

CRESCENT LAKE DISTRICT REVIEW

Submitted By-Robb W. Jensen

Introduction

In the preparation of this report, the *UWEX- People of the Lakes: A Guide for Wisconsin Lake Organizations* publication and Wisconsin State Statute 33.25 served as source documents.

According to the UW Extension, their Natural Resources and Lakes Program harness leading-edge university research and a network of local, state and regional partnerships to ensure their resources remain strong, resilient and productive. They are leaders on water issues at the local, state and regional scales through interdisciplinary efforts focused on water quality and quantity, data collection, invasive species prevention and coastal management.

The *People of the Lakes: A Guide for Wisconsin Lake Organizations-11th Edition* was published in 2006. Well after the significant court cases reference by Corporation Counsel Desmond. Thus, one would assume the 2006 edition took into consideration these cases.

Crescent Lake District Petition Process

UWEX People of the Lakes: A Guide for Wisconsin Lake Organization Guide provided the following information:

"Making sure that people can make an informed decision is vital to the lake community and the whole process of petitioning. If people agree that what you are proposing is best for the lake and lake community, they will be more likely to support your efforts."

"In circulating the petition, it may be helpful to include a cover letter with the petition describing what a lake district is and why you feel a lake district will be beneficial for the lake, property owners, residents and the lake community."

1. Information Provided by Crescent Lake Association (CLA) & Subcommittee:

Website

Email Notices and Attachments

Webinars (2)

Door-to-Door Solicitation & Phone Calls

First Mailing: To property owners unable to be contacted

Second Mailing: To Signed Petitioners

Conservation & UWEX Education Committee Meetings & Agendas

2. Information Not Provided by Crescent Lake Association & Subcommittee

A. Lake District Activities, Powers, Budgeting & Finance and Insurance & Liability

Appendix A-Page 5 provides a summary of the General Management Activities, Powers, Budgeting & Finance and Insurance & Liability from *People of the Lakes: A Guide for Wisconsin Lake Organizations: Chapter 5*.

As stated previously, *"Making sure that people can make an informed decision is vital to the lake community and the whole process of petitioning."*

- The Crescent Lake District Subcommittee held two webinars and conducted a door-door petition solicitation.
- Listening sessions were not scheduled due to Covid 19 concerns, yet door-to-door contacts were conducted.
- All owners were not sent lake district information such as Appendix A prior to door-to-door solicitation nor during the door-door contacts.
- The Subcommittee relied upon verbal presentations by petition circulators. Without providing owners with information such as Appendix A it is reasonable to conclude not all owners fully understood what they were signing on to. What guarantee was there that everyone was given the same information?
- Most owners agree the control of Eurasian milfoil and other invasive species is a high priority and may have signed the petitions for that sole reason. However, during the Public Hearing and in conversations with Subcommittee members, it was expressed there were "other concerns" to be addressed. One Subcommittee member when asked as to the purpose of the District indicated the need to start with the milfoil and then move on to other issues. What are these other issues and why were the owners not informed of these issues?

B. Financial Need & Funding: The expressed primary purposes as to why the need to form a lake district was for the control of milfoil and other invasive species. And, the current fund raising through voluntary donations and grants were not sufficient to fund ongoing or future projects.

- 2020: The Crescent Lake Association (CLA) 2020 Financial statement shows AIS/EWM/CBCW income of \$57,649.97 (\$10,890-Donations and \$46,759.97-Grants) and disbursements of \$53,098.26. A positive balance of \$4,551.71 (Exhibit 1. P15.)
- 2021 Email Notices:
April 21, 2021 Informing property owners as to the status of Eurasian Milfoil (EWM) treatment plans for 2021 (Appendix C, P11.)

Annual Letter and Dues notice (Appendix D, P 13.) These did not include an estimated budget nor a recommendation regarding the desired EWM donation. A donation estimate based on per \$1000 of property valuation would have been helpful in achieving fundraising goals. For example, please donate \$6 per thousand of property value, i.e. \$100,000 property value would donate \$60.

