone Lake septic ranger, at 715-857-5205 to arrange a free, no obligation review of your system.**

## Bone Lake Social Activities

We are in desperate need of volunteers to keep having Bone Lake social activities. There are many opportunities for social activities, e.g. dinners, parties, bridge club, etc. The boat parade is also coordinated by this committee. In the event the Owens family would not be providing the July 4th fireworks, Bone Lakers sponsored fireworks would also be an activity. We just need some folks to help organize.

Please contact Phil Foster at 715-553-0719. ■

## Shoreland zoning permits

Following the devastating July storms, the Polk County Zoning Office has received more questions regarding removal of vegetation and structures. We hope the following information will answer some of the most common questions.

### *You need a land use permit if:*

- A tree or any vegetation that was damaged within 35 feet of the ordinary high water mark and you wish to remove it (e.g. snapped off, leaning, diseased, dead). This type of permit does not require a fee.
- You wish to remove living/healthy vegetation to create a viewing corridor on your property. You are allowed to create a viewing corridor up to 35 percent of your lot width with a permit. 100 ft. lot X .35 = 35-ft. viewing corridor. The fee for this type of permit is \$50.
- You are completing structural alterations or additions of a building or replacing structural components.

### *You do not need a land use permit to:*

- Remove uprooted trees and vegetation;
- Trim branches on trees/vegetation;
- Remove tree tops or branches on the ground or in the water;
- Remove any vegetation damaged or not beyond 35 feet of the ordinary high water mark;
- Remove a damaged structure. However, if the structure does not meet the required setbacks and you intend to replace it, please contact the Zoning Office before removal if so we can verify its size;
- Maintain and repair your existing structures. Maintenance and repair includes shingles, windows, doors and siding (non-structural repairs).

Contact the Polk County Zoning Office at 100 Polk County Plaza, Suite 130, Balsam Lake, WI 54810 or call 715-485-9279 if you have other questions or need to obtain a permit.



## New dock for the north landing

The District board unanimously approved the purchase of a new dock for the north landing at the Lions Club Don Langel Memorial Park. Thanks go out to John Ukura, pictured with other volunteers below. John researched solutions and dock designs, secured estimates, and presented to the commissioners.

The new dock will be delivered and installed in spring, 2020: a commercial strength dock consisting of three 4-ft. x 16-ft. sections, a 4-ft. ramp, six independent and adjustable wheeled posts, plastic decking, dock bumpers and boat tie-up cleats. The adjustability will allow the dock to be installed parallel to the existing launch ramp making it easier to launch boats. Thank you John Ukura for all your work!

The previous north end dock will be installed at the south end by commissioner Mike Musial in the spring. The old south end dock will be sold or scrapped.

What you can do? Spread the word—don't powerload your boat. Powerloading creates a big hole on the lakebed and a mound of gravel behind it causing costly, constant maintenance and recently, the need for a new dock. ■



PHOTO: SUE FOSTER

## Bone Lake volunteers recognized

At our annual meeting in August, we recognized these volunteers for their contributions and support to Bone Lake. Each received a ceramic serving platter handcrafted by a local artist with an outline of Bone Lake.

Left to right in the photo above:

- John Ukura for serving on the alum committee;
- Cary Olson for serving on the alum committee and waterfront runoff committee;
- Mike Musial for his District commissioner service and his many years maintaining, installing and removing our lake buoys;
- Mark Randall and Rachel Nusbaum for helping with our annual meeting sign-in process and greeting District members;
- Shelley Rose for serving on the alum committee.

We continue to have a great group of volunteers but always need new people, fresh ideas and energy to help improve Bone Lake. Please contact any of the District commissioners or committee chairs if interested to learn more. ■

## North landing maintenance update

The Don Langel Memorial Park is maintained and improved by the Luck Lions Club throughout the year.

This year the Lions repainted the picnic tables, added four new grills, repaired the shelters and along with the Town of Bone Lake, cleaned up after the July storm. Damage was rather extensive—more than 16 trees fell in the right of way and many more in the woods. We are still cutting and removing downed trees in the park. We will be undertaking a tree planting in 2020. Details to come.

**Please help...** A recycling bin in the boat launch area collects unwanted aluminum cans and the proceeds help support park upgrades and maintenance. Please use the bin for cans only, not trash.

The donation pole also helps fund the park. Please make a donation when you use the launch and encourage others to contribute. More than 2000 boats were launched this year yet only \$20 was collected.

