



ON THE WATERFRONT

The newsletter of the
WASHBURN COUNTY LAKES & RIVERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
**PROMOTING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESPONSIBLE USE OF
WASHBURN COUNTY WATERS, SHORELAND AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES.**

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WCLRA provides copies of its *On The Waterfront* newsletter to individual members and to the officers of member associations. If your association has recently had elections, please make us aware of the address changes. Contact Fred Blake at 715-469-3228 or by email at blakelake@centurytel.net

Limnophilia: How Much Love Can A Lake Take?

John J. Ney, Professor Emeritus, Virginia Tech University

I wrote a version of this article a decade ago, when I worked on Virginia reservoirs, which were large but few and crowded. Although Wisconsin is blessed with many thousands of natural lakes, most are small (<500 acres). Because their "social carrying capacity" is quite limited, these lakes can easily become crowded, particularly on summer weekends. As in Virginia, user conflicts are common on Wisconsin lakes. Why do conflicts occur and can the problem be remedied?

People love lakes and want to be on or near them for a wide variety of reasons. Conflicts occur because people want different things from their lakes, and those demands are often incompatible. Aesthetic enjoyment requires natural beauty and solitude, swimmers want clear water, anglers seek good fishing, and boaters need space to maneuver unimpeded. But clear water does not produce a lot of fish, and high powered motorized watercraft can shatter the solitude and physically endanger swimmers and other boaters. Indeed, the most menacing effect of too much lake love is reduced water safety. In 2010, 103 reportable boating accidents (those involving physical injury and/or >\$2,000 damage) occurred in Wisconsin, resulting in 71 injuries and 18 fatalities. Boats are bigger, faster, and more numerous. The popularity of personal watercraft has also contributed to safety issues. Noise and water pollution as well as shoreline erosion are by-products of too many gas engines creating big wakes.

The psychological effect of user conflicts is frustration. The recreational experience can become an unsatisfying hassle. Ultimately, some lake lovers will be displaced, avoiding the water at busy times, or perhaps giving up the lake altogether. Mostly, the frustrated go quietly, taking with them their contributions to the lake area economy.

Solutions to the crowding of incompatible lake users are relatively simple to propose, but they are bedeviled by political philosophy. Recreational use of public lakes is widely seen as a personal right, subject to minimal restrictions. But as the lake experience becomes more dangerous and less satisfying, some restrictions may be in order. The options fall into three categories:

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Limnophilia:.....continued from page one

Regulations: Motorized boating is the least compatible of all recreational lake uses and the most hazardous. Horsepower limits, operator licensing exams, and stringent policing are reasonable regulations, particularly if you think of the lake as a liquid highway.

Load Limits: No amount of regulations will ensure a satisfying experience if a lake's carrying capacity for people is exceeded. Limiting the number of simultaneous users is not a popular option, but it has lots of precedence (e.g., restaurants, baseball parks, wildlife refuges). Load limits are feasible on lakes where access can be controlled at only a few sites, such as federally operated reservoirs. Highly developed shorelines with numerous private marinas are another matter.

Zoning: Separating incompatible lake users in space or time may be the most tractable solution on some waters. Large lakes with diverse geomorphology will be most amenable to spatial zoning. Shallow bays can be labeled "No Wake" and hence reserved for swimming, fishing, and non-motorized watercraft while wide, offshore segments can be reserved for the high-octane set. Lake-rich regions like Wisconsin could separate uses among their waters. Vermont provides a model, with four classes of lakes; approved uses range from solitude to high-speed boating. And there is precedence nearby. East of Hayward lie the "Quiet Lakes" (Teal, Lost Land, and Ghost). The speed limit on their 2,300 combined acres is 10 mph, effectively preventing waterskiing and use of personal watercraft. Demand for shoreline property on the Quiet Lakes is strong.

Time zoning is also possible, separating uses by day of the week or even hours of the day (see the boxed example below of this article by Lowell Klessig of the University of Wisconsin). In practice, many lake users self-partition their time of use to minimize conflicts(e.g., fish at dawn).

