

LILLY LAKE NEWS

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Beach Bacteria....What Flooding?

With all the rain and the fact that homes around Lilly Lake are on septic, the *E. coli* bacteria numbers at the beach this summer were very low. Even a sample taken on July 17, a couple days after the flood, had a reading of only 11 colonies (500 triggers a beach advisory).

So you could still enjoy the beach....if you could find it! (see below)



THE 2017 (WET) WRAP-UP

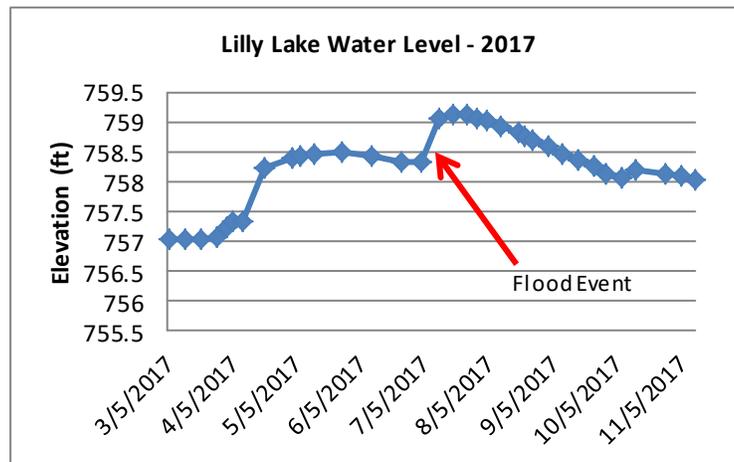


Historic Flooding

The summer of 2017 may be one that we will be talking about for some time. What started out as a normal summer quickly changed in mid-July. On July 11-12, over 8 inches of rain fell in portions of southeastern Wisconsin, causing historic flooding along the Fox River and nearby communities, including Lilly Lake.

Because our lake currently has no defined outlet (i.e., a water control structure, a culvert, a creek), the lake water level rose and maintained its high status for several weeks. A no-wake rule was implemented by the Town of Wheatland during this time.

The chart below shows the 2017 lake level and a chart on page 2 shows the lake's water level since 2011. As you can see, the lake level can quickly increase, but very slowly decreases, due probably to the lack of a true outlet. Under these conditions, the primary

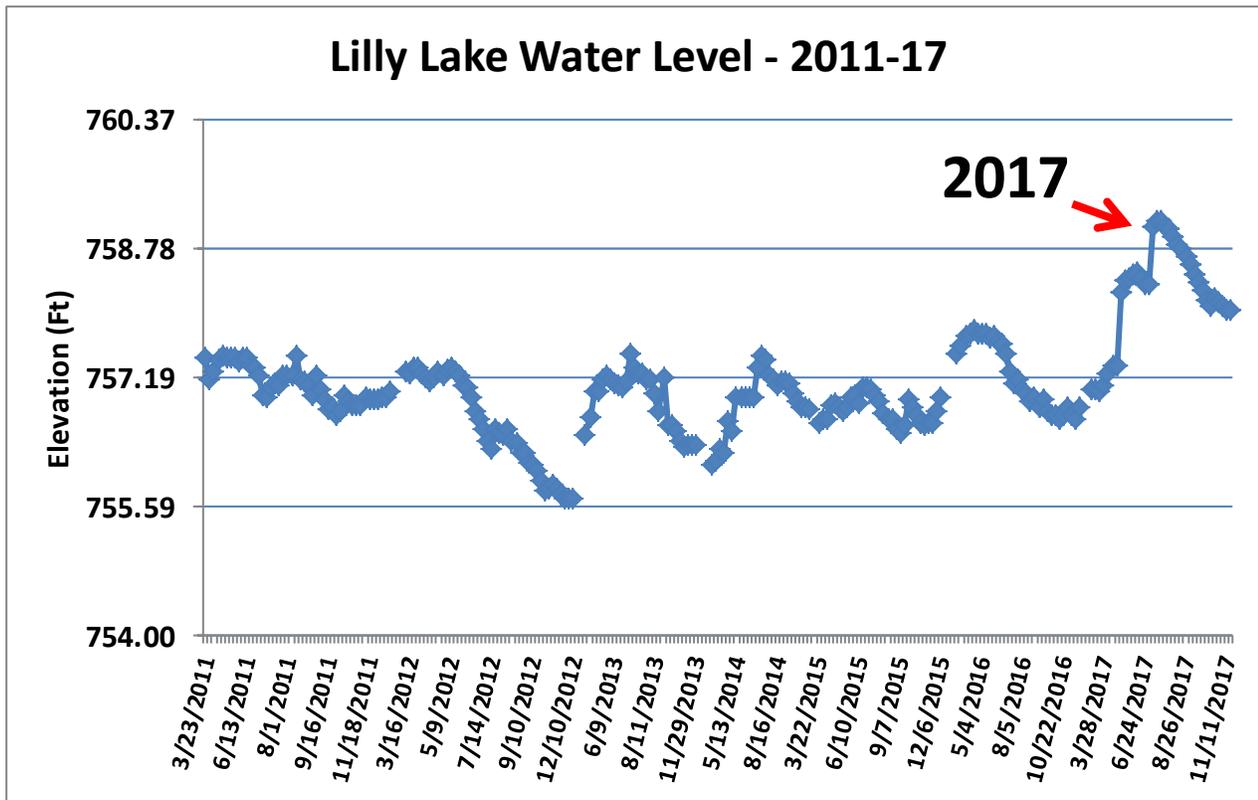


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means of water loss is from evaporation. Some groundwater exchange may also occur, but likely has minimal impact on water levels. The water level readings help illustrate how the lake reacts to weather conditions. Note the response to a dry/drought year (2012) compared to a wet year (2017). One of the goals of the water level monitoring is to determine if a set-elevation could be established that would be used to issue or lift a no-wake restriction.

Another note-worthy point is that when the lake froze over in December 2017, the lake level was higher than any of the previous years. This may mean that after ice-off this spring the lake may already be at a higher level than in the recent past. We will have to keep an eye on this and hope that we do not have a wet spring.



More Pike Released

More northern pike were stocked into the lake in 2017. We hope these voracious predators will help reduce the abundant panfish in the lake. The panfish populations are very abundant and consist of many small (stunted) fish. In addition to providing fishing opportunities, the pike will improve the lake’s overall fishery by eating those smaller fish.

Please release Northern Pike



Planning for 2018

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

Please contact: Mike Adam at balooadam@yahoo.com or 262-537-2413.

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