C. Webinar Public Hearing & Other

- Lake districts have more access to grants and funding sources: This was speculative in nature and was not confirmed by Michele Saduskas.
- Milfoil according to a UW-Madison study could cause a 13% decrease in property value: That may be a possibility, but was not supported by 2020 Crescent Lake property sales. A review of eight 2020 property sales had an average increase of 24.4% above the 2020 Assessed Tax Value (Exhibit 2, P15.)
- Voluntary contributions are far below what is the cost needed to control AIS/EWM: That is accurate provided no grant funding is provided. However, grant funding has been provided and along with voluntary donations has provided adequate funding to date.
- With a tax rate generating \$44,000 (approximately 0.6 Mil) there is a very good chance to control milfoil. If in 2020 the voluntary donations were to have been \$44,000 with grants, the ending balance for AIS/EWM/CBCW would have been approximately \$37,000. Why the need for the additional funds?
- Dissolution of a lake districts: Webinar indicated 75% vote to dissolve at annual meeting not 2/3 vote. Some door-to-door contacts were not informed of the 2/3 vote only the district could be dissolved. Possibly assuming a 51% vote to dissolve.

Conclusion: The Crescent Lake District Formation Subcommittee, while honorable in intent, was significantly flawed in its efforts to provide owners with the information to be knowledgeable decisionmakers.

Crescent Lake District Signatures

UWEX *People of the Lakes: A Guide for Wisconsin Lake Organization Guide Chapter 4 Forming a Lake District* provided the following information:

1. Corporation Counsel February 4, 2021 Memo to Conservation & UW Extension Committee

"The petition filed with Oneida County was signed by Petitioner Ryan Peterson and contains the verification as required by statute. Wis. S. 33.25(3). Within the Petition are 150 pages that have been signed by landowners requesting that the Lake District Petition be formed by the County Board. The pages signed by the land owners contain statements at the bottom of the page verification of the landowner signature. Most of the pages signed by the landowners do not have the verification portion at the bottom of the page filled out and/or notarized. The lack of verification on each page creates a legal issue

Issue A: Do individual signature pages need to be verified to be counted towards the 51% requirements? *"The issue ... is do the individual signatures need to be verified or only the petition as a whole?" ...I cannot affirmatively state that if presented with the argument that only the Petition needs to be verified the court would rule in that manner.*

Conclusion: If the County Boards decides "the individual signatures needed to be verified" the Petition lacks 51%.

Issue B: Withdrawing from the Petition: "In my (Desmond) opinion, the legal withdrawal is not valid, as it was not "verified" as required by law."

Wis. Stat. § 33.25(5) A person who has signed a petition may withdraw from the petition by filing a written notice of withdrawal with the county clerk at least ten days before the hearing on the petition. A withdrawal, like the original petition, must be verified.

Counter Argument: Logic suggests the person verifying the original petition would also verify the petitions submitted to withdraw. To place the responsibility on the individual desiring to withdraw to have contacted the committee verification person directly and then submit the request to the county clerk may not align with the statute. Every petition is presumed to have been signed by the person whose signature appears on it, until proven otherwise Wis. Stat. § 33.25(4.) The same presumption should apply to withdrawal request. NOTE: Exhibit 3 -Page 16 was reviewed by Corporation Counsel Desmond and he did not address an issue with verification.

2. Chapter 4 Forming A Lake District Guide:

Verification Key Point: One of the petitioners must verify that the petition and the signatures are true and correct to the best of his or her knowledge and sign under oath in the presence of a notary public (*People of the Lakes, Page 47*)

The same person needs to certify all signature sheets of the petition. This person need not be present when each individual actually signed the petition, but this person should have been in charge of the petition drive, and if petitions are returned by mail, this person should have directly received them. (*People of the Lakes Page 48*)

Each petition page will still need to be certified in front of a notary by the person verifying the entire petition.

