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Fall 2024 Volume 78

A Newsletter of the Legend Lake Property Owners Association
and Legend Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District



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Broker / Owner

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All Articles are Unedited and Printed as Submitted

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Legend Lake

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 Fall 2024 Smoke Signals • 3



MISSION STATEMENT

**OF THE
LEGEND LAKE
PROPERTY OWNER'S ASSOCIATION**



Legend Lake Property Owners Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and protecting Legend Lake's natural beauty, habitats and its various recreational and residential opportunities. Our work is to promote and protect the best interest and use of all members, boaters, and fishermen and all other parties that use the water and land.

DIRECTORS & COMMISSIONERS

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER: SUMMER 2024



As the sunsets earlier by the day on our beautiful lake, it tells us of another season that has passed. I hope all were able to make the most of our short summer as we look forward to fall and winter activities. I, Steven Kastning, again hold the position of president on our Board of directors for the LLPOA; with an election behind us we welcome Darrin Tiedt in addition to our roster. Thank you all who were able to attend our annual meeting and partake in the president's picnic that followed. Also allow me to commend our membership in the overwhelming support of our 2025 budget since our annual meeting your board continues to strive to uphold our mission statement.

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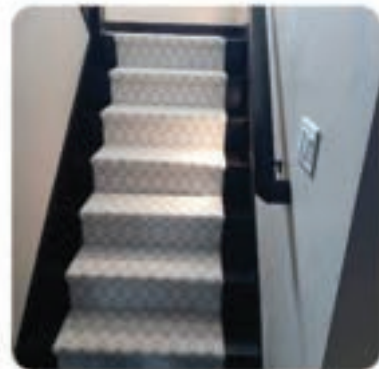
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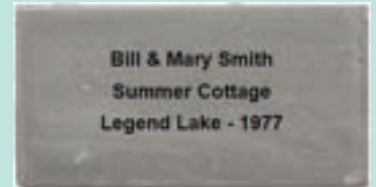


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In July of 1968 the Legend Lake recreational property development was created – many families have been a part of this truly special and unique lake development for more than 55 years. Multiple generations have boated, camped, and developed homesteads that have witnessed the creation of countless family memories.

To celebrate and commemorate the rich history of the multitudes of families that are living, owning, and enjoying property around this beautiful lake community, the Legend Lake Property Owners Association (LLPOA) would like to offer you the extraordinary opportunity to create a lasting connection with Legend Lake through the purchase of a laser engraved personalized brick paver that will permanently be installed in our new Legend Lake Lodge patio & walkway plaza!

This exclusive opportunity is being made available to all LLPOA members and previous LLPOA members in good standing.

Limited quantity available – (limit of three monogrammed bricks per LLPOA member address).

Project completion is scheduled for late summer / Fall 2024 on the Legend Lake Lodge grounds. Installation labor will be donated by Schneider & Sons Landscaping Inc.

This classic gray 4” x 8” personalized brick will be permanently laser engraved with the inscription of your choice (up to 3 lines, up to 20 characters per line including spaces) for \$250.⁰⁰

These commemorative tribute bricks are perfect for honoring your family’s time at Legend Lake, celebrating precious memories, memorializing a loved one or just showing your support for the Legend Lake Community.

This personalized monogrammed brick will forever leave your legacy at Legend Lake while helping raise funds for the continued preservation, maintenance and development of Legend Lake area through the LLPOA and enables you to support the new vision unfolding for our community that brings all of us together.

Please see next page

BEACH CLUB UPDATE

Several of our beach clubs suffered significant tree and fence damage from the tornado that occurred in June. The worst damage was Council Hill followed by Spirit Island, Sunrise, Mallard Bay, Deer Path, and Blue Heron. Immediately following this event, our LLPOA outside crew, led by Dave Walton, assessed the damage to each beach club, and his crew immediately worked to the best of their ability to safely open paths so our members could access their boats. While several of the beach clubs that suffered minor damage may be cleared and cleaned by our outside crew, the more heavily damaged sites need to have a professional tree service company with the proper training and equipment, complete this work. We obtained the service of a professional tree removal service. However, his crew is also engaged with chipping hundreds of loads of branches that were brought into the compost site by our members, their contractors, and the county highway crew. For this reason, clean up at the beach clubs was delayed. We had to balance the need for this work to be completed quickly, with the cost the LLPOA would have to assume for the chipping and beach club cleanup. This contractor, taking on all of this work, was the best financial decision.

According to our contractor, the sites mentioned above are scheduled to be completed by September 1st. The other beach clubs with less damage, will be handled by our outside crew. However, with their additional responsibilities, this may take some time



to complete. Please know, though, that any location that may pose a safety hazard to our membership will be addressed quickly. Also, while we are also trying to restore the access paths to their original condition, there may be a continuing inconvenience if not all of them can be opened to their original state.

We understand how this has affected our beach club members by limiting some of the common activities you have enjoyed prior to the tornado. This includes uninterrupted access and complete use of the site. However, please know that we are doing the best we can to balance this need along with the safety of our members and the financial impact this work is having on our budget.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate in contacting any of our committee members.

Sincerely,

Gregg Malmstrom, Chair – 414.807.4162

Steve Savage, Member – 920.733.5591

Darin Tiedt, Member – 262-758-6235

Dave Walton – 715.799.3317

P.S. Also note that our new LLPOA website will have a dedicated page for important beach club information and updates and an official site for communications.





*From The Rich Mahogany Desk
of the
Property Manager In The Main Office*

On Tuesday morning, June 25, 2024, Legend Lake was victim to an EF1 tornado. The aftermath of the storm left several of our LLPOA Beach Clubs and Out Lots with extensive damage. In the weeks following the storm the LLPOA employees put in upwards of 70 hours a week to help in clean-up efforts for all members of the community. On June 25th our little compost site for yard waste recycling was transformed into a high traffic industrial operation. Normally at the end of the season we have one huge pile of brush to chip, however during the first 2 weeks of clean-up we were creating the same year end pile...daily.

The storm clean-up efforts on our Beach Club



properties are being addressed by outside contractors and the LLPOA personnel. Clean-up efforts will continue into next year due to staffing, funds, and extent of damage. Not only are we cleaning up downed trees. There are also picnic tables, fences, gates, and signage to be hauled away and replaced. The compost site has since resumed normal hours of operations Saturday's 10-2. Our hired chipping contractor is continuing chipping and hauling away chips using semis. If the gate is open during the week. Do not enter. The large equipment used for chipping and site clean-up is dangerous.

Dave Walton
Outside Property Manager



COMPOST SITE 2024

Location: N1106 Silver Canoe Road, off Highway VV east

Dates and Times: Saturday, April 13, 2024 – FIRST DAY OPEN FOR THE SEASON

April and May – Saturday’s – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday’s – 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

June thru September – Saturday’s – 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday’s – CLOSED

October and November – Saturday’s – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday’s – 1:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 9, 2024 – LAST DAY OPEN FOR THE SEASON

Prerequisites: **Must be an Association member in good standing.**
\$50.00 per calendar year fee

Materials Not Allowed: **Stumps**
Construction materials
Treated wood
Garbage, paper, cans, etc.

In order to maintain equity in the distribution of recyclable materials, hauling & loading will be limited to HAND TOOLS ONLY!!!

*Attention: Compost Site Manager has the option to vary the schedule due to weather conditions. Call the Lodge for verification if weather conditions are questionable. 715/799-3317

Dumping leaves and/or brush in the forested areas and outlots of Legend Lake is prohibited by both State and County laws. To avoid penalties of this kind, use the Compost Site operated by the Association for the convenience of its members.

Leaves must be emptied from plastic bags and the bags taken with you. The attendant on duty will determine the acceptance or rejection of any materials in question.

Brush brought to the site is chipped and is available to members in good standing. Since the chips and compost (black dirt) are quite popular, we request that you take only what you will use on your property at Legend Lake. Quantities may be limited, at discretion of the Compost manager.

Grass clippings must be spread out – not left in clumps or piles. Separate pine from hardwoods and place in appropriate piles. Brush over 4” is to be placed in the camp fire wood pile.

---Very Important Reminders---

The LLPOA compost was originally established as a convenience and source of recycled materials to LLPOA members. Its use has grown over the years, and more and more members have been taking advantage of the site. Occasionally, we have to remind our members of simple guidelines:

1. Materials must be divided into categories and separated into those categories in order to provide the most effective and efficient use of the site.
2. Materials such as leaves, grass, sea weed and such are set aside so as to provide a source of recycled materials such as mulch, fertilizer and top soil.
3. Wood and branches are divided into hardwood and softwood piles so as to be chipped according the grade and hardness of the wood. As such, individuals depositing branches need to unload the branches in one of the two category piles: hardwood such as oak and softwood such as pine.
4. Only live, fresh, woody materials are capable of being chipped. Dead and dry woody materials need to be loaded into the burn area (large burn pit) where they will be burnt during the wet, snowy season under the supervision of an attendant and the DNR.

