

## DEAD RIVER CAMPERS NEWS

**2ND QUARTER 2015**

**ISSUED JULY 2015**

### ISSUES OF INTEREST

**Board Activities:** The Board had meetings last quarter on April 15, May 6 & 20, and June 3 & 24. The Board also met with Fire Departments, Central Dispatch, Emergency Management and Township Supervisors to continue working toward a number of fire and safety initiatives for our Shareholders.

**Annual Meeting:** The Annual Meeting of Shareholders was held on Saturday, June 27th at the Westwood High School Auditorium in West Ishpeming. The doors opened at 8:00 AM and the meeting started at 9:00 AM after it was determined that there were enough ballots to have the meeting. In order to conduct business at least 199 ballots from a total of 397 Shareholders were needed to conduct business. With 201 submitted we were able to have the Annual Meeting .

This year two candidates had submitted nominations for election as Directors with two Directors elected from a plurality of votes.

The Directors elected for a four-year term at the meeting were Bruce Bussone and James Grundstrom. The results for the vote for two Di-



Photo courtesy of Emma Johnson.

rectors as counted by the law firm of McDonald & Wolf, PLLC were:

Director	Votes
<b>Bruce Bussone</b>	<b>186</b>
<b>Jim Grundstrom</b>	<b>182</b>

Thank you to all of our Shareholders who voted this year.

**Fireworks:** Thanks go out to the many individuals that made it happen. Someone counted over 90 boats in the bay that evening as the sun set with more still coming in when the counting stopped. We especially want to thank the Shareholders and non-Shareholder friends of DRCI who contributed to the event monetarily. As of this Newsletter, 69 donations for \$2,560 have been received. The total invoice for our fireworks was \$5,400 with DRCI paying the

balance.

We want to thank Shareholder Kurt Collins and Spielbauer Fireworks Company for putting on another excellent show for us. Truly a fireworks spectacular! We have them booked for next year already.

As odd as this sounds we are graciously accepting contributions yet for this year and of course next

year at any time. With these crazy weather conditions, a dynamic and safe fireworks event is the best way to enjoy the holiday, as compared to individual shows, in our opinion.



Photos by Darryll Sundberg

**Water thoughts for the remainder of the summer :**

As we enter into the last half of July, lots of questions are being asked about the water in the Hoist Basin. UPPCO and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission combined their thoughts and driven by a FERC request, there is a required amount of construction taking place on the toe area of the Silver Lake Dam. In order to make that work as safe as possible and relax some hydraulic pressure on the construction site, Silver Lake has been lowered for the remainder of the summer to a 1476 foot elevation. (top of dam is elevation 1485 feet and this year it peaked at about elevation 1483 feet)

The DRCI Board and all the other agencies did get a chance to provide comments about this plan early in the spring and your Board did concur with the plan as it was presented. The big part of the plan was the changing for this summer the elevation of the Hoist Reservoir to elevation 1342. That is of course 1 foot

greater than our usual elevation of around 1341. The extra foot of water this summer is hopefully going to allow the Basin elevation to hover somewhere between the 1341 and the 1342 foot elevation. Having some extra is a very good thing as there is nothing but a trickle coming from Silver Lake until this fall when the construction is completed.

We are now at the mercy of the weather from now until fall, regarding extra or supplemental water to maintain the Hoist Elevation in the 1341 to 1342 range



**Unified Address Signage is being accomplished with the assistance of the three Township's.**

We spoke at the Annual Meeting about our plans to improve the ability of EMS, Fire and Police around the Basin to find your property with the creation of a Unified Address Signage System. In conjunction with Teresa Schwalbach from Marquette County Disaster Preparedness, and Captain David Lemire from the Sheriff's Department we pulled together a group of agencies that all will be positively impacted by these efforts.

The address signage system will be distinct to each Township in color. The signs will be much like license plates with a reflective background and colored letters. Each sign will have your address and the township's name. Your individual family name will NOT be on the sign for security reasons.

Each sign package will be the sign, a typical metal post (like a stop sign has), and the bolts necessary to attach the sign to the post. We are asking that the signs be located at your driveway edge to the primary access roads around the Basin. If there is one road providing a few homes or camp sites access, we would like the signs all placed at the primary turn off from the "main road" and you can then do family names signage when your location turns off to only your home or camp further in.

