Happenings at the Hollow





Dutch Hollow Lake
Property Owners' Association, Inc.
608-985-7294

www.dutchhollowlake.org

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2023

YEAR IN REVIEW

Brought to you by the DHL Board of Directors. Each Director is responsible to chair a committee.

Recreation

Submitted by Jen Pauli

Year in Review - 2023

- Over 15 member events held, including 6 featuring live music and 3 weekends of tournaments
- Established volunteer network to help with events almost 30 volunteers so far
- Implemented SignUp Genius an easy to use app for volunteers to see and sign up for volunteer opportunities

Looking Ahead - 2024

- 18 events planned, including some new and reimagined events based on several suggestions from our members- DHL Parade of Homes (new) & 2 wine/beer events
- Identified Chair(s) for each event to plan, coordinate, and run event with help from volunteer network as needed
- Look for links to SignUp Genius for your opportunities to volunteer in 2024
- We always love to hear ideas from you please email or call the office

Hope to see you all at the various events this coming year!

COMPLETE CATALOG 1-800-295-5510 uline.com

Long Range Planning

Submitted by Joe Leane

The DHL Long Range Planning Committee identifies and studies issues impacting Dutch Hollow 3 to 5 years into the future. The Committee also raises awareness, provides information, and answers questions on those issues.

The Committee has focused on the new pool facility project for the last few years. This year we refocused on all the Dutch Hollow Lake facilities, including the beach, beach house, campground, dam, docks, lake, current pool, tennis courts and pumps. Those facilities have been inspected, studied and issues have been identified. Plans to address these issues are being developed.

Publicity

Submitted by Meredith Wodka

- Rebranded and updated the website
- Added an Instagram Account
- Increased visual information at the clubhouse and social media
- Implemented digital payments via Venmo
- Created a plan to further digital payment and sales for 2024

Legal

Submitted by Steve Suleski

- Continuing efforts to improve situations involving noncompliant and run down properties
- Collections of past due assessments
- Understanding and communicating rules about special assessment approval process
- Working with outside attorneys to resolve various disputes involving the association

In 2024, expect to work on limitations of operating a home business and code of conduct for members on Association property.

Nominations

Submitted by Steve Suleski

Successfully filled ballot with qualified candidates for election of directors at 2023 Annual Meeting

In January, will begin process of seeking qualified candidates to run for available Board positions for election at 2024 Annual Meeting



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Forestry & Wildlife

Submitted by Steve Suleski

- Held education sessions in January, February and March on the association's Forest Stewardship Plan, invasive species concerns, deer and muskrat management, and recent activities associated with each of these areas
- Began subcommittee meetings forestry, invasive species and deer management
- Forestry focused on next steps to implement the Forest Stewardship Plan, including possible replantings in recently harvested areas and "Do's and Don't's" for any future timber harvests
- Invasive species focused on a program to help control autumn olive, including a test program on association and lot owner land, and follow up work to control invasive species growth in recently harvested forest areas

Deer management has worked on a survey to determine members' attitudes toward a bow season hunt on association lands and on an education program to help members understand the latest thinking on deer management in populated areas

Maintenance

Submitted by Mike Rood

- Replaced the 2 decks at the Beach House
- Replaced the Campground Water Supply Piping
- Added Gravel and Widened the Campground Site Pads
- Replaced the Gator for the Maintenance Staff
- Replaced the Tires on the Plow Truck
- Dock Work:
 - ⇒ Rebuilt the Large Rhine Dock
 - ⇒ Installed New Walk Ramps at (2) Rhine Docks and Green Knoll Dock
 - ⇒ Re-Decked the Beach House and Clubhouse Docks
 - ⇒ Replaced the Floats at the Clubhouse and Beach House
 - ⇒ Replaced Floats and Decking at the small Summit Dock



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Finance

Submitted by Marty Dreischmeier

- Reviewed alternative funding strategies for pool and secured a financing option.
- Developed 2024 budget including review of annual assessment, user fees for amenities, major expenses, and setting aside funds for current and future projects.
- Opened another high interest savings account for the association to maintain FDIC insurance as well as increased interest earnings.



