



BELLE PLAINE

NEWS & EVENTS

Spring 2010

Highway 22 bridge plans proposed

Town of Belle Plaine officials are working with a consultant on plans to enhance the new two-lane concrete bridge on Highway 22 that will be built in 2011. The state-funded bridge into Shawano will replace the steel truss bridge and construction will take place from April to October next year.

The town's Planning and Zoning Commission met in March with consultant project manager **Stephanie Christensen** of EMCS Inc. of Wausau to discuss how to spend \$155,000 in "community sensitive solution" funds. About \$57,000 of that money will be spent on a pedestrian/bicycle path across the bridge and running down to the Wolf River wayside.

Christensen said another option would be to stain the bridge a different color, rather than concrete gray, which would cost about \$30,000.

Miles Amorelli, a Fox Valley artist, has produced a scale model of a sculpture of a tree, to be constructed from pieces of the old bridge's steel, as a decorative element, with the backing of the Shawano Country Chamber of Commerce. The tree would be 35 feet tall, with glass green leaves, and would be placed at the south end of the bridge.

Amorelli said the sculpture would be a "functional gazebo" that would produce a "light and color show" for passing motorists. He said there would be no maintenance and the piece would be a "green tree" made of recycled materials. Cost would be



Artist Miles Amorelli designed this scale model of a proposed tree sculpture made from steel from the old Highway 22 bridge.

about \$60,000.

Town Chairman **Alvin Bartz** said he favors lighting on the bridge and along the bicycle path. Christensen said the bridge plan does not include lighting, but the community funds could go to decorative fixtures if lighting was included.

The improvements would also include realignment of the River Bend-Eagle Nest Lane intersection to accommodate a raised bridge and turn lanes on Highway 22.

The town is also looking at making improvements at the wayside on River Bend adjoining the bridge (see page 6 for

details).

During the six months that the bridge on Highway 22 will be closed for reconstruction, motorists can take Highway K or Highway M into Shawano.

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Residents invited to art fair July 4

Town and Cloverleaf Lakes residents will have a new event to enhance the traditional fireworks and parades on the Fourth of July weekend.

Cloverleaf Art by the Lake will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 4, at Buzz and Mac's Sandbar on Cloverleaf Lake Road.

Invitations to participate have gone out to artists and crafters who have participated in Shawano and Clintonville art fairs. More information and a sign-up sheet for artists can be found on the www.cloverleafakes.com web site.

The CLPA-sponsored event will include food and drink, children's activities and live demonstrations of art and crafts.

The Kiddie Parade, Pontoon Parade and fireworks show are scheduled for Saturday, July 3. There will not be a dance this year, due to lack of participation in the past few years.

The art fair and Fourth of July events are part of the CLPA's busy calendar of spring, summer and fall events, which include the annual meeting, golf outing and pontoon classrooms. See page 3.

Roads, bridge, driveways on town's agenda

By Alvin Bartz

We will soon be checking roads to select projects for the summer. We are expecting blackout prices to remain extremely high, so that will limit the amount of miles we can do. If there is a section of road in your area that needs attention, let us know.

* We are planning for the Wolf River bridge on Highway 22 to be replaced in 2011. There is about \$155,00 for this project that needs to be spent on "cosmetic" type projects.

We are planning a walking path across the bridge and some improvements to the entrance and fishing area by the river. We are also looking at safety and perhaps may put some lighting on the walkway. The area will be closed to traffic during the bridge construction, so alternate routes into Shawano will need to be taken. See page 1 for details.

* Our firemen informed me there are still some driveways that would be difficult to get into with emergency vehicles. The

Belle Plaine chairman's message

newer trucks are getting much higher and longer to meet the requirements of hauling the amount of water that are needed to fight a fire. We are suggesting a 16-foot horizontal and 14- to 16-foot vertical clearance.