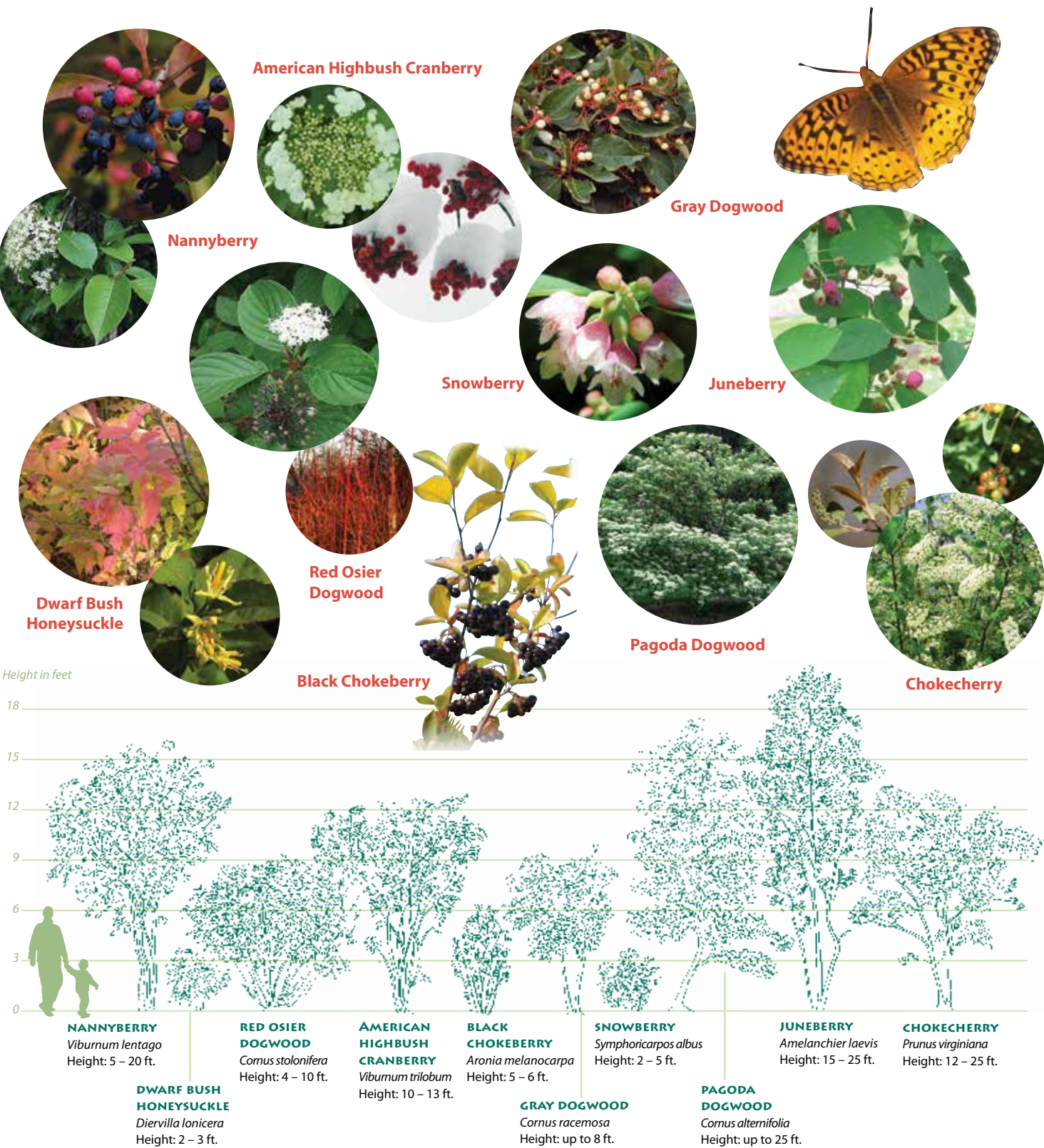
Lastly, we regularly find bags of household trash in the park dumpster. This non-park refuse increases our pickup costs and time spent cleaning up.

The Luck Lions hope that Bone Lakers will continue to enjoy the park. We are glad to see it being so well utilized. Suggestions are welcome!

Best regards,

**Gerry Albright, Luck Lions**  
gerry@albrightideas.com

Choose native shrubs, short and tall, for natural plantings around Bone Lake. These shrubs support pollinators, attract butterflies and many species of birds.