Safety & Security

Submitted by Tyler Glover

The Safety and Security Committee exists to advise on matters and safety issues relating to common properties, amenities, and the local area. The Committee's objective is to maintain a safe and secure environment for Association members, their guests, and the general public.

As we head into a new year, the Committee continues to seek volunteers willing to engage in safety and security efforts for the DHL community. Please Reach out to Pam, Rachel or Tyler Glover if you are interested in helping.

In 2023, the organization received a donation of 20 security cameras for the benefit of the association.

In 2024, we will periodically feature safety and security-related topics in the DHL newsletter. Additionally, we plan to offer a training opportunity in the form of CPR and/or AED class to Members.



Friends of Dutch Hollow Lake

Submitted by Phil Hunt

Thank you so much for your support for the Friends of Dutch Hollow Lake (FDHL) in 2023. The last year was a very busy year for the Qualified Lake Association both in terms of actions taken to manage the current level of invasive species and the long-term management of the lake. We had a total of 157 members last year (up 26 from the previous year)!

We would like to share some of last year's accomplishments and help everyone understand what the focus will be for the FDHL in 2024.

2023 Accomplishments

Lake Management

Lake Management Plan: The WDNR requires that FDHL have an approved lake management plan in place to treat for invasive species, apply for grants and manage the lake. Our updated plan running from 2023-2028 was approved by the WDNR in April.

Invasive Species Management: We understand the frustration that many had with the invasive species issue on the lake; especially in Woodland Bay and around the Association docks. We have learned from past experiences that we need to use several different approaches to control the Hybrid Eurasian Water Milfoil (HEWM). Our control options include the following (all control efforts must be approved by the WDNR before beginning any work):

Herbicide Treatment - A liquid herbicide is applied to a specific section the lake. A large-scale use of this method is typically only allowed every 3-5 years. If we use the herbicide too much, the HEWM may become resistant to the herbicide and could negatively impact native species.

Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) - a scuba diver removes the plant by the roots & a suction tube pulls the plant onto a boat. The goal with this method is to stop the fragmentation (and spreading of the plant) when removing the HEWM. This method is best in small areas with a dense amount of HEWM.

Manual Removal – a snorkeler removes the plant by the root and places it into a bag for removal. This method is best when the amount of HEWM is low, and the threat of fragmentation is lower.

Activities in 2023

Herbicide Treatment – Treated 9.9 acres in the Woodland Bay area with ProcellaCOR. The treatment was very successful in killing the majority of the HEWM.

DASH Work – completed DASH work around several of the Property Owners Association's docks. A total of 4 days of DASH work was be performed.

Manual Harvesting –completed manual removal in the beach area and areas chemically treated in 2022. A total of 4 days of manual harvesting was performed.

Fisheries Committee: The FDHL committee has focused on improving the fish habitat with the use of fish cribs and fish sticks. The hope is to install of some of these items in the winter of 2024-2025. We are looking for someone to chair this committee. If you are interested, please call the office.

2023 Aquatic Plant Management Survey: FDHL will receive the 2023 Aquatic Plant Management Survey results from our consultant, Aquatic Plant and Habitat Services LLC, in early January 2024. The preliminary report showed the amount of HEWM detected in 2023 was much lower than in 2022. This appears to indicate that our control efforts were successful. However, the HEWM was found to be dense in the Remington Bay area. This survey was used as the basis for developing our invasive species management plan for 2024.

Muskrats – Trapped and removed 109 muskrats from the lake.

Financial

Costs

Last year the FDHL spent a significant amount of money on several activities:

\$25,054 – Herbicide treatment (includes treatment & required testing)

\$11,7589 – DASH (including survey costs)

\$9,600 – Manual Removal

\$3,845 – Point intercept survey and aquatic plant report

Grants

Sauk County Grant: The Friends of Dutch Hollow Lake again received a Grant through the Sauk County Lake Management Grant Program. A total of \$18,992 from Sauk County grants was received in 2023. The funds were

used to help with offset the cost for herbicide treatment.

