



# Dedicated to Preserving and Protecting the Eagle River Chain of Lakes

Summer 2020

## ERCLA Officers:

President  
Chuck Berg

VP of Finance  
Dennis Burg

VP Operations  
Mark Brenner

Treasurer  
Dave Cyrtnus

Secretary  
Teri Stecker

AIS Coordinator  
Dave Mueller

Directors At Large  
Dave Tidmarsh  
Bill Lochte

## President's Message



Chuck Berg,  
President

As I write this, summer weather has returned to Eagle River and we are seeing a resurgence of activity on the Chain. You can feel the joy that all who have been inside during the pandemic are experiencing from boating, skiing, fishing, swimming, kayaking, paddleboarding, and otherwise taking advantage of all the Chain offers. In addition, just being able to be outside in good weather, watching the birds, deer, ducks and all sorts of nature's creatures in their various pursuits, is good for our well-being.

We are all very sorry for those who have experienced the pain and suffering of the past few months, and we hope for an end to this horrible disease and a return to a much more normal or near-normal life in the Northwoods.

We are very thankful for all of our ERCLA members, volunteers and supporters. You will see numerous examples of these volunteers and their activities throughout this Newsletter. We encourage you to contact any of the Lake and Rivers Captains, Co-Captains and our Officers if you have any questions or comments about ERCLA, or if you want to join in our many volunteer opportunities.

We are modifying our Annual Meeting that will be held on July 11th at 9:00 am. We will do the meeting entirely on Zoom with only the ERCLA Board in attendance, and will record much of the meeting for posting to our website. If you can join us that day via Zoom, you will be able to ask questions and submit comments. Details for how to join the meeting are on the back page of this newsletter.

The ERCLA Board has decided to cancel our annual Summer Social in response to COVID-19 concerns. We hope to be able to hold the event in the summer of 2021.

Chuck Berg

The Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association, Inc., is the first non-profit voluntary lake organization whose purpose is to maintain, protect and improve the quality of the lakes and connecting waterways from the Burnt Rollways Dam to the Otter Rapids Dam on the Eagle River Chain of Lakes.

Formed in 2001, ERCLA is incorporated as a non-stock corporation under Wisconsin law. It is recognized as a public charity under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

## ERCLA Supporting the Vilas County Sheriff

This is the third year ERCLA is supporting the Vilas County Sheriff's Eagle River Chain of Lakes Boat Patrol. In 2017, ERCLA representatives and representatives from Eagle River and the towns of Cloverland, Lincoln and Washington met with the Sheriff to find ways to increase the number of hours the Boat Patrol could spend on the Chain, especially during the summer peak periods.



A substantial portion of the increased hours is reimbursed by the DNR, with the balance equally split between the three towns, Eagle River and ERCLA. ERCLA's share was \$875 for 2018 and \$700 for 2019. We all believe those extra hours of visible boat patrol presence have contributed to enhanced boater safety on the Chain.

To make the Boat Patrol process more efficient and thus add more hours on the water, the Sheriff has obtained from the City of Eagle River property on the river one block west of the Courthouse, and is adding a permanent dock and boat lift to the property. Some of those costs will be reimbursed by the DNR. Eagle River, the three towns and ERCLA have agreed to equally share the unreimbursed costs. The project is expected to be completed in July. This will allow the deputies to avoid having to trailer the boat to and from the T docks, wait time, etc.

We look forward to seeing more of the deputies on the Chain this summer. If you witness a violation on the Chain, call the Sheriff's Office at 715-479-4441.

## 2020 EWM Program - 3 Year DNR Grant Received

*By Dave Mueller, AIS Coordinator*

2020 marks the 14th year in the fight against Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in the Eagle River Chain of Lakes.

