



DEER LAKE NEWSLETTER

BOX 250, LOON LAKE, WA 99148

DEER LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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WWW.DLPOA.COM

Dedicated to the preservation and improvement of a beautiful lake for future generations

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by Larry Nokes

WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME!!! We made it. After suffering through one of the worst winters on record, for the second time in two years, it looks as though we're finally going to have Spring. I'm sure all of us have a fair amount of cleaning and spiffing to do as a result of the winter. The good news is that the water table is once again recharging and with all the snow that needs to melt and go somewhere the lake should fill up nicely. With the melting of the snow and the warming weather it is always exciting to look forward to the Summer season at the Lake.

I think we should all acknowledge the County for a couple things. First is the great job that was done on East Deer Lake Road, with the limited amount of funds available the widening and resurfacing has made the Road much safer to travel. Another acknowledgment to the Co. is for the great job of snow removal done. Even when it seemed to snow daily, the limited crews did a terrific job keeping the roads open for travel. If you know, or see a Co. Person, give them a pat on the back for a job well done.

As the Summer season approaches it is again necessary to remind all who come to the Lake and enjoy it's beauty and entertainment, this does not come without a cost. Please check the Calendar of Events for Clean-up and Demo Days and volunteer to help. If more people gave an hour or two the tasks could be completed better and more thoroughly in a shorter period of time. Also note the activities and Annual meeting, a great time to get caught up on what's going on around the Lake and to meet some of your neighbors.

One final note, "TGTSC" (Thank God the Season's Coming.) Like me, I'm sure you are looking forward to spending many enjoyable hours at the Lake. We are going to try something that many other lakes and associations do and we are going to start a SOCIAL HOUR ON THE LAKE. Every Wednesday and Saturday at 6:00P.M. we're going to meet in the middle of the lake for a little "socializing." It will be a great opportunity to meet new people around the lake and a chance to visit and have fun. Bring whatever you want and meet us in the middle of the lake for fun and friendly conversation.

Did You Know : *Deer Lake holds about 18,000,000,000 gallons of water when full.... **

Roadside Cleanup

By Mike Phillips

On May 23rd the devoted members of DLPOA will be doing our semi-annual roadside cleanup. We go out about 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning with our garbage sacks to pick up the litter that all the inconsiderate people have deposited along the roads coming into and around our beautiful lake.

Garbage bags will be available at Deer Lake Resort, the Nazarene Church and the fire department building on the east side of the lake. Those dependable members that help every year know what the procedure is. For those new people that would like to help make the job easier and quicker, please call Mike Phillips, 233-2510 for more information.

There will be a chili feed and social time after the cleanup at the Deer Lake firehouse starting around 10:30 a.m., until people stop coming, around noon. I hope to see some new faces along the roads making our environment better than it is now.

Dock Clean Up!

Saturday, June 6th, 2009
Sunrise Point, Deer Lake
8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

If you have a dock that needs to be removed, bring it to Sunrise Point on Saturday MORNING. Sunrise Point is just North of the Public Access bay, North of the swimming area at the mouth of that bay.

Cost: \$3 / Foot (if you tow it in)
\$5 / Foot (if we have to come get it and tow it in)

What a great deal! The cost includes the towing (if needed), your dock's demolition and its removal with a back hoe and dump truck. We pay the dump fees, and stay and clean up the beach.

Volunteers Needed! Any amount of time you could help is appreciated. Bring crow bars, chain saws, rakes and gloves. Lunch will be provided to all the hard workers.

The last 6 years, DLPOA has helped property owners remove approximately 120 old docks. Over 50 dump truck loads have hauled away styrofoam, rusty nails, old barrels, and rotting timbers. With your help, we can continue to remove decaying, sinking docks off our beautiful lake.

Call Ken Ring at (509) 499-3170 or email him at kenringdeerlake@gmail.com to volunteer or to have your dock removed.



Regional Lakes Conference

By Mike Phillips

On February 7th 2009, I attended the 8th annual lakes conference at Spokane Community College. There were about 160 people in attendance. Various organizations and associations sponsor the day long event. They serve a free lunch along with snacks and various refreshments.

Every year they come up with different topics. This year the main one was "algae". The DOE is particularly interested in what types are in the 2700 lakes in Washington. They are making free sample-testing kits available. There are about 30 different kinds of algae. Toxic algae are the worrisome ones and have been found in some lakes. Hayden Lake in Idaho and Green Lake on the west side are two they talked about. Usually dead pets and wildlife is the first indication other than the obvious blue-green scum on the water. Humans have died from ingesting toxic algae too. Certain types can go through the skin also.

We at Deer Lake do not have much to worry about, as the conditions we have are not conducive to toxic algae. We do have algae in August, but it is much less than we had 20 years ago and non-toxic.

If algae gets too thick, it will cause a loss of oxygen in the lower strata's of the lake. This is harmful to the fish population. Algae need nitrogen and phosphorus to survive. Phosphorus is the biggest contributor to algae growth. If we have high levels of P, then algae will flourish. Keeping all in balance is the challenge we all are part of. What people do around our lake impacts this balance. More on that subject in another article.