LOON LAKE	
Events for August 1, 2011	
6:00 a.m.	Walleye Hookers Fishing Tournament
10:00 a.m.	Conspicuous Sailors Regatta
Noon	Open Fishing, Swimming & Scuba
2:00 p.m.	Aquatic Knights Ski Show
4:00 p.m.	Computerized Fishing Shortcourse
5:00 p.m.	500h.p. Boat Race
6:00 p.m.	Pontoon Parade
7:00 p.m.	Jetski Demolition Derby
8:00 p.m.	Sunset Canoe Ride

Time Zoning example by Lowell Klessig

Expect any of the above solutions to raise an outcry from some lake lovers who fear that their rights may be trampled. Resolution will only come through constructive dialogue among all stakeholders. It will be critical that all

factions recognize the problem and be open to compromise. Conflict resolution is a developing area in natural resource management, and trained professionals are now available to help guide the process. Still, it will be hard work, and judicial or legislative intervention may sometimes be necessary. But restrictions on lake use will certainly increase. Limnophilia is addictive, but no lake should be loved to death.

Editor's Note: Dr. Ney is currently President of the Gilmore Lake Association and a member of the Minong Town Lakes Committee.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Several years before I retired, a coworker planned to attend a conference in Lake Geneva. He had moved here from California to be closer to his wife's family and lives on a beautiful lake in Barron County. My parents had a summer home on Paddock Lake east of Lake Geneva and this former Chicago boy spent every possible weekend at our little piece of paradise cabin.

Since he would be visiting that area, I told him that a must do event is to take the boat tour on Lake Geneva. It is a gorgeous lake. He did, and when he returned he thought I had played a joke on him. He had never seen such an ugly lake with boathouses on the shore, floating platforms, row upon row of docks, and artificial shorelines one residence after another.

I was equally dismayed by his reaction. Were the lakes I loved so much "UGLY?" These past thirteen years my wife and I have lived on a 240-acre class III wilderness lake chain. This body of water is a far cry from the lake I grew up on. But, in fairness to Southeast Wisconsin, after over 100 years of heavy recreation demands, it is a wonder that their lakes are still as attractive as they are. And yes, their lake associations work hard to preserve and restore what they have.

The point of all this is that we cannot allow a rollback of our current well thought out regulations for docks, party rafts, shoreline protection, building setbacks, and runoff protection to those days of my youth when such protection of the public waters did not exist. We need regulated protection from the uninformed well-intentioned persons who make poor choices carving out their little pieces of paradise on our Wisconsin waters.

Craig Walkey
WCLRA President

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2011 WCLRA Election

By Cathie Erickson

Around April or May I began to look forward to WCLRA's annual meeting that would be held the last Saturday in August. Does that seem strange? It was quite natural, I think. After four years of serving as WCLRA's president, and several years before that as Treasurer, I was ready to hand over the reins to someone else who would be elected at the annual meeting. But as that annual meeting got closer, the Board couldn't come up with nominees for the offices of President. I was getting worried.

Earl Cook suggested a different approach to electing officers, one that is being used by Wisconsin Lakes and some of our local lake associations. Instead of having all the members at the annual meeting vote on a slate of officers and directors, have them vote on a larger group of directors and then let those directors choose the officers. We proposed the necessary changes to WCLRA's Bylaws to authorize this approach, and they were approved at the annual meeting. Seven directors were re-elected.

I'm not sure exactly why this approach works better, but it seems to. Perhaps it's because candidates are more likely to step forward after other Board members pledge to support their efforts in various ways. Or maybe it's peer pressure. Anyway, at WCLRA's September Board meeting, Craig Walkey was elected to serve as President, and Barb Robinson was elected to serve as Vice President. I admire both of these people for their commitment to Washburn County's waters and their leadership abilities. I am confident that they will serve us very well.

At the same time, I want to mention that we're always looking for new people to get involved. To remain a healthy organization, we need fresh ideas and fresh enthusiasm from time to time. If you think you might like to help with a project or a committee or serve on the Board, please contact one of the Directors listed in this newsletter. What kinds of help are needed? See "Help Wanted" on Page 7.

Short-Term Rentals - Update

By Fred Blake

Over the past year, we have heard a lot about private home short-term rentals. It is not that they were new to the County. They have been happening for years, but appeared to be increasing in recent years in response to economic conditions and the real estate market. Washburn County ordinances did not specifically address them and there was, therefore, no basis for regulating them. When the courts recently determined that these rentals were essentially single unit "resorts", this created a basis for regulating these rentals in the same way that "conventional" resorts are regulated in Washburn County, by Conditional Use Permit (CUP).

