

PENTWATER LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY LYNNE CAVAZOS

GETTING READY FOR WINTER

It is easy for we humans to get ready for winter, but it is not so easy for our animal friends to handle the cold, wind, and snow. We put on more layers of clothing, use hats, gloves, and scarves to cover areas of skin that are subject to frostbite, or we just go inside to a cozy, warm building. These options help keep us safe and healthy and reduce the health risks because of low temperatures.

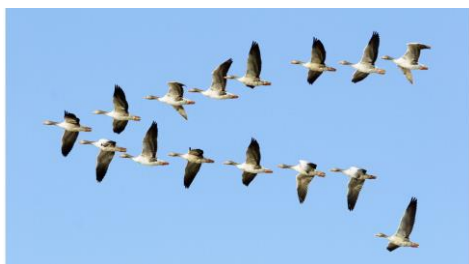
Most animals do not have these same options to keep warm and thrive in winter, but they have evolved some amazing adaptations to survive through frigid temperatures. According to the National Park Service, there are three major strategies for animals, as well as insects and plants, to survive through cold temperatures: **migration**, **hibernation** and **resistance** (tolerance).

Migration

Migration is the movement of a group of animals from one location to another usually to change habitats or living environment. We usually think about birds flying south for the winter, but it can also involve travel east and west, changes in altitudes up or down a mountain, or even a round trip to multiple locations at different times. The length of time varies from several hours to days or even weeks to complete the journey. A variety of factors dictate when animals “know” it is time to move, including the length of daylight hours, changes in available food and how much energy it takes to stay warm. Although migration seems like a good option to avoid winter, it places a great deal of stress on animals. It takes energy to travel and there is competition for food and shelter, with native species once they arrive.

Hibernation

Hibernation is the second strategy to surviving cold temperatures. Hibernation is long-term dormancy or inactivity while the term “torpor” is used to describe short-term inactivity. The definition of hibernation from National Park Service is “a physical state where an animal’s body function slows down in order to conserve energy through a season of no food and water, and cold temperatures.” This slower body function is characterized by a decrease in body temperature and reduced respiration. These actions reduce the amount of energy the animal must expend to stay alive and makes it possible to live off fat reserves it developed.



DID YOU KNOW the V formation of migrating birds works because the birds take turns being the lead bird?

The leader works hardest, creating a draft for the birds flying behind it. At regular intervals, before the leader tires, it drops to the rear and the next bird moves into the leader’s spot. This enables conservation of energy and the achievement of great distances.

There’s a lesson here..... Ed.

Hibernation strategies exist on a continuum from “true hibernators” to a “deep sleep” and an “occasional sleep.” An example of true hibernators is a marmot whose body temperature drops from 90 degrees Fahrenheit normally to 39 F while hibernating and breathing rate of once every four to six minutes. Bears are in the deep sleep category because they do not experience the extreme body temperature drop but grow a thick hair coat before winter arrives. Raccoons and gray squirrels are in the occasional sleep (torpor) category because they stay active during the winter except for extremely frigid temperatures.

Resistance

The third adaptation is resistance or tolerance of the cold. There are many ways this adaptation has evolved in different species. Animals that live in cold climates, such as polar bears, tend to be larger so their body mass-to-surface ratio is higher. Birds will

fluff out their feathers to keep a layer of air around their bodies, huddle together to keep warm or roost in tree cavities. Moose will grow a winter coat with hollow hairs to keep them warm. Shorter daylight hours also trigger responses in some animals. Animals such as beavers or red squirrels create a food cache of extra food that is stored as a supply for the winter. Snowshoe hares create new white fur in the winter that is a better insulator and provides camouflage from predators in the snow.

So, are you ready for winter in Michigan or will you be “migrating” to warmer weather or practicing “torpor” for part of the winter?

