



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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www.lclprd.org | Email: lclprd@gmail.com

**WE BELIEVE IN PRESERVING AND PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE ON LITTLE CEDAR LAKE AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY.**

SPRING/SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021

Little Cedar Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District (LCLPRD) Board of Commissioners

The LCLPRD Board of Commissioners consists of three elected and two appointed commissioners. Elected commissioner terms are three years, and staggered. The other two commissioners are appointees of the Town of West Bend and Washington County Board. Board of Commissioners meetings are at the Town of West Bend Town Hall, generally monthly, during the Spring, Summer and Fall. Meeting notices and agendas are posted to the LCLPRD website, at the Towns of West Bend and Polk, and in the West Bend Daily News. District residents are encouraged to attend, either in person or virtually. A Zoom link is provided on the meeting notice. ***The 2021 LCLPRD Annual Meeting will be on Tuesday, September 7th.***

LCLPRD Water and Ice Ordinances

The LCLPRD held its 2020 Annual Meeting on September 8, 2020. That night, District electors and property owners approved a modified Water Ordinance and new Ice Ordinance for Little Cedar Lake. The current Ordinances can be found on the LCLPRD website (<https://lclprd.org>). A booklet containing the Ordinances will be mailed to all District residents.

Website

Visit the LCLPRD website (<https://lclprd.org>) for updates on meetings, weed harvesting, events, etc. If you “subscribe” to the website (dropdown menu under the “Contact Us” tab), you will receive email or text notification of a new post. Consider using the website **Trading Post** to list items you would like to buy or sell.

LCLPRD email

The LCLPRD email account is used to communicate information regarding activities, events, high water restrictions, etc. Our email database only contains addresses that have been provided by District residents. If you haven’t yet notified us of your email address, and would like to be included in these communications, please send it to us at lclprd@gmail.com.

Starry Stonewort

Starry Stonewort was initially detected near the public boat launch at Ackerman’s Grove in August 2018. Starry Stonewort is an invasive microalga that is spread via ballast water, boats, trailers, motors, anchors, etc. It can form dense mats on lake bottoms that potentially interfere with native vegetation, fish habitats and recreation. Its presence near Little Cedar’s public boat launch strongly suggests that it was introduced

by a boat or boats that inadvertently transported it from another lake. Since Starry Stonewort's initial detection in Little Cedar Lake, the LCLPRD has engaged in ongoing efforts to control it. We have worked with Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) specialists from the Wisconsin DNR (WDNR) and Washington County. We initiated control measures in 2019. They have included Clean Boats, Clean Waters initiatives, Diver Assisted Suction Harvest (DASH) and diver assisted hand pull events. These activities have been partially funded with grant money from the WDNR, and partially funded by the LCLPRD. In addition, we have relied heavily on volunteers. Our efforts have resulted in a significant decrease in biomass of Starry Stonewort in the area adjacent to the boat launch. Unfortunately, a point-intercept survey conducted in August 2020 revealed an additional patch of Starry Stonewort along the western shore directly across from the launch. We are currently in the final year of a three-year Rapid Response grant. As was the case in 2020, the grant will partially fund three diver-assisted hand pull events in 2021. (Divers physically remove Starry Stonewort from the lake bottom and transfer it to kayaks. The plant material is then ferried to shore for disposal). A robust contingency of volunteers (on shore and in kayaks) will be required for these events. The hand-pulls are scheduled for **Saturdays June 26, July 17 and August 7**. The Ackerman's launch will be closed until 1:00 p.m. on those days. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be postponed to the following day. Details will follow on the website and via email. Please consider an investment of time in maintaining the quality of Little Cedar by volunteering for one (or all!) of these events.

Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) Training Sessions

Inspection of watercraft entering and leaving Little Cedar at the public launch comprises an essential component of our efforts to not only limit the population of Starry Stonewort in our lake, but also to prevent its spread to other lakes. Our grant provides partial funding for paid boat inspectors at the launch, but we also rely significantly on volunteer inspectors. Erik Hanson, the Washington County AIS Coordinator, will conduct an in-person CBCW Training session on **June 1 at 4:30 p.m.** at the Washington County Public Agency Center (333 E. Washington Street, West Bend) and a virtual CBCW Training session on **June 5 at 9:00 a.m.** Contact Erik (erik.hanson@washcowisco.gov) for the Zoom link for the virtual meeting. If you are interested in volunteering for boat inspections on Little Cedar and have not previously attended a CBCW Training session, please attempt to attend one of these. Likewise, if you are willing to conduct inspections this summer, please contact us at lclprd@gmail.com for updates on protocol and procedure.

Weed Harvesting

This season's aquatic weed harvesting will commence on **June 1st**. Weather permitting, harvesting will occur every other week, Tuesday-Thursday. There will be a slight deviation from the every other week harvesting schedule in September, when harvesting will be postponed until the week of September 13th.

Pier pickup of weeds will be offered on Thursdays of harvesting weeks, beginning June 17th. Weeds must be at the end of piers no later than 7:00 a.m. on pickup days. The harvesting schedule is posted to the LCLPRD website. Pier pickups on Sept 16th are not yet confirmed.