WDNR Grants: In 2023 FDHL received \$6,188 from a grant approved in 2022. The funds were used for the DASH work.

The total grants funds received of \$25,180 is a huge savings to all property owners. In the past, the DHLPOA would have been required to provide these funds. (For reference, the DHLPOA donates \$13,000 annually to FDHL for lake weed control but has expended a great deal more than that amount in previous years.)

Donations

Member Donations: In 2023, we received a total of \$6,440 in donations from Association members (\$3,750 in general donations & \$690 for muskrat trapping, and \$2,000 from DHL Races).

2024 Plans

Invasive Species Management: We need to continue our efforts controlling the HEWM. We plan to continue using several control methods in 2024 (still need to be approved by the WDNR):

- Herbicide Treatment Treating 1.9 acres in the Remington Bay area with ProcellaCOR. The cost of this work is budgeted at \$11,000.
- DASH Work 5 days DASH work around several of the Property Owners Association's docks. The cost of this work is budgeted at \$14,000.
- Manual Harvesting –5 days of manual removal in the areas previously treated with herbicide. The cost of this work is budgeted at \$12,000.
- **2023** Aquatic Plant Management Survey: Part of our lake management plan requires that an Aquatic Plant Management Survey be completed each year. In addition, it provides historical data used to justify chemical treatment for invasive species. The cost for this work is \$5,800.

Sand for the Beach – We hope to add sand to the beach area. The cost of this work is budgeted at \$5,000. **Muskrats** – Continue to control the muskrat population.

Grant Opportunities:

- We applied for a \$22,750 WDNR grant to help offset the costs of herbicide treatment, manual removal, and aquatic plant survey work. We will find out in February if our grant has been approved.
- We will apply for a grant from Sauk County in March. We anticipate our grant to be approved by the County.
- We expect to receive \$1,241 in funding as final payment from a WDNR grant approved in 2022.

We have developed an ambitious plan in 2024 to try to control the invasive species and maintain the quality of the lake. As you can see, the cost of work planned for 2024 is significant. We encourage you to consider making a tax-deductible donation to the FDHL to help support this important work.

There will obviously be additional issues that the Friends of Dutch Hollow Lake will be exploring during 2024, but hopefully this gives our members a glimpse into the areas that the FDHL Board has been focused on in 2023 and what we view as top priorities for next year.

Annual Meeting

The FDHL annual meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2024, following the DHLPOA annual meeting. The meeting will be held at the clubhouse.

We are sincerely encouraging our members to consider re-upping their membership dues of \$5.00 a person (Wisconsin state law requires us to charge a minimum of \$5 per member) to help us maintain our status as a Qualified Lake Association and continue the critical work of maintaining the health of our lake. (Part of the review process when approving grants is the number of members of the Association. The more members we have, the better our chances of our grant being approved). Each family member can join the Association. Please find membership information details on the next page.

We appreciate your continued support and your commitment to the health of Dutch Hollow Lake.

Yes, I want to become a member (or renew my membership) of the Friends of Dutch Hollow Lake, Inc. for 2024.	
i 2024 Friends of Dutch Hollow Lake Membership (\$5 per person):	
Please list members separately.	
Name:	Renewal or New Member \$5
Lot #: Emai	1:
Name:	Renewal or New Member \$5
Lot #: Emai	1:
	Additional Tax Deductible Donation: Total Enclosed:
Please make checks payable to Friends of Dutch Hollow Lake, Inc. Thank you in advance for your membership!	

Friends of Dutch Hollow Lake is a Qualified Lake Association that was formed in February 2020. This group was formed to preserve and protect a lake and its surroundings, and to enhance the water quality, fishery, boating safety, and aesthetic value of a lake.

