



Preserve Your Lake Property

# Lakeshore News

The Official Newspaper Of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association

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February 2017

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## New Time & Location For The Annual OTLPOA Meeting

The OTLPOA Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 24, 2017, 9am at the Zion Lutheran Church in Amor.

Years ago, the Annual Meeting was held at the Zion Lutheran Church and it was noted that over 200 members attended.

The OTLPOA Board would like to see a large number of members attend again so please mark your calendars and set this day aside.

More information will be provided in the May Lakeshore News issue.

## Membership Renewals

were mailed out this past January. If you did not receive a renewal form you are encouraged to let us know immediately. Renewal forms can be found on page 3 please fill out and mail to PO Box 21, Battle Lake, MN, 56515 or you can visit [www.OTLPOA.com](http://www.OTLPOA.com) and under the membership section pay online.

## Protecting Minnesota's Waters: If You Don't Get Involved, The Job Won't Get Done

We all need to be conscious of the threat of invasive species. As an individual, or a group, such as participants of a fishing tournament, we need to be considerate and get involved with protecting our waters. It doesn't take much to transport an invasive species and spread it to a new body of water but it also doesn't take much for us to help prevent it either.

Each of us in both our professional and personal lives have opportunities to protect water resources. A recent article appearing in the Star Tribune was titled "Lake associations, local governments boost spending against aquatic invaders". In this article Jeff Forester, executive director of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates said, "Lake associations, if taken collectively, are the hardest-working, most generous, most effective conservation group in the state."

Joining OTLPOA is just one way that you can help and become informed. Read through the report, named Impact of a

DNR Permitted Fishing Tournament On A Lake Containing Starry Stonewort in Minnesota on page 10. This article was researched and written by Kevin Farnum. On page 11 you will find the Tournament Efforts that could have been done to minimize the spread and risk. Also on page 11 is a letter that was sent to Fishing Tournament organizers.

If you are not sure what Starry Stonewort is go to page 3 for more info. Also listed on page 3 is the Minnesota lakes that it has been confirmed on.

To help protect Minnesota's waters we need everyone's help. **KNOW THE LAW:** You may not transport watercraft without removing the drain plug, arrive at a lake access with drain plug in place, transport aquatic plants, zebra mussels, or other prohibited species on any roadway, launch a watercraft with prohibited species attached, transport water from Minnesota lakes or rivers and release bait into the water. **CLEAN, DRAIN AND DISPOSE!**

## Thank You To Our Water Testers



Water Testers

Back Row: Ken Wentz - Blanche Lake, Pete Johnson - Round Lake,  
Rick Mudge - Blanche Lake, Marc Wing - Otter Tail Lake,  
Dan Carlisle - Otter Tail Lake

Front Row: Ray Long - Deer Lake, Chuck Duncan - Deer Lake,  
Kate Grandson - Otter Tail Lake, Stan Satre - Walker Lake

A big thank you to this group for testing our waters. To show OTLPOA's appreciation, all water testers and their spouses were invited to the September's meeting and enjoyed fried chicken, beef, vegetables, baked potatoes and rolls at Beach Bums.

Why is it important to monitor a lake? Lake monitoring helps to get an idea of the lake's general health. Recreational enjoyment, fishing quality and property values are all tied to water quality. After the lake's current condition is determined, it is important to monitor water quality each year to get an idea variability. If there's changes in water quality, then it can be investigated to find the cause and then respond to it.

Starting in May and ending in September, each of these volunteers goes out, the second Monday (or the Sunday preceding), to collect water samples to be submitted to RMB Environmental Laboratories for analysis. The samples are tested for total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a and water transparency (Secchi depth). The results are entered and stored electronically using a web-accessed database. It probably takes most samplers 2 hours to complete and deliver the samples to the person who transports the coolers to the lab.

Thanks again, Water Testers! OTLPOA appreciates everything you do!!!

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## President's Corner



*Ken Wentz,  
OTLPOA  
President*

It's that time again for membership dues. Your early and prompt response is appreciated. The OTLPOA is constantly striving to do its best for its members and to that end, we have a new tool available for you to pay your dues. This year you may pay online through our website. In fact, approximately one hundred of you have used this option thus far and almost 650 people have mailed in their 2017 membership. Last year our membership count was 1,084, which is 63% of the approximately 1,700 property owners on our associations' seven lakes. As president, my goal has been to have 1,200 or 70% of the property owners join OTLPOA. Even more would be a great representation of our lakes. We send this newsletter to approximately 1,700 property owners and would love to have all, whether new or continued members, join this year.

As many of you are aware, one of our primary goals is conserving our clean lakes for the future and in so doing, aquatic invasive species (AIS) has been a main priority. Late last summer a zebra mussel was found in Otter Tail Lake near a swimming area off Highway 78. Following state policy, Otter Tail Lake was designated as infested and signs were erected on all Otter Tail Lake accesses. Since that time many more zebra mussels have been located on Otter Tail Lake. Dock removers were very conscientious and thus reported the discovery of more zebra mussels. Your board is at work with all necessary parties and is developing a plan to best serve the Otter Tail Lake and our member lakes. Although our association does not

have the large amount of monies that could be needed, we do have a vessel in place for just that purpose, our tax deductible OTLPOA Foundation to which many of you have contributed in the past. At present, we have a base of close to \$50,000, but when dealing with unknown possible costs of zebra mussel treatment, we, the board, would like to thank each one of you who have made donations to the foundation. The increase in donations allows for a building of available funds that might be necessary for a major investment to combat AIS, not only in Otter Tail, but any other of our association-represented lakes.

This year, as opposed to the past couple of years, we have around ten inches of snow on the ground as of this writing. With this added moisture and the fact that we had increased rainfall this past autumn, the water levels promise to be up from the previous years this spring.

This past fall, increased lake home construction was taking place on Blanche and the south side of Otter Tail. I counted four tear-downs and three major remodels on Blanche, and three tear-downs and three major remodels on a small portion of Otter Tail. My wife and I continually observed progress on these structures on our walks/bike rides. In addition to this construction, Blanche's access was being redone and updated. It's always encouraging to see people updating their properties, showing continued pride people take in their lake property.

I am looking forward to the coming year and the many new happenings that will take place....should be the BEST year ever!

Again, we appreciate your prompt dues and increased Foundation support.

Thank you  
Ken Wentz  
OTLPOA President

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## How To Tie A Clinch Knot

- Run line through the eye and twist line around itself about five times
- Run the end of the line through the first twist, near the hook
- Run the end of the line through the large loop that you have just made.
- Slide the whole knot down toward the hook, gently tug on the end of the line, then trim the excess line.

*Source Minnesota DNR MinnAqua*

## Winter Can Be Hard On Septic Systems, Septic Systems Can Be Hard On Lakes. Maintaining One Helps The Other

*By Daniel Olson, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency*

There is still plenty of winter left and opportunities for Jack Frost to come nipping at your septic system. A good covering of snow usually provides enough insulation to prevent freezing but it can and does still happen even during winters such as this when there has been substantial snowfall. A new system installed just before winter can experience freezing problems if not covered with leaves, grass clippings or some other type of cover.

A common cause of freeze-ups are pipes not installed with the proper slant or that have settled, resulting in dips in the line. Where a dip or flat spot occurs,

sewage can collect and freeze. Especially problem-prone is the connection at the septic tank where dips can result when soil backfilled during tank installation settles.

It's pretty obvious when a freeze-up occurs, water and sewage that should be going to the septic system back up into the home. If the blockage is in the pipe between the house and septic tank, it may be possible to thaw the pipe. If the problem is a frozen drainfield that is not able to accept waste, the only recourse is to wait until the drainfield thaws in the spring and use a pumping service in the meantime to pump your septic tank as it fills up. In this situation, reduce water use by limiting the number of toilet flushes, taking short showers, and using the dishwasher at full capacity.

If you experience a freeze, contact a licensed septic professional who can evaluate the problem and potential solutions. You can find a licensed professional near you by going online to a directory created by the MPCA. Google the "MPCA licensed septic professional."

### Frozen septic system no-nos

- DO NOT introduce antifreeze, salt or a septic system additive into the system.
- DO NOT pump sewage on to the ground surface.
- DO NOT start a fire over the system to attempt to thaw it out.

### Prevent a freezeup in the first place

Insulation is key to preventing freezeups.



Allowing grass to grow an extra six inches or so in the fall over all parts of the system (septic tank, connecting pipes and drainfield/mound) can provide much needed protection. Maintaining wildflowers or native grasses over your tank and system are also good ideas. NOTE: if your system freezes, do NOT add insulation as this will take longer for the system to thaw.

