



July
2017

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Club Web Site: <http://www.yaharafishingclub.org>

Zebra mussels may worsen lake health hazards caused by farm pollution

The following story is from a Wisconsin State Journal article by Steven Verburg on June 24, 2017. A link to the full story is

http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/environment/zebra-mussels-may-worsen-lake-health-hazards-caused-byfarm/article_444965ec-639e-504b-a63c-030e6e358e83.html

An explosion of the zebra mussel population in Lake Mendota this year could mean more foul-smelling shoreline slime and repeats of the major fish kill and vast bloom of toxic bacteria that hit Madison's lakes already this summer, experts say.

Farm pollution is the main driver of this month's surprisingly severe water quality woes, but the invasive mollusks now covering much of Lake Mendota's bottom aren't going to help matters. "We've been shocked to see how many there are," said Jake Vander Zanden, UW-Madison's top expert on zebra mussels. "It's a transformation of the ecosystem." For the first time since the little mollusks were found in Lake Mendota in 2015, it is clear they are thriving, said Vander Zanden, an aquatic biologist at the UW Center for Limnology. The transplant from Europe took hold in many other U.S. lakes in the 1990s. Because zebra mussels were so late to become established here, researchers hoped there was something about Madison waters inhospitable to them, Vander Zanden said.

Zebra mussels change a lake by filtering food from water, which makes water clearer so that additional sunlight reaches the bottom. The sunlight, along with nutrients mussels excrete on the bottom, spur plant growth and the potential for more dead vegetation washing up and decomposing in smelly piles on shores, Vander Zanden said. This year divers are finding a typical zebra mussel by-product — bottom-clinging mats of algae that look like green cotton candy — all over Lake Mendota, he said. The zebra mussel's appetite also threatens to worsen the hazardous bacterial blooms that cause beach closings, and which killed large numbers of fish last week. Zebra mussels don't eat much of the toxic cyanobacteria — commonly called "blue-green algae" — that can sicken or kill animals and humans. But the mussels do consume just about everything else, eliminating organisms that otherwise compete with the bacteria for food. That could mean larger and more frequent bacterial outbreaks, Vander Zanden said.

Like the unnatural growths of weeds and algae that limit recreational use in hundreds of Wisconsin lakes, the bright green cyanobacteria blooms are products of steadily warming weather and largely unchecked runoff of farm pollutants into state waters, he said. There isn't a practical way of eliminating zebra mussels, so their growth adds urgency to the issues of the warming climate of pollution from farms. "The thing aside from

climate change that's most in our power to control is the nutrient input," Vander Zanden said. "But whatever we're doing, it's not working."

Under state law, farmers are offered financial incentives to limit runoff, and especially large farms must submit plans for spreading manure on fields. Opponents of stricter regulations say there are technical difficulties in regulating runoff, but conservationists say those could be overcome if politicians were willing get tougher with the powerful agriculture industry. Vander Zanden said he hopes the recent large-scale bacterial bloom was a wake-up call for Madison residents who witnessed it and its aftermath.

Vander Zanden and limnology center director Stephen Carpenter said the bloom that formed on Lake Mendota on June 16 was the worst such outbreak in decades. Carpenter said he was shocked to see the bright green hue stretching as far as he could see from his second floor office on Lake Mendota's south shore. The stage was set for the outbreak by above-average rainfall this year washing nutrients into the lake, Carpenter said. The bloom appeared as the water warmed and there was little wind or wave action to disperse the bacteria and mix them into deeper water, Carpenter said. Under those conditions they can rise and become highly concentrated near the surface, where too much sun begins to kill them, creating broad scummy expanses. Decomposition of the organisms robs the water of oxygen and kills fish, Carpenter said.