For more information, visit <https://extension.msu.edu> or have information delivered straight to your email inbox, visit <https://extension.msu.edu/newsletters>.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Social Committee Report: Lynne Cavazos

We are hopeful that in 2021 the two major social events hosted by the Pentwater Lake Association (PLA) will take place:

- Annual PLA meeting and Social
- Strawberry Shortcake Social Fundraiser (Pentwater Homecoming)

Please save the following dates for 2021:

- Annual Meeting - Friday, June 25, 2021
- Strawberry Shortcake Social - Thursday, August 13, 2021



Membership Committee: Rich Pugsley

"Join Us" is the focus of our advertising slogan on cards posting in 12 locations in Pentwater. Join Us for the 'love of the lake...' The card also includes a link to the Pentwater Lake Association.com web site where people can download the membership

Website: George Richey

The PLA Board Meeting Minutes are now available on our website. You can find them under the “Information” tab. To access our website go to: **pentwaterlakeassociation.com**

The first minutes to be added are for August 2020 and are in two parts, A and B. We plan to add future meeting minutes after each Board meeting.

application and send it in. A few of the locations include two at the State Park, one in the barber shop, fish cleaning station, library, chamber of commerce, Up North Market, and yacht club. Just a slight encouragement for people to think about the association and the good things we do for the lake.

Newsletter Committee: AnnaMae Bush

PLA members are welcome to suggest topics related to our mission for newsletter articles. The PLA Board is trying to encourage student interest and participation in the mission of the Association. We have hired students to help with removal of invasive

species. Each newsletter includes a page from the Pentwater Green Schools Club and this is the second issue to showcase student talent in cartoon drawing and add a lighthearted look at society.

Email your suggestions and feedback to annamaebush@gmail.com

Lighting the Way for Fishing Boats by AnnaMae Bush

Have you noticed the lights that were installed on guardrails in the channel this summer? There is an interesting history behind them. In 2011, the Pentwater Sportfishing Association (PSA) responded to multiple requests for lights to provide safe navigation in and out of the channel for fishing boats at night. The PSA President contacted the US Army Corp of Engineers office in Grand Haven and requested a permit to add marker lights in the channel. The permit was received but funds had to be raised. An anonymous donor provided a gift of \$1000, the cost of the first light.

Since then an additional \$3000 has been raised for more safety lights, and the project has expanded to include *No Wake* buoys with blinking amber lights to define the *No Wake Zone* for boaters at night. Pentwater Village and the Patterson Marine Group have joined the PSA efforts to help with placement of the lights and buoys in the spring and removal in the fall. Maintenance of the light fixtures and replacing bulbs require annual funding. The LED bulbs that are used are expensive and are replaced only as funding becomes available.

The original channel lights were installed on the steel seawalls. However, with Lake Michigan water levels increasing, the original lights were covered by water the past two years and unusable. In August 2020 the PSA requested permission to install newly designed lights that could be attached to the guardrails with a simple bracket. Permission was received and the new lights were attached. The bracket does not alter the rails in any way and can easily be installed or removed. The brackets are also set at an angle to ensure the light extension arm will not be a hazard for boat traffic. The lights operate by solar energy, so you may notice they shine a bit dimmer after several dark, cloudy days.

The lights were removed in late September.

Thank you, PSA, for this safety feature all boaters enjoy. Thank you, Dean Jessup, current president of the PSA, for providing the historical information in this article.

Photo courtesy Dean Jessup



EGLE Lowers the Boom on Frogbit by Joe Primozich



Since aquatic invasive plants cannot be eliminated, the managing plan this year takes on new options for the Pentwater Lake Improvement Board (PLIB). The latest Pentwater Lake invasive aquatic plant is frogbit, a mated surface plant with small lily pad-like leaves the size of your fingernail. It appeared in the marsh at the east end of the lake as a result of duck hunters transporting it here on their boat trailers. This spring it grew exponentially in the marsh and covered about 4 acres. This led to a partnership between Environment,

Great Lakes and Energy(EGLE - the former DEQ), the Pentwater Lake Association(PLA), and the PLIB to manage the frogbit.

