

LAKE PEWAUKEE SANITARY DISTRICT



APRIL 2022

Visit us on the web at www.lakepewaukee.org

SEWER PUMPS – they do not like cleaning rags!

This time of year we can have sewer pump clogging issues typically due to cleaning up homes and throwing the supposedly “flushable” rags into the toilet. All disposable towels cause problems. None of them are pump friendly. Toilet paper is the only paper that is “toilet and pump” friendly. Help us keep the District fee down, tell your cleaners to dispose of the rags/wipes properly - **into a garbage can**. Help us avoid responding to emergency pump problems which requires staff to show up at 2 a.m. and then we have to pay overtime. This work cost the District and the user’s unnecessary expenses. Think about it, you pay to have a cleaning service come in to clean your home, if they throw their used rags down the toilet and they clog a pump. You are then paying the District staff overtime to clean the pump. You are paying twice for the use of those rags. Pass the word tell the cleaners to take the cleaning rags with them or put them in the garbage or you’ll find another service.

The other big item is illegal sump pump connections. This is the time of year when we will be looking for sump pump discharge to our sewer system in the middle of the night. If your pump is going into your sewer drain, you will be getting a large fine. I’d rather see those funds go toward correcting the problem. If you feel like you may have a problem, but don’t understand it, call the district for a free review of your plumbing. The District has a policy to help fund the first \$500 of a sewer lateral problem. Help us help you keep the cost of our sewer services down. We will fix our leaks in the main lines and we together we can reduce costs of wastewater treatment.

LAKE OPERATIONS

The ice will be gone by the time you read this newsletter. We plan to have transports and shore units up and running by the biggening of May and looking to start lake clean up by May 16th when the college students get free to help. At that time if the weather permits, we will start our Monday and Friday pile pickup with the lake clean-up crew. This has become a very well used service with the number of residents stacking weeds increasing every year. We would like to thank all those that participate in making piles since this makes our regular shore cleanup more efficient.

We do not pick up sediment and broken down aquatic plants if they fall through the pitch fork so lake residents need to do a little yard work themselves to clean up any loose dirt, leaves and sticks along the lake shore. This material is excellent fertilizer and should be put in gardens. This same material should not be pushed back into the lake as it is nutrient rich material that will promote aquatic plant growth and algae blooms in your riparian zone. It is important for lake residents to understand that anything that runs or gets tossed into the lake actually affects the condition of the water in front of your lake home. If leaves, dog feces and soil are tossed in the lake you are creating your own problem and compounding the very things that most lake users complain about - too many aquatic plants and/or algae blooms.

We may start some early harvesting if weather permits, but full operations with both harvesting and regular shore cleanup will begin when our students arrive around the 2nd and 3rd week in May.

For more information on the operation or tips on how to maintain your pier area, go to our web site www.lakepewaukee.org or e-mail us at lpd@lakepewaukee.org

NATIVE PLANT SALE

The 14th annual native plant sale, sponsored by the District and the Pewaukee River Partnership, will take place May 12th, 2022. **The deadline for the Pre-sale orders is April 22nd** - for your order contact Charlie Shong at (262)443-6737 or by email at lcshong@milwpc.com. **You must fill out and return the form to Charlie to get your plants ordered. This year will again be drive through only for pre-ordered plants, sorry no plant stand for browsing and last minute shopping.** The plant pick up location is on the East side of Noah's Pizza, 220 Oakton Ave. Pewaukee, WI. This is across from the Pewaukee Village hall and Police station. These are the plants we want to see around the lake. They are deep rooted plants that help reduce pollutant and heavy metal loadings to the lake. They are nature's way of cleaning the water before it gets into the lake. They also remove nutrients which help minimize algae blooms and help minimize aquatic plant growth. They are ideal for the perennial garden, shoreline buffer or rain garden. Over 30 species are available. A complete plant list may be viewed on the District web site at lakepewaukee.org. All plants will be \$3.00 each. All proceeds will be used to promote education and restoration projects within the watershed.

ACH Payment Program – The Lake Pewaukee Sanitary District is offering this “direct auto payment” option as a convenience. If you would like to participate and pay your quarterly sewer bill through an ACH withdrawal (auto pay) there are several options for you to sign up. Request a form by phone (262)691-4485, email lpsd@lakepewaukee.org, or download the form off the website at www.lakepewaukee.org, fill it out and send it to us by mail or email.

Train Derailment on Pewaukee Lake

Well thankfully nobody was hurt and there were no environmental impacts we are aware of to date in the lake or in the pond when the train derailed on March 19th at 6:30 a.m. The District was on site immediately to inspect the cars for oil or other toxic contents. Thank goodness the rail cars that turned over in the pond were empty and the one on the lake side was only full of lumber. We've always feared what “could happen” with all the oil tanks that go across these tracks next to the lake. We have worked way too hard and the lake's water quality has improved too much to see something horrible like that occur. The clean-up efforts by the rail company appeared impressive as trains were moving again by 6:30 pm that same day. LPSD is taking water samples to assure no serious contamination occurred to the lake and watershed.



For more questions on sewer leaks and connections or lake operations contact the Lake Pewaukee sanitary District at 262-691-4485, email us at LPSD@wi.rr.com or go to our website at www.lakepewaukee.org