* The neighborhood watch has had some results. Through neighbors talking, we have been able to identify a possible suspect in the home break-ins in our town and neighboring town. We have had and continue to have theft of diesel fuel from farm storage tanks and trucks with fuel tanks. In one case, about 500 gallons were taken over several days. A pickup truck and suspect have been identified. The watch continues.

Have a safe and healthy summer.

Belle Plaine town notebook

The town will hold an open book for property taxpayers on April 20 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Center. The assessors will explain their calculations of property valuations. If someone can't attend, he or she can call Associated Appraisal at (920) 749-1995 for an appointment. A Board of Review, for those who object to their property taxes, is scheduled for May 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

* Summer hours for the Collection and Recycling Center on Cloverleaf Lake Road will go into effect the week of April 18. Hours will be Mondays from 8 a.m. to noon; Wednesdays from noon to 6 p.m.; and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

* The boardwalk to the walking trail on Gibson Island is closed until May 31, during the nesting season of the nearby bald eagles. Access to the island is available by water. A bicycle rack has been purchased for the parking area.

* The Town Board is considering some rules for area taverns to regulate outdoor activities and noise. Several tavern operators met with the board to discuss ideas. Under consideration are a cutoff time for volleyball, outdoor lighting limits and only serving alcoholic beverages indoors. With a statewide no-smoking law taking effect this summer, bars would need to designate a smoking area outdoors. The board will consider rules before the next tavern licenses are issued in June.

* Town Clerk **Kristine Vomastic** reminds residents that she has office hours Mondays from 5-7 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:30-11 a.m. at the Community Center. "I do feel I need some hours at the Town Hall for issues that need to be attended to in person." She does most of her town business at home.

* The town is seeking more fire and emergency medical personnel. First Responders provide health care at accident scenes and to ambulance patients. The town pays for the training. Call Lt. Tom Kristof at 853-3937 for more information.

Belle Plaine officials

Alvin Bartz, chairman

Harold Polzin, supervisor

Dennis Thornton, supervisor

Kristine Vomastic, clerk

Kay Kristof, treasurer

Dennis Hoffmann, constable

Newsletter editor: Dennis Thornton



Belle Plaine Community Center

N3002 St. Hwy. 22

Clintonville, WI 54929

(715) 524-2690

Town clerk's hours:

5-7 p.m. Monday; 8:30-11 a.m. Saturday or by appointment

Regular Town Board meetings:

Second Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

Committees:

Planning, Zoning, Gibson Island Stewardship

Population estimate: 1,910

Big summer schedule awaits at Cloverleaf Lakes

Traditional events, and some new ones, fill the schedule of activities at Cloverleaf Lakes. An art fair and a carp catching contest will be among the new entries. The traditional favorites, such as the Fourth of July weekend fireworks and the 13th annual Golf Outing, will continue

CLPA annual meeting. The season will kick off with the annual meeting of the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association. It will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 29, at the Rustic Resort and will feature a complimentary lunch for members at noon. A review of the Cloverleaf Lakes master plan, to be updated in April by the volunteers who worked on it in 2005-06, will be a highlight, along with a business meeting and a photo presentation of the flora and fauna of Gibson Island.

Cloverleaf Carp Capture. See page 7 for details on this three-week effort to bring in some of these unwelcome fish. Prizes will be awarded on Saturday, June 12.

Fourth of July. The annual Kiddie Parade, which attracts hundreds of children and parents, will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 3, on Highway Y near the boat launch. Everyone is welcome to participate or watch, free of charge. The Pontoon Parade will form up near Gibson Island at 6:30 p.m. and the decorated boats will circle the lakes. Prizes are given by the CLPA. And at dusk, the spectacular fireworks display will be sent up by the Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Association. The dance has been

canceled this year due to lack of participation over the past few years.

