

# LAKE PEWAUKEE SANITARY DISTRICT



OCTOBER 2023

## 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. At this time of year getting staff is very difficult. We can only offer 2 months of employment and the weather typically is declining in a hurry so being on the lake isn't as desirable as the summer months. We are relentless in searching and have a good crew right now and we are getting the job done. However, with fluctuating weather conditions and with the good number of piles people are making, it takes a while to get around the lake, please be patient. **Thank you to all the people that have participated in the pile pick up whether you are hiring some help or doing it yourself, it is hard work, it is appreciated, and you're making a difference for all the people that enjoy the lake.**

The variety of native plants has continued to increase and there is a continued decline of Eurasian water milfoil, this is another step in the right direction. These last few years the "wild celery" or "eel grass" really flourished as well as other native species such as Sago pondweed. The Wild celery is a "good" native plant but unfortunately it comes with draw backs - it produces its seed by a spiraling curly Q's that reach the surface, it causes a negative visual appearance, it gets caught up in motors, and it causes trouble for fishing and swimming. It also is the source of all the floating weeds we see in September and October. The District hasn't been cutting weeds after Labor Day these last few years. We have been focusing on the floaters.

Fortunately, we have the biggest harvesting operations of any single lake in the nation to keep the aquatic plants managed. It's a tough balance between what money is spent trying to keep the lake looking nice, maintaining water quality and navigability without raising fees more than necessary. With a large fleet comes lots of maintenance and then storage. We need to take care of what we own to avoid increasing replacement costs. Protecting the millions of dollars of equipment from the elements is weighing heavily on our minds.

**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 is going up with the rate of inflation due to the continued 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. The proposed budget is on the following page.

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

A Public Hearing on the PROPOSED BUDGET for 2024 for the LAKE PEWAUKEE SANITARY DISTRICT will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 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 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET.

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	Budget % Change
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Community Funding-			
Town of Delafield Tax Levy:			
Lake Cleanup	244,230	256,445	5.00%
City of Pewaukee:			
Lake Cleanup Contract	244,230	256,445	5.00%
Total Community Funding	488,460	512,890	5.00%
User Fees	1,590,160	1,669,675	5.00%
Other Revenues	11,980	12,030	0.42%
Total Revenues	<u>2,090,600</u>	<u>2,194,595</u>	4.97%
<b>Expenditures:</b>			
Sewer System Operations-			
Operating Expenditures	1,372,090	1,451,705	
Replacement/Capital Fund Contributions	230,000	230,000	
Total Sewer System	1,602,090	1,681,705	4.97%
Lake Operations-			
Lake Cleanup Operating Expenses	310,550	357,442	15.10%
Replacement Fund Contributions	125,000	125,000	0.00%
Wetland Fund	9,000	9,000	0.00%
Debt Service	21,498	21,498	0.00%
Total Expenditures	<u>2,068,138</u>	<u>2,194,645</u>	6.12%
<b>Fees per Residential User Equivalent (RUE):</b>			
Quarterly Sewer User Charge	<u>143.00</u>	<u>151.00</u>	5.59%