Source: Top 10 Native Shrubs for Wildlife, Wisconsin DNR



## Tree and shrub planting resources

Many Bone Lake property owners were significantly impacted by the two major storms that hit us this past July. For some of us, once our properties were cleaned up, no further restoration was necessary. For others of us, significant work has been and still is needed!

Immediately after the storms, the waterfront runoff committee sought information from a variety of resources to find any existing grants currently available to the Bone Lake Management District that could be used to address the types of property damage that resulted from the storms. We found that replacement of trees or re-grading lots are not eligible for grant cost share dollars. We then looked for other resources that may be available to assist hard-hit Bone Lake property owners.

Mark Gossman, Forest Administrator for Polk County and Wisconsin DNR staff members, provided these options for tree replacement and purchase:

- Purchase trees and shrubs through private nurseries, some of which have bare root tree sales in the spring.
- Polk County Land And Water Resources Department has an annual tree sale each April. Trees of different varieties are available at a price of \$30.00 for 25 trees.
- Wisconsin DNR sells tree and shrub seedlings. Orders are taken beginning on January 1.
- Trees may regenerate naturally in some areas impacted by the July storms, of course, but tree re-growth will take many years.

**Go native.** Planting trees and bushes that are native to the Bone Lake area and climate zone increases the likelihood that they will succeed on your property. Lists of native trees and shrubs for different habitats are available at our website, [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com); click/tap [Water Quality Page](#) from the site's front page.

**Remember,** how you care for your lakeshore property impacts the entire lake. When restoring your property following the storms or whenever you're making improvements, please consider installing waterfront runoff reduction practices: native plantings along your shoreline, water runoff diversion projects, porous paver pathways, rock infiltration trenches, rain gardens and the preservation of ice-berms. These are a few of the good environmental practices that can sustain and protect our lake's delicate natural eco-system.

**Feel free to contact Mary Chorewycz** at 651-454-9456 or [amchorewycz@yahoo.com](mailto:amchorewycz@yahoo.com) for additional information. For information on shoreline erosion, restoration, or buffer projects, please contact the Polk County Land Resources Department at 715-485-8699, or Polk County Zoning at 715-485-9111. Or go to [www.co.polk.wi.us](http://www.co.polk.wi.us) and search under the [Departments](#) tab. ■



### Wisconsin DNR Tree Planting

[www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov) — Search [tree planting](#)

The minimum order is a packet of 300 seedlings, 500 shrubs or 1000 trees. Tree and shrub seedlings must be ordered in increments of 100 of each species. Contact [carey.skerven@wisconsin.gov](mailto:carey.skerven@wisconsin.gov), Wisconsin DNR nursery, or call 715-424-3700.

### Polk County Tree and Shrub Program

[www.co.polk.wi.us](http://www.co.polk.wi.us) — Search [tree program](#)

Tree order forms are available the end of December. Payment is due in January. Contact Polk County Land & Water Resources Department at 715-485-8699 or email [carol.zygowicz@co.polk.wi.us](mailto:carol.zygowicz@co.polk.wi.us).

*Those who  
contemplate the  
beauty of the earth  
find reserves of  
strength that will  
endure as long as  
life lasts. There is  
something infinitely  
healing in the  
repeated refrains  
of nature—the  
assurance that dawn  
comes after night  
and spring after  
winter.*

—Rachel Carson

### DNR Grants Update.

Wisconsin DNR has extended our BLMD Lake Management Plan grant through the end of December, 2020. This means that we have ample dollars for installation of waterfront runoff reduction practices to improve Bone Lake's water clarity. Winter is a great time to begin planning. Contact Mary Chorewycz for help and information. Call Mary 651-454-9456 or email [amchorewycz@yahoo.com](mailto:amchorewycz@yahoo.com)



## Aquatic plant management advisory committee being formed

A committee of lake district residents is being formed to assist with the update of the Bone Lake Aquatic Plant Management Plan. Please consider helping with this important effort. The plan update is needed to remain eligible for aquatic invasive species control grants and permits.

There are two areas of focus for this update:

- Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention
- Curly Leaf Pondweed Control

For each, we will review current efforts and results and consider future options for management.

Advisory Committee Responsibilities

1. Provide input at two Saturday morning (9:30 a.m. – noon) advisory committee meetings scheduled to be held in Balsam Lake: February 8, 2020 and February 29, 2020.
2. Review background materials and draft planning documents.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Bob Boyd: mobile: 715-553-0629; email: boydsnest2048@outlook.com. ■

The aquatic invasive species curly leaf pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*) has been treated in Bone Lake since 2006.