Point of Consideration: The same person, Ryan Peterson, did not certify all signature sheets of the Petition. Two other Subcommittee signed sheets of the Petition. Each page was not certified in front of a notary.

Conclusion: If the same person needed to certify all signatures, the Petition may not have the 51% (Exhibit 4, P 16.)

APPENDIX A
UWEX- People of the Lakes: A Guide for Wisconsin Lake Organizations
Chapter 5 Operating a Lake District

General Management Activities

Lake districts can conduct a broad range of activities to manage and enhance the lake or lakes they are organized around. Some typical activities include:

1. Understanding the lake's water quality and its ecosystem by:
 - Monitoring water quality
 - Inventorying and monitoring aquatic plants
 - Mapping the lake's watershed
 - Identifying pollution sources
 - Developing long range lake management plans
2. Protecting lake habitat through:
 - Educational efforts
 - Wetland restoration
 - Acquisition of land or conservation easements to protect sensitive areas
 - Erosion control programs
 -
 - treatment and education)
3. Maintaining water levels through dam ownership and/or operation
4. Enhancing recreational boating and boater safety through:
 - Boating ordinances
 - Operation of water safety patrols
 - Boating safety classes
 - Developing water trails
 - Developing informational/educational tools (such as boat landing signs, brochures, or maps)
5. Providing public services such as:
 - Sewer and water
 - Solid waste/recyclable collection

Powers

The legislature has given lake districts a broad range of financial and administrative powers to undertake lake management programs. All lake districts have been granted the power to:

- Levy taxes and impose special charges and special assessments
- Borrow money
- Disburse money
- Make contracts
- Accept gifts
- Buy, hold, and sell property
- Undertake projects to enhance recreational uses, including recreational boating facilities (such as boat launches or breakwaters)
- Sue and be sued
- Take other acts necessary to carry out a program of lake protection and rehabilitation

Specialized Powers

The following powers require special authorization from electors (resident voters) and property owners at an annual meeting or from other local government bodies:

- **Public Water and Sanitation Programs** The electors (resident voters) and property owners at the annual meeting can authorize a lake district to exercise some or all of the statutory powers of a sanitary district, which chiefly relate to sewer and water systems.
- **Recreational Boating Regulations** All lake districts have the authority to establish water safety patrols and contract with certified law enforcement officers to enforce state boating laws and any local boating ordinances that affect the lake.
- **Seaplanes and Icebound Waters Regulations** All local governments (including lake districts) may enact ordinances to regulate seaplanes and travel on icebound lakes by boats and other craft, including snowmobiles and other motor vehicles.
- **Conservation Initiatives** All lake districts have authority to acquire land and other interests in property.

Budget and Financing

The management activities undertaken by Wisconsin lake districts vary widely. Some focus chiefly on water quality monitoring and educational efforts carried out through the efforts of lake district commissioners and volunteers. Other lake districts, especially those that collect solid waste and recyclables or operate public sewer or water systems, require paid staff or contractors. Even volunteer-operated lake districts sometimes undertake relatively large-scale projects.

- **Audit:** The board is required to have an audit of the financial transactions of the district prepared at the close of each fiscal year. The audit must be presented and submitted to the annual meeting.
- **Special Charges:** Lake districts are also authorized to impose special charges for services identified in the annual budget. These special charges are typically used to pay for services that benefit individual properties, such as sewer or water service, aquatic plant harvesting, algae control and garbage pickup. Special charges imposed for sewerage system service are subject to special procedural requirements.
- **Special Assessments:** Special assessments are typically used for larger capital projects. Special assessments may only be levied against benefited property.
- **Saving and Borrowing:** At times, lake districts undertake projects that are simply too large to be funded in a single year. The costs of major projects can be spread out over a longer period if the electors and property owners at the annual meeting vote either to save money for a future purchase or to authorize borrowing.

