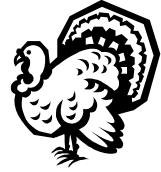


**From: Plymouth DNR Service Center
"The Woodchucks"**



**To: Sheboygan County Conservation Association
July 21, 2010**

From the Front Line: Cheryl

- **SERVICE CENTER HOURS ARE CHANGED** - The Plymouth Service Center is now open to the public only on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00am-12:30pm & 1:30-4:00pm. The DNR customer service telephone line will still be available seven days a week, 7am to 10pm, at 1-888-WDNR INFO (936-7463).
- **DEADLINE for Horicon & Collins Goose Zone, Fall Turkey, Sharp-Tail Grouse, Bobcat, Otter, and Fisher Permits – AUGUST 2, 2010.** Permits can be applied for in person at any license vendor or online at **www.dnr.wi.gov**

From Fisheries Management: Sue

At long last we have hired a new fisheries biologist for the Plymouth area, including Sheboygan County. His name is Travis Motl, and he will be starting his new position on August 2, 2010. Travis will be transitioning from his current LTE jobs for the first several weeks, and may not be in the office much, but can be reached by cell phone, after August 2, at 414-333-1183.

From Law Enforcement: Joe, Mark, & Mike

With fishing on Wisconsin's Great Lakes in full swing, anglers who are trolling in deeper waters are reminded to steer well clear of any potential obstructions including commercial trap nets. In Lake Michigan, such nets are set off Two Rivers, Manitowoc, Sheboygan and in Door County. In Lake Superior, nets are set in several locations between Houghton Point and Bayfield. Information on the Lake Michigan trap nets can be found on the DNR website and on the Lake Superior trap nets (exit DNR) on the University of Wisconsin Aquatic Sciences website. (Both pdf documents open in a new window.)

Here are links to the brochures:

http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/lakemich/Trapnet_Wisconsin.pdf

http://aqua.wisc.edu/publications/PDFs/trapnet_superior.pdf

Wardens investigated a boat accident offshore of Sheboygan this past month. Below is some basic information regarding that incident.

- First and foremost our hearts and prayers go out to the victims family.
- The party of three fisherman were trolling in a 19' boat with downriggers travelling in a Northerly direction going with the wind and waves. They were about 3 miles off shore in about 100 feet of water. The water condition was choppy with waves reported at a height of 3 feet.

- The two survivors reported the two starboard downrigger cables became entangled in a trap net. Our investigation showed at least one cable was tangled in the rope leading from the black flagged (outer) trap net buoy down to the anchor; this stopped the boat allowing water to come over the stern, causing it to capsize.
- The fisherman were able to dial 911 from a cell phone to summon help and secured life jackets while waiting a short time for their rescue by the US Coast Guard.
- The trap net they became entangled in was legally set and marked with proper buoys.
- There were a total of nine trap nets set off Sheboygan and all were legal nets with proper marking.
- We remind all sport fishers to give a wide berth to any potential obstructions including nets.

STATE LANDS LE ISSUES:

Wardens across the State are seeing an increase in illegal drug activity on state lands. Here is some information associated with our response to this trend:

We're watching and won't tolerate illegal drug operations on public lands

- Local, state and federal law enforcement authorities are teaming up to prevent
- Using surveillance flights, foot patrols, posters, and a public awareness campaign
- The goal is to raise public awareness. The best way to stop this illegal activity is to have the public eyes and ears on the lookout in areas they may plant and make it too risky for them to plant.
- DNR efforts are teamed with the Wisconsin Department of Justice Cannabis Eradication and Suppression or CEASE Effort, local Sheriff's and Police Departments

Part of a national trend, in recent years, Wisconsin authorities have come across a number of carefully hidden, sophisticated marijuana grow operations

- Illegal drug operations disrupt the landscape, leave a costly mess to clean up, deprive the public of the intended use of their lands, and potentially put the public in danger
- Two major illegal grows last year were in Shawano County and Buffalo County on public lands.
- Some of these were sighted and reported by an alert public – out hunting, hiking and enjoying nature.

Hikers, anglers and hunters should be alert, and if they see something that doesn't look right, they should report the find to local law enforcement authorities

- Look for signs of summer habitation such as huts, tents or other makeshift structures; equipment such as rakes and shovels; watering jugs; chemical containers; or signs of disturbed vegetation including abnormal cuttings or clearing of small areas.
- Leave the way you came in
- Record anything you observed such as vehicle descriptions, license or registration numbers from vehicles, equipment or other tools, GPS coordinates if you have a unit with you

We are grateful that people care enough about their public lands to be aware and report problems.

- If problems are found on private land, notify local law enforcement authorities.
- Call DNR's 24/7 confidential tip line at 1-800-TIP-WDNR(1-800-847-9367 or cell #367.)", or
- Call the Wisconsin Drug Tip Line at 1-800-NAB-DRUG (1-800-622-3784.)

We want everyone to be safe and enjoy Wisconsin's outdoors.

From Wildlife: Dale, Missy, Dan, Ed, & Steve

- **Sheboygan Marsh water levels** have remained fairly high since receiving almost 14" of rain since June 8th. Sheboygan County Highway and the Marsh Lodge removed (37) dump truck loads of cattails from the dam area on July 2nd. There are an additional (25) loads of cattails that will be removed tomorrow (7/22).
- **Goose banding** was completed on June 22nd & 23rd at (11) locations in Sheboygan, Ozaukee, and Washington Counties. Volunteers and local DNR Wildlife staff captured (544) geese, of which (445) were banded, and (99) were recaptures from previous years. Thank you to Jim Kloppenburg, Jim Rose, and Dustin Miller for helping us this year.

- **Mourning dove banding** is underway at two sites in the Plymouth area. We've banded (15) so far with a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) quota of (50) doves to be banded in Sheboygan County.
- **Duck banding** will take place from mid-to-late August in Sheboygan Marsh. The duck banding site has been mowed, trimmed, raked, and baited. We have a USFWS quota of banding (300) mallards, and (100) wood ducks in Sheboygan County. Call Dan Weidert at (920) 892-8756 Ext. 3040 if you'd like to help band ducks.
- **Exotic and invasive plants**, such as, wild parsnip, sweet clover, and Canada thistle are being mowed in the grassland restorations of our local Wildlife Areas and the Kettle Moraine. Two species of beetle were released this week as a bio-control agent to help control spotted knapweed in a prairie remnant on Spring Valley Road in the Kettle Moraine.
- The annual inspection of Sheboygan Marsh to **check for the presence of purple loosestrife and phragmites** is planned for the week of August 2nd. Please call Dan Weidert at (920) 892-8756 Ext. 3040, if you know of any locations of either of these aquatic invasive species.
- Starting on August 1st – through end of September, people can enter deer observation (does,fawns,bucks) seen during daylight hours on the DNR website – under the 'deer watch' icon. Dnr.wi.gov - Go to huntable species and then to Whitetailed Deer.