

SPoonER LAKE DISTRICT FALL NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2023

Aquatic Plant Management:

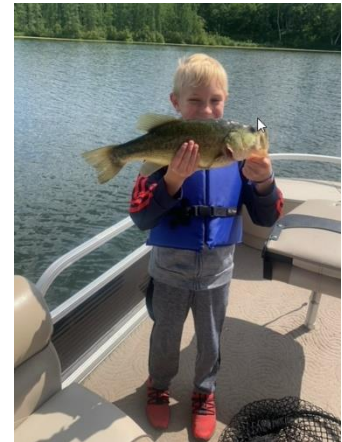
Successful herbicide treatment of the *West and East Navigational Channels* was completed in time for the 4th of July weekend for SLD members and guests to enjoy some great swimming and fishing activities.



Curley Leaf Pondweed Treatment: The map below shows Sensitive Plant Area Bed 6 (bottom polygon) and Bed 7 (top polygon) after treatment in June 2023. Bed 6 was NOT treated.

As the map shows, there was little CLP present in Bed 7 (white = no CLP, green = a density of 1, and tan = viewed only), indicating the treatment successfully reduced CLP. There was very little CLP observed throughout the lake, with NO beds of CLP present in Spooner Lake except for near Bed 7.

The red outline is a bed that was observed in 2022. However, that area had a small amount of CLP comparatively in 2023, with very little that could be delineated at all. Going into 2024, Bed 7 is likely going to have CLP return. The turion survey in October 2023 will be a good indicator of potential CLP growth returning.



Assuming Bed 7 has CLP growing in spring 2024, it is the only bed that would be a candidate for herbicide application. Our APM plan dictates what is eligible for treatment. [\[Treatment Report from Steve Schieffer, Lake Biologist, Ecology Integrity Service\]](#)

[Mr. Schieffer and Mr. James Bartlet from Lakes Restoration, Inc. will present a Q&A program at the Fall Membership Meeting.\]](#)

Annual Fall Membership Meeting & Budget Hearing will be held Saturday, September 2, 2023, at 9:00 am at the Spooner Agricultural Research Station, W6646 Hwy 70, Spooner, WI.

Spooner Lake Boat Launch / Clean Boats-Clean Waters Program

The Town of Spooner has completed repairs to the boat launch and a newer and larger boat ramp has been installed. Many positive comments have been received about the new boat launch. Kudos to all those who contributed to this project and to the volunteers that staff the Clean Boats Clean Waters Program. An update and additional information on the program will be presented at the Fall Membership Meeting.

Campground Litigation:

About two years ago, the Spooner Lake District sued to invalidate the conditional use permit (CUP) for a 200 site RV park near Spooner Lake which Washburn County granted to North Camp Inc. Final arguments in the case will be heard by the judge on Sept. 15 after which the judge will review the hearings held by the County and written documents associated with the hearings to decide whether the District's claims of invalidity are

correct. The decision may take several months. After the judge issues his decision, either side could appeal to the court of appeals.

Koch's Resort and Island Bar: For those interested in history, here's a bit of history about one of Spooner Lake's prominent features as provided by Marci (Koch) Williams. "My grandparents started the stone house on the big island on Spooner Lake in 1922 and finished it in 1923. The stone was brought across the ice and the story goes that there was only a small pile of stones left over when finished. It was built by Otto Ewald (sp?). For years, there has been some discussion as to whether our house or Osterberg's house was the first on the lake. My folks built a resort on the mainland in the 1940's.

The house is stone inside and out and there's no place in the house from where you can't see the lake. The fireplace was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright (friend of my grandfather) and was not only beautiful but efficient. In the wintertime, my folks would close off all rooms in the house except the living room and kitchen; the stones would retain enough heat from the fireplace to keep the two rooms warm. There were six cabins all named after dad and mom's favorite cities: Wichita, Kansas, and Lombard, Peoria, Raleigh, and Glen Ellyn, Illinois.



The resort was on the mainland, but the bar was on the island on a large, covered patio connected to the house. It served Hamm's beer, Coca-Cola, ham sandwiches, and featured a Nickelodeon for music. "Koch" was written in cement as you entered from the outside. There was a cement fireplace made by using a knife and spoon and designed to look like a tree (patterned after a nearby tree). Patrons enjoyed drinking, playing shuffleboard, ping pong, watching sunsets from the esplanade. Of course, our parents gave my brother and me a "job" - to teach the resort dwellers how to water ski. My brother made extra money by operating a taxi service to and from the resort to the island; and I made extra money helping clean fish for the resort guests. Our parents made us share any tips we got with one another. Our dad also had a big, amphibious, military-style jeep that he used to take larger things across the water, and he often gave guests a thrill ride on it. Most times they got REALLY wet!

My parents sold the resort in 1960 to Earle Cooke as new government regulations mandated indoor bathrooms which the cabins did not have. The cost for installing them was prohibitive. The resort dwellers all shared outhouses and an outdoor shower."

EMAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED: Email is the most effective and timely means for the SLD to notify property owners of Lake District happenings. The SLD email list is only used for Lake District communications and is not shared with others. Update your email address when it changes by notifying

spoonerlakeweb@outlook.com

LAKE COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS: Two Spooner Lake Board of Commissioners positions will need to be filled at the Annual Membership Meeting. Per SLD Bylaws Article II, Section 3, electors must be present at the time of the meeting; no proxy or absentee balloting is permitted. SLD Commissioners are elected for a 3-year term. Interested SLD members should contact Logan Ludwig, SLD Chair at ludwig01@comcast.net by August 26, 2023.

**Spooner Lake District
Board of
Commissioners**

Chair

Logan Ludwig

Treasurer

Nancy Hanson

Secretary

Ed Fischer

Commissioners

Pat Inman

Joe Banick

**Spooner Lake District
PO Box 73**

Spooner, WI 54801