

Trade Lakes News

Newsletter of the Round Trade Lake Improvement Association (Long Trade Lake, Round Lake, Little and Big Trade Lakes)

Website <http://www.tradelakeassoc.org>

December.2017



Post card of Little Trade Lake development

Residents stop development

When the Town of Trade Lake supervisors seemed to endorse a large development on the North end of Little Trade Lake Residents became upset and organized.

The development on Little Trade Lake was proposed by Eva Development of Edina, Minnesota and **involved rezoning of 41 acres on the north end of Little Trade Lake from Agriculture 2 to Rural Residential 1 (RR-1). Currently there are no RR-1 properties on either Big or Little Trade Lake. Currently the forty one acres are owned by Mr. Seegar who had a wine retail outlet and catering business. The RR 1 zoning is high density. When the development plat became available to Little Trade Lake residents, it detailed 16 lots on the shoreline. Among the residents objecting to the development were Little Trade Lake Resident Richard Hess, Frederick Painter, Daniel Freeman and Janelle Moe. Their concerns were the density of the development, sited on a shallow bay, on a small lake that already has unsold lots**

for development and lacks a public access.

According to Daniel Freeman, the lack of public access stops winter fishing, but makes summer fishing much better.

To organize objections, the residents created a postcard. On one side was the development superimposed on an aerial view of the lake. On the other side was a request to sign an on-line petition against the development. By the time the Burnett County Planning Commission meet on November 7,2017, the petition had more than two hundred signatures. This in addition to the nine residents who personally appeared before the Planning Board to oppose the development.

Developers are bound to return to this and other lakes with requests for re-zoning. The problem is that notice of zoning changes are only made to “adjacent property owners,” not to the many others sharing the lake. Requests to change the shoreline zoning ordinances were recently considered in Polk County.

Lakeshore owners pay a majority of Town taxes

At the request of RTLIA, Michael Kornman of the Burnett County Extension Service researched how much lakeshore property owner’s pay in taxes to the town of Trade Lake. The Town, which is about 36 square miles, has seven lakes with public access within its borders. These seven lakes (and their taxes) are Round Lake (\$239,145), Big/Little Trade lakes (\$329.391), Spirit lake (\$310.494), Holms lake (\$11,771), Gabrielson (\$20.924), Pickle (\$18.879) and Pine lakes (\$48.122). Owners on these seven lakes pay \$978,726 or 59.6% of the town’s total annual tax revenues. The reason, of course, is that Lakeshore property is taxed at market value, while agricultural land pays only nominal taxes.

Mindful of the substantial financial support lakeshore owners provide to the town, the RTLIA requested a grant of \$2,500 from the town of Trade Lake to support the association's effort to protect and improve the lakes. At its September meeting, the three Trade Lake Town supervisors declined our request.

So you are paying taxes on your cabin, but to date, only your volunteer hours or membership fees are supporting our joint efforts to preserve and protect the lakes. The lack of support from local government is one of the reasons other lakeshore organizations have chosen to establish lake districts. These Districts have modest taxing authority, but at least all of the revenue is directed toward lake's preservation under the control of lakeshore residents. Such districts also spread the expenses of lake preservation over all lakeshore owners, not just those who join or volunteer. Right now, however, the RTLIA is NOT such a district, hence the importance of your membership or your volunteer time.

We do understand that the Town Supervisors do entertain requests for "contributions" to area groups at their meeting in April. We will notify members of the date of such a meeting next spring.

Report on RTLIA's management of Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curly-leaf Pondweed during 2017

By David Blumer

As most are aware, Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) and curly-leaf pondweed (CLP), both non-native aquatic invasive species (AIS), are present in all four of the lakes in the Trade River system. In 2017, the Round Trade Lakes Improvement Association (RTLIA) chemically treated both non-native species in Long Trade, Round, and Big Trade lakes. Based on very a very low density of EWM in Little Trade Lake in the fall of 2016, no management was done in 2017. EWM and CLP management in 2017 appears to have been successful at reducing the