Generally, lake districts and other local governments are required to apply any surplus funds they have at the end of the year to the next year's annual budget. Although the law does not permit lake districts to retain surplus funds for general purposes, the annual meeting is authorized to establish a non-lapsable fund in order to finance specifically identified capital costs and for the maintenance of capital equipment.

- **Borrowing:** Lake districts are generally authorized to borrow money and use other municipal financing methods prescribed by law.
- **Grants, Gifts, and Cooperative Agreements:** There are occasions when lake organizations take on projects or become involved in matters that require more funding than they possess. Grants, gifts, and cooperative agreements are tools that districts may use to raise needed capital or undertake projects.
- **Bids:** Whenever a lake district enters into a contract for the performance of any work or the purchase of any materials that exceeds \$2,500, contracts for the work must be let through a public bidding process.
- **Insurance:** Decisions regarding insurance coverage can be complex for lake districts. The costs of insurance can range greatly, depending on the lake district's size and activities.

Dissolution: An existing lake district may be dissolved. A two-thirds vote of the electors and property owners present at the annual meeting is required to decide to dissolve the district and forward the petition on to the county board for an official dissolution order.

Chapter 7 Insurance Liability Risks & Protection for Wisconsin Lake Organizations

Lake organizations are facing more difficult and complex issues and management decisions. In this complex world some lake organizations find that having an insurance policy to cover unexpected loss or damages proves to be sensible. The result of this situation has been an impressive increase in the need for, and cost of, insurance. The high cost and difficulty of getting insurance has been a growing issue across the nation.

- **Liability Exposure:** While there have been few reported lawsuits brought against lake organizations, liability claims and litigation can occur. Whether it is a voluntary unincorporated association, a nonprofit corporation, or a formal government entity, such as a lake district, the kinds of liability exposure faced by lake organizations is essentially the same.
- **Worker's Compensation:** A lake district cannot avoid worker's compensation liability exposure to its elected commissioners. If the governing body of the municipality that establishes the lake district performs the function of the board of commissioners, that municipality, in all likelihood, provides the necessary worker's compensation insurance for the commissioners.
- **Liability for Accidents:** Accidental injuries can create significant exposure to litigation for lake organizations. A claim can be brought for injuries accidentally sustained while involved in any of a wide variety of lake management activities. Lake organizations may be using aeration, placing buoys, owning dams, using cars and boats, or sponsoring water sport activities. These sorts of activities have the potential for accidents and liability if the lake organization is involved in them.
- **Contractual Liability:** A lake organization should also consider the possibility of litigation when entering into contracts with third parties.
- **Civil Rights Liability:** Lake districts, because they are a government body, also face limited exposure in another area. This area is civil rights litigation based upon allegations of violating a person's constitutional rights. While the likelihood of such a lawsuit being brought is very small, the cost can be substantial.

Who Can Be Sued?