Our program is currently in maintenance mode, and our goal is to keep EWM at a low level. Part #1 of the program is to quantitatively measure the presence of EWM. We use the professional services of Onterra, LLC., to survey and report on how much EWM is in the chain. Part #2 is to selectively remove EWM through diver-assisted suction harvesting. Areas in Catfish Lake and Cranberry Lake have qualified for hand harvesting, and a professional diving company, DASH, LLC., provides this service.



The program is administered by the United Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission (ULERCLC). Formed under a joint powers agreement, it consists of an elected member from the City of Eagle River and the Towns of Cloverland, Lincoln and Washington. The private sector is well represented by volunteers from ERCLA.

Grant funds from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources were exhausted. However, the commission was recently awarded a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Invasive Species Established Population Control Grant, effective for three years beginning April 15, 2020. Costs will be shared by the municipalities, WDNR grant funds, ULERCLC treasury funds and the private sector represented by ERCLA.

### Project Cash Expense Summary

#### 2020 Estimate

|           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| Hand Pull | \$20,600        |
| Onterra   | \$21,050        |
| CB/CW     | <u>\$520</u>    |
|           | <b>\$42,170</b> |

## Membership Report 2020 - 1st Quarter

| Lake                       | Total        | 2020       | 2019       | 2018       |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                            | Riparians    | Members    | Members    | Members    |
| Catfish                    | 286          | 82         | 60         | 46         |
| Cranberry & River          | 289          | 67         | 53         | 39         |
| Duck                       | 120          | 29         | 12         | 8          |
| Eagle                      | 172          | 43         | 27         | 23         |
| Lynx                       | 30           | 4          | 4          | 4          |
| Otter                      | 118          | 36         | 20         | 17         |
| Scattering Rice & Deerskin | 117          | 32         | 24         | 14         |
| Voyageur                   | 87           | 11         | 4          | 5          |
| Watersmeet & Rivers        | 424          | 56         | 35         | 28         |
| Yellow Birch               | 142          | 37         | 28         | 17         |
| Non-Riparians              | -            | 9          | 4          | 6          |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>1,785</b> | <b>406</b> | <b>271</b> | <b>207</b> |

## ERCLA Helping on Our Chain

Mark Brenner, VP of Operations for ERCLA, (middle) volunteered his time to assist Kevin Schmidt, Town of Washington (left) and Jared Adamovich, City of Eagle River (right).



Their day began at 7:00 am and ended at 3:00 pm. The sun was shining and it was warm! More than 100 buoys were loaded on to the pontoon from their winter shoreline locations. Lights were installed with new guards and dropped in at their respective GPS locations across all 10 of our lakes. All three were dog tired by the end of the day.

If you have any questions, or if you see buoys that need repair, please contact Mark Brenner at 815-298-8582.

## 2020 Clean Boats/Clean Waters Program

By Dave Mueller, AIS Coordinator

ERCLA has contracted with Vilas County Land and Water Conservation to provide 24 hours of CB/CW inspection services during the 4th of July week. A Limited Term Employee from Land and Water will do the inspections at the Eagle Lake County Park, Braywood on Catfish and T-Docks on Yellow Birch boat landings.

Additionally, we will do volunteer CB/CW inspections during the course of this summer. For more information please email Marc Groth at [msgroth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:msgroth@sbcglobal.net) or Dave Mueller at [muellerd@dwave.net](mailto:muellerd@dwave.net).



## 7 Reasons to Join ERCLA

### SAFETY & EDUCATION:

**#7 - Buoys Program** - ERCLA assists with funding the maintenance and replacement of buoys to keep the Chain safe for all to enjoy. We need your help with reporting damaged buoys and those that may need replacement

**#6 - Signage Program** - These maps, courtesy of Vilas County Mapping, are placed at various boat landings by ERCLA to identify public boat landings, marinas and much more.

**#5 - Vilas County Sheriff's Boat Patrol** - We partner with the Sheriff's Department to keep the waterways safe with regular patrols and provide education, warnings and citations when necessary.

### VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS:

**#4 - Clean Boats, Clean Waters** - Boats and trailers are inspected for invasive species, and educational materials are distributed to boaters at boat landings. Pink Buckets - These bright pink buckets, located at various boat landings, help us eliminate invasive plants from our waters.

**#3 - Citizens Lake Monitoring Network** - ERCLA organizes volunteers to participate in this partnership of more than 1,000 statewide volunteers working with the Wisconsin DNR.

**#2 - Invasive Species** - ERCLA works diligently to prevent the spread of invasive species and assists in management efforts to control or eradicate Eurasian Water Milfoil, Purple Loosestrife, Yellow Loosestrife, Yellow Iris and other invasive species.

**#1 - You will stand "ERCLA Proud" with our Membership sign identifying your lake or river.**



## Check It Out! Communications Committee

The Communications Committee has been busy, and shares these updates with you:

- Summer Newsletter - we are sending this to Riparians and ERCLA supporters who do not have an email address, or noted a preference for receiving both a printed and electronic version.
- We are using Constant Contact as our primary tool for corresponding via email with our membership, broadcasting ERCLA news, sharing lake management reports, and recruiting volunteers.
- Be sure to add [ErclaOnline@gmail.com](mailto:ErclaOnline@gmail.com) as a safe email address so you don't miss out! You'll likely receive -
  - \* ERCLA news and events information
  - \* General correspondence
  - \* Thank You letters
  - \* Meeting announcements
  - \* New Member recruitment flyers
- Ongoing Programs include -
  - \* Dues and Donations: The online option on ERCLA's website is popular and has been highly utilized
  - \* Facebook: ERCLA's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/EagleRiverChain/>) continues to post excellent features and vivid photos of the Chain
  - \* ERCLA in the News: Local media spread our news to a greater audience
  - \* The 2020 Membership dues form is included in this newsletter
  - \* We will continue to print and mail newsletter to ensure we're reaching everyone

### *Watch For It!!*

### **Our 2020 Resolution -**

*Be Fluid, Responsive and Improve Communication*

## Our Officers

### President

Chuck Berg  
pwchuck@gmail.com  
312-927-3365

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dburg8648@aol.com  
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Dave Tidmarsh  
djtmarsh@gmail.com  
602-410-9135

Bill Lochte

mblochte@frontier.com  
715-477-1999

| Lake            | Captain        | Email                     | Co-Captain     | Email                    |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Catfish         | Gary Conger    | gdconger@gmail.com        | Steve Wagner   | eagleriver1996@gmail.com |
| Cranberry       | Tom Atchison   | tom.atchison3@gmail.com   | Michael Queoff | mqueoff@gmail.com        |
| Duck            | Marc Groth     | msgroth@sbcglobal.net     | Dave Cyrtmus   | davec1@charter.net       |
| Eagle           | Greg Hendricks | greghendricks@hotmail.com | Tom Newkirk    | newkorama@gmail.com      |
| Lynx            | Bill Krostue   | krostu@charter.net        | <b>Vacant</b>  |                          |
| Otter           | Dave Mueller   | muellerd@dwave.net        | Jody Voight    | jody.voight@gmail.com    |
| Scattering Rice | Dennis Burg    | dburg8648@aol.com         | Larry Springer | larrandar@gmail.com      |
| Voyageur        | Teri Stecker   | jestecker@hotmail.com     | Harry Clayton  | hclayton22790@gmail.com  |
| Watersmeet      | Aubrey Dalbec  | aubreydalbec@gmail.com    | Dan Newitt     | knewitt@earthlink.net    |
| Yellow Birch    | George Katich  | gwkatich@gmail.com        | Bill Morgan    | morganwm@comcast.net     |



## Lake Captain & Co-Captain Profiles

### Eagle Lake: Greg Hendricks



My wife Sandy and I have enjoyed the Eagle River area for close to 30 years. We presently own a cabin on Eagle Lake, and are hoping to make it an all-season soon. Prior to that we were at Otter Lake, and going back even further, we camped in the campground on Duck Lake.

