

Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District

www.cedarmeadow.org

- Newsletter -

April 2010

Mark Your Calendar Now

... and plan to attend the **Annual Meeting** of the Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District at the **Knights of Columbus Hall, 99 Mannville Street, Leicester at 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday, May 19, 2010.**

If you cannot attend, please consider voting by proxy to help ensure that there is a quorum at the meeting. Enclosed please find a proxy form for this purpose. If you have any questions or need assistance with the form or the proxy voting process, please do not hesitate to call one of your elected officials listed at the end of this newsletter.

Tax Bill Reminder

The second of two District tax bills is due May 3rd. The revenue raised through these tax bills is necessary to pay off the District's one year, \$100,000 line of credit with Commerce Bank. This loan and associated higher budget, which were approved at a Special Meeting of the District held November 24, 2009, were necessary to pay the District's legal expenses in the law suit brought by Central Water District Associates. This budget, which is intended to be a one-time-only event, increased taxes to approximately three times the rate District members paid annually over the past ten years. Please see the December 2009 newsletter on the District's web site at www.cedarmeadow.org for more details.

Law Suit Update

District elected officials and legal counsel, Ernie DeSimone, continue to work to minimize the impact of the \$1.5 million jury verdict and interest. This is still a very fluid situation. Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting to hear, first hand, the latest news.

Draw Down Update

A successful weed control draw down was again conducted last Fall. The draw down started on October 5 and ended on December 19 when the lake level reached the targeted level of 60 inches below the spillway elevation. The lower gate was closed and water levels rose to the spillway channel elevation and remained down 30 to 36 inches for the Winter. The channel flash boards were reinstalled in March and water flowed over the spillway for the first time this year on March 30.

District Web Site

District Treasurer Terry O'Coin continues to enhance the District's web site. Take a look by going to www.cedarmeadow.org and contact Terry at the.ocoins@verizon.net if you have any feedback or ideas for additional content on the web site. If you live outside the area, you can even find local weather conditions on the site.

Protect Your Lake and Watershed

Please remember that any foreign material that is added to the soil of the watershed surrounding the lake eventually ends up in the lake. This, of course, applies to lawn fertilizer. If you fertilizing your lawn, please use a zero phosphorus lawn fertilizer. Phosphorus is a nutrient that stimulates weed and algae growth in the lake. Klem's and area garden centers offer Scott's zero phosphorus products that work just as well as conventional fertilizer.

Ski Club News

The Meadow Lake Skiers will, again, offer instructions to novices and first class pulls to slalom course veterans this summer. The club is open to skiers of all ages and abilities. Water safety and boating etiquette will be an important part of skiing instructions. An organizational meeting will be held at 69 Fairview Drive, Sunday, May 2 at 4:00 P.M. If, in the meantime, you have any questions please contact John Moison at 508 892-8043 or Moison_J@charter.net.

Bald Eagle and Swan Sightings

A single Bald Eagle was seen this winter near the Rawson Street cove feasting on an unfortunate Canadian Goose. A pair of what appeared to be young Bald Eagles were observed for several days near the end of March around the lake.

Several Swans spent time this Spring on Burncoat Pond, and Waite Pond has a pair in residence. Hopefully, Swans will soon find Cedar Meadow Lake.

Your Elected Officials Want To Hear From You

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the lake and dam, please contact one of the following elected officials:

Paul Dufresne, Member, Management Committee	508 892-0173 pd0173@hotmail.com
Tommy Lee, Chairman, Management Committee	508 892-3750 tlee@wjgei.com
Wayne Ridley, Vice-Chair, Management Committee	508 892-8684 nebackpacker@aol.com
Dick Johnston, District Clerk	508 892-1203 Rjohn56503@aol.com
Terry O'Coin, District Treasurer	508 347-6863 the.ocoins@verizon.net

Please Be Represented At The Annual Meeting