

A publication for sportsmen dedicated to the enjoyment, preservation, and improvement of salmon and trout fishing in the Great Lakes.



The Tightline

April 2023

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHERMEN FOUNDATION

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

ISSUE 539



We are excited to announce that the 23rd annual Brew City Tournament is official! This year, the event will be held at South Shore Park on July 28th and 29th. Once again, we will have a 2-day Pro Division (7/28-7/29) and a 1-day Amateur Division (7/29) with prizes of \$3,000+ for the Amateurs and \$10,000+ for the Professional Division (prized based on the number of entries). Additionally, a lucky winner, not in the top 10, will receive an **OUNCE OF GOLD!** Additional random winners will be awarded so you might win more coming in 90th place than in 1st!

As many of you know, McKinley Marina will have a large amount of construction happening this year that will affect the boat launch area. This construction made hosting our tournament a logistical nightmare and the club decided we needed to find a new home for 2023. We also wanted to remain loyal to the Milwaukee tradition which doesn't leave a lot of options. Negotiations with South Shore Park, South Shore Yacht Club, and other stakeholders have been ongoing since January and as of this week, we have our permit for the event and can pursue the planning and sponsorships that are needed to host an event of this size.

Within the next few weeks, the rules will be posted, and the event registration will begin. Please keep an eye out for official announcements through email and our Facebook page.

South Shore Park will be a great location, but many people have expressed concerns that we would like to address.

- We have been assured that the launch ramps will be attended to this year. As a club we are working with the county to ensure that the ramps can be cleared on a regular basis.
- South Shore Park has approximately 70 boat parking spaces. We believe that with the right planning and execution, this will be sufficient.
- Check-in this year will be via radio. So, you don't have to launch at SSP, you can still launch from McKinley or anywhere else, so long as you stage outside the Milwaukee Harbor (north or south gaps)
- We are strongly encouraging participants to consider getting a transient slip at South Shore Yacht club to alleviate the pressure at the ramp and reduce parking lot congestion. Slip fees at SSYC are reasonable and slips are plentiful.

More details are yet to come and feel free to reach out to Brian Haydin if you have any questions, comments or concerns. Brian@glsfclub.com or (414) 704 – 0755.

All Meetings are the second Tuesday of the Month.
New Berlin Ale House
16000 W. Cleveland Ave,
New Berlin

Tuesday, April 11th, 4 pm
Annual Swap Meet (4-6)
to be followed by the
Member Meeting, 7 pm
All followed by one of
Dave Bowe's raffles!

Tuesday, May 9th, 7 pm
Program: Bob Krecak, Boat and
Net Pen fabricator extraordinaire;
Jason Woda, Lakeshore Business
Association

Club Events

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Membership Dues

Page 6

More Club News
and Updates at
www.GLSFCLUB.com

Upcoming Meetings

May 9th 🌸

September 12th ☀️

October 10th 🍁

November 14th 🦃



GLSF — MILWAUKEE

Notes from your President



Brian Haydin

April Greetings GLSF Club Members and Associates,

April marks the beginning of the fishing season for many of us. Walleye fishing on the Mississippi; smelt under the Hoan Bridge; and of course, the browns in the harbor. As I travel across the Hoan every morning to work, it's not uncommon for me to see a dozen or more boats. But there is another important aspect of our fishery in the spring: **fish stocking**. Browns have already been stocked for the year and next up are the Chinooks.

Chinooks will be stocked in the new net pens the week of the 17th and we will finally be able to utilize the pens built through the efforts of this club. The time and treasure that went into this project was really something special as it was the largest investment this club has made to the fishery since I have been a member of the club. I have a tremendous amount of pride in this organization for making this happen.

But we aren't done yet. Once the fish are stocked, we need volunteers daily to check the water temperatures, oxygen saturation and to feed the fish. The pens will be deployed in the Milwaukee River at the Milwaukee Rowing Club on Commerce Street. Please reach out to volunteer if you can spare a few minutes in the morning or the afternoon. Many hands make quick work.

We also need to get the word out and raise awareness for the club. Reach out to your kid's (or grandkid's) schools, talk to your local representatives, or reach out to a boys and girls club. This is a great opportunity for youth to learn about the Lake Michigan fishery.

You may have also noticed that our tournament is a go at South Shore Park this year. It took longer than usual to get some of the logistics worked out and with our permit in hand we are ready to rock. I really want to thank South Shore Yacht Club for their support this year. If you are looking for a slip this year, I recommend that you reach out to them (info at ssyc.org). By the end of April, repairs to the break wall will have begun and they have a plethora of slips available. Make sure that you thank them for their support.

Watch your email or our Facebook page in the coming weeks for announcements on the Pratt Gears Brew City Tournament. Last year will be tough to beat, but hopefully this will be the BIGGEST best damn tournament on a Great Lake!

Cheers and Tight Lines!

See you Tuesday, April 11th at 4pm
– New Berlin Ale House for our GLSF Meeting



Established
1972

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please contact any of the directors regarding any information or issues of the coordinating activities.

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All articles published are ideas and thoughts of the writer and don't necessarily reflect the ideas or beliefs of the GLSF Club or Foundation.



New "Hearings Format" info can be found at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/about/wcc/springhearing> and that Delegate Elections will be held April 3-6, 2023, at WCC/ DNR Open Houses from 6pm to 8pm in all 72 Counties. The exact dates and locations are still being decided and will be posted to the above website as soon as they are available. It is imperative that all sports minded folks show up in-person at the County Open House where they reside to help elect/reelect active WCC delegates!. However, if there is something you'd like address in the form of a proposed resolution, now is the time to be discussing it with your elected Conservation Congress representative. Feel free to reach out to Bob for Waukesha County or Brian Haydin for Milwaukee County if you have any ideas.

Bob Wincek is one of the Waukesha County Conservation Congress Representatives and is Vice-Chair of the Great Lakes Advisory Committee.
Brian Haydin is one of the Milwaukee County Conservation Congress Representatives.
Both are the Chairpersons for their County and a member of the Bear Committee.

How many members are aware that there is a Youth component to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress called the Youth Conservation Congress? Their Charter is the same as the WCC and their members are mentored by members of the WCC. To learn more, click the link below and read their newsletter. You might be amazed!

https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/About/WCC/YCC/2023_March_Newsletter.pdf



Tommy, YCC delegate from Vilas Co. smiling after a great day on the ice.



