

Lakes Management's documented statements regarding the: Relationship Between Lake Health, Aquatic Weeds, Boating, & Lake Property Rights

1. *"It's a myth fast boats harm lakes.....The (Wooster) lake's ecosystem can easily handle the pressure from boating as long as the weeds are not disturbed."*

Source: Mark Pfister, '05 Lakes Management Director, as published in Daily Herald, 10/31/05

2. *"...the IDNR suggests plant coverage of 20% - 40% across the lake **bottom**".* (i.e. NOT the lake surface)

Source: Lakes Management's Duck Lake Report, pg 11

3. (pg. 4) *"West Loon Lake's water quality is above average in comparison to many other lakes in Lake County....."* (pg. 5) *"The USEPA lists West Loon Lake as an ADID wetland. It is also listed on the IDNR Natural Area Inventory..."* (pg. 12) *"Recreational opportunities on West Loon Lake have gone unchanged for decades, largely consisting of **boating, swimming, and fishing....**"* (pg. 23) *"The (association's weed) harvesting program has done a very good job in achieving a **balance between a healthy aquatic plant community and recreational functionality....** This (weed) management strategy should continue in the future to ensure that the aquatic plant community stays **well balanced** with the needs of the recreational user."* (pg. 42) *"Treatments with herbicides is one of the best options for controlling mature stands of invasive (weed) species on West Loon Lake."* Additionally, West Loon has endangered wildlife species and threatened aquatic plants.

Source: Lakes Management's West Loon Lake Report

4. (pg. 4) *"Cross Lake's water quality is above average in comparison to many other lakes in Lake County...The lake's main uses are **recreational boating, fishing, and swimming...** Any aquatic weed management plan should protect the rare fish species in the lake...."* (pg. 5) *"Cross Lake is an **89 acre**, glacial lake (including both channels)..."* (pg. 18) *"...we found 14 species of fish, 4 State of Illinois threatened and endangered species."* Additionally, Cross Lake is listed as an ADID Wetland and on the state's Natural Area Inventory of Lakes.

Source: Lakes Management's Cross Lake Report & ADID List

5. *"...Motor limits can reduce boat speeds, however, the type of boat may be more important than the motor size or speed limit. A slender "cigar" style powerboat with a large motor size (i.e. 100 horse power) may not produce as large a wake as a wide pontoon boat with a smaller motor (i.e. 10 horse power). Recent studies have shown that a boat traveling at "**near plane**" (i.e. non-plane) speed actually displaces more water and potentially resuspends lake bottom sediment at a great(er) volume than boats traveling at either idle speeds or speeds high enough to allow the boat to **plane** on the water's surface."*

Source: Lakes Management's Round Lake Summary Report, pg. 34

6. USER CONFLICTS ON LAKES: *"One of the most challenging management issues on residential lakes involves their use by a variety of different interest groups (i.e. user conflicts)...Water skiers **may feel** that the aquatic plant populations (i.e. weeds) are impeding with their ability to safely use certain portions of the lake and **want** the weeds removed or dramatically reduced. At the same time, the fishermen and wildlife enthusiasts **want** no plant reductions because they **believe** the plants are enhancing the habitat in the lake. Add to this the human psychological sentiment of **wanting** any alternative except the one that benefits the person(s) with whom you have a conflict, and the result is a complex, multifaceted problem....When addressing user conflicts, it is **important** to point out **the rights of lake bottom owners** (i.e. riparian owners) and surface water usage in Illinois. As a lake bottom owner, a person may conduct various management activities (i.e. pier installation, aquatic plant herbicide treatments) that impact only the bottom they own, but they do not have the right to impede the reasonable use (i.e. boating, fishing, skiing) by others in the water above the bottom they own...Another important component to consider is the enforcement of any use conflict resolutions. As with any rule or regulation, it is only as good as the ability to enforce it. **A significant factor is determining who has jurisdiction to enforce any regulations.....** Verbal or 'gentlemen's agreements' that go beyond (i.e. are more stringent than) state laws **are not legally binding.**"* Source: Lakes Mgmt's Round Lake Report, pgs. 31-32