Fix all leaks and keep the system "energized" in winter with regular doses of warm water. The warmer the better. Schedule laundry so you run one warm/hot load a day. Use the dishwasher and take hot baths. DO NOT leave water running all the time as this will hydraulically overload the septic system.

Keep ALL vehicle, animal and human traffic off the system year-round as compacted soil allows frost to go down deeper and faster. Compacted snow provides less insulation. Make certain the caps/covers on all risers, inspection pipes and tanks are in place and in good shape. Missing or cracked covers are often the cause of freezeups.

### Lake transparency report mentions septic systems, including some in Otter Tail County

Properly functioning septic systems are important to protecting human health and the environment. Last summer, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency released a report on transparency trends in Minnesota lakes, including 26 lakes in Otter Tail County with significant trends. All except three were experiencing positive trends (they are getting clearer).

A commenter on the report from the MN DNR noted, among other things, "Many counties, including Otter Tail, had a systematic review and on-site inspection program (for septic systems) that involved notifying property owners of non-conforming or illegal systems and requiring that they be brought into compliance whenever a permit or variance is granted for a property. Many systems were upgraded as a result of this effort."

**113 N. Mill St., Fergus Falls, MN**  
**Call 218-736-4263**

*Go to [LakesFamilyRes.com](http://LakesFamilyRes.com) & search the MLS yourself.*

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## Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc. Board Of Directors Approved Meeting Minutes August 25, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** - Present board members: Bope, Carlisle, Steeves, Kemling, Simdorm, Wing, P. Johnson, Fetters, J. Johnson, Buntje, Snyder and Wentz

**SPEAKER** - DNR will be speaking about slot limits: The land on the south side of Otter Tail Lake was not sold to US Fish and Wildlife. The growth rate maybe increasing due to the longer season and water temperatures being warmer. Which is causing earlier ice out. Based on the data that was provided the DNR is planning any changes to the slot limits.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**  
Carlisle motions to approve, second by Steeves.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
Steeves motions to approve, second by Simdorm.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**  
Financials were given out to the board members from the Treasurer. There was full discussion on the current financial reports and were tabled until October and to allow Steeves and Anderson to review the QuickBooks with Young.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**  
• Lakeshore News \$1,108.04  
• Secretary \$400

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**  
If anyone has directories please get them to Ken W. who will get out and deliver any missing.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**  
Need to assign committees  
• Membership Committee – Ken, Linda, Rita, Jan:

• Auditing/Finance/Budget Committee – Bernie, Dan, Scott, Rob, Pat  
• DNR & Government – Dan, Becky, Bernie

• Water Testing/COLA – Dan, Marc, Ken – Water Clarity Otter Tail 9'6", Blanche 8', Round 8'6"

• Communications Committee –  
i. Lakeshore News – Bernie, Ken: Next Lakeshore News will be mid-February 2017

ii. Website – Bope –  
iii. Lost and found – Becky  
iv. Comment section

• Worm Committee – Bernie, Stan, Jan, Marc, Ken  
• Ottertail Wastewater/Sewer District Committee –

• Foundation – Bernie, Dan

**OLD BUSINESS:**  
**NEW BUSINESS:**

• Otter Tail Lake Zebra Mussel discussion:

**OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

• The September 22nd, 2016 location unknown for water testers dinner

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:44pm

## What is Starry Stonewort?

It's a large, rooted submerged alga which resembles native plantlike algae species and vascular plants. It produces small bulbs ("bulbils" or "stars") and is native to Europe and Asia.

### Why Is It Harmful?

Starry stonewort can form mats as thick as 7 feet. Mats can interfere with boating, swimming, and other activities on lakes. Dense starry stonewort may also alter environmental conditions and affect fish and wildlife.

### Where Does It Like To Grow?

In lakes and slow-moving areas of rivers. It thrives in shallow and deep waters with soft substrates and tolerates a wide range of temperatures, light, pH, and conductivity.

### When Was It First Found?

In 1978 it was found in the St. Lawrence River and has spread inland in the lakes of

Michigan, northern Indiana, Wisconsin, and northeastern U.S. In 2015 the first finding in Minnesota was in Lake Koronis in Stearns County.

### How Is It Spread?

Small bulbs and plant fragments spread by water currents and by clinging to watercraft, docks, boat lifts, and anchors. Bulbils remain viable in lake sediments for years. Only male specimens have been documented in the U.S., so it does not spread by sexual reproduction.

### How Can People Help?

- Clean all aquatic plants, animals, and mud from watercraft, trailer, motor, dock, lift, and anchor.
- Drain water from water-related equipment including drain plugs.
- Report sightings to the DNR or Minnesota Sea Grant.

## Confirmed Lakes in Minnesota

Starry Stonewort has been confirmed on these lakes in Minnesota. The complete list of all AIS's can be found at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/infested.html>. This list was posted on December 27, 2016.

Water Body Name	County	Year Listed As Infested	Year Species Was First Confirmed*	DOW Number
Cass	Beltrami	2016	2016	04-0030
Koronis (includes Mud)	Stearns	2015	2015	73-0200
Moose	Beltrami	2016	2016	04-0011
Rice	Stearns	2016	2016	73-0196
Turtle (Big Turtle)	Beltrami	2016	2016	04-0159
Upper Red	Beltrami	2016	2016	04-0035-01
West Sylvia	Wright	2016	2016	86-0279
Winnibigoshish	Cass and Itasca	2016	2016	11-0147

\*Or Connected Water Body

## Otter Tail County COLA

Otter Tail County COLA was organized so that member lakes and river associations could come together to foster wise use of lake and river areas. By joining together, they help keep their lakes and rivers clean and free of pollutants and also help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS).

The goals for COLA are:  
C – Clean lakes, rivers and streams, and prevent spread of aquatic invasive species.

O – Ordinances that help protect and correct the water quality in our lakes, rivers and streams.

L – Lakes with excellent water quality to provide a strong economic base for the county and state as well as quality enjoyment for the many lake users.

A – Associations that educate and inform their members, their elected officials, and the general public regarding the necessity of environmental concerns and policies that protect our lakes, rivers, and streams.

The 2017 meeting dates are scheduled for 7pm on April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17 and September 21. These dates correspond with the third Thursday of each month and are held at the Ottertail Community Center.

Please note that at the April meeting, a representative from each Lake Association may pick up their water sample containers and coolers from the RMB trailer at 5pm. Persons picking up water sampling materials will be welcome to stay and attend the Member Meeting.

For more info go to their website at [ottertailcountycola.org](http://ottertailcountycola.org).

## Did You Know?

Starting May 1, 2017 motorboats with enclosed spaces that a person can enter will require a functioning marine carbon monoxide (CO) detector system and/or display three CO poisoning warning stickers.

Motorboats must have a functioning marine CO detector if they have an enclosed accommodation compartment. This is defined as a motorboat with all three of the following:

- Designated sleeping accommodations
- A galley area with a sink
- A head (toilet) compartment

This law is named Sophia's Law. It is named for Sophia Baechler, a 7 year old, who died from carbon monoxide poisoning while boating on Lake Minnetonka.

Carbon monoxide is a toxic gas, but, being colorless, odorless, tasteless, and initially non-irritating, it is very difficult for people to detect. Some symptoms can include shortness of breath, rapid breathing, no breathing, chest pain, confusion, convulsions, dizziness, drowsiness, fainting, headache, impaired judgment, low blood pressure, muscle weakness, shock, nausea, vomiting and unconsciousness,

If your boat does not meet the definition listed above but your motorboat has a three-sided enclosure or you operate with a canvas enclosure, please install a CO detector and warning stickers for the safety of your passengers and yourself. If your boat is diesel powered it is also in best practice to display the CO warning stickers.

For more info go to <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/boatwater/sophias-law.html>.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association Inc.

### 2017 Membership

Annual Dues (Jan.-Dec.) \$ 35.00

• Membership \$25.00

• Foundation \$10.00

**TOTAL \$35.00**

• Includes \$10 donation to OTLPOA Foundation \$ 35.00

Additional support for the Foundation (tax deductible)

\$10.00      \$20.00      \$50      Other      \$           

The OTLPOA Foundation was established to obtain financial resources to maintain water quality for recreation, fishing, and enjoyment when Government resources are not provided.

(Total enclosed) \$           

Make check payable to: OTLPOA and mail to: PO Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515

Or visit [www.OTLPOA.com](http://www.OTLPOA.com) to pay by credit card under the membership section.

