

An Apple River Protection and Rehabilitation District (ARPRD) Newsletter

Summer (June) 2012

To All ARPRD Residents:

Summer 2012 is underway and the aquatic plants in our 640 acre lake are doing very well as you all experience every time you are on the water. Please know the ARPRD is trying to do everything we can to conquer the weed problem. Hopefully you will and are seeing efforts being made to make some changes. We all need to be prepared for a long battle.

Annual ARPRD Meeting! This is just a reminder that Saturday August 25th at 10:00 a.m. we will be holding the annual meeting in the Bremer Bank Community Room.

Latest Activities: (The following information is provided to give you an idea of what is taking place.)

A. Harvesting Equipment

In early April, we submitted an application for a grant to purchase harvesting equipment from the Wisconsin Waterways Commission. We had estimated our cost for the equipment at 154,000. We are pleased to inform you that we received a grant of \$ 65,780. Please know that was very good news. Based on that award, the ARPRD Board of Commissioners met on April 28th, 2012 and accepted a bid of \$153,580 from the Aquarius Systems in North Prairie, WI. This decision was based on the recommendation of the Purchasing Committee which had studied several options. We are pleased to tell you the equipment is under construction and we are hoping for delivery about mid-July. You should expect to see a 7' harvester (cutter bar), a trailer to haul the harvester and a shore Conveyor which will move the materials from the harvester to the dump truck so that we can move it to sites away from the flowage. A team of individuals have been selected to operate the equipment. We are working on getting landing sites along the flowage. Hopefully, harvesting can begin soon.

B. Clean Boats/ Clean Water

We applied for an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) grant so that we could prevent further infestations of invasive species. We currently have Curly-leaf Pondweed (CLP) an invasive species in 340 acres of the 640 acre lake. We do not need Zebra Muscles and Eurasian Milfoil. We received a grant award for \$9,000. This activity is up and running. You may see or have seen people at the two landing sites (Birch Street in Amery and the River Shore Lane Landing). There are 5 young men working at this point. They will be at the sites at various times particularly during fishing tourneys and the 4th of July. Boats are being checked and operators asked questions before they may place their boats in the flowage.

C. Water Quality

We are working cooperatively with the Polk County Land and Water Department on another grant focused on improving the water quality in the flowage. The Polk County

LWD is the recipient of the grant and are administering the efforts. They are studying the physical and chemical situation in the lake and its tributaries, lake sediment, lake levels and precipitation, lake sediment, algae monitoring, shoreline assessments and some educational programs during the summer. Finally, they are conducting a sociological survey. ***In fact, we are attaching the survey with this newsletter. Please take time to complete the survey and return it to the LWRD in the self-addressed stamped envelop.*** Your input is vital in developing a plan for continuing to improve the water quality in the flowage. We thank you very much for your help. For this grant, we will need your help from time to time. We will try to make notices in the Amery Free Press and the ARPRD website. Also, we may post notices around town.

Finally, some of you may have questions and concerns about your individual access corridors. First you need to know no permit is required as long as corridors are cleared no more than 30 feet in width and no mechanical or chemical controls are used, therefore, hand clearing is permitted. If the issue is more severe, we have appointed an ARPRD Design Team Gale Tappe is the Chr. of that team. His team along with Mark Sundeen of the DNR will visit your site and determine appropriate procedures to take to deal with nuisance conditions. Gale's phone number is 715-607-0452

Yes we are trying to make the flowage better. We hope you will be able to join us at the annual meeting. We hope we will have harvesting experiences to share.

Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

THE ARPRD Board of Commissioners

Roland Peterson

Deb Lein

Angie Johnson

Dave Myers

Jay Luke