

Lake Wisconsin

Living

October | November 2014

AN EXCLUSIVE NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF LAKE WISCONSIN

Getting Hooked on Fishing



If you've recently purchased property on or near a lake or river, you're probably going to want to, literally, test the waters. For many of you, that will be as simple as pulling out your fishing gear, and walking down to the water and getting your line wet. For others, it may be a new experience.

Often, fishing is a time-honored tradition passed from generation to generation. But, if you're one of those folks who haven't had an opportunity to wade a stream or land a big fish from a boat, there are a plethora of resources at your disposal.

Fishing is an industry unto itself. There are books, magazines, newspaper columns and Internet sites that will tell you everything you want to know – and more. In fact, there's so much information available it can be overwhelming.

So, whether you're a neophyte to this wonderful pastime, have a little experience but just want to step up to the next level, or just want to know more about what's going on out on the lake, here's a general guide to follow when gearing up.

Step One: The Fishing Rod

A wise man once said: "Success lies in the hunter...not the arrow." Truer words were never spoken. You don't need to break the bank to find a great fishing rod. There are good values available for quality rods with good actions and sensitivity for sub \$100 price tags. Start with a moderately priced spinning rod with an action that suits your target species. If you're fishing for Bluegill, try a 5-foot ultralite-action rod. The mighty Musky more your speed? Add a couple of feet to that rod and go to a heavy action. And, don't forget a wire or fluorocarbon leader for toothy fish like pike and muskies.

According to Gary Sanders (expert Fishing Guide, and Owner of Lake Wisconsin Walleyes), whether you are a beginner or a more experienced angler, fishing is done mainly by "feel." The rod and the line allow one to "feel" the lure or bait as well as the bites. Gary provides his customers with high-quality, extremely sensitive rods with technique appropriate and specific actions, so that they can have the opportunity to detect subtle bites that they would undoubtedly miss with a lower quality rod. He believes that using a quality rod will put one in the position to catch more fish – a common goal for most beginners and all experienced anglers.

Bringing in the Bacon, er, Fish...

Buying a good reel is like buying an automobile. You'll want a smooth reel with a good drag and a line capacity that matches your rod and your target species – you don't need 250 yards of 12-pound test if you're going after Bluegill. Add an extra spool of different test line and you've just doubled your outfit's versatility.

There are a number of good names in reels, including Shimano, Diawa and Abu Garcia. Although they may be a tad more expensive, good reels can last a lifetime. However, our expert fishing guide, Gary Sanders, truly believes that the rod is more important than the reel (within reason.) "For example," Gary says "I would have no qualms whatsoever, in putting a \$100 reel on a \$250 rod. Beginners don't need to spend anywhere near that much, but keep in mind that sensitivity or feel as applied to fishing is important."

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BUSINESS

•••Spotlight

Another Generation of Craftsmen

In 1986, Wally and Marlace Parmeter decided to pursue their love of log construction by officially founding Golden Eagle Log Homes. Their sons, Jay and Tod Parmeter, cleared the land, built the necessary shop, and purchased and installed the required machinery.

During the day, Jay and Tod ran the thriving building center and manufactured log homes long into the night. During these days, the company's "board meetings" consisted of sitting at the family picnic table under the blue Wisconsin sky. The family dedication to the business was recognizably strong causing sales from the log homes to soon surpass the sales from the building center.

Wally and Marlace retired in 1996, but not before making sure that the

business was left in capable hands.

Today, Golden Eagle Log Homes is owned and operated by their sons, Jay and Tod Parmeter. Both sons continue to be very involved with the business and now third generations of Parmeters are joining the family business and Jay and Tod could not be more pleased.

The company has produced as many as 140 homes a year, but now sets the yearly limit at 100 to preserve their commitment to quality. Golden Eagle's success comes from an educated group of people devoted to the time-honored tradition of quality workmanship.

From the beginning, the company has enjoyed continued success, but the principle on which it all began remains the same – to offer superior quality log homes at fair and affordable prices.

"We are a hard working family



I to r: Jay, Tod, Sharon Parmeter and Sitting, Founder: Wally Parmeter

believing in the Golden Rule to *treat others as one would want to be treated*," says Jay and Tod Parmeter. "Please accept our personal invitation to call or visit us. We will take the time to show you the difference in our quality, craftsmanship, people and service."