Ava, from Racine Co.



CALENDAR CORNER

www.glsfclub.com

Membership Meetings are normally held at the
New Berlin Ale House
 – And Open to the Public
 16000 W. Cleveland Avenue,
 New Berlin at 7pm

April 2023

1 - Start of GLSF Ongoing Fishing Contest and Federation Meeting – 8:30 am in Sheboygan
 (contact Bob for details)

4 - GLSF Board Meeting – New Berlin Ale House, 6pm

11 - GLSF SWAP Meet – 4pm to 7pm (Ale House North Hall) Followed by Monthly meeting at 7pm –

Program – Bob Kracek

15 - Kid's Spring Fishing Clinic – Greenfield Park,
 8am – 4pm

May 2023

2 - GLSF Board Meeting – New Berlin Ale House, 6pm

9 - GLSF Membership Meeting –
 New Berlin Ale House, 7pm, –Program – TBD

20 - GLSF First Fish In

21 - Kid's Fishing Clinic –Daniel Boone Conservation
 League – 8 am to noon

For updated information please visit our club website at
www.glsfclub.com

Group Login: glsfclub-member, password: fishing53151

GLSF 2023 Fish-In Dates

5/20 (Saturday)	7/23
6/25	8/20

Chinook Stocking

They are being delivered on Tuesday, April 18th and from date forward for 3 weeks, someone will need to test the water, feed the fish and report to the DNR 2x's a day, rain or shine.

Fishing Clinic Coming up!

Reminder, a kid's fishing clinic will be held Saturday, April 15th, 2023 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Greenfield Park (2028 S 124th St.). Volunteers are still needed and appreciated. Set up starts at 8:00 and clean up should go pretty quick.

Please let Brandon Witt (262-370-4295) or Ryan Flohr (414-349-2016) know if you are able to help.

Thank you!



**WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

BACK TO BOATING

MOLLY MEISTER

Molly Meister is a public information officer in the DNR's Office of Communications.

WISCONSIN'S WATERS ARE CALLING: REMEMBER SAFETY FIRST

With 84,000 miles of rivers and streams twisting through our landscape and 15,000 lakes dotting the map, Wisconsin offers a smorgasbord of opportunities to hit the water during every season.

Each year, hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites and out-of-state visitors load up their boats, kayaks, canoes and paddleboards and head for some floating fun.

As you pull together your gear for your next outing, make sure you don't overlook the most essential item on the list: at least one U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket per person on board, as required by law. And once you bring it, wear it.

Last year, the DNR reported 20 boating-related fatalities. Investigators found the vast majority of those victims were not wearing life jackets, even though they often had them packed.

"Wardens have responded to numerous drowning deaths only to find a life jacket stuffed inside a kayak or floating near the capsized canoe," said Lt. Darren Kuhn, the DNR's boating law administrator. "Deaths from drowning are preventable. Putting on a life jacket before wading, playing along shores or getting in a boat gets you ready to focus on the fun."

Today's life jackets are much more comfortable, lightweight and stylish than those of the past. There are innovative options such as inflatable life jackets, allowing mobility and flexibility for boating, fishing, paddling or hunting, and they are much cooler in the warmer weather.

And don't forget about a boating safety course — a Wisconsin boating safety certification or out-of-state equivalent certification is required for operators born on or after Jan. 1, 1989. Anyone is eligible to take the class and receive a safety education completion certificate; however, courses are designed at a fifth-grade level or up.

Statistics show boaters who wear life jackets and take boater safety courses are most likely to stay safe on the water. Always follow basic safety tips and enjoy Wisconsin's waterways with family and friends.

SPRING WATER SAFETY TIPS

- Sign up now to take a boater education course.
- Conduct a basic safety inspection of the boat before you head out for the first time this season.
- Double-check to make sure you have safety equipment like fire extinguishers, visual distress signals and a functioning engine cut-off switch on board and that the plug is properly inserted.
- Always wear a properly fitted life jacket that has a snug fit and is fastened when you're on or near the water.
- Be aware that water temperatures are still cool at this time of year. A fall overboard can turn dangerous quickly as hypothermia sets in.
- Enjoy the waters sober and know your limits. Alcohol blurs a person's judgment, reaction time and abilities.
- Be ready for the unexpected. Keep an eye on the weather and let someone know where you're going and when you'll return.

LIFE JACKETS

Drowning. It is human nature to think it can't happen to me--but it can. The majority of people who drown in boating accidents know how to swim but become incapacitated in the water.

- All vessels (including canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards) must have at least one USCG-approved wearable life jacket for each person on board.
- All vessels 16 feet or more in length must have one USCG-approved throwable personal flotation device onboard that is immediately accessible.
- Every person on board a personal watercraft must wear a USCG-approved life jacket.
- Federal law requires children under the age of 13 to wear a USCG-approved life jacket while underway in an open vessel on federally controlled waters.

LEARN MORE

For more on boating in Wisconsin, including safety tips, registration details, regulations and complete life jacket information, check dnr.wi.gov/topic/boat.

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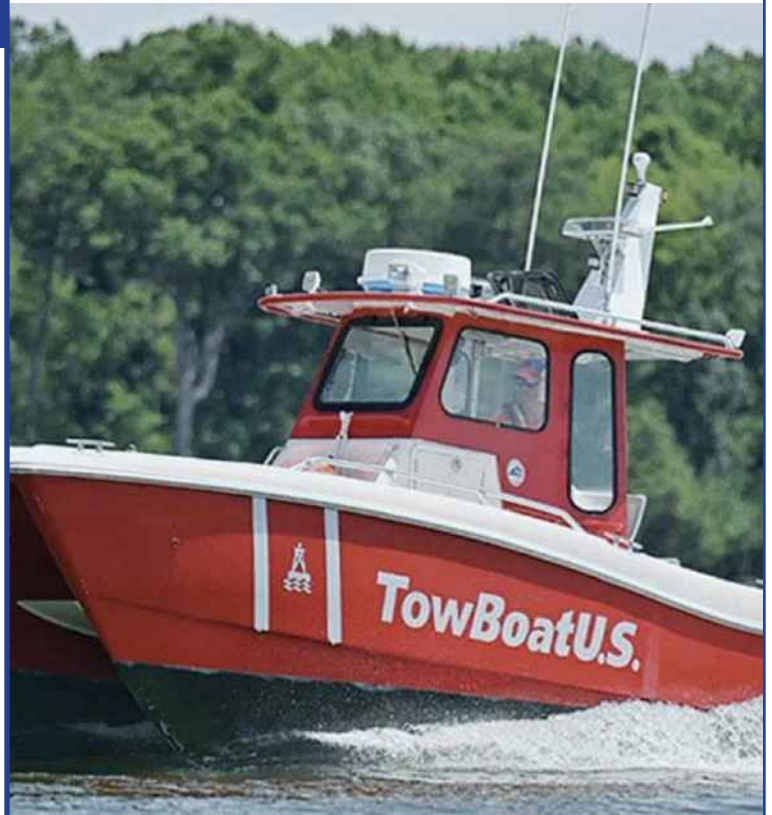
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MB411 8/17