There was a talk given on what is being done on Moses Lake to bring it back to good health. They are tackling milfoil and working on dredging to get more depth on some parts of the lake. By making the water deeper, the temperature will be lower. This will help all aspects of a healthier lake.

There will be a two-day lakes conference in Spokane this fall. The Washington Area Lakes Protective Association puts it on. This conference is an annual event, held in different parts of the Northwest. In the past it has been held in Lake Chelan and Portland, among other locations. The conference is a dual seminar event, meaning there are two seminars going on at the same time all day. You can choose which topics are of the most interest. They also serve lunch on both days. There is a fee for this conference, but I don't have that info yet. If anyone is interested, go to their website, Walpa.org. As the meeting gets closer, they will have all the info needed. Members from many organizations and associations along with all the state and federal powers that be will be available to network with. They are always willing to answer questions from laypeople like me. Some of the seminars are scientific and others are just interesting from a historical standpoint. How other lake associations have handled their problems help DLPOA decide how to handle their lake water quality problems. A good example is our Milfoil infestation. There are many ways to handle it. I learned those options by going to the different conferences. If anyone is interested in going in the next year or so, give me a call, 233-2510.

What can you do to help our lake's health?

By Mike Phillips

- Educate yourself about lake ecology and your lake's health.
- Use lawn and garden fertilizers sparingly; test your soil first; choose low or non-phosphorus fertilizers.
- Infiltrate or direct runoffs from rooftops, driveways and patios away from the lake.
- Cover or mulch bare soil areas.
- Use pesticides, herbicides and household chemicals sparingly and never near the water.
- Conserve water both inside and outside.
- Learn to identify non-native invasive aquatic plants and animals. Check your boat and trailer for invaders. Never empty an aquarium into the lake.
- DO NOT feed geese or ducks.
- Keep livestock away from the shoreline.
- Join with neighbors or the local property owners association to protect your lake.

FOURTH OF JULY

By Larry Nokes

Our Fourth of July Celebration this year will be bigger and better than ever.

We will start off the weekend with the **Fireworks Display** on July 3rd at about 10:00 P.M.

Then on the 4th we will have our **Kiddy Parade**. The County is imposing some safety regulations this year so please look on the web site for specific information. We will need to provide several parade monitors so if interested please call me at 220-5963 for information.

The **Boat Parade** will head out at about 7:30 as usual. Decorate your boat and join in on the fun. Again please refer to the web site for specific times, rules and regulations that we may need to follow.

You know you've had a bad winter when you find the December 18th newspaper peeking out of the ice on March 22nd, with a headline reading "SNOWBOUND"!

* Where did that lake volume number come from?

Deer Lake has an average depth of 70 feet, and is 1163 acres in size. That information can be found via google at en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_lakes_in_Washington. That would suggest that it has a volume of 81410 acre feet. Then, using ask.com, asking for the formula to convert acre feet to gallons, one finds that one acre foot is 325,851 gallons. So that would give 26 billion (2.6×10^{10}) gallons. Actually, I would think the true answer to be a little less, since that 70 ft depth I think is a little high for an average depth. I know from personal fishfinder readings that while a lot of the lake sits at 70 ft, and there are spots going to 80 ft, but there is a significant amount of it that is in the 30 ft range. So I would probably quote 20 Billion gallons as a more correct value.

Fish Report by Jim Santora

My winter batch of Rainbows is doing nicely. The mortality rate has been very low. They will be released just as soon as the ice leaves the lake. On February 23 friends of Deer Lake and members of the Northwest Sportsman Club met at the Spokane Fish Hatchery and with the help of the employees of the hatchery we clipped fins on 22500 Silvers. These will be released to Deer Lake as soon as the ice leaves. Bill Baker the Biologist from Colville will keep track of them this summer. He is trying to get the Silver population back to where it used to be.



Runways for the fish. Note the waders.



From Runway to Baskets.



Clipping fins of the 20,000 4" Silvers.



Toss them back into the pens when clipped.



Jim Santora Clips Top and Side of 2500 10" Silvers



Jerry Rasley gives a good luck kiss to a 10" silver.

The following two articles were submitted by Pam Taylor, our local Fish & Game person, and a fellow Deer Lake resident.

Shoreline Work and Dock Repair/Replacements Require a Permit!

DO YOU WANT TO PUT IN A DOCK, REPAIR OR REPLACE YOUR EXISTING DOCK?
DO YOU WANT TO DO WORK ON YOUR SHORELINE?
DO YOU WANT TO PUT IN OR REPAIR A RETAINING WALL?

The state Legislature gave the Department of Fish and Wildlife the responsibility of preserving, protecting, and perpetuating all fish and shellfish resources of the state. To assist in achieving that goal, the state Legislature in 1949 passed a state law now known as the "Hydraulic Code" (Chapter 77.55 RCW). Although the law has been amended occasionally since it was originally enacted, the basic authority has been retained.

The law requires that any person, organization, or government agency wishing to conduct any construction activity that will use, divert, obstruct, or change the bed or flow of state waters must do so under the terms of a permit (called the Hydraulic Project Approval-HPA) issued by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. State waters include all marine waters and fresh waters of the state, except those watercourses that are entirely artificial, such as irrigation ditches, canals and storm water run-off devices.

