



DEAD RIVER CAMPERS NEWS

4TH QUARTER

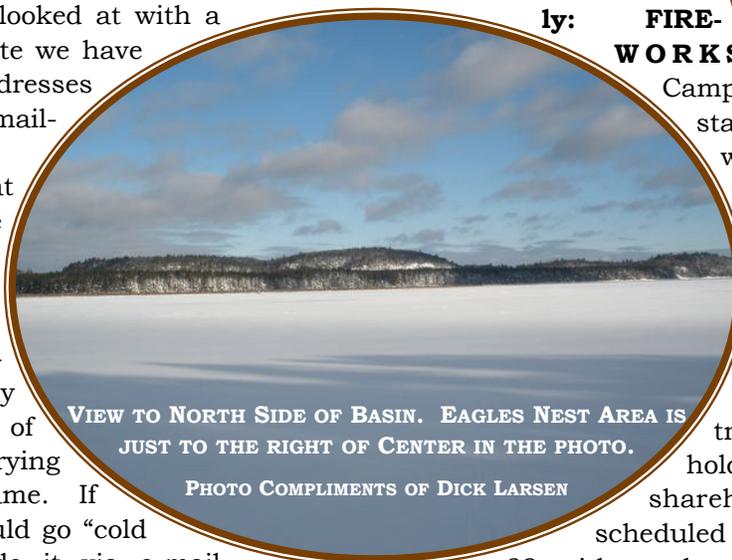
JANUARY 2013

ISSUES OF INTEREST

Board Activities: The Board had meetings last quarter on October 8 and 22, November 11, December 3 and 17.

Pennies add up to dollars: Shareholders, Please consider providing your e-mail address for the sole purpose of receiving the newsletters as well as other important mailings. The Board does listen and our expenses are being looked at with a magnifying glass. To date we have around 100 e-mail addresses that we are using for mailings.

The newsletter is of great value to all from what we hear, and it is also generating a pretty good expense each year. Many organizations are switching to communicating by e-mail for the sending of newsletters and we are trying really hard to do the same. If we had our wish we would go “cold turkey” and just provide it via e-mail. That however is not a really good strategy since many yet do not use e-mail, so we are encouraging you to provide us your information please. It is critically important to know that the Board will not share or sell your e-mail address under any circumstances, and its sole use is for our shareholder communications from the Board.



VIEW TO NORTH SIDE OF BASIN. EAGLES NEST AREA IS JUST TO THE RIGHT OF CENTER IN THE PHOTO.

PHOTO COMPLIMENTS OF DICK LARSEN

Please use the e-mail address below to send us your information. If you have multiple shareholders who would like to receive the newsletter please provide their addresses also.

Things that go boom—boom in July: FIRE-

WORKS:

Campers, it is never too early to start sending in your fireworks contributions. What started out as a great idea by Bruce Turino has turned into an awesome idea. The Third Annual Co-Sponsored Fireworks Display paid for by the Corporation and the contributions from our shareholders and a few non-shareholders is once again scheduled for Saturday evening June 29, with an alternate date of June 30th depending on the weather.

Safety, when it comes to large displays, is a critically important factor and for those Campers just joining us our fireworks display is professionally done and is insured by the launching company. We have invested money to mow the launching site and remove debris that could provide fuel for a fire to catch and spread.



drcicampers@gmail.com

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Mark Curran has donated his fire pump for the last two years to help make safety a real priority.

We are providing in this newsletter an envelope to send your contribution into the DRCI office address. For those of you who now receive your newsletter by e-mail we are sending you a donation envelopes to use. We are also looking into setting up a PAYPAL account on our website to make the payment process easier.

Winter road plowing is here again.

Please remember that plowing snow across the County Road system is dangerous, hazardous, and at great risk to the Road Commission plow drivers. Public Act of 1949 as amended under section 677a states that it is against the law to deposit, or cause to be deposited, snow, ice or slush on any roadway or highway or shoulder of roadway/highway. When people violate this law it can cause traffic safety problems. This also causes concern for snowplow drivers and has caused damage to snow removal equipment. It is the intent of Marquette County Road Commission to seek enforcement of this law.

