

MPOA NEWSLETTER

Now that the long awaited dredging project is underway, your MPOA Board can refocus their efforts on developing a balanced budget for 2015; preparing for the September Convention of Delegates & election of the president, 2nd vice president and treasurer; and beginning to plan for the 50th anniversary of the MPOA.

NEWSLETTER ISSUES

Some of you may be wondering what has happened to our MPOA newsletter. Here are some of the issues involved in getting such a document put together and distributed to the community.

- It takes approximately 1 month to prepare stories, format them into a document suitable for printing, printing, and distribution to property owners.
- There is no one person willing to attend MPOA meetings for the purpose of coordinating and developing information for distribution to the community.
- Critical details related to projects are often changing, sometimes on a daily basis, making it difficult to provide accurate information.
- Many times, the volunteer effort lacks the time and knowledge necessary to put together accurate, up to date articles.

Until we can come up with viable solutions to these challenges, your MPOA officers are hopeful that property owners can utilize their computers and access the MPOA website (wlmppoa.org) and or call the MPOA office (815-653-4136) for current information. In the meantime, we will continue to work to get periodic informational newsletters distributed to property owners. You can also register your email address with Kathy in the MPOA office and receive email updates on important issues dealing with our Lake. Send your email address to wlkathy@wlmppoa.org The MPOA will not use your email address for anything other than messages about Wonder Lake conditions and activities.

DREDGING PROJECT

On October 11, 2013, the MPOA finally received the last of the required permits and on October 15, 2013, construction of the Sediment Dewatering Facility (SDF) located to the south and adjacent to Galt Airport began to move forward. The SDF site is classified as a dam by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources (IDNR-OWR) and therefore falls under their jurisdiction. Following the inspection of the completed SDF by the MPOA's consulting engineer and IDNR-OWR staff, authorization to begin filling the SDF was received from IDNR-OWR on June 5, 2014. The SDF contractor has completed the perimeter fencing of the property, and is installing the "no-trespassing" signs on the fencing. If there is sufficient interest from MPOA members, the MPOA may consider scheduling an "open-house" at the SDF site later this summer.

The dredging contractor is nearing completion of the mobilization of equipment, and the pipeline is in place. Barring changes in plans, commencement of dredging sediment will begin the week of June 23, 2014. The plan calls for the dredging to start in the West Bay and following several weeks of work in that area, proceed to the east side and dredge the area between O'Brien Shoals and Wickline Island and the east side lakefront. Once this area is completed, they will then move to the Lookout Point and White Oaks Bay coves. They will then move their equipment to the south end and plan to do as much as possible before the end of the construction season, beginning again next spring and finishing up in the South Bay in the Spring of 2015. As a result, at this point in time, the only lake-front landowners who will need to temporarily move piers during the 2014 boating season will be those located along the south shore of West Bay, and along the Nippersink Creek inlet.

DEAD CARP

Subdivision and lakefront properties have recently been dealing with a significant die-off of carp, which has apparently been occurring on other area lakes as well.

According to the IL Department of Natural Resources - Fisheries Division staff, this naturally occurring condition was most likely caused by the extreme winter; fluctuating water temperatures during carp spawning activities; and the onset of a bacterial infection that negatively impacts on the carp population when this species is in a stressed state. This bacteria is ever-present in lakes and does not impact on other species or humans. Aside from the clean up, no action is necessary.

As always, it is the responsibility of subdivisions and individual property owners to maintain their lake-front shorelines. The MPOA does not have the staff, budget, or facilities to gather and dispose of dead fish.

This event, coupled with the Annual Sportsman's Club sponsored Carp Derby, over time could benefit Wonder Lake by creating a more balanced fishery.

2015 - MPOA 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The MPOA Board of Directors is forming a committee to plan events that will celebrate the MPOA's 50 continuous years of managing our Lake and dam. The planning committee is looking to expand its membership and gathering pictures and stories related to the history of activities and events that have taken place on and in Wonder Lake. If you are interested in volunteering time to serve on this committee, please call the MPOA office at 815-653-4136.

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