Based on what he saw from a bridge over the Yahara on June 18, Vander Zanden estimated that thousands of walleye, pike, bluegill and other fish were killed. "I would have a hard time putting a number on it, but it was not dozens of fish," he said. "It had to have been in the thousands." A steady stream of dead fish were floated down the river and there were many spots where between 20 and 50 of them were hung up among rocks near the water's edge, he said. Carpenter said that by June 19 the wind had mixed most of the dead and dying cyanobacteria back into the lake water.

Article suggested by Tom Wilke

If the July on the water meeting is cancelled because of bad weather there will be a notice on the website, Facebook, and an email will be sent by 4:00 pm

Outings

Want to go on an outing? Want to get to know other club members? Want to fish locally or new lakes out of town chasing the hottest bite? Have a place you want to go to? Then you simply need to sign up to say you're interested in going on any or all of these outings. An outing can happen with enough interest but if no one signs up then the outing can't happen. Outings without exact dates are either weather dependent, river levels and based on the timing of the bite. Once you're signed up you will get more specific details of the trip.

Summer 2017:

Outing anywhere anytime: I'm looking for recommendations on trips that you would like to do. Let me know and I can try to set something up!

July 12th On the Water meeting Lake Monona: Meeting/fishing starts at 6:00 PM at Olin-Turville boat launch. Here's your chance to meet new club members and to get out in a boat if you don't have one!

Louisiana: We have club members wanting an outing chasing redfish and tuna. Contact me if interested so we can set this up!

Lake Michigan: We had group of club members already go on a salmon charter fishing trip out of Port Washington. We are planning another trip in late summer or fall. Join a group of club members for a great time. Please contact me if interested

Lake Erie: Want to go on a walleye, smallmouth or perch outing on Lake Erie this summer or next summer? Contact me.

Canada- We have 2 club members in Canada right now and more going at the end of the month. If you want to go to Canada this Fall or next summer NOW is the time to prepare! We have several resorts to choose from. Eagle Lake? How about Rainy Lake? Lake of the Woods? Lac Seul? Get excited and let's start planning a trip of a lifetime!

USA- Canada too far or other reasons? How about traveling within the US to the Minnesota sides of Lake of the Woods or Rainy Lake? Devil's Lake? Lake Oahe, SD? Lake Gogebic, MI? How about our Big Bay de Noc outing? Green Bay?

Guided trips on local lakes, Green Bay/Sturgeon Bay or others: If anyone would like to learn a lake better or techniques with a guide, join other club members to get a better rate. Contact me if interested.

All outings above are open to club members, our Rock Valley Angler friends, your family and friends! We need members with boats but you can participate even if you don't have one. Sign-ups will be at club meetings but look for a new link out on our website soon. As always you can contact me at any time to sign-up or if you have questions or just want advice.

If you have any outing ideas please let me or anyone on the board know!

Jim Pankratz

608-709-6442 or jimannepan@aol.com

Yahara Fishing Club

Yahara Fishing Club Members Facebook updates

Colleen Marsden
June 22 at 7:42am

Gary Schutte and I went blue Gill fishing on lake Monona yesterday. Gary put us on a perfect spot, we actually got tired of catching gills and I caught this 36 in muskie.



Jim Krause
June 14 at 1:10pm

I went out on Mendota last evening for a couple of hrs and the bite was pretty good. Caught 4 walleye, 3 smallies and several rock bass. One lure that was working was the jig that Jim Kloth handed out at the kids fishing day event. I adorned the jig with a leech, and using a slow retrieve I landed about half of the above mentioned fish. Very few boats on the lake.

Richard Connor
June 15 at 7:40pm

Gerald King, Ken Terrill, his son Mark Terrill and I fished Lake Michigan this morning on Capt. John Iverson's 36' Pacemaker out of Port Washington. John Iverson is a YFC sponsor and an excellent fishing guide. Everything on board was first class. It was a beautiful morning. We started catching fish pretty quickly. We did get 5 nice cohos into the cooler. For reasons only you readers can perhaps explain, 10 other fish were hooked but did not make the cooler. Nevertheless, it was a great trip in great company.

