

Peppermill Lake Management District – Mid-Summer 2026 Update

Dear Peppermill Lake Management District property owners and residents,

There is nothing quite like July on Peppermill Lake. The water is warm, the days are long, and our lake community is out enjoying everything our beautiful resource has to offer. With summer now fully upon us we wanted to share a few mid-season updates and important stewardship news from around the county and state.

4th of July Boat Parade Success!

It was wonderful to see the lake community come together for the annual 4th of July Boat Parade! We had a fantastic turnout this year with **16 boats** joining the procession. The creativity and lake spirit on display were incredible. Congratulations to **the Nutley family** for taking Best Decorated, and to **the Swenson family** for taking Most Patriotic! Thank you to everyone who put time into decorating their boats and cheering from the shorelines—it's neighborhood traditions like this that make summers on Peppermill so fun.

Mechanical Harvesting Operations Update

A massive thank you goes out to Bruce, Randy, and all of our dedicated volunteers for working so hard to have the lake looking beautiful for the holiday weekend!

It was a slow start to the year due to some tough weather and personal commitments, but cutting operations have really picked up recently—just as the weed growth has accelerated. Right now, our primary focus remains targeted on managing a variety of milfoil strains in our high-traffic areas.

Looking ahead into the heat of summer, we will also soon start seeing Chara bogs floating up to the surface. The crew will be doing their absolute best to keep those skimmed and cleaned out of the lake as they appear.

A few reminders on scheduling and logistics as the season continues:

- **Harvesting Days:** We are still aiming to only cut Monday through Thursday.
- **Daily Scheduling:** You might notice the harvester out very early some mornings or later in the afternoon. Bruce is doing a phenomenal job adjusting his cutting hours around the volatile summer weather and personal schedule demands. We deeply appreciate his flexibility and dedication.
- **Season Timeline:** Weather permitting, we plan to keep the harvester active through early to mid-September.

As always, please continue to give Bruce, Randy, and the harvesting crew plenty of room when you see them out working so they can navigate safely.

Reminder: New Fish Bag Limits in Effect

As a quick reminder for anyone out on the water with a rod and reel this summer, the **updated Wisconsin DNR fish bag limits** for Peppermill Lake took effect this spring. Following the conclusion of the state's multi-year experimental panfish study, our lake transitioned to a daily bag limit of **10 panfish in total**. Anglers are encouraged to review the updated length restrictions and bag limits across all species on the [DNR's Peppermill Lake regulations page](#) before hitting the water.

Broad Reminders & News from Around the County & State

- **Adams County Shoreline Protection Resources:** If you are planning any landscaping or erosion control work on your waterfront this summer, the Adams County Land and Water Conservation Department provides excellent design guidance on their [Shoreline Protection & Habitat Restoration Page](#). It includes specific technical guidelines on establishing 35-foot native buffer zones, implementing bio-logs for wave erosion, and selecting native shoreline shrubs to protect water clarity.
- **DNR "Landing Blitz" & AIS Prevention:** From late June through mid-July, the Wisconsin DNR is running its annual *Great Lakes Landing Blitz*. With summer lake traffic at its peak, remember that state law requires all boaters to **Clean, Drain, and Dry** boats, trailers, and equipment every single time they leave a boat launch to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).
- **Statewide Wakesports Discussions:** There has been a significant, ongoing push among statewide lake organizations regarding the environmental and safety impacts of enhanced wake boating. While the state continues to debate universal standards for things like deep-water requirements and shoreline setbacks, we want to remind everyone that **ALL of Peppermill Lake remains a slow-no-wake lake** to protect our fragile shoreline, lakebed sediment, and shallow littoral zones.

Looking Ahead

Mark your calendars! The **PLMD Annual Meeting** is scheduled for **Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 9:00 AM** at the Jackson Town Hall. We will be sending out the formal meeting notice, full agenda, and 2027 budget details in early August.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or observations regarding lake operations, please don't hesitate to reach out to the board. Enjoy the rest of July, stay safe, and see you on the water!