



Winter 2006 Newsletter

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 556, STURGEON BAY, WI 54235

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

By Mike Standish

Winter rolled in a little late this year, allowing the golfers, sailors, hikers and bird lovers a little extra time to enjoy the fall. When it did arrive, the television weather people were very excited about the "Alberta Clipper," wind-chill factors and the possibility of snow. They acted as if no one anticipated that winter might actually happen. I think we get the same thing from the news people on the business channels. Everyone seems shocked that we require heating oil, propane or natural gas to heat our homes during the winter.

The above allows us to segue into the subject of how BSPOA members might save some money on future fuel bills. Last year your Steering Committee attempted to negotiate contracts for propane consumption by members. We were about to offer members a rate of about \$.30/gallon less than the market when our supplier pulled out of negotiations due to hurricane damage in the Gulf. Prices climbed dramatically, and we will try again this year with more lead time. Early this year you will receive a survey asking about your winter heating consumption. Please respond. Armed with this information, we will be better able to determine if we can save you some money on next winter's heating bill. Bryan Troutman heads up our effort.

Our Annual Meeting held October 15 at Horseshoe Bay Farms was well attended and very successful. Russ Turco of Stone's Throw Winery was our guest speaker and generously provided wine for everyone. The meeting ran like clockwork thanks to the great leadership of Deborah Mancuso and able assistance of Betty Parsons and Bryan Troutman.

The Annual Meeting marks the time of change. Leaving the board were George Neal, Tom Mason, and Barb Bunning. Tom passed away last year and will be missed by all who knew him. He was a man of principle, great energy and the willingness to do the right thing. We are very fortunate that Tom's wife, Peg, remains with the board in her active role as Secretary. Barb Bunning will become an emeritus member of the board (which means she'll still do lots of work). She has contributed greatly to the success of BSPOA as former president, vice-chair, secretary, membership chairman, chair for anecdotal histories and editor of this newsletter. Her dedication and contributions are much appreciated. Newly elected board members are Bob Landry, Bill Rix and Greg Holub. We are looking forward to their energetic participation in the coming year.

This summer marks our third year of water testing. The program is now being formulated and we will determine how to better track sources of lake and groundwater contamination. Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership awarded a grant of \$1,000 to BSPOA to continue our water-testing program. In 2005 we budgeted a total of \$3,100 for testing and our spending for 2006 is still to be determined.

As a last thought, please save the date of Saturday morning May 13th. That is our time for cleaning up Bay Shore Drive and feeder roads. Count on about an hour of your time. This year there is a movement afoot to meet at Birmingham's afterward and share some cleanup "war stories." Hope to see you there.

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING LAW AND SMART GROWTH UPDATE

By Betty Parsons

For the past several years, citizens have been hearing about the Comprehensive Planning Law and Smart Growth. This article intends to give a brief introduction to the legislation and Smart Growth. Signed into law in 1999, the mandate states that by 2010 all local governments have a comprehensive plan for land use, as defined by state statute.

“Important to clarify,” Steve Hiniker, Executive Director of 1000 Friends of Wisconsin, stated, “is the distinction between the Comprehensive Planning Law and Smart Growth. The state law is the Comprehensive Planning Law, while Smart Growth is broader than the law. It is a philosophy of good design principles, like keeping the old neighborhoods close together.”

Legislation was an outgrowth of a number of problems. Of particular significance was the fact that in 1998 only 29% of communities had land use plans in place. The content and quality of these plans varied widely. The few communities that had good plans often failed to invest the resources and time to implement their plans.

Consequently this law, which represents the work of a coalition of organizations, was designed “to ensure responsible planning, create a framework so that planning is implemented, rein in sprawl and enhance the health of our urban and rural communities.”⁽¹⁾ It is considered one of the most comprehensive pieces of Wisconsin land-use legislation during the last 50 years.