The same guidelines apply to the DRCI road system too. If we expect EMS Services and the Township

Fire Departments to come to all of us in time of need, the roads need to be passable, and wide enough for the really big trucks to fit on.

A lot of money has been spent by neighborhood road associations to create proper drainage systems, enhance the roads' quality, and control speed. Plowing into drainage ditches is a huge problem in the spring if the ditch is dammed up. Respect for all of our neighbor's landscaping, mail boxes and driveways is a very good thing to keep in mind while you plow your roads.

With the use of snowmobiles it is also a great time to remember that speed on our winter roads is a huge potential problem. Being able to stop is critical. Many of our roads have short sight distances,



steep hills and very sharp curves. Please prevent accidents by remembering that winter conditions require extra care and focused attention to the road ahead.

Thank you to those campers with plowing resources. We are most appreciative of the campers with the ability to move the snow.

Although this is not the poster winter for excess snow, we can always hope for a ton more before spring to help wet down the forests and fill the Basins. Even with the limited snow-fall, we would like to extend to all those who help keep our roads in great condition, A HUGE THANK YOU!



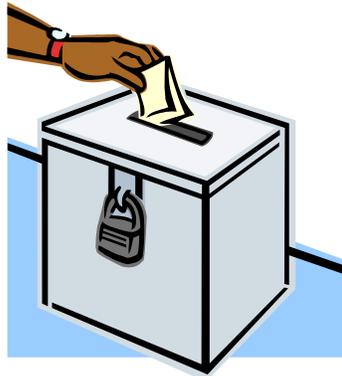
It takes commitment and effort to keep our roads passable for safety and neighborhood access. If you have a neighbor that helps please take the time to thank them.

Recently we received a letter at the DRCI office pointing out that someone with a plow put plowed snow and road sand at the entrance of their driveway. Although possibly inconvenient, I am sure the municipalities get similar letters. It is what it is, and the road plowed snow has to get to the edge somehow.

Our goal is to make sure that EMS access is passable as much as possible. Low limbs, frozen bushes, and bent over trees all compound the issue. Within reason, keeping the roads as wide as possible in the winter fits perfectly into this theme of access for all.

How much does your vote matter? Campers, please lend us your eyes and read this very important bit of news. Your vote matters and it is never too early to get the date of the Annual Meeting on your calendars, planners, and iPhone. The date is Saturday, June 29th 2013.

Your attendance is encouraged and your vote is almost begged for. For a number of years the Annual Meeting has just squeaked through for a quorum with the very minimum number of votes needed to conduct business. Matters that really MATTER to all of us are conveyed via proposals to all of the shareholders and your vote often times makes things happen.



The subjects that are often proposed are so important that it takes huge percentages to affect that potential change. That is a very important safe-guard created by many of you who are original shareholders. It is a wonderful thing in the Board's opinion and your vote really counts for that single reason.

Our Corporation is in its 13th year of existence and items the Founding Fathers never believed could possibly happen are now matters of interest for the future. When a proposal is submitted please educate yourself as much as possible and please vote.



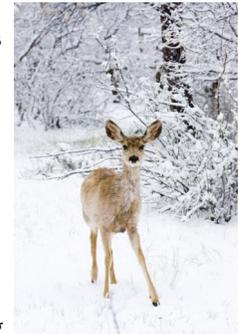
As a reminder, to be able to vote you must be a shareholder. We have several campers who have purchased their campsites and have yet to register with our Board as a shareholder. All that is needed is to send a copy of your recorded deed to the office with the current and correctly spelled names and we will process a new stock certificate for you. The stock certificate will be issued exactly as written on the recorded deed. For those with multiple owners on the deed, please indicate who should receive the stock certificate and provide the appropriate name and address.

UPPCO wants to dig in.....so to speak. We are pleased to tell you that UPPCO is interested and talking to the Board about placing the electrical transmission wires underground where soil conditions are suitable.