With the warm growing season this summer, the frogbit went unchecked until late August when it began to break up into floating mats and move under the bridge and out into Pentwater Lake. Two activities accelerated this frogbit mat movement. A heavy rain event and a water rise in Lake Michigan caused a surge into the marsh, breaking off mats and starting their movement into our lake. A volunteer group of 8 in Apache Hills helped direct 5 tons of frogbit for removal using a backhoe. They moved it to waiting trailers and delivered it to an upland field where it was tilled under. Other riparians raked and lifted frogbit at dock side. The PLA hired 3 high school students to assist with this. Finally, a discussion between a PLA lead group and EGLE representative, Bill Kaipers, developed a plan to move forward. EGLE asked for the PLA lead group of Rich Pugsley, Tom Walter, and Joe Primozich to help capture the floating frogbit mats so they did not leave the lake through the channel or at the ramps on trailers. On August 18th, EGLE toured the lake and found 30 sites of shoreline frogbit and removed 400 lbs. Next summer they will return to those areas and treat them with riparian permission. The PLA hired Brandon Macher, a student, to fly a drone on the village creek to look for frogbit. EGLE welcomed the help and the survey resulted in no frogbit being found.

EGLE then proposed to put in a floating 16" deep boom on the river mouth, upstream of Longbridge. The permit was applied for by the PLIB with Rich Pugsley being the lead on the application form and Joe Primozich signing off for the PLIB. With the permit done on October 3rd, the boom was placed until October 15th, the end of the permit period. This is the end of the frogbit growing season. Rich Pugsley and Tom Walter were leads on this with EGLE and helped to monitor the boom net for this period. The working partnership achieved its goals. No new mats of frogbit moved down into the lake or out of the channel. The ramp at the red barn on the north branch was full of

duck hunters and fisherman this month, so we hope they will abide by the postings to clean their boats and trailers of all vegetation.

EGLE is in discussion now to use a 2-step management program next year for Pentwater Lake for frogbit. One is to set the boom in late August to trap the floating frogbit mats. Second is to see if they can get a harvester for lifting and removal of the frogbit mats. This would look like the aquarius harvesters seen on our lake this year for starry stonewort. So mechanical harvesting will be dominating the management of our two new invasives, both starry stonewort and frogbit. Noting this, our regional DNR fisheries manager, Mark Tonello, has complimented the PLIB for its lake management program as the panfish are growing in numbers and maintaining themselves since a low in 2008, when few bluegills and sunfish were seen dockside. The take-away from this year is that lake conditions are changing, but with surveillance, the lake is being managed with the latest mechanical means, the harvester and the boom. This is in keeping with PLA's goal of minimizing chemical treatments.



Frogbit removal by Apache Hills volunteers with rakes, a backhoe, and a trailer.

SOME SOBERING STATISTICS

By **Brandon Champion** | bchampion@mlive.com posted September 28, 2020

Lake Michigan drownings reached a new annual high in 2020.

According to [The Great Lakes Surf Rescue Project](#), a non-profit group that tracks drownings in the Great Lakes, there have been 53 drownings in Lake Michigan to date. The tragic number surpasses the previous record of 49, which was set in 2012.

Overall, there have been 434 Lake Michigan drownings since 2010.

For the entire Great Lakes, there have been 94 drownings in 2020, and 931 Great Lakes drownings since 2010.

R & R – Rules and Regulations - *Children and Boating* by Rich Pugsley

This article starts a regular column for the newsletter to discuss water safety rules and regulations. The source of information will typically be from the Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws and Responsibilities. This can be found on the web at https://assets.kalkomey.com/boater/pdfs/handbook/mi_handbook_entire.pdf

Life jackets

Those less than 6 years of age

- Are required by law to wear a USCG-approved Type I or II PDF when riding on the open deck of any vessel while underway.

These regulations apply for children operating motorboats:

Those less than 12 years of age

- May operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than 6 horsepower (hp) legally without restrictions
- May operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 6 hp but no more than 35 hp legally **only if** they:
 - Have been issued a boating safety certificate and have it on board the boat **and** ...
 - Are directly supervised on board by a person at least 16 years of age.

- May not operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 35 hp legally under any conditions

Those born on or after July 1, 1996

- May operate a boat legally only if they have been issued a boating safety certificate and have it on board the boat.

These regulations apply for children and a personal watercraft (PWC):

Those less than 7 years of age

- May **not** ride on or be towed behind a PWC unless with a parent or guardian or a designee of the parent or guardian.

