

# LILLY LAKE NEWS

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### Lilly Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Meeting

August 3, 8:30 am

Town Hall, 34315 Geneva Road, New Munster, WI

#### Agenda Summary:

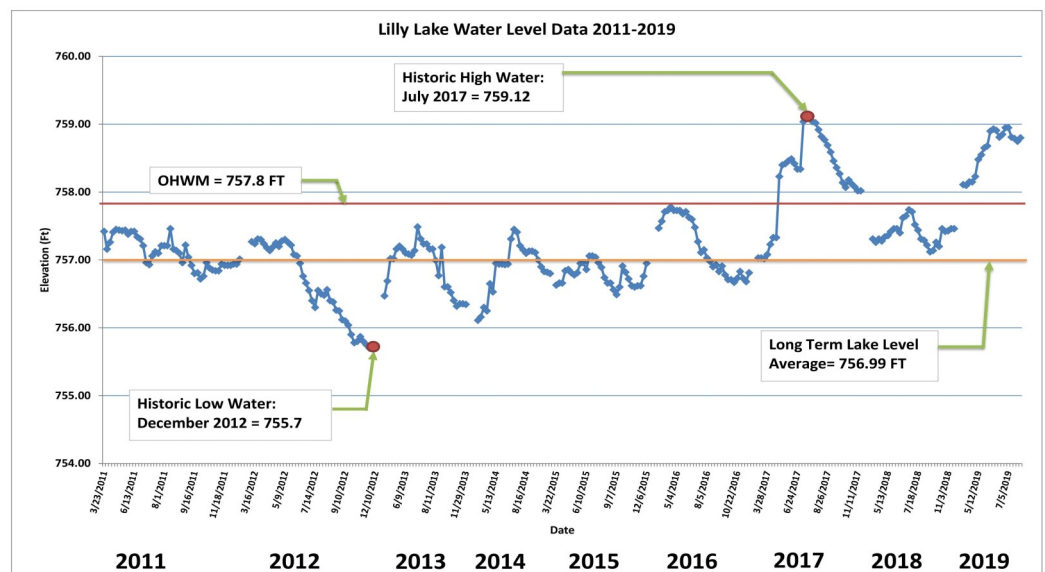
- Water Levels
- Weed Management
- Budget

## HIGH WATER REVISTED

The quotes “history repeats itself” or “history doesn’t repeat itself, but it rhymes” both come to mind as the high water level on Lilly Lake resulted in a slow, no-wake declaration from the Town of Wheatland Board on May 13, 2019. In July 2017 heavy rains, including one soaker of over 7 inches, resulted in a slow no-wake declaration; and the high water that year did not recede until September. This year was a little different. It was not one large rain event that triggered the high water, but a wet spring. The water was high even when the water level gauge was installed on March 25, 2019 (see chart below), and kept going up.

The water levels in the lake have remained high since there is no outlet. The only way the water level declines is through evaporation and maybe ground-water flow. In the cool spring, evaporation was slow. As summer has progressed, the water began to drop, but then another rain event caused it to rise again. Natural springs may also be adding water to the lake.

The Town has been looking into options and this will be a main topic of discussion at the August 3rd annual meeting of the Lilly Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District (see side bar). (continued on page 2)



## High Water Revisited (continued)

The Town Engineer, Len Roecker from R.A. Smith and Associates, will be presenting information about the lake’s water level and high water relief concepts. Any solution will require design, permitting, and of course, funding.

Regional precipitation trends show an increase in rainfall ([https://mrcc.illinois.edu/mw\\_climate/climateTrends.jsp](https://mrcc.illinois.edu/mw_climate/climateTrends.jsp)), so it is likely that in the future, given the lack of an outlet, high water levels may once again be a cause for concern.

## State Looking at Mussels/Clams

### First statewide mussel survey in 40 years reflects a mixed bag for mollusks

MADISON - The first statewide survey for native mussels in 40 years in Wisconsin shows these water-cleaning clams are facing mixed fortunes. Mussel populations and diversity were highest in the St. Croix River, with 24 different species found at 1 site. To read more: <https://dnr.wi.gov/news/Weekly/article/?id=4594>.

Most of these mussels are found in flowing waters like rivers and streams. Lakes usually have a low diversity of mussels. Lilly Lake has a healthy population of snails, but the status of other mussels is not known. Fortunately we do not have the invasive zebra mussel yet.

### Beach Testing:

Even with the rains and high water, the beach testing continues to show low levels of E. coli bacteria (data, right). The E. coli itself is not necessarily harmful, but it used as an indicator for other possible harmful pathogens that could make people sick. An advisory is issued if E. coli numbers are greater than 235 but less than 1000. Over 1000 E. coli triggers a swim ban/beach closure.

July 23, 2019	1 E.coli/100mL
July 16, 2019	1 E.coli/100mL
July 9, 2019	3 E.coli/100mL
July 2, 2019	4 E.coli/100mL
June 26, 2019	3 E.coli/100 mL
June 18, 2019	1 E.coli/100 mL
June 11, 2019	5 E.coli/100 mL
June 4, 2019	6 E.coli/100 mL
May 23, 2019	1 E.coli/100 mL



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

### Planning for 2019-2020

### Important Dates for 2019

- Lilly Lake Rehabilitation District Annual Meeting - August 3
- Summerhaven “Fall” Meeting - August 17
- Summerhaven Holiday Decorating Contest, December 21-22

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

Please contact:

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