The Board is in very preliminary talks with UPPCO and has offered its help to communicate with the possible areas as they are designated by UPPCO. UPPCO's wish is to bury wire in the highest failure areas so consistent electrical service can be maintained. The Board believes that this is a huge benefit to the campers and will help as much as possible.

If you have sandy soil that will allow for wire being dug in, and you are in a high failure area or difficult to access in winter conditions, your area could be one UPPCO is looking at. We will keep you informed as much as possible as these conversations progress.

What is the value of a deer? This winter we had the opportunity to determine the value of a deer as it applies to very caring Campers' determination. Two of our members successfully rescued a deer from the very smooth, slippery and thin ice. It clearly tells all the value of that deer, it was our Campers' lives.

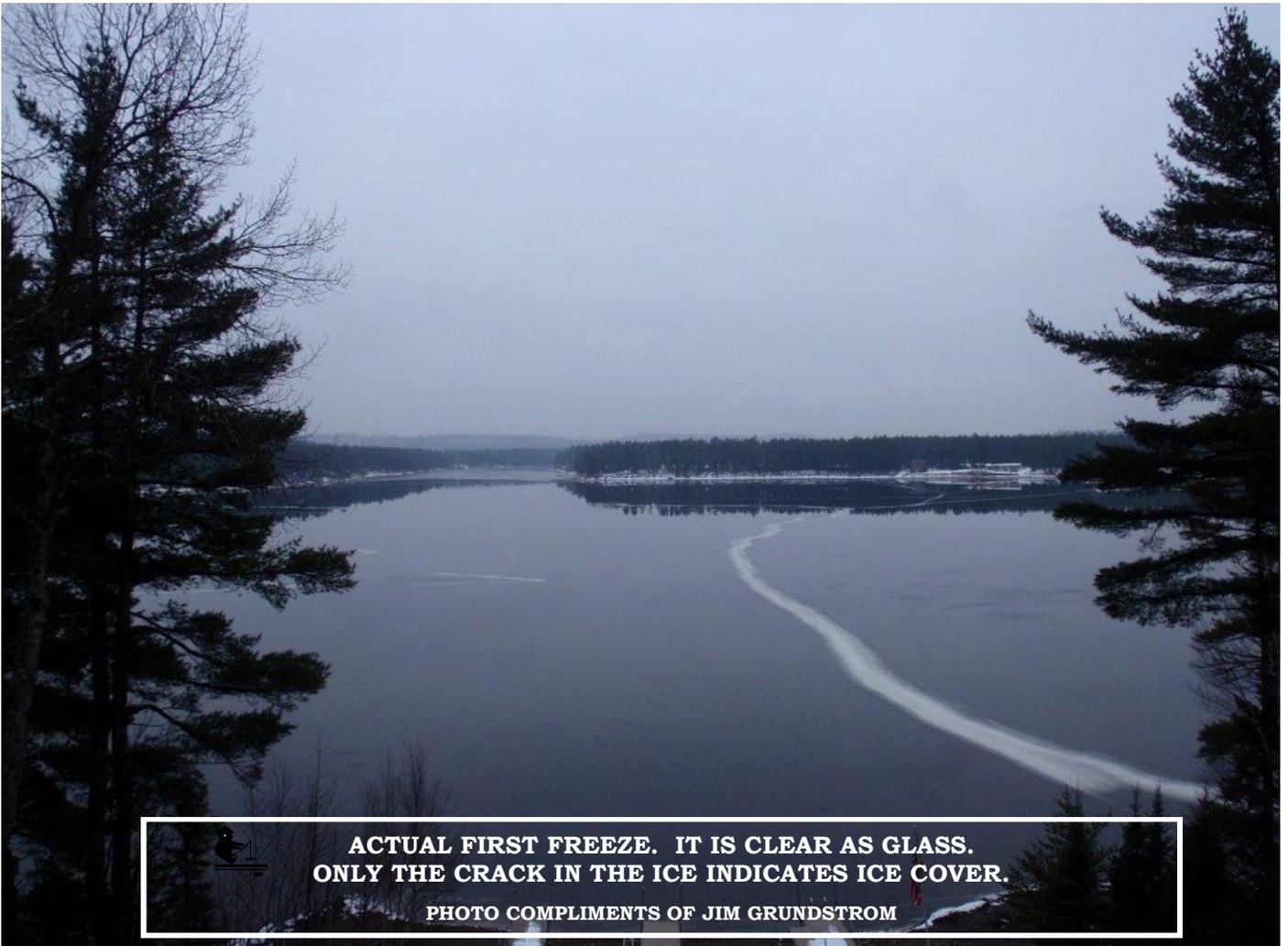


Many agencies were contacted that day in hopes of creating a safe rescue event and those agencies all declined on the basis of risking life and limb for that deer. Thin Ice is something that we all need to be sure and evaluate and determine the risks that are being weighed.

We are including for your educational benefit in the article below some additional Ice Information that was gathered from UPPCO and also the United State Coast Guard.

When is ice safe? There really is no sure answer. In fact, ice is probably never 100 percent safe. You can't judge the strength of ice just by its appearance, age, thickness, temperature or whether or not the ice is covered with snow. Strength is based on all these factors, plus the depth of water under the ice, size of the water body, water chemistry and currents, the distribution of the load on the

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**ACTUAL FIRST FREEZE. IT IS CLEAR AS GLASS.
ONLY THE CRACK IN THE ICE INDICATES ICE COVER.**

PHOTO COMPLIMENTS OF JIM GRUNDSTROM

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ice, and local climatic conditions .

SOME COLD FACTS ABOUT ICE

- New ice is usually stronger than old ice. Four inches of clear, newly-formed ice may support one person on foot, while a foot or more of old, partially-thawed ice may not.
- Ice seldom freezes uniformly. It may be a foot thick in one location and only an inch or two just a few feet away.
