



# Lake Life

MMLMD



The Official Newsletter of the  
**MT. MORRIS LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

**Number 64 – June, 2016**

Tim Dahlstrand Chairman Wautoma, WI 54982	Greg Foster Treasurer Wautoma, WI 54982	Joe Slezak Secretary Wautoma, WI 54982	Denis Sutton Commissioner Wautoma, WI 54982	Robert Adams Commissioner Brookfield, WI 53008	Paul Jarvis Mt. Morris Town Board Rep	Everett Eckstein Waushara County Rep.
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Be sure to access the MMLMD website at [www.mtmorrislakes.org](http://www.mtmorrislakes.org) for expanded new information about the articles published in this newsletter.

## 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Mt. Morris Lakes District Meeting Mountain View Community Center, Saturday, July 16, 2016 - 9:00 am

**NO BREAKFAST AT THE MAIN MEETING  
 THERE IS A PICNIC LUNCH AT MT. MORRIS TOWN  
 PARK AT 11:30 AM AFTER THE MAIN MEETING**  
*Celebrate the founding and Growth of MMLMD 40 years ago!*

### MEETING AGENDA

- Call to Order
- Meeting Agenda Approval;
- Board & member introductions
- Minutes from July 18, 2015 Annual Meeting - Joe Slezak
- Chairman's Report – Tim Dahlstrand
- Treasurer's Report – Greg Foster

### New Business

- Presentation of 2016-2017 Budget – Greg Foster
- Election of Commissioners – Nominees are Tim Dahlstrand and Greg Foster for a 3 year terms; Commissioner nominations can be taken from the floor at any time
- Other Topics for discussion

**Adjourn and prepare for 11:30am picnic at the Town Park**

### INFORMATION EXHIBITS AT THE 40<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT ANNIVERSARY PICNIC

- **Friends of Mount Morris Lakes**  
 Since state grants may be limited in the future, FOMML is an endowment fund that will grow to help pay District expenses
- **Lake Management & Aquatic Invasive Species Exhibit:**  
 Learn all about AIS in our Lake, this exhibit From Golden Sands Resource & Conservation will explain what is there, what the impact on our lakes can be, and how we are fighting the war against EWM. CLP, and other species.
- **Aquatic Harvesting Machine:**  
 See how we can use our vegetation cutting harvester to supplement the chemical treatment process and control floating vegetation debris that can hinder boating and fishing.
- **WRK – We Really Kare Fishing Club:**  
 The “We Really Kare” Fishing Club (WRK) local fishing area club is going to have an informational tables set up at the 40th Annual District Meeting. Make sure you stop by and see the terrific things the club has done for the Mt. Morris Lake over the years. They are always looking for new members to support these efforts.

## CELEBRATE OUR 40 YEARS OF DISTRICT HISTORY & ACCOMPLISHMENT Chairman's Report – Tim Dahlstrand

1. The District Board of Commissioners met four times since our last annual meeting. These are open meetings for all of the membership to attend. The meeting schedule and agendas are published on our website.
2. The MMLMD Board continues to be active in the management of our lake system. We are fortunate to have a dedicated group of individuals who volunteer their time and expertise on behalf of all members. We are always looking for volunteers to help with our projects.
3. This year is the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the MMLMD. Join us at the 11:30 am picnic at the Town Park. In addition to food and prize drawings, we will have information about the Past, Present and Future of the MMLMD. Please come to learn more about the MMLMD and take this opportunity to meet your lake neighbors.
4. Some of the highlights of Board and volunteer activities in the last year include:
  - **The Friends of Mount Morris Lakes Endowment Fund** is established. The endowment committee members are Clem Maslowski, Tim Dahlstrand, June Schroeder and the committee chairman, Paul Brinkman
  - Aquatic plant chemical treatment was done in May 2016 for curly leaf pondweed (CLP) and Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). Thanks to Rob Adams for management of these activities on behalf of the lakes district.
  - The MMLMD document preservation and retention work continues to be lead by Denis Sutton. The digitized documents are available through our website t at [www.mtmorrislakes.org](http://www.mtmorrislakes.org)
  - MMLMD publishes an annual newsletter to communicate with the membership. Our secretary, Joe Slezak, continues to be our writer and publisher.
  - We continue to operate and maintain aquatic plant harvesting equipment.
  - Greg Foster, the District Treasurer also is the primary operator of the dam.

**FOMML IS GROWING FOR OUR FUTURE**

The Friends of Mt. Morris Lakes endowment fund is growing and presently totals \$29,177. Appreciation is expressed to all who have made gifts to the FOMML Endowment. We all have a vested interest in the long-term care and improvement of the lake habitat.

The goal of creating a \$600,000 endowment will take time, but eventually it will provide a 5% annual payout sufficient to fund all annual aquatic invasive species management and treatment activities. Contributions are tax deductible in keeping with the IRS code and can be made in whatever amount is reasonable for you.