(Please return this form to ensure accurate information)

### MEMBER INFORMATION

Lake property address: \_\_\_\_\_

(this the blue house number and street for your lake home)

Summer "mailing" address (5/15 – 8/30): \_\_\_\_\_

(this will be used for the summer Lakeshore News)

(must be valid US Postal deliverable address)

Winter mailing address (9/1-5/15): \_\_\_\_\_

Winter edition of Lakeshore News will be mailed here

Email: (please print legibly) \_\_\_\_\_

### How can the association better serve you?

- What lake related topic or issue is most important to you? How do you think our Association can help?
- Suggestions for Lakeshore Newsletter
- Email [secretary@otlpoa.com](mailto:secretary@otlpoa.com) with any questions or concerns



## 2017 Calendar of Events

March 23	OTLPOA Board Meeting	July 22	Art in the Park, Pelican Rapids
April 20	COLA Member Meeting	July 22 & 23	BL Wenonga Days
April 22	Walk for Glendalough	July 27	OTLPOA Board Meeting
April 27	OTLPOA Board Meeting	July 28	Pebble Lake Youth Triathlon
May 6	Workshop on Lakes, Lakeshore Issue and Plants, Ottetail	July 29	Hoot Lake Triathlon
May 13	Dent City-Wide Garage Sales	Aug. 4-5	Perham Crazy Days
May 13	Fishing Opener	Aug. 4-6	Flekkefest, Elbow Lake
May 18	COLA Member Meeting	Aug. 10-13	Looney Daze, Vergas
May 20	Archery in the Park, GSP	Aug. 11	Rod & Gun Demo Derby
May 25	OTLPOA Board Meeting	Aug. 12	Otterfest
May 27	Bass Fishing Opener	Aug. 12	Otterfest Lions Breakfast
June 3	Lake Region Run, FF	Aug. 12	BL Art & Craft Affair
June 9-10	Summerfest	Aug. 17	COLA Member Meeting
June 10	Running Wild Trail Run, MSP	Aug. 18	World Famous Turkey BBQ Henning
June 10	Ronald McDonald House Ride, NYM	Aug. 19	Watermelon Day, Vining
June 10	NYM Great American Think Off	Aug. 24	OTLPOA Board Meeting
June 14-17	Perham Turtle Fest	Aug. 25-26	Barnesville Potato Days
June 15	COLA Member Meeting	Aug. 26-27	Finn Creek Festival, NYM
June 16	Relay for Life West Otter Tail County	Aug. 30	Perham Harvest Fest
June 17	The Viking Challenge & Crusade	Sept. 1-4	Western MN Steam Threshermans Reunion, Rollag
June 17	Henning Citywide Garage Sale	Sept. 8	Ottertail Lions Polka Daze
June 22	OTLPOA Board Meeting	Sept. 8-10	Lake Region Pioneer Thresherman's Association, Dalton
June 24	OTLPOA Annual Meeting	Sept. 13	2017 MN Aquatic Invasive Species Research & Manage Showcase
July 7	Summer Celebration, NYM	Sept. 21	COLA Member Meeting
July 7	Fish House Festival, NYM	Sept. 21	OTLPOA Board Meeting
July 7	Lund Mania Fishing Tournament, OTL	Sept. 23	Central Lakes Cycle Duathlon
July 8-9	Phelps Mill Festival, Maine	Oct. 26	OTLPOA Board Meeting
July 12	Shop, Move & Groove, FF	Nov. 11	Turkey Trot, FF
July 14	Perham Relay for Life		
July 14-16	Henning Area Festival		
July 19-22	West Otter Tail County Fair, FF		
July 20	COLA Member Meeting		
July 19-23	MS Tram		
July 20-23	East Otter Tail County Fair, Perham		

BL - Battle Lake, FF - Fergus Falls, GSP - Glendalough State Park, MSP - Maplewood State Park, NYM - New York Mills, OTL - Otter Tail Lake

## Open The Cabin For Summer

Before we know it, it will be time to open up the cabin this spring. Unfortunately winter and wear and tear takes a toll on the cabin and yard.

Check the windows, ceiling, siding, shingles and deck for any signs of wear and tear. Are there any tree or tree branches down?

Check the water supply. Reconnect the pipes, prime and then start your pump. Make sure you fill the hot water tank before turning it on.

Unfortunately we had a very tough fall in 2016 with mice. Even if you have never had mice check to make sure there's no droppings in the cupboards, drawers and cabinets. If so clean and

disinfect and set up some traps to remove them.

Check the dock. Is it missing any hardware items? Is it sturdy? Does it need to be fixed or replaced? How about the boat and pontoon - is everything running the way it should be?

Also before going to the cabin give both the electricity and insurance companies a call. And call to have the septic tank pumped before the new season.

With a little preparation you can be ready for your summer filled with fun, sun and relaxation.

## Radon Levels

While the number of homes in Minnesota tested for radon has increased more than threefold since 2010, only about one percent of properties in the state were tested in the most recent five-year period, a recent analysis by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) revealed.

The same analysis of test data from 2010-2014 found that 2 in 5 homes – about 40 percent – have dangerous levels of radon (4pCi/L or above) and that the average level of radon in Minnesota homes is about 4.6 pCi/L, more than three times the national average.

"The increase in home testing is a positive trend, but it's clear from the data that people are being exposed to high levels of radon who don't know it," said Dan Tranter, supervisor of the Indoor Air Program for MDH.

Radon, an odorless, colorless gas, poses a significant health risk and is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. MDH recommends that homeowners conduct an inexpensive, do-it-yourself test of their home for radon.

In Minnesota, winter is the best time to test homes for radon. Radon occurs naturally in Minnesota soils. It can enter homes through cracks or openings in walls or foundations. The only way for a resident to know if their home has high levels of radon is to test. Radon is a problem everywhere in Minnesota, and everyone in every county should test their home. Renters should ask their landlords to test their homes or provide previous test results. If renters test their homes, they should discuss the results with their landlords.

More than 21,000 lung cancer deaths each year in the U.S. are linked to radon. Fortunately, the risk is largely preventable, by testing homes and fixing radon problems.

Testing is easy, inexpensive and only takes 3-7 days. The best time to test is during the heating seasons, but testing can be done year-round. Test kits are available at city and county health departments, many hardware stores, or directly from radon testing laboratories. A list of participating health agencies and test kit vendors can be found on the MDH website at Local Radon Contacts.

Tests should be done in the lowest level of the home that is frequently occupied. If your home's test results show it is at or above 4 pCi/L, you should consider verification testing

and having a radon reduction ('mitigation') system installed. Anyone interested in reducing the radon in his or her home should consult MDH's list of certified radon mitigation contractors at Radon Contractors/Mitigation Service Providers.

MDH analyzed five years of test data, from 2010-2014, representing more than 86,000 properties (these were tests conducted by property owners themselves and do not include most of the tests conducted by home inspectors or other professionals). The number of properties tested rose from 7,073 in 2010 to 24,716 in 2014, the most recent year analyzed. The analysis found that 2 in 5 homes have dangerous levels (4 pCi/L or above). In addition, the analysis found that the average radon level in Minnesota homes is about 4.6 pCi/L compared to 1.3 pCi/L nationwide. For levels of 4 pCi/L or higher, MDH recommends taking action, including installing a radon mitigation system.

"This increase in home radon testing may be due to a new disclosure and notification law in home sales, radon awareness campaigns, local outreach partnerships and an improving economy," Tranter said. "But we have more work to do to get more homes tested."

To help residents get a more accurate picture of radon levels in their counties, MDH launched an interactive map tool in July 2016. The maps and charts can be found on the Minnesota Public Health Data Access portal.

For more information on radon testing and mitigation, visit [www.health.state.mn.us/radon](http://www.health.state.mn.us/radon) or call the Minnesota Department of Health Indoor Air Unit at 651-201-4601 or 1-800-798-9050. To see how radon has affected the lives of cancer patients and their families visit CanSAR.

### Did You Know?

**Radon is the #1 cause of lung cancer for nonsmokers and the #2 cause of lung cancer worldwide for people**



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This photo was taken at the annual Pelvit Family get together at Grandma Carol's lake home on Otter Tail Lake. The grandchildren have a blast building sand castles, painting rocks, horseback riding, 4-wheeling, yard games, pontoon rides, water recreation, talent shows and skits...the best memories are made at Otter Tail Lake. Photo submitted by Carol Pelvit and Christi Tullbane



Dreaming of summer - photo submitted by Ken Wentz

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• **Landauer Radon, Inc. a manufacturer of long term radon gas test kits. Minnesota residents receive a discount. Order online at Landauer ([www.landauerradon.com/mn](http://www.landauerradon.com/mn))**

• **Otter Tail County Public Health, 560 Fir Ave W., Fergus Falls, MN 56537, 218-998-8320**





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# Post-Election, Local Action In Rural And Urban Areas Will Protect Water

Written by Jeff Forester, executive director of the Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates.

