

The Bohners Lake Beat

A NEWSLETTER ABOUT THE
SANITARY DISTRICT FOR THE
BOHNERS LAKE COMMUNITY
SPRING 2023

BOHNERS LAKE TEAMS UP AGAIN WITH BROWNS LAKE FOR 2023 WEED HARVEST

GET READY TO PLACE YOUR LAKE WEEDS AT THE END OF YOUR PIERS.

The BLSD will be increasing our lake weed harvest days from 9 to 12 this year. It's our hope that the lake water level returns to normal allowing us better access to the majority of the lake. As reviewed in last season's meeting updates, we have been experiencing significant drought over the past few years. Rainfall is well below our average by 1 to 2 feet. Let's hope for "better" weather in 2023!



Using a power barge makes weed collection very efficient

Once again, Mike will be using the power barge to perform PIER END weed pick ups. The barge enables us to accomplish two tasks. First, it will be out in the water near the harvester and accept all of the harvested weeds from the harvester. Last year this increased our time spent harvesting by over 30%. Second, during the down time for the



Homeowners should place their harvested weeds at the end of their pier during harvest days.

barge, the team will once again travel to each pier to remove weeds that homeowners have collected from their shores and placed on the END OF THEIR PIERS. On the last day of each scheduled harvest all pier end weeds need to be placed on the piers by 11 am. We will also contract with ASDA to do 4 street side weed pick ups as well. Dates for these pick ups will be emailed by Dave Pfanzelter as we get closer to June 1.

Currently we are planning the following lake weed harvest days:

JUNE 6-9 • JULY 11-14 • AUGUST 8-11

If there are any changes to any of the above dates/times, Dave Pfanzelter will contact you via email. If you are not on our email list please send your email address to pfan@yaho.com. **Please share this information with neighbors that you believe are not getting the Bohners Lake Beat electronically.**

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT – 2023

The BLSLD is concerned about the growth of aquatic plants in Bohners Lake – you should be too! Targeted management with a mix of chemical treatment and mechanical harvesting will be used as needed to improve the health and recreational access. The chemical treatment permit has been applied for from the DNR. A full copy of the permit is available on the Bohners Lake Sanitary District website at this link: <http://www.blsd-wi.org/>

EWM has historically been present in Bohners Lake, often at high densities. Past whole-lake control has resulted in great results in the past 4+ years. Once EWM is established in a lake it can never be fully eradicated, but we are happy to report current populations remain low and scattered. We are continually on the hunt to find it and reduce populations before it infests the whole lake again. A few, small patches were mapped in late 2022 and may be slated for control in early 2023.

Curly-leaf pondweed, a second non-native species in Bohners Lake, is also scheduled for control activities in spring of 2023. A large population was noted in the southwest bay and controlled in 2021 and 2022. Curly-leaf pondweed produces seed-like structures called turions. These turions can accumulate in the sediment. Only a portion of them will grow into full plants each year. Because of this, it is important to control the same area for multiple years to exhaust any remaining turions present in the lake bottom.

Control of vegetation in other shallow waters will be a combined effort using

chemical and mechanical harvesting. Most of the nuisance is caused by Chara, a plant-like algae which requires a different method of control. Unlike the whole-lake control of EWM, we CANNOT target the entire lake. Rather, we focus on opening navigation lanes where Chara inhibits smooth boating on the lake. In addition to Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource's help, the Browns Lake Sanitary District will again be completing the Chara harvest.

To continue to protect Bohners Lake, an update to the aquatic plant management plan is currently underway. The updated plan is a DNR requirement and will provide the groundwork for aquatic plant management for the next five years. It's anticipated to have the plan done and in place shortly, for the 2023 management season.

As lakefront property owners, you can remove plants from your near-shore area. You can manually (using muscles, rather than machines) clear an area 30 feet wide out to open, weedless water along your shore. To do more than that, a permit is needed from the DNR. You can also remove Milfoil or Curly-leaf Pondweed from other areas of your shoreline. Please try to keep native plants. They are very important for the long-term health of the lake. The fish rely on plants for food and shelter. Plants also keep the lake bed sediments from getting resuspended due to boaters and storms. Harvesting is planned per the schedule on page one.

INVASIVE AQUATIC PLANTS

Eurasian Water Milfoil and Curly Leaf Pondweed, are invasive species and will be treated this year.