Those less than 14 years of age

- May **not** legally operate a PWC

Those 14 and 15 years of age

- May operate a PWC legally **only if** they have obtained a boating safety certificate **and** ...
 - He or she is accompanied on board by his or her parent or legal guardian or by a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian **or** ...
 - He or she is operating or riding the PWC at a distance of not more than 100 feet from his or her parent or legal guardian or from a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian.

Those at least 16 years of age

- May operate a PWC legally **only if** they have obtained a boating safety certificate



CALENDAR OF EVENTS, November - February

Nov. 28	Small Business Saturday – Shop Your Local Merchants
Nov. 28	Winter Market (2 - 4 PM)
Nov. 29	Shop Your Local Merchants
Nov. 28	Festival of Lights Weekend on Village Green – 5pm, Tree lighting and the Arrival of Santa
Dec. 1 - 31	Celebrate Christmas in the Village (Saturdays in December)
Dec. 5	(Pending) Christmas Craft Fair - Pentwater School Gym - 9am-3pm
Dec. 6	Christmas by Candlelight (Music) 7 - 8 PM, Centenary United Methodist Church
Dec. 13	COVE Holiday Tea - OCCOA in Hart - 2 sessions. (Reservations: call Lynne Cavazos 231-869-5939)
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve Celebration (details pending)
Feb. 13	Pentwater Winterfest (events pending)
Feb. 20	Pentwater Winterfest (events pending)



See links in highlighted box below to check for confirmations or cancellations.

Possible Events

Christmas in the Village: All are invited to kick off the Holiday Season and Celebrate with Santa Claus in the Village of Pentwater. Santa Claus will arrive in Pentwater on Saturday, November 28th escorted to the Village Green by the Pentwater Fire Department at 5PM. Santa will be available for visits and photos immediately following his arrival. Parents are encouraged to bring a camera to capture the magical moment with Santa Claus.

Throughout the entire month of December, Pentwater will be celebrating Christmas in the Village. Every Saturday in December come to Pentwater to enjoy shopping, dining, caroling, music, hot chocolate, bonfires, and Santa walking around at the top of the Village Green. (Dec. 5, 12, 19, and 26)

New Year's Eve in the Village: details are pending, but fireworks are being planned as part of the celebration.

Winterfest 2021: details are pending, but possible events for Feb. 13 include Snowman Scram. Cross-Country skiing, and wine-tasting in both Hart and Pentwater. Possible events for Feb. 22 include Ryan Williams Perch Fishing Tournament, Polar Dip, and Colleen Plummer Memorial Craft Beer & Music

Please check the following websites and Facebook pages to find up-to-date information about events.

Primary Source:

- **Pentwater Village Office Website:** www.pentwatervillage.org

Secondary Sources:

- **Pentwater Chamber Office Website:** www.pentwater.org
- **Pentwater Exchange Facebook:** www.facebook.com/Pentwater-Exchange
- **Pentwater Township:** www.pentwatertwp.org
- **Pentwater Township Library:** www.pentwaterlibrary.org

Mystery on the North Branch of the Pentwater River by Joan Menke-Schaenzer

On a warm and sunny August morning I had the great opportunity to accompany Joe Primozich on his monthly water sampling route of the Pentwater Lake watershed. Our first stop was the Pentwater creek off Clymer Street. The creek water was crystal clear and running fast. Our second stop was the north branch of the Pentwater river off Hammett Road. After traversing down a bank to the riverbed we saw this mysterious canister sitting next to the river's edge.



It had a long hose coming out of it that went into the river. We could not tell if the hose was adding something to the river or sucking something up inside. There was one clue: the canister was marked DO NOT DISTURB-PROPERTY OF US FISH & WILDLIFE. Joe was unsure, but thought the canister had something to do with sea lampreys. I had no idea what a sea lamprey was. Joe suggested I call the US Fish and Wildlife office in Ludington. I did some research and learned that according to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA):

"By the late 1940s, sea lamprey populations had exploded in all of the upper Great Lakes causing severe damage to lake trout and other critical fish species. Sea lampreys have a suction cup mouth

ringed with sharp teeth. They attach to fish and feed on their blood, usually killing the fish."