- Ice formed over flowing water and currents is often dangerous. This is especially true near streams, bridges and culverts. Also, the ice on outside river bends is usually weaker due to the undermining effects of the faster current.

General Ice Thickness Guidelines
For New, Clear Ice Only
2" or less - STAY OFF
4" - Ice fishing or other activities on foot
5" - Snowmobile or ATV
8" - 12" - Car or small pickup
12" - 15" - Medium truck

- The insulating effect of snow slows down the freezing process. The extra weight also reduces how much weight the ice sheet can support. Also, ice near shore can be weaker than ice that is farther out.
- Booming and cracking ice isn't necessarily dangerous. It only means that the ice is expanding and contracting as the temperature changes.
- Schools of fish or flocks of waterfowl can also adversely affect the relative safety of ice. The movement of fish can bring warm water up from the bottom of the lake. In the past, this has opened holes in the ice causing snowmobiles and cars to break through.

**FOR A REPRINT OF THIS ARTICLE
AND MORE INFORMATION GO TO
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/ice/index.html>**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Your Fish & Wildlife Committee's pace of work actually increases



FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE: by EARL HAWN



minnow survey again

as we begin to plan on activities that will take place during the warmer weather as well as to create assignments to assure follow-up to issues we are pursuing.

We had a joint meeting with the Michigan DNR on November 26, 2012 where we discussed a variety of topics and reviewed data provided by the DNR along with our own minnow survey conducted this past prior summer. Of importance was our discussion about the DNR electro-fishing survey conducted in very early spring and what general findings that could be made. During the electro-fish survey, a few fish were kept and sent to the lab in Lansing for analysis. We have not received any of the data back from that survey. Generally speaking we can say that we appear to have a good population of walleye in the Basin but there appears to be a shortage of forage fish for them to grow at expected rates. Once the data is actually published (we expect those results this spring), we will be able to be more definitive on the health and well-being of the fish. We thank George Madison and the U.P. staff of the DNR for taking their time to meet with us and the efforts they have put forth for our fishery.