- **Individuals:** People often have the misconception that because they work for someone else, they are not personally responsible for any injuries they accidentally cause. It is important to note that if an accident happens, an individual is always responsible for his or her own acts. This is true whether the person acts alone, on behalf of a corporation, voluntary lake association, lake district, or otherwise. The organization on whose behalf the person acts is probably going to share in the responsibility, but this does not eliminate direct liability exposure for the person who negligently causes an accident.
- **Nonprofit Corporations:** The formation of a corporation or lake district insulates those members who are not personally involved in the activity from any personal responsibility.
- **Lake Districts:** Lake districts can be sued, as can any other governmental entity. The officers, board members and employees of the district can also be directly sued. Such officers, board members and employees cannot be sued for the liability of the lake district, but only for their own individual actions. Officers, board members or employees who are sued for their own actions, while acting within the scope of their authority as an officer, board member or employee, have protection from personal liability. The lake district is required to pay any judgment or award against them, plus the costs of defending the litigation.
- **Director's and Officer's Liability:** Officers, directors and board members can be sued by members of their own organization. Officers, directors and board members have a responsibility to act in the best interest of the members of the organization. Members can sue those in charge of an organization upon allegations of mismanagement. Mismanagement can occur where interests of a minority number of the members is not being given due consideration.
- **Enforcement of Judgments:** Any final judgment entered against a lake district is added to the next tax levy.
- **Protection Against Liability:** In spite of all the apparent pitfalls and exposures to litigation, Wisconsin law provides several protections against liability. Some of these protections cannot be enforced until a complete jury trial is held, while others can be enforced by the judge in the preliminary stages of the litigation. Some defenses exist for lake organizations and their members regardless of the legal form of the organization. However, a lake district which is formally organized pursuant to the Chapter 33 of the Wisconsin Statutes enjoys the most protection.
- **A lake district's liability exposure, as well as that of its officers, officials, agents and employees, is generally limited to \$50,000.**
- **Immunity for Recreational Activities:** Wisconsin passed a law that creates immunity from liability when a "recreational activity" is involved. A "recreational activity" is statutorily defined as any outdoor activity undertaken for the purpose of exercise, relaxation or pleasure.
- **Diving Accidents:** The Wisconsin Supreme Court has adopted a legal principle known as the "open and obvious danger rule." It is clear that diving accidents are the responsibility of the person doing the diving.
- **Independent Contractors:** Lake organizations can substantially protect themselves when they hire an independent contractor to perform some function or project. Typically, a person or organization is not responsible for the actions of an independent contractor. PAGE NUMBERS

APPENDIX B
*UWEX- People of the Lakes: A Guide for Wisconsin Lake Organizations
Lake Associations & Lake Districts
11th Edition - 2006*

Preface Welcome to the 11th edition of the lake organizations guide. For over 30 years, UW-Extension has published a guide book that has served as a fundamental tool for people creating a lake organization. The past ten editions have been called A Guide to Wisconsin Lake Management Law. The 11th edition represents some major changes that we hope will make the guide even better. It has a new title and contains more information.

The contents and interpretations presented in this publication represent the opinions of the authors. They do not necessarily represent the views or policies of the University of Wisconsin-Extension, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Wisconsin Association of Lakes, the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, or the individuals who served as reviewers or their organizations. This information is for general use and, while we believe all information to be reliable and accurate, individual situations may be unique. The authors are not rendering legal services. Seek the assistance of a professional if you need legal counsel or insurance advice.

Chapter 4 Forming a Lake District Guide

Signatures

The petition should include lines for signatures and addresses for the landowners. Each page of signatures should have a verification component, which includes a signature line for the petitioner who is certifying the petition (see *People of the Lakes Verification*, page 47)... Some districts add the name of the circulator on each page that they distributed.

* The signature is the only required element of the petition, but it is a good idea to include other information to help the county determine if the petition has enough eligible signatures.

** May be referred to as a Property ID Number or Tax Parcel Number or something similar. This is not a required element of the petition. If your municipality has a numeric coding system in place, it can be an easy way to identify specific parcels of land and locate them on a map.

*** Some lake districts find it helpful to include a line on the signature pages indicating who circulated each page, for ease in tracking the petition drive.

Each petition page will still need to be certified in front of a notary by the person verifying the entire petition.

Verification Key Point: One of the petitioners must verify that the petition and the signatures are true and correct to the best of his or her knowledge and sign under oath in the presence of a notary public (*People of the Lakes*, Page 47)

The same person needs to certify all signature sheets of the petition. This person need not be present when each individual actually signed the petition, but this person should have been in charge of the petition drive, and if petitions are returned by mail, this person should have directly received them. (*Peoples of the Lakes*, Page 48)

Withdrawing from the Petition

A person who has signed a petition may withdraw from the petition by filing a written notice of withdrawal with the county clerk at least ten days before the hearing on the petition. A withdrawal, like the original petition, must be verified. Wis. Stat. § 33.25(5). (*People of the Lakes*, Page 49)



Crescent Lake Association

PO Box 265 Rhinelander, WI 54501

crescentlakeassociation@gmail.com

April 2021

Dear Crescent Lake Neighbors,

As we approach the 2021 summer season the Crescent Lake Association Board of Directors thought we would let you know about the Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) treatment plans for 2021.

