



Weekender

March 4, 2010

Inside this issue:

Memo Continued	2
100 Days of Color	3
Election Committee	3
Board Candidates	3
American Bald Eagle	4
Eagle	5
Eagle	6
Calendar	7

TO: SURFSIDE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

FROM: JIM FLOOD, PRESIDENT

SURFSIDE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dear Members:

Within the next few days you will be receiving important information about your drinking water. The Surfside Water System recently had a violation of a State drinking water standard. Your Board of Directors became aware of the rising levels late last summer and took decisive action to authorize the installation of a system to mitigate these rising levels. Unfortunately as you read below our new system is awaiting DOH permission to start testing. The good news is the fix is close and we hope to have this issue behind us shortly. If you like details, I have outlined the cause, our solution and how it will work below. For those of you not detail oriented, be rest assured that getting our water system operating within the specifications of the State Department of Health (DOH) guidelines is our number one priority.

Our current problem lies with the reaction of chlorine and the high (TOC⁻¹) the organic matter we have in our raw source ground water⁻². Chlorine which is an oxidant is used to disinfect our water and it is also used to convert the raw water iron and manganese to a filterable form so our water filters can remove it.

Chlorine reacts with the organic matter in our water to form the following byproducts called TTHM and HAA5. See the statement below as reference from a DOH publication

To quote a Department of Health Fact Sheet dated May 2004 DOH PUB. #331 – 254 **Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Stage 1 Rule** “Many water systems add chlorine or other disinfectants for treatment to destroy or inactivate microbial organisms. However, these disinfectants form disinfection byproducts (DBPs) when they react with naturally occurring organic substances in the water. Some disinfectants and DBPs cause cancer and reproductive effects in laboratory animals and may have bladder cancer and reproductive effects in humans. **While there is no conclusive evidence that disinfectants or DBPs are associated with cancer or other health effects, the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued the Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (Stage 1 DBPR) in 1998**”

There is **NO IMMEDIATE HEALTH RISK** associated with this violation. All consumer / homeowner questions should be referred to the Surfside **Certified System Operator**, Bob Haskin.

The current operations and practices of the Water/Field Services Department are compliant in all aspects and have not contributed to the current State DOH violation in any way. Some comments have been made that the problem was a result of all the pipe replacement or that some process has changed, this is simply not true. The current problem has been noted and discussed over many years and it lies with our source water that comes from six deep wells that draws water from an average depth of 200 feet. Our soil composition is primarily layered sands that are over 700 feet in depth mixed with various organic layers and compounds that have built up over hundreds of years.

There are five components of our water that pose different problems in regards to compliance issues and for aesthetic problems. **Iron** and **Manganese** are both secondary contaminants that we treat for with the addition of chlorine and filters. We treat for the iron and manganese mainly aesthetic reasons and not necessarily for compliance reasons directly. We have a fair amount of naturally occurring **Ammonia** which causes a higher chlorine demand (consumption) we also have a high **Silica**⁻³ content in our source water that can potentially coat our filter media and reduce their effectiveness in filtering our water properly. Lastly we have a high **TOC** (total organic carbon) content in our source that is the primary source of our current problem.

Discussions with our consulting engineering firm showed us that adding Potassium Permanganate will oxidize not only the iron and manganese but it will also convert the Silica to a filterable form. It will also react with the Ammonia and the TOC / Organic material without creating another byproduct issue.

By changing over to Potassium Permanganate as our primary oxidant, would allow us to filter out the total organic carbon (TOC) which would go a long way in reducing our TTHM's and HAA5 issues. We have been working with an engineering consultant on the installation of the new system.

This is how the new system will work. The major components are a saturator and a piping run that gets the Potassium Permanganate into our water mixes it and lets it take out the majority of the contaminants prior to the injection of chlorine. By doing this up front of the chlorine injection the chlorine won't have as many organic substances to interact with thus lower levels of TTHM and HAA5.

Under the direction of our engineering consultant we have performed tests to determine the amount of Potassium Permanganate necessary to treat the iron and manganese and the other mentioned components. We have acquired the necessary equipment to inject the new chemical into the system. This new system should be online by April 1, 2010 pending the State DOH approval to conduct our pilot test of this new chemical as mentioned in the action plan⁻⁴ submitted to the State DOH to deal with our violation. With the new chemical online, the amount of chlorine we currently use will be greatly reduced to only the amount required to maintain minimum system wide chlorine residual.

In conclusion this Board, when notified of the rising levels, sought out options and focused on a solution that was in the best interest of our home owners. We look forward to the new system going on line soon to resolve the issues as described above. Rest assured that getting our water system operating within the specifications of the DOH guidelines is our number one priority.

1. **TOC**, Total Organic Carbon, a measure of the organic content in water

2. **Ground Water** means water not directly influenced on by surface water.