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Membership and 2023 Membership Dues

As of this newsletter, we are at 110 Regular members and 47 Senior Members on our roster. In March we had 155 members and this month, we have 157 members. We do need to continue to grow our membership! We have lost many members in the last 2 years who have not renewed their dues. Unless they notify me, I keep them on the mailing list in hopes they will become motivated to renew their dues. Please take the time to renew when you get the reminder messages. Over the next few months, many of you will be receiving these notices. It helps the club and helps support the Lake Michigan Fishery as well. If you have questions, please call Bob at 414-217-9752 or send him an e-mail at bob@glssfclub.com. You, the membership of this organization, are the life and blood that keep it alive! Please renew when notified. If there is something you would like addressed or changed, please see any board member, or better yet, consider volunteering for a future Board position.

To renew, you also have several options. You can continue to use the form on the back of the Tightline and send in, or hand in your check or cash at our meetings, pay with a credit card at our meetings, or renew on-line by logging in with your personal login and select the new membership option for either a Regular or Senior Membership. The website already knows it is you when you are logged in, so all you will need to do is confirm your membership data and input your credit card payment on our secure server connection.

I get notification of all transactions and verify that they are recorded correctly in the membership application to guarantee no errors are committed. When you do your renewal in this manner, 12 months gets automatically added to whatever date your membership was set to expire. This allows us to treat everyone the same. If you joined or renewed in October 2021, you will not see your reminders until September 2022. If you get a reminder that seems too soon to you, please contact Bob (bob@glssfclub.com) and let him know so he can investigate. There are a few known bugs in our membership program which we hope will be resolved soon. There have been some inconsistencies with our membership module on our website, so if you believe our data is incorrect, contact me, I can give you your exact expiration date. I do keep a manual spreadsheet to track all memberships, because I too, do not trust our membership module. Just send me an e-mail at bob@glssfclub.com or text message at 414-217-9752 and I will fix the error.

Now is not the time to drop your GLSF Membership!

Our environment lives on and in some cases needs our support. The good news for us is that our DNR is working, and they can now have face-to-face interactions. This is good news, after almost 2 years of quarantine.

There was an NRB Meeting on August 9-10. The Commercial Fishing Board was on the agenda to make a presentation and I heard it was a good one. They are asking for a commercial quota of the Lake Michigan Lake Trout. According to the agenda, there was no one at the meeting or online with any counter views.

This is a slippery slope as currently Lake Trout are listed as a Wisconsin Game Fish and according to the 2022 Wisconsin Fishing Regulations, Game Fish can only be harvested in Wisconsin by hook and line. How it's allowed on Lake Superior, I do not know, but there is a Lake Trout commercial harvest limit for Lake Superior, as well as a Tribal Harvest Limit. There are some Sport Fishermen who do not like or appreciate Lake Trout and they have been advocating that Commercial Fishing for Lake Trout should be allowed. If it is legally allowed, what happens when they start asking for Coho or Chinook Salmon, Rainbow Trout or Brown Trout? These are species stocked using our Great Lakes Sport Fishing Stamp funds. Without Sport Fishermen support, this is certainly a possibility.

At a recent virtual Wisconsin Conservation Great Lakes Advisory Committee Meeting this past Saturday, August 27th, we learned that the recent Whitefish rules and limits for Lower Green Bay were made permanent. Electronic reporting for guides as well as Commercial Harvest has been implemented. This will help the DNR monitor Whitefish harvest throughout the year. Additionally, Trap Net locations now must be reported to the DNR so that people can be made aware of potential navigation issues.

Your membership helps us support and work with the DNR to ensure that stocking of Lake Michigan Salmon and Trout will continue at levels high enough to maintain the current levels of harvest and the current size of the healthy fish being harvested. Please consider renewing and bringing along a friend as a new member, too.



Sun 03/12/2023

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States to get record wildlife and fish restoration funds

Paul A. Smith

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

Americans' participation in outdoor recreation and purchases of related equipment, particularly firearms and ammunition, continued at high levels last year and resulted in a record \$1.6 billion allocation for 2023 from the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) Program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced last week.

Wisconsin's share of the distribution is also a record, \$46.8 million, up from \$43.7 million in 2022 and \$32.4 million in 2021.

The money is generated through excise taxes and fees on firearms, ammunition, certain fishing and archery gear and motorboat fuel.

The funds are distributed to states by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through laws including the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 (popularly known as the Pittman-Robertson Act) and the Sport Fish Restoration Act of 1950 (commonly referred to as the Dingell-Johnson Act).

The federal government collects the excise taxes from manufacturers and, based on a formula that includes geographical size and number of hunting and fishing licenses sold, distributes the monies to all 50 states and several U.S. territories.

The state-industry-federal partnership was established nearly a century ago with the support of sportsmen and sportswomen, manufacturers and conservation professionals and has proven to be one of the most effective tools for conservation in the world, according to the Service.

'This partnership is vital to wildlife and habitat conservation and outdoor pursuits throughout the country because it helps our state partners create opportunities for recreational access and monitor and manage wildlife and wild places,' said Service Director Martha Williams in a statement on the 2023 allocations.

Since 1937 the Service has distributed more than \$27 billion through annual apportionments for state conservation and public access projects, which have been matched by approximately \$9 billion in investments by recipient fish and wildlife agencies, according to federal data.

