

# LLLPRD Winter 2004

*LOWER LONG LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT OFFICERS:  
Chairman Wayne Sauls 967-2152, Secretary Pat Andress 967-2518 and 723-9157  
Treasurer Darlene Glass 967-2289, Commissioner Jim Dahl 568-3225  
Commissioner Brian Kent 967-2182*

## Message From the Chairman

Everything is changing, but one thing that we all have passion for is our time at the lake. For some it is an occasional weekend, others the summers, and some a full life. Regardless of how much time you get to spend at the lake, I think we can all say that we value Long Lake and our time here.

Yet despite this value, most constituents don't get involved with our district. I assume it is because the lake is a place most of us come to get away from the normal, hectic pressures of life at home, and the last thing we want to do is become "politically" active. We come to relax and enjoy the lake, and in some cases to limit interaction with others. Unfortunately, that state of mind can be detrimental to the lake we love. We tend to seek out and find a feeling of seclusion here even though we are a group of people that share a common natural resource and as such hold a common riparian responsibility.

I am optimistic. I see many good things happening, and I certainly don't want to forget those that contribute. Eyesores disappear, the Foundation grows, and individuals take it upon themselves to protect and restore some of our shores. I see the occasional neighborly nudge facilitate more common ground among us. How fortunate we are to have individuals that have given so much to protect the beauty of the former camps on the lake. I see people trying to do the right thing with their shores and their land. Some efforts are more successful than others, but the efforts count.

For all that is good, however, I also see some negatives. There are construction sites on the lake that have minimal erosion control. People intentionally violate regulations, knowing they can handle the punishment later. Fires burn on the ice in winter adding phosphorus directly into the

lake, and trash accumulates where icehouses once stood. Inadvertent gas spills kill our water's inhabitants and degrade the food chain. I watched a property owner change his lower unit lube at the boat landing last fall and dump it in the woods by the edge of the lake that will soon be absorbing it.

I fear our day of reckoning will come. Our water already produces prominent algae blooms during the wet, warm summers, and our fish populations are not what they could be. I still see otters, but not like when I was a boy on the lake. Our lake is not as healthy as it could be. We live on a lake that stands a chance, but we need to move on that chance together. Our current eco-balance is still off, and we need to tip it back in the correct direction. We must educate ourselves about our resource, and how we affect it. We hold the ultimate responsibility as riparian owners.

I propose that what we need is a plan to manage our lake. We don't have one now, and quite frankly, it's like trying to run a business without a business plan. The district board members aim to produce one and will solicit your opinion in doing so. Please be honest, take the time, and participate. I understand that each of us values our time at the lake differently, but we need to work together to protect it. After all, we *all* are responsible for our Long Lake.

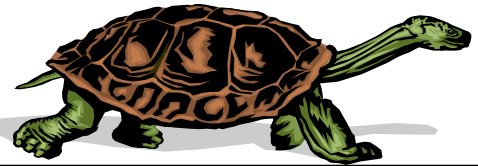


# Approved 2004-2005 Budget

CATEGORY	'02-'03	SPENT	PROPOSED
Fish/water quality committee	\$100.00	\$0	\$100.00
Projects and Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$71.77	\$100.00
Picnic	\$50.00	\$-94.70	\$50.00
Property Committee	\$50.00	\$0	\$50.00
Liability Insurance	\$949.00	\$949.00	\$949.00
Fish Cribs	\$300.00	\$0	\$300.00
WAL meeting and membership	\$687.50	\$494.00	\$725.00
Publicity Committee	\$600.00	\$570.29	\$650.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2836.50</b>	<b>\$1990.36</b>	<b>\$2924.00</b>

## Has Your Address Changed???

There are several newsletters and postcards that go undelivered with each mailing. If you have a change of address or know someone who has moved into or out of our area, please contact Lesley Sauls at 967-2152 to update.



# Ice Fishing For the Fun of It!

Nearly one quarter of the annual catch in Wisconsin comes from ice fishing. Why?

Some enjoy the solitude on a frozen lake. Others look for the company of a group of friends on the ice for a day.