Turns out, the US Fish and Wildlife is actively involved in the control of sea lampreys in all the Great Lakes, as well as Pentwater Lake and River. Jenna Tews, Treatment Supervisor, Sea Lamprey Control at the Ludington Biological station explained the canisters collect water samples. These samples are later tested to determine the level of Lampricide (a safe pesticide selective to lampreys) level in the stream. The north branch of Pentwater river is on a three-year sea lamprey treatment rotation. The south branch of the river is not treated as its water temperature and habitat do not support sea lamprey.

After Joe and I finished collecting water samples from the north and south branches of the Pentwater River, we met Rich Pugsley. Rich graciously drives the water samples to the lab in Muskegon. Rich and Joe have incredible knowledge of Pentwater Lake, its watershed and the history of both.

I now sleep better having solved the mystery of the unknown canister. It is great to know that across all the Great Lakes the invasive sea lamprey population has been reduced by 90% since the 1950's. It gives me confidence that other invasive species in Pentwater Lake can be brought under control. But

we can't give up until we eradicate them! We are fortunate to have the leadership of experts like Joe, Jenna, and Rich who work tirelessly to keep our lake and watershed clean and safe, with healthy diversity of wildlife species for decades to come. **Let's keep working together to keep Pentwater Lake pristine.**

Written by Joan Menke-Schaenzer - PLA Member & Water Sampling Trainee.

Contributor - Brian Schaenzer - PLA Member

For more details regarding sea lampreys, see <http://www.glf.org/sea-lamprey.php>.

To learn more about sea lampreys' impact on the Great Lakes fishing (\$7B) industry, follow this link to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission - http://www.glf.org/pubs/FACT_3.pdf.

Photo credits: cannister contributed by Jenna Tews

Eels from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Oceana Cross Country Ski Association - Winter 2021 News and Events by Ellen Lightle

Pentwater is more than just a summer resort. In the winter the Oceana Cross Country Ski Association(OCCSA) offers a variety of activities and grooms two trail systems for public use. The **Pentwater Pathways** is a system of trails, easy to difficult in length and terrain, in the state forest located off of Railroad Ave. near the intersection of Longbridge and Ridge Roads, south of Pentwater.

Crystal Valley, northeast of Pentwater in the Manistee National Forest, offers even more miles of varying duration and challenge. Trail maps, grooming conditions, and event updates can be found at oceanaski.org.

In light of the pandemic, weather permitting (we hope with plenty of snow!), this winter will be a

great opportunity to be outside, socially distant, and to learn how to cross country ski. OCCSA plans to make its adult and youth equipment available for the public to use free at weekend events at both ski trails. Be sure to check the website for details in January and February. These events will be weather dependent and on a first-come-first-served basis.

OCCSA is an all-volunteer organization with modest annual membership dues: individual -\$15; family-\$35; business-\$50. Those interested in joining or donating to support the purchase of additional children's ski equipment can contact the organization through the website, or mail a check, made out to OCCSA, to P.O. Box 138, Mears, MI 49436. OCCSA is a designated 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization.



Youth Fishing Contest , Year of the Best Catch by Joe Primozich

The third annual 2020 Pentwater Lake Youth Fishing Tournament was a great success as judged by the size of the catch and the smiles of those kids catching. The tournament is sponsored by the Pentwater Lake Association. Participation was terrific! More than 60 fish photo entries were sent in by over 100 families. To document size, the photos showed fish laid on a ruler or measuring tape. This year three sheepshead were big enough to also be DNR Master Angler Awards as they were over 25". Additional big catches were the pike and the walleye. The largest in 14 categories are listed below: (see www.pentwaterlakeassociation.com for additional photos)