We live just 70 miles from Eagle River and this has been our favorite place since I began vacationing here as a child with my parents. Our favorite activity is being on the pontoon with friends and our grandkids, touring all the lakes and enjoying the many water sports. The friends and people we have met over the years really make this place special.

Being a member of ERCLA and the Captain on Eagle Lake has been fun, challenging and rewarding that we are making a difference to keep the Eagle River Chain a wonderful place to visit and live for years to come. If you need to contact me about anything, email [greghendricks@hotmail.com](mailto:greghendricks@hotmail.com). As a Lake Captain, I am here to help.

### Duck Lake: Marc Groth



Hello, my name is Marc Groth. I am the Lake Captain for Duck Lake. My wife Sue and I purchased our house in 2011, retired, and with our yellow lab Maggy, moved to Eagle River from Northern Illinois in June of 2015.

Previously, we were seasonal residents from 2001 to 2010, as co-owners of a home on the Cranberry/Catfish Lake channel. We've been on the Eagle Chain a total of almost 19 years and have enjoyed every minute of it.

We feel extremely fortunate to be able to call Eagle River home. We have two married sons, one living in Northern Illinois and the other near Nashville, Tennessee. We are blessed with nine wonderful grandchildren who we love spending time with any chance we get.

Currently, I also sit on the ERCLA Communications and Lakes and Shores committees, along with my Lake Captain responsibilities. I am committed to helping wherever I can to protect and preserve the Eagle River Chain of Lakes and am proud to serve on the ERCLA board of directors.

Finally, I ask that any of my fellow Duck Lake Riparians that have any questions, or concerns regarding the Chain to please contact me at email ([mrgroth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrgroth@sbcglobal.net)) or cell phone 847-951-1761, and I will get back to you as soon as I possibly can.

### Scattering Rice Lake: Dennis Burg



Hi, I'm Dennis Burg - your Captain on Scattering Rice Lake. I am also the VP of Finance for ERCLA.

My wife Kathy and I bought our Home on Scattering Rice Lake in October 2005. We are located on the point at the mouth of the Deerskin River (the property with the Marquette U bench).

Kathy and I moved up here from Milwaukee permanently upon retirement in 2010. We do a lot of fishing on the Chain and other lakes. We also enjoy kayaking, biking and snowmobiling. Kathy loves cross country skiing.

We really enjoy it up here and stay year round. However now that we have our first grandchild, we do spend a lot of time in Milwaukee.

If you have any questions or concerns about Scattering Rice Lake or ERCLA, please do not hesitate to contact me at 414-588-2070 or [dburg8648@aol.com](mailto:dburg8648@aol.com).

**Share Your Time and Talents with ERCLA**  
Opportunities are listed on our website at [ERCLA.org](http://ERCLA.org)

## Lake Captain & Co-Captain Profiles

### Cranberry Lake: Tom Atchison



My name is Tom Atchison and I am the Cranberry Lake Co-Captain representing Cranberry Lake within ERCLA. I have been part of the Eagle River community for several years spending my summers growing up on Boot Lake, and winters snowmobiling. My wife and I have been property owners on Cranberry Lake for about six years now. We both work full time, remote from our home here. We have four adult children. Our family loves the outdoors and we are avid snowmobilers and enjoy spending our summers on the chain boating, skiing, fishing, swimming and just relaxing. In order to give back to the community and Cranberry Lake, I am willing to do my part to support ERCLA and hope that you will too.