Damage or loss of fish and shellfish habitat results in direct loss of fish and shellfish production. The enactment of Chapter 77.55 RCW was recognition by the state Legislature that virtually any construction that affects the bed or flow of the waters of the state has the potential to cause habitat damage. The law's purpose is to see that needed construction is done in a manner to prevent damage to the state's fish, shellfish, and their habitat. By applying for and following the provisions of the HPA issued under Chapter 77.55 RCW, most construction activities that affect the bed or flow of state waters can be allowed with little or no adverse impact on fish or shellfish.

The major types of activities in freshwater requiring an HPA include, but are not limited to: stream bank protection; construction OR REPAIR of bridges, piers, and docks; pile driving; channel change or realignment; conduit (pipeline) crossing; culvert installation; dredging; gravel removal; pond construction; placement of outfall structures; log, log jam, or debris removal; installation or maintenance of water diversions; and mineral prospecting.

It is important to emphasize that the above are only examples of major types of activities requiring an HPA and that any construction activity that uses, diverts, changes, or obstructs the bed or flow of state waters requires an HPA.

Doing any HPA activities including replacing/repairing your docks without a permit can result in a minimum of \$1,600 citation. If you have questions about what types of permits and if you need one, please contact the department of Fish and Wildlife Spokane Regional Office at (509) 892-1001. Also please use this number to report violations.

Preventing Conflicts With Bears

State wildlife offices receive hundreds of black bear complaints each year regarding urban sightings, property damage, attacks on livestock, and bear/human confrontations.

The number one reason for conflict, (95% of the calls to offices) are the result of irresponsibility on the part of people: Access to trash, pet food, bird feeders, and improper storage of food while camping make up the majority of the calls.

Secondarily, young bears (especially young males) are not tolerated by adult bears and they wander into areas occupied by humans. Food may also be scarce in some years—a late spring and poor forage conditions may be followed by a poor berry crop, causing bears to seek food where they ordinarily would not.

Don't feed bears. Often people leave food out for bears so they can take pictures of them or show them to visiting friends. Over 90 percent of bear/human conflicts result from bears being conditioned to associate food with humans. A wild bear can become permanently food-conditioned after only one handout experience. The sad reality is that these bears will likely die, being killed by someone protecting their property, or by a wildlife manager having to remove a potentially dangerous bear.

Manage your garbage. Bears will expend a great amount of time and energy digging under, breaking down, or crawling over barriers to get food, including garbage. If you have a pickup service, put garbage out shortly before the truck arrives—not the night before. If you're leaving several days before pickup, haul your garbage to a dump. If necessary, frequently haul your garbage to a dumpsite to avoid odors.

Keep garbage cans with tight-fitting lids in a shed, garage, or fenced area. Spray garbage cans and dumpsters regularly with disinfectants to reduce odors. Keep fish parts and meat waste in your freezer until they can be disposed of properly.

Here are tips should you come in close contact with a bear

- Stop, remain calm, and assess the situation. If the bear seems unaware of you, move away quietly when it's not looking in your direction. Continue to observe the animal as you retreat, watching for changes in its behavior.
- If a bear walks toward you, identify yourself as a human by standing up, waving your hands above your head, and talking to the bear in a low voice. (Don't use the word bear because a human-food-conditioned bear might associate "bear" with food . . . people feeding bears often say "here bear.")
- Don't throw anything at the bear and avoid direct eye contact, which the bear could interpret as a threat or a challenge.

If you cannot safely move away from the bear or the bear continues toward you, scare it away by clapping your hands, stomping your feet, yelling, and staring the animal in the eyes. If you are in a group, stand shoulder-to-shoulder and raise and wave your arms to appear intimidating. The more it persists the more aggressive your response should be. If you have pepper spray use it.

If you have removed all attractants from the area and you are still having a problem with a bear, call Officer Pam Taylor at the Department of Fish and Wildlife Region One Office (509) 892-1001.

Coming Events

Board Meeting	– Thursday	May 14, Deer Park City Hall, 6PM
Roadside Cleanup	– Saturday	May 23 – see above article
Dock Demolition	– Saturday	June 6 – see above article
Annual meeting	– Saturday	June 13, Deer Lake firehouse, 10:30 AM
Fireworks	– Friday	July 3, 10PM, Center of the lake
Kiddy Parades	– Saturday	July 4 10AM, Deer Lake Resort
Boat Parade	– Saturday	July 4 7PM, offshore DL Resort
Pancake feed	– Sunday	July 5 7-11AM, Deer Lake Firehouse
Summer Newsletter	–	August 15th (ish)
Board Meeting	– Thurs	September 10, 6pm
Roadside Cleanup	– Saturday	September 19
Board Meeting	– Thurs	October 8, 6pm
Board Meeting	– Thurs	November 12, 6pm
Fall Newsletter	–	End of November (ish)

For a list of board members and their assignments, please see our web site at www.dlpoa.com/officers.htm For Board Minutes see www.dlpoa.com/boardnotes.htm
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Deer Lake Property Owners Association

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Return Service Requested