



LAKE SOUNDINGS

The Newsletter of Gilmore Lake Association

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GREETINGS TO OUR GILMORE LAKE NEIGHBORS

By President, Bill Doeden

As this winter's bitter weather fades in our memories and the first signs of spring begin to appear, our thoughts turn once again to spending time with family and friends on Gilmore Lake. With this change of seasons has also come another change. Jim Holmes has decided to step down as president of the association. We are all indebted to Jim for his unwavering efforts to protect the quality of Gilmore Lake. We thank Jim for his service and leadership.

During the course of this winter many activities continued for the board and committee members. Preparation of a final report for the DNR on last year's Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) efforts, a request for grant funding for the 2009 season, completion of a rapid response plan, scheduling our upcoming boat inspections and membership related projects were all part of this winter's agenda.

As is obvious, many of these efforts are focused on EWM. Unfortunately we've learned that the DNR has decided not to provide Aquatic Invasive Species prevention grants to smaller lake associations like ours this year. This has serious implications for our lake and our investments. Please read John Ney's summary of the DNR decision and its potential impact.

As a result of the DNR's actions, we need everyone's support, now, more than ever. We must all remember that EWM grows at depths up to 15ft. Consequently, all of our lakefronts, most of the north bay, the channel between the lakes and any bars/flats are vulnerable to EWM growth. Last year more than 60 boats were launched into our lake after being used in EWM contaminated waters like the Minong Flowage and Nancy Lake. Because EWM is spread by boats and trailers, it's imperative that we continue doing boat inspections. This will require that we use those funds that were set aside to control EWM if it got into our lake. We will need to rebuild this reserve. So how can you help? First, by joining the lake association. Your annual dues help fund our efforts to protect our lake and your lakefront. Secondly, you can help by making a donation to the EWM fund and/or by volunteering your time. Please consider doing your part to help ensure that Gilmore Lake continues to be one of the area's premier lakes.

We thank all of you who have provided your support as members of the association and look forward to seeing you at the annual member's meeting on June 27. We wish everyone a safe, fun and rewarding time on Gilmore Lake this summer.

NO DNR GRANT FOR 2009 EWM/AIS PROJECT

By John Ney

Chairman, AIS Committee

For the first time, the Wisconsin DNR did not fund the Gilmore Lake application for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) support to help us prevent the establishment of Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) in our lake. In 2007 and again in 2008, we were awarded AIS grants that covered most of the cost of our boat inspection program, which totals about \$3,000/yr. Other costs, for AIS education and lake monitoring, were borne primarily by volunteer effort and financial contributions.

Our EWM project has been successful in every respect. So what went wrong? As we feared (see Fall 2008 Newsletter), changes in how the DNR distributes their AIS funds are largely to blame. New rules tripled the maximum grant cap and opened the door to many new applicants. The end result was much bigger but many fewer AIS grants. For northern Wisconsin- Spring 2009, only seven grants were funded, at an average of \$89,000 each. Conversely, 41 applications were rejected; these averaged \$23,000. The Gilmore Lake Association only requested \$4,500. Grants to control established AIS infestations showed a similar imbalance: a few big grants funded, most smaller grants rejected.

Among applicants in the town of Minong, only the Minong Flowage was successful in securing funding to begin a multi-year (perpetual?) treatment program of their rampant EWM infestation. Nancy/Kimball Lakes received no funds for boat inspections, and Nancy Lake got no DNR support for treatment of their EWM beds.

Like so many of the newly unemployed, we face a hard choice: drop the EWM program or use our cash reserves to finance it. The Milfoil Committee believes that we must continue our boat inspection program this year, especially when nearby EWM-infested lakes will have no or minimal boat inspections. We can cover the education workshop and lake monitoring components at negligible cost. However, despite great volunteer help, most of our boat inspection coverage will again require paid labor. Fortunately, we have accumulated sufficient reserves in the Gilmore Lake Invasive Species Account to get us through the 2009 season. These dollars came from your contributions, and we need to use them now. However, they were intended to be held in reserve so that we could initiate a rapid, effective treatment program if EWM is ever found in Gilmore Lake. The account should be replenished for its intended purpose via new contributions and donations.