The comprehensive plan is required to address zoning, shoreland zoning, official mapping (pre-planning of street location, roads, public parks, etc.) and subdivision regulation. These requirements are broad and demanding as specific elements to be addressed will include housing, a transportation plan, utility and community facilities, agricultural, natural and cultural resources, economic development, intergovernmental cooperation, land use, and specific issues. The Egg Harbor and Sevastopol Town Boards appointed Comprehensive Planning Committees within the past six months. The

BSPOA summer newsletter will contain an article on these committees and their work.

Unique to the Comprehensive Plan is that it must include public participation. Mr. Hiniker explained that the “open process allows the community to decide for themselves what they want the community to look like.” Further, he said, “Door County is facing some of the strongest tourist related pressures in the state and if communities don’t plan now, they will lose control over development. Door County may turn into a place not recognizable in twenty years by today’s residents.

Egg Harbor and Sevastopol, as Mr. Hiniker noted, is continually challenged by land use issues in recent years. Many in our community would argue that we are paying less attention to the design of our community as we permit residential, condominium and commercial enterprises that are contrary to the uniqueness of our community owing to size, location and/or purpose. In some cases, these developments have a negative impact on aesthetics, traffic, water, wetlands and other land use issues.

In 2005, the EPA awarded five communities in California, Florida, Connecticut and Colorado Smart Growth awards for innovative approaches to development that strengthen community identity and protect the environment. While Door County may not yet be an EPA Smart Growth award recipient, we should welcome and embrace the opportunity for our community to address Smart Growth as Comprehensive Planning moves forward. Smart Growth doesn’t say “no’ to growth,” rather it looks at planned, enforced development that fits with the community and positively impacts the environment, economy and cultural heritage.

References:

1. *1000 Friends of Wisconsin* is the predominant land-use organization in the state and as such is responsible for reform of land use policies at the state and local levels.

BSPOA'S 2005 ANNUAL MEETING

By Deborah Mancuso

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Bay Shore Property Owner's Association was held on Saturday, October 15 at the Horseshoe Bay Farms & Golf Club. The business meeting was directed by President, Mike Standish. As always, Mike conducted a timely meeting with a bit of humor tossed in to keep everyone alert.

Our guest speaker was Russell Turco, Proprietor of Stone's Throw Winery. Russ gave an interesting, enlightening and by all accounts, enjoyable presentation on the topic: "Door County Wine: Truth or Myth" to the nearly 80 members. He generously provided each table with a bottle of his delightful Bianco (white) and Rosso (red) wine and donated a prize basket filled with Stone's Throw wine and culinary delights for one lucky winner.

Members and friends enjoyed a fabulous sit down luncheon served by the able and attentive Horseshoe Bay staff. I'm sure everyone who attended would agree that the event was a smashing success. Special thanks go to Russell Turco, the Horseshoe Bay Farms & Golf Club staff, and to those volunteers who helped to make this year's event such a success. Thank you, also, to everyone who attended. Your participation is key to the success of BSPOA. Mark your calendar for this year's annual meeting on **Saturday, September 30, 2006**. We hope to see you there!



Russell Turco, Stone's Throw Winery

INTRODUCING BILL RIX

By Lisa Frederick

What a pleasure to meet Mr. Rix, who recently joined our Steering Committee. His warm, ready smile and kind eyes offer anyone approaching an engaging image.

After an illustrious career designing packaging equipment for food giant Kraft, Bill recently retired. Long loving the northeast finger of Wisconsin, he and his wife Geraldine made a permanent move to the peninsula.

Though I have mentioned retirement, it is hardly accurate...his life is anything but retiring! Bill, generous with his time, helps Habitat for Humanity and the Door County Land Trust, serves as a Cavalry lay speaker/church elder, supports Egg Harbor Lions Club and Peninsula Players and now, whew, joins BSPOA as a member of the steering committee.

His enjoyment of the place he now calls home began about 30 years ago when he and Geraldine visited an aunt and uncle in Egg Harbor. A few years later, without reservation, they purchased a lot envisioning a retirement retreat.

With children and grandchildren in Wheaton, this charmin' man has few spare moments, perhaps a rubber of bridge or a round on the links. And he is fastidious about his yard; a lovely mix of native plants, bank washed gravel drive (environmentally correct — no run off!). The trees that shroud and shade the home daren't shed a branch, as they'll disappear immediately!