Much has been written about the divided electorate, the us vs. them story. But in Minnesota, there is one area where the electorate is unified.

On the Saturday after the election I spoke at a lake association in southwestern Minnesota, in a Lutheran church beside a lake. The coffee was weak, the lemon bars delicious.

President-elect Trump had won the surrounding county by 30 percentage points. As the meeting advanced, some issues began to emerge: Agricultural runoff and drain tiling practices were harming both water quality and fishing. Aquatic invasive species like zebra mussels and starry stonewort were a huge worry. Grants to help fund treatments to manage Eurasian watermilfoil and curly leaf pond weed had been cut; association members had paid for partial treatments themselves.

Those members complained that while they were constantly reminded they did not own the water, they did seem to own the problems. They were angry that they lacked the authority to make changes.

Later that same week I met with environmental groups in the Twin Cities, an area that Hillary Clinton won by 35 percentage points. At a fine restaurant in downtown Minneapolis, the coffee was bitter and the wild mushroom flatbread delicious. As the meeting advanced some issues began to emerge: Agricultural runoff and drain tiling practices were harming water quality, aquatic invasive species like zebra mussels and starry stonewort were a huge worry. Funding had been cut. Citizens lacked authority to make changes.

At the rural lake association meeting one of the members, in a U.S.-flag cap, had railed at me, saying we needed to “get the government to do their job,” to provide the services required to keep the lake clean and healthy. He wanted more funding, more regulation and more enforcement.

The environmentalist in the cities cried that to protect water we needed more funding, tighter regulations, better enforcement.

In short, the rural lake association members and the urban environmental leaders had the same view. Budgets and spending are perennial legislative hot topics, and the overall trend now leans toward less spending, lower taxes, fewer regulations and looser enforcement.

We have the data, and everyone knows from personal experience that water quality and fishing have begun to decline. No white paper, outreach, education, marketing plan or protest is going to change anything. In the late 1970s, '80s and even '90s we saw the most egregious pollution end. Our rivers no longer catch fire. But the top-down efforts by large agencies seems to have stalled, and now the trends are reversing. Industrial pollution is still an issue, but the real threat is different now: non-point source pollution, the results of millions of small decisions made by millions of people that over time destroy our water.

With the rise of large agencies to protect the public interest came a new paradigm — government should be run like a business. Citizens are consumers and we buy services from government, or even private providers, with taxes. Many government services became privatized, including our prisons,

much of our military, and our schools.

The downside of this is that if citizens view themselves only as consumers, then they give up their jurisdiction to govern, to work with each other to advance the common good.

We need a new paradigm in resource management, and this is where Minnesotans may be able to have an effect. Minnesota's story is a “Chronology of Water,” of Voyageurs, Ojibwe and Dakota paddling quiet lakes, of loggers driving booms down rapids to the mill, of grandfathers rowing canvass covered dinghies trolling for walleye, of learning to waterski, canoe and kayak, of the call of the loon.

Every Minnesotan has a memory of time on the water with family and friends. A cup of coffee early morning on the dock, or star gazing with the Milky Way reflected in the water below, or watching the roaring waters of Minnehaha Falls in spring, crossing the Stone Arch bridge at night or fireworks from Harriet Island in St. Paul.

In Minnesota water is bipartisan, central to the state's identity and economy. Minnesota has more than 183,326 miles of shoreline, more than Florida, California and Hawaii combined. Our \$12 billion annual tourism economy depends mostly on pristine lakes and rivers. There are more than 500 lake associations in Minnesota. The average length of ownership for a family cabin is 34 years.

Much has been written about the divisions among the electorate. But when it comes to water, rural and urban Minnesotans are singing from the same hymnal — they not only want to arrest the degradation of waters

in our state, but to reverse the trend and leave our waters “better than we found them.”

There is only so much government can do. We Minnesotans will have to do it ourselves. So contact a lake association near a body of water you love. Become part of the process. Work to elect local government officials, local boards of appeal, zoning boards and county commissioners who not only value water, but understand that success will come by including the public in the decision making process.

It will have an impact. It may be the only thing that will.

*Local folks and lake associations are the solution to Minnesota's many water issues. State and Federal agencies can only do so much and it is up to all of us to protect our heritage for the kids, grandkids and great grandkids. MLR is implementing a statewide program to make it happen.*  
- Jeff Forester

## Did You Know?

It is important to remove spiny waterfleas from all equipment because their eggs can live out of water for more than 12 hours under typical summer conditions. To make sure these eggs are dead, thoroughly dry all equipment for 24 hours before reuse.

Source: [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)



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## News from the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center

Submitted by Christine Lee, Executive Office and Communications Specialist, Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center

In 2016, our friends at the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) were very busy – with a lot to show for it! For starters, they opened their newly renovated state-of-the-art containment lab and welcomed a new co-director, Nick Phelps, in July. Dr. Phelps grew up near our neck of the woods in Brainerd, and attended college at Bemidji State University.

Most importantly, MAISRC had numerous research accomplishments last year, and we're excited to feature some highlights here for you.

### Invasive invertebrates

- Completed sequencing of a draft genome of the zebra mussel, which they will use to explore possible genetic weaknesses that can be targeted for control

- Developed an early detection tool that simultaneously detects the presence of zebra mussels, quagga mussels, and their microscopic larvae with just one lake water sample. **(See page 15 for more information on this.)**

Launched a new project to determine the long-term impacts of spiny waterflea using lake sediment data

- Evaluated treatment options to develop a set of rapid response protocols for treating localized zebra mussel infestations

### Invasive plants

- Created a statewide risk map showing areas susceptible to starry stonewort infestation and began efforts to bring it to a lake-level resolution

- Determined that improving lake water clarity can help native plants re-establish after treatment of Eurasian watermilfoil — and hopefully reduce the need for further chemical treatments

- Launched a new project to investigate the ecology and invasiveness of hybrid watermilfoil, a growing threat in Minnesota

- Kicked off a new suite of research on starry stonewort, curly-leaf pondweed, and Eurasian watermilfoil which includes risk assessment, herbicide screening, and evaluation of prevention techniques

### Invasive fish

- Made final recommendations to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for modifying gate operations to reduce passage of Bigheaded carps through Lock & Dam 8, and began work to do the same at Lock & Dams 2 and 5

- Established that invasive common carp are more damaging to biodiversity than human development – highlighting the need for, and benefits of, increased control

- Conducted a collaborative risk assessment for Asian carp in Minnesota waters in order to determine high-risk watersheds, potential impacts from infestation, and prioritize management recommendations

- Developed a species-specific delivery system for a toxin to control common carp

### Pathogens & harmful microbes

- Identified two novel viruses in carp which could be harnessed for use as a biocontrol

- Sampled for Heterosporis, a disease that threatens many native fish species, in Cass Lake and conducted research to determine how fish become infected, how the parasite spreads, and how water temperature impacts the parasite

### With more to come in 2017

Last year, MAISRC also certified the first class of Aquatic Invasive Species Detectors through their new program with University of Minnesota Extension. This program will train citizen scientists to identify and report aquatic invasive species, and is perfect for members of lakeshore associations like you. Registration opened on February 1.

Plus, save the date for the 2017 Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research and Management Showcase: Wednesday, September 13. The event will be held on the St. Paul campus and features talks, demonstrations, and hands-on activities led by MAISRC researchers.

To learn more about any of MAISRC's research and outreach activities, visit their website at [www.maisrc.umn.edu](http://www.maisrc.umn.edu).



# Zebra Mussels Are Here / Can We Stop Starry Stonewort

By Bernie Steeves, [bsteeves@arvig.net](mailto:bsteeves@arvig.net)

There has been several findings of Zebra Mussel in Otter Tail Lake. We may have a more serious problem if Starry Stonewort gets into our lakes and rivers, as we will have limited use of our waters.

My name is Bernie Steeves and I am a board member of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc., board

member of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association Foundation, Inc., Aquatic Invasive Species Chair for Otter Tail County Coalition of Lakes Associations and Chairman for Otter Tail County Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force. All of these individual groups work for the same common cause: that is to promote education and protect our bodies

of water. We work closely with the MN DNR on a number of major issues that arise throughout each year. Each year the State of Minnesota designates \$500,000 towards OTC AIS task force. We have been recently installing an additional 10 I-Lids around the counties highest traffic lakes to monitor for any AIS.