We can hope that the DNR will treat us better in 2010. New rules will reserve some funds for small but successful programs like Gilmore Lake. We will submit our application this August. In the interim, we look forward to a successful EWM program with your help. We cannot afford to cut back now.

RAPID RESPONSE PLAN – EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL

By Bill Doeden

We've now finalized our Rapid Response plan. The purpose of this plan is to define the roles, responsibilities and actions to be taken in the event that Eurasian watermilfoil is found in Gilmore Lake. As a reminder, EWM grows in 15 feet or less of water and forms a six inch thick mat that prevents boating, swimming, etc. Because it spreads so rapidly and can literally prevent the use of those areas where it's growing, it's imperative that we be prepared to act quickly to minimize its impact. The elements of this plan include detection, confirmation, containment, communication, treatment and follow-up. Burt King will act as the plan coordinator in the event that implementation is necessary. If that happens, an emergency grant request will be submitted to the DNR to cover 75% of the cost but the remaining 25% will need to come from us. Association members will be notified if EWM is found and its location. Notices will also be placed at the landing and on the website. A copy of this plan will be available for examination at the June 27 member's meeting along with a brief presentation.

TOTOGATIC WILD RIVER PROPOSAL

By Russ Robinson

The Wisconsin legislature is considering a bill to classify the Totogatic and Brunsweller River (Ashland county) as "Wild Rivers" under Chapter 30 of the state statutes. If passed these two rivers will join three other

previously designated "Wild Rivers" in northeastern Wisconsin, sharing this unique conservation classification. The "Wild River" status for the Totogatic would go a long way in protecting the natural state of this remarkable local resource for future generations

The bill includes only the free flowing portions of the river, not the impounds which include Minong Flowage, Nelson Lake and the Colton Flowage. For a more comprehensive description of this pending legislation please visit the St. Croix Basin Education website at <http://basineducation.uwex.edu/stcroix/links/wildriver/index2.htm> or checkout the most recent Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association newsletter at www.wclra.org. You can also find additional information pertaining to our area or statewide waters by going to the website for Wisconsin Association of Lakes at: www.wisconsinlakes.org .

MINONG TOWNSHIP LAKES FAIR – July 25, 2009

By Russ Robinson

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! And plan to attend this great one-time event that will highlight the importance of our area lakes. The event is planned to begin at 9am on the grounds of the Minong Town Hall on the corner of Nancy Lake Road and Smith Bridge Road in Minong.

There are a number of fun and educational activities planned for the enjoyment of your whole family. There will be presentations and discussions on many topics including fish in our lakes, raptors and other critters, frogs, Loon watch and conservation practices. There will also be a lot of kids activities and games going on throughout the day. We will have many local demonstrations and displays exhibiting such things as local lake history/pictures, fish lure carving, kayak/canoe building and restoration and loon nesting platforms to name a few.

A "pig roast" is planned at noon and activities are planned to continue until 3pm. You are welcome to come for the whole day or just a part of it. We will have more information about the specific events as we get closer to the fair date posted on our website at: <http://sites.com/site/gilmorelakeassociation/> and at the Gilmore Lake Association Annual picnic and meeting on June 27, 2009. **SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!**

GLA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Barb Robinson

We're starting this year with more paid memberships than we did last year at this time. We've also received updated contact information for address, phone and email corrections. Tom Bergemann, Fran Bogner and I will be gearing up in May for our membership drive.

Last year the Membership Committee proposed to the Board that the Lake Association give paid members something that would show their association with Gilmore Lake. Tom Bergemann's son-in-law, Pat who is a graphic artist, designed a logo for a window decal. Pat created this logo you see here....AT NO COST to the association! The Membership Committee presented the logo to the Board last Fall with the cost to print. The Board approved the logo – in window decal form and to be printed and released in the Spring of 2009. To cut costs, the logo is inserted in the newsletter of all members who have paid by the printing of this newsletter. For those who pay their dues up and until the Annual Meeting in June, you can pick up your window decal at the Annual Meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting please contact Tom Bergemann (bergemannt@gmail.com), Fran Bogner (happyrock@centurytel.net) or Barb Robinson (ribald@centurytel.net) . We will make arrangements to get your window decal to you. Additional logos are available at \$2.00 each with profits in these sales going to the Eurasian Water Milfoil effort.