- Friends of DHL membership and dues are **voluntary**.
- Dues are to be paid on a calendar year basis.
- Qualified Lake Association (FDHL) has **no powers** over the lake **community residents.**
- <u>Membership is limited</u> to those people with an interest in protecting the lake. It is limited to individual, family, business, or organizations that: <u>Own or lease property</u> within <u>one mile</u> of the lake. Reside on or within <u>one mile of the lake</u> at least one month each year.
- Incorporated under Section 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes to be eligible for DNR or state funding.
- Incorporated as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization so that contributions are tax deductible.

Before the group was formed, the Dutch Hollow Lake Property Owners' Association (DHLPOA) performed all the functions of a Qualified Lake Association. However, a Property Owners' Association does not qualify for DNR and State grants so, the Association paid for all the costs associated with protecting the Lake.

Trail Happenings

Submitted by Candy Bubolz

One of the free amenities to all members is the 6 mile nature hiking trail. We greatly appreciate all the positive feedback we have received with the recent hiking trail improvements!!

New this year to the hiking trail was the addition of 4 bluebird nesting boxes in the Green Knoll/Remington segment. We were lucky enough to have 2 pair of bluebirds occupy the boxes this first year, which is highly unusual! Stay tuned for further bluebird reports in 2024.

The reroute segment of the trail was completed in the Amsterdam segment; trail signs and benches were repositioned in this area.

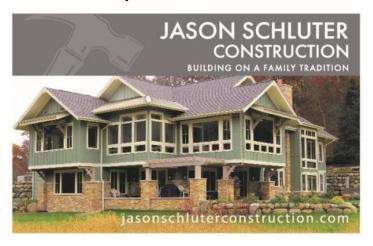
A dedication bench was donated by Kathy & Eric Dickerson and placed on the trail in the Amsterdam area, overlooking the lake. A big thank you to The Dickersons!

Nature Day was August 12th the Committee hosted a bird house/bird feeder painting project at the clubhouse. In conjunction with Nature Day the committee held a name the Eagle Tree contest. Congratulations to the winning entry "Liberty Loft" submitted by Clair Handorf! Clair won a set of binoculars. Look for a trail sign for best viewing of Liberty Loft to be erected on the trail in 2024.

Our final completed project of the year was the dam history kiosk. It was installed by Henke Signs, on the trail below the dam before entering the La Valle boat landing.

One of the Committee's ongoing projects is to bring to our members on a monthly basis nature news, which we hope you have been enjoying in the Newsletters.

Our goals for 2024 are to continue to enhance the trail with the addition of nature related signage, maintain and improve the Nature Center in the Clubhouse, and bring informative events to the members. We are in the process of planning the Summer of the Monarchs, look for updates in the 2024 monthly newsletters!!



Pool Fundraising

Submitted by Joyce Janu

The Committee's fundraising goal is \$500,000 toward the replacement of the DHL swimming pool.

A generous member offered to match the first \$50,000 of that amount. Through mailings, raffles, and events we successfully met that goal.

Then our generous member agreed to donate an additional \$50,000 if matched. We are currently in the process of attaining that goal. \$30,793 is needed to receive that second donation.

We are thankful for the creative contributions by our members. Artisans have shared their work to sell, members organized additional fundraisers (plant sale, rummage sales, and more) to show their support.

Thank you for your donations! Please continue to support the improvement of this amenity.



Personnel

Submitted by Joyce Janu

Our staff includes three full-time year-round employees, and two full-time seasonal maintenance employees.

In addition, in the summer we hire several part-time employees.

We are incredibly lucky to have such dedicated group of employees!



Helene Full - Broker

fullhousehelene@gmail.com

Dutch Hollow Lake

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Playing It Safe

Submitted by Safety & Security Committee

For residents that have not already winterized and/or those that utilize their homes seasonally, please find a few tips that may be useful as you go through your winter prep checklist.