Last fall when the call came into my office about this finding on Otter Tail Lake, my next steps were to follow our protocols which is: validate the claim, notify OTC Land and Resources, DNR and AIS Task Force. At that point the DNR officials, over the course of three days, analyzed 3,000 objects on Otter Tail Lake. Otter Tail Lake was placed on the Invasive Species list of invested lakes. Now is the time, more than ever, to educate all people who use our lakes, not just our members or the people who live around our lakes about AIS.

Zebra Mussels are not the end of the world. There are four other Invasive species to watch for: Eurasian Watermilfoil, Spiny Water Flea, Flowering Rush and Starry Stonewort. If by chance you may find something, you must notify the DNR immediately at 218-739-7576 ext. 254.

Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc., launched a new website in 2016 for your resource guide to all information related to our lakes and programs, please be sure to check our website for the latest news and press releases related to our lakes. Also, sign up at [www.otlpoa.com](http://www.otlpoa.com) for our email campaigns for the fastest information released right to your phone or computer.

We need your individual and financial support. Thank you Bernie Steeves

*Every person who uses Minnesota's lakes and rivers for outdoor recreation has a responsibility to help prevent and curb the spread of AIS...because it is preventable. Make a pledge to do your part.*

Source MN DNR



## Starry stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa*)

### Characteristics:

- Macro-alga
- Bright green branchlets can be highly variable in length and are arranged in whorls around stem
- Star-shaped bulbils attached to clear root-like filaments (pictured with penny)



Top photo credit: Paul Skawinski, UW-Extension Lakes



**To report invasive species:** Wrap plant in wet paper towel, place in sealed plastic bag, chill or refrigerate, and contact the Minnesota DNR at [www.mndnr.gov/ais](http://www.mndnr.gov/ais) or 651-259-5100.



## Native Species

Beneficial to the environment

## Three Common Macro-Algae

### Characteristics (compared to invasive starry stonewort):

- Smaller in diameter, due to shorter branchlets
- No bulbils
- Share similar habitats, often found together

### Prevent the spread of invasives:

- ✓ **Clean** aquatic plants and invasive species from watercraft.
- ✓ **Drain** lake/river water from all equipment. Keep drain plugs out during transport.
- ✓ **Dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash.

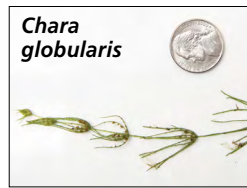


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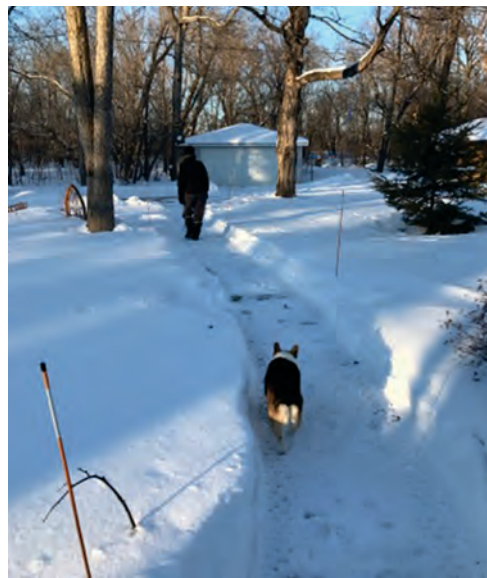
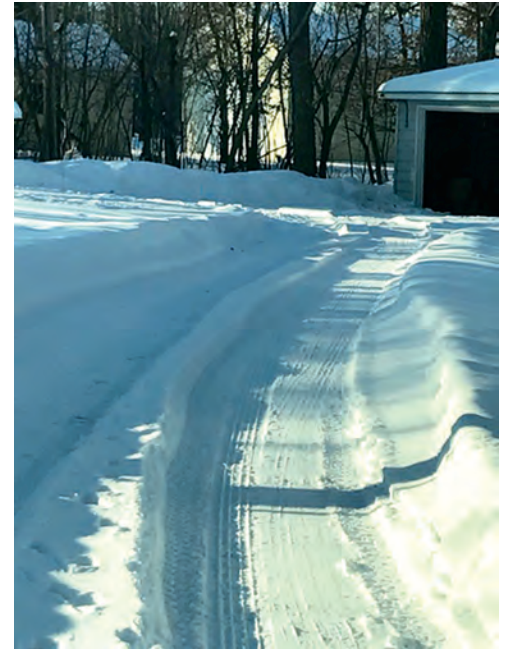
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**What do you see on the lakes at this time of year?**

*Fish houses - a little home away from home. From a lone house to little villages the lakes are full of them.*

*Look inside and what do you find?*

*Dads, grandpas, moms, grandmas, kids, family and friends - everyone!*

*If you haven't had a chance to go ice fishing this season take the time to go.*

*But remember to be safe and check the ice before going out.*

*Note: fish houses must be removed from lakes by midnight on March 7 and they can not be left at the public access site after removal. Please clean up before leaving your spot, otherwise anything left on the lake will go into the lake when the ice melts.*

*All we did was plow and shovel snow as we had quite a bit of snow by the 2nd week of January. According to Ken Wentz from Blanche Lake, "there was about 10 inches on the ground and ice was 20" thick in many areas. Many snowmobilers were out especially the weekend of January 16. But now after the thaw of late January snow has really disappeared.*

*Photos submitted by Ken Wentz*

**Did You Know?**  
Angling licenses expire the last day of February

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*Dan Carlisle*

**How Easy Is It To Spread An Invasive Species**

How easy is it to spread an invasive specie? At Big Sandy Lake in Aitkin County, a boat with visible adult zebra mussels attached to the hull was stopped by a watercraft inspector before launching. This particular boat had been moved from the Mississippi River just one day before. If the watercraft inspector had not been present, live zebra mussels would likely have been introduced into an uninfested lake.

**Remember to CLEAN, DRAIN AND DISPOSE!**

If you suspect a new infestation of an invasive plant or animal, take a photo and note the location, or save a specimen and report it to a local DNR invasive species contact. Our local Fergus Falls contact is Mark Ranweiler, 218-739-7576 ext. 254.

**What Are Spiney Waterfleas?**

They are small animals (zooplankton) that have long barbed tails. They are native to Europe and Asia.

**How Did They Get Here?**

They were introduced into the Great Lakes by ballast water discharged from oceangoing ships. They were first discovered in Lake Ontario in 1982 and were detected in Lake Superior in 1987.

**Why Is It Harmful?**

Spiny waterfleas eat native zooplankton including Daphnia, which are an important food for native fishes. In some lakes, they caused the decline or elimination of some species of native zooplankton. They can be a nuisance, clogging eyelets of fishing rods, fishing line, and related gear.

**Where to look**

They collect in gelatinous blobs on fishing lines and downrigger cables. They typically prefer cold, clear, deep lakes, but also can live in shallow, heavily stained waterbodies.

Spiny waterfleas are a regulated invasive species in Minnesota (DNR). Introduction into another waterbody is prohibited.

**Means of spread**

They can stick to fishing lines, downriggers, anchor ropes, and fishing nets. Female waterfleas carry eggs that resist drying and freezing, and heat. They also may be transported in bilge water, bait buckets, and livewells.

Further information: [www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticanimals/spinywaterflea](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticanimals/spinywaterflea)



## Infested Waters With Zebra Mussels In Otter Tail, Douglas and Becker Counties

According to the Minnesota DNR about 5% of Minnesota's more than 11,000 lakes are on the infested waters list and less than 2% of Minnesota lakes are listed as infested with zebra mussels.

