

The Aquatic Invasive Species Newsletter



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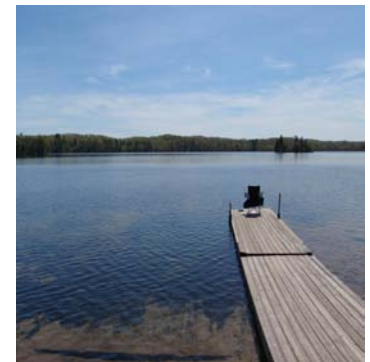
While Celebrating Our Independence, Celebrate the Beauty of Our Lakes & Rivers!

With the passing of the summer solstice, the summer season is now officially in full-swing! Here in the Northwoods, we've been fortunate to receive some much needed rainfall over the past few weeks, and I've even been hearing a few rumors of small increases in water levels. Let's hope that continues! Along with the increased rainfall and vehicle traffic (a definite sign that summer is here!), we've also experienced increased activity on our lakes and rivers.

In our immediate area, we are blessed with an abundance of waters that provide us with many opportunities, including such things as: great fishing, sparkling clean water for swimming and boating, wildlife viewing, business opportunities, and many more! Although many of us enjoy the benefits these

opportunities provide, most are likely unaware of the uniqueness of the lakes and rivers that surround us. I've been told that our area contains one of the highest concentrations of freshwater lakes in the world! Wow! Has the realization sunk in yet? It really makes you think when applied to a global scale, doesn't it?

Independence Day, or the 4th of July, is quickly approaching. While it's a time we come together to celebrate our freedom and remember those who have and continue to protect our liberties, let us not forget to respect the beautiful waters that we are so very fortunate to enjoy. Therefore, enjoy our beautiful lakes and rivers, but do your part to ensure that you're not transporting aquatic invasive species (AIS) and unintentionally introducing them into new



waters. To maintain the beauty and uniqueness of these resources, take a few extra minutes to remove all aquatic plants and animals from your boats and equipment, drain all water, rinse off and dry your equipment, and never move live fish between waterbodies. Enjoy the great summer weather, have a safe and memorable 4th, and show your friends and children how to be good stewards of our world-renowned water resources!

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Meet Our New Oneida County AIS Staff!

On May 17th, Blake Borchardt (top) and Tim Plude (bottom) began their duties with Oneida County as AIS Project Assistants for the summer. On day two, they were off and running; literally getting their feet wet doing watercraft inspections following the Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) program model. Performing watercraft inspections at boat landings will consume the majority of

their time, but they will also assist with: workshops and presentations, installing signs and boat bumpers (see bumper picture below), producing educational materials, etc.

Blake and Tim are both at senior-levels at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls, majoring in Conservation with Biology minors. Blake is also pursuing a minor in Criminal Justice. His hobbies include

fishing, hunting (he's hoping to fill his bear tag this year), and camping. Tim enjoys fishing (he's an avid fly fisherman), camping, hiking, and spending time with family and friends. If you happen to see Tim or Blake at one of the boat landings this summer, be sure to say hello!

“The overwhelming majority of these workshop participants are volunteers... Hats off to them for their stewardship!”

It's hard to believe that it's almost July already! The last couple of months have flown by, and I'm starting to lose track of the days. Needless to say, things have been busy, but it's also been a lot of fun. During these last few months, we've been meeting and presenting to lake associations, school groups, and town boards, installing boat bumpers (picture below) on piers at landings throughout Oneida County, conducting CBCW and Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN) workshops, performing CBCW watercraft inspections and education efforts, participating at area events, and more!

Before school was let out this Spring, I was able to

conduct educational programs with Rhinelander, Three Lakes, and Tomahawk students on issues pertaining to AIS and how they can affect our waters and personal enjoyments. The students really seemed to enjoy seeing the species up close, learning which ones are concerns in our immediate area, and knowing that our inland waters are free (presently) from species like the “toothy” sea lamprey!