Golden Eagle Log Homes is located at 4421 Plover Road in Wisconsin Rapids. Stop by and tour their beautifully decorated model home and showroom Monday-Friday from 8am - 5pm and Saturday from 9am - 3pm. You can also visit their Website at www.goldeneagleloghomes.com. And be sure to LIKE them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GoldenEagleLogHomes.

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Getting Hooked, Continued from front page...

When shopping for a rod and reel, one should attempt to purchase the best that they can afford as when properly cared for, they can provide many years of use and fishing enjoyment. A toy store quality rod and reel combo is a great way to lure the kids into a lifetime of fun, but make sure you're ready to help them step up to the next level.

Fishing Line: Your Connection to Your Quarry

Fishing lines are rated by "pound test" (the amount of pressure that can be applied to a line before it breaks.) A good starting point for a general-purpose rod and spinning reel combo is an 8-pound test monofilament line. The latest craze in fishing line is Fluorocarbon line, which is more transparent in the water than monofilament, and has less "memory," meaning it straightens easier when it's cast out.

In addition, Gary recommends braid lines as another option. "They have revolutionized the fishing industry and provide superior sensitivity, abrasion resistance, strength, low stretch characteristics for better hook sets, and have very small line diameters as compared to monofilament lines allowing baits to dive deeper with less line out or in vertical applications, sink quickly with less bow in the line – especially in current which allows for better sensitivity and hook sets. The low stretch characteristics dictate that softer action rods be used so that you do not tear the hooks out of the fish's mouth."

Your Tackle Box

When it comes to fishing lures, quality varies as some are better than others, but they all will in fact, catch fish if applied correctly under the appropriate conditions. The real trick is in the understanding of how to apply the what, where, when and how to any given bait in a fishing situation. Don't be misled by low priced lures advertised in the back of magazines. Some of the best and most effective baits are no longer available due to the simple fact that they did not sell as well as other baits. Sales do dictate what baits stay on the shelves and in what sizes and color combinations - not what works the best. So, that frequently heard comment most anglers have heard in the local tackle

shop ... "That lure has caught more fisherman than fish..." is factual and a reality we have to live with.

A good start is a tackle box with a healthy assortment and a variety of options. Here's what you need to initially fill your basic tackle box:

- Hooks, sinkers and bobbers in a variety of sizes
- Soft plastic baits,
- Casting spoons and Spinners
- Crankbaits and plugs
- Jigs and Poppers
- Pliers, Knife and Nippers
- First Aid Kit, Sunglasses, Sunscreen, Hat
- Camera
- Unscented Disinfectant (Foreign scents are bad things to get on your hands when handling baits. Fish can smell far better than we can.)



It's often a good idea to seek advice from a professional. Local guides, charter captains and tackle shops will do their best to steer you in the right direction, usually for free. Fishing with a pro can be a great experience, especially if you're interested in learning a specific technique like fly fishing, or when outfitting a boat for trolling, and even learning where to find the fish on the lake or river. While charters and guided trips can be somewhat costly, you can learn a great deal and have the experience of a lifetime.

Mostly, don't be intimidated. Fishing can be as easy as tossing a bobber and worm off the dock and sharing some good conversation. Perhaps Thoreau said it best when he wrote, "Many men go fishing their entire lives without knowing it is not fish they are after."

Be sure to read the Fishing Report submitted by local expert fishing guide, Gary Sanders, in each issue of the *Lake Wisconsin Living* newsletter to learn more about fishing on Lake Wisconsin.

References | The Land Investment Guide, Vol 3, Issue 1; Gary Sanders, Professional Fishing Guide, Owner of Lake Wisconsin Walleyes

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Should I Take My Home Off the Market in the Winter?

We hear this question frequently and the short answer is NO, you should not remove your home from the market during winter. Consider that from December 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014 there were 14 properties sold on Lake Wisconsin for more than \$3.3MM. In addition, throughout south central Wisconsin there were 256 lake properties sold for \$52MM during the same time. I'm certain these 256 property owners were very happy that they did not pull their homes off the market just because the season changed.