Listed below are the bodies of water in Otter Tail, Douglas and Becker Counties that were newly confirmed with Zebra Mussels in 2016 as well as a list of lakes that were designated before 2016. The list was posted on December 27, 2016. The complete list can be found at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/infested.html>

### Otter Tail County

Water body name	Year Listed As Infested	Year Species Was Confirmed	DOW Number
Adley	2016	2016	56-0031
East Spirit	2016	2016	56-0501
Franklin	2016	2016	56-0759
Otter Tail	2016	2016	56-0242
Sybil	2016	2016	56-0387
West Battle	2016	2016	56-0239

**Lakes that were designated before 2016 in Otter Tail County include:** Bass 56-0770; Crystal 56-0749; Dayton Hollow Reservoir 56-0824; Fish 56-0768; Kerbs 56-1636; Lida (North and South) 56-0747; Little McDonald 56-032; Little Pelican 56-0761; Lizzie 56-0760; Mill Pond 56-0920; Orwell Reservoir 56-0945; Otter Tail River from 500 feet upstream of the confluence of the Pelican River downstream to the Bois De Sioux River, including 500 feet upstream into its tributaries; Paul 56-0335; Pelican 56-0786; Pelican River, from Bucks Mill Drive downstream to the Otter Tail River including 500' upstream into its tributaries; Prairie 56-0915; Rose 56-0360; Rusch 56-1641; Unnamed pond north of East Spirit and south of County Road 4; Unnamed wetland connected to Paul Lake 56-1640; Venstrom 56-0719

### Douglas County

Water body name	Year Listed As Infested	Year Species Was Confirmed	DOW Number
Andrew	2016	2016	21-0085
Lobster	2014	2016	21-0144
Jessie	2009	2016	21-0055
Pocket	2016	2016	21-0140

**Lakes that were designated before 2016 in Douglas County include:** Alvin 21-0093; Brophy 21-0102; Carlos 21-0057; Charley 21-0120; Cowdry (Cowdrey) 21-0103; Darling 21-0080; Geneva 21-0052; Grill 21-0204; Ida 21-0123; Irene 21-0076; Latoka 21-0106; Le Homme Dieu 21-0056; Long Lake 21-0089; Lottie (Taylor) 21-0105; Louise 21-0094; Maple 21-0079; Mary 21-0092; Mill 21-0180; Miltona 21-0083; Mina 21-0108; North Union 21-0095; Skoglund Slough 21-0084; Stoney (Stony) 21-0101; Turtle 21-0090; Unnamed 21-0479; Unnamed 21-0440; Unnamed river from the outlet of Irene to Miltona; Unnamed river from the outlet of Lake Miltona to Ida; Victoria 21-0054

### Becker County

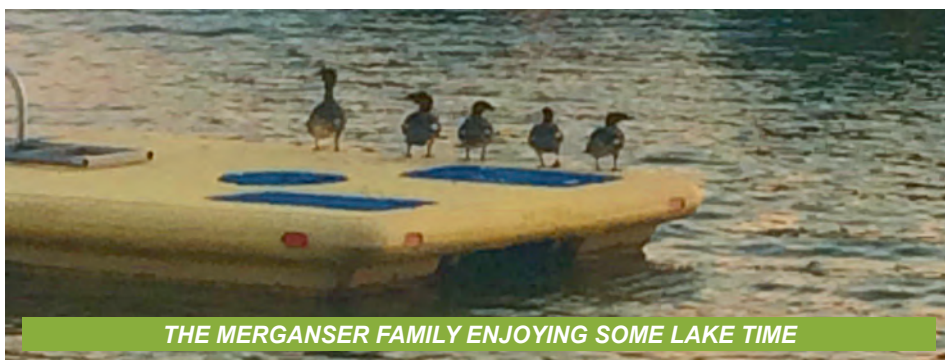
Water body name	Year Listed As Infested	Year Species Was Confirmed	DOW Number
Detroit	2016	2016	03-0381
Maud	2016	2016	03-0500
Sallie	2016	2016	03-0359

**Lakes that were designed before 2016 in Becker County include:** Big Cormorant 03-0576; Buck 03-0473; Bucks Mill Pond (Minnow Pond) 03-1249; Eunice 03-0503; Ida 03-0582; Melissa 03-0475; Mill Pond 03-0377; Pickerel 03-0287



Photos submitted by Ken Wentz

Last fall....Removing boat and getting it ready to store for the winter



THE MERGANSER FAMILY ENJOYING SOME LAKE TIME

Photos submitted by Ken Wentz

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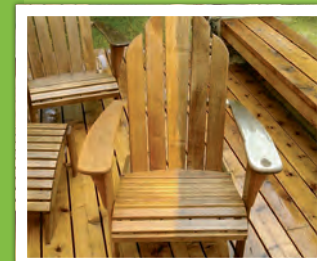
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# Impact Of A DNR Permitted Fishing Tournament On A Lake Containing Starry Stonewort in Minnesota

Submitted by Jeff Forester, written by Kevin Farnum on Lake Koronis

**Background:** The tournament evaluated was the First Annual Golden Gopher Fishing Classic 2016 sponsored by the University of Minnesota Goal Line Club. This was an open, family-style, tournament run from 9am until 1pm at Bug-Bee Hive Resort, Lodge & Retreat Center in Paynesville, MN on June 3, 2016. The tournament was run by Central Lakes Bass Anglers of Paynesville. This tournament met the criteria used by MN DNR to require a DNR permit (In short, the tournament has greater than 25 boats.) It had 38 boats and over 100 participants. Fish weigh-ins occurred every hour throughout the tournament with prizes awarded each hour and at the end. MN DNR Fisheries, who issue permits, worked with the organizer to limit the fishing area only to Lake Koronis and not include Mud Lake which is beyond the Hwy. 55 boat access. There were no restrictions placed on the lake access locations to be used. Of the 38 boats in the contest, 4 of them were rental boats which typically remain on Lake Koronis. Some of the boats in the contest were lake shore owner boats or trailered boats owned by locals to the area. It is not known if these trailered boats go to any other lakes.

**Local support and value:** The tournament had several local sponsors that contributed products, money, or in some other way helped with the success of the contest. Outside of increased area traffic, increased occupancy at Bug-Bee Hive and the local hotel, increased sales at the Paynesville Liquor Store, and some level of increase in sales to the food caterers, it is unknown if any other financial benefits to the community were realized. Community sponsors could have achieved some level of marketing/advertisement for their participation.

**Relationship with lake association:** The lake association was initially made aware of this tournament by MN DNR after the organizers had submitted for a permit. (No requirement exists to notify the lake association of any tournaments on any lake in Minnesota, permit or no permit.) The subject of tournaments on Lake Koronis was brought up by DNR at a Starry Stonewort Problem Solving and Risk Management Meeting with MN DNR, the Lake Association, and local stakeholders who are, Paynesville City, Paynesville Township, County Environmental Services, and Stearns COLA. The lake association subsequently issued a letter to the tournament organizer, as they did to each one of the DNR permitted tournaments scheduled for Lake Koronis in 2016. The letter respectfully requested that they consider relocating their tournament to a lake that is not challenged by Starry Stonewort or to state their willingness to work with the Lake Association to mitigate the risk of Starry Stonewort spread if they are unable to accommodate this change of venue. This letter made them aware of the inspection program, special AIS plant management projects planned, and the intention of not spreading this new invasive to any other lake. The lake association reached out to the President of the University Goal Line Club as well as to Bug-Bee Hive Resort in order to find out information about the tournament. The lake association representative was invited to a tournament planning meeting. Since the lake association representatives were unable to attend this planning meeting, a letter was sent with ideas that

could be further developed and considered to mitigate the risk of spreading Starry Stonewort. The lake association, upon not hearing any response from the organizer contacted them and was referred to Central Bass Anglers to discuss. The tournament organizer encouraged transient boats to be decontaminated in and out of Lake Koronis both verbally and also in the tournament rules. The tournament organizer also agreed to exclude fishing in the Mud Lake area (not to go beyond Hwy 55). Unfortunately, none of the other suggestions for reducing or managing risk were taken on by the tournament committee.

The Lake Association tried to find a trailered decontamination unit that could be at Lake Koronis to make it easy for people to get their boat and trailer decontaminated. DNR chose to not make one of their units available.

**Background on Starry Stonewort and why it is important to contain, prevent, and manage:** Starry Stonewort is a new invasive species in the State of Minnesota. It is a plant-like macro alga that grows into a large very dense mat. Experts indicate that it interferes with fish spawning because it grows so densely. It has recreational usage implications due to its surface matting characteristics and an unusual "crash" characteristic, which leads to purification on the surface of the water with the accompanying odor and other negative impacts. It has a green colored stem that splits to several branches, sort of like umbrella spines. From one of these spines a very small clear filament could extend that looks like very small delicate fishing line. On that clear filament small white star shaped bulbils can be found. They are very tiny but perfect stars. The clear filament is not always present. The plant stem and branches feel smooth to the touch and when broken sort of "pop" and the inside of the algae can be squeezed out and what remains is now clear rather than green. The algae can grow and spread from intact fragments as well as the stars. Starry Stonewort is thought to replace existing native populations. It is similar to musk grass which is a native plant that is found in Lake Koronis. At this time Lake Koronis is the only lake known to have Starry Stonewort in the state of Minnesota. **(NOTE: in 2016 7 more lakes were confirmed with Starry Stonewort)**

Experts believe that Starry Stonewort and most of the other aquatic invasive species in Minnesota are spread via transient boaters that move from lake to lake. Although it is possible for birds to be a natural method of movement, more evidence exists that aquatic invasive species move in the environment via people and their behavior than by natural sources. As a result, any cause/reason that could increase human traffic, boating activity, can change the risk, increase the risk, of this aquatic invasive species

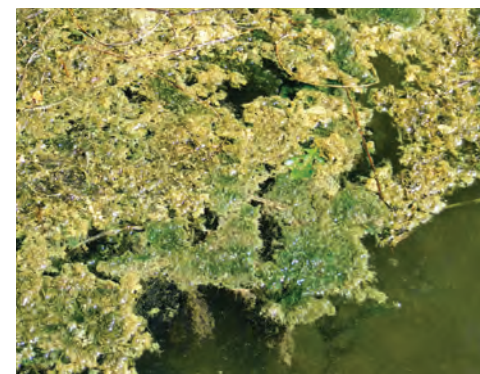
to spread to other lakes or bring new invasive species into the lake. Transient boaters going from lake to lake increase the risk of spreading aquatic invasive species. Although inspection and decontamination are tools to assist in the reduction of the spread, they are not 100% effective by their very nature. The risk is real to all the other lakes in Minnesota.