Some of the responsibilities of the Lake Captain and Co-Captain include coordination of membership, education, lake management and lake health, along with camaraderie! The Cranberry Lake Captain and Co-Captain will be your contacts for any Cranberry Lake issues, questions or concerns. They will then represent those concerns with a seat on the ERCLA board of directors. Tasks associated with lake management and lake health include surveying and monitoring. Examples include the monitoring of yellow iris, as well as purple and yellow loosestrife found along the shorelines of Cranberry Lake. In addition to our shorelines, our lake has seen the effects of Eurasian Milfoil. Over the past several years, amazing work has been done to greatly reduce the annoying effects of Eurasian Milfoil. While elimination is not possible, control and containment are. These exotic species need to be controlled and we need everyone's help in the process.

The Eagle River Chain of Lakes is a truly special, unique body of water. In order to protect its beauty and sustainability for future generations, dedication is required (via personal effort and/or financial support). Currently, only 53% of Riparians are members. Our membership needs to increase! A stronger volunteer organization is required because a little work from a lot of people results in a model for success. Please urge your neighbors to get involved.

While I know several Cranberry Lake Riparians, I look forward to meeting those I don't know. I am also eager to hear your ideas, questions or concerns and will communicate those back to the ERCLA board on your behalf. You can contact me via email at [Tom.Atchison3@gmail.com](mailto:Tom.Atchison3@gmail.com) or by phone at 920-422-1866.

### Watersmeet Lake: Aubrey Dalbec



Hi there, my name is Aubrey Dalbec and I am the Captain of Watersmeet Lake. I have been the Executive Director of the Northwoods Children's Museum since May of 2019. I am a graduate of Iowa State University with a bachelor's degree in environmental science and earned a master's degree in geography from Northern Illinois University.

I am particularly interested in the ecology of the chain. My family has been travelling to our house on Watersmeet long before I was around. I also serve on the board of the Northwoods Wildlife Center and on the board of Eagle River Main Street. I can be reached at 847-434-6505 or [aubreydalbec@gmail.com](mailto:aubreydalbec@gmail.com).

## 2020 Scholarship Award

We are pleased to announce that Nathan Krause, a Northland Pines senior, is the recipient of our 2020 ERCLA \$1,000 Scholarship. Nathan shared with us that ever since he was very young, he has been an active outdoorsman, enjoying snowmobiling, fishing, hunting and walking the woodlands.

Nathan plans to study Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences at UW-Stevens Point, and chose this major because it gives him the two things he loves most - being outside and working with animals. In addition to hours spent in the classroom and his extracurricular activities, he found time to volunteer at various local events. His work experience includes his father's snowmobile rental business in Phelps and as a dock worker at the Cisco Chain Marina. Congratulations Nathan and best wishes from ERCLA!!



## Lake Captain & Co-Captain Profiles

### Voyageur Lake: Teri Stecker

Welcome to Spring and Summer activities on Voyageur. Although we had a slow start to our Spring, and boating, fishing and recreational activities were somewhat delayed, the Memorial Day weekend brought many returning enthusiasts to the Northwoods.

In this issue, we would like to highlight an annual event on our Lake. The steamboats pictured were docked at the Chanticleer Inn in 2019. This September will mark the 30th year of the Upper Mississippi Steamboat Gathering.

The group includes individual boat owners from all walks of life who share an interest in steam power and the bond of steamboating. For the last 11 to 12 years, more than 20 participants have stayed at the Chanticleer Inn, and there have been up to 10 steamboats. Most are from IL, MN, MI, WI, with some traveling from MO, NH, PA and SD.

You will see stern wheelers, calliopes, canvas tops and hard tops. Several of the boats are based on the same basic hull design, while others are quite unique in design and construction. A few boats have been converted from another purpose in a prior life. Each boat's boiler, engine, plumbing, and other systems are a unique assembly of parts and designs by the individual owners. The majority of the boat boilers are heated by wood, while others use propane or fuel oil. The group has an agenda each day and visits local restaurants, stores and points of interest, but always leave plenty of time for the boats to make regular tours of our Chain.