5. Wet and rotted materials and tree stumps cannot be included due to the slow burn rates and the tendency to simmer rather than burn. Please do not bring such materials to the compost site or you may be asked to leave.
6. The chipper is limited as to the diameter of the wood/branches that can be chipped. That diameter cannot exceed 4 inches. Any branches, trunks or wood materials exceeding the 4 inch diameter need be sawn before arriving at the site and upon arrival, deposited on the firewood pile.
7. Finally, please remember that the area is a COMPOST SITE established for the recycling of recyclable materials, not a dumping area for unwanted goods such as construction materials and garbage.

Your consideration in this matter is appreciated. Any questions, please feel free to contact Lodge office – 715-799-3317

***In order to maintain equity in the distribution of recyclable materials, hauling & loading will be limited to
HAND TOOLS ONLY!!!***

Very Important Reminder

It is that time of year again. The 2025 dues invoice will be going out at the end of November and the Association dues are payable in January. The yearly dues are due at the same time every year and if you do not get your statement, please call the Lodge office. (715-799-3317)

Just a reminder, it is your responsibility to keep your address current in the office.

If your payment is not received by January 31, you will be assessed a late fee per lot. Not getting the invoice is not an acceptable excuse for not getting your dues in on time.

Keep an eye out for your new statement.

Thank you for your consideration,
Board of Directors



Compost Site Material Delivery Request

For LLPOA Compost Site Members only

Office Use: Lot & Add _____

Compost Site Tag Verified _____

Payment Type _____

Name: _____

Delivery Address: _____

Best Phone Number to be Reached on Thursday: _____

I would like _____ Number of Loads of Material _____

I would like _____ Number of Loads of Material _____
(material available: sand, compost soil, wood chips)

(Please Initial)

_____ I understand deliveries are made on Thursdays only and I will place marker at
dump location (dump truck capacity is approx. 2.5 cubic yards)

_____ I understand the LLPOA is not responsible for damage to lawns, drain fields, etc.

_____ I understand the materials delivered may contain foreign materials such as weeds,
tarp fragments, bottles, dog toys, etc.

_____ I understand that the LLPOA has the right to refuse delivery if the dump location
isn't reachable due to weather and/or obstacles such as steep grades or overhead
utilities/trees

_____ I understand the first load of the calendar day is \$75.00 and each load after is
\$40.00 that day

Signature: _____

Date: _____



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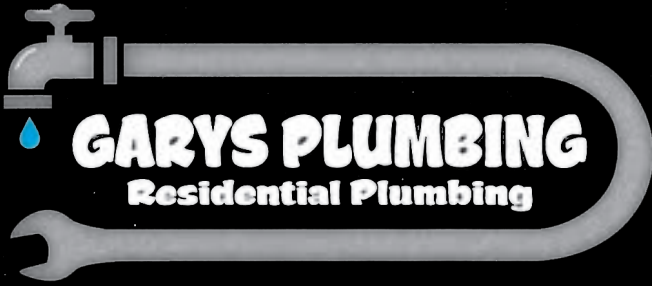
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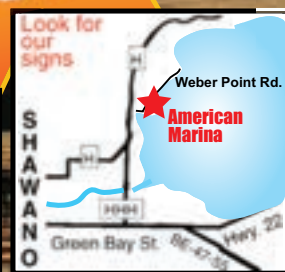


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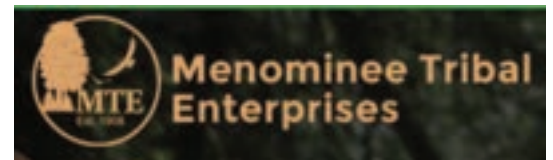
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Legend Lake Property Owners Association Emergency Plan

2024



LEGEND LAKE
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION



Wildfires in Wisconsin are very fast moving, and conditions change rapidly. Evacuation may be required during a wildfire. You may only have advance notification of a few minutes to an hour at most of an evacuation that may affect you. This timeframe also can be the case in other natural disasters and emergency situations. Therefore, it is imperative that you prepare in advance. Everyone in the community has an important role in ensuring that residents can safely leave an area threatened by a wildfire or other large-scale emergency. Planning, preparing and practicing simple actions as a community can help make leaving quicker, easier and safer for residents and first responders.

A wildfire evacuation plan is **a set of actions to take before and during a wildfire to protect yourself and your family. The Legend Lake Property Owners Association Emergency Plan includes the following:**

- **Checklist of GET READY!** (Preparations before a wildfire/emergency occurs), **GET SET!** (Actions if you are aware of a wildfire in your area) **and GO!** (Actions when you evacuate)
- **Map of the different roads that can be used in an evacuation, leading out of the Legend Lake area**
- **Information on signing up for Nixle Alerts**
- **Graphic on home ignition zone preparation**
- **Information on creating your emergency kit**

If there is a wildfire in the Legend Lake area, emergency responders will respond from the Keshena Fire Department, MTE and the WI DNR. The fire department can call in support from the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). Emergency messaging and evacuation information to the public will go out through the Nixle Alert system. Emergency managers are able to draw a circle on a map and have the message sent to all cellphones in that area. The notification will include possible evacuation routes. Personnel from the Sheriff's Department, Highway Department, Emergency Management, and others will assist with the evacuation. If time allows, emergency personnel may go door to door to evacuate residents.

Although the emergency response is extremely important, property owners also have a role in preparing for an emergency situation and an evacuation. Please read this emergency plan carefully so you know what to do and when to do it. The safety of you and your family is of utmost importance.

Evacuation:

- **Leave early!** If you feel unsafe, you do not need to wait for authorities to tell you to leave.
- If evacuation is required, a Nixle Alert will be sent to cellphones in the evacuation area. When possible, authorities will knock on your door and tell people to evacuate.
- Leave immediately. Do not delay. Be sure everyone on your property evacuates. Help neighbors if they require assistance.
- Follow directions and leave on approved routes if an evacuation has been ordered.
- **DO NOT RETURN** to your property until given permission to do so!
- For more steps before and during an evacuation, see the checklists on the next page.

GET READY!

(Preparations before a wildfire/emergency occurs)

- Sign up for NIXLE. (See page 6.)
- Know and recognize warnings and alerts for the area.
- Know and practice driving evacuation routes.
- Create an emergency kit. (See page 8.)
- Create defensible space around your home. (See page 7.)
- Make sure your driveway has adequate height and width clearance to accommodate emergency vehicles.
- Make sure that your fire number (address sign) is visible from the road. Cut back overgrown vegetation.
- Get to know your neighbors. Share phone numbers and other contact information.
- Talk with family members and guests about a possible evacuation. Share information about the emergency plan with them. Decide on a meeting location.
- Plan for evacuating your animals.

GET SET!

(Actions if you are aware of a wildfire in your area)

- Call 911 immediately if you see a wildfire or your fire gets out of control.
- If there is a wildfire in your area and you're not in immediate danger, prepare for the worst.
- Evacuate early if you feel unsafe.
- Be ready! Watch for warnings and alerts for your area. Stay tuned to the latest news and updates.
- Alert family and neighbors of the situation. Reach out to neighbors to see if they need help evacuating.
- Place your emergency kit and important personal items in your vehicle.
- Back vehicle into your driveway and outside the garage so you are able to leave quickly. Close your garage door.
- Close all windows in buildings and any other openings in your home, including vents.
- Remove all flammable deck furniture off decks and remove other flammable items around your home.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Connect a garden hose to outside water spigot for firefighters to use if needed.
- Know where your pets are. Keep them close to you.

GO!

(Actions to take when you evacuate)

- LEAVE EARLY! You don't have to wait to be told to leave. In an intense wildfire, there may not be time for emergency responders to knock on every door.
- When you are told to evacuate, leave promptly.
- Head to the evacuation center designated in the NIXLE message.
- Adhere to all road closures and keep moving to prevent traffic backups. Drive safely.
- Avoid the fire area to allow firefighters room to work.
- Open all roadside gates when you leave.
- Turn on your outdoor lights so that firefighters have a better chance of seeing your home past the smoke.
- After you are evacuated and safe, contact family to let them know you are safe.
- Wait for guidance about returning to your home (through radio, social media, notifications, evacuation centers). Return home only when authorities say it is safe.
- Seek assistance immediately if someone is injured.
- Use neighbor contact information to be sure they are evacuated.