Duffy Kopf
June 15 at 3:39pm

One of the fish caught today on Mendota - nice pike on a JB spoon. Beautiful day, but too much sun.



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More pictures from Kids Fishing Day and the Bay Du Noc outing,



Kids Fishing Day

Duffy Kopf pictures



Karl Schoen Big bay du Noc. 20.5 inches

This kid was pretty excited over his first bluegill of the day.

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3ft Barracuda I caught on Boy scout trip to the Florida Keys.

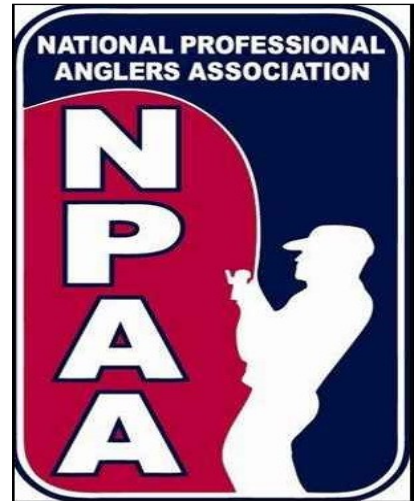
Jim Pankratz



Mary Regel Helps Us Again

Once more Mary has donated \$500.00 towards the Kids Fishing Days from the Rod Regel Memorial Fund.

Thank You Mary!



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YFC Years Gone By

Note from the editor: Tom Wilke suggested we make this a regular column. Let him know your thoughts. We also have many years of pre-2007 newsletters in a page-by-page format that need to be pulled into monthly or annual issues. Any interest let me know. If no one steps up I will randomly pull things out of those older issues. If there is interest I can copy them to the website as they are. Stan Nichols arranged the pages by month and year. I think they were originally scanned in by diver Rick Krueger.




FISH THE YAHARA BASIN
ENJOY MADISON'S BEAUTIFUL LAKES
FEBRUARY 1974 NEWSLETTER

- SPECIAL MEETING -

The February meeting will be designated as a special meeting so that the membership present will be able to vote on a proposal to raise the membership dues. The new membership fee would be \$4.00 per year if we continue our present newsletter and \$5.00 if we go to having the Club news published by Sport Scene which would come out weekly. We wish everyone who is an active member would be present to vote on this issue. These dues would be effective on 1 Sept 1974 for the 1974-1975 year.

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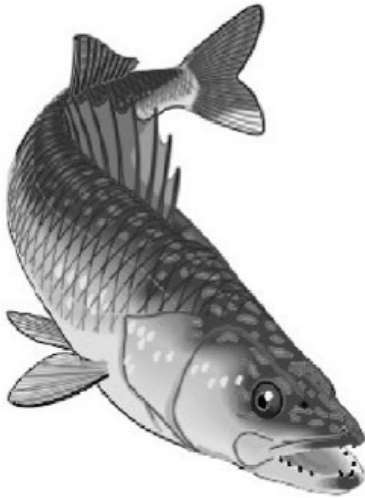


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Yahara Fishing Club Membership Form

P.O. Box 3271 Madison, WI 53704

Annual Dues are from January 1 to December 31. Please print. *** ESSENTIAL

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The next YFC meeting is Wednesday, July 12th,
6:00 pm at the Olin-Turville Park Launch

Calendar of Upcoming Events

July Events

July 8 & 9, 2017 Fishing Has No Boundaries, Governor Nelson State Park

See <http://fhnbinc.org/chapters/madison-wi/> for details

July 12, 2017, Second On The Water Meeting, 6:00 pm—Olin Turville Park Launch

August Events

August 9th, 2017, Third and Last On The Water Meeting, 6:00 pm—Lake Farm Park Launch

Board of Directors and Officers

Gard Strother, President

Tom Wilke, Speakers

Tex Torgeson

Phil James, Vice President

John Pribek, Secretary

Mark Riederer

Gerald King, 608-513-8573

Roger Matiasek

Larry Reed

Ken Terrill 608-358-0453

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