## Reduced wake ordinance committee forming

At the annual meeting this last August, the question was posed to the attendees: *Should the Bone Lake Management District establish a committee to investigate and recommend or not recommend a reduced wake ordinance in times of very high water?* It was overwhelmingly approved.

Many Bone Lake properties have had shoreline erosion this year due to our very high water levels. The erosion can be made worse by wakes from power boats. Fortunately, this fall when the lake has been extremely high there has been minimal boat traffic.

An ordinance allowing the District to declare reduced wakes at times of high water would require a public hearing and District, DNR and Town approval. The committee will investigate other lakes that have done similar ordinances and obtain input from a variety of lakeshore owners and lake users.

The plan is for this new committee to make a recommendation to the District board of commissioners by July 2020 and presentation to members at the next annual meeting. This ordinance, once finalized, would be available to be used only in times of very high water levels. The ordinance would be similar to wake restrictions on the St. Croix River in Stillwater or on Lake Minnetonka.

If you are interested in serving on the committee, please contact Cary Olson at 612-581-6626 or caryolson@comcast.net. We need a diverse representation of Bone Lakers on this committee. ■



PHOTO: PAUL SKAWINSKI

### Change of address?

If you need to update your address for the *Bone Lake Newsletter* or for property tax mailings, please contact the Polk County Treasurer's office at 715-485-9255.

The District does not maintain its own mailing list, rather we rely on Polk County property records for our mailings.

### Minutes online

Minutes of BLMD annual meetings and all District commissioner meetings can be found at [bonelakewi.com/administration](http://bonelakewi.com/administration). Meeting minutes include presentations, financials and other reports.

## Change was in the air—

And as you watched and waited for the storm to appear you began to work at getting the water toys tied down and putting away the lighter items from the yard. The last thing on your mind was the wildlife that would also be facing the storm!

Maybe like you I didn't wonder about the birds until I came out to clean up after the July 19 storm. There was the female bluebird that two days prior, along with her mate, had coaxed four fledges from their nest box. She was back in the same tree and called for what seemed like an endless amount of time, but no one answered. The male was not with her and the four fledglings never came. She returned several times over the next week but no one responded. It is sad but normal to lose some birds and animals during a severe storm, as in the case of my bluebirds. Just one of the hazards they face.

When we first moved to our Bone Lake property and huddled in anticipation of the rough weather coming down the lake, it seemed we had learned from the birds perching in a tight bundle, downwind in the trees, every once in a while peeking around to see if it was safe before resuming regular activities. The birds don't like to be high in the trees during storms, but stay in lower branches, in nesting boxes or tree cavities for better protection. Larger water birds also will find an area that is protected from the wind and rain to wait out the storm.

We have heard the "old wives' tales" that birds predict the weather if you know what to look for. Take the Juncos. When the Juncos arrive in the fall we usually get snow or very cold weather within 14-21 days! They arrived here on September 29, 2019 and the first snow was October 11, 2019!

Another tale... In the winter you can always tell when we will get a snow storm as the birds will eat vigorously a day prior to the storm. I've even seen this happen in both winter and summer.

How many old wives tales have you heard about wildlife and nature? Do you record your observations?

It has been studied that birds can detect low atmospheric pressure associated with a coming storm—they will become quiet and motionless or fly to a shelter. The woods become very quiet IF you are paying attention. As I looked back on the video I took just before the storm I don't hear any birds and many of them were feeding juveniles at that time so there had been a lot of chatter between parent and young!

Whether you believe in wives tales or not, know this: the bird population will further change as the habitat that once housed and fed them has also been drastically altered. This will now be a new chapter for both the humans and birds that have graced our yards over the years. ■

—Cristene Dueholm, October 2019



PHOTOS: BRIAN COLLINS

Top: This male Eastern Bluebird has returned to the nest with a June beetle for his young. He's giving a wing waving display to his mate. Bottom: The female has arrived at the nest with caterpillars. Find more of Brian Collins's observations and beautiful photos at [saintcroixbirds.blogspot.com](http://saintcroixbirds.blogspot.com)

*Want to help support our birds? They need juicy bugs and caterpillars to feed their young, as well as small fruits and berries. Add some native, flowering and fruiting shrubs to your property. See page 6 of this newsletter for suggestions.*



### Please get the lead out

Lead is a known toxin that has wisely been removed from gasoline, plumbing pipe and paint, but still commonly used in fishing tackle and ammunition. Each year, bald eagles, cranes, ducks, swans, loons and geese are poisoned by lead sinkers and tackle. One lead sinker is 100 percent fatal when ingested by a bird! Make a resolution to switch to non-toxic tackle. Start with tackle you use with children and keep them safe from toxic lead, too. Non-toxic tackle is available everywhere.