About a year ago, when the subject of short-term rentals came up at a Zoning Committee meeting, there was a brief discussion, but most of the committee had heard little or nothing about them and the zoning office had received virtually no complaints or comments on them.

We at WCLRA had received a heads-up from our own members at our 2010 Annual Meeting during our round table session. As a result, in spring of this year, we researched the topic as it affected six surrounding counties. We passed on the acquired information to the Zoning Committee at meetings in March and April.

Short-term Rentals – Update.....continued from page

In May, a problem surfaced in the Little Bear subdivision on Long Lake and that served to bring short-term rentals into sharper focus. Based on the increasing activity and legal advice, the Zoning Committee decided that regulation of these activities was now necessary.

The Zoning Office and the Zoning Committee structured a regulatory process and prepared a packet of information for those wanting to undertake short term rental of their homes. A link to the full packet can be found on our WCLRA website (www.wclra.org). This September, the Zoning Committee approved its first CUP under the new regulatory process.

The last page of the packet lists a set of standard conditions to be attached to a CUP issued for short-term rental. These conditions include (among others): a Washburn County Conditional Use Permit (CUP), a valid license from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), and the acquisition of a state tax number coupled with the payment of all applicable taxes. These conditions are parallel to what would be required of a conventional resort.

Applying the zoning ordinances consistently across all types of “resort” operations in the county establishes a “level playing field” for those involved.

Want To Host A 2012 AIS Workshop?

By Lisa Burns,
Washburn County AIS Coordinator

I want to thank all of the volunteers who have put forth their time and money in helping protect our lakes and rivers from AIS. I am really impressed with the number of people each year who get involved inspecting boats at landings, or that monitor for invasives. I know it takes a lot of time out of busy schedules, and I truly appreciate the determination from all of you! If you have any comments or concerns on how your summer work went or if you have any pictures you would like to share, please email me at lburns@co.washburn.wi.us.

With winter upon us, most AIS field work for the year is put away until next spring. However, it's not too early to start thinking ahead of time for spring workshops. Each year I have Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) workshops and AIS monitoring workshops. Over the winter, I would like you think about what your lake group would be interested in doing next year for AIS prevention and control, and possibly act as a host for a workshop. I'd like to do more “hands-on” education on your lake or at the boat landing. I would need volunteers to provide a boat(s) depending on the number of participants for AIS monitoring. I am willing to do week night trainings as well. Please give me a call at 715-468-4654 and I will try to work something out with you.

Mining In Northern Wisconsin

By Fred Blake

Mining is a word heard much more frequently in recent months here in northern Wisconsin. Gogebic Taconite is exploring a tract containing iron ore deposits in the Penokee Hills area of Ashland and Iron Counties and multiple “frac sand” mining projects are either operating or projected not very far south of Washburn County.

Mining is not inherently a bad thing, but it carries with it the possibility of doing major damage to the environment if not carefully done. Such things as (a) surface and ground water pollution, (b) waste storage and disposal and (c) site restoration must be considered along the way.

Metallic Mining:

The Gogebic project involves a taconite deposit roughly 22 miles in length. It would yield roughly 20-30% iron and the ore would require processing into pellets (the historic Minnesota Mesabi iron range ore yielded 60-70% iron and required no ore processing). The low iron content means that a large percentage of the excavated material would be waste and, in addition, the processing would require very large volumes of water. In the past, waste was often stored in wetland areas, a practice now known to be environmentally unsound. We now know that wetland areas need to be protected. The area in question is the head waters of the Bad River and ground water changes could seriously impact that and nearby stream systems.

Granted, this does not directly impact Washburn County, but the current efforts to fast track the project while side-stepping environmental protections and citizen input could set a pattern for other future projects which might be closer to home. The environmental implications are sobering.

There are some signs, however, that some environmental balance may yet be brought to bear on this proposal. In July, the Wisconsin Supreme Court decided a case upholding WDNR's authority to protect all waters of the state, **including groundwater**. While this case was directed primarily at groundwater volume, there was no indication that WDNR's authority was limited in that respect. Mining operations can affect both quality and quantity of groundwater.

In addition, the U.S. EPA recently approved water quality standards set by the Bad River Tribe whose reservation is traversed by 23 waterways which could be impacted by the proposed upstream Gogebic Taconite project. This gives them “a place at the table” in discussions of that proposed Penokee Hills project.

Also, a Senate Mining Committee, made up of four republicans and three democrats, has been created. Senator Bob Jauch of Poplar has been named to that committee.