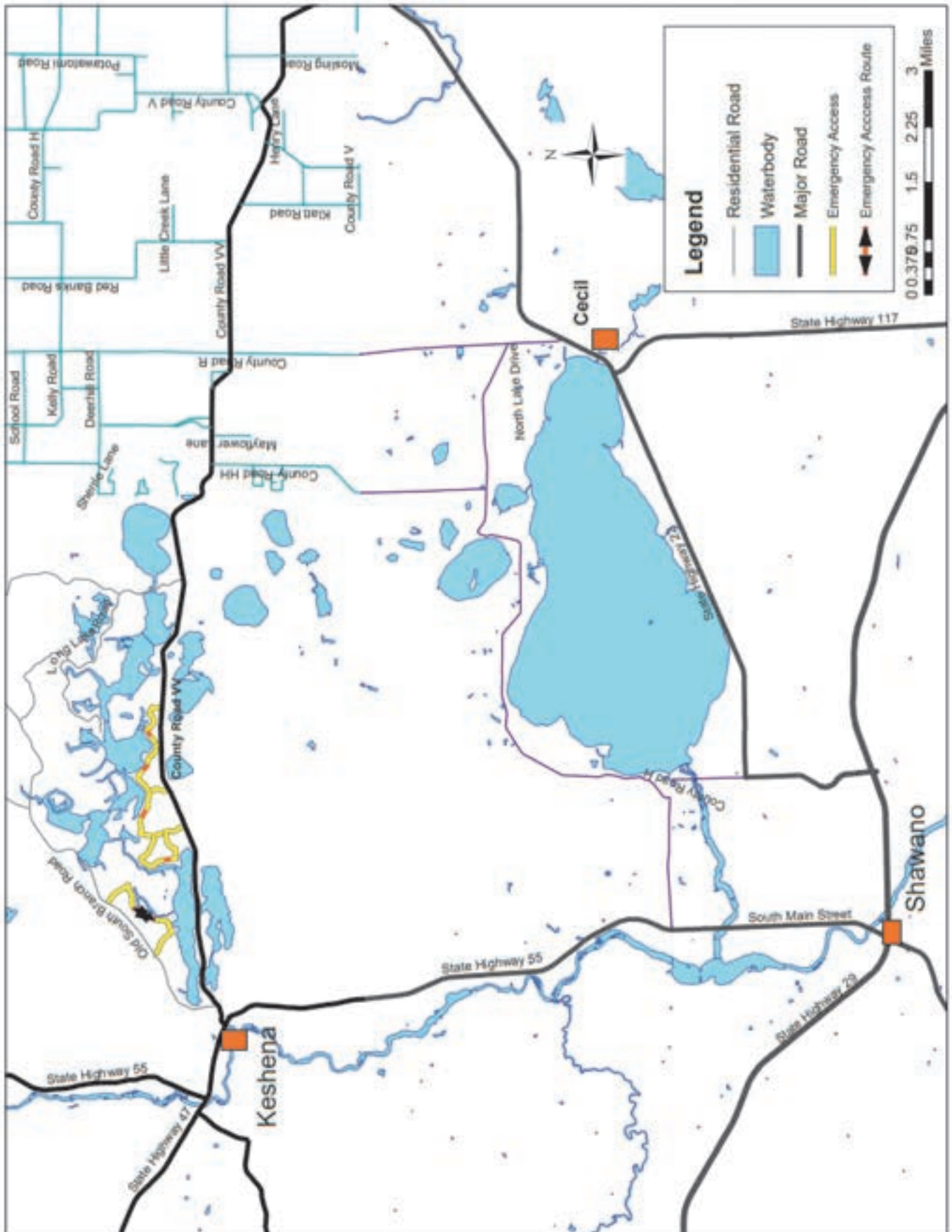
Current Emergency Access Routes in Legend Lake

For the last couple years, the Firewise USA work group has been working to provide emergency access to portions of Legend Lake. The map below is of the current access routes. More routes may be added in future years.

These routes are for emergency use only and can only be opened by emergency personnel during a wildfire or other emergency situation.



Map of routes out of the Legend Lake area



Nixle Alerts & Weather Warning

Menominee County/Tribal Emergency Management has an important message for all residents and businesses in Menominee County/Reservation.

Stay up-to-date with relevant information from your local public safety departments with Everbridge Nixle Notification System. This system will alert citizens in the event of an emergency situation, severe thunderstorms, flash floods, severe winter weather, and tornadoes.

3 ways to sign up:

1.
 - a. Text your zip code to 888777
2.
 - a. Go to the Menominee County Website - <https://www.co.menominee.wi.us/>
 - b. Click on the *Everbridge Nixle* tab located in the lower left-hand corner.
 - c. Enter your information, select what phone you would like to receive messages to and your zip code for location.
3.
 - a. Go to The Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin Website- <https://menominee-nsn.gov/>
 - b. Click on the *Everbridge Nixle* tab located in the upper right-hand corner.
 - c. Enter your information, select what phone you would like to receive messages to and your zip code for location.



Please note, these messages can be sent to specific geographical locations, or county/reservation wide, depending on the circumstances surrounding the event.

There is no charge to register for this service.

If you know of anyone who lives within Menominee County/Reservation and is not signed up for this life saving service, please encourage them to sign up. Please contact Menominee County or Tribal Emergency Management with any questions.

Thank you,
Alex Berkhahn
Menominee County
Emergency Management Director
(715) 799-5074

Ben Warrington
Menominee Indian Tribe
Emergency Management Coordinator
(715) 799-5002

Preparing your Home Ignition Zone

MAKE YOUR HOME IGNITION ZONE MORE RESISTANT TO WILDFIRE



THE HOME IGNITION ZONE is your home and its surroundings out to 100-200 feet. Research has shown that the characteristics of buildings and their immediate surroundings determine the risk of ignition during a wildfire. Vegetation and personal property should be managed and maintained to reduce the risk of wildfire and improve the likelihood of your home surviving with little or no assistance from firefighters. There are simple things property owners can do to reduce wildfire risk on their property. **For more information, go to dnr.wi.gov, search "firewise."**

0-5 feet from buildings	Up to 30 feet from buildings	30-100 feet from buildings
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep the area around buildings free of anything that can burn, including plants and mulch• Choose rock, brick or bare dirt over mulch• Remove pine needles and leaves from your roof and gutters• Remove branches that overhang roof• Select slow growing, deciduous plants and shrubs• Use fire-resistant materials for roofs and gutters, windows, vents, eaves, and attachments like decks• Keep decks free of debris on, under, and 5 feet around	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rake leaves and needles away from structures• Keep lawn green, short and mowed• Remove debris from under decks and around wooden fences• Limit the number of conifers (evergreens) trees and leave space between the crowns of trees• Prune branches up and away from the ground• Move firewood at least 30 feet away from buildings• Keep propane tanks 30 feet away from buildings and clear of vegetation and leaf and needle debris• Remove dead trees, shrubs and branches• Thin shrubs and trees to create separation between tree crowns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Favor deciduous trees and shrubs over evergreens• Remove dead trees, shrubs and branches• Thin trees and shrubs to create separation between tree crowns• Ensure that your fire number signs are visible from both directions of travel• Create driveway clearance at least 12-20 feet wide and at least 13.5 feet of vertical space to provide access for emergency vehicles.

This project was funded by a grant from the USDA Forest Service. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Emergency Kits

An emergency kit should be prepared before a wildfire would be in your area. It is important to pre-plan for this emergency kit because there may not be time to grab important items before evacuating. These important items are called the “7 P’s” of fire evacuation. Many of these items in the 7 P’s can be prepared ahead of an emergency event. Remember to go through your emergency kit annually to update any items in the kit.

Below are some of the important items you should remember during an evacuation:

Remember the “7 P’s” of Fire Evacuation

People and Pets – you and your family

Prescriptions – special medications, vitamins, eyeglasses and contact lenses

Papers – phone numbers, and important documents (passport, medical records, birth certificates, insurance policies, financial records)

Personal Needs – food, drinking water, first aid kit, flashlight with extra batteries, extra keys, personal toiletries, personal hygiene items, extra clothes, personal computer and charger, hard drives and thumb drives

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Phone – with chargers

Plastic – credit cards and cash

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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Just a reminder, the 2025 Annual Dues letter will be going out in November and the 2025 fees are due January 31, 2025.

Please remember to let the office know when you change your address either permanently or just for the winter. It costs the Association money to get the changes from the Post Office.

With Fall here, members will start raking & burning their leaves. You need a burning permit to burn leaves, and you have to check on a daily basis if you can burn in Menominee County at the DNR's web site dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire or call

1/888-947-2876, County code #40.

The office will be closed November 28 & 29, 2024 for Thanksgiving. Christmas Holidays the office will be closed December 24, 25, 26, 27, 31, 2024 & January 1, 2025.

Order before December 1st, if you need any special clothing for your Christmas shopping!

Have an enjoyable fall & holiday season!!!