His gentle spirit and thoughtful consideration of issues affecting our Bay Shore community will add depth and dimension to our group. Welcome, Bill!



THE NATURE CONSERVANCY – AN UPDATE

By Cate Harrington, Julie Schartner, and Elizabeth Stager, The Nature Conservancy in Wisconsin, Madison, WI

Thanks in part to generous support from the Bay Shore Property Owners Association and many Door County neighbors and friends, The Nature Conservancy has protected more than 5,000 acres on the Door Peninsula since 1962.

In 1999, the Conservancy's science-based conservation plan for the entire Great Lakes region identified our Bay Shore Blufflands as an important ecological landscape. Glacial-relic snails and rare ferns reside on the face of the bluff and on the talus below. The high quality forests and shorelines are important for migratory birds and other species. Wisconsin's rare ram's-head lady's-slipper orchid also makes a home in the Bay Shore Blufflands.

Around the world, The Nature Conservancy accomplishes its conservation goals by working in partnership with government agencies, non-profit organizations, private landowners, and businesses. In Door County, the Conservancy collaborates with partners like the Door County Land Trust, The Ridges Sanctuary, various departments of the Door County government, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

One key to conservation success is to make the most of the strengths of every partner. The local Conservancy takes the lead in land acquisition at places like the Mink River and Shivering Sands. The Door County Land Trust leads land acquisition at places like Kellner Fen and Bay Shore Blufflands. At other sites, like North Bay and Kangaroo Lake, the Conservancy and partners have created land protection strategies that guide the work of many organizations in these areas.

In addition to acquiring property, The Nature Conservancy also protects land and water in other ways. Here are a few examples of their unique work to protect Bay Shore Blufflands and Door County:

◆ **Supporting Land Acquisition**—The Nature Conservancy helped secure funding from the Fox River/Lower Green Bay Natural Resource

Damage Assessment (NRDA) for Door County Land Trust's purchase of the 77-acre Lautenbach Preserve at Bay Shore Blufflands.

◆ **Invasive Species Control**—The Conservancy hired a private contractor to conduct invasive species control at the Blufflands with funding from the NRDA. In 2005, the contractor worked to restore approximately 30 acres, removing non-native buckthorn, honeysuckle and Phragmites. Work is planned in 2006.



Ram's-head lady's-slipper orchid

◆ **Stewardship Volunteer Program**—Volunteers for The Nature Conservancy and Door County Land Trust work together, pooling equipment and accomplishing more land management at preserves across the Door Peninsula. The group, known as the Door Stewardship Alliance, battled invasive species at the Blufflands Preserve during five work parties led by the Door County Land Trust in 2005. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Julie Schartner at The Nature Conservancy, jschartner@tnc.org or (920) 743-869, or Jodi Milske at the Door County Land Trust, jmilske@dcwis.com or (920) 746-1359.



Blufflands work party

- ◆ **Tree Planting**—As part of a larger Door Re-forestation Project led by The Nature Conservancy and funded by NRDA, the Conservancy coordinated the planting of 4,000 trees at Bay Shore Blufflands in 2004. During the past two years the Conservancy, with the help of dedicated volunteers, planted a total of 77,000 trees on 136 acres in Door County.
- ◆ **Science**—One of the Conservancy's strengths is serving as a science resource here in Door County and around the world. To assist in our own Bay Shore Property Owners Association's ongoing water quality monitoring project, the Conservancy has loaned their water quality testing equipment to the Association and consulted on the project.

Beyond Bay Shore Blufflands, the Conservancy is currently leading the Green Bay Integrity Assessment. This project, funded in part by the State of Wisconsin's Coastal Management Program, will utilize 30 years of academic research and on-the-ground experience to create a blueprint that will guide the Conservancy's work to improve the quality of Green Bay and its watershed. In addition to benefiting wildlife and natural areas, this planning effort will help all of us who rely on the bay for drinking water, recreation, and compatible economic activities.

For more information about The Nature Conservancy in Door County, call the Sturgeon Bay office at (920) 743-8695, or visit www.nature.org/wisconsin.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We hope that our newsletter, activities and information will continue to be of interest to you in the future. Your participation, comments and future membership are valued.

