

FLOW AIS Waterways Writings

April 2023

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1 FLOW QUARTERLY REVIEW

Citizens Lake Monitoring Update

FLOW AIS has been working on a couple things getting ready for the field season. FLOW AIS has worked to organize, pack and distribute the Citizens Lake Monitoring Network supplies to nineteen different citizen volunteers that cover 25 different lakes In Oconto County. These volunteers participate in the chemistry monitoring part of the program on top of the clarity monitoring volunteers start with.

Chemistry monitoring involves taking a water sample from the deepest part of a lake. After collecting the water sample, the volunteer will filter out part of the water and have it tested for it chlorophyl and phosphorus content. Monitors will also take a temperature profile of the deepest part of the lake. Chemistry monitoring is done four times a year when the water is open, once in the spring, June, July, and August.

The volunteers conducting the monitoring on their lakes are a huge help to the state of Wisconsin. The data they collect is public knowledge and can be found on the DNR lakes page. The data helps to establish or continue the health of our aquatic ecosystems. The data can be of great use for lakes wanting to create or update a lake management plan. The amount of data collected statewide could not be possible with the help from the volunteers

willing to donate their time. If someone is interested in becoming a volunteer monitor for their lake please contact the FLOW AIS Coordinator Derek Thorn at flowais@lumberjackrcd.org.

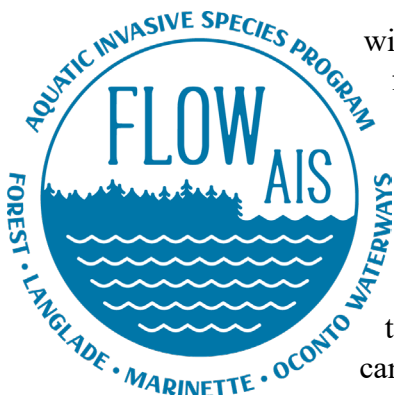
Clean Boats Clean Waters Update- New Training Option

On top of the normal in person Clean Boats Clean Waters Trainings that FLOW AIS offers. FLOW AIS now gives Clean Boats Clean Waters inspectors the option to do an online training. The online training is available at any time so an inspector can become certified or renew their certification anytime of the year they would like.

The training consists of an hour-long YouTube training video and 15 quiz questions. In order to become certified inspectors will need to pass the quiz with a score of 100%. The quiz is open book and during the quiz inspectors are able to refer back to the video while taking the quiz. The training is in Google forms and answers will be automatically recorded and logged by the FLOW AIS program.

The online training will be available starting May 2nd of 2023. Links for the training will be posted on the FLOW AIS website. If you would like the link for the online training, please email flow ais coordinator Derek Thorn at flowais@lumberjackrcd.org.

The online training was put together in conjunction with Lincoln, Oneida, and Vilas Counties AIS programs.



Purple Loosestrife Bio Control Program Update

In March FLOW AIS and WHIP received a purple cage from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to update and continue their biological control programs. The cage will be set up in Forest County behind the county courthouse. The cage will allow FLOW and WHIP to enhance their program for years to come. In prior years purple loosestrife plants were grown in pots set in pools and each pot had its own net around it. Now with the cage upgrade, loosestrife plants will still be in pots and pools but now instead of single nets the cage acts as a giant net for all of the plants. This allows for the cage to hold more plants in a smaller area. With more plants comes more beetles that can be distributed throughout the area. The cage will also allow for the program to be more efficient with beetle dispersal. Lastly the cage will allow less waste in supplies every year because pot and soil will not be put out into the landscape.

FLOW AIS and WHIP Coordinators Derek Thorn and Rosie Page applied for and received a Lumberjack grant in January. This grant will allow both of the programs to work together while expanding both of their biocontrol projects. The grant also allows for collaboration between Coordinators and counties. Vilas and Forest County will be supporting the project. Vilas County will also be housing a cage they received at the Forest County location as well.