Office Managers
Thomas Strebel
Lisa Wilson



Just a reminder to mark your 2024 calendars....

Fall Craft & Bake Sale

Saturday, October 19, 2024
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Lunch will be served --- See you there!



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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: SUMMER 2024

August 2024

Hello Lake District Members,

WOW! Where has the summer gone? As I sit down to write this letter in the second half of August, I'm seeing a few tree leaves starting to fall and/or turn color. Also, the Acorns are starting to fall from the trees. Time is going too fast for me these days. In mid to late September the Lake water temperatures will start the process of turning over. The water temperatures are coldest in the deep water in the Summer and coldest temps in Winter are found on the top of the Lake.

This year we wanted to treat 24.4 acres of EWM (Eurasian Water Milfoil) with an herbicide called ProcellaCOR in the dense and moderately dense areas. All of these areas were in channels which were impeding navigation. The treatment didn't happen due to delays in getting the permit from the DNR. Once we did get the permit the treatment would have been in mid-July and the water was too warm. The Lake District decided not to do the treatment this year due to potential oxygen deprivation and the limited effect it would have on the EWM at this time of year. The Lake system is still in very good shape with limited amount of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

In addition to the treatment the Lake District crew has been out harvesting EWM and aquatic plants in heavy navigational areas of our Lake System. All three machines are actively being used and working well. They are also looking for EWM growth and are concentrating on the Dense and Moderately Dense areas for harvesting. Since it is late August, we will only have four or five weeks of harvesting left before the machines will be pulled out of the lake, cleaned thoroughly, and maintained for Winter storage. There work

doesn't stop there since they will be pulling buoys and docks from the Lake which need to be cleaned and maintained as well. The Lake District crew does a great job keeping our Lake System clean and open for all water activities.

We are seeing less milfoil this year and a comeback of more Native Aquatic Plants which is great for our Lake System. I hope this trend continues for a while. We will be checking for any increases in Curly Leaf Pondweed growth in the Spring 2025 when the ice goes out. Otherwise, the Board is very pleased with the containment of AIS species in our lake system. Our aquatic ecologist, Onterra LLC, will be completing a summer survey for EWM in late August or early September. The Board will be reviewing the survey data and maps for possible spot treatments next year focusing on the Moderately Dense and Dense areas again as we have the past couple of years.

Lisa Wilson our Dam Inspector has been actively checking the Dams monthly and has reported that they are in good shape. The water level is normal level for this time of the year. She reports any issues for cleaning and maintenance to Steve our lake manager for the work to be completed.

We had a successful Boater's Safety Class led by Sue Thoma and many volunteers this year in June. The young adults were eager to learn about the rules and regulations of the State of Wisconsin and our Legend Lake. It was nice to see all the smiles on their faces as they participated in the water activities day with the different water vessels and activities.

In mid-August we had a Lake Faire led by Kristin Allen and Karen Dillenburg on a beautiful summer day with a slight breeze. We had the fish tank with Sturgeon,

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: SUMMER 2024

Northern, Panfish and a turtle in it. Ryan Wehse from the Environmental Services Department of the Tribe was on hand to answer questions regarding the fish. There were many activities for the kids with prizes for everyone. A Petting Zoo of animals was available for viewing and petting which was monitored by the 4-H group from Shawano. Educational materials were on hand for identifying Aquatic Invasive Plant Species with actual samples and Clean Boat Clean Water information. The Sheriff's Department K-9 unit were on hand to answer any questions regarding Boat Patrol, our community etc. Deputy Ruger was there for viewing and gave us a demonstration how he helps track down people and help his fellow officers. There was log rolling demonstrations, Menominee Fire Rescue, Save A Lot, Bounce House and other vendors making the Fair a huge success. The War Bonnet provided food, drinks and there were many other vendors explaining and displaying their wares. I believe everyone enjoyed themselves.

The Fishing Committee has been active this year. The committee is working with Ryan Wehse the Tribal Fish Biologist on Walleye stocking again this year. The Walleyes will be stocked in our Lake system in the month of September. Musky stocking is also being planned this year. The DNR gave us a permit this year for Upper WI strain of Muskies. We should be stocking these Muskies in late September or early October.

The Responsible Safe Boating committee has been actively coming up with new ways to communicate Boating Responsibly on Legend Lake. Through education and communication, they are promoting the protection of our Shorelines and each other as we use various vessels, PWC's and other water recreational items. You'll find information regarding safe boating practices, lake etiquette and behaviors that

protect our shoreline is available in a variety of locations: At boat launches, Legend Lake website, Announcements in the Smoke Signals and Legend Lake Community Facebook page. The RBC committee also had several videos made displaying boating rules and safety practices that all boat operators should follow. Kristin Allen is doing a great job heading up this committee and continues to look for more ways and ideas to promote boating safety and protect our shorelines. If you have any ideas, please feel free to call her or the Lodge office with your ideas.

The Lake District Board has been asked to remind Lake District Members again this year about unpermitted Buoys. Clark Delzer-Conservation Warden-Bureau of Law Enforcement, Wisconsin Department of Natural resources while on patrol on Legend Lake recently, observed properties that have permanent buoys placed in front of their properties. He assumed the buoys were placed to deter boat traffic from operating faster than slow-no-wake within 200' of their shoreline. He also observed some makeshift "swim areas" that some residents have marked with permanent buoys. While he understands their motives, it is not legal to place permanent structures in a lake without a permit. The Lake District has been asked to pass this information unto Lake Members and ask them to remove the unpermitted buoys. So, if you own one of these waterfront properties please remove your unpermitted buoys. Thank-you for removing them.

It's always a time of sadness for me having to pull everything out of the Lake and put it away for the Winter. That's the reality of the water turning over on Legend Lake.

Be Well, Be Safe!

Tom Ittner, Chairman Lake District



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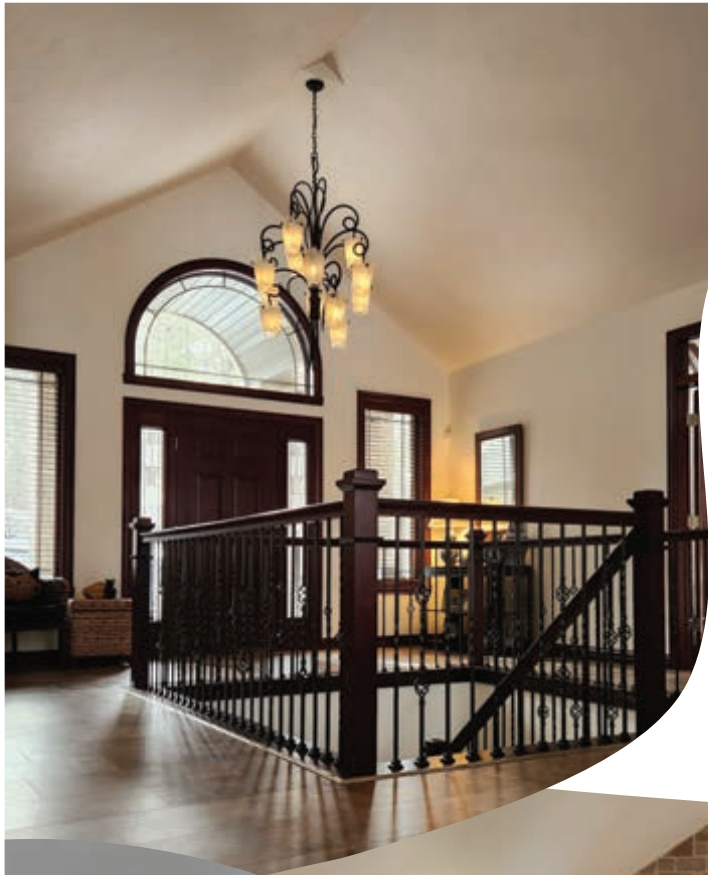
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Boater Safety Class of 2024



Legend Lake's DNR **Boater Safety Class** was held in June. The class was taught by Legend Lake community members who volunteered their time.

Twenty-eight students learned boating laws and safe boating practices through classroom instruction and hands-on experience.

Thank you volunteers! This great event would not be possible without you!