Christopher & Christine Allie
Carl & Susan Becker
Jerome & Charlene Bettag
Mark Breseman
Randy M. Campagna
Cedar Horizon LLC
Sue Cox
Vincent Davel
Craig M. Davis Trust
James & Suzanne De Rousse
Fred & Barb Frey
Gilberto Gonzalez and Susan Gould
Anthony Gremo
Benjamin J. Gurecki
Becky Hansen
David & Dyana Hansen
Doug & Cathy Hansen
Jon & Sue Hansen
Scott & Elizabeth Hootman
Randy & Mary Kenny
Jeff & Brenda Lange
Peter & Martha Lewis
Terry & Sue Martell
Peter & Moira Moede
Northwestern Investment Corporation
Robert & Carol Olson
Fred & Sandra Panzer
Thomas & Robin Parsons
Jim Sanden
Michael & Cassandra Savard
Laurie & Bob Saxton
Jim & Marti Schultz
Chris & Alice Serra
Charlie & Shaun Serwe
Lyle Tobin
Margaret Utzinger
Kay & Kerry Walbridge
Mark & Denise Wilmsen

SEVASTOPOL 2006 BUDGET

By Betty Parsons

On November 14, 2005 at the public hearing for the 2006 Sevastopol budget, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the budget for 2006. The Town tax levy of \$505,588 and the total expenditure of \$911,300 was adopted. This budget represents about an \$11,000 increase over the past year. Given the format and past budgets, the new budget appears to be in line.

Several budget items worthy of note are fire protection, road construction and maintenance, snow removal and the building fund. Fire protection contracted from Sturgeon Bay continues to be escalating, expensive, and of long standing concern. This will cost Sevastopol \$299,000, which is up \$22,114 from last year. A joint committee with Sevastopol Town Board and Town of Sturgeon Bay representatives will be formed early this year to review costs and options for 2007.

High levels of road construction, maintenance and snow removal are issues that may warrant questioning, expecting that some property owners might lower standards in the interest of economy.

The building that houses the Sevastopol Town Hall is owned by the Sevastopol schools. The building is drafty, which means high heating costs, and the roof will soon need repair. An ad hoc committee from the school and the Town Board was recently formed to discuss the issue. At this meeting, options for relocation within the school or on the school site were offered. Within the next three years, the Town Board will provide the School Administration their plans for a future Town Hall site.

Six realtors have already contacted Leo Zipperer, Town Board Chair, with potential building sites and/or buildings. The questions were: What type facility and location does a town with a population of 2733 need and what can it afford? In 2005, \$50,000 was allocated for a 'building fund' and this year the amount added was \$25,000. The summer newsletter will include additional background and an update.

EGG HARBOR HOLDS LINE ON 2006 SPENDING

By Mike Standish

Planned spending for the Town of Egg Harbor during 2006 will be slightly reduced from anticipated 2005 levels. The 2006 budget calls for a total expenditure of \$609,656, while estimated 2005 spending was \$613,354.

The total assessed value of property for 2005 is \$424.1 million, a 3.4% increase from the \$410.1 million in 2004. For the average homeowner, taxes for the Town of Egg Harbor would have been reduced in 2005. Total expenditures in 2004 were \$720,506 with \$189,000 in capital expenditures for the fire building and town pavilion.

Significant differences in 2006 versus 2005 will include the creation of a Green Fund, a new \$20,000 budget item, and lessening of road maintenance from \$253,379 to \$220,000.

Capital expenditures will decrease from \$74,397 to \$14,430. This is a result of the pavilion being completed. Total cost to taxpayers for the Town pavilion is \$221,150.

2006 DATES

April 4

Make your vote count for Egg Harbor and Sevastopol Town Boards and other Door County officials.

April 11

Citizen participation does make a difference. Plan to attend your respective Town Board Annual Meeting scheduled for:

Egg Harbor: 7:00 p.m.

Sevastopol: 7:30 p.m.