Look for this sign outside our cages at the Forest County Courthouse

1.1 AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES HIGHLIGHT- FAUCET SNAILS

Faucet snails (*Bithynia tentaculata*) are small invaders that threaten waterfowl, food webs, and may clog water intakes. They host three intestinal flukes that can kill scaup, coots, and other waterfowl that consume them. Faucet Snails are native to Europe, they were first found in the Great Lakes in the 1870s, faucet snails likely spread with solid ballast used in large timber transport ships or by contaminated vegetation used in packing crates. Faucet snails then quickly spread to inland waters, often reaching high densities and outcompeting native snails.



Faucet snails are found in the Great Lakes, in some inland waters in provinces and states bordering the Great Lakes. Faucet snails can also be found in Lake Champlain to Washington, D.C., and all the way west to some lakes in Montana.

Like other invasive species faucet snails can spread by attaching to aquatic plants, boats, anchors, decoy anchors, and other recreational equipment. Faucet snails can close their shells allowing them to survive out of water for days. Eradicating infestations is nearly impossible.

That is why it is important to always remember to remove any mud, water, or plants from your hunting or recreational equipment as faucets and other invasive species can hide in small places.

Currently there are only two known locations of faucet snails in the FLOW AIS area Elton Creek in Langlade County and Ucil Lake in Oconto County.

Lakes and Rivers Convention Highlights

The Lakes and Rivers convention was from April 19-21st in Stevens point WI. FLOW AIS Coordinator Derek Thorn attended all three days. Derek enjoyed the conference and all of its sessions and speakers. Session topics Derek attended are below. If you have any questions about one of the sessions, feel free to reach out and ask.

Topics Include:

Civic Ecology: Building networks to restore broken places.

Introduction to lake algae and cyanobacteria.

WDNR Surface Water Grants: program overview and how to apply.

Characterizing the wake wave and propeller wash hydrodynamics of recreational boats.

History in the mucking.

Wisconsin's phragmites management strategy.

Wetland forest trees of Wisconsin.

PFAS in Wisconsin.

Wake boat case study of Ashippippin Lake.

Cyanobacteria blooms: What makes lakes vulnerable and how can blooms be managed.

FLOW AIS Upcoming Events

Virtual CBCW training 4/28/23 and 5/5/23 also held with Lincoln, Oneida, and Vilas Counties AIS programs. Both times are 1:00pm-3:00pm

Drain Campaign: June 2nd through the 4th.

Frogbit technician training: June 8th

Oconto AIS Workshop June 10th- Two events in one day

First Event- (south event) Will be held from 9:00am-11:00am at the Sanitary District building at 13266 Walkers Bay Rd. Hosted by the White Potato Lake Advancement association, the White Potato Lake sports club, FLOW AIS and UW Extension Lakes.

Second Event- (north event) Will be held from 1:00pm-3:00pm at the Lakewood Community Center, 17258 North Rd. Lakewood, WI. Hosted by FLOW AIS and UW Extension Lakes

Landing Blitz: June 30th through July 4th

Six County Lake Meeting: July 14th

Langlade County workshop: July 21st- FLOW AIS is giving a presentation on AIS in the Langlade County area.



FLOW AIS Is a Part of Lumberjack RCD

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2 WORD SEARCH

S J R D I X O L J A L N Y T E
I P V S V K A Y D A G L O R O
T R R V Y D R F K F F P F O N
R O T I O H A E X E Y E C W D
K D G R N Q F D N V J X V E S
S G B C L G P O N K Z T P N L
K E G O N X T A T N E M P O S
Z R Z N S S P R C U B X S T B
X S I V V Y A K I K N V A S A
J K J E R D H F T N E I Y Y O
M D V N E E F N Z N N R F R S
X F X T N R S F G G S Z S R G
R U L I Y D H P T J Q Y C A F
Q U B O J E T S R E V I R T Q
X E P N G A O L R I M Q D S A

Word Bank: Spring, Convention, Lake, River, Starry
Stonewort, Stonefly, Jets, Packers, Rodgers, Trade

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Recipient Name

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