Introduction

Decisions to address the spread of EWM on Crescent Lake are becoming more complicated, more expensive, and in some cases, more urgent. If you tour the lake you will find EWM almost continuously around the lake from shore to 15 foot of water depth. It is apparent that using spot treatments such as herbicides (like ProcellaCOR), the DASH boat, and volunteer hand harvesting are not going to provide the relief from EWM that the shoreline property owners are desiring. A more long-term relief approach will be needed. Assuming the Lake District is approved it will be the district's responsibility to address the long term. However, until that happens decisions need to be made for 2021.

Shore Monitoring, EWM Location Marking, and Property Owner Hand Harvesting

We will continue with shore monitoring and marking of EWM locations. Those interested in removing EWM from shallow water on their shoreline should contact Cindy Hermel (715-573-0720) for training. All removal activities contribute to our control efforts.

Hand Harvesting

We will continue with hand harvesting in smaller EWM areas throughout the lake as we have in the past, if volunteers are available. Areas to be harvested will be determined based on an adaptive management plan throughout the summer.

Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH)

The DASH boat will also be in operation again this summer in smaller EWM areas throughout the lake. Areas to be harvested will be established as summer progresses. If volunteer divers are not available, we will use paid divers for the DASH boat. If you are interested in volunteering to help on the DASH boat call Darrel Mack 715.282.6237.

Herbicide Treatment - ProcellaCOR

Herbicide treatment continues to be our most effective method of control. While it is considered spot treatment, it provides more rapid and larger area relief than both hand pulling and DASH Boat harvesting. We have received approval from the WI DNR to treat 21 acres on the south shore of the northern part of the lake with the herbicide ProcellaCOR. ProcellaCOR is the herbicide we used in 2019 and 2020. The plant survey completed by *Many Waters* in September 2020 was used to establish the areas to be treated this year. Treatment is planned for June. Copies of the WI DNR permit, herbicide application area map, WI DNR fact sheet for ProcellaCOR, and information about our ProcellaCOR applicator, *Aquatic Biologists Inc.*, will be

available on the Crescent Lake website www.crescentlakewi.org. Go to the ProcellaCOR tab at the top of the home page and then click on the 2021 sub-tab. If the application is scheduled in front of your property, a yellow sign will be placed near your dock indicating the herbicide used, anticipated treatment date, and pertinent restrictions on water use if so advised. If you have a raft out in the water, please move it to shore prior to the herbicide application. By moving your raft into shore, the applicator can do a more effective job in applying the herbicide and the results will be improved. Not driving through the area, on the day of the treatment, until evening would also be helpful. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lake Emma Portage

To reduce the potential for spread and transport of Invasive Species between Lake Emma and Crescent Lake we caution and encourage Crescent Lake property owners and visitors not to transport any watercraft between Lake Emma and Crescent Lake at the portage. The Oneida County Land & Water Conservation Dept. will be contacting the DNR to get approval for the County to put up signs by both lakes to discourage boat traffic between the lakes.

Future EWM Treatment Plan 2022, 2023, 2024

A final thought about EWM treatment activities. As previously stated, to reverse and slow down the spread of EWM a long-term approach should be developed. DASH, Hand Harvesting and ProcellaCOR will only provide short term spot treatment relief. The Response Team is researching and discussing long-term EWM treatment options and will provide updates as information becomes available. Should you have any questions or new treatment options please contact Terry Goldbach, chairman Crescent Lake EWM Response Team, terrygoldbach@charter.net, 715-490-0569; or Cindy Hermel, Crescent Lake Board Member and AIS Coordinator, 715-573-0720.