Frac Sand Mining:

"Frac sand" mining is potentially considerably closer to home (Barron County) and presents a different set of concerns. The sheer volume of material to be removed is staggering (a term not used lightly). The sand granules sought are generally spherical (like coarse beach sand), very hard and are pumped into fissures in oil or gas bearing strata to prop them open and facilitate recovery of the oil or gas. Large sand deposits are located in Barron County and northern Chippewa and Dunn Counties. Lest we become too complacent, it should be noted that sub-soil mapping shows that sandstone deposits underlie roughly 2/3 of Washburn County as well, although mining them may not be commercially feasible today.

While there are significant human health concerns connected with "frac sand" mining (both cancer and silicosis have been linked to silica dust created during mining and transportation), WCLRA concerns are primarily with the potential for pollution of groundwater and disruption of groundwater flows.

Some of the proposed mining will be only a few feet above the water table (the DNR minimum is five feet). This is difficult to control. Water table levels can vary considerably across a mining site. They can also vary significantly over time with changes in precipitation. Where only a few feet of sand overburden separates the mining activities from the groundwater, contamination is a significant concern. As sand is highly permeable, grease and oil from trucks and other heavy equipment are an on-going concerns in these operations.

Many of the mining sites either have or propose to have on-site washing operations where fine grained material is removed and sand is sorted by grain size. This is done with large quantities of water often bringing high-capacity wells into the picture. There are concerns about draw-down at adjacent municipal and private well sites. To reduce the amount of water required, a chemical flocculant is sometimes used to clarify the water and allow it to be recycled back into the washing process. Polyacrylamide, a commonly used flocculant, contains residual acrylamide monomer which is a neurotoxin and a suspected carcinogen. If wash water containing acrylamide monomer were to be were released onto the ground in a mining area, the thin sand overburden would not likely prevent its passage into the groundwater. It would be wise to require test wells around any mining site with a washing operation using polyacrylamide to assure that acrylamide monomer is not escaping into the groundwater.

Some mining operations are now carrying out the sand washing in enclosed tanks, but the wash water must then be disposed of at an appropriate treatment facility. Other chemical materials are also being used in the washing and flocculating process, but these are not identified by the operators. This further emphasizes the need to

properly treat and dispose of the contaminated wash water.

Mining of any type can impact the environment and, in particular, the ground water. The current administration is attempting to shorten the permit process for mines. This is certainly not a bad idea, but the process proposed reduces or side-steps important environmental protections and dramatically reduces public input and participation. Would it not make sense to simply increase DNR staffing to process permits more quickly? Relaxation of the sound environmental mining regulations established over the years with bipartisan participation would appear to be ill-advised, at best, and it puts at risk one of our most valuable and most threatened resources ... our water!

Is The Lake Filled With Weeds Or Plants?

By Russ Robinson

One definition of a plant is: A living organism belonging to the kingdom **Plantae** that obtains energy from sunlight via photosynthesis using chlorophyll. A simple definition for a weed is: A plant in an undesirable place.

When we think of plants, we usually have a positive impression. We might think of beautiful trees providing shade, fire wood or building materials. We also might think of flowers or perhaps fresh vegetables from our gardens. When we think of weeds, we might think of dandelions in our lawns or weeds choking out the plants we are cultivating.

So what about the living organisms that are obtaining energy from sunlight in our lakes? Plants or weeds? Many of us refer to them collectively as weeds, not plants. Why? Because often we think of them as being undesirable. They get caught on our fishing line, or anchor or they interfere with swimming and other human water activities. In other words, they are plants in an undesirable place.

Some of us however, might think of most of these organisms as plants. Why? Because they provide oxygen and cover for other types of organisms that live in our lakes, primarily fish. Plant abundance and diversity are also indicative of the lake's morphology and water quality which means these plants are in the right place. An example of a good plant is northern milfoil because it is a native species that provides cover and oxygen for other organisms.

So when is a plant in our lake a weed? My definition would be when it doesn't belong there. An example in Washburn County lakes is an invasive species like Eurasian Water Milfoil. This organism can grow earlier and faster than the native species it competes with and,

Weeds Or Plants?.....continued from page 5

unfortunately if left unchecked, it can become dense and widespread choking out other native species. It truly represents the definition of a weed. That is why so many of us are working so hard to control it's spread before it becomes a significant nuisance affecting the way we perceive and use our lakes.

