

## Summer Town Board

special to the Reporter

An experimental dredging project along the north shore of Lake Koshkonong is set to begin in January.

# Dredging set for Lake Koshkonong

By Karyn Spomer  
In January, the Summer Town Board was told Monday night.

Brian Christianson, chairman of the Rock-Koshkonong Lake District, and Rob Montgomery, a hydrology consultant with Montgomery Associates Resource Solutions, of Cottage Grove, addressed the Town Board Monday night. Christianson said the project will involve dredging the shoreline in the vicinity of Lamp Road. The dredging will help improve navigability near the shoreline, making the water there a couple of feet deeper, Christianson said. The dredged material will be hauled to nearby Mud Lake, where it will be used to help build up the shoreline that has eroded there in recent decades.

Wetland restoration and rebuilding of carp gates on Mud Lake are also part of the project. The work should take about three weeks to complete, Montgomery said. It is being done in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the state Department of Natural Resources, and is being funded in part by a \$100,000 DNR grant.

Bids for the dredging and hauling work are expected to be sought in early January. Residents who live in the area should watch for a mailing with more information.

If the effort is successful, Christianson said the hope is to do similar

dredging projects in Koshkonong in the future. "This is the first step in a long, long vision of what we want to improve the habitat of Lake Koshkonong," Christianson said.

In other action, the Town Board denied a request to vacate Seventh Street off of High Ridge Road in the Alpeter's subdivision. Seventh Street is platted but has never been developed. The vote was 2-1. Town Board member Frank Micale voted to proceed with the vacation; Town Board members John Dohnor and Randall Burdick voted to maintain the platted street and town easement there.

Micale argued in support of granting the request of local residents to vacate the street. He said home lots in the area are substandard sized, and discontinuing the easement could allow adjacent lots to be expanded. He also said it would benefit the town by the land going on the tax roll. And he said lake users will not lose vital lake access, as there are other many nearby roads that lead to Lake Koshkonong. "One less access to Lake Koshkonong on High Ridge Road is not going to have an impact on anything," Micale said.

Dohnor and Burdick sided, however, with residents who said at a recent Plan Commission meeting that they would like the street and town easement be maintained. Among the reasons for maintaining the street and easement, Dohnor and Burdick said, was the need for a site to temporarily put debris in the event of a major emergency such as a tornado.