In any case, you'll want to keep warm when you take to the ice. Wear several layers of clothes with thick boots. If you have a shelter, be sure your name and address are affixed to the outside of the structure in contrasting colors unless your shelter is removed daily.

Ice should be at least four inches thick before it is considered safe to walk on. The ice on Long Lake can vary considerably from place to place. Water beneath the little bridge and on the south side of the entrance to Herde Lake

rarely freezes solid, and the outflow at the boat landing can be unsafe at times. Ice ridges are also dangerous. Frequently one forms at the narrows where the buoys are posted in the summer.

Panfish are responsible for 90% of the fish caught annually in Wisconsin. In the winter months, bluegill and yellow perch are commonly caught, but walleye and northern pike are often pulled in, too.

Be sure that your fishing hole is less than 12 inches in diameter and that you don't have more than three lines in the water at a time. Have your current license with you, and perhaps a copy of the Wisconsin Fishing Regulations on hand.

## Water Trails Program

- By Kurt Lothe

This autumn, Darlene Glass offered me the opportunity of helping out with a unique and intriguing project - the creation of a Long Lake Water Trail. The trail is basically a brochure which guides residents and visitors alike around the lake, pointing out areas that are intrinsically valuable to the health, beauty and quality of our lake. During the months of heaviest use, canoes, kayaks, pontoon boats and other craft make their way all over Long Lake. Our hope is that the information contained in the water trail's brochure will lead lake users to a

deeper understanding of the importance of the wetlands, upland forests and watersheds that feed Long Lake. Greater understanding will hopefully foster a respect and responsibility for the natural processes that so greatly affect the lake and, in turn, the quality of our lives. In addition, there is a short history of the lake, beginning with the early Lakota and Chippewa residents, through the logging era, and up to the present. Undoubtedly, those intimate with this lake's history will find this thoroughly inadequate, but alas, we could not afford to give away a book. Thus, the brochure. When you see them, please grab one and give it a read. We would appreciate any constructive feedback you might have.

LLLPRD  
28286 149th St.  
New Auburn, WI 54757

**Have a great Winter!  
From the LLLPRD**



## Foundation Report - by Wally Schulenberg



Our efforts to protect and preserve undeveloped lake frontage have been very rewarding during the seven year period since our founding. We have acquired over one hundred acres of land with almost one mile of lake frontage, the majority of the property through outright donations. Currently, we are working with another lake property owner who has indicated a desire to make a substantial property donation. Again, we recognize and thank Steve Kristo and Richard Kracum for their efforts and actions limiting development of lake frontage. Please contact any Foundation volunteer for a confidential evaluation of property or to make a monetary donation to the Foundation.



# lllprd.org

### LAKE DISTRICT WEB SITE TRIVIA

Do you know the answers to the following questions? Log on to <lllprd.org> to find the answers!

1. How many lakes does Wisconsin have?
2. Why does ice float on the surface of the lake?
3. Do lakes experience tidal activity?
4. What is the largest fresh water lake in the world?
5. How much drinking water can one quart of spilled motor oil pollute?
6. How much of the earth's water is fresh?
7. What year did the LLLPRD organize?
8. Four inches of snow equals how much rain?

### EMAIL CONTACT ADDRESSES REQUESTED

In order to provide you with more timely notification of events, we have begun publishing the "LLLPRD Bulletin." The Bulletin is sent by e-mail and published on our website at [http://lllprd.org/Newsletter\\_index.htm](http://lllprd.org/Newsletter_index.htm). In our first issue, we discussed the pending lake zoning changes, announced the February board meeting, and provided some useful reference information.

We are also pleased to offer you the option of

receiving Lake News by e-mail in addition to U.S. Mail. You will get our newsletter, in color, several days earlier this way.

You may subscribe to the Bulletin and Lake News by e-mail by sending e-mail to [webmaster@lllprd.org](mailto:webmaster@lllprd.org) or by using the form at <http://lllprd.org/subscribe.htm>.

Please note that your e-mail address will remain confidential and will be used **ONLY** for official LLLPRD correspondence.