They admit to being a noisy bunch, with the whistles or calliope pipes, and I have to admit to being one of those that runs down to the edge of our dock when I hear them come thru the channel. So watch for their return on September 14th thru September 19th.



In our Winter newsletter, we asked for volunteers who have an interest in becoming Co-Captains for their lakes or rivers. **Several of you raised your hands and we now have Co-Captains for all but Lynx Lake.**

We also asked if anyone had experience with QuickBooks accounting software and would consider becoming our new Treasurer. Dave Cyrtmus, a full-time resident of Duck Lake, has agreed to assume the Treasurer role. Our outside accounting firm has been providing the service for the past year and will transition to Dave effective July 1st. Dave is currently the Controller for a local boat service business and has previous experience as a Chief Financial Officer. We plan to continue to utilize the outside accounting firm for tax filings and annual reviews of our financial statements.

**We are always on the lookout for additional volunteers.** If you have an interest in learning more about these possibilities, please review descriptions on our website, [ercla.org](http://ercla.org), or contact any of our Officers, Captains





## Lake Captain & Co-Captain Profiles

### Yellow Birch Lake: George Katich

My name is George Katich and I am the Lake Captain for Yellow Birch Lake, which includes all property owners on Yellow Birch Lake and the Eagle River from the t-docks west to the Highway 45 bridge. My role as the Lake Captain is to represent you and present your interests to ERCLA's Board of Directors.

Due to the concerns about the COVID-19 virus, our annual Yellow Birch Lake meeting and social event scheduled for Saturday, July 11th has been put on hold. If we learn later that we can safely hold the event this summer, information will be mailed to you.

During the summers of 2018 and 2019, professional divers using Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) hand-harvested over 170 pounds of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) from the Northeast bay of Yellow Birch Lake. There are photos of this process available on the ERCLA website in the Winter 2020 Newsletter. Yellow Birch Lake is not scheduled for DASH this summer. As I did last summer, I will survey for Yellow Iris and Purple Loosestrife along the shores of Yellow Birch Lake and our lake's portion of the Eagle River this summer. Riparian owners will be notified of the presence of these species if found on their property.

A special thank you to Tom Connelly, Tim James and Jerry Plocinski for their volunteer work which they started at least five years ago. Tom and Tim survey for EWM every August. Jerry uses a Secchi Disc every spring through fall to measure lake water clarity. If you have an opportunity, please thank them as well for their volunteer work.

In 2019, 78% of our Riparians joined ERCLA. Let's try to get our membership to over 80% in 2020. Whether you are a full time or part time resident, or renting or selling your home, we need every Riparian to be a member of ERCLA. It's up to all of us to continue to protect our water and shorelines to maintain our property value on the chain. If you have questions or concerns about Yellow Birch Lake, please contact me at 847-309-4008 or gwkatich@gmail.com. Thank you members for all your continued support of ERCLA!!

## Keep Your Dogs Safe and Healthy on the Chain!

*By Denny Erardi*

Many of us who are dog lovers bring our precious pets to the Northwoods for vacation time. This is a reminder about a condition which many people are unfamiliar in the hopes that it will save some lives and grief. It's called Acute Water Intoxication (AWI), and it impacts dogs who love to play in or with water. In fact, it can impact dogs who simply drink voluminous amounts of water in a short time period.



If your dog plays in the lakes, or drinks excessively from a sprinkler or hose, beware. Dogs who bite at water are especially susceptible. Dogs who constantly retrieve toys from the water are susceptible. When a dog ingests too much water in a short amount of time, the cells in its body cannot process it efficiently nor effectively, and sodium and chloride levels can drop precipitously. Once that happens, the cells swell and, if not attended to immediately by a veterinarian, cerebral edema occurs followed by death. The time between onset of symptoms and death can be a matter of a few hours, so it is imperative to know the symptoms and to get your pet to a vet immediately.