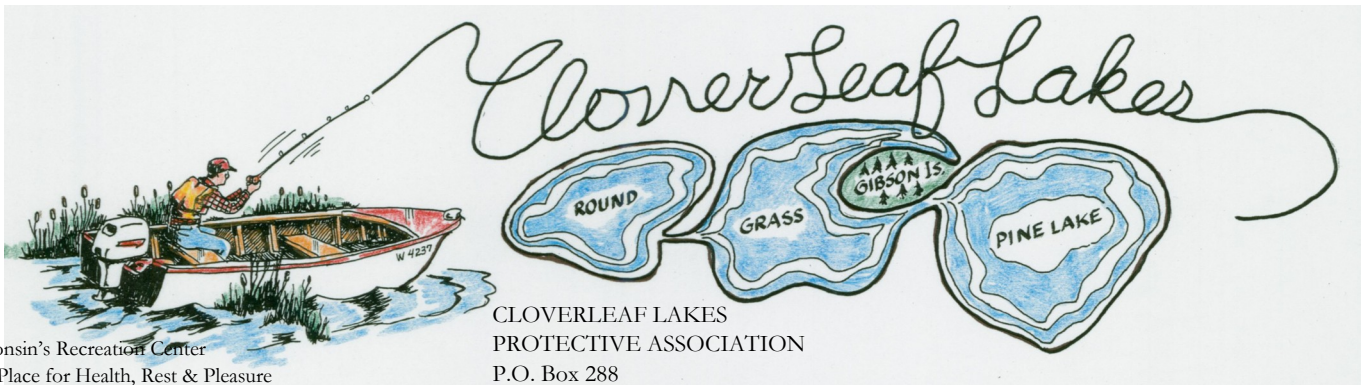
Cloverleaf Art by the Lake: This new community event will be held on the lakefront at Buzz and Mac's on Cloverleaf Lake Road on Sunday, July 4. Artists will be displaying their work from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Details are on page 1.

Pontoon classrooms: The several properties that have been working on shoreland restoration over the past three years will be toured on Saturday, July 24, starting at 9 a.m. **James Havel** of NES Ecological Services will discuss the native plants and wildflowers planted on the properties. A half-day kayak demonstration is planned for Aug 19.

Golf Outing: The 13th annual Cloverleaf Lakes Golf Outing will tee off at noon on Wednesday, July 28, at the Clintonville Riverside Golf Course. Included in the day-long activities are lunch, dinner, 18 holes of golf with a cart, a four-person scramble format with prizes on each hole and a raffle. A sign-up sheet will appear in the summer newsletter or online at www.cloverleaflakes.com.

Triathlon: The fourth annual Tri Cloverleaf Lakes Triathlon is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 4. More than 160 athletes participated in 2009.

Cloverfest Run/Walk: This annual event, held in October, raises funds for the Fireworks Association.



Wisconsin's Recreation Center
The Place for Health, Rest & Pleasure
CLPA incorporated in 1936

CLOVERLEAF LAKES
PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 288
Embarrass, WI 54933-0288

www.CloverleafLakes.com

"Preserving our lakes for future generations"

Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association

Board of Directors

Dennis Thornton, President

823-9151

thorngb@frontiernet.net

Carl Bruggink, Vice President

823-2488

carlbruggink@frontiernet.net

Carol Wegner, Secretary

823-6270

cawegner@frontiernet.net

Fran West, Treasurer

823-4059

kfwest@frontiernet.net

James Aumann

823-5632

Joe Mass

823-3758

jandsmass@frontiernet.net

Dick Thurow

823-7924

Well water testing offered April 17 to all town residents

You probably know that water is considered one of the Town of Belle Plaine's most important resources. As someone who relies on a well to supply water for your home, you may have wondered about the quality of your well water. The Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association is offering a convenient opportunity for all of Belle Plaine to test your well water. The test is limited to 70 samples.

This well water testing opportunity is being arranged in collaboration with the UW-Stevens Point and UW-Extension to help you learn more about the quality of your well water and local groundwater. The water testing package that will be offered is the basic homeowners test (coliform bacteria, nitrate, chloride, pH, alkalinity, hardness, conductivity, and saturation index) and the cost is \$44.