## LLLPRD Committee Chairs



### LLLPRD Commissioners

Wayne Sauls, Chairman	967-2152
Pat Andress, Secretary	967-2518/723-9157
Darlene Glass, Treasurer	967-2289
Jim Dahl	568-3225
Brian Kent	967-2182

### Lake Property

No Chair...please contact a commissioner for information

### Lower Long Lake Foundation

Wally Schulenberg	967-2514/832-4217
<b>Long Range Planning</b>	
Jan Frase	967-2339
<b>Publicity</b>	
Lesley Sauls	967-2152
<b>Fish and Water Quality</b>	
Lou Frase	967-2339

# How about a check up?

When you build a house or install a septic system, it is important to go with the contractor who has the best reputation instead of the one with the cheapest estimate. The reward will be great in the long run. If you are purchasing a home with a septic system, a full check up by an independent contractor is necessary. What should a check up look for?

The tank should be pumped and inspected for cracks or inadequate baffles and excessive drain back from the drain field. The size and depth of the tank and drain field are important to note, and the depth of seasonal water tables should be noted. Any non-complying parts of the system should be noted, and dollar estimates for any suggested up-grades should be provided.

An inspection should cost about \$200-\$500 but is worth the cost if there are any problems. If none are found, then take care of the system from the beginning to provide it with a long, healthy life.

# What color is your water?

There are three “colors” of household waste water. Black Water is anything from the toilet. Gray Water is from the sink, shower, tub, dishwasher or laundry. The only water that is legal to drain on to a yard is called Clear Water and comes from the foundation into a sump pit or from a filtering device like an iron filter or water softener.

Most clear water goes into a holding tank or septic system, but sodium from water softeners can sometimes bind with certain types of clay soils causing the soil in septic systems to seal. A soil de-flocculent can be used to correct sodium damaged soil, and a mini-septic system can be installed to receive the discharge from the water softener to prevent this damage.



# About Septic Systems...



Properly maintained septic systems can be one of the best choices available for treating household waste water and can be financially advantageous. The choices we have here around Lower Long Lake are septic systems or holding tanks. In a holding tank, the system is simple. It is a tank that is pumped regularly. A septic system can be a more mysterious way to treat waste water, though.

In a septic system, the waste water leaves the house and goes into a septic tank where solids settle out. Heavy solids sink to the bottom and become a sludge layer, and lighter solids rise to become scum on the surface. In the middle is a relatively clear liquid called effluent. In this tank, naturally occurring anaerobic bacteria begin to break down solids and destroy pathogens.

After treatment begins in the septic tank, the effluent enters the next phase of the system. It goes past baffles that screen out solids and into the drain field where a distribution pipe and gravel are covered with top soil. The effluent percolates through the gravel bed where more pathogens are destroyed. It then filters back into the soil. By the time the effluent has traveled two to three feet through soil, all remaining pathogens have been destroyed, and the water is drinking quality. Of course, the cleaning process continues as the water moves through the soil, but much of the water is returned to the atmosphere through evaporation from the plant life growing on the drain field.

Of course nothing lasts forever, and septic systems have a life span of about 5-25 years. Different types of

systems typically last different lengths of time. Gravel trench systems usually last 15-25 years. Chamber systems without gravel last 10-15 years, sand and peat filters last 10+ years, mound systems 5-10 years and aerobic systems 5-10 years. However, this is not a definite length of time, and some systems can last up to 30+ years!

The best way to keep a septic system going long after it's general life span is to understand how it works and to work within its limitations. Knowing that bacteria are the main players in the system, it makes sense to keep harsh chemicals out of the system and to prevent plastics, polyesters and nylon from entering the system since they will not be broken down. Filters in washing machines are important to keep lint from the system. Because garbage disposals put unnecessary solids into the system that don't settle properly, they are discouraged with septic systems.

Septic systems can be overloaded with water, so water-saving appliances are important. A leaky toilet can put as much as 22,000 gallons through a septic system in a year...enough for three baths per day!

To keep your system in shape, it should be pumped and inspected every one to three years through the manhole cover. And keep heavy foot and vehicular traffic off the drain field. In some cases a plugged drain field can be rejuvenated by having the soil fractured to create thousands of tiny fissures that allow the soil to drain and the aerobic bacterial colonies to repopulate. More often, when it is done, it is done. So take care of it!