Special FOMML T-shirt will be sold at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual District Picnic. It's unique item, and you may want to take advantage of this opportunity to add some district history to your collect. For further information about FOMML, please contact Paul Brinkman at (920)787-7985 if you have questions.



**PONTOON PARADE MOVES TO NEW SITE**

The Pontoon Boat Parade... held on the last Saturday in July (this year July 30) has been a special "grass-roots" social event in the District for many years. Started by Dick Borchard, it began as an informal social event with a parade of decorated boats throughout all five lakes. At the end of the parade, all of the boats would tie up together to form one large floating regatta in the middle of Mt. Morris Lake! Everyone hopped to each boat to visit & share food & drink.

However, hopping boats for a few years was very tricky, especially in high winds and tornados... which happened one year! To ensure comfort and safety, Karney and Judy Slupecki offered their property as the parade ending point for a pot luck event with chicken broasted by the Slupecki's and their friends. They did all the work setting it up assisted by Gary Frank who faithfully set up the signs to announce the event each year for the past 10 years or more.

All that will change now as the Pontoon Boat Parade moves to the Mt. Morris Town Park for the pot luck and chicken sharing part. The 4:00 pm parade will continue as usual. Many thanks to Karney and Judy, as well as to all those who helped them, for volunteering their property, their time, and their efforts to coordinate the support for the event. This kind of event illustrates the spirit of Mt. Morris Lakes community. Not all events have to be District sponsored... volunteers are the source of the fun on the lake.



**THEY' RE HERE!**

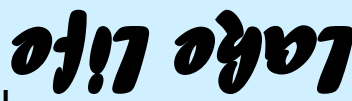
Zebra Mussels... you know what they are! Strange shelled alien creatures from another world. They began to invade us probably 3 years ago when we first discovered them in Emerald Lake. Now they have entered Mt. Morris Lakes. At this time there is no known preventative control for them, but you can minimize the impact they have on you by following these easy procedures:

- Wipe off their larvae slime at the bottom of your boat. Remove what feels like "slime and sand grits" in crevices, on bilge intakes, and strakes of the boat. Those grits are mussels.
- If you have a stern drive or inboard engine, periodically flush the engine cooling system, along with live wells, and any bilge water systems. The larvae is in the water...use hot water.
- Check rocks on your shoreline, pipes on your pier, and any submerged wooden surfaces. Mussels have to attach to live.

**SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2016, 9:00 AM District Meeting**  
 At the Mountain View Community Center, HWY 152 & CTY S  
**40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DISTRICT PICNIC CELEBRATION**  
 At the Mt. Morris Town Park 11:30 am - *No Morning Breakfast*  
**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!**  
 For maintaining the habitat restoration at the dam; Taking Secchi disc, water sample readings, & lake conservation work.  
 ❖ Mt. Morris Parade on Saturday, July 2016 at 11:00 am  
 ❖ Pontoon Boat Parade evening picnic at the **Town Park** and not at the Slupecki residence as had been done in past years  
 ❖ Commissioners Elections - Tim Dahstrand and Greg Foster.  
 Nominations can be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

The Official Newsletter of the  
**MT. MORRIS LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:**  
 Number 64 - June, 2016  
 Editor: Joe Slezak - W6346 Bighorn Lane, Wautoma, WI. 54982



**SIGNIFICANT FUNDING CHANGES COMING TO THE 2016-2017 MMLMD BUDGET YEAR**  
**Lack of State Grants for Funding Lake Management Programs Will Increase Annual Assessments**

Our 2016-2017 budget marks a major change in how we finance the MMLMD responsibilities. This change is precipitated by the anticipated end of DNR grants.. This short article will explain the position we now face.

The MMLMD is a special purpose unit of government that protects and rehabilitates our lakes and dam. The MMLMD has long-term financial commitments related to management and control of invasive species and maintenance and operation of the dam. It is our responsibility and continuing challenge as a community to help preserve our special lakes through aquatic plant management, dam and flume maintenance and preservation of water quality.

By way of background, there are several sources of funding available to MMLMD:

- The annual assessment is limited by law to 0.0025 of Equalized Value of properties within the MMLMD. The recent assessment amount is well below this limit and can be significantly increased.
- Special assessments can be made for the purpose of carrying out district protection and rehabilitation projects. Commissioners determine the entire cost of the project and apportion the special assessment within the district property owners on a reasonable basis.
- The MMLMD may borrow money. This is, in essence, another form of a special assessment. The district can assess an annual, non-repealable tax to pay the principal and interest on borrowed moneys. This tax is without limitation as to rate or amount on all taxable property within the district and is not included in the annual assessment.
- The Friends of Mount Morris Lakes Endowment Fund, established last year, already has assets of over \$28,000, nearly 5% of our goal of \$600,000 within twenty years. The earnings from this fund represent a new source of income for MMLMD but it will need additional assets before it can contribute significantly to our annual funding.
- Historically, MMLMD has been very successful obtaining DNR grants to help pay for our projects. During the time period of 1995 to 2015, we obtained one aquatic plant harvester grant, a dam repair grant, shoreline restoration grant, several lake planning grants and several aquatic invasive plant treatment grants.
- Over this twenty year period our DNR grants totaled \$333,393, for an average annual grant amount of \$16,700. We are told the availability of future DNR grant money is very unlikely and we will have to finance this loss in other ways.

