
MCGINNIS LAKE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 Issue 8

April 2026

QUICK NOTES

The New Lake Aeration System worked as planned this past winter. Special Thanks to Mike Lenzion for his installation/setup of new system.

Future Meeting Dates

Saturday, May 23, 2026

Saturday, September 5, 2026

Saturday, December 5, 2026

Saturday, March 6, 2027

LAKE DISTRICT MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 134

Oxford, Wisconsin 53952

Email:McGinnisLakeDist@AOL.com

Website

<https://newchester.gov/mcginnis-lake-district/>

Message from the Board

The December and March meetings were held as scheduled. The New Aeration system operation was discussed and performed as planned.

Planned Lake Maintenance Activities such as Curly Leaf Spraying, Eurasian Milfoil and Weed Harvesting were discussed. We will continue with the new vendors providing lake surveys and lake treatment services. These vendors did an excellent job this past year exceeding our expectations.

The fall lake survey was completed and very little Eurasian Milfoil (EVM) was identified meaning that the DNR would not recommend a whole lake application of 24D chemical to treat EVM. A lake survey will be completed this spring for Curly Leaf Pondweed and treatment will occur pending permit approval using a herbicide called Aquathol K® (endothall). Typically the survey and spraying will occur in late May or early June. There are no restrictions on fish consumption or swimming associated with this herbicide. Warning signs were posted or distributed to lake lot owners prior to or at the time of treatment.

We have been in contact with our fisheries person at the DNR and she is recommending a change in limits for pan fish and bass. These changes are going through the approval process currently and if approved will go into effect starting April 2028.

Weed Harvesting is also scheduled to be done the week of July 6, 2026 and August 3, 2026 based on lake condition. We currently have permitting to accomplish this from the DNR.

Q: What if I want to do some weed and muck control by my shoreline?

- A. We have recently received inquiries regarding what can be put into the lake for weed and muck control. Just like the District a permit is required to put pellets, chemicals, and various types of devices into the lake. You should contact the DNR (scott.provost@wisconsin.gov) to find out if what you are planning on doing is approved with or without a permit. The link provided will take you to a DNR page the references the DNR guidelines. <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Waterways/construction/mechanizedAPM.html>

Q: What if I want to make changes to my shoreline or cut down trees?

A: Any actions within the lake buffer zone and outside for tree cutting requires Adams County Zoning and Planning Approval similar to a building permit application. Failing to do that may result in fines in accordance with county laws. Please contact the Adams County Zoning and Planning for permit information.

Q: What about finding the latest information about the Lake District?

A: The Website for the McGinnis Lake District is available for all to access. Listed on the site are the members of the Lake District Board, future and past meeting Agendas, Minutes, Newsletters and other informational documents. Utilizing this new site is a great asset to provide easy access to the Lake District Information. <https://newchester.gov/mcginnis-lake-district/> Thanks to the Town of New Chester for providing this resource for our use!!!

Q: Have You Seen The Sign? Friends of McGinnis Lake adopt-a-highway!!!

A: The adopt-a-highway program is the official coordination system for the generous volunteer efforts to remove trash, recyclables and litter from Wisconsin's roadsides. Adopt-A-Highway helps reduce litter along Wisconsin's highways, builds statewide support for the anti-litter and highway beautification programs. It educates the public about properly disposing of litter, enhances the environment and allows for more beauty along Wisconsin's roadsides. Friends of McGinnis Lake adopted a 1.7 mile stretch of Cty Hwy G, from Brooks to Ember Ave. Who are the friends of McGinnis Lake? Everyone can be a friend of McGinnis Lake. Follow us in the newsletter for the date and time for next clean up or/or contact Ken Roberts at 608 617-6723 for more information.

When is the next Clean Up? – It is scheduled for April 25, 2026 at 10am meet at the Boat Launch. Rain date is April 26, 2026 at the same time. Let's all pitch in if we are at the lake on that day!! THANK YOU in ADVANCE!!!!

Q: What can I do to help the McGinnis Lake District?

A: We are currently looking for volunteers to help the District doing water quality surveys. These surveys don't require a lot of time but need to be completed to insure the lake quality is the best it can be. The surveys begin in the spring and take less than an hour of your time throughout the summer at your convenience. Training is available and all the necessary items to complete the tests are supplied. Please contact Ken Roberts (608-617-6723) regarding helping us with this activity.

Q: What if I want to become a member of the Lake District Board?

A: All members of the Lake District are eligible to join the board as an elected member. The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer are elected to terms of 3 years. Not all of us are full time residents of the lake but know how important it is to insure the quality of the lake is preserved!!! A couple of us have served on the board since the District was formed many years ago and would welcome new individuals to take over in the future. Please contact me if you're interested in reviewing the future opportunities as a board member!!! Barry A. Berndsen (630-452-6645)

Q: What can the new McGinnis Lake District EMAIL address mean to me? (McGinnisLakeDist@aol.com)

A: Yes we have established one and would hope it can be used for communication to and from the Lake District Board. As a member we encourage you to use it for any questions you might have regarding McGinnis Lake District Operations. But most importantly we would like to be able to communicate to you (our members) directly via EMAIL. Sending meeting notices, newsletters, and other important communication in a timely manner is important to us. Please help us by sending your EMAIL address to us and we will add you to the EMAIL mailing list. This mailing list has only **one purpose** and is for the board to communicate to you quickly in a cost effective manner. Once we receive your address we will begin to use it for future communications and remove you from receiving information via US MAIL. (I have received 30 to date☺) It's never too Late!!!!

Q: Is it time to update our email mailing list??

A: Yes it is!!! We will be sending all current email recipients an email to confirm that you want to continue to receive electronic distribution from the McGinnis Lake District. Just respond and acknowledge you want to continue and we will continue the distribution as in the past. Remember in the future if your email changes so we can update our list. If you want to opt out just let us know and we will be happy to put back on postal mail distribution. No Problem!!

Q: Burning Permits!!! Everyone should have one??

A: The DNR offers you an easy way to acquire a permit by using the self-service website or are available from your local fire marshal (IT'S FREE). For your information burning is only permitted between 6:00pm and midnight and never on Sundays and holidays. Without a permit you could be found guilty of either a civil or criminal charge when burning in violation of Wisconsin laws. <http://dnr.wi.gov/burnpermits/>

Q: Are we still members of the Central Sands Water Action Coalition and Adams County Lake Alliance?

A: We continue to be active participants in these organizations and have attended many meetings to date and have found these to be very beneficial organizations for us to support. I continue to encourage you to look at the website www.centralsandswater.org to review current actions and information. The Adams County Lake Alliance is <http://aclakes.org/index.html> for your reference of ongoing meetings and activities.

Q: Do we have a Lost and Found?

A: Periodically items end up in the lake like rafts, paddles, various swim toys and etc. People find these items and are not sure who's they are or what to do??? If you find something and/or lost something please email the Lake District email or call Barry Berndsen at 630-452-6645. We will try our best to help find the happy homes for these items noted based on the input we receive!!

Q: Are you interested in purchasing Trees or Scrubs?

A: The Adams County Land and Water Department provides an annual sale of a wide variety of trees and scrubs. Anyone interested should please contact Adams County at (608) 339-4268 for information on order form and availability of product.

- SPECIAL THANKS -

To THE MINNOW BUCKET– Bait & Tackle for contributing to the

McGinnis Lake District Meeting Lure Giveaway!!

They can provide all your McGinnis Lake fishing needs Summer and/or Winter!

The shop is located in Oxford at 321 S. Franklin Street!!

Let him know you're from McGinnis Lake!