levels of particularly EWM in all three treated lakes. EWM and CLP are still present in all the lakes and it is expected that chemical treatment proposals will be made for all four lakes in 2018. In support of these expected proposals, new Aquatic Plant Management (APM) Plans covering the next five years (2018-2022) have been drafted for each lake by LEAPS in 2017. The last APM Plan for the lakes was completed in 2010 by the Polk County Land Conservation Department, with a CLP management plan written by SEH Inc. added in 2012. Both of these plans were in need of updates going into 2018. Four individual APM Plans have been prepared, one for each lake, and are available for review on the RTLIA webpage or by request from the RTLIA as of November 24, 2017. All four APM Plans have to undergo an approval process by the WDNR, but are expected to be implemented in 2018. Both CLP and EWM management goals are included in these plans, as are goals covering AIS Education, Shoreline Improvement Planning and Implementation, Water Quality, and Aquatic Plant Monitoring. EWM and CLP management in 2017 was supported by AIS Control grant funding from the WDNR. Existing grant funds used to support management actions on all four lakes from 2015-2017 run out at the end of 2017. Plans are for the RTLIA to sponsor at least one new grant application to support management actions in 2018 and beyond based on the new 2018-22 APM Plan. These grants are being prepared by LEAPS and are due to the WDNR on or before February 1, 2018. Should applications for grant funding not be awarded, alternative management actions will be considered for 2018 and other funding sources will be explored. Grant funding would then again be applied for in 2019.

As lake constituents, you can best get involved by joining the RTLIA, volunteering some of your time to assist in management actions like physical removal of AIS around your docks and in your lake or water quality monitoring, be aware of issues affecting your lake, and by taking time to go to the RTLIA website and look through the new APM Plans so you have some idea as to what is being done to help maintain or

improve the lakes. If you have any feedback or questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Lake Education and Planning Services dblumerleaps@gmail.com

Jason Klous moves on And new President

Jason Klous, President of the Round Trade Lake Improvement Association, since 2014 has chosen not to run for a third term. He has chosen to pursue his construction career and a Doctorial degree at a University in England! We wish him the best and give him our thanks for his past leadership!

Association by-laws allow a vacancy to "be filled by appointment by the Board..." In a meeting on November 21, the board appointed Reid McFarlane Acting President. This appointment can be ratified by the membership at their next meeting in Spring. If you are interested in serving as president or the Big Trade Lake representative please call Reid or Vicki.

Citizens Lake Monitoring Network

The Lakes Association is given financial credit for volunteer hours worked on lake monitoring and improvement projects. These hours of work, in addition to membership revenue, is what is used to "match" Wisconsin state funds that most recently have funded our chemical treatments against invasive species. If you pull invasive weeds, check boats at public landings for Zebra mussels, or test water quality you can report your hours on our web-site: http://tradelakeassoc.org/?page_id=162
If you have trouble reporting your hours, contact you Lake representative

Volunteers testing for the Citizens Lake Monitoring Network:

Randy Newman, Little Trade Lake
Reid McFarlane, Big Trade Lake
Vicki & Roger Breault, Long Trade lake
Bill Piotrowski, Round Lake
Jack Lamont, does water testing on the Trade River flows into Long Trade Lake.

Big and Little Trade Lakes listed as impaired in 2018

The WDNR Impaired Waters List of 2018. Recognizes that the two lakes are not meeting their suggested needs for recreation and wildlife. It doesn't really have any other major impact, but being put on that list should be considered an undesirable thing. Both Long Trade and Round Lakes are already on the Impaired Waters List. our consultant Dave Blumer suggests you check the WDNR web page for impaired waters. <http://dnr.wi.gov/water/watershedImpaired.aspx?code=SC10>

Healthy Lakes Grants

The Wisconsin DNR offers an easy web-site with information about best practices for lake shore owners to improve lake water and wildlife quality. At healthylakeswi.com you can find information about the diversion of water runoff, installing rock bed for run-off, Fish Sticks (Using trees dropped at the shoreline to create fish habitat), rain gardens, or planting native species. Grants are available for group projects using these same techniques.

RTLIA Board Members:

President – Reid McFarlane (2018-2020) Lake
715-488-2984. 612-840-4648
benson_mcfarlane@yahoo.com

Vice-President – Vicki Breault (2014-2018) Cell
715-579-3710 vickibro15@gmail.com

Secretary / Treasurer – Tom Mayerhofer (2016-2019) Cell 952-250-298
thomasmayerhofer77@gmail.com

Round Lake Board Member – Bill Piotrowski (2016-2020) Cell 651-235-6897
wpiotro1@gmail.com

Big Trade Lake Board Member- vacant

Little Trade Lake Board Member – Dan Freeman (2018-2020) 715-488-2415
email: Freeman_Dan@hotmail.com

Long Trade Lake Board Member – Anne Heimkes Tuttle (2017-2019)
952-457-4977 aetutt@yahoo.com

All meetings are open to the public

Annual Membership Dues: \$40.00. Additional voluntary donation \$_____. Total amount enclosed \$_____

Please complete the following information to ensure our contact information for you is correct:

Your Name(s)_____

Lake address_____

Billing Address (if different)_____

Address_____

Email_____ Phone_____

Mail to: Round Trade Lake Improvement Association

P.O. Box 64, Frederic, WI 54837

Round Trade Lakes Improvement
Association

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