Unlike municipal water supplies, private residential wells are not required to be tested regularly. The tests being offered in this program includes two of the most important tests recommended for private wells (coliform bacteria, nitrate) as well as other useful water quality tests; this is an excellent opportunity to learn about the condition of your home's water supply and learn more about water quality in Belle Plaine.

How can I participate?

Pick up a sample bottle (please bring your check or cash).

Where: Town of Belle Plaine Community Center, N3002 Highway 22.

When: Saturday, April 17 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Maple Lane sale near closing

The closing of the sale of Maple Lane Health Care Center to Rice Management Inc. has been scheduled for April 30.

Shawano County has operated Maple Lane, first as a mental health facility then as a nursing home, for a century. But high operating costs and deficit spending prompted the County Board to put the facility up for sale when a referendum authorizing the expenses failed.

Rice Management, which paid \$2 million for the health care center, operates 22 nursing homes in Wisconsin, including Birch Hill Care Center and Evergreen Care Center in Shawano.

The Belle Plaine Planning and Zoning Commission has approved rezoning to commercial the 16-acre property. The county will continue to provide water and sewer service.

The facility has about 112 employees, including 80 full-time, and has 74 beds.

According to Treasures in Time, the Belle Plaine history book compiled by **Marcalene Rosenow**, the Shawano County Asylum and Poor Farm was established by the County Board in 1909 and the first residents moved in at the 414-acre facility in

CLPA members get \$15 discount

To encourage lake residents to get their water tested, the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association will contribute \$15 toward the \$44 fee for water testing for dues-paying members. If you haven't paid your dues, send in the form on page 7 or pay when you pick up your test kit on April 17. Annual dues of \$25 cover the calendar year 2010.

Collect tap water and return your sample bottle to the town hall on Sunday, April 18, anytime between noon and 3 p.m.

Written results will be shared with each participant and you will have the option of attending an educational session where groundwater specialists from UW-Extension will help you to understand your water quality results.

What will happen if something is wrong with my water?

You are under no obligation to take corrective measures, the goal of this program is to provide you with the information you need to understand your water quality and what can be done to correct any potential problems.

We hope you will consider taking part in this opportunity to learn more about the quality of groundwater in the Town of Belle Plaine.

If you have any questions, please contact **Kery Kafka** at 414-291-9481 or rkkafka@sbcglobal.net.



Maple Lane Health Care Center, a Belle Plaine landmark, will be sold by Shawano County, effective April 30.

1911. A new building was completed in 1913.

The facility became a county hospital in 1947. The present nursing home building opened in 1978 with 102 beds.

Shawano County will keep the more than 600 adjoining acres used for outdoor recreation.

CLPA looks at ‘fringe benefits’ of lake shoreland

By Dennis Thornton

Researchers used to look at a lake as a “teacup,” according to Jeff Bode, a section chief with the Department of Natural Resources. They focused only on what fish, plants and chemicals were in the lake. That teacup point of view has expanded to look at the saucer—the shallows, shoreland and watershed that surround the lake, which influence what’s in the lake.

The annual Wisconsin Association of Lakes convention in Green Bay focused on those “fringe benefits” — the area surrounding the lakes. The emphasis was to restore natural shorelands, something the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association has worked on during the past two years.

Why have a natural shoreline? Would you rather have your shore wash away when boats churn up waves or would you rather have deep-rooted native plants hold the ground? Would you rather have Canada geese pooping on your yard (they LOVE short Kentucky bluegrass) or have wildflowers in bloom? Would you rather go fishing or mow your lawn?

I’m the converted, as you will see if you pass our shore. It would be difficult for a drop of rainwater off our roof to get past the flowers and grasses and into the lake.

The lake association has developed, and help fund, 10 dem-

CLPA president’s message

onstration projects. A committee led by **Kery Kafka** is hoping to do much more in coming years.

* Spring is here, much earlier than usual, and we’re also having a renewal in the focus of the CLPA. The many volunteers who spent a year in meetings drawing up a master plan for the lakes will get together again April 24 to review the challenges and determine how best to preserve our lakes for future generations. Come to the CLPA’s annual meeting on May 29 to get information about efforts to protect the lakes. The meeting is from 10 a.m. to noon at the Rustic Resort and includes lunch.

