

# LILLY LAKE NEWS

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## Questions about your septic?

Contact the Kenosha County Dept of Planning and Development at:

<http://webext1.co.kenosha.wi.us/plandev/>

Phone: 262-857-1895

## Pollutants in Septics:

- ◇ Bacteria
- ◇ Viruses
- ◇ Nutrients (i.e., which can lead to increased algae)
- ◇ Chemicals & Metals (not broken down in the system)

## SEPTIC SYSTEMS

### PART 1

Lilly Lake has a relatively small watershed (the area of land that drains into the lake). This is good because there are few sources of pollutants and nutrients that could cause detrimental impacts on the lake.

Most of the area that drains into the lake is residential. This means that most of the pollutants and nutrients are coming from our houses, yards, and roads. One of these sources is our septic systems. This essential element needed for a functioning home around the lake, if not operating properly, could have detrimental impacts on Lilly Lake. One could argue that poorly operating septics are the #1 threat to the lake.

Many of the homes built around Lilly Lake were built 50-80 years ago. At that time the homes were small and often only used as summer residences. The septics were small as well and could

handle the seasonal usage. Now days many of these same places may be used year-round. This puts stress on the system, decreasing its lifespan and increasing the risk of failure. Sometimes a failing septic can go undetected for years.

The Kenosha County Department of Planning and Development is the designated agent for the State of Wisconsin for the POWTS program. As an agent, the department has authority to manage all aspects of the POWTS program within Kenosha County. Kenosha County requires proof of septic maintenance every three years, and annually if you have a holding tank.

There are many different kinds of septics. In the next issue part 2 of this discussion will include some tips to help ensure an efficient system and the health of the lake.

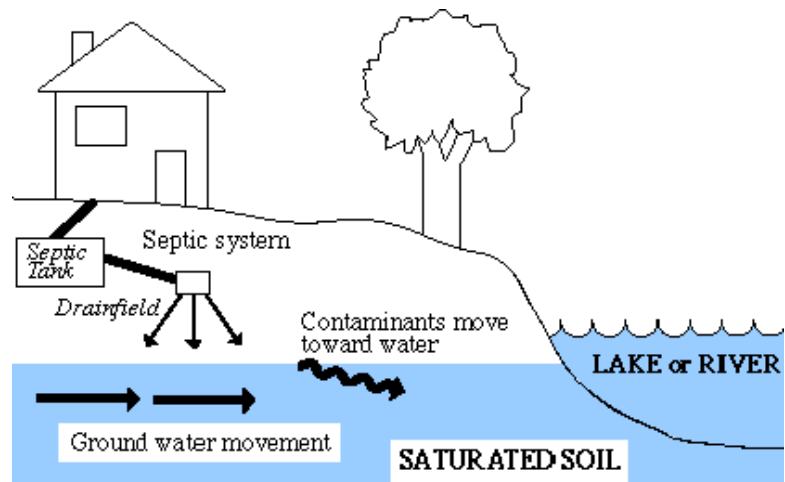


Image from: [www.extension.umn.edu/](http://www.extension.umn.edu/)

### Lilly Lake Fish Survey—Update

The DNR was out on Lilly Lake this spring and conducted the first of a two part fish survey. The second portion of the study will be conducted this fall.

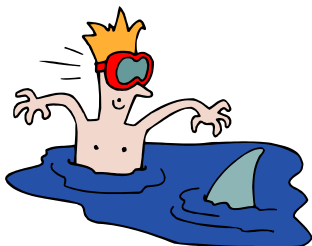
This winter a full report will be delivered including recommendations on improving the fishery.



### Venetian Night and a Movie at the Beach!

On August 17, decorate your boat for Lilly Lake Venetian Night. The theme is “Creatures of the Deep”. Trophies awarded for the best “scariest” boats.

Then at dusk, the thriller “JAWS” will be playing at the beach. Parental discretion advised. See you there!



## WATER QUALITY & BEACH UPDATE

So far the swimming beach has been open all season! No closures. Let’s hope that continues.

Water clarity readings and water samples are showing that Lilly Lake is in good shape. The water clarity is ranging from 8 to 18 feet and the nutrients, specifically phosphorus, are quite low. It is similar to what it was just after the dredging in the 1980s.

More details will be provided in the next newsletter.



This image was taken April 2, 2013 from Google. Note the ice just coming off the lake and the outline of the ice racing course.

## LILLY LAKE PARADE-2013

The weather was perfect and there was a great turnout for the annual Lilly Lake Parade. This year the parade was held on July 4th. The grand marshal for the parade was a familiar face, retired Wheatland Town Constable Bob Haas. In addition to Mr. Haas, the entire Wheatland Fire Department was there along with a Kenosha County Sherriff Deputy, the Silver Lake Rescue Squad, and the current Town Constable Bob Santelli. Special thanks go out to Boy Scout Troops who marched in the parade and made the U.S. flag presentation for the ceremony that followed.

