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1) Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) Weevil Workshop – Wednesday, August 3rd.

Swift Nature Camp’s program includes studying the Weevil that “degrades” the EWM plant. Dave Blumer, our lake consultant, will be working with the young campers on this subject from 10:00am to about 1:00pm on Wednesday, August 3rd. Folks are invited to visit the Swift Camp’s beach (north of the DNR boat landing/bay area) to observe and learn about this interest approach to combating EWM.

2) Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Workshop – Saturday, August 6th

Our battle with Aquatic Invasive Species is advancing on us this summer and setting up significant challenges next year. If you would like to understand this issue more thoroughly, this summer’s “AIS Workshop” will begin on the beachfront of the Swift Nature Camp at 10:00am. Dave Blumer, our lake consultant, will explain how to identify the primary nemesis plants on our lake and how to remove them. We will then move out onto the lake to “AIS” sites for further observation. Folks interested in getting “hands-on” experience will be invited to get into the water and effectively remove the unwanted plants. The program will end around noon, but Dave will be on hand until 1:00pm for additional questions.

3) 2016 Flood Update

The regional heavy rain on Monday, July 11th caused a broad range of damage in NW Wisconsin and raised the water level of the Minong Flowage to about a 40” above “normal crest at noon on Friday. A broad range of details can be found on our www.MinongFlowage.org website, so they won’t be detailed here. Such tragic events foster great teamwork efforts that are appreciated by all of us. One such example occurred on July 14th when the water was still rising to un-known heights and two full-sized pontoons were precariously positioned to release and float into the dam. A pontoon happened upon the scene attempting to prevent dock components and property from destruction. The pontoon team masterfully assisted in getting both of the wayward pontoons secured in very treacherous waters. If I should ever find myself in a similar situation, don’t send the Fire Department, and I won’t want the Packer’s defensive line. No... I’ll want “Ted & Jill L.”!

4) 2016 DNR Fish Population Study

This spring, the DNR launched an extensive effort to survey the fish population in the Minong Flowage. It will compare current populations of assorted species to the last such study, which was performed in 2005. The 2005 study can be found on our website: www.MinongFlowage.org The 2016 report will be issued during the winter of 2016/2017, but the preliminary reaction from the DNR folks is that the population numbers will be similar to the 2005 survey, thus indicating little negative effect from the 2013 lake drawdown.

5) 2016 Herbicide Treatments: DNR Landing Bay, Cranberry Lake & Cranberry Flowage

The goal for these treatment efforts was to address the EWM growth identified in the 2015 plant surveys, curtail the expansion of the bed during the coming season and constrain the possible transportation of EWM via boats & trailers departing from that boat-landings. cursory observations find that the treatments were quite effective. Definitive data will be assembled during this fall's plant surveys.

6) Board-of-Directors Election Summary

Elections were held in June. Wayne Johnson, Bob Budden and Dan Maxwell were elected to their 2nd terms. Dave Perrin, Joe McGrath and Rockne Johnson were elected to their first terms.

7) Fall Board-of-Directors meeting – Saturday, October 8th

The MFA's Fall B-o-D meeting will be held from **9:00 ~ 11:00am on Saturday, October 8TH** at Viewpoint Resort's grill (16640 South Flowage Road, Wascott). Although this is a small "working & planning" meeting, all property owners from Cranberry Lake, the Cranberry Flowage and the Minong Flowage are welcome to attend. We will also invite various "stakeholders" (i.e. county officials, DNR officials, tribal representatives, etc.) to this meeting so that they can keep abreast of our plans and offer their insights.

8) Lake-wide briefs

Property owner observations are very important to the Board of Directors. Recent examples include:

- The "little island" near the mouth of the Cranberry Channel is now a sand bar. Hazard buoys have been deployed.
- Additional "Slow/No Wake" buoys have been requested for several areas. Options are being reviewed.
- Many shoreline trees still seem to be struggling to recover from the 2013 drawdown.
- Leatherback turtles and clams seem to be making a comeback from the 2013 drawdown.
- EWM appears to be making a strong resurgence in many areas this summer.
- A boat appears to have been abandoned in the northern region of Serenity Bay.
- The MFA's website experienced a strong surge of activity all through the flood episode, exemplifying it's usefulness in a crisis.

9) Volunteer hours tracking

As a reminder to all, we need everyone to track the volunteer-hours they donate to lake activities. The logging can be done online by going to the Flowage Homepage, then click on "About Us", then go to "Volunteers". The page that is opened will have a button on it that will open our Volunteer hours reporting form. You can also get directly to this form with the following link.

<http://minongflowage.org/volunteer-work-time-tracking/>

Reporting your volunteer hours can be just as important as the actual hours donated. Many such hours can be posted to our financial grants matching requirement at a rate of \$12 / hour!

10) MFA Membership

Please consider joining the MFA or renewing your membership if you have not done so this year. Our continued strength is in numbers, in other words the size of our organization. Your dues assist in the annual costs of the newsletters, maintaining our website and our email system, which keeps you up to date on important activities affecting the lake i.e. flooding. The Association also advocates through our lake management plan, ways to improve and maintain the lake's ecosystem and quality of life. Membership is only \$25 a year or \$100 for 5 years. You can renew online on our website through PayPal, or send a check to the Minong Flowage Association, P.O. Box 167, Minong, WI 54859. Contact Peggy Bruzda for current dues status.

11) MFA calendar

- August 3, 2016 – Weevil Workshop
- August 6, 2016 – Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Workshop
- October 8, 2016 – Board of Directors meeting
- November, 2016 – Minong Flowage Stakeholders meeting (day not yet determined)
- January 28, 2017 – Board of Directors meeting (tentative date)
- April 22, 2017 – Board of Directors meeting (tentative date)
- June 10, 2017 – MFA Annual Meeting

12) Newsletter Distribution Policy

The Spring Newsletter is the only newsletter sent to all known Minong Flowage and Cranberry Flowage property owners **regardless** of their membership status in our association. It announces the date of our annual meeting and advises you about plans and activities regarding the care and management of our lake. Our preferred method of communication is email. We will continue to mail paper newsletters to members in good standing that don't want, or don't use, email for the time being. ***Please confirm your preferred email address to Peggy Bruzda*** via MinongFlowage@Gmail.com, or call Peggy at 715/466-5815.

CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Dan Maxwell 612/817-8257	Treasurer: Dave Moline 612/859-0492
Membership: Peggy Bruzda 715/466-5815	CB/CW: Wayne Johnson 612/269-7873
Website: Bob Budden 715/614-2544	Member at-large: Dave Perrin 651/785-4698
Member at-large: Joe McGrath 715/466-2370	Member at-large: Rockne Johnson 218/728-3689

PLEASE REPORT SUSPICIOUS AND ILLEGAL ACTIVITY DIRECTLY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT PROMPTLY!

DNR Tip Line: 800/847-9367

DNR Regional Warden – Dave Swanson: 715/466-5358

Minong Town Constable: Erik Gulbrandsen: 715/466-2519

www.MinongFlowage.org / MinongFlowage@Gmail.com