LONE COYOTE CROSSING THE BASIN WEST OF THE BIG ISLAND (TOP) AND ACROSS FROM THE EAGLE'S NEST AREA. PHOTO COMPLIMENTS OF DICK LARSEN

The DNR is going to try and return to the Basin again this spring, right after ice-out, to conduct a more comprehensive electro-fishing survey. We are anxious to see the results as it will help provide the DNR and us with quantitative and qualitative data for the next five year management plan for our fishery. The next five-year plan is scheduled to be developed by December 2013. The DNR has assured us that we will have input into the plan.

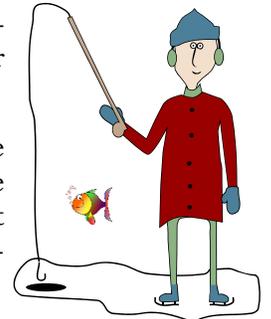
During the joint meeting we also discussed the minnow survey that we conducted. You can see the results of that survey in the 2012-2nd Quarter newsletter. It was determined that we would repeat the

this year to have a clearer picture of our forage fish data. The minnow survey will be conducted during the same time period as last year as well as the same net locations for comparisons.

We have scheduled the Kids Fishing Derby for Saturday, August 17th. The format will generally be the same; however, we would like to do better with pre-registrations. We will have pre-registrations available at our annual meeting, on our website or by calling the office and registering by phone. Having a more accurate number will help us better plan for the amount of food, gift bags and prizes to have on hand so no child is left out. We want to thank our Board of Directors for sup-

porting such a positive event for our children.

Be safe on the ice. With the water levels changing, the ice settles differently in different areas. Be aware of your surroundings.



Speaking of water levels, we know this is a frustrating topic for everyone. Its importance goes beyond beachfront and impacts our fishery and its habitat as well other important issues like safe navigation. Stability in water levels is something we all long to have. Our understanding is that all of the parties are working toward that end.

We would like to formally welcome Chris Blank to our Committee. As always, if you have any input or questions you should feel free to contact a Committee member. We want to know what you observe and think about our fish and wildlife in and around the Basin.

Committee Members: Dave Laitinen, Chairman, Gordy Chinn, Brendan Biolo, Earl Hawn, Buffy Ervin, Tom Polkinghorne, Chris Blank, Bruce Turino, Dennis Sippola.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FORESTRY COMMITTEE: by Bruce Bussone and Dave Jarvi, Chairman

The Forestry Committee had its annual meeting with the Board in November. The meeting was very productive and informative for everyone. Holli Forest Products has completed a forest evaluation and cutting plan for the next ten years, and the Committee will be reviewing this at our next meeting. Logging operations along Clark Creek Rd. have begun. The location is East of the Clark Creek (aka Boise River) on the northwest side of the Basin. All campers in the area have been noticed of the logging activity. The logging company will be maintaining a 300 ft. buffer zone which will help maintain the natural beauty of the Basin.

At this meeting we introduced to the Board our newest member, Tom Seablom, who is a registered forester and should be helpful to the Committee.

Tom's family have been campers on the Basin since almost the beginning of the Basin's generation of electric power.

Tom brings his family's knowledge of the Basin

and its forests, and a Degree in Forestry from Michigan Technological University to the subject of understanding of our Forests and the management of the them.

Tom is employed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources as a Forester, and his joining the DRCI Forestry Committee could not be better timed. We have successfully logged and regrown our lands for 12 years and the value of the stumpage has been reduced each time the logging has been completed.

The Board's focus is now on approaching our forestry asset exactly like we approach our investments in the market. The second ten year plan has been finally completed and in the hands of the Committee and the Board for its review. Interestingly enough it addresses the count of trees per acre and other interesting facts, and from that document we will determine the dollar value of our forest asset as an integral part of the development of a long range plan for DRCI.

Committee Members: Dave Jarvi, Chairman, Dave Carriere, Don Duhome, Gerry LeSage, Greg Johnson, Bruce Bussone, Pete Dishnow.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: by Joe Ervin, Chairman

The DRCI Finance Committee met on November 9th for our 4th qtr. Meeting at the main Wells Fargo Building in Marquette.