Crappie – 13.25" Alec Peterson

Catfish – 28" Grace Russell

Bowfin – 26" Brogan McGinley

Pumpkinseed – 7.5" Maggie Madden/ Garret Jones

Walleye – 25.37" Arica Russell

Large Mouth Bass – 19" Savannah Winkleblack

Small Mouth Bass – 17.75" Mike Richardson/ Jack Graham

Bluegill – 8.67" Natalie Russell

Sucker – 23" Daphne Madden

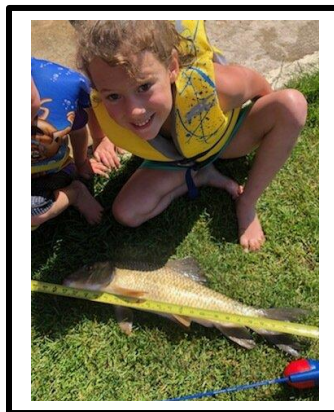
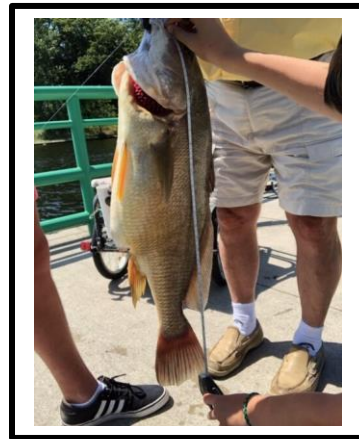
Sheepshead – 27.5" Kalie Spiekhout

Northern Pike – 27" Arica Russell

Rock Bass – 9.5" Daphne Madden

Yellow Perch – 12.5" Mason Jedele

Bullhead – 12" Mike Peterson



A Winter Wonderland is Approaching - Are you Ready? by Tom Walter

Sure enough winter is coming. I am not talking about buying the right snow shovel or starting the snowblower, even though those are good ideas. I am talking about being sure you don't miss all of the nature our lake has to offer.

As I write this, a flock of Teal ducks has just flown down the lake. Though not rare, they don't spend much time here. This is a special time of year on the lake. Most of the waterfowl species we see are not rare, threatened or endangered. But we don't get to see them much.

Tundra Swans, for example, have been making an annual stop at Pentwater Lake for a brief period in October before moving on. Some ducks that we basically see only in winter are the Mergansers, Coots, Buffleheads, Golden Eyes, Blue Bills, Redheads, Grebes, and Ring-Necked ducks... in addition to the standard mallards and Canada geese here year-round. Last spring a couple Red Heads and Blue Bills stayed around longer, probably waiting for females to come back off the nest up in the marsh.

Look for Common Eider, a sea duck, to raft up in large numbers offshore. Every year I see a hardy old hunter head out in water too rough and a boat way too small. But he usually comes back with some.

There are many crazy antics to see. Large flocks of ducks and geese collect on the open waters of the lake until suddenly the lake is skimmed with ice. Let the follies begin. Now there are 100 geese trying to get into an open area fit for about 20 geese. They start coming in anyway, landing somewhere, somehow, skidding across the ice and into each other...a scene from Animal Planet TV right before your eyes!

The eagles offer their own show. They like to sit on the ice together usually close to the edge. I imagine it is hard to sit around together, roosting in trees. They also like fish that anglers leave on the ice. Toss a sucker out close to your fishing spot and watch the eagles retrieve it.

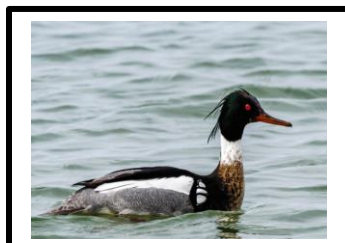
Occasionally you will see a mink working the shoreline. After dark coyotes work the ice too. Visible during a bright moon, they will go from one ice fishing hole to another, looking for leftover bait or a sandwich. Daylight shows their tracks going from hole to hole.

Let's not forget the ice. It offers plenty of drama. The lake stays open for a long time. Then BAM! One quiet cold night it ices over. Then a big wind comes and blows all the thin shards towards Longbridge. When the wind blows the other way, it's gone again. Storms can jam ice all the way over Longbridge and send jagged chunks hundreds of feet west of Longbridge. What was once easy walking for ice anglers becomes impassible "Shackleton" ice. In the spring giant sheets of ice bang into docks and lifts until enough wave action breaks them up and moves them out.

There is a lot to be seen out there. Be patient and observant. Ride around and look. Nature will reveal its splendor. Be prepared to enjoy it.