WI DNR Oversight and Approval

The Crescent Lake Association EWM management plan proposals are submitted to the WI DNR and are subject to DNR approval.

Your neighbors,

The Crescent Lake Association Board of Directors

Donna Stone

Maria Rudesill

Sandy McKittrick

John Dusenbery

Cindy Hermel

Alan Janssen

Mark Mergenthaler



Crescent Lake Association

PO Box 265, Rhinelander, WI 54501
crescentlakeassociation@gmail.com

Dear Crescent Lake Property Owners,

We hope you are all healthy and doing well during these unusual times. Enclosed you will find the 2021 Crescent Lake Association **Annual Dues Statement**. Whether you are a full-time or seasonal resident, as a property owner on Crescent Lake you share with all of us a vested interest in preserving one of the most beautiful recreational lakes in the northwoods. **We invite you to renew your membership or to join Crescent Lake Association for the first time.** We represent all property owners on the lake, and your participation is important to us.

Because of Covid-19 risk, our association met via Zoom in 2020 and have not, at this time, scheduled in-person meetings and social events for the 2021 calendar. Please continue to check our website for future virtual meeting dates, and whether some in-person meetings or events may be scheduled in 2021.

With spread of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in our lake, we face a significant challenge to control this aquatic invasive species (AIS). We recognize that we need to continue an active approach in coordination with the Wisconsin DNR to keep EWM in check, as it poses a serious threat to the lake and all our properties. We continue to apply for grants for funding and are asking for your continued tax-deductible donations to help us in this challenge. We also ask you to volunteer for shoreline monitoring, boat landing inspections and assisting on our DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) boat for spot removal of EWM from our lake. For more information on the status of AIS in our lake, control methods being evaluated and implemented, and Crescent Lake Association activities, please visit our website www.crescentlakewi.org

Note: As most of you know, the process of forming a Crescent Lake District for purposes of funding EWM control is ongoing. If this proceeds as anticipated, the funding of these expenses will then transfer from the Lake Association to the Lake District, but the District will not receive any funding for this until the process is complete. **For the current year, the Crescent Lake Association is the only group funding AIS control on our lake. Therefore, we are asking you to continue making your tax-deductible donations to Crescent Lake Association for controlling AIS in this current year.**

One of our favorite lake activities is our annual July 4th Fireworks celebration. Due to the many volunteers who helped with last year's display, it was again spectacular, even with pandemic restrictions in place. Thank you for your past donations which made the purchase of improved detonation equipment possible in 2018. We hope this annual event remains a highlight to everyone's experience on the lake.

Please return your Annual Dues Statement and payment as soon as possible so we can plan for this year's expenses. Include your current mailing addresses, phone number(s) and email address(s) so your contact information is current, enabling us to keep you informed of what is happening on the lake. Your contact information will only be used for Crescent Lake Association purposes.

Crescent Lake Association Board of Directors

Crescent Lake Association, Inc.

PO BOX 265
RHINELANDER WI 54501

2021

Your 2021 Crescent Lake Association dues are now due. **The Crescent Lake membership annual dues are \$30 per voting member; limit 2 voting members per household.**

Please mail your payment to: Crescent Lake Association
PO Box 265
Rhinelanders WI 54501

*If you have any questions regarding your membership, please contact Sandy McKittrick:
ismckitrick@charter.net or another board member*

Annual Dues

\$ _____ **Annual Dues (\$30 per voting member; limit 2 per household)**
Calendar year: January 1 - December 31

\$ _____ **Fireworks Donation: Fireworks Display is fully funded by your Tax Deductible Donations**

\$ _____ **AIS Donation: PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION! Tax Deductible**
We need to actively combat the Eurasian Water Milfoil currently in our lake and other aquatic invasive species (AIS) that may appear

\$ _____ Total

- I **Volunteer** for boat inspections at the landing (training will be provided-Call Cindy Hermel 715-282-5289 or 715-573-0720)
- I **Volunteer** for AIS monitoring (training will be provided-Call Cindy Hermel 715-282-5289 or 715-573-0720)
- I **Volunteer** to work on the DASH boat

Please provide your contact information, including your lake address if you are not a full-time resident.