Highlights of the 4th quarter meeting follow:

- Reviewed year to date investment portfolio results and confirmed that we are "slightly outperforming" like portfolios with a Balanced/Income Bias risk tolerance investment direction. This is a good thing.
- We briefly discussed the progress to date on finalizing the DRCI 2013 Operating budget.
- Various opportunities for costs savings were reviewed such as accelerating the transition of our DRCI Quarterly newsletter and other DRCI Shareholder correspondence to electronic delivery and eliminating the printing and mailing

expense of these key communications.

- There was a review of the progress of the selection of a new Certified Public Accounting, CPA firm. It was projected that a final review and selection of the firm will be completed in Dec 2012.
- When the new CPA firm is established, we encourage a comprehensive review of our annual tax expenses and the development of alternatives available to DRCI to reduce/contain that expense.
- There was an update on the progress of the development of a long term plan for our Surplus Lands and Lots and projections of revenue and expenses associated those assets. The Finance Committee reconfirmed the importance of completing this plan in conjunction with a comprehensive long range plan for DRCI

ANNOUNCING OUR NEW CPA FIRM

Thomson & Paquette, P.C. is a public accounting firm with a staff of 3 CPA's and additional staff that perform bookkeeping and payroll activities for clients. Located in Marquette, Michigan the firm offers a wide variety of services to its clients, including audits, reviews and compilations; accounting, payroll, and bookkeeping services; and business, individual, non-profit, and trust tax preparation and planning. Patrick Thomson, CPA, and Jill Paquette, CPA are the sole partners of the firm. As a team, Thomson and Paquette have a combined 30 years of accounting, tax, and business experience. They are both Northern Michigan University graduates who are native to the area. After gaining significant experience with other firms, Thomson and Paquette

started their accounting practice in September 2006 with the mission to provide personal and technically sound services to their clients. The decision to go out on their own was based on their belief in a proactive, small firm, personal service atmosphere.

Patrick Thomson, CPA will be the lead partner and will oversee all accounting activities for DRCI. Jill Paquette, CPA will oversee all tax preparation services. Both Patrick and Jill are independent and have no conflicts of interest as it relates to Dead River Campers, Inc.

The DRCI Board looks forward to working with Patrick and Jill for all of our accounting and tax needs and are pleased to have them on Board as our new accounting and tax CPA's.

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Years ago ... or so:

1953? Or thereabouts.

The Mining Journal, Marq

Reward For Camp Theft Data Offered

ISHPEMING — The Dead River Sports and Camping Association has offered a \$25 reward for information which will lead to the apprehension and conviction of any person breaking and entering the cottages of its members on the basin.

The reward was voted at a business meeting held in conjunction with a basket picnic on the Elks "forty" along the shores of the Little Dead River. At that time, it was disclosed that three cottages have been broken into recently.

Other topics on the agenda were a report on the difficulties the association is having in trying to obtain road improvements in the area, and a discussion of the "high-liner" problem.

Creel census forms were turned in at the outing. Persons not present have been requested to send them immediately to Bob Markert. Cooperation was called essential in improving fishing conditions on the basin.

After the business meeting was adjourned, a softball game was held between Verheyen's Vamps and Smith's Smackers. Highlight of the game was a stolen second base literally taken by an uninvited cocker spaniel, which required the concerted efforts of all players to recover. The contest was called after four innings by popular request due to a great number of charlie horses. The Smackers were ahead at the time, 24-7.

Stan Lindberg and Andy Verheyen, Mrs. Lindberg and Mrs. Smith served the coffee.

REWARD IN 2013

How times have changed the dollar value of everything. Breaking and entering still occur. DRCI has a standing offer of \$1000 reward for apprehension and conviction of any person or persons breaking and entering the cottages of its members on the Basin.

The reward has been paid out twice in the last 3 years. In the 1950's the reward was \$25 as noted in the article.



