

## **LAKE FACTS AS OF 3-5-22 by Mike Backus**

### **Lake Level**

From Flood stage to Drought! On November 29, 2021, just before the ice started at the shoreline, I put on waders and checked our lake level at the fixed device on my shore. The lake level was down 13" since the first reading in spring of 2021. It had been a dry summer, fall and the start of winter. Madison news reported that the middle of the State (most of Adams Co) is at drought stage. The level of Lake Michigan is also dropping.

### **ICE ON**

Ice on the lake started to form along the shoreline in late Dec 2021 especially in the East Bay. During the last week of December, the West Bay was all but covered except a 100yard wide path from the Reserve to almost the South shore. That water was kept open at night by hundreds of geese. Finally on January 3, 2022, we had complete ICE-ON due to very cold nights and days. Since the start of my record keeping in 1971, ICE-ON has it been later than Jan 3rd only 4 times. The latest according to my records was Jan 19th in 2007.

Scientists out East are tracking ICE-ON and-ICE OFF all over the US and I have been contributing our facts to them.

### **Boater Hand-Outs**

Orders for free towels from the DNR have been placed for our Clean Boats/Clean Waters program. Fishermen will be given special towels as part of the Drain Campaign June 3-5 2022. Also, all boaters will be given CB/CW towels on the Landing Blitz July 1-5.

**Adams County Lakes Association (ACLA)** This group of lake representatives in Adams Co held their first meeting of 2022 on

February 17<sup>th</sup>. All lakes in our area reported both heavy ice fishing and a lower lake level which is good news for almost everyone. Tri Lakes reported that they hired a contractor to drill a number of holes in their lake bottoms and then have the sediment analyzed to see what chemicals are part of the lake. The results of that study may in turn lead to some new items for their Management Plan to improve the quality of their lake.

### **Aquatic Plant Management**

A major 2-year study to update the process and rules for aquatic plant management is reaching a conclusion. This update, when passed, will govern our (and all waterways in the State) herbicide treatments and any plant harvesting that might be used. Before any treatment is approved, a five-year Integrated Pest Management plan will need to be prepared and reviewed. As a District we will need to start developing and preparing such a plan if we hope to stay on top of our Eurasian Water Milfoil issue.

### **Fish News**

None! The DNR reports that they have no fish survey nor stocking scheduled for Jordan in 2022. I will be interested in hearing how the fishing/catching goes this season for if it is poor, we should raise our voices for we seem to be getting limited attention from the DNR in the last years.