BENEFICIAL AQUATIC PLANTS

Wild Celery and Sago Pondweed provide cover for fish, aquatic insects, and food for waterfowl



BOHNERS LAKE LOCAL ORDINANCES

SWIMMING

1. No person shall swim or snorkel from any boat beyond the slow-no-wake zone, unless such boat is anchored and attended by an observer inside the boat and the swimmers stay within twenty five feet of the boat. — 11.12.01 0(A)
2. All boats accompanying distance swimmers must have a dedicated observer and a Type IV personal flotation device. — 11.12.010(8)
3. No swimming outside of the shore zone from sunset to sunrise. — 11.12.01 0(C)

WATERSKIING OR SIMILAR ACTIVITIES

1. No towing of more than 2 persons behind one motor boat. — 11.12.020(A)
2. Towing must be done in a counter-clockwise pattern. — 11.12.020(8)
3. No towing may occur in the shore zone. — 11.12.020(8)

MOTORBOAT AND PERSONAL WATERCRAFT OPERATION LIMITS

1. No operation above slow-no-wake within any shore zone. — 11.12.030(8)
2. No operation above 40 mph unless authorized. — 11.12.040(8)
3. When operating above slow-no-wake, all watercraft must operate in a counter-clockwise direction around the perimeter of the lake. — 11.12.040(0)
4. No operation above slow-no-wake between 7 pm and 10 am. — 11.12.0s0(b)

GENERAL CONDUCT

1. No person shall leave, deposit, place or throw any cans, bottles, debris, refuse or solid waste material of any kind. — 11.12.060
2. No person under the age of 21 may operate a motor boat with a blood alcohol concentration of more than 0.0 percent but not more than 0.1 percent. — 11.12.070(A)
3. No person under the age of 21 may possess alcohol on a boat. — 11.12.080
4. No person in either a public or private place may engage in violent, abusive, indecent, profane, boisterous, unreasonable loud or otherwise disorderly conducted under circumstances that tends to cause or provoke a disturbance. — 9.947.01 (1)

FROZEN WATER

1. Any ice shanty left standing and unattended after sunset shall be marked by red or orange reflective stripe at least 4 inches wide and applied in a continuous stripe on all sides, not less than 2 feet and no more than 4 feet above the level of the ice. — 11.12.100

LAW ENFORCEMENT: (262) 886-2300

FOR COMPLETE TOWN OF BURLINGTON LAKE ORDINANCES VISIT:

<https://townofburlington.com>

Last amended: August 2021

OPERATIONS VIOLATIONS

NEGLIGENT OPERATION — 30.68(2)

- No person may operate or use any boat, or manipulate any waterskis, aquaplane or similar device upon the waters of this state in a careless, negligent or reckless manner so as to endanger that person's life, property or person or the life, property or person of another.

CREATING HAZARDOUS WAKE OR WASH — 30.68(4)(A)

- No person shall operate a motorboat so as to approach or pass another boat in such a manner as to create a hazardous wake or wash.

RIDING ON DECKS AND GUNWALES — 30.68(6)

- No person operating a motorboat may ride or sit, or may allow any other person in the motorboat to ride or sit, on the gunwales, tops of seat backs or sides or on the decking over the bow of the boat in an unsafe manner while under way, unless such person is inboard of guards or railings provided on the boat to prevent persons from being lost overboard.

OVERLOADING — 30.68(9)

- No person may operate, and no owner of a boat may allow a person to operate, a boat that is loaded with passengers or cargo beyond its safe carrying capacity, taking into consideration weather and other existing operating conditions.

WATERSKIING /TOWING — 30.69(3)(A)

- No person operating a motorboat that is towing persons engaged in waterskiing, aquaplaning or similar activity may operate the motorboat within 100 feet of any occupied anchored boat, any personal watercraft or any marked swimming area or public boat landing.

SAFETY CERTIFICATE AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

BOATING SAFETY CERTIFICATES REQUIREMENTS — 30.678

Motorboat Certificate

No person who was born on or after January 1, 1989, and who is 16 years of age or older may operate a motorboat unless one of the following applies:

- The person holds a valid boating safety certificate
- The person is accompanied in the motorboat by another person who is at least 18 years of age and that person holds a valid boating safety certificate or was born before January 1, 1989.

Personal Watercraft Certificate

- No person under 12 years of age may operate a personal watercraft.
- No person who was born on or after January 1, 1989, may operate a personal watercraft unless the person holds a valid safety certificate.

Proof of Certification

- Any person who is required to hold a safety certificate while operating a motorboat shall carry proof of safety certificate and shall display such proof to a law enforcement officer on request.