May 13

10:00 a.m. - Bay Shore Drive Cleanup

September 30

BSPOA 8th Annual Meeting

Horseshoe Bay

BSPOA 2005 - 2006 OFFICERS AND STEERING COMMITTEE

The following members were elected to terms of leadership in BSPOA for the year running from October 2005 through October 2006. Please address questions and comments for our association on e-mail to BSPOA@aol.com or by phone to steering committee members listed below. (Area codes are 920, addresses are Sturgeon Bay unless otherwise indicated.) **We value your input.**

Chairman Mike Standish
Vice Chairman Bill Rix
Secretary Peg Mason
Treasurer Bob Graef



Front Row: Mike Standish, Mary Law, Nancy Buhl, Peg Mason
 Back Row: Bob Graef, Deborah Mancuso, Betty Parsons, Lisa Frederick, Greg Hollub, Bill Rix.

One Year Term

Nancy Buhl	4575 Laurie Lane	743-3227
Greg Hollub*	5194 Bluff Court	743-5179
Peg Mason	6983 Bay Shore Dr. Egg Harbor	868-1301
Mike Standish	5979 Bay Shore Dr. Egg Harbor	743-3993

Two Year Term

Lisa Frederick	4392 Bay Shore Dr.	746-8333
Bob Graef	5451 Bay Shore Dr.	743-8455
Russ May	4998 Bay Shore Dr.	746-8964
Bill Rix*	6917 Bay Shore Dr.	868-3394



Bryan Troutman and Russ May

Three Year Term

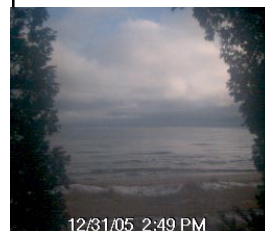
Bob Landry*	6715 Bay Shore Dr. Egg Harbor	868-3679
Mary Law	5551 Bay Shore Dr.	743-2072
Deborah Mancuso	5828 Sunset Lane	743-5582
Bryan Troutman	2800 Blackhawk Rd., Wilmette, IL	847-256-6146
	5787 Bay Shore Dr.	743-9088

Emeritus Members

Jim & Barb Bunning	4227 Bay Shore Dr.	746-4025
Corky McWey	5413 Bay Shore Dr.	743-3481
Bill & Betty Parsons	4147 Bay Shore Dr.	743-2303

*New to Steering Committee

**Can't always
be in Door
County?**



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www.doorbell.net
 and get your fix.
 A weather
 observation and
 recent shoreline
 picture is
 available daily!

12/31/05 2:49 PM

KEEPING THE BAD ACTORS IN CHECK

By Bob Bultman

Up and down the Door Peninsula, awareness is growing about the detrimental effects that unchecked growth of invasive species is having on our natural spaces, species diversity, economy and property values. With the ability to steadily out compete rivals, invasive species change the balance in our ecosystems, impacting things like the success and long-term viability of rare plants, commercial fishing catches and even views of the lake. In Door County, tens of thousands of dollars are being spent annually to stem the tide of invasive plants and animals. Nationally, invasive species are costing in the tens of *billions* of dollars. The good news is that this is a manageable situation as long as we act. While invasive species will be a persistent problem, a little effort goes a long way towards keeping invasives in check.

Why bother?

Ultimately, biological diversity is at stake. In the presence of invasive species, biological diversity is at risk. Biological diversity, or simply, biodiversity, is the total number and variety of plants and animals that make up an ecosystem. Generally, the greater the biodiversity of an ecosystem, the more important (and usually more fragile) that ecosystem is. The planet is currently experiencing the most rapid rate of species extinction ever before seen and invasive species are a growing part of this genetic loss.