There are some real advantages to having your home on the market over the winter such as:

- Less homes for sale means less competition for the buyers who are active.
- Different clientele in different seasons visit your property. Snowmobilers, ice fisherman, hunters, and even renters who are in the area renting over the holidays give you access to buyers who you might not see in the summer.
- The Christmas motivator. Being in a cabin decorated for Christmas can be a well-staged tactic to trip the emotional lever of a buyer. The fresh smell of a Christmas tree and potpourri, colorful Christmas lights, and the joyous time of year may work in your favor.
- Large tax refunds or end of year bonuses can motivate a buyer to finally take action on finding their dream lake home.
- Qualified Buyers: I'll admit there are more buyers in the summer than in the winter but those looking when it is 10 degrees outside are typically much more qualified.
- Safety Blanket: Many lake homes are second homes and some owners rarely use their home in the winter. If you have one of those homes listed for sale, there may be frequent showings of your home in which case real estate agents act like "cottage keepers". If there is a water issue or a heat issue, you may hear about it from the agent before the real damage sets in. Last year, Terra Firma saved 4 homes from substantial damage due to heat loss because we alarmed the homeowners of heat loss before pipes started freezing.

While the winter months may be a slower season for selling your lake property, as you can see, there are several benefits to the continued marketing of your home during this time frame including the potential for a sale.



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DID YOU KNOW?

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources the Lake Wisconsin watershed is home to a variety of rare plant and animal species including: 7 species of beetles, 14 species of birds, 3 species of butterflies, 7 species of dragonflies, 11 species of fish, 2 species of mayflies, 2 species of moths, 9 species of mussels, 33 plant species, 4 species of snakes, 1 species of mammal, 2 species of leafhoppers, 1 species of caddis fly, and 1 species of lizard. These plants and animals are also listed on the state's Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI).





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Fishing on Lake Wisconsin and Wisconsin River

By Gary Sanders • Lake Wisconsin Walleyes, LLC • www.lakewisconsinwalleyes.com

It's not until the second half of October that I start getting into the "fall fishing" mindset on Lake Wisconsin. In early fall, both the temperature and the fishing, can be literally hot one day and not so hot the next day. The cooling trend in northern Wisconsin typically starts several weeks before we see its effects in the south-central part of the state. The combination of shorter days, cooler nights, and autumn rains cool the water, and the fish instinctively know that winter and the long months of darkness under the ice and snow cover are soon to come. This cooling off of the water, along with increased current from autumn rains, seems to stimulate some walleyes and saugers to move up the lake. In October we typically look for fish along or near channel edges with jigs tipped with plastic or blade baits, but trolling stick baits on lead core along break lines can be good, too. There can be a decent shallow water bite in October as well; especially on calm, sunny days. Those shallow




fish are typically there to eat and are quite catchable using a variety of techniques such as casting stick baits or dragging jigs and plastic once they are located.

November brings cooler weather and a noticeable movement toward deeper water. We typically use our electronics to seek out schools of shad on or near steep break lines on the western half of the lake. Once located, it is simply a matter of dialing in your presentation as walleyes and saugers are sure to be nearby. Vertical presentations such as hair jigs tipped with a big minnow, blade baits, jigging spoons, or my

favorite, jig and plastic, will trigger bites.

Bring a variety of colors and keep changing it up until you get bit. Trolling shad imitating crank baits or stick baits with lead core lines can be effective at times as well. In the fall, be sure to pay special attention to the Solunar Tables. Being on fish during peak feeding periods stimulated by moonrise and moonset, will significantly increase your catch. *Tight lines . . .*

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OCTOBER is PUMPKIN SEASON with HAYRIDES 11am-5pm Saturdays & Sundays at the Treinen Farm. No reservations needed. Belgian draft horses take you through the fields of the 14-acre pumpkin patch. Wagons available to haul your pumpkins and free pumpkin daycare if you aren't ready to leave the farm, but want your pumpkins to be safe. Hwy 60 halfway between Lodi and Sauk City. Call 608-592-3481 or www.treinenfarm.com

CORN MAZE, HAYRIDES, ACTIVITIES Weekends starting Now to October 26th - Open 11am-9pm; Hayrides 11am-6pm. Ticket prices are \$8 - \$10/person. N2767 Mountford Road, Poynette, WI
www.creekbedcountryfarmacy.com