GILMORE LAKE ASSOCIATION 2009 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

	Date	Time	Location
Lake Area Road cleanup	May 16, 2009	9:00am	Town Hall
GLA Spring Board Meeting	May 16, 2009	(to be determined)	
GLA Annual Meeting/Picnic	June 27, 2009	11:00am	Town Hall
Annual Boat Parade	July 4, 2009	1:00pm	Gilmore Lake

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT - UPDATE

By Russ Robinson

If you would like a quick update on information and legislation that may affect you as a member of the Gilmore Lake Association, go to <http://sites.com/site/gilmorelakeassociation/> . The NEWS page on this website has information about pending and recently passed lake and river legislation such as the Totogatic Wild Rivers Bill, the Bill to ban Phosphorous fertilizer, and a stronger AIS regulation law. While visiting this site, take a look at some of the other information that is available, such as a schedule of Association events and a list of contact information for local associations and government offices. Gilmore Lake Association is a member of both Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association and also Wisconsin Association of Lakes. Both of these associations have links on our website.

NORTHWOODS WEATHER ALERT

By Burt King

This past summer Gilmore Lake experienced a very dangerous storm that left major tree and property damage but thankfully no personal injury. In the wake of that storm I researched emergency radios that could alert property owners in the area to advancing storm systems. I found websites that give you some guides and basic understanding of what weather radios do and don't do. Two of the sites I recommend are: <http://www.weather.gov/nwr/nwrrcvr> and http://support.radioshack.com/support_tutorials/weather/wr-gde-0.htm

Some considerations when purchasing a weather radio are: desk top or portable, plug-in plus battery backup, "SAME" Technology (programmable to select counties or areas), special needs like strobe light for the deaf or bed shake, alarm style with volume control and selectable hazard alert – tornado, high winds, flood blizzard or fire. For pricing and purchasing information I suggest www.weatherradiostore.com/ and <http://www.ambientweather.com/werapugi.html>. My wife and I have an emergency weather radio. Please note that it did NOT sound a warning during last summer's **very sudden** wind storm but has been very good at warning us in all other situations. If you have any questions please contact Burt at bking001@centurytel.net.

BURNING PERMIT REGULATIONS

In case you missed the change in burning permit procedure last year, you can obtain a FREE ANNUAL permit from a Ranger Station or Emergency Fire Warden. The only days you cannot burn are Sundays and Holidays or unless the DNR issues a No Burn Day. With the annual permit you will still need to contact the DNR after 11:00am on the day you wish to burn to learn if any local restrictions are in place. You can call them at 1-888-WIS-BURN or log on to their website: www.dnr.wi.gov/. Information about what you can and cannot burn is on your permit or you can get the information from their web page.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

The Wisconsin Legislature has been busy regarding passage of several bills that have an impact on Gilmore Lake directly or indirectly. For more information on these and other legislation pertaining to the lakes and rivers in Washburn county you can log on to the WCLRA website at: www.wclra.org or visit the website of WAL at wisconsinlake.org The following information comes from Earl Cooke, President of WAL (Wisconsin Association of Lakes) and Director on the Board of WCLRA (Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association). Gilmore Lake Association is a member of both organizations.

1. AB3 – Relating to the restrictions on the use and sale of fertilizer containing phosphorus and other turf fertilizer and providing a penalty. This bill has passed the Assembly and is now being considered in the Senate where the prospects for passage are encouraging.
2. AB43 and SB47 – Relating to designating portions of the Totogatic River as a Wild River. The bill has passed the Assembly and awaiting consideration on the floor of the Senate. See article by Russ Robinson.
3. AB90 and SB12 – Relating to the operation of motorboats, other than personal watercraft, at slow-no-wake speed within a given distance of the shoreline of a lake. This bill has been passed by the Senate and is being considered by the Assembly. No significant opposition is anticipated.