The Door Peninsula, most people would agree, is a special place, a rare and exquisite gem. The Chamber of Commerce polls people about why they come here and invariably the answer is "for the natural beauty". The cornerstone of natural beauty is landscape diversity. The peninsula's geologic setting is key to its landscape diversity. The Door Peninsula, with its great rib of Niagaran rock straddling the 45th parallel and tempered by the climatic effects of Lake Michigan, has incredible landscape diversity. Numerous different microclimates and many ecosystem niches are home to an amazing array of plant and animal communities. Thus, the Door Peninsula is a hotbed of biologi-

cal diversity. In fact, the biodiversity here rivals any other place in the entire mid-continent of North America. One would have to travel hundreds of miles to find a place that equals the Door Peninsula for the sheer variety of plants and animals that thrive here. As occupants of this unique place, it is our stewardship duty to safeguard and protect the peninsula's biodiversity (read natural beauty) for future generations.

Economic factors are impacted by the presence of invasives as well. The introduction of different exotic species into Lake Michigan have drastically changed the lake ecosystem and are factors to be considered when understanding commercial fish populations. Aquatic invasive plants clog waterways. Some invasive plants in pastures are quite detrimental to grazing herds and properties infested with invasive species are less attractive to potential buyers.

What exactly is an invasive species?

An invasive plant or animal is one that has a tenacious, aggressive ability to out compete other species for dominance in an ecosystem. Invasive species tend to be generalists, able to exist in a range of habitats and conditions. They also usually are able to reproduce rapidly and in large numbers. While there are native species that have invasive tendencies and can be problematic locally, the real threats are invasive species that are exotic, or, not from these parts. Exotic plants and animals are free of natural predators and competitors that kept them in check in their native environment. It is important to note that most exotic species are not problematic and have naturalized here without causing problems. The problem arises with some species when, free of competitors and pest species, they propagate profusely.

A good example of a problematic invasive species here in northeast Wisconsin is giant reed grass, or phragmites. Sometimes planted as a decorative plume grass, phragmites is native to Eurasia and grows thick in wetlands, ditches and along shorelines. It can grow up to 15 feet

tall in dense, monocultural stands, and is able to out compete even young trees. Along with other opportunistic invasives, phragmites is currently taking advantage of low water levels and spreading quite rapidly along all of the shorelines of the county. \$50,000 was spent in late summer 2005 using a helicopter to spray 600 acres of phragmites in southern Green Bay near the mouth of the Fox River. Clearly, phragmites is a serious shoreland threat.

With the rapid pace of change and the ease



Phragmites, giant reed grass

with which species are transported to all parts of the globe (both intentionally and accidentally), exotic species are given continual opportunities to exist in new places. It is intrinsic in all living things to prosper and thrive. The urge for survival and propagation is basic to all life. When that life has invasive tendencies, runaway growth can easily be the result. Such runaway growth negatively affects ecosystem balance.

Progress at the Bayshore Blufflands

The Bayshore Blufflands is an ecosystem in recovery. The land was heavily logged, and some parts were ditched, farmed, pastured and even enjoyed as a golf course at the old Chateau Hutter Resort. The remnants of native forest are slowly reseeding, reclaiming this tired land, but the native trees and plants have competition. Buckthorn is making a strong presence in these old fields and lowland woods. Once planted intentionally, no doubt, buckthorn has become entrenched all along the Bayshore. Its ability to grow dense, thorny thickets inhibits the growth of many plant species and makes it difficult to remove. Bush honeysuckle is another problem species that is able to grow into

thickets. In the lower, wetter areas, reed canary grass and phragmites (giant reed grass) are growing thick in some areas.

A volunteer group, the Door Stewardship Alliance has been active at the Blufflands Preserve for a number of summers. The Door Stewardship Alliance (DSA) is a group of hard working volunteers who support the land restoration work of the Door County Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy. Tasks range from trail building and maintenance, to planting trees as well as conducting invasive species control work.

In 2005, the author was contracted to carry out concentrated invasive species control work on the old golf course property on the southeast corner of West Carlsville Road and Bayshore Drive. You may have seen someone this past year wielding a handsaw or chain saw cutting buckthorn and honeysuckle. This procedure, called the cut stump method, involves cutting the offending tree or bush within 6 inches of the ground and then painting the freshly cut stumps with concentrated glyphosate herbicide.