Boater Safety Certification

The LCLPRD Water Ordinance (2020-1.09) cites age restrictions and boater safety certification requirements for operation of motorboats and personal watercraft (PWC). Wisconsin law requires those born on or after January 1, 1989 to pass a boater safety course and carry a boater safety card when independently operating a motorboat or PWC. The boater safety course is offered online: <https://www.boat-ed.com/wisconsin/>

Declaration of High Water Emergency Restrictions (LCLPRD Water Ordinance 2020-1.08)

When the water level of Little Cedar Lake exceeds the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) by at least four (4) inches, the Chair of the LCLPRD Board of Commissioners may declare a High Water Emergency. In such case, motorboat and PWC speeds are restricted to "slow, no wake" until the emergency has been

rescinded. Notice of imposition and rescission of a High Water Emergency will be posted at the public launch at Ackerman's Grove, as well as on the homepage of the LCLPRD website. It is incumbent upon those using the lake to be aware of the potential for a High Water Emergency after periods of prolonged rainfall or Cedar Creek congestion that may result in increased lake levels.

Potential round-up of geese

A minimum of 35 geese are required for the USDA/APHIS to consider a round-up. Please notify us (lclprd@gmail.com) **no later than June 3rd** if you have observed at least 35 geese on or near your property.

Ackerman's Grove parking restrictions/County Hwy Z parking issues

There are 17 vehicle/trailer parking spaces adjacent to the public launch at Ackerman's Grove County Park, twice as many as required by State law. Vehicle/trailer parking is not permitted along park roads or in other areas of the park. The Washington County Sheriff's Department is responsible for enforcing parking restrictions at Ackerman's. To report violations, call **Washington County Sheriff dispatch: (262) 335-4411**.

Currently, there are no parking restrictions on the segment of County Hwy Z adjacent to Ackerman's Grove County Park. On several occasions last summer when the vehicle/trailer lot at the launch was full, individuals launched their boats, then parked their vehicle/trailer units on Hwy Z. We received a number of complaints regarding the hazard this situation created. These complaints were conveyed to the Washington County Highway Commissioner. We subsequently learned that a formal request for parking restrictions along this segment of Hwy Z can only evolve after a somewhat lengthy petition process. That process requires substantiation of the hazard through written/email complaints and photographs. If you observe vehicle/trailer parking along Hwy Z that you feel constitutes a hazard, please document the date/time (and include photos, if possible), and send an email stating your observation and concern to lclprd@gmail.com. We will collate complaints and attempt to pursue the formal petition process for County consideration of parking restrictions along that segment of Hwy Z.

Traveling Beer Garden at Ackerman's Grove

The 1840 Brewing Company will again host a series of beer gardens in Washington County parks on Fridays from June to October. The traveling beer garden will be at Ackerman's Grove on **Friday, June 25, from 4-9 PM**.

Annual Boat Parade

The boat parade will be on **Sunday, July 4th at 7:00 PM**. This annual tradition has become one of the highlights of the summer. We encourage everyone to consider participating this year. Decorate your boat and join in the fun! The *Most Patriotic, Most Creative and Best Decorated* vessels will receive awards. Watch the website for more details. We're looking for several volunteers to photograph parade participants as well, especially from the west side of the lake. If interested, please contact us at lclprd@gmail.com. **There will be no rain date**. Event cancellation will be posted to the website by 6:30 PM on July 4th.

Summer Social

The annual Summer Social will be on **Sunday, August 1st at 3:00 PM at Ackerman's Grove County Park, Shelter 3**. The LCLPRD will cover the shelter rental and park admission fees, as well as brats, burgers, condiments and paper products. Attendees will be asked to bring their own beverages and an appetizer, salad or dessert, based on the first letter of their last name. Because the event is subsidized by the LCLPRD, we must limit attendance to District residents. Please watch the website for details.



LCLPRD Upcoming Events

June 1

Clean Boats, Clean Waters Training (4:30 pm)
333 E. Washington Street

June 5

Clean Boats, Clean Waters Training (9:00 am)
Virtual - Contact Erik Hanson (erik.hanson@washcowisco.gov)

June 7

LCLPRD Monthly Meeting (6:30 pm)
Town of West Bend Town Hall

June 17

Pier pickups of weeds (7:00 am)
Little Cedar Lake

June 25

Traveling Beer Garden (4:00-9:00 pm)
Ackerman's Grove County Park

June 26

Starry Stonewort Hand-pull (8:00 am - 1:00 pm)
Ackerman's Grove Boat Launch

**July
1, 15, 29**

Pier pickups of weeds (7:00 am)
Little Cedar Lake

July 4

Annual Boat Parade (7:00 pm)
Little Cedar Lake

July 12

LCLPRD Monthly Meeting (6:30 pm)
Town of West Bend Town Hall

July 17

Starry Stonewort Hand-pull (8:00 am - 1:00 pm)
Ackerman's Grove Boat Launch

Aug 1

Little Cedar Lake Summer Social (3:00 pm)
Ackerman's Grove County Park Shelter #3

Aug 7

Starry Stonewort Hand-pull (8:00 am - 1:00 pm)
Ackerman's Grove Boat Launch

Aug 9

LCLPRD Monthly Meeting (6:30 pm)
Town of West Bend Town Hall

Aug 12, 26

Pier pickups of weeds (7:00 am)
Little Cedar Lake

Sept 7

LCLPRD Annual Meeting (6:30 pm)
Town of West Bend Town Hall