<https://www.audubon.org/bird-guide>

The **Audubon Bird Guide** is a free and complete **field guide** to more than 800 species of
(Below l-r: Buffleheads, male and female, red-breasted Merganser & juvenile bald eagle by Fred Allen)



Bald eagle attacks \$995 government drone midair over Lake Michigan

By Hannah Sparks [taken from Mlive.com report, August 14, 2020]

America's bird isn't sharing the skies.

A bald eagle over Lake Michigan attacked and destroyed a government drone, which plummeted 162 feet into the Great Lake.

Environmental quality inspector and drone operator Hunter King had been out on Michigan's Upper Peninsula, on the western side of the lake, tracking shoreline erosion near Escanaba on July 21.

King was about seven minutes into the task, flying a \$995 Phantom 4 Pro Advanced quadcopter, before he began experiencing communication issues with the device. He reportedly used a "Go Home" recall button on the device controller that automatically set the drone on a course back to the pilot at a measly 22 miles per hour.

The drone, which the bird of prey took for a threat, was no match for the adult bald eagle — others like it have been known to reach top speeds around 99 mph. The midair crash sent the device spiraling down, falling at a rate of 30 feet per second, but not before sending out 27 warning signals in the 3.5 seconds that it took to hit the water below.

"It was like a really bad roller coaster ride," said King in a statement published on Michigan's Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (aka EGLE) website.

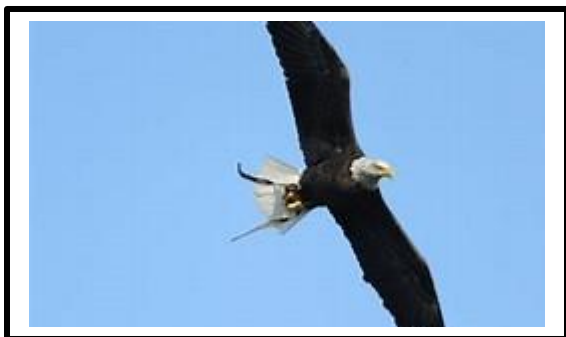
Two local birdwatchers, who saw the entire calamity go down, reported that the eagle appeared to fly away with no sign of injury.

Data later revealed that the drone had landed 150 feet offshore in shallow water, just 4 feet deep. Days later, the EGLE tasked their unmanned aircraft systems coordinator Arthur Ostaszewski to kayak out where the drone had landed and snorkel for it. However, the tannin-steeped water provided "near-zero" visibility for the diver. After shuffling and swimming through shallow water for two hours, the data analyst wrapped up his search.

The experience was "like I was playing Battleship and wanted to cover the entire board," Ostaszewski said.

In the future, they suggested that a bird-like disguise for the device might prevent future attacks.

"The attack could have been a territorial squabble with the electronic foe, or just a hungry eagle. Or maybe it did not like its name being misspelled," the [EGLE](#) joked.



NEWS BYTES by AnnaMae Bush

Pentwater Community Garden

The Pentwater Service Club has been very busy constructing a community garden to mark their 50th year of serving the residents of Pentwater. The project was made possible by donations of material and many hours of volunteer labor. It is located on Park Street near the library and new Park Center community hall. The garden includes ten elevated beds (30" tall) and 14 raised beds (12" tall). Fencing installation to protect the beds from deer damage was scheduled for early November. Next year it should provide beautiful flowers, fresh produce, opportunities for cooperation, and countless hours of fellowship for residents.



Construction work in progress September 26

Police Department

In reviewing the summer months at his recent regular open meeting with community members, Chief Laud Hartrum said the biggest issue was with patrons who refused to wear a mask indoors and made such a scene that business owners had to call for police help. A different major issue the police faced was the lack of holding cell space because COVID restrictions limited the number of cells available. Officers found they frequently had to levy fines and then drive offenders home.

Reflecting on the use of golf carts this summer, Hartrum saw advantages and disadvantages. While it allowed the cadets to accomplish some tasks more quickly (such as collecting funds from the public boat launch in town), it also decreased the number of one-on-one conversations with people on the street that were enabled by foot patrol.