You may have wondered what pest had caused the leaves on so many trees there to die. Standing dead buckthorn trees bear witness to the effectiveness of treating woody invasives with the basal bark treatment, triclopyr herbicide mixed with oil and sprayed on the root collar of the tree or brush with a backpack sprayer. The oil penetrates the bark and carries the herbicide to the cambium layer, effectively girdling the tree. The basal bark treatments were made early enough in the season to prevent the production of viable fruit. By August, most all of the buckthorn trees on the old golf course property were standing tall with brown, crispy leaves waiting only for moisture and rot to return them to the soil.

A large stand of phragmites growing in the cedar tangle north of West Carlsville Road was also treated with herbicide. Use of herbicide is necessary for the successful eradication of phragmites because, being a grass, it cannot be successfully hand pulled like small buckthorn and honeysuckle plants. August through late September, mature canes of phragmites were bundled in fist sized bunches with sisal twine. Then a hedge shears was used to cut the canes off just above the twine. Concentrated glyphosate herbicide (that is approved for use in wetlands) was sprayed on the exposed stems with a spray bottle. The resulting scene is a

bizarre grouping of cane tepees left to dry in the sun while the herbicide is drawn down into the roots.

These efforts are just the beginning. We are still climbing the initial hurdle, with plenty of work to do to get ahead of the invasive threat. Follow up treatments are a necessary part of the procedure. There is still plenty of buckthorn and honeysuckle on the Bayshore Blufflands Preserve and plenty of mature seed stock on numerous properties up and down the Bayshore. If steady pressure to bring buckthorn under control does not ensue, all previous effort and expense will be for naught. Again, once some sweat and effort are put forth to get ahead of the invasives, annual monitoring and minor control should be all that is needed.

More help is on the way

At both the county and state levels, new initiatives are underway to coordinate the efforts to combat invasives. The Door County Soil and Water Department is in the process of contracting with an individual or organization to coordinate the Door County Invasive Species Team. This part time duty is seen as a cornerstone in the efforts on the Peninsula. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has a program called the Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) whereby the DNR will pay for 75% of the cost of removing invasive species from qualifying properties.

Invasive species don't pay attention to property lines

While groups like the Door County Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy and Department of Natural Resources have been actively making great strides to protect the most special ecosystems in the county from invasive species, they cannot function alone. It is up to all of us – landowners, citizens at large and tourists alike to become educated and be active in keeping invasive species in check. The best time to stem an invasion is before it happens. There are a number of great resources available and simple things to do to stem the invasive tide.

Be conscious when landscaping. Choose plants wisely. Plant native species- they do better and need less fussing. Do not assume that a

landscape company is enlightened as to which plants are invasive or not. Unfortunately many of the worst invasive plants are still available at landscape stores and are planted by landscape companies.

Clean your boat, bait box, jet ski, etc. Aquatic invasives are easily transferred from one body of water to the next clinging to boats, trailers, water toys and fishing gear.

Read. There is a growing volume of literature on the subject (The new book by Elizabeth Czarapata is excellent).

Volunteer. The Door Stewardship Alliance (DSA) comprises the collaborative volunteer arm(s) of the Door County Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy. Meeting once a week in the summer, the DSA tackles invasive species as well as tree planting, trail construction and maintenance, trash removal, kiosk construction, sign posting, etc.

Resources:

Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest, An Illustrated Guide to Their Identification and Control; by Elizabeth J. Czarapata Published by the University of Wisconsin Press, 2005

Invasive Plant Association of Wisconsin, www.ipaw.org

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, dnr.wi.gov/invasives/

Kelly Kearns 608 - 267 - 5066, kelly.kearns@dnr.state.wi.us

Invasive Species Control Coordinator, Bureau of Endangered Resources,

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Jennifer Bardeen 608 - 266 - 8736, Jennifer.bardeen@dnr.state.wi.us

Landowner Incentive Program Coordinator, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Bob Bultman is an insured independent contractor specializing in land restoration consulting and natural landscaping. He is certified and licensed by the state to apply herbicides in the control of invasive species. He resides in Baileys Harbor and can be reached at 920 - 839 - 2019 or bobbultman@yahoo.com

Editor's Note: *Door County soil and water conservation department is currently looking to hire a coordinator to help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species that are threatening the ecological integrity of the Peninsula.*

PIER LEGISLATION

By Barb Bunning

Legislation passed in February 2004 which aimed at streamlining the state's waterway permit system exempted piers from needing a permit if the pier met certain size requirements. The final proposal for revisions to NR 326 aims to provide clear simple requirements for waterfront owners to place piers in aid of navigation while protecting critical fish habitat and assuring each citizen's right to boat fish and enjoy other recreation in Wisconsin's public waters.