Any practice which increases transient boat traffic causes increased spread of any invasive species to other lakes in the state. The tournaments that are permitted may only be a portion of the risk. Small unpermitted unknown tournaments are taking place all the time. MN DNR has a set of criteria that must be met before a permit is needed. Tournament organizers can work under these criteria thresholds all the time to avoid the permitting process. Small tournaments present a risk and perhaps even more than the permitted tournaments from a cumulative effect. All tournaments, regardless of size, present transient boat pressure for AIS movement. At least with the larger permitted tournaments, the local community has the opportunity to increase staff to cover the increased traffic. A small unpermitted tournament may not incur an immediate financial loss to the community but certainly increases risk to AIS spreading.

It has been observed that a small tournament has deliberately avoided an access with an inspector and in another case fished one lake for a short time and moved the whole tournament to another nearby lake for the remainder of the day, with boat/trailer out of water time less than an hour. This is a high risk situation for AIS transfer and not a responsible action.

**Unplanned extra inspection costs:** The inspection program for Lake Koronis is managed by the North Fork of the Crow River Watershed District. Funding for this effort is supported through the stakeholders in the area. This list includes Shore owners, businesses in the community, two Townships, City, and two counties.

By choosing not to limit tournament launching to select ramps, all ramps needed inspection services, including the launch at Bug-Bee Hive Resort. An additional 46 hours of inspection were needed at the boat ramps on Lake Koronis as a direct result of this decision. The incremental cost of these inspection hours was \$736. This incremental cost was



unplanned in the inspection budget, and as a result, will negatively impact the money available for the planned inspection program for the remainder of the year.

**Mitigating Factors and Ideas to Reduce Risk:**

Included on the next page is a copy of the letter sent to the tournament organizers with ideas that could have been used to reduce the risk of spread of Starry Stonewort out of the lake and within the lake.

**Summary:** It is the opinion of this author that tournaments of this nature do provide some level of good to the community, with select businesses getting the majority of that benefit, but correspondingly, there are also costs to the community in the short-term and long term risk. Once a lake is infested with new AIS, they typically have it for life. Along with being infested with an AIS, there are subsequent on going costs for living with that species, herbicides, harvesting, management cost. This would be the same for any lake getting Starry Stonewort. Unfortunately, the gain may not outweigh the cost.

In the same ways that planned public events are routinely charged for increased police presence, incremental short-term community costs for AIS prevention efforts should be funded by the tournament organization.

Long-term costs begin when any lake gets a new invasive species, and tournaments play a part in increasing the AIS risk. The increased risk due to tournaments of any size is significant, and can only be reduced by reducing the total number of tournaments.

As stewards of the public waters, we must realize that there is cost in protecting lakes from the increased AIS risks from tournaments. Tournaments simply aren't free!



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# LOST & FOUND

**Have you lost something? Have you found something in your yard or on your shoreline that wasn't yours? If you have been unable to locate your lost items, or unable to return a found item to the rightful owner, email photo or description to secretary@otlpoa.com**

**WWW.OTLPOA.COM**



## Tournament Efforts That Can Help Minimize Spread Of Starry Stonewort Out Of Lake Koronis And Minimize The Risk Of Introducing A New Invasive Into Lake Koronis

### Inspection in and inspection out

One of the requirements could be to have all boats inspected before entry and on exit. At this time it is most important to have all the boats looked at very carefully on exit. The key to this will be to have them always use one of the exits where an inspector is always present. I would like to steer them AWAY from the Hwy 55 access where the heaviest infestation of Starry Stonewort is located. That would mean that the Veterans Park launch would be the best one. In addition to this we could get someone scheduled for certain hours at Bugbee Hive access. We have another launch at the Regional Park, but their hours would be more limited. If you thought that was going to be a well-used access point we can extend the hours. But I think we want to set it up to NOT use the Rumble Bridge access. So I think ENCOURAGING them to be inspected in and out will help and then DIRECTING them to two launches will help. We will still have someone at the Hwy 55 launch anyhow if they decide they don't want to take your recommendations. It would be nice if we could think of a way to make it mandatory and a way to police it, I just don't know a way to do that. It might be possible to give everyone a card that they need to get signed by the inspector on entry into the lake, but when they leave they may just pull their boat out and go and you wouldn't get the card back to know that the exit was done with inspection. (Maybe they buy the card for \$50 and when they send it back into you they get the \$50 back.) What is left goes to your charity fund. I would have to work this out with the inspectors but maybe some other ideas would come to mind.

Could try and use just Bugbee Hive launch, we could get an inspector there but the launch doesn't work for all boats, some Bass Boats don't like it as they hit the trailer at the crest on the top of the launch.



### Decontamination

Could be an exit requirement and we could try to find one that would be available. Again hard to police and be sure that everyone uses it.

### Rent

Only allow rentals from on lake, but may not have enough and I think you will always find some that want to use their own boat.

### Localized area in lake

It would be good if you could make off limits for the contest the South East bay of the lake. We are worried that boaters will go into this area and chew the Starry Stonewort on the surface and encourage lake wide spreading. At the time of the tournament we should have our channel through this area, but I think at the very least you want to put off limits the Hwy 55 bay and on up into Mud and Rice Lake.

### Communication

Communicate with the Kevin Farnum through Paul Bugbee as to when the most boats will be launched to assure that we have inspectors and extra ones to keep the flow in and out of the lake smooth. If you can see that an additional inspector at the Hive is needed we need to know that too.

## Letter Sent To Permitted Tournaments On Lake Koronis 2016

The Koronis Lake Association welcomes Fishing Tournaments to Lake Koronis and in that effort even lists them on our website to try and avoid last minute conflicts with more than one tournament trying to use an access point. We have even brought in extra Aquatic Invasive Species Inspectors to facilitate moving quickly through the inspection process to help tournaments be successful and keep them on their schedule.

The Koronis Lake Association has become aware of your permit to hold a Fishing Tournament on Lake Koronis the summer of 2016. We are not sure if you are aware of the Aquatic Invasive Species situation on the lake. Last fall MN DNR discovered a new aquatic invasive species to the state, called Starry Stonewort. This invasive is a macro-algae that out-competes the growth of Eurasian Milfoil and acts as a harborage for zebra mussels. It grows typically out to a depth of about 9 feet and can grow dense mats of the algae all the way to the surface, entangling boat engines and swimmers. It also has been shown to impact fish harborage and fish spawning because of its density. It was found to cover about 300 acres in the lake, covering completely around the public access on Hwy. 55 and at 8 other locations around the lake. Because of its density and that each cell of the algae is like an individual plant, it is very difficult to kill and manage. No real success for management has been found in the other states that have Starry Stonewort.

In 2016 the Lake Association and the community around Lake Koronis are performing, at great expense, a pilot project to try and find

a way to manage the algae and control it from moving throughout the littoral area of the lake. If successful we hope to expand the program to the large portion of the lake. Our hope is to develop not only a management protocol for Koronis, but for any other lake with Starry Stonewort. Any and all management protocols that are developed to reduce the amount of Starry Stonewort in the lake will help to reduce the risk of transient boats transferring Starry Stonewort to other lakes. It will still be possible, but any effort to stop Lake Koronis from being the source of other lake infestations is good.

We also in 2016, will be putting in place a channel of reduced Starry Stonewort, through the most dense areas of Starry Stonewort that lead from the Hwy. 55 access point out into the main area of the lake. The purpose of this is to make it easier for boats to travel through the dense area and less likely to become entangled and carry the invasive out of the lake on their boats.