Impaired Judgement



Emergency Instruction



Fire Safety

DNR Certified Boater Safety Course



Knot Tying



Safety on the Water



PWC Laws & Regulations

If you are interested in volunteer opportunities,
or have questions or suggestions contact:

RBC.legend@gmail.com



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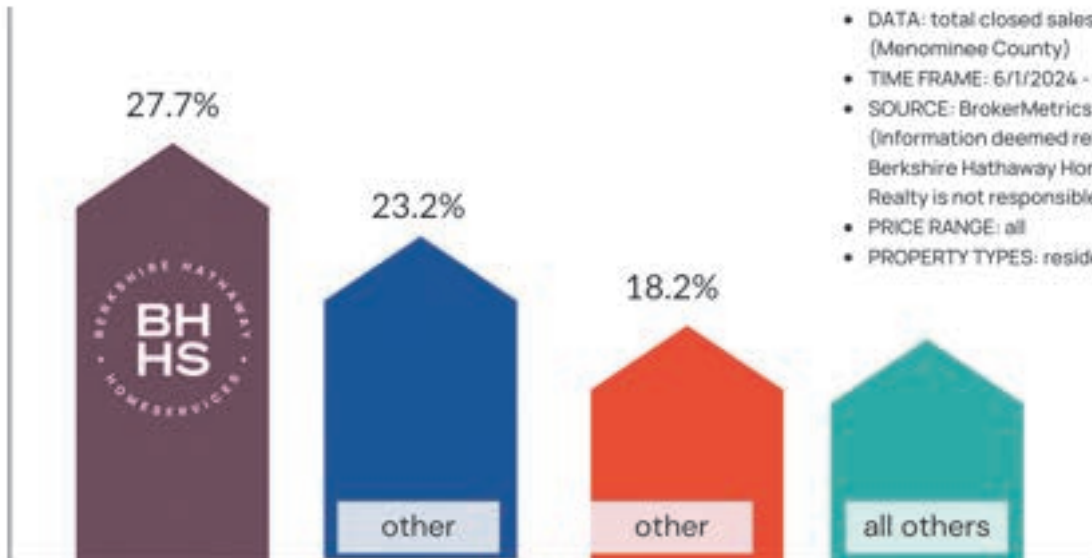
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Legend Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District

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6/1/24 - 7/31/24



- DATA: total closed sales volume (Menominee County)
- TIME FRAME: 6/1/2024 - 7/31/2024
- SOURCE: BrokerMetrics® & RANW (Information deemed reliable, however Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Bay Area Realty is not responsible for MLS Data)
- PRICE RANGE: all
- PROPERTY TYPES: residential & vacant land

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W3269 Courthouse Lane

P.O. Box 279

Keshena, WI 54135

Phone: 715-799-5074 Cell: 715-853-5074

Email: aberkhahn@co.menominee.wi.us



Greetings Legend Lake Property Owners,

Fall 2024

I hope everyone had a happy, fun, and safe summer. We certainly had an active summer with storms. We hope this fall will be a bit calmer! However, there are always chances for storms and other issues that come along with those storms. As we learned this summer, it is important to be prepared.

With that being said, fall is quickly approaching. Fall signals the return to cooler temperatures, more time outdoors, and preparations. Now is the time to make sure your home and family are prepared for the upcoming holidays and winter weather both indoors and out. Here are some home maintenance tips to help better prepare your home for the upcoming season.

Ultimate 8 Fall Home Maintenance Tips

- 1 Check smoke detectors, fire extinguishers & first aid kits
- 2 Clean your chimney & fireplace
- 3 Check windows
- 4 Wrap indoor pipes
- 5 Inspect your Roof
- 6 Inspect your heating system
- 7 Stock up on Supplies
- 8 Finish seasonal yard maintenance

TrustedChocs

For those of you living in Menominee County year-round, there is an information hot-line that you can call to get information regarding power outages as well as County and Tribal closings. That number is 715-799-7000.

Also, please sign up for the Nixle emergency alert system to receive year-round emergency messages relating to Public Safety. The link to sign up can be found on the Menominee County website or you can text your zip code to 888777. *Please use a Menominee County address to sign up.*

In the event of an emergency that requires calling 911, please remember to give the dispatcher the address of the emergency, the nature and details of the emergency, as well as your name and phone number. ***An emergency is anything that is life threatening, or “in progress”.***

If you need Public Safety assistance, and it is not an emergency, please call the non-emergency dispatch number **715-799-3881**.

Hope you all have a happy and safe fall season!

Sincerely,

Alex Berkhahn

Menominee County Emergency Management Director



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Keshena, WI 54135 (715)799-5710



8/10/2024

Happy Fall Menominee County Landowners, I hope you've been able to enjoy your summer!

I wanted to use this opportunity to write about our Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Program.

If you've been to our office or maybe driven past you probably have noticed our mass rearing cage in our parking lot. So what is a mass rearing cage for? A mass rearing cage is for raising *Galerucella* beetles, these beetles are used to help control the invasive plant Purple Loosestrife. Purple Loosestrife although beautiful to look at is a **NR-40 RESTRICTED** species. This means it is an invasive species that has already established in the state and cause or have the potential to cause significant environmental harm. This fast growing and fast spreading plant was introduced from Europe in the 1800s as a perennial garden plant. With its wide tolerance of environmental conditions and high seed production this plant spread like wildfire! Purple Loosestrife can produce more than **2 MILLION** seeds per plant, they can also spread by aggressive rhizomes. Seeds are easily spread by wind and water, remaining viable in the soil for many years. Their thick taproot with fibrous rhizomes create a thick mat making it difficult to remove. In Europe insects and diseases help keep the population under control, but without them in North America this allowed Purple Loosestrife to spread rapidly through out wetlands choking out our native vegetation and eliminating open water habitat that is important to our native fauna and flora. To help control Purple Loosestrife in Menominee County we are a part of the Wisconsin DNR biocontrol program.



The Wisconsin DNR has been using the biocontrol program since 1994 to help control Purple Loosestrife. *Galerucella* beetles are one of the four insects or biological agents as they're often referred to that we raise in our mass rearing cage. *Galerucella* beetles along with the other three biological agents do not threaten native plants. They are highly effective at controlling Purple Loosestrife by feeding on the leaves and shoots, they will only feed on Purple Loosestrife. This causes the plant stress, decreasing the size and seed output. Right here at the office we collect Purple Loosestrife, collect beetles to rear and then release them where Purple Loosestrife is abundant. Although this isn't our first year raising and releasing beetles in Menominee County this was our first year with a mass rearing cage. Working with

Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin Environmental Services we have released over 700 beetles along the Wolf River this year! The mass rearing cage was a HUGE success in being able to raise more beetles for these dense populations. I look forward to the coming years to see the progress these beetles make on controlling our Purple Loosestrife populations and to see our native plants once again thrive in these areas.

For more information about Purple Loosestrife or the biocontrol program visit <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Invasives/fact/PurpleLoosestrife> or you can call, email, or stop in to talk to me. I'd be happy to assist 😊

Alex Forster, CFZ Assistant -
Technician, AIS Coordinator



Galerucella larvae



Galerucella Beetle



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Fax: 715-799-3789

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, August 1, 2024

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jeremy C. Weso, Highway Commissioner
715-799-3369

JUNE 25, 2024 TORNADO DAMAGE CLEANUP: ALL ROADWAYS SUBSTANTIALLY CLEARED

KESHENA, Wis. – All roadways in and around the Legend Lake, Moshawquit Lake, and S.E. Bass Lake areas have been substantially cleared of tornado damaged trees, limbs, and debris. All that remains is the removal of free-standing tree stumps, chipping of scattered limbs and branches that could not be readily removed using heavy equipment, and disposal of broken utility lines littering the ditches. Any tornado damage debris piles accumulating along the roadways from today on forward will be regarded as illegal dump sites, and appropriate referrals will be made to local law enforcement. Any residents that have since placed tornado damage debris piles along the roadways are urged to relocate those piles onto their properties and outside of the road rights-of-way, and to haul that debris at their own expense to an appropriate landfill or brush pit.

I would like to thank County Highway and Maintenance personnel for all their efforts and long hours over the past five weeks cleaning up the tornado damage, oftentimes at great risk to their own safety. I would also like to thank Jeff Dixon Logging, Bryan Lepscier Logging, K Dawg Trucking, and Buck's Logging for all their help cutting, gathering, and hauling away tornado damage debris. Thank you also to the Legend Lake Property Owners Association and its site personnel for temporarily opening up the brush pit to all residents and to the Highway Department. Finally, I wish to thank the many residential volunteers, loggers, Tribal Conservation Wardens, Tribal Police Officers, Sheriff Deputies, Town Firefighters, MTE Forestry personnel, and host of other county, town, and tribal agencies that worked together to clean up after the June 25th tornado. Waewaenon! /s/ Jeremy C. Weso, Highway Commissioner





OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

Menominee County, Wisconsin

W3269 Courthouse Lane

Phone: 715-799-3357

P.O. Box 190
Keshena, WI 54135-0190

Fax: 715-799-3595

Sheriff Rebecca Smith

Chief Deputy Justin Hoffman

Property Owners,

Fall 2024

Summer has passed and we now are entering fall very soon. We hope all enjoyed their summer.

New Personnel/ Promotions-

The Menominee County Sheriff's Office is currently fully staffed in the Sheriff's Office and Dispatch Center.

