

Turtle Rock Rag

Turtle Lakes Chain Association

Spring 2017



South Turtle Lake by The Bridge - first open water

Pic: Maya Discianno

Winchester Lake Management Plan-Update

The Turtle Lakes grant application for Phase Three was approved earlier in the

year and planning has begun, including meetings for kicking off the program.

A steering committee was formed of six volunteers (*see below*), two from each

lake with the primary responsibility of tracking volunteer hours and performing a variety of tasks on each lake during 2017 and 2018.

A successful grant application covers approximately 75% of the project with the remaining 25% representing the local share. The local share can be mitigated by a combination of Town Board and the TLCA volunteer hours. Within the grant, there is approximately \$7,000 worth of in-kind time from the Turtle Lake Chain Association.

We need TLCA volunteers to cover our share of the cost.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

Training: Saturday June 3rd

When: June 3rd

Where: South Turtle Boat Launch

Time: 10 am to Noon

Want to learn how to identify invasive species to help with the Lake Management Plan? This is your chance to do it. Emily Heald, Water Program Coordinator at the North Lakeland Discovery Center is conducting the training for AIS identification for the Turtle Chain.

We will spend about 30-45 minutes on land at the Boat Launch going over AIS identification and facts, and then we go out briefly on a pontoon so that Emily can teach sample techniques.

Don't miss this opportunity to expand your understanding of AIS, June 3rd at the boat launch on STL at 10 am.

TLCA Lake Management Steering Committee Volunteers:

Listed below, are our Lake Representative Steering Committee volunteers for the Lake Management Plan. You can coordinate with them for volunteer hours. Contact them after May 20th.

- Steve Budnik and Gary Engstrom from Rock
- Laura Giffin and Jim Hochstetter from North Turtle
- Tom Brogelman and Tom Rued from South Turtle

Lake Management Program Kick-off Meeting: Saturday May 20th

WE NEED YOU to ATTEND. Brenton Butterfield, Aquatic Ecologist from Onterra, LLC, who is leading/conducting the Lake Management phase on our Lakes will answer your questions on the plan and volunteer activities.

What: Information on Turtle Chain Lake Management Program and Volunteer Activities

When: Saturday May 20th

Where: Winchester Community Center 2117 Lake St., Winchester

Time: 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

General kick-off and update on the plan and process for town and lake residents/volunteers at the Community Center on Lake Street in Winchester.

Below is a short breakdown of the volunteer activities and associated hours.

- Planning Committee - Stakeholder Survey Development: 45 hours
- Planning Committee - Management Plan Development: 120 hours

- AIS Monitoring (Including training): 120 hours
- Clean Boats Clean Waters Inspections: 200 hours
- Lake Level Installation/Training: 7 hours
- Lake Level Monitoring: 7 hours
- Rock Lake Water Quality Monitoring: 2 hours
- Kick-off Meeting Attendance: 50 people at 1 hour (50 hours)
- Wrap-up Meeting Attendance: 60 people at 1 hour (60 hours)

Learn more at the meeting. All are welcome to attend. *Mike Bantz*

2017 SPRING ROAD CLEAN-UP- Volunteers Needed: May 21, 2017

A call for volunteers to participate in our sponsored Road Clean-up. It is probably no more than an hour with volunteers and it really makes a difference as you drive on New O. Come on out with your TLCA neighbors...***there could be a surprise for volunteers!*** (Yes-that was a hint). Please park on the end of the gravel of Old O at its junction with New O. Waterproof boots are recommended for walking in the grass along the road. Clean-up begins at 3:00 pm on Sunday May 21st.

Volunteers should contact Laura Giffin at: ml.giffin.1984@gmail.com

Bring on Spring

The flower boxes on the bridge should be up around Memorial Day. We all love the life and color they provide to all who cross the divide! Your help is needed to keep them healthy as long as possible into the fall. I will be emailing those of you who volunteered last year to water, but if you haven't helped before and

would be willing to take a week during the months of June, July, August or



September, please email me at: ml.giffin.1984@gmail.com or call 920-279-0182. *Laura Giffin*

GETTING YOUR WATERCRAFT READY FOR SPRING

There are several important things that need to be done before you launch your watercraft. First, the battery needs to be charged. Do NOT hook up the charger and turn it on until you check to see that there is distilled water at the bottom of each cell. There was a fire on a snowmobile this past winter on our lakes due to improper battery/charger hook up.