CORN MAZE, PUMPKIN PATCH, Other ACTIVITIES Weekends from Now to October 26th; 7-acre corn maze and large pumpkin patch is fun for everyone. Mayr Family Farm, 3680 Egge Road, DeForest, WI. www.mayrfamilyfarm.com



FALL FAIR on the SQUARE - October 11th in Downtown Baraboo: 9 am - 4 pm. Crafts, music, fun and games on the square. www.baraboo.com

FALL FESTIVAL WEEKEND - October 17th - 19th in Downtown Dells. Entertainment, 5K, craft fair, hayrides, live music, food and farmers market. Also, featuring Wisconsin Dells on Tap Microbrew Tasting 12-5pm on 10/18. www.dells.com

ZOMPOCALYPSE - October 25th - 7pm-midnight. Join other costumed visitors and journey through the 15-acre corn maze in the dark... Treinen Farm, Hwy 60 halfway between Lodi and Sauk City. Call for information at 608-592-3481 or www.treinenfarm.com. \$10/person.

HAUNTED MAZE - Friday & Saturdays starting October 11th. Last night of Haunted Maze is Friday, October 31st. \$12/person; children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. www.mayrfamilyfarm.com

WINE, WALK & SHOP - November 21st. Wander through downtown Lodi and sample wine while visiting shops. Sponsored by Lodi and Lake Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce. Call 608-592-4412 or www.lodilakewisconsin.org

HOLIDAY LIGHT PARADE - November 21st 6:00 pm. Starts at the Sauk Prairie Middle School and Hemlock St. to Sycamore St. to Grand Ave. to 1st Street and ends in front of Marion Park.

CHRISTMAS by the CREEK - November 22nd - Kick off your holiday shopping with the unique shops in Lodi. Have breakfast with Santa or enjoy the Craft Fair, Children's cookie decorating with Mrs. Claus, and horse drawn hay rides! Sponsored by: Lodi and Lake Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce. 608-592-4412 or www.lodilakewisconsin.org

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS PARADE - November 22nd - Downtown Baraboo. Glittering floats, costumed characters and novelty units. Pictures with Santa after the parade. www.baraboo.com

HOLIDAY PARADE & TREE LIGHTING - November 28th at 6pm. Downtown Portage, from Conant St. to Wisconsin St. with a giant Christmas tree lighting in Plaza. 608-742-6242 or www.portagewi.com

SUGAR PLUM SATURDAY - December 6th - Kids' day in downtown Baraboo - Breakfast with Santa, gifts under \$10, free horse drawn wagon rides and other activities. www.baraboo.com

LIVING YULETIDE SCENES - December 13th - 6-7:30 pm. Downtown Portage. Hometown merchants dressed in attire from Christmas past. www.portagewi.com

Get Outdoors and Shop the Farmers' Market!

Farmers' markets are one of the oldest forms of direct marketing by small farmers. From the traditional "mercados" in the Peruvian Andes to the unique street markets in Asia, growers all over the world gather weekly to sell their produce directly to the public.

Dane County is home to the largest Producer-Only Farmer's Market in the United States. All items are produced locally by the vendor behind the table. No resale is allowed! This market happens rain or shine. You still have time to catch this unique market experience on Saturdays



through November 8th from 6am-2pm, located around the Wisconsin State Capitol Square in Madison, WI. As early winter approaches, one can still take advantage of purchasing fresh produce at the Farmers' Market by attending the INDOOR Dane County Farmers' Market from 7:30am-12noon at the Monona Terrace Center at One John Nolen Drive in Madison, WI. This early winter market runs from November 15th through December 20th. For additional information on this unique event, visit the Dane County Farmers' Market Website at www.dcfm.org.

Shopping at a farmers' market is a great way to meet local farmers and community members as well as get fresh,

flavorful produce. There's still time to get outside and take advantage of the fall harvest at the smaller area Farmers' Markets listed below.

LOCAL FARMERS' MARKETS

- Lodi Valley Now through October 31st, Fridays, 2-6pm - Village Green next to Koltes Do-It-Best, 902 N. Main St.
- Sauk, Now through October 25th, Saturdays, 8am-1pm - Across from Blue Spoon Café, downtown Prairie du Sac.
- Portage, Now through October 30th, Thursday, 12noon-6pm - Commerce Plaza (corner of Cook & Wisconsin Streets).
- Baraboo, Now through October on Saturdays, 7:30am-1pm - Courthouse Square on Oak Street between 3rd & 4th Streets.