As Undersheriff Mike Klein said at the Annual Meet-

ing, this process will dramatically speed up help arriving at your location in time of need. With the signs also sharing the Township Name, it will also point out when a road has transitioned from one Township to another as some roads access more than one Township and it can be very confusing at times.

We are providing the signs with a 7 foot metal post. We would like to have you install them with approximately 60 inches of clear air space between the bottom of your address sign and the surface of the ground. This will hopefully insure that winter snow will not bury most if not all of the signs around the Basin.

Once the signs are made and shipped to each individual Township Office, we will communicate that they have arrived and we ask that you stop by your township office and pick up your sign. If you have a neighbor that might need some help and it is OK with them, please pick up that persons sign assembly too and help them install it.

Why are we asking that you install your own sign? It would be crazy to ask Miss Dig to do approximately 400 visits to mark your underground wiring and piping. Some of your hidden assets probably Miss Dig would not even know about as a matter of fact. We hope that you know your property well enough at the road/driveway entrance to make a safe installation happen.

Please encourage your neighbors to participate in the signage pickup and installation as soon as possible once they arrive. We expect that long before summer ends we will have many and hopefully most signs installed.

Thank you for your support and help as we make access and navigation issues a thing from the past on the roads around the Hoist Basin.

**G**arbage collection around the Basin: At the Annual Meeting, the subject of garbage collection, and waiting for pick up day came to the attention of the room. With still many weekend only Shareholders, and not everyone getting the garbage picked up on Monday morning, the matter of cans

versus bags was talked about.

On North Basin Drive, the road association has respectfully asked that “only garbage in cans with lids” is the format the neighborhood is wishing for. As a matter of fact it is actually working pretty well, with most neighbors being believers. Are there some wayward believers, yes unfortunately there are, but it seems to be getting better meaning fewer.

The dropping off of bagged garbage is a real problem if the waiting time for the truck is not pretty much the next morning, and even then the animals of the forest have pretty good noses.

It was suggested that designating an area where the pickup point is and placing some permanent cans labelled with the camper’s name could be a solution. If the neighborhood can tolerate a number of cans there week in and week out, the bagged garbage problem could easily be solved. We cannot imagine that neighbors helping neighbors would not find a

way to neatly organize them slightly behind the site for the remainder of the week.

For those campers that volunteer to clean up after open bagged garbage after pick up day is left unattended, our most greatfull thanks go out to you! It is a labor of love so to speak cleaning up after someone who does not get it.



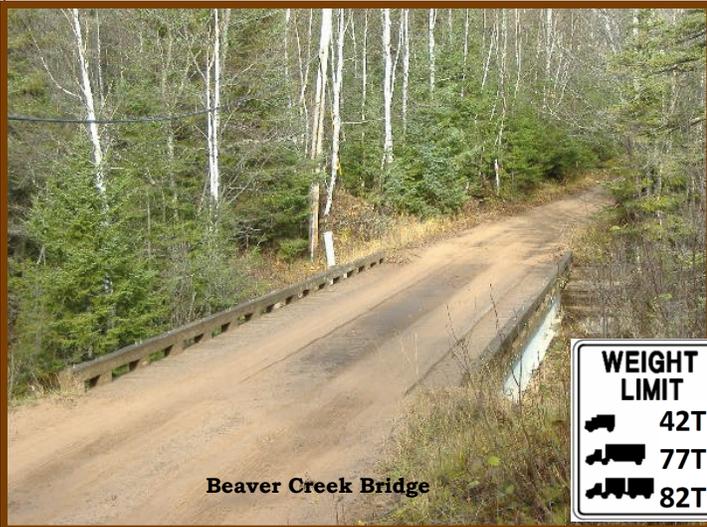
Please consider strongly using cans with lids. Please clean up after yourself if you caused the bagged garbage to be spread around the site. This is not a difficult matter to deal with. It takes time, and it also takes pride in our area to make sure that your garbage is properly managed at the collection sites around the Basin.

Recycling was also talked about. There is curb side pickup taking place in at least some locations around the Basin. Please check with your Township officials to see if there is a plan for certain recycled materials on certain weeks, or it is OK for all recycled materials every week.

Thanks to all that get this message and are making a difference in our DRCI property.