Name _____

Residence Address _____

Lake Address _____

Phone _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Note: New Improved Website

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR BEAUTIFUL LAKE!

Please visit the CLA website
www.crescentlakewi.org
for important information
concerning Crescent Lake.

EXHIBIT 1
CRESCENT LAKE ASSOCIATION

2020 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

**INCOME
AIS/EWM**

Donations	\$ 10,890.00	
DNR Grants	\$ 46,509.97	
DNR part.refund-ProcellaCor permit	\$ 250.00	
Total AIS/EWM Income		\$ 57,649.97

CBCW

DNR 2020 Grant		\$ 1,000.00
Total AIS/EWM & CBCW Income		\$ 58,649.97

**EXPENSES
AIS/EWM**

Grants	\$ 42,065.18	
Other	\$ 8,233.34	
Total AIS/EWM Expenses		\$ 50,298.52

CBCW

Total CBCW Disbursements		2799.74
Total AIS/EWM & CBCW Expenses		\$ 53,098.26

Ending Balance December 31, 2020 **\$ 4,551.71**

EXHIBIT 2
CRESCENT LAKE 2020 PROPERTY SALES

NUMBER	STREET	SALE DATE	2020	2020	%	2019 EST	%
			ASSESSED TAX VALUE	SALE PRICE		FAIR MKT VALUE	
3083	SOUTH RIFLE RD	29-Oct	\$ 235,600	\$ 360,500	53.0%	\$ 236,300	52.6%
6676	MELODY LN SOUTH	16-Oct	\$ 286,000	\$ 398,900	39.5%	\$ 286,800	39.1%
2727	GREEN BASS RD	3-Aug	\$ 651,300	\$ 750,000	15.2%	\$ 653,100	14.8%
3076	WAUSAU RD	3-Aug	\$ 378,800	\$ 530,000	39.9%	\$ 379,800	39.5%
6956	LAIR DRIVE	26-Jun	\$ 178,600	\$ 275,000	54.0%	\$ 179,100	53.5%
2696	VIRGINIA LN	5-Jun	\$ 403,000	\$ 420,000	4.2%	\$ 404,100	3.9%
2984	WAUSAU RD	1-Jun	\$ 291,100	\$ 318,000	9.2%	\$ 291,900	8.9%
2716	APPLE LN	8-Apr	\$ 230,900	\$ 252,000	9.1%	\$ 231,600	8.8%
AVERAGE PROPERTY VALUE INCREASE					24.4%		24.10%

EXHIBIT 3

CRESCENT LAKE DISTRICT NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

I _____, AS A LANDOWNER WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES
(PRINT NAME)

OF THE PROPOSED CRESCENT LAKE DISTRICT, REQUEST TO WITHDRAW MY SIGNATURE FROM THE
CRESCENT LAKE DISTRICT PETITON.

ADDRESS OF CRESCENT LAKE PROPERTY/PARCEL

_____ RHINELANDER, WI 54501
(NUMBER AND STREET)

LANDOWNER SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

.....
MAIL or DELIVER TO:

TRACY HARTMAN-ONEIDA COUNTY CLERK
PO BOX 400
1 SOUTH ONEIDA AVENUE
RHINELANDER, WI 54501

NOTE: MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE BY THE END OF THE DAY DECEMBER30, 2020

EXHIBIT 4
PETITION SIGNATURE REVIEW

	Submitted Petition	Dept Reviewed Petition
Total Eligible Signatures	389	343
Total Verified Petition Signatures	256	192
Percentage of Verified Signatures	65.8%	56.0%
Minimum Needed for 51%	175	
Contested Signatures	5	
Certification By Other Subcommittee Member	16	
No Certification	2	
Certification By Other	2	