- Remove food from pantry, cupboards, refrigerators; remove liquids from places that have a chance of freezing.
- Clean premises, empty trash, and remove waste from property; address septic tank if needed.
- Safeguard against frozen pipes by turning off water, draining pipes, using plumbing-safe antifreeze, and covering outdoor faucets with insulated covers; check water heater and softener.
- Mitigate potential fire hazards and ensure that fire and CO alarms are operable.
- Close and lock doors/windows, buildings, sheds, garages, vehicles; remove valuables from premises.
- Close fireplace flue (when not in use) and clean fireplace.
- Turn off or unplug lights, appliances, and electronics.
- Check condition of roof and gutters, and be sure that gutters are clear of leaves and debris.
- Confirm that sufficient fuel/propane is available for your seasonal needs; set thermostat to an appropriate and safe temperature.
- Have a plan to check on property, or coordinate with trusted party to do so periodically.
- Store, secure, or cover outdoor items.
- Utilize technology such as security systems or Ring and Nest doorbells/cameras.
- Do a final check and walk-through; make a list of Spring to-do's and projects.





Join the fun!

Thursday, December 14th

Come to the clubhouse at **1 p.m.** Bring a favorite game if you have one. BYOB and snack.

Game days will be held the 2nd Thursday of each month!

See you there.

Honey Do List?

Contact Mike Ray, 608-985-8229 mjray1951@gmail.com

House Checks

Yard Work: weed, plant, Spring/Fall cleanup, landscape, lawn watering

Decks: paint, wash Autos: wash, detail

Snow removal: decks, stairs, side-

walks

Rent the Beach House Off Season \$199/night

(two night minimum)

Nature Trail News

Submitted by Trail Committee

This is for the BIRDS

No – not like THAT!! More like which birds are in our area during the winter and what can we do to help them survive (or maybe even thrive) while also enjoying them.

Access to water is often a problem in the winter. Providing water, and using a heating element when it's below freezing, would be most appreciated.

The best seed to provide is black oil sunflower, which has a high-fat content and attracts the most species. Try to avoid generic seed mixes, which often have more waste. Suet is another option that some birds will like.

Minimize disease by cleaning your feeders at least once every two weeks using soapy water and a 10% bleach solution. And place feeders closer than 3 feet or farther than 30 feet from your home to avoid the deadliest window collision zone. We don't want to "kill them with kindness" now, do we?

Deter squirrels with cone or dome-shaped baffles above hanging feeders or below pole-mounted feeders. Some squirrels are darned crafty so you may need to try a few methods to deter them.

OK – so you're all set with food and water. Now what species might you see here during the winter?

There are several bird species that stay here during winter, including goldfinches, woodpeckers, chickadees, northern cardinals, blue jays, robins, screech owls, red-tailed hawks, and bald eagles. Some birds migrate **TO** the area Wisconsin during winter, such as American tree sparrows, red-breasted nuthatches, and pine siskins.

If you're interested in identifying our local birds, you can use the following tips:

- **Size**: Size is the easiest thing to notice about a bird. Birds are often measured in inches or centimeters in guidebooks.
- Color: Color is another important feature to look for when identifying birds. The color of a bird's feathers can help you determine what species it is.
- **Shape:** The shape of a bird's body, wings, beak and tail can also be helpful in identifying birds.

Habitat: The type of habitat a bird is found in can also give you clues about what species it is.

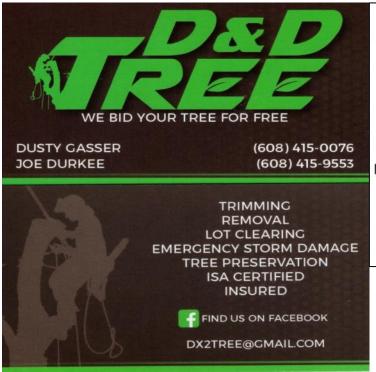
For example, here are a few of our more common birds.