Symptoms include vomiting, staggering, loss of balance, lightness in gum color, nausea, glazed eyes, lethargy and abdominal distension. If your dog exhibits any of these and has recently ingested water, please get them to a vet immediately. If it is detected early on, electrolytes can be intravenously administered, as well as diuretics and medications to reduce the brain swelling. Please ensure that your dog takes breaks, has adequate and regular small intakes of water for hydration, and watch for the symptoms.



## Dredging of Channel Complete - Burnt Rollways Boat Hoist Open

The Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company (WVIC) completed dredging of the Eagle River Channel between the Burnt Rollways Dam and Cranberry Lake last fall. As many people may be aware, sand had accumulated in the upper reaches of the thoroughfare especially between piling numbers 76/75 and 74/73, and this made navigation difficult depending on boat size and hull shape.

The goal of the fall project was to restore the channel to at least five feet deep and twelve feet wide, and all the dredging work occurred within the first mile downstream of the Burnt Rollways Dam.

The Burnt Rollways Boat Hoist opened May 30, 2020. Hours of operation and additional information may be found at [www.wvic.com/Content/Burnt\\_Rollways\\_Boat\\_Hoist.cfm](http://www.wvic.com/Content/Burnt_Rollways_Boat_Hoist.cfm).

### Do you know how the Hoist received its name?



According to the WVIC, "Burnt Rollways got its name from an event that took place during the lumbering days of the late 1800s."

"A group of lumberjacks got mad when a shoestring jobber couldn't pay them after they'd stacked his timber on a device called a rollway along Ninemile Creek. The logs were to have been rolled into the melt-swollen creek in spring and floated to a sawmill. Since they didn't get paid, the lumberjacks burned the logs on the rollway in protest. Hence the name "Burnt Rollways." As the story goes, the men reasoned that if they were not going to get paid, neither would the man they worked for. The rollway they burned reportedly lies submerged in the creek about a mile upstream from our present boat hoist."

"Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company built the first boat hoist in 1911. It was an inclined railway that used mechanical power furnished by the stream. The current turned a water wheel in the dam that pulled boats, resting on a wheeled cradle, over the dam on the tracks. Since 1952, an electric gantry hoist running on a 165 feet long trestleway more quickly hoists boats of all sizes as they travel this popular thoroughfare."

Last fall, the Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association (ERCLA) created a short video of the Burnt Rollways Boat Hoist, and you may view the video on ERCLA's YouTube Channel at <https://bit.ly/ERCLA-YouTube>.

If you have questions about the dredging project, you may contact WVIC at 715-848-2976 or email [staff@wvic.com](mailto:staff@wvic.com).

## 2020 Membership Dues Form



### Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association, Inc.

### Jan 1, 2020 to Dec 31, 2020 Annual Dues Form

*Please join us and help protect the waters of our Chain*

Please Complete this Form in its Entirety: NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues \$ 60.00  
Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*Total Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Checks Payable and Mail to:**  
ERCLA  
P.O. Box 1821  
Eagle River, WI 54521

**OR Make Online Payments: <https://www.ercla.org>**

**Please Print Legibly:**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Ph#/Cell# \_\_\_\_\_

Local Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Lake or River: \_\_\_\_\_

Member is: Property Owner? \_\_\_\_\_ Visitor? \_\_\_\_\_ Business? \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer Interest? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please share your preferences: As we move forward, we are expanding our Online Services:**

**Newsletter:** Email \_\_\_\_\_ Mail \_\_\_\_\_ **Payments:** Online \_\_\_\_\_ Mail \_\_\_\_\_ **Correspondence:** Email \_\_\_\_\_ Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

***Thank You for Your Generosity & Support!***

*Dues Year: January 1<sup>st</sup> thru December 31<sup>st</sup>*

*\*\*All payments to ERCLA are tax deductible. Duplicate Annual Dues are applied as donations.  
Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association, Inc. is a Not-for-Profit 501(c)(3) organization*

## Boater Safety



### LET'S MAKE THIS A SAFE BOATING SEASON

Boat safely and protect our family, friends and visitors. Protect our Shorelines by following the "Slow, No Wake Speed" in no wake areas.

