

# TOWN OF EAGLE LAKE PATROL

## Year End Report 2011

To: Don Malek, Town Supervisor

**Hours of Patrol:** 182 Hours of the water, other hours reported to DNR for administration, report writing, desk work and audit.

**Accidents:** No reported accidents again this year. We did hear there were a couple minor ones that they did not report to the Lake Patrol but left the lake instead.

**Violations:** 40 citations were issued and 110 verbal warnings. "Going wrong direction on lake" was the number 1 violation we encountered. People launch their boats and told us they did not see any map indicating direction. They did read they had to go counter clockwise on the Town sign.

**Large Map:** Have Lake Management put a larger map in the board where a small map now exists. It would be very helpful and more noticeable being bigger and showing arrows for proper direction to go.

**Stump:** Several boaters reported hitting a stump off shore. There used to be a marker on the spot to warn boaters. One should be placed there again to avoid future problems.

**Boat:** This was the third year for our patrol boat. After two more years the DNR will have paid for it completely. If the Town would like to get a new one after that time, it may be best to put some money ear marked for that next year and in 2013. We have requested Tom from the DPW to:

1. Winterize the boat.
2. Grease fitting by motor.
3. Charge battery up in spring.

**Starting problems:** Mechanic checked and made some adjustments on motor. Will see how it all works next year.

**Culvers ice cream:** Thanks to a donor and Peter Jensen's leg work, this was a huge success. We gave out over \$150.00 worth of certificates for Culvers ice cream cones for boaters who were observed having children on boat "wearing" a PFD. Making this kind of traffic stop gave us an opportunity to talk to a boater, do a free boat inspection and help educate new people using our lake.

**Audit:** DNR again gave our Patrol, including our clerk Sue, excellent marks for a job well done in 2010. I expect the same for the 2011 audit. Reimbursement should be about the same as last year, 70%.

**No injuries:** This was my 12<sup>th</sup> year working for the Town of Eagle as a Lake Patrol Officer. We can all be thankful that we have not had one incident where one of our Officers was injured, either by effecting an arrest or daily duties. We work in an environment that can cause injuries but have been fortunate. I believe the Town Board should appreciate the job all our Officers are doing, especially having to work weekends and holidays, some after working their full time shift.

**New hires:** I would like to bring on 1 or 2 new Officers for next year. This year one Officer had surgery and could only work one day. Another Officer started teaching at Gateway College part time, besides his full-time deputy job. He also was limited to what he could work for us. Another Officer lost interest to work the Boat Patrol for several reasons. I will get the ball rolling this winter and hopefully have new help by spring.

**Summary:**

- The Patrol assisted many boaters needing help.
- Dealt with all the lake resident's complaints the best we could.
- Gave mutual aid to another Police Department after it was requested. We are required by State Statute to respond if asked by another Police Department.
- Provided service in a courteous and professional manner to all lake users.

I thank the Board for their continued assistance with helping keep this Lake Patrol alive and functioning. I look forward to the 2012 boat season.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sergeant Dennis Nork  
Town of Eagle Lake Patrol