Water Taxi Service

Captain Lee Price reported that despite the shortened tour season and decreased passenger capacity because of COVID restrictions, he served 237 passengers on history tours and 186 passengers on sunset cruises in addition to residents who utilized the taxi. At this writing, color tours are scheduled to be held through October. Price said not many cruises had to be cancelled due to poor weather. Thinking about the changes in education this year that shifted learning out of the classroom, Price initiated a new "Night Sky Cruise" after sunset cruises for the purpose of sighting constellations, planets, the International Space Station, and even the occasional shooting star!

Ron Beeber reported that through September 30, the four volunteer history tour docents received a total of \$1,400 in donations to the Pentwater Historical Society from the history tour passengers. This helped offset the revenue the PHS lost due to cancelled spring and summer dinners.

Price highlighted two memorable incidents. One involved rescuing two exhausted kayakers. The first fell out of his overturned kayak and could not get back in, and the second was trying to pull both his friend and the overturned kayak back to shore. The second event was a burial of ashes ceremony by a family whose members gently emptied the ashes of their mother and then lovingly scattered flower petals over the surface of the water.

Pentwater Green



Schools Club

By: Shelby Brown
12th Grade Student



On September 26th, Pentwater Green Schools Club took a trip to Mears State Park for the annual beach clean-up! Green Schools Club members split into small groups and swept the beach for any trash they could find. The Green Schools Club adopts the beach through Alliance for the Great Lakes. Participating in this tradition counts as one of twenty points needed to earn our school the “Evergreen” status through the Michigan Green Schools program. This year the Green Schools club was able to pick up eleven pounds of trash from the beach. The top five items found were: small plastic pieces (1310), cigarette butts (208), plastic bottle caps (84), straws (69), and cigar tips (45).



PENTWATER LAKE ASSOCIATION

“For the Love of the Lake”

P.O. Box 825, Pentwater, MI 49449

Membership Application Date _____ New _____ Renewal _____

Member Applicant Name _____ Spouse _____

Local Address: Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Mailing Address: Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone #(s): Local or Home _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

How to send your newsletter: Email (in Color) _____ Hard Copy via USPS (in B&W) _____

Dues: Yearly Family Membership (one vote), from July 1st through June 30th \$ 30.00

Subscription to Michigan Riparian Magazine, published quarterly (optional) \$14.00 \$____.____

TOTAL (Make check payable to: Pentwater Lake Association, Inc.) \$____.____

Pentwater Lake Association Board

Lynne Cavazos – President
 Patrick Hooyman – Vice-President
 Betty Pleva – Secretary
 George Richey – Treasurer
 Rich Pugsley
 Mike Peters Dan Selahowski
 Joe Primozych Janet Strahan
 Beth Provencal Tom Walter

PLA Newsletter – published 4X/year

Editor – AnnaMae Bush
 Staff Writers – A. Bush, J. Primozych,
 T. Walter, R. Pugsley, L. Cavazos, P. Hooyman
 Mailing – Caroline Denlar

PLA Committees and Chairs

Membership (Pugsley), Natural Resources –
 (Primozych), Publicity (Hooyman), Social (Cavazos)
 Website (Richey), Water Quality (Peters)
 Education (Pleva), Newsletter (Bush)

Pentwater Village (869-8301)

President – Jeff Hodges*
 Manager – Chris Brown
 Zoning Administrator – Keith Edwards
 Clerk/Treasurer – Rande Listerman
 Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – Barb Siok
 Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – Kate Anderson
Trustees – Michelle Angell-Powell*, Pam Burdick,
 Jared Griffis, Dan Nugent*, Don Palmer*,
 Dr. Claudia Ressel-Hodan

Pentwater Township (869-6231)

Supervisor – Dave Spitler*
 Clerk – Sue Ann Johnson
 Treasurer – Jan Siska
Trustees – Mike Flynn*, Dean Holub*

Police Chief – Laude Hartrum (869-5987)

Fire Chief – Paul Smith (869-5987)

OC Marine Deputy – Tim Simon (231-873-2121)

*Current term ends this year

Pentwater Lake Association

PO Box 825, Pentwater MI 49449



Ring-necked duck, anonymous

