

LAKE FACTS AS OF MARCH 23, 2024 by Mike Backus

ICE

As we all know, it seems like we did not have 'winter' this year and the ICE facts support that. We finally had full ICE cover on January 15, 2024. Only one other time since our records started in 1970 has it been later. That record was 1/19/2007 for the 2006-2007 season. Jordan was ICEOFF (no ice on the lake) on March 6, 2024 so the lake had far less than 46 days of full ice. I provide our data not only to the Wis DNR but also to a Community Lake Ice Collaboration (CLIC) at the University of Buffalo in NY. They are finding that world wide records like ours are common and are therefore studying the Eco impact of that trend.

Wildlife

The Cranes were back early with the mild winter. I saw my first one on Feb 25th and the first Robin on March 6th. Fishing could be good this summer for not much ice-fishing took place this winter due to the late ice-over and thin ice conditions. The DNR conducted a fish study/survey on Jordan in early March. They usually do this about every 5 years and the results help determine catch limits and stocking approvals. The Fish Committee should have the results when they are made available.

Watercraft Idea/suggestion

Records show that the fastest growth in the type of watercraft on Jordan since our NO WAKE summers has been that of Paddleboards and Kayaks. Someone should organize a Paddleboard/Kayak Day, gather all those boaters in a single location, and have a Drone picture taken. Just a thought!

Eurasian Water-Milfoil (EWM)

The hot topic of conversation at the March Adams County Lake Alliance was the lack of snow and the early loss of ice cover. When that has happened in previous years, the EWM in our lakes has been at its worst! Warmer water and more sunlight results in a rapid and an extensive growth issue for lakes.