Through these combined funds, agencies have supported the stocking of 1 billion fish, managed and monitored more than 500 species of mammals and birds, provided hunter education to 1 million students and constructed or renovated more than 850 target ranges, according to the Service.

No state receives more than 5% nor less than 0.5% of the total funds available. The grants typically fund up to 75% of project costs, and most grantees must provide a matching share of up to 25%, usually from hunting and fishing license revenues.

For 2023 the wildlife restoration fund allocated \$1.2 billion (up 7% from 2022) while the fish restoration fund generated \$425 million (up 6%).

In Wisconsin the funds are received by the Department of Natural Resources and used for a variety of wildlife and fisheries management, shooting range improvement, hunter education and boating access work.

For 2023, Wisconsin's allocation is \$33.8 million in wildlife restoration (up 7% from 2022) and \$13.1 million in fish restoration (up 8%).

The wildlife restoration program collects its funds through excise taxes on the sale of shotguns and rifles (11%), ammunition (11%), archery equipment (11%) and handguns (10%). The sport fish restoration program obtains its money through a 10% excise tax on fishing rods, reels and lures as well as a motorboat fuel tax. The annual wildlife apportionment has continued to march upward in recent years due mostly to substantial increases in firearm and ammunition sales, according to Service data.

The WSFR program is hailed as a bulwark for American conservation funding and can be traced to the Pittman-Robertson Act of 1937.

Even as the country struggled to emerge from the Great Depression, hunters and manufacturers rallied to create a self-imposed tax on firearms and ammunition to help fund conservation programs.

The 'user pay, user benefit' strategy was later embraced by the fishing industry through the Dingell-Johnson Act of 1950 and the boating industry through the Wallop-Bream(Amendment of 1984.

The wildlife restoration funding stream has increased three-fold from \$384 million in 2011 to \$1.2 billion in 2023 as gun and ammunition sales have set records. Meanwhile the fish restoration funding has increased more modestly, from \$350 million in 2012 to \$425 million in 2023.

For more information, visit fws.gov.

Bryan Muche and his Chesapeake Bay retriever watch ducks circling their blind at Horicon Marsh during an Armistice Day hunt on Nov_ 11, 2022_ Paul A_ Smith

Nick Gramoll cleans a boat window at the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Sports Show, which ends Sunday_ Mike De Sisti / Milwaukee Journal Sentinel



April Trivia – Lake Michigan Trout & Salmon Answers on page 14 (No Peeking!)

1. What strain of Brown Trout does Wisconsin stock?
2. How do you tell the difference between the strains of Steelhead?
3. What are the strains of Rainbow Trout or Steelhead are stocked in Lake Michigan?
4. How can you distinguish a non-spawning fish as male or female?
5. How many eggs are there in a female Chinook, or Coho Salmon? Female Steelhead or Brown Trout?
6. How old are fish when they spawn?
7. Where do all the trout and salmon go after spawning?
8. Why don't Trout and Salmon reproduce naturally in Wisconsin?

More facts can be found <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing/questions/lakemichtroutsalmon.html>

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fire. When the actual "Fire drill"
occurs you should grab the nearest
bouncing rod and yell FISH ON!



www.FireFliesWI.com

Milwaukee Boat Launching Facilities Updates

According to Eric Lesch, McKinley Marina Manager, There have been NO construction meetings, contract contacts or news from the County Parks Board. That means they are remaining open until some type of notice is given. This is the same information posted on the GLSF Website.

If anyone living in Milwaukee County has an Alderman or a County Supervisor, or a County Parks Supervisor that they know, perhaps we could start a dialogue to see when the Boat Launches might get attention.

With no current connection or dialogue, we hope and pray than Marina construction does not get scheduled for July 2023, interrupting the County Air Show and our 23rd Annual GLSF Brew City Salmon Tournament scheduled for July 28-28, 2023, sponsored by Pratt Gears!



Great Lakes Basin Report

DNR to host 2nd Public Meeting on Lake Michigan lake trout population

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin DNR reminds the public of the second meeting in a series of four public meetings of the Lake Michigan Lake Trout Commercial Harvest Stakeholder Group to present information and gather public feedback on the Lake Michigan lake trout population.

The second public meeting is on Monday, **March 20** in Cleveland, WI, and all members of the public are welcome to attend and participate.

Following a summary of the first meeting, the focus of this meeting will shift to lake trout mass-marking and movement patterns in Lake Michigan. The public can join in-person or virtually by [registering via Zoom](#).

Info can be found on the [DNR's Lake Michigan Fisheries webpage](#), including a recording of the first meeting.

Additional opportunities to provide input on and learn about Lake Michigan's lake trout population will take place at Lakeshore Technical College's Lake Michigan conference room:

- Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 6 p.m. focused on Lake Trout Population and Forecast Models
- Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 6 p.m. focused on Working Group Discussion and Input

More info is available about these sessions on the DNR's [event webpage](#) or the [Lake Michigan fisheries webpage](#). ✧



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

HABITATNEWS

Habitat Restoration in the Great Lakes: By the Numbers

NOAA works with our partners to restore habitat in the Great Lakes region to support the fish, ecosystems, and communities that rely on these important natural resources. Learn about a few key numbers that help illustrate the scope of our habitat restoration work in the region through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Contact: Julie Simmons.

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A Reminder from our Great Lake Fisheries Manager of Southern Lake Michigan – Cheryl Masterson

For all the conscientious Fishermen wanting to help science in a big way for tracking our Lake Michigan Fish, the DNR in conjunction with Sea Grant has deployed an App Called the Great Lakes Angler Diary. The details on the Great Lakes Angler Diary and registration info can be found here –

<https://www.michiganseagrant.org/topics/fisheries-and-aquaculture/angler-citizen-science/great-lakes-angler-diary/>

Your Help is needed and appreciated as a volunteer to accurately fill out this Diary for every Lake Michigan Trip you take! It easy, fast, and free and helps the Sport Fishermen! Think about this for 2023!



Captain Marc Sobeski

Phone: 414-247-1660

E-Mail: CaptMarc@att.net

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Great Lakes Basin Report

Wisconsin publishes 2022 Fish Stocking Summary

Over Six Million Fish Stocked throughout Wisconsin Waterbodies

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin DNR released the 2022 stocking numbers for inland waterbodies and the Great Lakes. Over six million fish were stocked in 2022 to fill stocking quotas established by fisheries biologists.

