

# LAKE PEWAUKEE SANITARY DISTRICT



OCTOBER 2022

A Public Hearing on the PROPOSED BUDGET for 2023 for the LAKE PEWAUKEE SANITARY DISTRICT will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at 6:15 PM, at the Lake Pewaukee Sanitary District Administration Building, located at N25 W27534 Oak St., Pewaukee, WI. A detailed copy of the PROPOSED BUDGET is available for inspection at the Administration Building Office, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00AM and 12:00 Noon and 1:00PM and 3:00PM. The Commissioners encourage residents to attend the hearing and offer their comments.

The following is a summary of the LPSD Tax Levy, Service Fees, Expenditures, and Other Fees based upon the 2023 PROPOSED BUDGET.

	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	Budget % Change
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Community Funding-			
Town of Delafield Tax Levy:			
Lake Cleanup	203,500	244,230	20.01%
City of Pewaukee:			
Lake Cleanup Contract	203,500	244,230	20.01%
Total Community Funding	407,000	488,460	20.01%
User Fees	1,400,400	1,590,160	13.55%
Other Revenues	11,520	11,980	3.99%
Total Revenues	<u>1,818,920</u>	<u>2,090,600</u>	14.94%
<b>Expenditures:</b>			
Sewer System Operations-			
Operating Expenditures	1,191,870	1,372,090	
Replacement/Capital Fund Contributions	220,000	230,000	
Total Sewer System	1,411,870	1,602,090	13.47%
Lake Operations-			
Lake Cleanup Operating Expenses	258,550	310,550	20.11%
Replacement Fund Contributions	118,000	125,000	5.93%
Wetland Fund	9,000	9,000	0.00%
Debt Service	21,500	21,498	-0.01%
Total Expenditures	<u>1,818,920</u>	<u>2,068,138</u>	13.70%
<b>Fees per Residential User Equivalent (RUE):</b>			
Quarterly Sewer User Charge	126.00	143.00	13.49%

## **Lake Operations**

At this time, we are continuing to provide pile pick up on Mondays and Fridays (weather permitting) and we plan to continue this service through October, WEATHER PERMITTING. Your assistance in creating piles has increased the efficiency of our lake clean-up operations. The faster we can remove piles, the more time our staff can spend on shore clean up and harvesting. **Thank you to all the people that have participated, its hard work, it is appreciated, and you're making a difference for all the people that enjoy the lake.** We are still working on shore clean up around the whole lake and plan to continue into and possibly to the end of October, as always, weather permitting. We do not foresee any more harvesting as the invasive plants are being “held at bay” and there’s no reason to make any more floaters. Typically, we will do late fall harvesting to stunt the growth of the milfoil in the spring and early summer, but thanks to the decline in milfoil growth there is no need.

The variety of native plants has continued to increase and there is a continued decline of Eurasian water milfoil. These last few years the “wild celery” or “eel grass” really flourished as well as other native species such as Sago pondweed. While some other lakes suffered from algae blooms, some with the blue green algae, Pewaukee was in great shape, we saw very limited filamentous algae (the floating balls of green cotton candy looking material) that are unpleasant for swimming fishing, skiing, etc. In fact, the only algae that seemed to bloom was the Chara which is considered a “good” algae that looks like a plant that covers the bottom and has a “musky” smell and gritty feel to it. While the Wild celery is a native “good” plant it does have the curly Q’s that “seed” and spiral their way to the surface and can cause a negative visual appearance, can get caught up in motors, and causes trouble for fishing and swimming. We are planning for peaks in the plant growth cycles and the growing expectations of the people that utilize or live on the lake. Equipment cost have risen tremendously due to the price of steel. A harvester 5 years ago cost about \$195,000. That price tag is now \$260,000. The rising cost of gas, oil and parts are outrageous and any grants to help with the replacement of equipment are going away. This affects our budget and has us working toward rebuilding our own equipment ourselves and pushing back the need to replace equipment every 10 years to 20 or 30 years. Protecting the millions of dollars of equipment from the elements is also weighing heavily on our minds. We have a very large fleet, we need to take care of what we own to avoid increasing replacement costs.

**The District understands the Lake is the area’s biggest asset.** Pewaukee Lake is the largest lake in Waukesha County, it is a class “A” Muskie fishing lake, one of the state’s top sailing lakes (due to its east and west basin configuration and the dominant west winds) as well as one of the biggest local attractions which includes all the entertainment at the beach and lake establishments. This asset is recognized, and we need to take care of it.

## **Wetland Fund and Tax Deductions**

Help us with our wetland fund so we can take advantage of available grants to purchase wetlands and lowlands so we can continue to protect our lake and watershed. These donations are tax deductible, and the lands are held in conservancy in perpetuity. This is the ultimate way to protect our lake and watershed for the generations to come.

## **Water Resource Fund**

The water resource fund is set up to help the school students learn about watersheds, wetlands and river restoration. This very successful program is teaching the youth about protecting the environment and water resources that surround the lake. Teaching these students at a young age creates an ownership and awareness that sticks with them for the rest of their lives. My guess is if you ask an older student what they remember about 6 grade, they will tell you the river boat trip down the Pewaukee river. Help keep this program alive by donating to the Water Resource Fund. All proceeds go back to the students and equipment used to teach them about the watershed, the lakes, and the rivers that surround the area they grew up.

**Sewer Operations** – The sewer user fee took a big jump this year due to the rising cost of treatment at the Fox River Pollution Control Center as well as the cost of repairs, equipment, gas, oil and parts. Inflation and rising costs are hitting everyone, and we are included.

For more information, please call the District at (262) 691-4485 or visit our website at [www.lakepewaukee.org](http://www.lakepewaukee.org)