Failure to Secure Battery and Cover Terminals — 30.62(8)

Failure to Have an Operating Fire Extinguisher — 30.62(4)

Failure to Provide 1 Personal Flotation Device Per Person — 30.62(3)(A)

Failure to Have 1 Class IV Flotation Device on a Motorboat — 30.62(3)(A)

Operate a Vessel Without a Valid Certificate/Number — 30.51(1)

Failure to Display Registration Number/Decal — 30.523(1)

THIS LIST OF STATUTES IS NOT INTENDED TO BE, NOR IS IT A LIST OF ALL RULES, REGULATIONS, ORDINANCES AND LAWS RELATED TO BOATING. FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL WISCONSIN STATE STATUES VISIT:

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes>

HAVE THE RIGHT LIFE JACKET?



RIGHT STYLE?

Be sure it's U.S. Coast Guard-approved
(Check the label printed on the inside of the life jacket).



Standup Paddlers
(Belt-pack inflatable)



Anglers & Open Motor Boats
(Suspender inflatable)



**Personal Water Crafts
& Water Sports**
(Inherently buoyant)



Kids
(Adult life jackets don't fit kids)



Pets
(Harness with lift handles)



HAVE FUN...BE SAFE!

RIGHT FIT?

Snug fit and fastened.

- You don't want your life jacket too large or too small.



**REMEMBER,
LIFE JACKETS
FOR ADULTS
DO NOT WORK
FOR CHILDREN.**

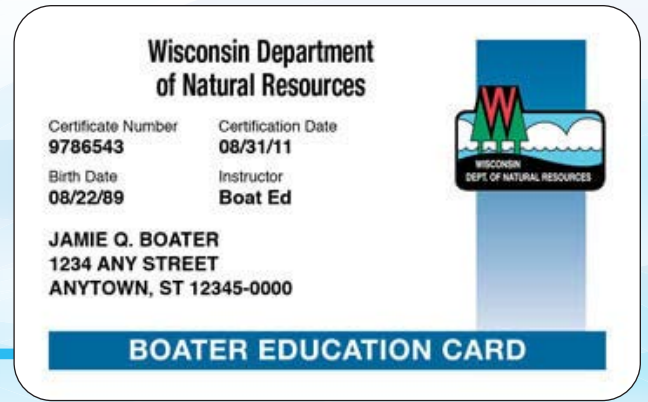
SELF HARVESTED LAKE WEEDS – PICKUP DAYS

The ASDA will pick up your harvested lake weeds, brought to the street on the last Tuesday of June, July, and August. LAKE WEEDS ONLY. NO MUCK OR SAND.

BOATING LICENSE?

Do you need a boating license in Wisconsin?

Wisconsin law requires those born on or after January 1, 1989, to pass a boater safety course and to carry a boater education card.



BUOYS

Under supervision of the BLMC, buoys are placed around the lake to mark potential dangerous objects and beach swim areas, etc. The buoys must never be moved or used as a place to moor your boat. If you believe a buoy has been moved intentionally or by wind, contact a BLMC member immediately to ensure lake safety.

WIPES CLOG PIPES – BAG IT AND BIN IT. DON'T FLUSH IT.



FLUSHED WIPES

Flushing wet wipes down the toilet can clog plumbing systems leading to expensive repairs. Many people don't know that wipes shouldn't go in the toilet and pose a risk for sewer infrastructure.



CLOGGED SEWER LINES

Wipes make their way into private sewer laterals, septic systems, and sewer lines and can cause extensive harm and result in overflows and property damage.



SEWER OVERFLOWS

Once wipes make it into the sewer collection system, they can catch on roots that infiltrate pipes weave together to form large rags and attract fats, oils and grease. This can result in blockages and sewer splits.



ENVIRONMENTAL HARM

Even when wipes filter out of the wastewater stream, small microfibers and microplastics can shed off wipes. These fibers can't be captured and can make their way into the environment.



DISRUPTED TREATMENT PLANTS

Oftentimes, masses of wipes manage to make it through the collection system and end up at wastewater treatment plants which can result in damage to treatment infrastructure and recurrent disruption of the treatment process.



DAMAGED COLLECTION SYSTEMS

Most collection systems rely on pumps to move wastewater to treatment facilities. Wipes can clog these pumps, resulting in spills, system failures, increased maintenance requirements and damage to expensive equipment.