**B**ridge Inspections on both the Holyoke Bridge and Beaver Creek Bridges were completed in June 2015. Since many of our Shareholders use these Bridges often we have provided a summary of the report with loading requirements and signage recommendations for each bridge. This inspection is good for three years at which time we will again have the bridges reviewed.

The reports also contain a comment about dirt on the deck. The dirt can be a problem for a couple of reasons. First, it adds dead load to the structure and reduces the bridge's live load capacity. This isn't a problem for either of these bridges because the thickness of dirt is small and both have extra capacity. The dirt, however, should not be allowed to accumulate to a greater thickness. The second problem is that the dirt can make the wood deck decay faster. This is less of the problem for these bridges since both decks are constructed of treated wood. Although the dirt makes it more difficult to access the condition of the deck surface, a number of spot checks showed it to be in good condition. The wood deck for both bridges appears to be in good condition when viewed from below.



Beaver Creek Bridge

**WEIGHT  
LIMIT**  
 42T  
 77T  
 82T



Holyoke Bridge

**SUMMARY**

Both bridges are in fairly good condition and no items of immediate concern were found. Both reports contain a low priority recommendation for painting. The recommendations are considered low priority for a couple of reasons. Even though there is no paint on the Holyoke Bridge beams, they do not appear to be deteriorating quickly and have quite a bit of reserve capacity. For the Beaver Creek Bridge, the paint is mostly intact but could use some touch-up in spots.



Holyoke Bridge from Below  
 Photo by Bruce Bussone

MAY/31/2015

**LOAD POSTING**

Load posting recommendations were requested for each bridge. The load rating calculations show that both bridges are capable of carrying Michigan's legal truck loads and do not require posting signs. If informational signs are desired it is recommended that a Michigan standard 3-truck posting sign be erected with the full legal loads for each truck category. The sign is type R12-5 shown on the last page of this report. The load limits would be:

1 Unit— 42T, 2 Unit— 77T, 3 Unit— 82T.

**We Need Photos for the Newsletter. If you have any photos of interesting things around the Basin please send them to us at [drcicampers@gmail.com](mailto:drcicampers@gmail.com).**

**F**orestry Management Update: Triest Forestry-Products based in Powers, MI was selected as the highest bidder for our forest harvesting this year. They were selected not only as the highest bidder but the timing of their cutting, between Oct. and May, which will have the least affect to our campers enjoying the "summer" recreation season. The cutting will take place in two areas, one along the Clark Creek/Boise and patches along the Red Road. the second being near Silver Lake. Green Timber Forest Management is handling the daily contract operations for us, assuring that all activities are in our best interest.

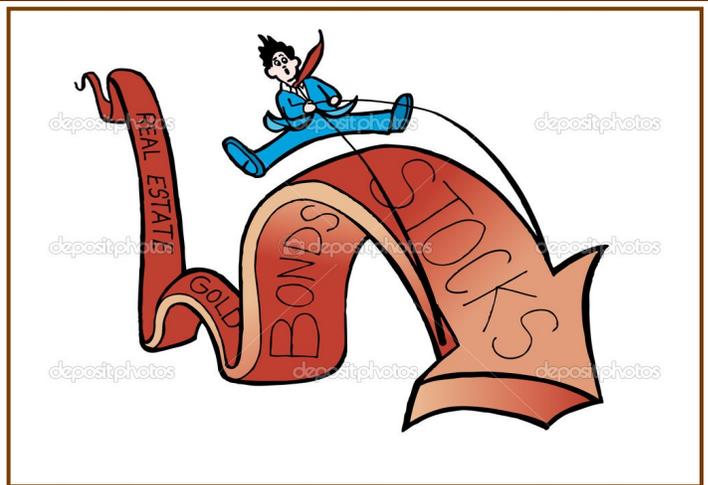


A concern around the Basin, and the U.P., is the Spruce Budworm affecting Spruce and Balsam trees. You may have noticed trees suddenly turn red, this is caused by the bugs chewing on the base of the needles. At this time of the year the damage has been done and any insecticide will not be effective. We will have more information for a spring newsletter on what measures to take to protect trees in your yards. Green Timber Foresters are keeping watch on our Surplus Lands and Lots for any wide spread damage occurring and measures we need to take. We only have one area on the Southwest side of the Basin with any large number of Spruce so our exposure is limited.