Our 2016-2017 budget marks a major change in how we finance our responsibilities. For the past few years we were able to fund our district through our annual assessment, use of district reserve funds and DNR grant moneys. In 2016-2017 we will receive the last DNR grant money for our AIS treatment,

water quality testing, and consulting costs. This means we must increase our annual assessment with additional increases to come in future fiscal years. In addition to AIS treatment, we will also need to continue with our plant harvesting activities. These two items, AIS and harvesting, constitute approximately 80% of our annual expenses.

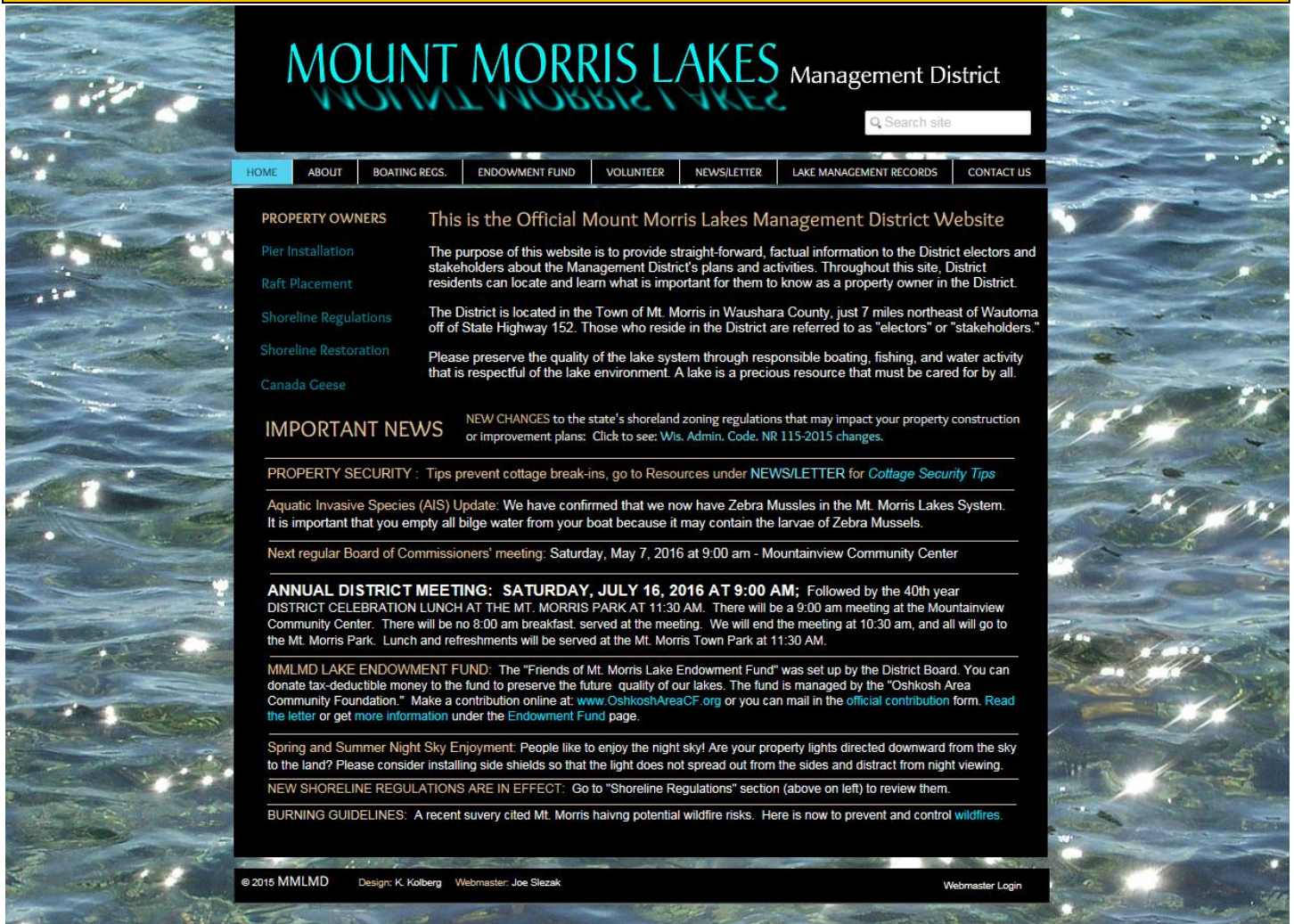
The Commissioners strongly believe that the continued management of AIS via chemical treatment and mechanical harvesting is required in order to preserve the lakes. To finance all of the MMLMD activities, we will use some of our reserves but we will also begin to increase the annual assessment. If we are unsuccessful with getting grants, the annual assessment will need to continue to increase in future years. Please review the budget chart below for 2016-2017 which itemizes our expenses and sources of funding for the upcoming fiscal year.