HELP STOP AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Aquatic invasive species are a constant threat to Bohners Lake. They destroy native plants and fish spawning grounds and are environmentally and financially destructive to the community. Some common ways that species may be moved during recreational boating and other activities include:

- Attaching to watercraft, trailers, motor and fishing gear
- Transport by water — ballast water, bilge and other water-containing devices
- Dumping of unwanted live bait
- Tangled in fishing lines and downrigger cables
- Sticking to the soles of waders
- Clinging to the rudder of a seaplanes
- Trapped in mud on a dog's paws



Take extra care to remove all debris from your boat, jet ski and trailer

CLEAN YOUR GEAR!

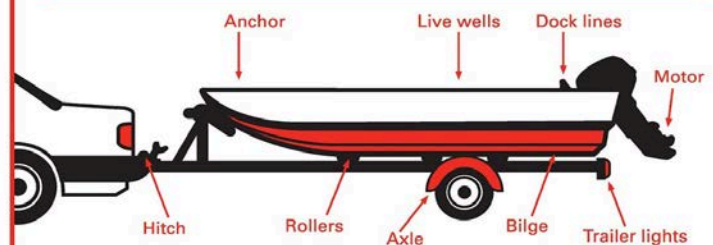
Help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species



Check for and remove plants, mud, and aquatic life before transporting

Drain water from boat, live well, bilge, and bait bucket before transporting

Clean boat and gear with hot water, or **Dry** everything for at least five days



Check these areas

Just one organism, or in some cases a single piece of a plant, is enough to start a new invasion. Fortunately – ALL invasions are preventable! If you boat on any other lakes or know someone who does, **PLEASE make a special effort to disinfect the boat and all equipment, and pass along this important information to others.** State laws are in place to help keep exotic species out of Bohners Lake, **but it takes everyone's cooperation:**

- **CLEAN** your boat, trailer and equipment. **Remove** all aquatic plants or animals (before launching, after loading and before transporting on a public road).
- **DRAIN** motor, bilge, livewell and other water containing devices before leaving water access.
- **DRY** everything for at least five days or wipe with a towel before reuse. Many organisms can survive in standing water so, complete drying is necessary.
- **POWER WASH** your equipment before transporting it to another lake. Use hot water, 120°F, when possible.
- **DISPOSE** of unwanted bait, worms and fish parts in the trash. If keeping live bait, drain bait container and replace with spring or dechlorinated tap water. Never dump live fish or other organisms from one water body into another.
- **BAIT** — Buy minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer. You may take leftover minnows away from any state water and use them again on that same water. You may use leftover minnows on other waters only if no lake or river water or other fish were added to their container.

GOOSE ROUNDUP

Goose removal on Bohners Lake was last done in 2015. The roundups have been taking place every three or four years, but are only done when absolutely necessary. A few years ago new rules were put in place that affect the goose roundup. If you are on the lakefront, you can help the District by filling out the form below that gives the district and the USDA permission to go on your property to remove geese. The roundup happens in mid-June, if there are enough geese to be a nuisance.



If you're having trouble with geese on your property...Let the BLSD know!

All residents need to notify the BLSD of geese sightings in early spring. If we need a roundup, it needs to be done by the second week in June and over 35 geese are required to affect a roundup. **It's critical to know, how many, times of day seen and where geese originate from and leave from.**

The goal of the goose removal program is to keep the number of geese in line with what the lake can support. The non-migratory geese contribute to water quality problems, including E. coli bacteria and increased phosphorus loadings. E. coli causes beach closings, and phosphorus contributes to weed and algae problems. If elevated bacteria levels occur, signs will be posted.

Everyone can help the Sanitary District by sending in the completed form below. **If you have sent in your approval form in previous years, you do not need to send it in again.** Please contact Harvey, at the Bohners Lake Sanitary District, (262) 210-9101, if you wish to be removed from the list, have problems with geese on your property, or have any questions/concerns. Thank you for your assistance.

GOOSE ROUNDUP APPROVAL FORM – 2023

YOU HAVE MY PERMISSION TO ENTER ONTO MY PROPERTY TO CATCH AND REMOVE GEESE

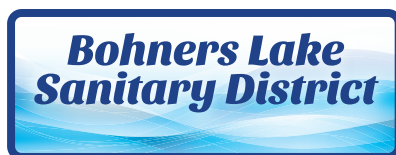
I authorize representatives from U.S. Department of Agriculture – Wildlife Services and Bohners Lake Sanitary District to access the property listed below for the purposes of goose management. This permission form has no expiration date and remains in effect unless I request it to be removed from the approved site list.

NAME (PRINT)

ADDRESS

PHONE

SIGNATURE (MANDATORY)



Please return form as soon as possible, no later than May 20, 2023!

Send to: Bohners Lake Sanitary District • PO Box 280 • Burlington, WI 53105