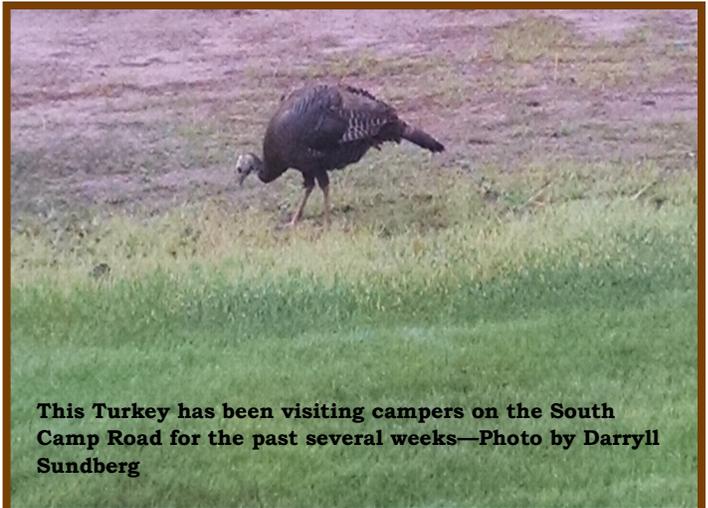
**F**INANCE COMMITTEE: by Steve Gutierrez  
The Finance Committee meeting in early June allowed us to review the DRCI investment portfolio with our Wells Fargo Advisors and have a thorough dialogue on our existing investment parameters (Balanced Income Strategy) and the financial products that may or may not fit our future portfolio requirements.

Our current investments continue to track their benchmarks with gains at about 2% year-to-date, providing us a fairly predictable income stream to help support DRCI budget/project requirements.

WFC was clear in their belief that the economy, while growing at a slower pace than the previous few years was still likely to show some positive growth in the months ahead.



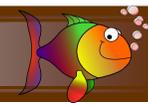
**Committee Members:** Steve Gutierrez, Chairman, Bill Stream, Denise Albrecht, Joe Ervin, Jim Grundstrom, Darryll Sundberg