3. **Silica**, in the form of microscopic seashells.

4. An Action plan that has been submitted to the DOH explaining the steps and the timeline for implementation to resolve and or to become compliant again in regards to the disinfection byproducts (DBPs) regulations.

100 DAYS OF COLOR PROGRESS



January 7, 2010 peeking thru.



February 23, 2010



March 4, 2010

NOMINATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

This year Surfside Homeowners Association has four board positions up for election. Three with three year terms and a one year position.

We are in need of members for the nomination committee. If you would be interested in serving on the nomination committee and or serving as the chairperson for this committee, please contact the Surfside Homeowners Association as soon as possible.

Candidates need to be recruited for these board positions and the application completed and submitted before Saturday, May 1, 2010.

You as members of the homeowners association have the responsibility to seek the best candidates possible for these positions, to assure that Surfside Homeowners Association is served by the best possible Board.



Candidates for Board Positions Sought

There are four Board Positions that will be open for election at the annual meeting in July. Three of the positions are for three year terms. One is a one year position. If you have an interest in serving your community, and helping to assure that Surfside is a great place to live, consider running for one of these open positions.

If you are interested please contact Debbie Richmond at (360)665-5956 or

Email: drichmond@surfsideonline.org

American Bald Eagle

Color - Both male and female adult bald eagles have a blackish-brown back and breast; a white head, neck, and tail; and yellow feet and beak.

Juvenile bald eagles are a mixture of brown and white; with a black bill in young birds. The adult plumage develops when they're sexually mature. It takes about 5 years for their head and tail feathers to gradually turn white.

The bald eagle is the only eagle confined to North America; there are no other large black birds in North America with white heads and tails.

Size - A female bald eagle's body length varies from 35 to 37 inches; with a wingspan of 79 to 90 inches. The smaller male bald eagle has a body length of 30 to 34 inches; with a wingspan ranging from 72 to 85 inches. Their average weight is ten to fourteen pounds. Northern birds are significantly larger than their southern relatives.

Golden eagles are larger than bald eagles in average height and wingspan, but there isn't much difference in average weight. One way to distinguish a golden eagle from an immature bald eagle is leg plumage. A golden eagle's legs are entirely feather covered; an immature bald eagle's lower legs are bare. As seen while in flight, juvenile golden eagles have white patches at the base of the primaries; the tail is white with a distinct dark terminal band. It takes four years to acquire adult plumage. Adult golden eagles are brown with tawny on the back of the head and neck; tail faintly banded

Habitat - Bald eagles live along the coast and on major lakes and rivers where they feed mainly on fish.

Longevity (life expectancy) - It's possible for bald eagles in the wild to live longer than thirty years, but the average lifespan is fifteen to twenty years. A captive eagle at West Stephentown, NY lived to be at least 48 years old.

Body Temperature - About 106 degrees Fahrenheit (41 degrees Celsius)

Eagles do not sweat, so they need to use other cooling methods such as perching in the shade, panting, and holding their wings away from their body.

Tolerance to cold temperatures - A bald eagle's skin is protected by feathers lined with down. Their feet are cold resistance, consisting of mostly tendon. The outside of the bill is mostly nonliving material, with little blood supply.

Eagles sit at the top of the food chain, making them more vulnerable to toxic chemicals in the environment, since each link in the food chain tends to concentrate chemicals from the lower link.

A bald eagle's **lifting power** is about 4 pounds. They do not generally feed on chickens or other domestic livestock, but they will make use of available food sources. Bald eagles will take advantage of carrion (dead and decaying flesh). Because of its scavenger image, some people dislike the bald eagle. Other people do not care for powerful and aggressive birds. Still other people object merely on the grounds that it is a bird of prey, which kills other animals for food.

Bald eagles are active during daylight hours (**diurnal**).

Fidelity - Once paired, bald eagles remain together for life. Although, if one dies, the survivor will not hesitate to accept a new mate.

Voice - Shrill, high pitched, and twittering are common descriptions used for bald eagle vocalizations. Eagles do not have vocal cords.



Eagle

Sound is produced in the syrinx, a bony chamber located where the trachea divides to go to the lungs. Bald eagle calls may be a way of reinforcing the bond between the male and female, and to warn other eagles and predators that an area is defended.

Skeleton - It weighs about half a pound (250 to 300 grams), and is only 5 or 6 percent of its total weight. The feathers weigh twice that much. Eagle bones are light, because they are hollow. The beak, talons, and feathers are made of keratin.

The wings and soaring - An eagle's wings are long and broad, making them effective for soaring. To help reduce turbulence as air passes over the end of the wing, the tips of the feathers at the end of the wings are tapered so that when the eagle fully extends its wings, the tips are widely separated.