Every year, the DNR raises millions of yearling and fingerling fish to stock into waterbodies across the state. Stocking helps boost natural fish populations, maintain or restore existing fisheries, and support recreational fishing opportunities. Stocking is also used to evaluate management actions or propagation techniques.

DNR fish crews stocked these species into inland waters across the state in 2022.

2022 Inland Stocking Summary

Species	# Stocked
Brook trout	232,896
Brown trout	315,981
Lake sturgeon	12,421
Lake trout	78,099
Largemouth bass	114,241
Muskellunge	41,970
Northern pike	48,181
Rainbow trout	267,198
Walleye	1,588,918

Following is a list of the fish stocked into Lake Michigan (LM), Lake Superior (LS) and their tributaries in

2022.

2022 Great Lakes Stocking Summary	
Species	# Stocked
Brook trout (LM)	50,021
Brown trout	475,701 (LM) 140,839 (LS)
Chinook salmon (LM)	893,650 145,095*
Coho salmon (LM)	412,273
Lake sturgeon (LM)	4,185
Lake trout (LS)	88,027
Muskellunge (LM)	3,029
Steelhead (LM)	850,772 150,497*
Splake (LS)	47,770
Walleye (LS)	109,850

**These fish were raised by the Michigan DNR and were stocked by Wisconsin DNR staff.*

These numbers include large fingerling walleye purchased by the DNR from private growers or tribal hatcheries that contributed to filling walleye stocking quotas. These numbers do not include fish supplied by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the stocking of fry or any other private or tribal hatchery stocking events. Visit the DNR's [stocking database](#) to view stocking data from previous years or stocking numbers for a specific location. ✧

DNR increases Lake Michigan chinook stocking goal for 2023

The Wisconsin waters of Lake Michigan will be stocked with more chinook salmon in 2023 but all other salmon and trout species will be unchanged, according to a plan recently announced by the DNR.

This year's DNR Lake Michigan stocking goals are 1.3 million Chinook salmon, up from 1.2 million in 2020-22, as well as 500,000 coho salmon, 460,000 steelhead, 450,000 brown trout and 50,000 brook trout, the same levels as in the previous plan.

The five species are raised in state fish hatcheries and stocked by DNR staff, sometimes (as with most Chinook salmon) in partnership with local clubs that help maintain net pens at sites along Lake Michigan.

In addition to the state-raised fish, 45,000 lake trout will be reared and stocked in 2023 in the Wisconsin waters of Lake Michigan by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This year's lake trout goal is unchanged from 2020-22 but is a dramatic decrease from the 296,778 lakera stocked in 2019 and the yearly average of 621,930 stocked from 2010-19.

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- FISHING LIVEWELL PUMPS
- TOILETS

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April Trivia – (Continued from page 9)

1. Since 2017 Wisconsin stocks only seeforellen, or "German" brown trout into Lake Michigan. This strain originated in Bavaria, a region of Germany. Wisconsin obtained seeforellen eggs from the state of New York in the late 1980s, with the goal to expand fishing opportunities later into the fall and to provide trophy opportunities, as seeforellen tend to live longer and grow larger than domestic strains of brown trout. The spawning run for seeforellens generally occurs in November and December.
2. Although there are slight differences in body shape and size, fin clips are used to positively identify the strains of steelhead. This is why all steelhead stocked into Root and Kewaunee Rivers (brood streams) are fin clipped. Knowing the strain of the fish prevents breeding of one strain with another. The various strains are not differentially clipped in any of the other Wisconsin rivers.
3. Wisconsin currently stocks Chambers Creek and Ganaraska strains of steelhead into Lake Michigan.
4. From the outside it is difficult, although male steelhead often exhibit greater head length than females. The most definitive way to tell is to cut the fish open.
5. The amount of eggs any one female produces is dependent on fish size and egg size among other factors. The following are average numbers of eggs taken from one female when they are collected for hatcheries. Steelhead 5,000 eggs; Chinook 5,000 eggs; Coho 2,500 eggs; Seeforellen Brown Trout 7,500 eggs
6. Coho salmon generally spawn at 2+ years (two summers in the lake). The majority of steelhead spawn at 3 and 4 years. The oldest steelhead spawned at the Root River Steelhead Facility was an 8-year-old male. The majority of chinook salmon spawn after spending 2 to 4 summers in the lake. Chinook spawn at 3+ years old. Brown trout typically spawn between ages 2 and 4.
7. All coho and chinook salmon die after spawning as part of their life cycles. Brown trout, steelhead, lake trout, and brook trout do not automatically die following spawning. Depending on their age and condition, some trout will return to Lake Michigan.
8. The spawning streams on the Wisconsin shoreline of Lake Michigan are not conducive to natural reproduction of trout and salmon because the summer water temperatures are too high for survival of fingerlings and heavy loads of sediment smother eggs incubating in the stream bed.

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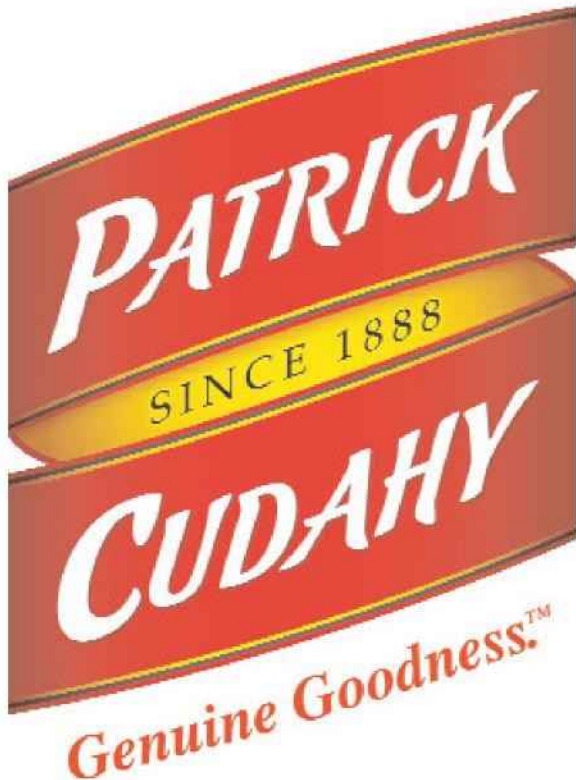
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WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

STAY SAFE WHEN LIGHTNING STRIKES

DANA FULTON PORTER

Dana Fulton Porter is a publications supervisor in the DNR's Office of Communications.