Please copy and share the information below with everyone, including renters, who will be boating on the Eagle River Chain of Lakes. Law enforcement will be patrolling the Eagle River Chain this boating season.



#### BOAT SAFE – BE RESPONSIBLE

*Follow Our Wisconsin State Laws and Requirements*

##### General Boating Requirements

- All boats must have one wearable life jacket for each person. Children under the age of 13 must wear a life jacket at all times. Boats over 16' must have one throwable life saving device immediately available.
- It is illegal to operate a boat with a person riding on the bow, deck, transom, seat backs or gunwale of the boat.
- It is illegal to operate a vessel within any area marked off or set aside as a prohibited area or a swim area or to weave through congested waterway traffic.
- It is illegal to operate a vessel while under the influence of an intoxicant or controlled substance or have a blood alcohol level of 0.08% or greater.
- It is illegal to operate a vessel at greater than "slow, no wake speed" *within 100' of shoreline, docks, rafts, piers, swimmers or restricted areas*. See definition below of "Slow, No Wake Speed". \*\*



##### Requirements Specific to Personal Watercrafts (PWC's)

- Operators must be at least 12 years old and have completed an approved boating safety course. Those born before January 1, 1989 are exempt from the required boating safety course.
- Every person must wear an approved life jacket.
- Sunrise to sunset only
- It is illegal to jump a wake with a PWC within 100' of another vessel.
- It is illegal to operate a PWC within 100' of a vessel towing a person on skis, inner tube, or wakeboard or other devices; or to operate within 100' of a tow rope or person being towed.
- It is illegal to operate a PWC at greater than "slow, no wake speed" *within 100' of a dock, pier, raft or restricted area; and within 200' of any shore*. See definition below of "Slow, No Wake Speed". \*\*

##### Requirements for Towing Skiers, Wakeboarders and/or other Devices

- Sunrise to Sunset only
- Do not come within 100' of other vessels or person in water, swimming area, or public boat landing. Must have a competent person on board to act as an observer or the vessel must be equipped with a wide-angle rearview mirror.

**Report Violations to the Vilas County Sheriff's Department at 715-479-4441**

\*\* "Slow, No Wake Speed" means a speed at which a vessel moves *as slowly as possible* while still maintaining steerage control.

Slow down gradually as you approach a no wake area and speed up gradually as you leave a no wake area. *This makes it safer for other vessels in the area, helps keep the buoys from being damaged and protects our shorelines.*



\*\* See the *Handbook of Wisconsin Boating Laws and Responsibilities* for complete list of laws including all age restrictions to operate a motorboat or PWC and options to complete the boating safety course. The handbook is available at [www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov)





Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association, Inc  
PO Box 1821  
Eagle River, WI 54521  
[www.ERCLA.org](http://www.ERCLA.org)

**ERCLA is Dedicated to  
Preserving and Protecting the  
Eagle River Chain of Lakes  
and its Tributaries,  
Watershed  
and Ecosystems**

An aerial photograph of a large lake surrounded by dense green forest. The Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association logo is overlaid on the image. Below the logo, the text "Annual Meeting" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Underneath that, "Saturday, July 11th" and "9:00 am" are written in a bold, yellow font. At the bottom, there is a white box containing the following text: "Please RSVP to [erclaonline@gmail.com](mailto:erclaonline@gmail.com) to Receive Password", "Join us on Zoom - <https://bit.ly/ERCLAZoom>", and "Call: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 885 0356 9877".

**Annual Meeting**  
**Saturday, July 11th**  
**9:00 am**

Please RSVP to [erclaonline@gmail.com](mailto:erclaonline@gmail.com) to Receive Password  
Join us on Zoom - <https://bit.ly/ERCLAZoom>  
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