MT. MORRIS LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 2016-17 PROPOSED BUDGET			
BUDGET ACCOUNT DETAIL	2015-2016 ACTUAL SPEND	2016-2017 PROPOSED SPEND	BUDGET TOTAL
<b>AQUATIC INVASIVE</b>			
Treatment Fees	\$ 20,648.00	\$ 14,600.00	
Consulting Fees	\$ 5,225.00	\$ 8,900.00	
Water Testing	\$ 2,260.00	\$ 2,400.00	
Permits /Noticing	\$ 1,789.00	\$ 1,500.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 27,400.00</b>
<b>HARVESTER:</b>			
Contract Labor	\$ 13,388.00	\$ 12,750.00	\$ 12,750.00
Parts / Equipment	\$ 1,417.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Fuel / Oil	\$ 0.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00
Storage / License	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 15,200.00</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>			
General / Liability	\$ 1,674.00	\$ 1,800.00	
Workmen's Comp	\$ 265.00	\$ 270.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 2,070.00</b>
<b>COMM. COMP</b>	\$ 960.00	\$ 1,000.00	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
<b>ARCHIVES/WEBISTE</b>			
Archiving Records	\$ 1,258.00	\$ 3,100.00	
Public Website		\$ 350.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 3,450.00</b>
<b>DAM OPERATIONS</b>			
Electric	\$ 613.00	\$ 700.00	
Maintenance	\$ 763.00	\$ 800.00	
Restoration Site	\$ 0.00	\$ 500.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>
<b>GEN OPERATIONS</b>			
Wi Lakes Org Dues	\$ 483.00	\$ 483.00	
WCCLC Dues	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	
WC Field Days	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	
FOMML Mailings	\$ 183.00	\$ 270.00	
Safety Deposit Box	\$ 27.00	\$ 50.00	
Newsletter	\$ 314.00	\$ 300.00	
Office Supplies	\$ 172.00	\$ 250.00	
Assessment Role	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	
40 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting	\$ 440.00	\$ 1,000.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 2,480.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$53,814.00</b>		<b>\$53,600.00</b>
<b>CASH ASSETS &amp; PROJECTED INCOME</b>			
Checking Account	June 1, 2016		\$ 44,373.00
Certificate of Deposit	June 1, 2016		\$ 50,000.00
DNR Reimbursement			\$ 23,000.00
Interest			\$ 500.00
Special Assessment			\$ 24,000.00
<b>TOTAL CASH</b>			<b>\$141,873.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			<b>\$(53,600.00)</b>
<b>2016 – 2017 YER END CASH</b>			<b>\$88,273.00</b>

CHECK OUT OUR MT. MORRIS LAKES DISTRICT WEBSITE

It's the only page that you will find "floating in the water!"

[www.mtmorrislakes.org](http://www.mtmorrislakes.org)



DISPLAYED: The HOME Page. Here is what you will find on it and how you can get to where you want to go:

1. The HOME Tab is highlighted in aqua color. Up-front important new is displayed here. Every time you click on one of these tabs at the top, it turns aqua color. Look along the left side of the HOME page under PROPERTY OWNERS... you can click on information pages with the headings:

PIER INSTALLATION  
 RAFT PLACEMENT  
 SHORELINE REGULATION

SHORELINE RESTORATION  
 CANADA GEESE

Every tab has its own drop down list of information pages, listed on the left side of each page. Click on each tab to find them:

- ABOUT... information about the Mt. Morris Lake Management District and who we are
- BOATING REGS... Everything you need to know about boating laws on our lake, with a link to State Boating Laws
- ENDOWMENT FUND... What it is for, what it will do for the District, reports, and how you can donate to it.
- VOLUNTEER... You can take part in a lot of activities and projects to help out the District to keep costs down
- NEWSLETTER... A quick location to find the current newsletter and past newsletters!
- LAKE MANAGEMENT RECORDS... a special tab designed by Denis Sutton that has a dual purpose to show the District business meetings & activities, official documents & records, with a link to our Records Archive service.
- CONTACT US... Got a question? Want to make a suggestion? Need harvesting services? E-mail a commissioner!

3. To connect to this website live, go to this link: [www.mtmorrislakes.org](http://www.mtmorrislakes.org)