With warmer weather and more sunlight, spring often sparks the desire to start spending more time outdoors. It also sparks an increase in thunderstorms and the threat of lightning.

According to National Weather Service Storm Data, over the last 30 years, the United States has averaged more than 40 reported lightning fatalities per year.

While people may think golfers account for the greatest number of lightning deaths, this is actually a myth. A National Lightning Safety Council report shows that beach activities, camping and fishing each account for more lightning fatalities than golf.

If you hear a rumble of thunder, you are close enough to be at risk from lightning. Even if it sounds like a distant rumble, know that there have been documented cases of lightning strikes 20 miles away from a parent storm.

"There is no place outside that is safe when thunderstorms are in the area," said Katie Rousonelos, public information officer for Wisconsin Emergency Management.

As the saying goes: When thunder roars, go indoors.

KNOW WHERE TO GO

A sturdy, fully enclosed structure such as a building or a hard-topped car is the best protection from lightning.

Even inside a home, you're not completely in the clear. It's recommended to avoid windows, plumbing and wired electric devices. The electrical current from lightning can travel through wiring or plumbing if the building is struck.

"Having a lightning safety plan in place will help prevent tragedy," Rousonelos said. "Make sure you know where to go for safety and ensure you have enough time to get there."



If you are outside during a thunderstorm, here are some tips from Wisconsin Emergency Management to help reduce your risk of being struck by lightning.

- Immediately get off elevated areas such as hills, mountain ridges or peaks.
- Immediately get out of and away from ponds, lakes and other bodies of water.
- Stay away from objects that conduct electricity, including wires and fences.
- Never shelter under an isolated tree. Lightning tends to strike the tallest objects in an area.
- Never lie flat on the ground.

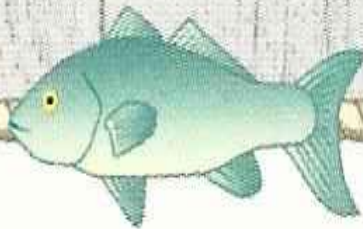
If someone is struck by lightning, they need to seek prompt medical attention, as their injuries may not be immediately visible.

Lightning victims do not carry an electrical current, so those helping are able to safely touch the victim.

If someone is unresponsive, starting CPR and calling 911 can make the difference between life and death.

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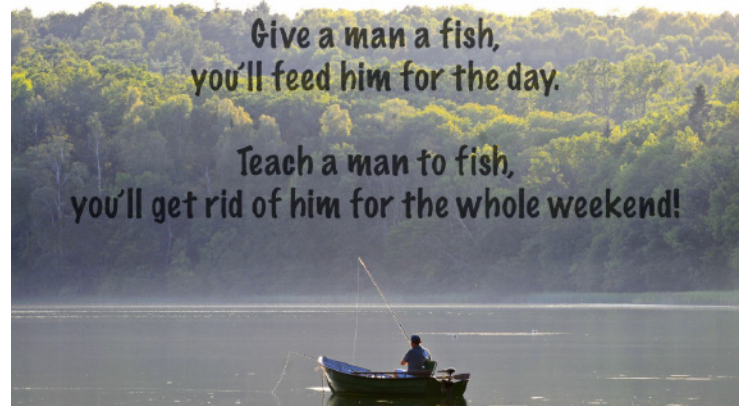
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Current Dates for 2023 SW Lake Michigan Tournaments

Tournament	Port	Date
SU WI Open	Racine	TBD
Kenosha Classic	Kenosha	TBD
SU IL Pass the Passion	Northpoint	TBD
Salmon a Rama	Racine	July 15 thru 23, 2023
Super Sweepstakes	Racine	July 15, 2023
Two in a Boat	Racine	July 16, 2023
Brew City		
Powder Puff – Warm Up	Milwaukee	July 28
Pro Division	Milwaukee	July 28 & 29
Brew City Pro/Am	Milwaukee	July 29
SU IL Open	Northpoint	TBD

Hunters and Anglers Step Up Big Time for Conservation

A record amount of \$1.09 billion dollars is being distributed to the states for conservation purposes through the Federal Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson programs. Under those programs, sportsmen and women pay 11% excise taxes on firearms, ammunition and fishing equipment. Wisconsin will be receiving \$32.4 million this year, \$19.6 million for wildlife restoration and \$12.8 for fish restoration efforts. That is a 10% increase in funding over the previous year. For additional information on the funds and their use. [Click Here for more....](#)

What lurks beneath?

Nuisance species are invading the inland waters we love. Each of us must do what we can to prevent the spread

Thirty years ago, you'd probably never before heard the term "invasive species." You know it well now, though, and there's a good chance invasives are negatively affecting your boating lifestyle already. These invaders will not be repelled without a fight. To that end, a collection of invasive species experts held a summit last September at the American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC) headquarters in Annapolis, Maryland. The one-day event brought together state officials, natural resources staff, and boat and equipment manufacturers. Speakers offered insight into the impact invasive species have on the nation's water systems, the spread of invasive species, and steps being taken to monitor and control aquatic invasive species (AIS), which are defined as any plant, animal, or microbe not native to the ecosystem into which it has been introduced, and may cause environmental damage or be harmful to human health.

The hundreds of AIS are varied, from microscopic eggs to plants to big fish such as Asian carp. (More than 200 AIS species have been identified in Chesapeake Bay alone!) These species damage ecosystems and negatively impact fishing by depleting natural food resources, altering the water environment, and changing the structure of the ecosystem. AIS are out-of-town bullies of sorts, in that they crowd out and overcome native species.

Because of AIS, access has been restricted on certain bodies of water, and trailer boaters often have to go through a demanding rigmarole to clean their boats, wet lockers, bilges, and baitwells when hopping from lake to lake. Federal, state, and local agencies have enacted laws and regulations for inspections, permits, launch availability, and water access. AIS infestation can also cause damage to boats and their components. Invasive plant life can foul propellers, jam impellers, and cause bilge-pump failure. Mussels can attach to boats and negatively affect performance, end up in engine-cooling components causing failure, and obstruct water lines causing system failure and costing the boat owner dearly.