**This Turkey has been visiting campers on the South Camp Road for the past several weeks—Photo by Darryll Sundberg**



# COMMITTEE REPORTS



## FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE REPORT:

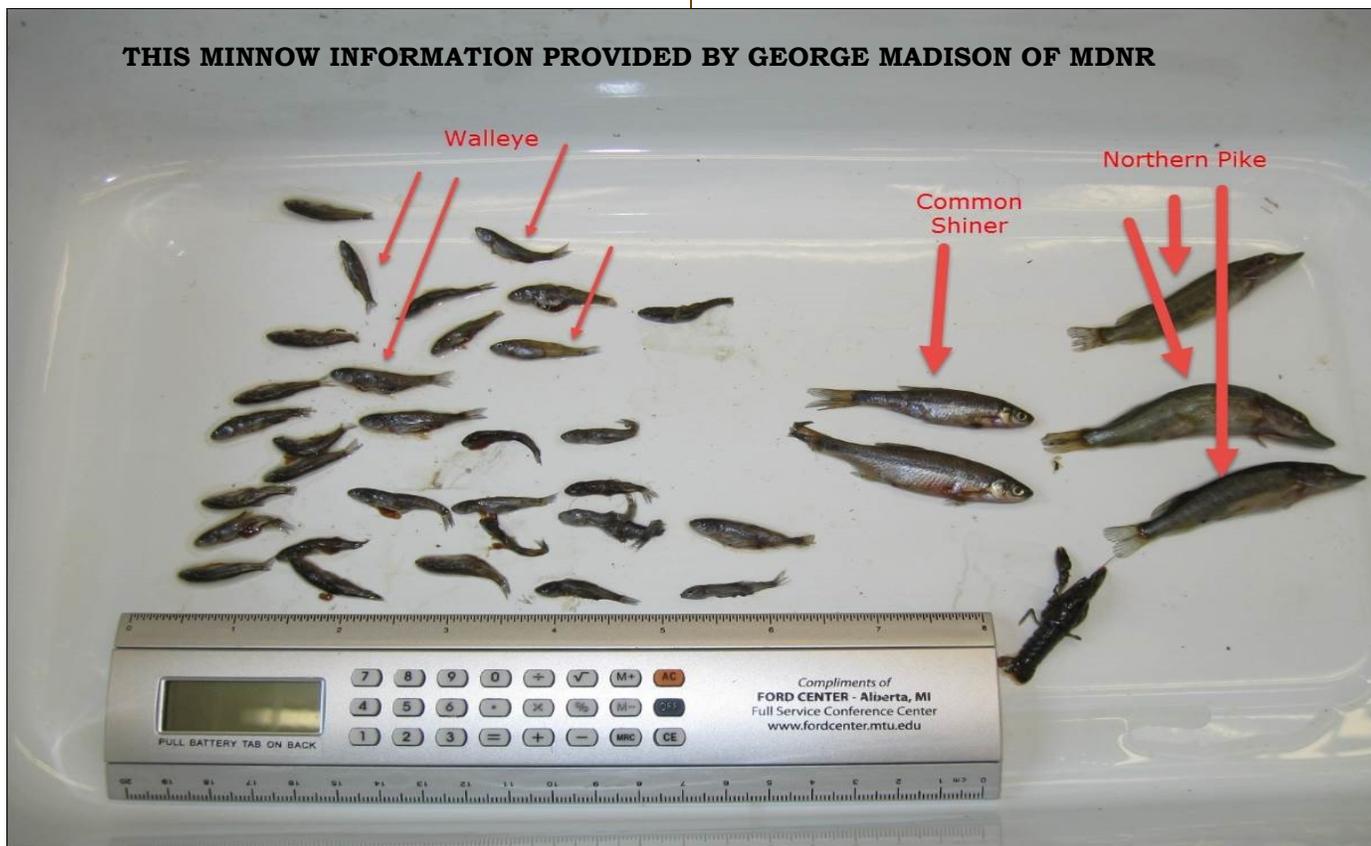
By: DAVID LAITINEN, CHAIRMAN



**S**o far it's been a summer for fish and ducks, lots of water, rain and cooler temperatures. However, the fishing reports have been positive several reports of nice catches of Walleye Pike, Bass and Northern Pike. The Walleye seem to be very good condition and nice size. Also, there are all sizes of smaller walleye reported which is good news. A few perch have also been reported. We just finished our yearly minnow netting project in cooperation with the MDNR. It appears the cold water tem-

perature affected the capture of adult size minnows (1-1/2 to 3 inch) which were minimal in numbers compared to previous years. However, the numbers of this year's spawned minnows (under 1 inch) seems to be the best since the Silver Lake flood in 2003. We may try another netting when the water warms up. Again, thanks to all our net tenders for a great job and to the MDNR for involving us in this important program.

THIS MINNOW INFORMATION PROVIDED BY GEORGE MADISON OF MDNR



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We are pleased to report that in our December partnership meeting with the MDNR it was reported that

of any being caught. Please let us know if you catch or have caught any so we can plan accordingly. Thanks to all for your continued support.

In closing, remember the highlight of our program, "Kids Fun and Fishing Day"- August 15th. - 9:00 A.M. start - Lunch, gift bag and prizes at noon. See you there!!

**Committee Members:** Dave Laitinen, Chairman, Buffy Ervin, Tom Polkinghorne, Chris Blank, Bruce Turino, Gary Goodman

**FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES**

**DRCI & MDNR CONTACT FOR WATER ISSUES**

**S**ome of our Shareholders have experienced limited access to the basin's shorelines and in some cases, significant soil erosion at elevation 1342 or greater earlier this year until July 15 when Basin water began to drop. Elsewhere on the Basin other Shareholders are enjoying the use of the better access they have with the water at the higher elevation it has been at this

year. Obviously having a water elevation that pleases all of our Shareholders all of the time is not an easy task to accomplish.

Concerns on water level issues can be forwarded to [drcicampers@gmail.com](mailto:drcicampers@gmail.com) and/or Koren Carpenter who is the contact person at MDEQ for the water level concerns on the Dead River. She can be contacted at [CarpenterK5@michigan.gov](mailto:CarpenterK5@michigan.gov)

**B**elow are some helpful Navigation Rules when encountering other boats and Nighttime Navigation rules for boat lighting. These and other boating rules and regulations can be found in the

**Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws and Responsibilities.**

<https://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/handbook/>

**Navigation Rules**

There are two terms that help explain these rules.