Second, you need to put in a new spark plug(s). Next, fill the tank with fresh gasoline. Gasoline is a lot less expensive now than last fall when you put your watercraft for storage so it must be better gasoline, right? If you said "yes" I have swamp land to sell you. The next thing (if you did not do this in the fall) is to grease all fittings and change the lower unit oil. If the oil comes out "milky" you had water in your lower unit. If there was a lot of water it could have frozen during the winter months and possibly cracked the lower unit housing. This is why it is recommended to change the lower unit oil in the fall.

The next thing to do is to hook up a hose to the engine and start it up. It

may take a few cranks and it may be a little smoky due to fogging the engine. By doing this now will assure you the engine will start when you take your watercraft to the boat landing to launch.

Now it is time to clean your watercraft. Even if it was covered or in a garage it did acquire dirt/dust and maybe a critter spent the winter in it. Don't forget to wash off the engine. Many people wax the bottom to prevent grease, oil and grime to build up, which will slow your overall speed. Wax the bottom you say? Not YOU, this is why you have son-in-laws and grandchildren.

Probably the most over looked maintenance on your watercraft is the trailer. It goes in the water a minimum of twice a year so you need to at least inspect the wheel bearings. Packing the bearings (remember: there are two bearings per side) is a little messy but it is worth the effort to keep the water (rust) out. Hook up the trailer to your vehicle and check the lights. You are now ready for launch.

The last thing to do is to *review the laws* pertaining to operating a watercraft on Wisconsin waterways. Be mindful of that fisherman fishing and slow down and keep the minimum of 200 feet from him. Don't get too close to that water skier or in the path of the boat that is ready to pull the skier. If we all respect the rights of everyone using the waterways it will be another safe and great boating season on the Turtle Lake Chain. *Tom Bawulski*

TURTLE LAKES CHAIN WATER LEVELS

Water levels on the chain are important to all of us for a variety of reasons. They can affect our enjoyment of the chain, property values and our safety while boating. The water levels are controlled by the Town Board and it is their policy that water levels be maintained at or as close to 97' as possible during the boating season.

You may call Town Chairman Rick Clem at 715-543-2094 or 715-892-2056 with your questions or concerns.

*****Reminder*****

Update your email address:

Do you have an update to your email address? Many of our notices are sent only by email. Email is faster and is the only way we can send time sensitive communications out to our members.

If you have new contact information or changes to your current listing, please forward them at any time to Board Treasurer Gee Esslinger:
geesslinger@gmail.com

Be sure to attend the 2017 TLCA Meeting at 9am on Saturday July 1st at the Winchester Municipal Bldg.

TLCA Membership

Thank you to everyone for your continued membership and support of our beautiful Turtle-Rock Lake chain. We have representation at the meeting of around 30 to 40 households and about 50 (multiple family members)

attending at the July meeting. *Have you been to the meeting lately?* Come by and meet your neighbors at the July 1, 2017 meeting- -we will get updates on our Association and hear a presentation on the **Winchester Lakes Management Plan** (see the article in this edition of the RAG). I know many of us have guests for the July 4th holiday- -the meeting is just 60 minutes and is the only one we conduct. One last thing- -Do you have a neighbor who is not a member?- -bring them along so they can join!!

“Make the Scene in 2017.”

Mike Bantz, President TLCA

Fun Day 2017

Fun Day was established shortly after the creation of the Turtle Lakes Chain Association in 1990. It is intended as a way for people to meet other people on the lakes and help to provide a basis for establishing a social network. The “Day” is always set for the **fourth Saturday in July (22nd this year)** and consists of a choice between golfing and kayaking during the day and a picnic in the late afternoon in the Park. We will be golfing at Gogebic Country Club and canoeing/kayaking on our very own Turtle Lake Chain. The picnic, featuring barbecued pork, perhaps a libation or two and plenty of summer-time food and fun follows, with tons of awarded prizes. Stay tuned for details at the **July 1st membership meeting**. *Mike Bantz*

TLCA Golf Tournament

Saturday, July 22nd



Lake Gogebic Country Club

\$40.00 per golfer includes cart and lunch

Check-In Time 8:30am

Tee Off 9:00am

FIRST 36 GOLFERS ONLY

Complete Foursomes or Individuals Welcome!!