Deputy Mary Creapeau started with the Sheriff's Office in May, 2024. Mary previously worked for the the Menominee County Sheriff's Office as a deputy sheriff for eight years. She worked as a Lieutenant for the Stockbridge Police Department before returning to Menominee. Deputy Creapeau comes with many years of experience and we are honored to have her back with us.

Dispatcher Nick Uttecht, who previously worked as an on-call dispatcher, has joined the Dispatch Center full-time. Nick has over twenty years of dispatch experience and has retired from the Menominee Tribal Rescue Service after twenty nine years of service. Nick is truly an asset to the Sheriff's Office with all of his experience in EMS and Dispatch.

Jennifer Verstoppen will be starting as a full-time dispatcher in September, 2024. Jennifer has over twelve years of dispatch experience with Shawano County, including a role as a lead dispatcher. She also will be an asset to Menominee with her experience.

If you see any of the mentioned team members, feel free to congratulate them on their promotions!

MESO Stats (most common) from 05/01/2024-08/01/2024

Burglary/Larceny/Stolen Property-9

Property Damage-6

Boat Stops-33

Traffic Stops-357

ATV/UTV Ordinance- The County and Town ATV/UTV ordinance did not pass this spring. Menominee County does not have an ATV/UTV trail. ATVs and UTVs are not permitted on the roadways in Menominee County. This only applies to non-tribal members within the county.

Suspicious incidents- Please call Dispatch at **715-799-3881** to report suspicious incidents. This includes dog complaints. The Sheriff's Office number (715-799-3357) is only manned Monday through Friday, 8am-4:30pm and office staff will not be able to respond to your calls until business hours. The Dispatch Center is available 24 hours.

Security Checks- Security check forms are available at the Sheriff's Office and online on the Menominee County website under the Sheriff. Security check forms are for property owners who will be away from their property for a short period of time or over the winter. Deputies will check these properties when they are available.

Please remember my office doors are always open for question or comments regarding our agency. I may also be reached by email at rsmith1201@co.menominee.wi.us



Respectfully,

Sheriff Rebecca Smith

Menominee County Sheriff's Office



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

MENOMINEE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 190
Keshena, WI 54135

Phone: 715-799-3357
Fax: 715-799-3595

REQUEST FOR SECURITY CHECK

Today's Date: _____ These requests will be updated yearly.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
(In case of an emergency your direct number.)

Fire Number: _____ Road Name _____

Departure Date: _____ Return Date: _____

Have keys been left with anyone? Yes ___ No ___

Contact for Keys _____ Phone: _____

Contact Persons if you cannot be reached:

_____ Phone _____

_____ Phone _____

Is there an alarm system? _____ Will there be a light on at night? _____

Who has permission to be on your property? _____

Anyone who absolutely cannot be there? (i.e. restraining order) _____

Any other information: _____

We patrol our lake area daily, but will be unable to check residences that have any type of hazards to the Deputy. (i.e. driveway not being plowed or accessible by vehicle)

Please keep us updated with any change of ownership, so that we may provide this courtesy check to the new owner. Thank You!

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Legend Lake Community:

As the weather gets cooler, it is a perfect time to take a walk around your property to look for invasives. Two invasive plants that are the easiest to identify in the fall are common buckthorn and glossy buckthorn. Both species are understory shrubs or small trees that reach up to 25 feet tall. The bark of both species is gray to brown with light-colored lenticels. The inner bark is yellow orange in color. One thing to note is that the outer bark can look like native cherry and plum species. In addition to the bark, the leaf characteristics can help identify these invasive plants.

Common buckthorn and glossy buckthorn have leaves that look similar but have characteristics that tell them apart. Common buckthorn has dark green ovate leaves with veins that curve toward the tip and serrated edges. The leaves are opposite of each other and have thorns that protrude from the ends of branches. Glossy buckthorn has dark green ovate leaves with veins that curve slightly and smooth edges. Glossy buckthorn has more veins than common buckthorn and the leaves are alternate of each other. Both species have dark red berries that ripen in the late summer.

Common buckthorn and glossy buckthorn have negative ecological impacts. Buckthorn can grow in a variety of habitats and sunlight levels. These species produce leaves earlier in the spring and retain them longer in the fall, giving them a longer growing season than native vegetation. Native plants struggle to compete in dense populations of buckthorn, as very little sunlight reaches the soil surface.

Buckthorn can be controlled by pulling saplings out of the ground. Larger trees can be cut, and the stump can be treated with herbicide. If you find either of these species on your property and would like help with resources or control, reach out to the information below.

Have a great fall!

Abby Vogt

Timberland Invasives Partnership, Coordinator

(715) 799-5710 x3

timberlandinvasives@outlook.com



Common Buckthorn



Glossy Buckthorn

PROTECT WHAT MATTERS MOST

...starting this fall

With the fallen leaves, dormant dry plants and lower humidity of fall comes an increased risk of wildfire. Taking a little time this season to make your home and cabin more "Firewise" could help protect it from wildfire this fall AND next spring when wildfire potential is at its greatest.

What can you do?

- **Rake up leaves** and pine needles
- **Remove dead trees** and brush
- **Clean out/remove leaves and needles from:**
 - ▶ rain gutters
 - ▶ under decks
 - ▶ roof
 - ▶ window wells
 - ▶ other places where debris collects
- **Prune evergreen tree branches** up and away from the ground
- **Compost debris**, create small brush piles for animal habitat or take all the material to your local brush collection and composting site



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dnr.wi.gov
keyword "fire"



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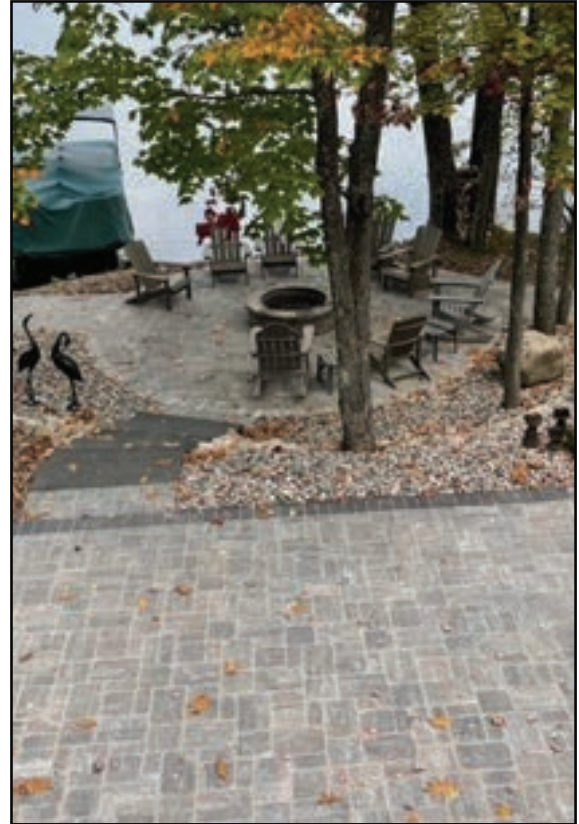


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“To provide a safe trail for everyone from Legend Lake to the surrounding county trails”

Fall is nearly upon us, Legend Lakers. Hopefully all of you had a great summer on the lake and are done cleaning up from that crazy tornado we had in June. Now it is almost time to put the boat away, take out the dock, clean up the leaves and fire up your snowmobile! That also means it is time for the LLCK annual meeting and trail clearing.

Our annual meeting is the second Saturday in October, which is Saturday October 12th this year at the Lodge at 10:00 AM. All are welcome to attend. Trail work will follow the meeting. We need your help to remove the brush, logs and debris from the trails so the groomer can safely navigate our trail system. Please bring, pruners, chainsaws, and pole saws if you have them. With all of the rain and wind this summer there will be plenty of work to be done. When we are done trail clearing we will meet at one of our sponsors and provide lunch and a cold beverage for those who helped out. For questions regarding helping with trail work please email myself Andy Burns at adburns67@gmail.com or Trail Boss Mark Stuyvenberg at markshighlife@yahoo.com.

Also, a reminder for our members, please send your membership letter and dues back ASAP so Judy and Heather can get your dues processed promptly and renew your AWSC membership. Then you can order your \$10 trail passes instead of having to pay \$30 for a trail pass at the last minute because you did not renew your club membership. For anyone who uses our trail system, please join our club. Our club is open to everyone and we need your support to fund our trails.

