



Big School Section Lake

PARK ASSOCIATION, Inc.

Dousman, Wis.

Incorporated 1955

October 2016 Newsletter – School Section Lake Management District

www.schoolsectionlake.org

Weed Harvesting

The weed harvesting for 2016 ended as scheduled on October 1st. A lot of repairs were done to the harvester and overall it is in very good condition. We are however having an on-going problem with the diesel engine. The current engine simply doesn't have the horse power that is needed to operate all of the hydraulics. This results in the weed harvester having to travel much slower than it should when transporting the weeds back to the conveyor. The Board has made a recommendation that we get a larger diesel engine for the harvester. We will provide more information on this at the up-coming Annual District Meeting.

Lake Weed Disposal Site

Since we started our lake weed harvesting, we have been using the same disposal site for the lake weeds. This land was originally owned by the Reinhoffer's, and was later purchased by Jerry and Jackie Smukowski. This site is ideal for our purposes. It is directly adjacent to the Waukesha County land where the harvester is docked, and we can unload and dump the weeds without ever having to take our truck on to a public road. This results in a significant cost savings, and greatly improves the efficiency of the operation.

The Smukowski's have made a decision that they are going to sell this property. Anyone who would purchase this property for a building site

would most likely not allow the District to use the land for a lake weed disposal site. The loss of this property for our weed disposal would have a dramatic impact on our ability to operate a weed harvesting program. We don't have any good alternatives to the Smukowski property.

Since the last annual meeting the Board has been researching what our options are, and potential funding sources for a land acquisition. We believe that we have found a really good solution for a long-term resolution. We have found a DNR grant that could cover the majority of the cost for the Lake District to purchase the Smukowski property. We have had the property appraised and are having on-going discussions and meetings with the DNR for the grant funding.

Annual District Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held on Wednesday October 26, 7:00 PM, at the Ottawa Town Hall. This will be an important meeting to approve the 2017 budget, which includes a new engine for the harvester, and the acquisition of the Smukowski property.

We hope to see many of you there. Please come out and support your Lake District

Don Solberg, Secretary, School Section Lake Management District