Legislative Update

By Fred Blake

Governor Walker took office vowing to take Wisconsin back to fiscal stability and that is certainly a laudable goal. Since that time, however, we have learned that his fiscal tools include weakening or circumventing environmental protections and dramatically limiting WDNR's capacity to protect and preserve our critical natural resources. Those natural resources belong to the citizens of the state and contribute mightily to our state's economy and way of life. It seems inappropriate for the governor to exercise dramatically increased control over them.

The Special Session (SS) AB/SB 24 bill introduced in mid-October is the most comprehensive effort to limit WDNR's ability to protect our water resources since WCLRA came into being more than a dozen years ago. In a special session, the governor controls the agenda and bills of his choosing may be passed with much less public notice, scrutiny and input.

The **ONLY** scheduled public hearing on SS AB/SB 24 took place on October 26, only a week after the bill's introduction. The response was a ground-swell of strong opposition. The bill is long and complex, but one message comes through to even those who may not understand its detail. It is a clear attempt to limit environmental review and control and to limit citizen input. That alone is enough reason to strongly oppose this bill.

It would not be possible to deal with this bill in detail here, but there are several aspects that need to be mentioned. One proposed dangerous introduction is **default permitting** which would grant a project permit if WDNR did not complete its review process in a prescribed period of time. WDNR is already at extremely low staffing levels and this would provide a pathway which would allow applicants to obtain permits by delaying the process such that WDNR could not realistically meet its deadline. In this way, even very ill-advised and potentially damaging projects could be approved in spite of WDNR's best efforts. Anything less than project approval based on merits, **NOT DEFAULT**, clearly flies in the face of adequate protection of Wisconsin's resources.

In addition, the proposed bill would allow publication of notices in newspapers **OR** on the WDNR website. This creates uncertainty as to where to look and difficulty for those without computer access or computer literacy. There needs to be a standard, consistent and readily accessible method of notice publication.

The bill also proposes to ease restrictions on dredging and filling on a public lake bed. The significance of this is obvious to anyone who understands even a little about aquatic ecosystems. Shoreline areas are absolutely critical wildlife habitat and fish hatchery areas and wholesale destruction of these areas would have major destructive impacts on the ecosystem.

The bill proposes to dramatically change standards for size and placement of piers which are, after all, a privilege granted to a riparian owner to use a limited area of **public lake bed** for a small structure to access public waters. It was never intended that large "party platforms" be constructed on public lake beds. Some admittedly unusual examples have been found to be more than 1000 sq ft in area (bigger than some lake shore cabins) and well beyond a size necessary to function as a "pier".

The above are only a few of the areas covered by this bill, but the thrust of virtually everything in SS AB/SB 24 runs counter to sound environmental practice. It would negate solid, science-based environmental protections developed over the years by bipartisan consensus, leaving a much greater level of control in the Governor's office.

Wisconsin Lakes has analyzed the bill, identified six major areas of concern and recommended the following actions (Action Alert Update dated November 11, 2011):

- Removal of default permitting,
- Removal of provisions allowing fill within bulkhead lines (artificial shoreline designations set by municipalities out from the actual shore),
- Removal of provisions allowing removal of lake bed and vegetation for placement of piers,
- Removal of provisions allowing for general permits for removal of nuisance plant and animal material,
- Retaining the bill's establishment of an internet based public notice system, but also retaining the existing **requirement** for newspaper notices,
- And removal of pier, wharf and boathouse sections from the bill.

When the legislature was adjourned until January 17, 2012, there had been no further action on the bill. Communication from Senator Bob Jauch indicated that, while the legislature could be called back, further consideration of the bill was unlikely until the legislature reconvened next year.

At its most recent meeting on November 18, the WCLRA Board of Directors passed a resolution strongly opposing the bill as currently structured. That resolution has since been distributed to the Governor, a number of legislators and other concerned parties.

Legislative Update.....continued from page 6

Wisconsin Lakes has been watching this bill carefully and has also been watching for two other bills that were expected this fall. One of these related to proposed changes in wetland regulations and the other to proposed changes in the mining permit process. The fact that neither of these bills had yet surfaced was attributed by some to be the result of the strong opposition met by SS AB/SB 24.

Author's Note: Just as copy was being finalized for this issue, a rewritten SS AB/SB 24 was introduced as regular session bills SB 326 and AB 421. Although analysis by Wisconsin Lakes has not been completed, early indications are that, although some areas of concern have been addressed, the bill is still unsatisfactory.