The Town of Minong recently added Oakes Road to the ATV trails. For more information you can contact the Town of Minong: www.townofminong.us or contact the ATV Club at: www.minongtrails.com.

KIDS DON'T FLOAT!

By Barb Robinson

Drownings are the second leading cause of injury-related death to kids ages 1-14 according to the Federal "Kids Don't Float" Program. It's a given that when families come up to visit Gilmore Lake children will be in or around the water. For many families children grow out of life jackets faster than the jackets can be replaced. In some cases the host family doesn't have young children and therefore doesn't have children's life jackets available. Purchasing an approved life jacket for limited use can be expensive. Therefore the Gilmore Lake Association is sponsoring the **First Annual Life Jacket Swap** at the Annual Picnic/Meeting on June 27, 2009 at the Minong Town Hall. We are asking anyone who has extra life jackets that their children have outgrown to bring them to the meeting. The jackets must be in good condition and meet the safety standards for PFD's. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to contribute life jackets, please contact Barb Robinson at 715-466-4152 or ribald@centurytel.net to make arrangements to bring your jackets to the meeting. Any jackets that are not exchanged will be kept by the lake association to be loaned out as needed. Remember state and federal laws require children to wear life jackets while boating.

MINONG AREA DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING CENTER

The following is information about the Minong Garbage and Recycling Center. You do need a Minong Area Disposal User Permit to use their facilities. They are free and can be obtained at the Township Hall during normal business hours. The Transfer Operator **may** ask to see the permit when you unload at the Transfer Station. There is also information at the Transfer station about what can be recycled and if there is a cost to do so.

IT'S A MYSTERY!

I have a question for all of you. How and when did Gilmore Lake get its name? Some of the research that I've done shows that the lake was named Gilmore as far back as the 1880's. If you have the answer to this please contact me at: ribald@centurytel.net or call me at: 715-466-4152. Thank you!

LOST AND FOUND

If you have lost or found something of value, please contact Barb Robinson with a brief description at: ribald@centurytel.net. I will forward the information to the members via e-mail. Please provide your contact information. The information will also be put on the GLA website at: <http://sites.google.com/site/gilmorelakeassociation/>

IN THE BACK YARD

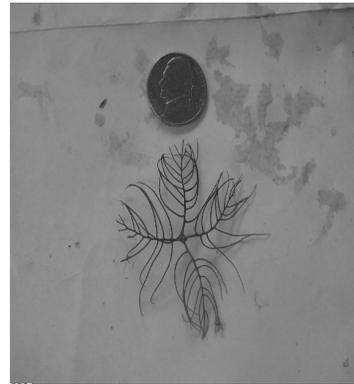
By Kathy King

It's that time of year when plants begin to emerge from their winter hibernation. It's also the time of year when deer come into yards to enjoy them as well. While there is no way to totally deer-proof your yard you can discourage their browsing by planting plants and shrubs around the perimeter of your flower bed with some of the following plants: holly, ferns, boxwood, foxglove, salvia, Russian sage, daffodils, poppies, peonies, barberry and herbs like thyme and oregano. Contact your county extension office or local nursery to find out which plants thrive in our area. In the case of herbs, plant them in containers that can be brought inside at the end of summer so you can enjoy them all year. Information was provided by Kathy King.

MINONG TOWNSHIP NEWS

The Township is asking our help in getting the word out that all dogs need to be current in their inoculations and have a dog license. If your permanent home is your lake property you can purchase the dog licenses at the Minong Town Hall during regular posted business hours. If you are not a permanent resident, your dog should have a license issued for your permanent address.

****Quiz: WHICH PICTURE IS EURASIAN WATER-MILFOIL?**



How To Identify

Eurasian Water-Milfoil

1. Delicate feather-like leaves. Leaflets are mostly same length
2. Leaves usually limp when out of water
3. Leaves arranged in whorls or 3-5 around stem
4. Usually 12-21 leaflet pairs per leaf
5. Long spaghetti-like stems

Northern Water-Milfoil

1. Rigid feather-like leaves forming a Christmas tree shape.
2. Leaves usually stiff when out of water
3. Leaves arranged in whorls of 4-6 around stem
4. Usually 7-10 leaflet pairs per leaf
5. Stem is usually whitish or whitish green in color

If you are interested in learning more about Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and their harmful impact on our lakes or about Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) program, feel free to call Lisa Gabriel, AIS Coordinator at 715-468-4654 to set up a day to meet.