The Invader Species

Zebra mussels were first discovered in Lake Erie in 1988, and they quickly spread to the rest of the Great Lakes and other interconnected waterways. Named for its distinctive shell markings, zebra mussels have now become common in many freshwater lakes and waterways across the U.S. The microscopic eggs are easily transported from one waterway to another, often as hitchhikers in engine-cooling systems, bilge water, and livewell tanks by unsuspecting recreational boaters.

A native of western Russia, it's believed zebra mussels were carried from the Black Sea in ships' ballast water, water that is taken into unladen or lightly loaded ships to help stabilize the vessels at sea. When these ships reach U.S. waters, the ballast is pumped out to make room for cargo and allow the vessels to navigate shallower waters. Federal laws on ballast discharge have since been changed, and vessels carrying ballast water emptied tanks 100 miles outside of U.S. waters, but the damage was already done.

Here's an example of the negative chain reaction created by AIS: Zebra mussels are filter feeding, meaning they remove particles from the water. This may sound like a good thing, but it's not. With particulates removed from the water, clarity increases, allowing sunlight to further penetrate

Clean, Drain, Dry!

BoatU.S. Foundation fights against invasives

If you've ever wet a trailerable boat in freshwater in the last 15 years or so, you've probably heard the message "Clean, Drain, Dry." This ubiquitous mantra is part of voluntary guidelines for boaters, put out by the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force, and written with help from our BoatU.S. Foundation for Safety and Clean Water.

The ANS Task Force task force, co-chaired by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, is an inter-agency committee that brings together federal, state, and public stakeholders to develop and implement a national program "for prevention, research, monitoring, and control of infestations of nonindigenous aquatic species."

The BoatU.S. Foundation has championed this issue for the better part of a decade. According to the Foundation's director of outreach, Alanna Keating, "Our focus is on educating boaters – the

front line for helping prevent the spread of these non-native aquatic species."

The Foundation helps to create, coordinate, and spread the message directly to recreational boaters through its free online Basic Boating Safety course, taken by more than 150,000 boaters each year. The course includes a segment on invasive species. For even more information, the Foundation also offers an online Clean Boating Course, also free, which goes into depth on the topic, including tips for avoiding the spread of aquatic invasive species and ways boaters can reduce their impact while enjoying time on the water.

The BoatU.S. Foundation also offers info on invasive species and prevention on its website at [BoatUS.org/Invasives](https://www.boatus.org/invasives). New interactive 3D graphic models are being added to allow users to explore where aquatic hitchhikers might hide in a boat and trailer.

– STACEY NEDROW-WIGMORE



the water column. Feces from the mussels provide a nutrient-rich environment for macrophytes plants that grow in water. The conditions allow these plants to reproduce at a faster rate than they could previously, clogging near-shore waterways, waterfronts, and marinas. When mussel concentrations are unusually high, oxygen levels in the water drop, which is detrimental to the health of native fish.

Beyond zebras, there are hundreds of other invasive species, such as Asian carp, hydrilla plants, mitten crabs, and the Eurasian ruffe, a

fish in the same family as yellow perch that looks similar to young walleye. These and many other invasive species cost federal and local governments billions of dollars each year in efforts to control their numbers and prevent further spread.

Do Your Part

What can individual boaters do to combat the problem? "Clean, drain, dry" is the universal message for the boating public. By adhering to these simple steps, boaters can help prevent the aquatic hitchhikers from traveling from lake to lake.

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Mitchell Park, 524 S. Layton Blvd.
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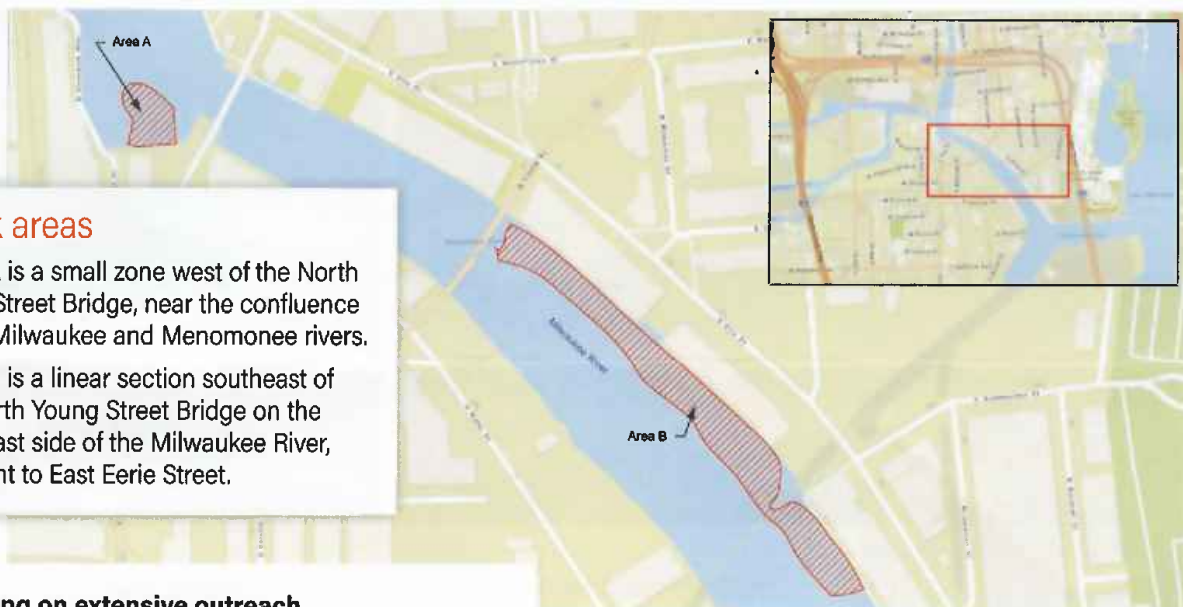


Milwaukee River remediation project

Spring 2023 update

After years of planning, permitting and outreach to stakeholders, We Energies, along with our contractors GEI Consultants and J. F. Brennan, will soon begin the cleanup of contaminated sediment in portions of the Milwaukee River near the Third Ward.

