

May 12, 2023



Dear Lake Helen Property Owners,

You are encouraged to attend our Annual Meeting. For the third year in a row, it is being held outside at the Lake Helen County Park shelter. The meeting notice, agenda, financial report, and proposed budget are included with this letter. At the meeting we will be electing one commissioner, Glen plans to run for another term.

We will update you on the progress that has been made regarding the Blue Green Algae Bloom. We continue to ask everyone to refrain from fertilizing their lawns this year. We have soil testing kits available if you'd like to find out if your lawn needs fertilizer at all. We'll also tell you about some Heathy Lakes and Rivers **opportunities to get grant funds** from the DNR **to establish native plants** along your shoreline and the benefits to the lake for doing that.

We will also review the ongoing effort to reduce and control the **Eurasian Watermilfoil** invasive plant. EWM was initially discovered in 2008. Chemical treatments were done in 2014 and 2020. 2021 and 2022 manual harvesting with hand pulling and D.A.S.H. events have helped to maintain control. We received a three-year grant from the DNR to help us with our control efforts. We'll discuss our 2023 plans at the meeting.

You will receive an update from the fishing committee regarding habitat improvements, regulations changes, and fish stocking plans.

We will provide information on the continuing efforts to update the Lake Management Plan. You will also learn about the new property owner welcome packets that have been developed.

There will be discussion on roadway and boaters safety to maintain a fun and safe environment for our families.

WI Lakes recommended eliminating our by-laws and governing based strictly on Chapter 33. We will have a vote to eliminate the existing by-laws and approve a new policy document.

Finally, you will have an opportunity to volunteer to join one of our exciting new committees. EWM Management Committee and Lake Helen Communication Committee.

Our election will follow **state law that defines the voting regulations for Lake Districts.** [*Wisconsin state statute Chapter 33.01(9)(ar)*]

In order to vote at the Annual Meeting, the electors must be at least 18 years of age, citizens of the US, and are not disqualified from voting in Wisconsin elections. In addition, each person must be at least one of the following:

- A person whose name appears on the tax role for the lake district.
- Any person who owns title to real property in the lake district. (A spouse is an owner in Wisconsin)
- One official representative of a trust, foundation, corporation, or other organization that owns property in the lake district.
- A registered voter who resides in the lake district.
- Note: voters of multiple properties can only vote once.

Sincerely,

Lake Helen Protection & Rehabilitation District Commissioners
Keith Hoffman – Chair
Glen Bersie – Treasurer
Tyne Hoffman – Secretary
Kara Boghossian – Commissioner
Todd Wierzba – Commissioner