We’re made great progress in fighting invasives, keeping our lakes clean and enjoying good times together.

Who is doing all this, what I call highly-paid volunteer work? We regularly call on a core of fantastic friends, many of whom help out again and again. But we can always use more, whether it’s serving on the board of directors or passing out ice cream treats after the Kiddie Parade.

Get involved. It’s a great way to meet your neighbors while you’re benefitting the lakes.

Long Lake battles Eurasian Water Milfoil

By Shanda Hubertus

Long Lake continues to have problems controlling the Eurasian Water Milfoil. This is an aggressive, perennial exotic submergent aquatic plant with feathery-like leaves. It is rapidly growing (as deep as 20 feet) and spreads easily from just a small fragment of its stem. Left untreated, milfoil forms a dense surface canopy thick enough for birds to walk on. Pan fish have excellent cover and become stunted, while predator fish (bass, northern pike, etc) decline. Boating and swimming is nearly impossible.

Over the past three years, Long Lake has been treating our milfoil problem with very minimal results. In June 2008, we had 6.5 acres of milfoil identified. In the fall of 2009, we had 10.5 acres identified. There was a decrease in density. The herbicide used was Navigate (granular 2, 4-D) at 100 pounds/acre. Over half of our shoreline is invaded by this annoying weed.

The Long Lake Property Owners Association (LLPOA) was not satisfied with our results. The applicator was changed in hopes of improving results and getting any treatment completed at the prime time to effectively kill the milfoil. Our communications with the new company has been promising.

Our latest survey results proved that the current treatment was not sufficient. The same chemical can be used and increased to 150 pounds/acre. However, it is thought that Long Lake may

have a hybrid strain that is very intolerant to treatment. Long Lake has decided to take advantage of a chemical company’s offer to become a research lake for Wisconsin. We will be applying to the DNR to use a different treatment approach this year. If approved, we will be treating the milfoil first with an algaecide (Cutrine) to kill the algae that coats the milfoil. Two weeks later, we will then treat the milfoil itself with a different chemical that has had encouraging results on other lakes, primarily in Minnesota and Michigan. This will be monitored closely both in the spring and the fall to evaluate results. Samples will be surveyed to identify and record the type and quantities of the aquatic plants. This will be done again in the fall. At least for the first year, the Applied Biochemist Company will be supplying the chemical. The LLPOA will be financing the labor.

Brad Roost, our milfoil management applicator, will be speaking at our annual lake association meeting. Milfoil in shallow areas and around structures such as docks and boat lifts should be hand picked. Ensure you get the entire plant including the root system. If any floating portions of the weeds are seen, pick them up and get them out of the lake. Also, stay out of known milfoil areas with boats while under motor power. Do not rake your swimming area for 4-6 weeks after the treatment has been applied. If we all work together, we are optimistic that we can take back control of our lake.

Town updates outdoor recreation plan

Improvements at two Belle Plaine sites are included in the updated Outdoor Recreation Plan currently under review by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Shawano County Planner **Melinda Barlow** is working on the plan, which was last revised in 2000.

Here are some of the sites and plans:

Wolf River Wayside. Committee members favored a continued rustic look, with a possible driveway access off River Bend, a fishing pier with handicapped access and control of erosion along the riverbank. There also would be access from the bridge's pedestrian path. There would be no picnic shelter, bathrooms or major improvements. Information signs could be added about the town and the area. Lighting or a tree sculpture are possible.

Stieg property and boat landing. The 10-acre parcel on Round Lake would include a parking area for up to 20 vehicles and boat trailers. Ramps would be added at the boat landing. A picnic shelter may be constructed on the top of the hill off Round Lake Road. An application for a DNR grant has been filed.

Sandy Beach. No major changes are planned for the swimming beach and park area across the road. Walking trails would be maintained and the woods could be a future recreation area.