For those considering joining, it costs \$40 to join our club and support our trail system that connects to Shawano and Oconto Counties. Your dues enroll you with The Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs (AWSC) which includes six issues of the Wisconsin Snowmobile News (WSN) magazine. The club pays \$12 of your \$40 dues to enroll you in the AWSC. The rest of the dues goes to maintain our Legend Lake trail system. Once you are a member of the AWSC you can go to the AWSC website to buy trail passes for \$10 for as many sleds as you own vs paying \$30 per sled per year for non-members. So if you own two or more sleds this is what I call a no brainer! Plus you get all of the fun and camaraderie of being a club member and you know that your money is being spent in your community at Legend Lake. LLCK Snowmobile Club Membership forms are available on our website at: <http://www.legendlakesnowmobileclub.com> and they can also be found at the Legend Lake Lodge. I have also included a copy of the form at the end of this article.

Please remember to support our sponsors throughout the year. We truly appreciate their support! Classics Restaurant and Lounge, War Bonnet Bar and Grill, Harley's Den, Primal Eats, Thunderbird-Gas Casino/Restaurant C-Store, Shawano Lake Golf Course & Restaurant and

Menominee Casino Resort. Finally, thank you to our board members for all of their hard work year round to keep the club rolling and the trails open.

Vice President – Kristin Larsen (Sticks)
Secretary – Judy Patz
Treasurer – Heather Dyer
Trail Boss – Mark Stuyvenberg
Social/Fund Raising/Map – Dan Hedrich
Natural Resources/Government Relations – Mike Burns
Legal – Marty Sener
Chris Dyer – Website
Todd Lavey - Past President

That is all for now Legend Lakers! Enjoy the beautiful Fall colors and do your snow dance!

Andy Burns

LLCK President

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Snowmobile Club Interest Form: Annual membership fee of \$40.00 approved for 2024-2025 season

Additional donation for trail grooming:

\$ _____ \$20 _____ \$30 _____ \$40 _____ \$50 _____

Have you been a member of the AWSC in the last three years: _____

I am unable to pay dues at this time, but would like to be on the LLCK mailing list.

Please complete and mail to the following address along with a payment of \$40.00:

Checks payable to Legend Lake Channel Cruisers

Heather Dyer /Treasurer
4075 Vilas Road
Cottage Grove, WI 53527

Should you have any questions, contact Heather Dyer, Treasurer hdyer@morgandata.com or Judy Patz, Secretary.

Name: _____

Spouse or Significant Other: _____

Number of Children / Names: _____

Lake Address: _____

Home Address to include City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address (preferred method of communicating): _____

Lake Phone Number: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Mobile/Cell Phone Number: _____

Do you know of others who snowmobile or participate in winter activities here at Legend Lake or in the immediate vicinity? Yes _____ No _____

Who might they be so that we can contact them and see if they would like to join us in making this a stronger group of people?

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

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SOCIAL EVENTS



Night On The Town

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WAR BONNET **OCT. TBD**
Host: Kristin Allen

NOV. TBD **PRIMAL EATS**
Host: Kristin Allen



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CARDS & BOARD GAMES



Sheepshead is played Wednesday 9:00 am till Noon and Thursday 6:00 pm till 10:00 pm at Legend Lake Lodge.

If you have a different card game or board game, everyone is welcome, meet your neighbors.

DAFFODIL GARDEN CLUB

If you are interested in gardening, whether a novice or master, come join our garden club! We tour botanical gardens and other garden centers, usually within an hour of Keshena, each month during the summer.

We also maintain the Lodge Garden for everyone to enjoy.

If you are interested, contact Patti Ittner at pnito@comcast.net.



CRAFT DAY

Are you interested in crafts?
(Quilting, Knitting, Crocheting)

Join the group every Wednesday morning from 9:00 A.M. to Noon at the Legend Lake Lodge.

SOCIAL EVENTS

ROMEIO

ROMEIO'S, what is it? What does it stand for? Who are they? ROMEIO'S stands for (Real Old Men Eating Out) And that is exactly what we do along with a beverage of your choice, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, at 11:30 at the War Bonnet. We try to be a active part of the community and do fun things, kind of like the women's group except we do men things and tell men's stories, If you are wondering what to do for a few hours twice a month, try us. We don't have any officers or dues, we do try to have a raffle and all the funds go to something in the community. This year we donating some funds to the local veterans. In the past we have donated it to the women's club to be used for food or clothing for the needy.

We are always looking for more exciting things to do and new ideas. If you have some why not share them with us, I know this week the guys are going to the go-kart track at the USA in Shawano, one of the guys is trying to put a tour together at Pulaski for Carver boats, we were there once before but this time we are trying to see the big stuff, like yachts ect. Any thing exciting or interesting we are up for it, so come share your ideas so we can enjoy. We also have some very knowledgeable people who keep us updated on what is happening in the community.

Remember, mark your calendars for the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 11:30, at the War Bonnet.

LADIES LUNCH

Ladies Lunch meet on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 am. All women are invited. Please sign up at the Lodge Office each month if you plan to attend. The schedule is as follows:



DATE	LOCATION	HOSTESS
September 19	Shawano Café	Arlene Skomski
October 17	Farm Inn	Gail Richter
November 21		TBD
December 19		TBD

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A collection of colorful game pieces including playing cards (aces, twos, threes, fours, fives, sixes, sevens, eights, nines, tens, jacks, queens, kings) and dice (white and black) scattered on a dark background with a grid pattern.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Jacque Fedders, a longtime resident of Legend Lake for 50 years, is bidding farewell. Together with her husband, Harlan, they acquired land during the early days of Legend Lake.

During her 15-year tenure as a commissioner for LLPRD, Jacque held various roles, including serving as the Treasurer of the Social Committee from 2000 until recently. She was instrumental in purchasing and wrapping Christmas gifts for underprivileged families in Keshena. Additionally, she diligently organized and supervised the Sundaes on Sunday event for several years, a role that will be greatly missed by the Social Committee.

In Legend Lake's early days, Jacque efficiently coordinated the Tie-Ups on the Lake to ensure everyone enjoyed these festive gatherings. Furthermore, she actively participated in events like Night on the Town, Ladies Lunch, and Craft Fair by hosting, organizing sign-up sheets, and providing support as needed.

Jacque possesses a wealth of historical knowledge about Legend Lake's origins and is currently assisting in compiling information on golf league participants for an LLPOA commemorative plaque.



Her departure leaves a void in the community, as she has played a pivotal role in nurturing Legend Lake's community spirit. It is now time for Jacque to relax and fully embrace the joys that life has to offer.

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this picture was taken July 1968
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Submitted by:
Bob Tochterman

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*****Going forward, all Classified Ads have to be re-submitted for every issue to the Association. We will not automatically re-run classified ads, please submit for the next issue by November 10th, 2024*****

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138 Mallard Bay
Brenda & Wesley Dorner
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34 Red Cloud
Lisa & Nathan Coates
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18 Sundance
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Gillett, WI

8 Spring Glen
Dan & Lynn Dyce
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63 Brave Island
Zadeus Huxford
Keshena, WI

51 Fox Ridge
Dana Vigna
Madison, WI

8 Highlands
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29 & 30 Medicine Hat
Kristin Allen
Keshena, WI

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Mark & Amanda Bachhuber
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18 North Star
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Condolences



Robert Schraeder

Legend Lake Owner in Spirit Ridge

Passed away in July 2024

Jeffrey Kirchner

Legend Lake Owner in Whispering Pines

Passed away in July 2024

Please let the Legend Lake office know of any past or present Legend Lake property owners that have passed away for future issues of the Smoke Signals.



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Residential Alarm Registration Form

****Please complete this information as accurately as possible so we can provide the best service possible for you and your property****

Your Information (Please provide your full name and DOB so we can enter you properly into our system)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

Alarm Information (Property within Menominee County)

Address: _____

Alarm Monitoring Company: _____ Phone: _____

Seasonal Property? Yes No Property will be vacant from: ___/___/___ to ___/___/___

****The Menominee County Sheriff's Department strongly suggests you designate several people as "Key-holders". Key-holders are close friends, relatives, or neighbors you have chosen to hold and keep a key for your residence along with disarming/resetting information for your alarm system. Key-holders are crucial in the event the Sheriff's Department needs access to your property and you are not available.****

Primary Key-holder Information (If possible please provide full name and DOB for Key-holders)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

(Key holder #2)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

(Key holder #3)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

**For some residents it is common practice to hide a door key on the property. In the past, property owners have provided our agency the location of hidden keys and/or written instructions for disarming/resetting alarm systems. This information will be used as a last resort in the event you or your key-holders were not available. If you would like to leave this information with us please provide it below.