We Energies has received all necessary permits to remediate approximately 45,000 cubic yards of sediment, in 0.6 miles of river, associated with the operation of the former Third Ward Manufactured Gas Plant.



Work areas

Area A is a small zone west of the North Water Street Bridge, near the confluence of the Milwaukee and Menomonee rivers.

Area B is a linear section southeast of the North Young Street Bridge on the northeast side of the Milwaukee River, adjacent to East Eerie Street.

Building on extensive outreach

Cleanup work in Area A and B follows several years of planning, including two years of intensive outreach, such as:

- Letters and informational materials mailed to residents and businesses
- Meetings with residents, businesses and boat owners to understand concerns
- Permit applications, public notices, hearings and public comment opportunities
- Construction site signage
- Waterway Restoration Partnership public forums and website information (www.mkewaterwaypartners.org/milwaukee-river-third-ward/)

Project benefits

We are partnering with local, state, and federal agencies on the project to protect and restore this vital part of the Milwaukee Estuary Area of Concern (AOC). Long-term AOC project benefits include public health, enhanced recreation, water quality, fish and wildlife habitat improvements.

Our company's commitment to fund this project is expected to unlock matching federal funds under the Great Lakes Legacy Act for additional cleanup projects in other areas of the Milwaukee Estuary AOC. By addressing contaminated sediment, we are one step closer to removing the U.S. and Canadian federal governments' AOC designation for the benefit of the Milwaukee metropolitan area and Lake Michigan.

Milwaukee River remediation

Cleanup work will involve:

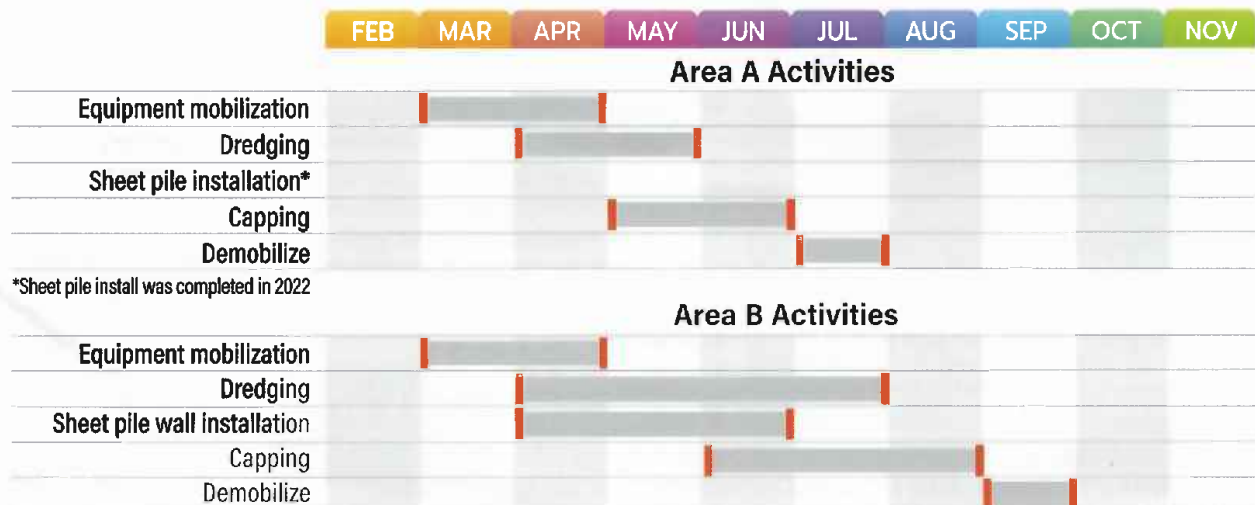
- Hydraulic dredging (similar to an underwater vacuum)
- Installation of a steel sheet pile
- Applying engineered caps (layers of clean sand) to portions of the riverbed

After hydraulic dredging, sediment will be pumped through pipe to the Port Milwaukee's existing Dredged Management Disposal Facility (DMDF) for disposal.



2023 work timeline

Weather permitting, we plan to begin our work in April and anticipate being complete by the end of August. We expect to be fully demobilized by October. Schedule may vary due to weather or other factors.



Impact mitigation and monitoring

Based on feedback from residents and businesses during the planning phase, we adjusted some of our operations to mitigate disruptions to the community. While the public may be intermittently affected from river cleanup operations, all activities are temporary and are scheduled to take place during the hours allowed by City of Milwaukee ordinances.

Sound/Vibration

Instead of the traditional pounding method used for sheet pile installation, we will use equipment that vibrates sheet pile into the underlying riverbed. It will result in a consistent humming sound while the sheets are being installed. Other general equipment-related sounds also may be experienced during work hours.

We will monitor vibration levels before and during construction at strategic locations along the shoreline to measure, evaluate and adjust our work as needed.

Odor

We do not anticipate any odor will be generated from the dredged sediment. Rather than transporting dredged sediment to the storage site on barges, material will be contained in a pipe and pumped to the DMDF. General equipment-related odors may be experienced intermittently during work hours.

A comprehensive air-monitoring plan has been developed to monitor the surrounding air. The plan has been approved by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI DNR) and will be implemented to ensure that the air quality is not adversely affected by the project.

Foot traffic

For public safety, sections of the River Walk will be closed intermittently in the immediate vicinity of construction during work hours. All closings will be coordinated with the City of Milwaukee.

The River Walk will be reopened on evenings and weekends for public enjoyment. River Walk closings will not affect street access to residences or businesses.

Recreation on the river

The Milwaukee River will continue to be navigable throughout the duration of the project; however, access to the remediation areas will be prohibited – including access to some public and private docks. Markers and signage will be placed in the river with navigation information.

The submerged pipe that will transport the dredged material to the DMDF will be laid on the riverbed deep enough to not restrict general boat movements along the river.





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State _____ Zip _____

Name of Boat _____

Home Phone _____

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Company Name _____

Web Site URL _____

Email Address _____

Spouse's Name _____

Number of people in the household _____

- ☐ New Membership
☐ Renewal Membership
☐ Change of Address

- ☐ Family Membership\$50.00
☐ Junior Membership\$20.00
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