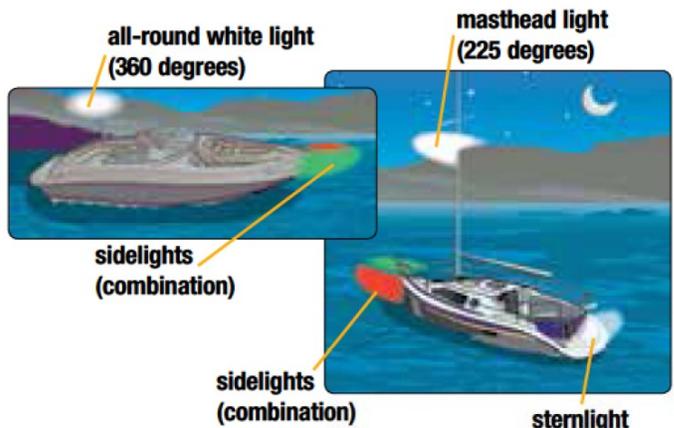
- **Stand-on vessel:** The vessel that should maintain its course and speed
- **Give-way vessel:** The vessel that must take early and substantial action to avoid collision by stopping, slowing down, or changing course

<p><b>Power vs. Power</b></p> 	<p><b>Meeting Head-On</b>  <b>Power vs. Power:</b> Neither vessel is the stand-on vessel. Both vessels should keep to the starboard (right).  <b>Power vs. Sail:</b> The powerboat is the give-way vessel. The sailboat is the stand-on vessel.</p>	<p><b>Power vs. Sail</b></p> 
	<p><b>Crossing Situations</b>  <b>Power vs. Power:</b> The vessel on the operator's port (left) side is the give-way vessel. The vessel on the operator's starboard (right) side is the stand-on vessel.  <b>Power vs. Sail:</b> The powerboat is the give-way vessel. The sailboat is the stand-on vessel.</p>	
	<p><b>Overtaking</b>  <b>Power vs. Power:</b> The vessel that is overtaking another vessel is the give-way vessel. The vessel being overtaken is the stand-on vessel.  <b>Power vs. Sail:</b> The vessel that is overtaking another vessel is the give-way vessel. The vessel being overtaken is the stand-on vessel.</p>	

**Nighttime Navigation**

Be on the lookout for the lights of other vessels when boating at night. Several types of lights serve as navigational aids at night. There are four common navigation lights.

- **Sidelights:** These red and green lights are called sidelights (also called combination lights) because they are visible to another vessel approaching from the side or head-on. The red light indicates a vessel's port (left) side; the green indicates a vessel's starboard (right) side.
- **Sternlight:** This white light is seen from behind or nearly behind the vessel.
- **Masthead Light:** This white light shines forward and to both sides and is required on all power-driven vessels. A masthead light must be displayed by all vessels when under engine power. The absence of this light indicates a sailboat under sail.
- **All-Round White Light:** On power-driven vessels less than 39.4 feet in length, this light may be used to combine a masthead light and sternlight into a single white light that can be seen by other vessels from any direction. This light serves as an anchor light when sidelights are extinguished.





Summer Sunset—Photo by Darryll Sundberg

## DEAD RIVER BASIN FISHING DERBY

Sponsored by the Dead River Campers, Inc.

And organized by your Fish & Wildlife Committee

When: Saturday, August 15, 2015

Registration, Coffee & Donuts at East End Boat Launch:

Beginning at 8:30 am

Fishing Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (Noon)

Ages: 16 and younger

Lunch, Gifts and Prizes: East End Boat Launch – 12:00 Noon

Rain or Shine!

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER, ARE ON THE DRCI WEB PAGE AND AVAILABLE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

*This is a day for DRCI Shareholders and their neighbors to celebrate our fishery with our children and grandchildren. It is our goal to promote the sport of fishing with our next generation of stewards of the Basin.*

Video of the Basin– Check it out

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Fgy\\_6nt9Ro&feature=share](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Fgy_6nt9Ro&feature=share)

### REMINDERS

**Water Surface Elevation.** If you are interested in the water surface elevation, log onto <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 Bussone 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](http://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.

**Submerged Hazards.** When water levels are low please take extra caution to avoid submerged hazards while boating. We should all try to mark hazards as they are found, but safety is still up to the operator.

**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.

**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](http://www.deadrivercampersinc.com)

This is a Publication of DEAD RIVER CAMPERS, INC.

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