To help them soar, eagles use thermals, which are rising currents of warm air and updrafts generated by terrain, such as valley edges or mountain slopes. Soaring is accomplished with very little wing-flapping, enabling them to conserve energy. Long-distance migration flights are accomplished by climbing high in a thermal, then gliding downward to catch the next thermal, where the process is repeated. **Several eagles soaring in a thermal together is described as a "kettle of eagles."**

Bald eagles can fly to an altitude of 10,000 feet. During level flight, a bald eagle can achieve speeds of about 30 to 35 mph.

The tail - is very important for flight and maneuvering. While the bald eagle is soaring or gliding in flight, the tail feathers are spread in order to attain the largest surface area and increase the effect of thermals and up-drafts. The tail also helps to brake the eagle when landing and assists in stabilization during a controlled dive or swoop toward prey. The strength of the feathers and the follicles holding the feathers is quite impressive while watching the tail move back and forth and up and down during maneuvers.



Eagle Continued:

Bald eagles have 7,000 feathers. **Eagle feathers** are lightweight yet extremely strong, hollow yet highly flexible. They protect the bird from the cold as well as the heat of the sun, by trapping layers of air. To maintain its body temperature an eagle simply changes the position of its feathers. While an eagle suns itself on a cold morning, it ruffles and rotates its feathers so that the air pockets are either opened to the air or drawn together to reduce the insulating effect. Feathers also provide waterproofing and protection, and are crucial for flight.

Feather structure makes pliability possible. Overlapping feathers can form a dense covering, which the birds can open or close at will. The bald eagle has several layers of feathers, each serving a different function. Under the outer layer of feathers is an inner layer of down or smaller feathers. The inter locking of feathers is an astonishing design of nature.

The feathers enable eagles to live in extremely cold environments. Eagles do not have to migrate to warmer areas each year to fulfill temperature requirements, they migrate to available food supplies.

A lone eagle feather is believed to convey great power. North American Indians incorporated the eagle's primaries and tail feathers into their ceremonies and legends

Respiratory system - Eagles have an external nares opening on both sides of the beak. A bald eagle never reaches speeds that would interfere with normal breathing. An eagle's lungs and air sac system are adequate for its size. Air moves in through the lungs and on into the air sacs before moving back through the lungs and out again. Air passes through the lungs twice with each breathing cycle - twice that of mammals.

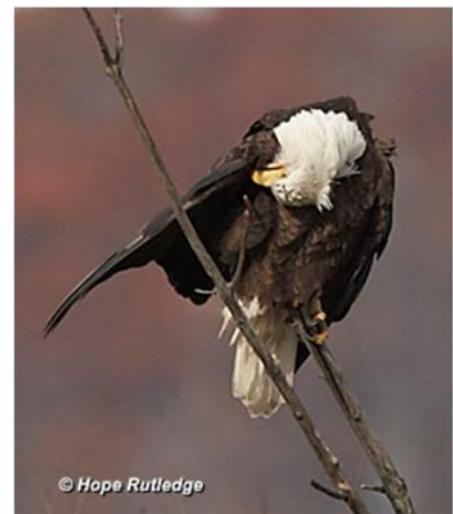
Beak - The hook at the tip is used for tearing. Behind the hook, the upper mandible, the edge sharp enough to slice tough skin, overlaps the lower, creating a scissors effect. A bald eagle's beak is a strong weapon, but is also delicate enough to groom a mate's feathers or feed a small portion of food to a newly hatched chick. The beak of a female eagle is deeper (distance from top to chin) than the beak of a male.

The beak and talons grow continuously, because they are made of keratin, the same substance as our hair and fingernails. The beak of a captive eagle is not worn down naturally, so must be trimmed annually.

Talons - Talons are important tools for hunting and defense. Eagles kill their prey by penetrating its flesh with their talons. Eagles can open and close their talons at will. If an eagle is dragged into the water by a fish too large for the eagle to lift, it is because the eagle refuses to release it. In some cases this is due to hunger. An eagle might drown during the encounter with the fish or if it's unable to swim far enough to reach shore.

Above all other birds it is the soaring eagle, with its size and weight, that gives the most abiding impression of power and purpose in the air. It advances solidly like a great ship cleaving the swells and thrusting aside the smaller waves. It sails directly where lesser birds are rocked and tilted by the air currents.

---Edwin Way Teale, "Bird of Freedom," Atlantic Monthly, 1957



March 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM Community Relations	3	4	5 Water/Field Service Meeting 1:00 PM	6
7	8	9 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM Bunco 6:30 PM	10 RV/RV Storage Meeting 9:00 AM	11 Land and Buildings Meeting 1:00PM	12	13
14	15	16 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM	17 	18	19	20 Board Meeting 9:00 AM
21	22	23 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM Community Relations Float Meeting 1:00 PM	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM	31			