Kirk's Korner



Q. What is Shoreland Zoning and What are the Purposes of Shoreland Zoning?

Wisconsin statutes define shorelands as lands within 1,000 feet of the ordinary high-water mark (OHWM) of a navigable lake, pond, or flowage and lands within 300 feet or within the floodplain of a navigable river or stream, whichever distance is greater.

The OHWM is the point on the bank or shore where the water, by its presence, wave action or flow, leaves a distinct mark on the shore or bank. This mark may be indicated by erosion, destruction of vegetation, changes from aquatic to terrestrial vegetation, or other characteristics. The OHWM is not the same as the average water level or the water's edge.

The state administrative rule (NR 115) sets minimum standards for local ordinances. The state requires counties to adopt and administer development standards for shorelands in unincorporated areas, which are areas outside of cities and villages. Many counties have adopted standards that are more restrictive than state minimum standards. Towns may not opt out of county shoreland zoning, as they may for general county zoning. While cities and villages are not required to adopt shoreland zoning, shorelands within their municipal boundaries may be subject to shoreland zoning in three cases:

1. When official state maps describe wetlands within shoreland areas,
2. When a city or village has annexed unincorporated shorelands, and
3. When cities or villages have voluntarily enacted their own shoreland zoning requirements.

The specific purposes of a shoreland zoning ordinance should be considered when deciding whether to grant variances, conditional uses and administrative appeals for properties in the shoreland zone, just as with any other ordinance.

The purposes of shoreland zoning, as defined by the state, are to:

- Maintain safe and healthful conditions,
- Prevent and control water pollution,
- Protect spawning grounds, fish, and aquatic life,
- Control building sites, placement of structures, and uses, and
- Preserve shore cover and natural beauty.

In addition, shoreland zoning protects the rights of all Wisconsin residents to access the water, fish, swim, boat, and enjoy the scenic beauty, which is also known as the public interest.

References:

- Kent, Paul G. and Tamara A. Dudiak. *Wisconsin Water Law – A Guide to Water Rights and Regulations*
- *Wisconsin Statutes* § 59.692, § 59.692(2)(a), § 59.692(7)(a), § 281.31

*Do you have a question about Lake Wisconsin or the Wisconsin River?
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Lake Wisconsin Alliance

As many of you already know, Lake Wisconsin Alliance (LWA) is a recently developed citizen advocacy organization with a mission to *endeavor to balance the diverse interests of the Lake Wisconsin community by improving recreational opportunities, water quality, and sustaining a healthy ecosystem.*

Lake Wisconsin Alliance is proud to announce that as of September 11th they have an Official Board of Directors (BOD), approved By-laws, and elected Officers.

Kirk M. Boehm, President
Ross Ament, Vice President
Tina Sebold, Secretary
Anne Brindley, Treasurer

The next order of business will be to put together a working outline/plan for 2015. This will include, continued education seminars, logo and brochure creation, membership drive, Website development, budget planning and the assignment of the new BOD members as chairs for appropriate committees as they move to meet the goals of the organization over the next year.

Also on the agenda is a "stunning fishing" demonstration being performed by the DNR at 4:30 p.m. on October 2nd along Whalen's Grade. There will also be a short presentation afterwards at Remi's Thirsty Moose.

As always, the Lake Wisconsin Alliance welcomes all citizens to participate and very much welcomes your membership. As the organization continues to grow, the need for membership dues is necessary to continue their mission of protecting Lake Wisconsin's water quality and recreational opportunities for all.

Please contact Kirk Boehm at kmb.boehm@gmail.com or 608-635-8851 if you would like be included in the email announcement list or if you have any questions regarding LWA. They would welcome your participation. Also be sure to see their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/LakeWisconsinAlliance.

UPCOMING LWA EVENTS

Fishing Stunning Demo by DNR
October 2nd, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

Whalen's Grade
Presentation at Remi's Thirsty Moose
following demonstration

Next meeting of the Board of Directors will be
October 23rd, 2014 at 6:00p.m.
Location TBD

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