### Town of Bone Lake report

**B**one Lake Township has been working to build a dam on the Straight River near the junction of 250th Ave. and Round Lake Road for the past several years. The river was drained which allowed for core sampling the middle of the channel. This revealed soil and muck unsuitable for the original clay-core dam design.

The dam was re-designed to a driven sheet pile design in the spring of 2019 and approved by the DNR in late summer. The contractor originally hired to complete the project revised their price from \$388K to \$577K due to the design changes. This spurred a rebidding of the project in October. The new low bid came in at \$371K. This price combined with our previous expenditures on engineering and our first contractor pushed the price to around \$520K. The price was higher than the board felt comfortable approving, prompting a unanimous vote to take the project to referendum on February 18, 2020 during the primary election for Sean Duffy's seat.

The new culvert/bridge at the dam site is in place and nearly completed. This widens the road to a full two-lane width and provides for the installation of guard rails.

Storm clean up in the right of way is complete and our costs incurred were around 39K. We should be getting 87.5 percent reimbursed by FEMA and the WI Disaster Relief Fund. We are working on budgeting for next year, especially road projects.

Respectfully submitted by Andy Brown, Town of Bone Lake

### Polk County report

**T**he Tourist Rooming House Ordinance was passed after eight months of deliberation and public input, establishing rules for quiet hours, fires, parking and compliance if you wish to rent out your home.

The Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation six-month moratorium passed a county board vote with an option for a six-month extension if needed. The resolution is for hog operations only and is effective immediately. Neighboring Burnett County passed a similar resolution in August.

A committee will research the impact of CAFO livestock facilities on ground water, surface water, air quality and other environmental impacts to the health, welfare and safety of Polk County residents and visitors. Zoning districts, conditional use permits, use of roadways and other issues will also be addressed. Concentrated animal operations can create increased runoff of manure and other substances which have contaminated waterways in Iowa and other states. Typically, CAFO operations hold 20,000 animals.

Ordinances and the county board meeting calendar and minutes can be found at [www.co.polk.wi.us](http://www.co.polk.wi.us).

—Doug Route, Polk County Supervisor, District 2

### It's Easy to Recycle Around Bone Lake

**Georgetown Town Hall** Second and fourth Fridays and Saturdays of each month, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Questions? Call 715-483-1088.

**Luck** Next to the public ice rink, west of the Library on 3rd Ave. Self-serve. Available 24/7.

**St. Croix Falls** Hwy. 8 across from Menards, any weekday.

**Balsam Lake** Hwy. 46 by the Government Center, any day, 24/7.

### Keep in touch

**Subscribe to Bone Lake eNews!** Get Bone Lake updates between newsletters throughout the year. Go to [bonelakewi.com](http://bonelakewi.com) and click [Join Our Mailing](#) on the front page. Be sure to reply to the confirmation email to complete your subscription and click the link to add [enews@bonelake.com](mailto:enews@bonelake.com) to your address book. Signed up but not getting emails? Contact [karen@kje.design](mailto:karen@kje.design).

**Bone Lakers Facebook group page.** More than 1,000 members are sharing photos, events, recommendations and news about life around the lake. To join, go to [facebook.com/groups/BoneLakers](https://facebook.com/groups/BoneLakers).



Fish almost anywhere in Wisconsin without a license or trout stamp on Free Fishing Weekend January 18-19, 2020. Most waters of the state are included, except for spring trout ponds. Find out more at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)

### Have time to help seniors and the disabled or need some help yourself?

Interfaith caregivers of Polk County provides local rides, visits, shopping and errands, light housekeeping, yard work and more. Volunteers are needed. Please call 715-825-9500.

### Gift of Warm Clothes program at Bone Lake Lutheran Church seeks donations.

Warm clothes, jackets, boots, gloves and mittens are needed to help clothe area children and adults for winter weather. Financial gifts are used by organizers who shop garage sales, thrift shops and clearance racks for the most needed items.

All donations for *Gift of Warm Clothes* are tax-deductible via Bone Lake Lutheran Church's 501(c)(3). Mail monetary donations to Bone Lake Lutheran Church, Gift of Warm Clothes, 1101 255th Avenue, Luck WI 54853. Please note on your check, GOWC. Donations of new or gently used clothing are accepted at the church. Find the Bone Lake Lutheran Church on Facebook.



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