

Foreman's Report August 10 thru September 6, 2013

Summer is winding down and the crew's past month has been basically all about the park improvements. The rec program is over and Elizabeth Lambus is done as the POA, but Robert is still here helping at the park, along with Leo.

Ethan and Steven are busy trying to control invasives, and have been contacted by many folks that wish to have buckthorn, barberry, honeysuckle, knotweed, etc. taken off their property. Speaking of invasives, I would like to urge the Town Board to take every control possible to keep the Emerald Ash Borer off the island, as we are in a better position to do so than most communities. How don't know how many people are aware of the amount of ash trees on the island, but losing them would create a big void in many forests.

Big Bay Town Park

We are making great strides, but it is a race against time to have the new campground to a state of completion wherein we can safely say it will be ready by next Memorial Day. This is important for the reservation system, and it will have to be decided who will take on updating our website to bring all the campsites available to the system. This is all going to be rather involved and take considerable organization and time working with our reservation system provider to have this done as soon as possible.

The whole road and all the campsites for the campground are roughed in, with the water line up to the new bathroom (known as bathroom #2), in which the slab is currently formed up and the plumbing roughed in. The electric line is run up to bathroom #2 as well, but we are waiting on Xcel Energy to run the power across the road to hook into our electric grid. Most of the electric lines to the campsites have been installed, which is the stage the crew is currently at. Once all the lines are in, we have to install a few culverts and then gravel the road and campsite drive-ins. After that it will be landscaping and campsite improvements, consisting of tent pads, fire rings, picnic tables, etc.

It has been trying at times with our contractors, as they too were not able to get to work until June due to the weather, and everybody is behind.

We also have a small start on the walk-in campsites, which need the bridge to be done in order to reach these campsites. We also have started on the trail that winds thru the new campground loop and continues to a crosswalk to the existing parking area and beach, and requires four boardwalks.

Respectfully Submitted,



Keith Sowl
Town Foreman
Town of La Pointe