# LLLPRD Annual Meeting Minutes July 26, 2003



**Present:** Guy Wood – Chair, Wayne Sauls – Secretary/Treasurer, Pat Address, Brian Kent, and Jim Dahl – Commissioners and 26 constituents.

**Call to Order:** 9:05 a.m. by Guy Wood at the Sampson Town Hall.

**Minutes:** July 2002 annual meeting minutes were approved as published in Fall, 2002 newsletter.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Publicity:** Wayne Sauls reported for Lesley Sauls with an outline of committee expenditures. Lesley requested an annual picnic chair volunteer. John Kinyon requested a vote between two web site logos. One was chosen.

**Long Range Planning:** The committee did not meet during the year and had no report to give.

**Lake Property:** Kurt Lothe resigned from his position as chair. Volunteers were requested.

**Lake Quality and Fish Stocking:** Chair Lou Frase provided a hand-out with his presentation. He provided the mission statement, “The mission of the Lake Quality/Fish Stocking committee is to preserve and protect Long Lake water quality, the quality of the fishery and the associated habitat.” A fish stocking report was available from Kelly Svoma. Concern was expressed about the population of small mouth bass dwindling although a good hatch was noted. The limit may rise to 21 inches, and Svoma was not in favor of a closed season until the third week of June. There was a consensus that small sunfish are plentiful and spawning beds are becoming more prolific. Lou’s water quality report showed that secchi disc readings remained average for this northwestern geographic location. Phosphorus levels are gradually increasing and are reaching a point

where, according to Buzz Sorge, we are “sitting on a bubble” where small increments of phosphorous could make the lake green with excess algae. Dissolved oxygen at deeper levels has been declining with hypoxia beginning below 20 feet. A full report on lake oxygen will be available soon. According to Lou, one pound of phosphorous can produce 500 pounds of algae. Erosion control is necessary!

**Lower Long Lake Foundation:** Wally Schulenberg stated that the last six years have provided the Foundation with five parcels of land equaling approximately 100 acres. Wayne Sauls was nominated for Director of the Foundation which was seconded and then carried unanimously.

**Chippewa Valley Outdoor Resource Alliance:** Lenny Seyberth was not present, so there was no report, although Lenny and Kurt remain district representatives.

**From the Floor:** Dan Brion, director of Sybaquay Girl Scout Camp, spoke of a dispute between a private party and the camp about a boundary line and said that it was on the agenda for the next Town of Sampson meeting and encouraged all to attend.

**DNR Grant Activity:** Pat Address reported on the two grants in progress. The district had surpassed its 25% commitment of volunteer input to meet the requirements of the Storm Water Runoff Management grant. The Water Trails grant continues to develop with a historical perspective being incorporated by Darlene Glass. The District has been sponsoring programs at the Ice Age Center in conjunction with the grants that have been well received. Pat suggested that a district representative be sent to the Northwest Conference.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Wayne Sauls opened with congratulations to Pat Address for her election to director of WAL. Wayne reported on the year’s expenditures and outlined the \$2924.00 proposed budget for the coming year as it was published in the Spring Newsletter. The budget as proposed was motioned, seconded and accepted unanimously.

**Election of Officers:** There were no nominations from the floor to replace the expiring term of Guy Wood who nominated Darlene Glass. She has indicated an interest in being a commissioner and was voted in unanimously.

**New Business:** Steve Kristo made a presentation regarding the property he and Rich Kracum purchased from Secluded Land Company. The back lot acreage that they intend to sell to the state for incorporation into the Ice Age Reserve is still pending, but he provided assurances that it would most likely be conveyed when all the details were worked out. Kristo outlined the conservation easement held by the West Wisconsin Land Trust that was incorporated into the properties that will be for sale. Kristo also gave brief mention that he and Kracum were considering similar easement options on their personal land, including the former Fanning/Herde lake frontage that Kracum obtained. All present gave a loud round of applause to Kristo for his efforts.

**From the floor:** Jan Frase mentioned the unresolved issue before the town of Sampson regarding the north end boat landing and the property belonging to Mrs. Ling. She suggested the District get involved with the dispute because it is an issue that regards riparian rights. No resolution was made.