Along with the help of local Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) staff, Blake, Tim, and myself have hosted three CBCW workshops and one CLMN workshop. We've had 37 workshop attendants who are now

trained to implement the CBCW program and/or monitor the health of our water resources using CLMN protocols. The overwhelming majority of these workshop participants are volunteers; committed to learning more about how they can help protect our beautiful lakes and rivers. Hats off to them for their stewardship!

Keep an eye out for upcoming event listings (page 3, and/or your local media), the boat bumpers at area landings, informative napkins at area businesses (coming soon), and aquatic plants or animals trying to hitch a ride on your equipment!



Reports on Recent Wisconsin Lakes Conferences

Between March 30th and April 1st, I attended the 2010 Wisconsin Lakes Convention (WLC) in Green Bay. Being that I had only been on the job for a little more than a month, the WLC was a great opportunity for me to meet a wide array of people working to protect our waters here in Wisconsin. Individuals from lake and river organizations, private consulting agencies, natural resources agencies, and others simply interested in protecting water resources were all present. The theme of the convention was, "Restoring Wisconsin Shorelands and Shallows."

The three day event was filled with dozens of educational sessions, numerous workshops, guest speakers, and an awards ceremony. The WLC was very informative, and I look forward to attending again next year.

On June 19th, the Wisconsin Association of Lakes (WAL) hosted "A Northwoods Lakes Workshop" at Nicolet College (Lake Julia Campus) in Rhinelander. A number of lake groups, including the Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association, along with the WDNR, sponsored the event.

Presentations on current research, shoreland restoration techniques and projects, and updates on current water resources policy initiatives, were given (just to name a few). There was also designated time for individual county meetings and networking. The workshop was well attended, and it was a great opportunity to discuss issues specific to the Northwoods. It was also interesting to see what was going on in neighboring counties. Look for events like these in the future, and get involved!

Wisconsin Lakes Convention



Upcoming Workshops in Oneida County

The Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department, in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin - Extension, will be conducting the following workshops throughout the upcoming months. To register for any of these workshops, simply call 715-365-2750. This information can also be found at:

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/oneida/cnred/index.html>

- **Citizen Lake Monitoring Network Workshop**
Bonnie's Lakeside Resort (Spirit Lake - Three Lakes),
July 8th, 12:30 - 4:00 p.m.
- **Youth Clean Boats, Clean Waters Workshop**
Oneida County UW-Extension Office (Rhinelander Airport Terminal),
July 15th, 12:30 - 4:00 p.m.
- **Lake Management/Plant Management Plan Workshop**
Oneida County UW-Extension Office (Rhinelander Airport Terminal),
July 23rd, approx. 9 - 12 noon.
- **Purple Loosestrife Bio-control Workshop**
Oneida County UW-Extension Office (Rhinelander Airport Terminal),
August 3rd, approx. 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- **Residents on Lakes Without a Lake Group Workshop**
Oneida County UW-Extension Office (Rhinelander Airport Terminal),
August 12th, approx. 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- **Awards Ceremony and Partnership meeting**
Quality Inn (Rhinelander), August 21st, approx. 6 - 9 p.m.

Note: Approximate times may be changed.



**Come,
check
out
these
FREE
Oneida
County
workshops!**



ONEIDA COUNTY

Contact Me:

Lawrence Eslinger
Oneida County Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator
3375 Airport Road #10
Rhinelander, WI 54501
Phone: 715-365-2750
E-mail: leslinger@co.oneida.wi.us
Web: <http://oneida.uwex.edu/cnred/index.html>



Other Oneida County Land & Water Services

Oneida County Website: <http://www.co.oneida.wi.gov/>

Land & Water Conservation Department

Phone: 715-369-7835

Forestry & Outdoor Recreation Department

Phone: 715-369-6140

Land Information Department

Phone: 715-369-6179

Planning & Zoning Department

Phone: 715-369-6130

University of Wisconsin - Extension (Oneida County)

Phone: 715-365-2750

Web: <http://oneida.uwex.edu/index.html>

The University of Wisconsin - Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements. Please advise us 24 hours in advance of program if you have a disability and desire special accommodations to attend. Requests will be kept confidential.



Land & Water Conservation Dept.