99% of Piers Will Need No Permit or Be Grandfathered

Most of the nearly 187,000 existing piers in Wisconsin will continue to be exempt from permitting, as has been the case under guidelines in effect since the early 1990s. New piers can also be placed in any waterway without a permit, unless they are proposed to be located in "sensitive areas" that have been formally designated on a very small number of lakes.

To be exempt, property owners simply need to follow the size limits established by law, along with a few other requirements. Piers that already have a permit are not affected by the proposal. Virtually all other larger piers will be "grandfathered" through a one-time, free registration that in the main allows owners to keep what they have. Five other categories of general permits are created for specific piers or boat shelters that are not exempt. Less than 1 percent of existing piers will need to obtain an individual permit with a more comprehensive review. These are very large structures that have the greatest potential to harm fish habitat and interfere with boating, swimming and other public water recreation.

The proposed revisions to Chapter NR 326 establish size requirements that a pier or wharf must meet to be exempt from a permit and fee. The size limits to qualify for an exemption mirror the dimensions established in the 2004 law:

Length – a pier can extend in the water to the length needed to moor a boat or use a boat hoist/lift, or to the 3-foot water depth, which-

ever is greater

Width – a pier or wharf can be a maximum 6-foot wide

Number of boats – a waterfront owner can have up to two boat slips for the first 50-feet of shoreline and one more for each additional full 50-feet.

Other key requirements to be exempt from a permit, a pier:

- May extend to the pierhead line if one is established by local ordinance
- May not extend more than 25% across a river, stream or channel
- May not be a solid structure or on rock-filled cribs
- Must not be located in a formally designated "Sensitive Area".
- Must not block water movement, cause sedimentation, or accumulate debris

For more detailed information on this pier legislation, go to <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/waterway/pierrulesupdates.shtml>

CORRECTION:

From Gene Musolf's Summer 2005 Newsletter article, *Geology—A Quick Study*, comes the following clarification of copy.

"With the retreat of the glacier, the Lake Michigan water level dropped to about 640 feet above sea level. The highest abandoned shoreline in Door County was then formed during the glacial Lake Algonquin phase, which is dated at 11,000 B.P. It appears as a wave-cut terrace located just east of Bay Shore Drive and about 60 feet above the present water level of Green Bay. The most prominent abandoned shoreline, however, is that which formed during the glacial Lake Nipissing phase of lake history. The Nipissing phase is dated at 5,000-4,000 years B.P. This persistent widespread shoreline feature is represented in this vicinity by a wave-out terrace at an elevation of 600-605 feet above sea level and 20-25 feet above present-day Green Bay. Bay Shore is located on this terrace."

BAY SHORE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE: The purpose of this association is to maintain the safe, natural and aesthetic character of the Bay Shore Drive area.

MISSION STATEMENT: The Bay Shore Property Owners Association is a voluntary, non-profit association. Its mission is to provide for discussion and action on issues that impact the residential character of the neighborhood and those that affect the character of Door County.

GOALS:

❁ To monitor proposals for development of recreational/commercial properties that relates to and affects residential character of the neighborhood.

❁ To keep members informed of development proposals and issues that impact the residential character of the neighborhood.

❁ To educate and motivate members and non-members to preserve and enhance the natural, visual and historic resources of the area.

❁ To encourage management of growth through effective town, city and county land use planning and zoning.

❁ To form an alliance with other existing property owner associations.

❁ To address other issues that affect Bay Shore Drive indirectly but affect the quality of life in Door County.

Bay Shore Property Owners Newsletter, Winter 2006 issue

Published on an occasional basis by **Bay Shore Property Owners Association,**
P.O. Box 556, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

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