Name the newest town park

Belle Plaine purchased the 10-acre parcel on County Highway Y, which includes frontage on Round Lake, in 2003. It had been owned by the Stieg family for many years. The site may be developed in future years. Much of the forest will remain, along with the snowmobile/walking trail.

Should it be called Stieg Park? Or is there another name or person who should be honored? Send your ideas to thorngb@frontiernet.net or call the town office at 524-2690 (leave a message for the clerk).

Gibson Island. Acquisition of the 26-acre property has been completed with private, town and state funds. A boardwalk and parking lot have been added and the nature trail is open. No major changes are planned.

Round Lake access. No major changes are planned.

Shawano County Farm. Current uses would continue.

Bicycle trail. Barlow suggested the town might be included in county plans for bicycle paths that would run around Shawano Lake and through the city of Shawano.

nIc plans rummage sale May 29-30 at Community Center

The non profit nIc Foundation's huge Rummage Sale—Brat Fry—Baked Goods fund-raising event will be held at the Belle Plaine Community Center (Town Hall) on Memorial Day weekend. Times for the fund raising event are Saturday, May 29, from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, May 30, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Donated rummage/yard sale items and assorted homemade baked goods may be brought directly to the Town Hall on Friday, May 28, between 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. or call **Lynn Marcks** at 823-4829 to make arrangements for pick up of your donated items. Most popular shopping items include antiques, tools, furniture, yard and lawn items, home décor, fishing and hunting items, toys, and clothing.

The nIc Foundation is seeking volunteers to help out on Friday with setting up the event and on Saturday with cooking and serving food and with selling items both inside and outside.

The foundation also is planning an Information Fair and Candle Lighting Ceremony in Clintonville Tuesday, April 20, as part of the National Crime Victims' Rights Week. The event, held at Christus Lutheran Church, 120 N. Main St., will include an information fair at 4 p.m. with 30 booths, door prizes and free parenting books. The candle lighting ceremony will begin at 6:30 p.m. with speakers, witnesses' stories, a drama on tolerance and lighting candles to honor victims of crime and violence.

The nIc Foundation is established in honor and memory of

Cloverleaf Lakes resident **Nicolas Resch**, who was the victim of a violent assault. The foundation promotes violence prevention education initiatives encouraging positive character traits and values. Proceeds from the event support the nIc4families (nIc violence prevention for families) storytelling projects in our rural communities. The nIc Foundation is a non-profit 501c3 charity.

LEGAL NOTICE

APRIL 2010

CLOVERLEAF LAKES AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT DNR CHAPTER NR107 NOTICE

A Permit from the DNR has been issued to treat 6 acres of the Cloverleaf Lakes for Eurasian Water Milfoil (3 acres) and Curly Leaf Pondweed (3 acres). This treatment will be done chemically with Navigate (2-4 D), Aquathol and Cutrine Plus. The approximate treatment dates will take place at the end of April and early May 2010. You may request a public informational meeting on the proposed application. The request must be made in writing within 5 days of this notice stating a specific agenda of topics to be covered. Send request to Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association, P.O. Box 288, Embarrass, WI 54933-0288 and to the Wisconsin DNR.

Cloverleaf Carp Capture offers cash for rough fish

The Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association will sponsor the first Cloverleaf Carp Capture Contest this spring.

Prizes will include: First place, \$100; second, \$75; third, \$50, and fourth, \$25. There is a \$5 entry fee.

Prizes will be awarded for bringing in the carp by any legal means — hook and line, spearing, archery.

There's one important rule: Catch and DON'T release. The dates will be dawn Saturday, May 22, through noon on Saturday, June 12. That's the time of year when the rough fish are spawning in the shallows, stirring up the bottom, which disrupts the game fish and panfish. A DNR fish survey indicates there is not a major problem with carp, but it is better to keep their numbers down.

CLPA board members **Dick Thurow** and **Carl Bruggink** are spearheading the contest.