In addition, at a 12/8 press conference, the Assembly released its version of the "Mining Reform Bill" designated LRB-3520/1 until its formal legislative introduction. Here again, analysis of its content by Wisconsin Lakes is in process, but not complete.

2011 WCLRA Annual General Meeting



This year the WCLRA Board hosted a pancake breakfast meeting at the Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary on August 27, 2011. The guest speaker was Matt Berg, a Grantsburg, Wisconsin high school teacher who has surveyed aquatic vegetation in many of the lakes and rivers throughout Wisconsin. He also operates a

company called Endangered Resource Services, LLC. Matt has been called in to do "lake surveys" around Washburn County as part of a lake's AIS control program or sometimes to create a baseline of existing plants. In a lake survey, Matt basically moves around a lake taking aquatic plant samples at predetermined locations provided by the DNR. Each site has GPS coordinates so that if AIS is found the DNR can return to the infected site to set up control measures.

Matt discussed the importance of the relationship between plants and the health of lakes and streams. By looking at what type of plants are present, along with the water quality, it is possible to determine the health of that body of water. Outside influences such as impervious surfaces, mowed lawns at the shoreline can have a very negative affect on the quality of the water allowing for the wrong kind of plants to be present.

Matt recently completed aquatic plant surveys on five lakes in the Town of Minong. On a couple of these lakes he discovered a very unique plant call LITTORELLA, a very sensitive native plant species that had only been identified on a handful of lakes in Wisconsin prior to these surveys.

Based on what Matt has observed in his Washburn County surveys, our lakes are reasonably clear with a good variety of plant species. He sees invasive species as a growing threat to water quality and property values and encourages lake users to become educated about AIS, especially at entry points.

HELP WANTED!

By Barb Robinson

In past newsletters, the Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association (WCLRA) Board of Directors has encouraged members to join committees that support the mission of the organization.

Recently, Wisconsin Lakes ran an article about attracting volunteers. The article suggested that instead of simply asking for volunteers, organizations should ask for skills. Look at the following to see if there is an area where you could help.

NEWSLETTER: We are always open to well-written member articles or suggestions for article topics. Also if you find a published article that you think we can use contact us Fred or I will check it out. **TIME INVESTED:** As little as a couple of minutes to contact us. Fred Blake - 715-469-3228

FINANCE: Ed Fischer, our treasurer, is asking for help in the following areas:

Budget Planning:

SKILL: Financial background.

TIME INVESTED: Off and on throughout the year.

CONTACT: Ed Fischer – 715-635-7704.

Grant Manager:

TASK: Oversee the budget of a specific grant or grants.

SKILL: financial background.

TIME INVESTED: As needed.

CONTACT: Ed Fischer – 715-635-7704.

Audit Committee:

TASK: Perform an audit once a year.

SKILL: Some accounting background.

TIME INVESTED: A couple of hours a year.

CONTACT: Cathie Erickson, 715-865-4406.

Fund Raising Committee

TASK: Telephoning, emailing and possibly meeting face-to-face with board members.

SKILL: Sales or marketing background.

TIME INVESTED: As much as you are willing to give.

CONTACT: Ed Fischer – 715-635-7704.

Think about what you can bring to the organization. The above is just a brief summary. There are so many areas where your time and energy would be put to good use.

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A River in Washburn County, Fall 2011
By Russ Robinson

Contacts to protect lakes and rivers

“We need more than ever to provide what help we can to protect our lakes and rivers from environmentally damaging activities. Keep your eyes open! We are the last line of defense! But **do not trespass** to obtain further information. Let those in authority check it out.”

DNR Water Regulation Violations and Information:

Dan Harrington (Water Management Specialist, Spooner Office).....715-635-4097
Jon Hagen (Conservation Warden for Southern Washburn County).....715-635-4099
Dave Swanson (Conservation Warden for Northern Washburn County).....715-466-5428
If wardens are in the field, messages can be related to them through the Washburn County Sheriff's
Department at 715-468-4720 or at the DNR's toll-free tip line.....1-800-TIP-WDNR (847-9367)

County Shoreland Zoning Questions or Violations:

Web Macomber (Zoning Administrator).....715-468-4690

County Planning, Land/Water Resource Management:

Brad Robole (Director).....715-468-4654