WINTER IS HERE—BURRIED SUV



SUMMER IS NEAR—TURTLE ISLAND

BOTH PHOTOS COMPLIMENTS OF JIM GRUNDSTROM

REMINDERS

Water Surface Elevation. If you are interested in the water surface elevation, log on to <http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/news/hydro/hydrodata.asp> or get to this same website via the DRCI website link for current information. We thank UPPCO for making this information available to us.

Tree Removal Issues. If you have trees to remove please fill out a cutting permit and send it in to DRCI or contact Bruce Busone at 485-5901 or 362-2325. In an effort to maintain some control on time limits, the Board has put a limit of 1 year from date of issue for tree cutting permits. Each shareholder is responsible for any trees cut by contractors you have hired. You are reminded that tree cutting on Common /CFR lands is prohibited.

Road Improvements. Shareholders are reminded to get permits from the Board for road improvements. This would include any changes to current roads as well as tree removals to widen access. Each shareholder is responsible for roadwork done by any contractor you have hired. Be mindful that changes to a road easement, or adding a new road easement within a plat must be done in compliance with the Michigan Land Division Act provisions for plat changes and DRCI Rules. See the web page for more information. This also applies to utility easements within a plat.

Bridges. DRCI committed to maintain two bridges in our original documents; they are located on North Basin Drive and Three Mile Road. Please report any bridge damage you observe to the Board immediately.

Stock Certificates. You are reminded to update your stock certificate ownership and addresses when something changes that would change those certificates. This would

include a death, divorce, move, etc. There is no charge to change the certificate and it can be done easily by sending the certificate to DRCI with supporting documents for the change. Please let new shareholders know that they should submit a copy of their recorded deed and obtain a stock certificate upon purchase of their camp. Additionally, the corporate bylaws, declarations, rules and regulations can be found at our webpage at www.deadrivercampersinc.com

Utility Easements: Please keep all utility easements such as overhead power line areas clear of boats, trailers and other items so that UPPCO has clear access to the easement areas at all times. This is especially important during the winter months when they may have to get in an easement area to repair power lines or transformers.

Zoning Violations. Shareholders should report perceived zoning violations to their respective townships. These violations would include multiple camps on single lots and excessive blight or junk. The townships can be contacted at, Ishpeming Township-485-5411, Negaunee Township-475-7869 and Champion Township-339-2920.

Renting of Shareholder Single Family Residences. DRCI Declaration Section 4.1 reads "Lots shall be used solely for the construction of one single-family residence and structures and outbuildings incidental to the use of it (including, without limitations, barns, stables and garages for private, and not public or commercial, use) and shall be limited in use to single-family residential purposes and incidental uses." This declaration

prohibits the rental of any shareholder single family residences on the Basin.

Use of Shoreline. As most shoreline is privately owned, when someone is in the need of bathroom facilities while out on the water please respect that you may be using one of our shareholder's beachfronts to do so.

Reward The Board continues to offer a \$1,000 reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of any illegal activity on camper's property.

Maps: (Updated June 2012) Maps of the Basin ownership by DRCI and each lot by shareholder are now available. Each map includes Champion, Ishpeming and Negaunee Townships on a page and an index of shareholders by plat and lot number or by parcel number for non-platted lots. Maps are 24 x 36 inches printed on quality paper in color. Order forms are available on the DRCI web page under Documents. Cost is \$35.

Plowing Snow Across Public Roads- Marquette County Road Commission reminds us that Public Act 300 of the Public Acts of 1949 as amended under section 677a states that it is against the law to deposit, or cause to be deposited, snow, ice or slush on any roadway or highway or shoulder of roadway/highway. When people violate this law it can cause traffic safety problems. This also causes concern for snowplow drivers and has caused damage to snow removal equipment. It is the intent of Marquette County Road Commission to seek enforcement of this law.

DRCI Website: Visit our website for other areas of interest such as Dam Safety and Inspection, Climate Prediction Center and Interactive Snowfall Information and many more. www.deadrivercampersinc.com

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