Here are the rules for the contest:

1. Participants must have a valid fishing license and must follow all safe boating rules.
2. Carp must come from Round, Pine or Grass Lakes.
3. Carp can be taken with bow and arrow, spear, or caught

with hook and line.

4. Carp can be taken at night with bow and arrow ONLY.
5. Prizes will be awarded by number of fish taken, with ties broken by largest fish.
6. Carp must be checked in at the boat monitoring trailer (at the town boat landing on Highway Y) by a contest official.
7. Entry forms will be accepted by mail or put in the envelope marked "Carp Contest" provided for at the boat launch site between Grass and Round Lakes and dropped in the locked box.
8. You can enter any time between Saturday, May 22, and Saturday, June 12.
9. Entry fee of \$5 must be paid to qualify for prizes.
10. No "catch and release" allowed. All carp must be turned in and destroyed.
11. The award ceremony will be held at noon on June 12 at the boat launch.

To enter the contest, contact Thurow at cell (414) 430-9067 or Bruggink at 823-2488 or cell (920) 574-6976.

2010 CLPA Annual Membership: Please Join Now

Please make your check for \$25 payable to Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association, fill out and clip this form, and send it to CLPA, P.O. Box 288, Embarrass, WI 54933-0288. Or, print out the membership form at www.CloverleafLakes.com and send it in. The membership is for the calendar year 2010.

Name: _____

Lake Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Home Address (if different): _____

_____ I would like an additional newsletter for \$10 a year for a family member or friend. (include name and address of each additional recipient.)

Dues	\$	25.00
I would like to make an additional donation of	\$	_____
Additional newsletters at \$10 each	\$	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$	_____

Thank you! Note: Be sure to include your e-mail address so you can be added to the CLPA's e-mail list (managed by Ed Stuebe) to receive late-breaking information about the lakes.

Belle Plaine Community Center
N3002 St. Hwy. 22
Clintonville, WI 54929

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Laws affect boating, phosphorous

By Wisconsin Association of Lakes

This spring will bring some new laws that have been enacted to better protect our public waters. Here's a summary of what's new:

NR115—Wisconsin's Shoreland Protection Program is an administrative rule that went into effect Feb. 1, 2010. This rule imposes minimum standards on lakeshore properties like setbacks of structures from the Ordinary High Water Mark, and what you can do with non conforming structures, impervious services and mitigation.

2009 Wisconsin Act 31 restricts the operation of motorboats at slow-no wake speeds within 100 feet of the shoreline. This law took effect Feb. 1 and provides extra protection to the shoreline by reducing the erosion caused by wakes of motorboats. It also provides added safety to those recreating along the shorelines. Water skiers should take particular note of this law, because

pickup and drop areas for water skiers must be 100 feet from shore unless a special permit for a buoyed pickup and drop area is obtained from the DNR.

2009 Wisconsin Act 55 restricts the transport of aquatic plants and animals. For most of us, this law means that we must be absolutely sure there are no plants or animals on our recreational equipment - boats, trailers, seaplanes - when they are being transported on public highways. Just like speeding, any law enforcement officer may issue a ticket for a boat and trailer traveling along a highway with "weeds" attached.

2009 Wisconsin Act 63 restricts the amount of phosphorous in machine dishwashing products for household use to a very small amount. This law takes effect July 1, 2010. You probably won't need to worry about this law so much, as grocery stores should not be offering unlawful dishwashing products.

Belle Plaine calendar

April 17: Well water testing, Community Center, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Return samples April 18, noon to 3 p.m.

May 10: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center.

May 10: Belle Plaine Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center.

May 29: CLPA annual meeting, 10-noon, Rustic Resort.

June 14: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center.

June 14: Belle Plaine Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center.

July 3: Kiddie Parade, 10 a.m., boat landing.

July 3: Pontoon Parade, 6:30 p.m., Pine and Grass Lakes, followed by fireworks at dusk.

July 4: Cloverleaf Art by the Lake, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Buzz and Mac's.