Describe location of hidden key:

Alarm disarming/resetting code or procedure:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Send completed form & \$25.00 annual fee to:

Menominee County Sheriff's Office

P O Box 190

Keshena, WI 54135



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Send to: llpoa@legendlake.info



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Mudpuppies

The Winter Salamander

By Mason Polencheck, UW-Madison Undergraduate Researcher

W

inters on Wisconsin lakes can be harsh for even the most experienced Wisconsinites. The usual sub-zero temperatures, deep snows, and biting winds deter most people from venturing out to explore their winter beauty. But

In contrast, mudpuppies barely move during the summer, preferring to relax under a rock and eat what happens to pass by. The summer is also when female mudpuppies will excavate nests under rocks or logs and lay their eggs. They will actively guard their nests until their clutches hatch, sometimes having over 100 babies! If you're an angler, their summer inactivity may explain why you have caught mudpuppies in the fall or winter, but rarely in the summer.

Mudpuppies can be found throughout much of the United States, inhabiting almost all states from the Mississippi River to the Appalachian Mountains. They are also found in southern Canada and all of the Great Lakes. They will inhabit lakes, rivers, streams, and even some ponds! In all cases, they will normally hide under rocks if possible, but will also take shelter among aquatic plants or in the mud if rocks are sparse. They thrive in cold and well-oxygenated environments but will still inhabit less-optimal environments as well.

A factor that allows mudpuppies to dwell in many different habitats is the various ways they can breathe

The primary way mudpuppies breathe is through their feathery gills.

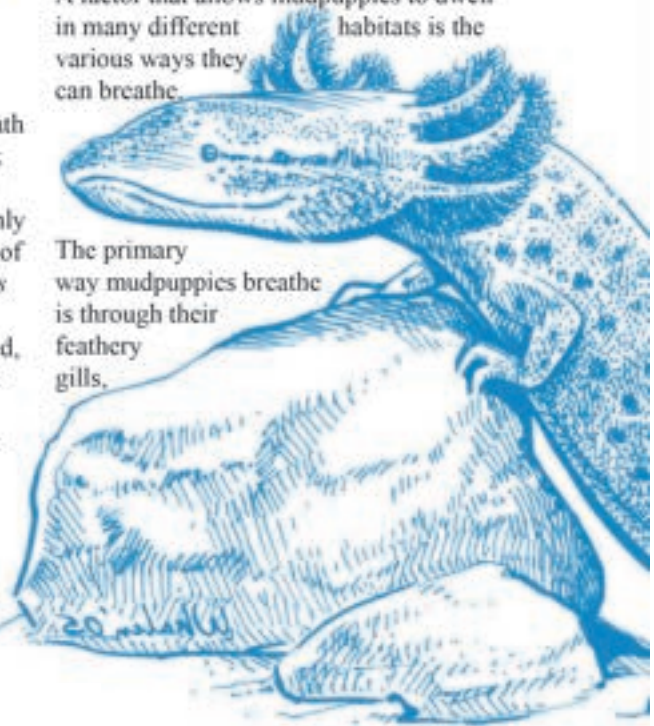


Provided by Mason Polencheck

[A mudpuppy's] gills are usually indicative of how much oxygen there is in the water. If their gills are short, it means the water is usually well-oxygenated, and if their gills are long, it means the water usually has low oxygen levels.

beneath the thick ice of these lakes lurks the only fully aquatic salamander of

Wisconsin, the common mudpuppy (*Necturus maculosus*). Mudpuppies, also known as waterdogs, are nocturnal salamanders with red, feathery gills that actively enjoy our northern winters. In fact, winter is their most active time of the year. They will hunt and forage at the bottom of lakes and even breed from late fall through the winter. Many anglers will catch mudpuppies in the winter if their bait gets too close to the bottom of the lake or river in which they are fishing, much to their dissatisfaction.



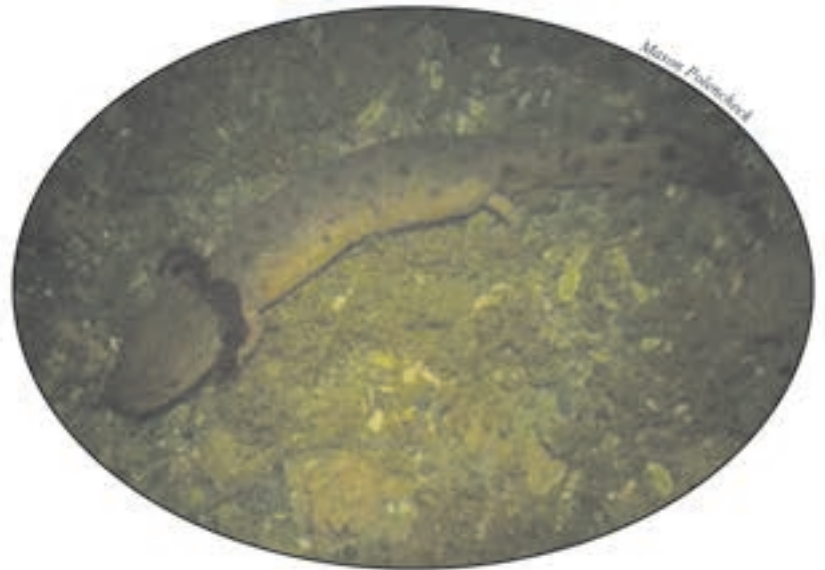
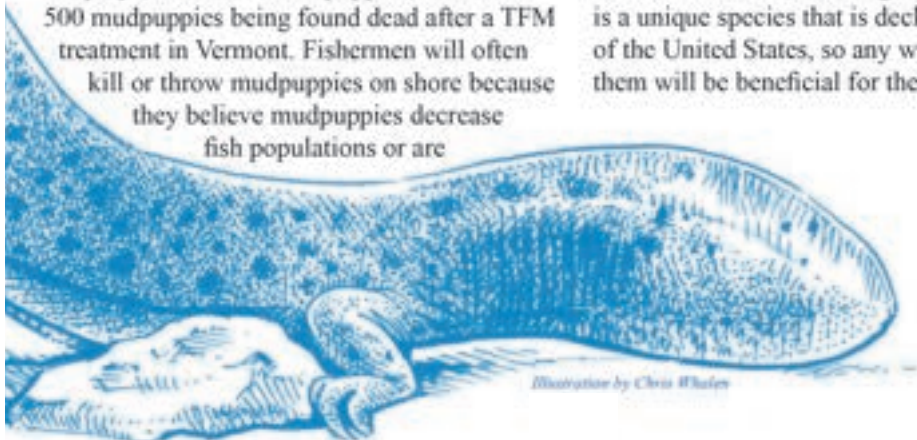
Lake Tides 49(1)

(Mudpuppies, continued)

similar to fish. Their gills are usually indicative of how much oxygen there is in the water. If their gills are short, it means the water is usually well-oxygenated, and if their gills are long, it means the water usually has low oxygen levels. Mudpuppies can also breathe through their skin by passive gas movement. Oxygen freely enters through their skin and carbon dioxide they produce is released from the skin; this breathing method serves as a backup to their gills. If oxygen levels are extremely low, mudpuppies also have lungs that allow them to gulp air when they swim to the surface. Their lungs are usually used for buoyancy purposes, but can be used for breathing if necessary.

Mudpuppies don't have food preferences, as long as their prey can fit in their mouths. They will eat aquatic insects, snails, crayfish, tadpoles, small fish, and even each other! This wide palette also helps mudpuppies inhabit many different areas. Conversely, there are many predators that will happily eat a mudpuppy if the opportunity arises. Large fish like walleye, northern, and muskie are the main predators of mudpuppies. However, seagulls, cranes, minks, otters, and snakes have all been observed eating mudpuppies. It's likely that the decreased activity or absence of these predators in the winter plays a role in why mudpuppies are more active in the winter.

There are many other threats to mudpuppies besides predators. Pesticides are also a major concern for mudpuppies, as they are sensitive to water quality and are known to be a bioindicator species, which is a species that can be used to monitor an environment's health. TFM, a "lampricide" used to kill sea lampreys, is lethal to mudpuppies, with over 500 mudpuppies being found dead after a TFM treatment in Vermont. Fishermen will often kill or throw mudpuppies on shore because they believe mudpuppies decrease fish populations or are



poisonous, neither of which are true. The Chytrid fungus, a widespread amphibian disease, is also a concern for mudpuppies. Chytrid has decimated amphibian populations worldwide and has been found in mudpuppy populations in the southern US. Lastly, siltation is a major problem in rivers and streams, as the mudpuppy's normal rocky habitat is covered by sand or soil, which makes it more difficult to reproduce.

I am currently studying mudpuppies in Wisconsin to understand how their populations are doing, whether they have the Chytrid fungus, and what they are eating year-round. The last study on mudpuppies in Wisconsin was in 1982, so this information is much needed to determine appropriate conservation efforts.

If you happen to catch a mudpuppy, please snap a photo to report to the DNR (DNRherptiles@wisconsin.gov) and then release it where it was caught. The mudpuppy is a unique species that is declining in much of the United States, so any way we can help them will be beneficial for the species. ♡

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