A great online resource for visual as well as audio identification is at Guide to North American Birds | Audubon.

Enjoying our local birds and helping them thrive is a wonderful way to connect with nature all year round.

Happy Birding!!!





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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

The clubhouse will be closed December 23rd - December 26th and December 29th - January 1st.

Can you help?

The Recreation Committee needs a creative person to coordinate a "Kids Day at the Lake" Event

If you are interested call the office.





JANUARY

- 1/1 2024 Assessment due
- 1/11 **EVENT:** Game Day
- 1/13 Board Meeting 9 a.m.

FEBRUARY

- 2/10 Board Meeting 9 a.m.
- 2/10 <u>EVENT:</u> Brown Bag Wine/Beer 2pm-4pm (Bring your own)
- 2/15 **EVENT:** Game Day

MARCH

- 3/9 Board Meeting 9 a.m.
- 3/14 **EVENT:** Game Day
- 3/23 **DEADLINE:** Seasonal Campsite balance due

APRIL

- 4/1 **DEADLINE:** Application due seasonal dock slips
- 4/12 Campground open (weather permitting)
- 4/12 Tennis & Pickle ball nets up (weather permitting)
- 4/13 Board Meeting 9 a.m.
- 4/22 Boats stored inside brought out this week (weather permitting) Pick up by May 6 if not continuing summer storage
- 4/25 **DEADLINE:** Dock slip rent payment due
- 4/27 Annual Meeting of Members

MAY

- 5/19 **DEADLINE:** 2023 Assessments paid in full to avoid lien filing/charge
- 5/25 Pool opens for the season
- 5/25 Dutch Treat Snack Shop opens for season (weekends only May/June)
- 5/25 EVENT: Pancake Breakfast & Plant Exchange 8am to 10am
- 5/26 <u>EVENT:</u> Tournaments; Food Truck (Nemma's World Tour), Live Music by DHL Jammers 4pm to 7pm
- 5/31 **EVENT:** DHL Garage Sales

JUNE

- 6/1 **EVENT:** DHL Garage Sales
- 6/1 **EVENT:** Kids Cast-A-Way Fishing Derby
- 6/8 Board Meeting 9 a.m.
- 6/22 **EVENT:** Parrot head Party 5pm to 8pm

JULY

- 7/1 Dutch Treat Snack Shop now open daily through Labor Day
- 7/6 **EVENT:** Flag Raising 9am
- 7/6 <u>EVENT:</u> Tournaments, Silent Auction, Brats & Burgers 6pm Live Music by Cougar Wagon 5pm to 8pm
- 7/13 Board Meeting 9 a.m.
- 7/27 **EVENT:** Food Truck Pig Pen BBQ 4pm-7pm & Live Music by DHL Jammers 4pm to 7pm

AUGUST

- 8/10 Board Meeting 9 a.m.
- 8/10 **EVENT:** Brown Bag Wine/Craft Beer with Live Music by Mark LaMere 2pm to 4pm
- 8/31 <u>EVENT:</u> DHL Races 8 a.m., Food Truck, Fireworks, Live Music by DJ Devo 7 10 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

- 9/1 **EVENT:** Tournaments
- 9/2 Pool and Dutch Treat close at end of day
- 9/8 **DEADLINE:** Apps for 2024 Beach House and Seas. Campsites due
- 9/12 **EVENT:** Game Day
- 9/14 Board Meeting 9 a.m.

OCTOBER

- 10/10 **EVENT:** Game Day
- 10/12 Board Meeting 9 a.m.
- 10/14 Campground closes
- 10/14 **DEADLINE:** Seasonal campers must be off sites (or have storage secured)
- 10/14 **DEADLINE:** All boats must be removed from Assn. docks (no exceptions)
- 10/26 EVENT: Halloween Party with costume contest, chili cookoff, Music by the DHL Jammers 4pm-7pm

NOVEMBER

- 11/9 Board Meeting 9 a.m.
- 11/14 **EVENT:** Game Day