

# LILLY LAKE NEWS

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### Advantages of Stocking

- ◆ Supplement existing populations
- ◆ Increase recreational opportunities
- ◆ Help control panfish

### Northern Pike *Esox lucius*

- ◆ Native species
- ◆ Gets its name from its resemblance to the pole-like weapon known as a pike used in the middle ages
- ◆ State Record:  
38 lbs,  
Lake Puckaway  
1952
- ◆ World Record:  
55 lbs,  
Germany  
1986



## FISH STOCKING

Fishing is one of the top recreational activities in the U.S. Here in Wisconsin it borders on a religion. With so many lakes, even here in southeastern part of the State, it is no wonder fishing is so popular. While many species of fish reproduce naturally, some species may need a helping hand. This is a reason many lakes are stocked with hatchery raised fish.

But there is also another reason to stock fish: it can be healthy for the lake. An article in the July 2015 newsletter presented the results of the WDNR's 2013 fish survey of Lilly Lake. That survey showed an overabundance of panfish (i.e., bluegill) and recommended stocking of additional large predators to keep the panfish population in check. WDNR stocked 174 fingerling northern pike in 2015. However, some of these fish may not survive long. Observers at the time of stocking witnessed these small pike were immediately harassed by many of the panfish. Some likely survived and are now, hopefully, harassing the panfish!

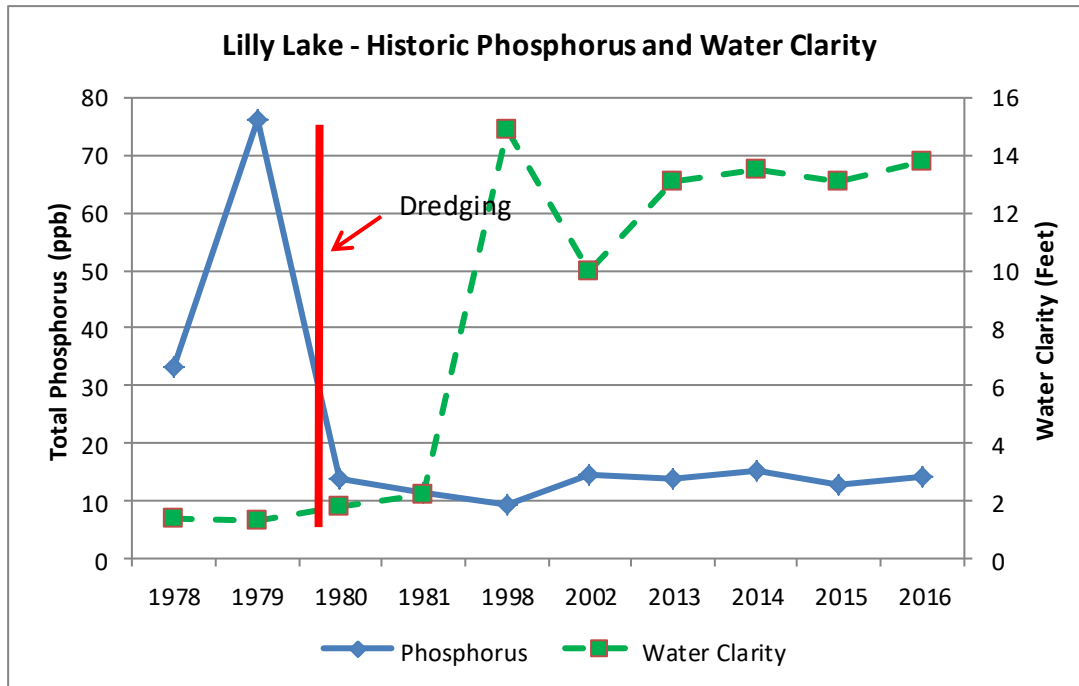
To supplement the WDNR, the Lilly Lake Rehabilitation Board voted to stock additional pike. These pike are larger, 12-15 inches (see photos). The larger size, while more expensive, likely gives these fish a greater chance of survival. Last fall, 52 fish were stocked, with 151 more to be released this spring.



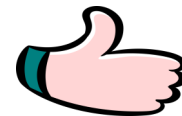
Northern Pike *Esox lucius*

## WATER QUALITY UPDATE

Lilly Lake continues to see excellent water quality. In spring and fall, the Secchi disk, which is used to measure clarity, can almost reach the lake bottom (~20 feet) before it disappears. The phosphorus levels in the lake are steady. Keep up the good work! Be mindful of what you do in and around your home as it eventually finds its way into the lake.



### Beach Update: No Advisories or Closures in 2016!



After a couple of years of having at least one or more beach advisories or closures due to high bacteria counts, there were no advisories/closures in 2016. The highest E. coli bacteria count (26 cfu/100ml) came on August 26th. The count has to be greater than 500 for an advisory and greater than 1000 for a closure.

In the past, the leading suspect for the higher counts were Canada geese that would hang out on the beach, particularly at night in July and August after the nesting season. In an effort to continue our low bacteria numbers and to keep our beach open PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE GEESE OR DUCKS!!



#### Planning for 2017

Do you have an idea for our community? Want to include something in the newsletter?

Please contact:  
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<https://www.facebook.com/LilyLakeSummerhaven/>