****Answer to the quiz:** The picture on the left shows Eurasian Water-Milfoil. The picture on the right shows native Northern Water-Milfoil.

REMINDER!

On May 16 The Gilmore Lake Association will be sponsoring its annual roadside cleanup around our lake. This year we will be joined by other lake associations cleaning up their roadsides. We ask any one who plans to be here that weekend to give an hour to the effort. We will be meeting at the Township Hall at 9am. It's a great time to meet people from around the lake. There is free coffee and great treats! What better way to get out and enjoy the Spring weather! A great way to volunteer and help spruce up the roadsides around our lake. If you have any questions you can contact any of the board members for more information.

IDEAS?

If you would like to contribute information or articles for future Lake Soundings newsletters please contact Barb Robinson at: ribald@centurytel.net.

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF YOUR LAKE HOME

Two years ago, John Breitingner produced some remarkable aerial photos of Gilmore Lake which he offered to the association members as a way of raising money for the lake association. A number of residents purchased these photographs and the proceeds from that sale were contributed to the Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) effort.

This year John has offered to take aerial photographs of individual lake cottages and homes. The aerial photograph of your home will be an 11X14 print, matted to an overall 16X20 picture. The cost is \$75 for a matted unframed picture and \$120 framed with either black or brown wood. Half of the proceeds will go to the Eurasian Water Milfoil program, supporting our ongoing efforts to protect our lake. A limited number of the Gilmore Lake aerial photographs that were offered two years ago are also available at \$50 for a matted unframed photo and \$80 for a matted framed photo..

The deadline for ordering your lake home aerial photograph is June 27, 2009 at the annual Gilmore Lake Association meeting. The pictures will all be taken on a single day to reduce costs and to optimize photographic conditions. Lake residents who are interested can contact John at: john@headwaters-aero.com or Barb Robinson at 715-466-4152 or ribald@centurytel.net to make arrangements and provide information on how best to show off their lake home.

John, his wife, Jen, and their daughter, Eva are residents of Minneapolis and spend much of their free time at their home on Gilmore Lake.

EDITOR'S NOTE

By Barb Robinson

With so much happening on and around our lake it's important that we, as residents of the lake, put as much time and effort into our endeavors to protect Gilmore Lake. I strongly encourage everyone to join the lake association and to attend the annual meeting. This year the meeting will deal with the loss of DNR funding and how to find alternative funds to compensate for that loss enabling to continue the fight against EWM. And a fight it will be! We are surrounded by waters that have EWM. We also share water with them through lake hoppers – boaters who use all the waters in our area for recreation. A big thank you to those of you who have stepped up through paid membership, volunteering time, and contributions.

If you are not a member of the association, please join. If you have a little time to volunteer with boat inspections, fund raising, or if you have some ideas that can help in the EWM fight, step up! Every effort helps. For boat inspections volunteers, there will be a sign up sheet at the Annual Meeting or contact Russ Robinson at: russrobinson@centurytel.net . For ideas pertaining to the EWM fight contact John Ney or Russ Robinson. We really do need your help and your input.

GILMORE LAKE ASSOCIATION

The Gilmore Lake Association is committed to protecting your lake and your investments through the efforts to prevent invasive species such as EWM from entering the lake and detecting it in its early states when it can best be treated if it does get in. These efforts are both costly and time consuming. By joining the Association, your dues help support this work. Fill out the form below and mail it along with your check or money order for \$25 to:

Gilmore Lake Association
P.O. Box 188
Minong WI 54859

PLEASE SIGN ME UP FOR 2009 MEMBERSHIP IN THE GILMORE LAKE ASSOCIATION!

Name: _____ Lake Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Lake Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

e-mail address: _____

Amount Enclosed: () \$25 Membership () Donation \$ _____ () Extra Logos \$ _____
(@\$2.00 each)

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