

POTTERS LAKE NEWSLETTER

June 2000

Volume 2000, Number 3

Dear Potters Lake Homeowner,

An informational meeting for District residents was held Saturday, June 3. Thirty-six residents, representing 28 properties attended the meeting. Most were familiar faces to us, but a few were new to Potters Lake. Welcome! For those who attended, we want to offer our thanks.

What about the rest of you? We'd love to you at these meetings and we don't quite know how to interpret the lack of attendance. Are the times/dates inconvenient? Are you satisfied with the actions of the District? Do you find these types of meetings long, boring, or frustrating? Please let one of the Commissioners know. Our addresses and phone numbers are included at the end of this newsletter.

Whether you regularly attend District meetings or not, your opinions are valuable to us as we plan future projects. **You will soon receive a Potters Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District homeowners' survey.** The envelope will have the District's name on it and our consultant's – Aron & Associates. **The survey takes about 5 minutes to complete, so please be sure to return it.** Your responses are, of course, confidential.

A summary of the June meeting follows. You'll also find information in this mailing about this year's Boat Parade and the "Lighting of the Lake." Finally, you'll find an updated copy the boating and skiing regulations for Potters Lake.

MEETING SUMMARY

- The District has taken ownership of the dam near Highway L. The dam is in need of repair, and a permit has already been issued by the DNR. Repairs should be completed this summer.
- Generally, the milfoil situation looks good, and it appears as though the weed harvester may not be used again this year. But that's not the whole story. While the milfoil is gone, the "good" weeds are not coming back as quickly as we had hoped. This year is the third and final year of the DNR study that coincided with our chemically treating the lake. Before too long, we can expect to hear from the DNR regarding its recommendations for the continued improvement of Potters Lake. One possibility is our having to plant "good" weeds and to protect them while they develop.
- The prospects for 2000 and beyond are bright, but largely depend upon actions of the boaters on Potters Lake. Care should be taken to not stir up too much sediment that covers and destroys new, "good" weed growth.

Also, please be mindful of the SLOW - NO WAKE areas that extend 200-feet from the shore and all piers, and from all of the SLOW – NO WAKE buoys. *THESE RESTRICTIONS APPLY TO ALL TYPES OF BOATS, INCLUDING PERSONAL WATER CRAFT!*

- The District now owns the Love and Torpe properties, approximately 31 marshy acres on the west side of the lake. The property will be surveyed this summer and some portions may be fenced. The fences are designed to reduce snowmobile traffic and to keep the area from becoming a junkyard. The deed restricts building on the properties, but a walk/nature trail is being considered. The purple loosestrife on the property will be removed, as will the duck blind.
- The parking lot for the public launch will be re-striped for 8 parking spaces. Signage has been requested to indicate that the spaces are only for vehicles with trailers and that boaters should seek another lake when the spots are filled. The possibility of instituting a fee for launching on Potters Lake was discussed and

will be evaluated.

- The ramp at the public launch will be replaced in either 2002 or 2003. That's probably too long for the current ramp to stay in working order, so the DNR is looking for spare ramps to hold us over and at the possibility of adding some gravel to the ramp area.
- Water clarity is below average – in part due to the rains, in part due to the lack of filtering weeds, in part due to boat traffic, in part due to the very nature of Potters Lake. We continue to monitor clarity and other aspects of water quality on a regular basis.
- The lake level was low (remember the vandalism on the dam that sent water pouring out last Fall), the winter was mild, and up until May, the rains were below average. Well, look how things have changed! The water is spilling over the top of the dam, something it hasn't done since last July. Still the lake is just slightly above the agreed-upon level (a reading of 7.6 on the dam). With predictions for a dry summer, we'll need every inch of water come August.
- We are still seeking to purchase a property in the watershed that adversely affects the water quality because of silt and fertilizers that run off into the lake. If and when we purchase the property, we would need to do some work to redirect the water flow away from the Lake.

- The boating regulations for the Town of East Troy and Potters Lake are posted at the public launch. As a reminder -- counter-clockwise on weekends and holidays. Skiing on weekends and holidays ends at 7:00 p.m. and no "doubles." Skiing during the week must conclude by "sunset." Please don't abuse the "sunset" rule. It isn't just a matter of **your** being able to see. Other boats need to be able to see your boat, your skier, and any objects in the water -- a dropped ski, for instance.

- The Town of East Troy has promised more frequent patrols on the lake this summer (they were out for several hours on Memorial Day). The Town is now regularly using a personal watercraft – equipped with a blue light and everything – for use on Potters Lake and other lakes in the Town.
- A committee to review wave action, weed development, and other water quality issues has been formed. The Committee will meet soon and make a report at the Annual Meeting. In the meantime, **please be mindful about how *you, your family, and your guests* use the lake.**
- The annual Boat Parade will be held Tuesday, July 4th, at 12:01 p.m. The “Lighting of the Lake” will take place on Monday, July 3rd, at 9:15 p.m. See the enclosed information sheet for details or contact Jeff or Elizabeth Beiriger at (262) 642-8742.
- The Commissioners will review the District bylaws. If any action is necessary, you will be notified in advance of the proposed change(s) and asked to vote of the change(s) at the Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

Potters Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District,

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Got a new neighbor? Make sure they're on our mailing list. Call us or have them call us so they can get all the latest news!