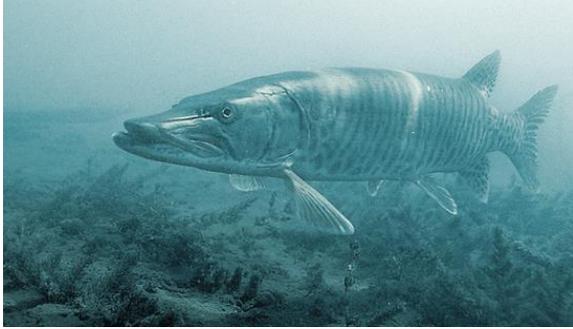
Contact: Darryl Osikowicz to reserve your spot!!

Darryl@pmisports.com

715-686-2956

Musky Contest 2017

The day of the 2017 contest will be the Saturday before Fathers’ Day – June 17, 2017. We will make this day for the contest permanent (the Saturday of Father’s Day weekend), so that you can plan your participation well in advance. You will be able to register via phone, mail, email or in person to either Archie or I as indicated below. To be eligible to participate and win, you must be a member in good standing as well as be



registered for the contest and have paid your \$25 entrance fee per person no later than Friday, June 16, 2017 by mail, phone or email. We will be reviewing the contest rules and regulations and will make appropriate changes as necessary. So, be sure to mark your calendar for **June 17, 2017!**

Tom Brogelman

Tom Brogelman

2350 Black Forest Rd
Winchester, WI 54557
920-851-2066
cty22530@centurytel.net

Archie Clark

2346 Black Forest Rd
Winchester, WI 54557
715-696-7770

Dates to Remember:

- ❖ **May 20th:** Lake Plan Kickoff
Update for all to attend at the
Community Center - Lake St.
Noon
- ❖ **May 21st:** Old O Clean Up at 3
pm. Junction of Old and New O
- ❖ **June 3rd:** AIS training at STL Boat
Launch 10 am
- ❖ **June 17th:** Musky Tournament
- ❖ **July 1st:** TLCA Members Meeting
at the Community Center - 9am
- ❖ **July 22nd:** Fun Day events and
picnic

TLCA Merchandise

**ORDER NOW AND PICK UP
AT THE July 1st MEETING.**

- **NEW MUSKY Embroidered:
Denim Shirts \$32**

**Hooded Jacket-fleece lined
\$38**

Long sleeved T-Shirts \$18

Wind Shirts \$26

- **Embroidered Sweatshirts (in
adult sizes-\$30 and youth
sizes-\$25)multiple colors**
- **Embroidered Canvas Shopping
Bags with front pocket and
zippered main compartment:
ONLY \$25 (compare to
“thirty-one” bags)**
- **Embroidered Fleece Jackets-
very warm \$33-\$48**

Call or email Julie Rued:

**715-686-2547 or
julierued@yahoo.com**



Did You Know? In the Old Days....

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women, and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, 'Don't throw the baby out with the bath water!'

Houses had thatched roofs with thick straw-piled high and no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained, it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying, 'It's raining cats and dogs.'

The floor was typically dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the term, 'dirt poor.' The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance-way. Hence, 'a thresh hold.'

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day, they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme, 'Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old.'

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could 'bring home the bacon.' They would cut off a little to share with guests, and would all sit around and 'chew the fat.'

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a 'wake.'

And...now you know!

TLCA Board of Directors

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our lakes or the TLCA, please contact any one of the following

Directors:

PRESIDENT...Mike Bantz
SECRETARY...Laura Giffin
TREASURER...Gee Esslinger

ROCK LAKE REPRESENTATIVES

Curt Quass
Steve Budnik

NORTH TURTLE REPRESENTATIVES

Susan Esslinger
Monty Giffin

SOUTH TURTLE REPRESENTATIVE

Tom Rued

Ice Is Off Vilas County Spring AIS Events



Clean Boats Clean Waters Training

Boat Launch Monitors need a Clean Boats Clean Waters training every 2 years. It's Free! (And Fun!)

[2017 CBCW
Training
Schedule](#)



Aquatic Plant ID Class

A handful of spots are left for an Aquatic Plant ID class on Van Vliet Lake Tuesday July 18, 2017 at 1:00 pm. We'll cover natives via hands-on sampling and invasives via specimens. R SVP required to Cathy Higley [715-479-3738](tel:715-479-3738) or cahigl@co.vilas.wi.us.