For these reasons the Koronis Lake Association would like to request that you consider moving your tournament to another lake that is not going through the problems that Lake Koronis is having at this time. We know that other transient boats will still be coming into the lake, regardless of your actions, and that your tournament is but a small portion of that larger number, but any efforts you do will be recognized as a sign that you too consider the value of the lakes in Minnesota and are doing your part to stop the spread of this nasty aquatic invasive species and protect the lakes for future generations.

Thanks you for your considerations.

## Workshop On Lakes, Lakeshore Issues & Plants

Mark your calendar for a Workshop on Lakes, Lakeshore Issues and Plants held Saturday, May 6, 2017 at Thumper Pond Resort.

Otter Tail County COLA will have a panel of speakers to answer any questions on fishing, lakeshore issues, plants or anything associated with lakes. This event is free with refreshments.

The exhibits open at 8:30am with introductions at 9am and Steve Woods, from the Minnesota Freshwater Society, will speak at 9:15am. Other professional fisherman will also be there. The panel will be convened at 10:30am to answer any questions of interest.

Again, it's free and at Thumper Pond. All exhibits will close at 1pm.

## Did You Know?

- Fish can see thick line in the water. Use the lightest weight line you can for the fish species you are targeting. Nylon line comes in different thickness which determines the strength (called "pound test"). Six pound test line is good for most pier fishing.

- Hook sizes go in reverse. The smaller the hook, the larger the number it is given.

- Earthworms were not found in North or South America 200 years ago, but were brought here by settlers from Europe in the 1800's. They are not part of the native ecosystem and are harmful to our native woodlands. Earthworms break down important organic matter in forests, harming young saplings and native wildflowers. Dispose of unused earthworms in the trash and teach others about this surprising fact.

Source Minnesota DNR MinnAqua



# Visitors Church Directory 2017

Join us in worship!

## BAPTIST

### Basswood Baptist Church B.G.C.

38188 340th St., Richville, MN 56576

Bert Holmquist, Pastor—218-495-3800

Church—218-495-3771

Sunday School 9:30 am, refreshments following

Worship Service 10:45 am

Bible Study, Youth Group & Kids Club - Wednesday 7 pm

Ladies' Bible Study - 3rd Thursday

Men's Prayer Breakfast - 1st Saturday 7 am

Potluck Dinner - 2nd Sunday

### First Baptists (ABC) - Battle Lake

"The Little Brown Church on the Hill"

Lynn Hansen, Pastor—651-485-7378

www.firstbaptistbattlelake.org

Sunday Worship 9:30 am

Fellowship & refreshments 10:30 am

## CATHOLIC

Father Leroy Schik, Pastor

Mass Times—218-864-5619

www.ollsj.org

### St. James Catholic - Maine Township

Saturday Mass 5 pm, October 1 - May 1

Sunday Mass 8:30 am - May 1 - October 1

### Our Lady of the Lake - Battle Lake

Sunday Mass 10:30 am

Saturday Mass 6:00 pm, Memorial Day—Labor Day

### Saint Edwards - Henning

Saturday Mass 4:00 pm, May 1 - October 1

Sunday Mass 8:30 am - October 1 - May 1

## LUTHERAN

### Bethel Lutheran Church

Battle Lake Campus:

Meets at Lakes Area Community Center

112 West Main St., Battle Lake

218-862-4903

Worship: 10:30 am

Website: bethellutheran.church

### First Lutheran - ELCA

505 Holdt St. W., PO Box 268, Battle Lake

Bradley Skogen, Pastor

blfirstlutheran.org

Church—218-864-5686

Sept. - May:

Worship at 10:00 am

Coffee Fellowship at 9:00 am

June - Aug:

Worship at 9:00 am

Coffee Fellowship at 10:00 am

### Sverdrup

209 Southeran Ave. E., Underwood

Nancy Monke, Pastor

Church—218-826-6919

Worship 9:00 am

Indicates Barrier-Free Access

## LUTHERAN

### Tingvold

6 miles north of Underwood, Co. 1 & Co. 35

Nancy Monke, Pastor

Church—218-826-6487

May: Worship 11:00 am

June 1-Sept. 1: Summer Worship 10:30 am

### Zion Lutheran - ELCA

36051 Co. Hwy. 74, Amor

Hwy. 1 & 74, 10 miles north of Battle Lake

James Gronbeck, Pastor • Church—218-495-2563

Email: zionamorooffice@prtel.com

Website: www.zionamoro.org

Summer Services: May - September

Worship 8:15 am & 10:00 am

Fellowship & refreshments between services

Regular Services: Worship 10:00 am

Fellowship & refreshments after service

Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

Bible Study - Tuesday 10:00 am (year round)

Contemporary Worship Services - 2nd & 3rd Sundays

## METHODIST

### Ottertail United Methodist Church

104 Shore Drive, Otertail

Rod Turnquist, Pastor

Church—218-367-2270

Worship 8:45 am

Coffee Fellowship following Worship

### Richville United Methodist Church

130 SW 1st Ave., Richville

Rod Turnquist, Pastor

Church—218-346-5656

Worship 10:15 am

Coffee Fellowship following Worship 2nd & 4th Sunday

## PRESBYTERIAN

### Maine Presbyterian

30761 Co. Hwy. 45, Maine Township

2 miles north of Phelps Mill

Tom Junkert, Pastor

Website: mainepresbyterianchurch.org

Church—218-495-2539

Summer - Worship 9:30 am (Thru September)

Coffee Following Worship Service

Winter - Worship 10:00 am

## BATTLE LAKE

### ALLIANCE

401 W. Gilbertson St., Battle Lake

Derek Mansker, Pastor • Church—218-864-5539

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am

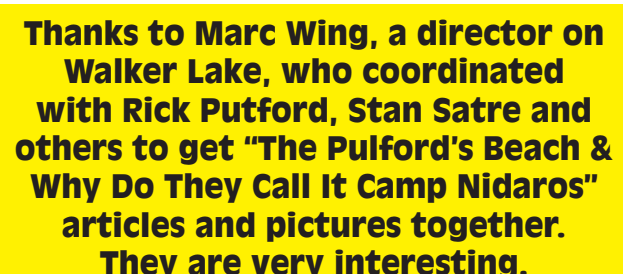
Fellowship & refreshments after service

Find us on the web at battlelake.org

The Open Door Youth Center "Helping Kids to Know & Grow" DROP-IN RECREATION - Battle Lake • 218-864-5004



# Pictures from Pulford's Beach 2016



Photos submitted by Marc Wing

**Thanks to Marc Wing, a director on Walker Lake, who coordinated with Rick Putford, Stan Satre and others to get "The Pulford's Beach & Why Do They Call It Camp Nidaros" articles and pictures together. They are very interesting.**

## Pulford's Beach

*Submitted by Rick Pulford*

Pulford's Beach on the north shore of Walker Lake was established by Tom Pulford in March of 1962. But before I get into the development of Pulford's Beach a brief history of the land will be in order.

My Great Grandfather, Fred Shen, purchased the land in 1901 from A.B. Morse. The legal description is "that part of Government Lot 2 in Section 2, Township 134 N, Range forty west, Amor Township of Otter Tail County" approximately 200 acres. My grandfather, Ed Pulford, then purchased the land from Grandpa Shen (his father-in-law). My Dad, Tom, purchased the land from Grandpa Ed and began the development of Pulford's Beach. I purchased the remaining farm land from dad so there are four generations of continuous ownership involved with Pulford's Beach.

The original township road ran right alongside the lake serving five families on the road. I remember the road as a child, a narrow road with big beautiful trees on both sides. Dad petitioned the town board to make the road so he could develop the lots along the lake. The road was vacated in April of 1962. I recall I was old enough to help cut and skid trees but not old enough to hang around with the road crew as they were quite colorful, especially their language. The road was established and the land plotted into lots. There were 16 original lots in November of 1962. Dad plotted more lots for Pulford's Beach addition. I remember one of my jobs was to keep the weeds and clover mowed to keep things presentable. Dad bought a 1948 8 N Ford tractor and converted a horse drawn five-foot sickle mower to pull behind the tractor. I got really good at making pitman arms for the mower as they had the bad habit of breaking in the heavy weeds and clover.

There was a primitive boat landing on the east side of Pulford's Beach and was the only landing for boats at the time. Dad donated lots one through four to the DNR to develop a public access for the lake which is still in use today.

The selling price for the original lots, mostly 50, 75 and 100 ft. was \$50.00 to \$60.00 a front foot and sales were kind of slow the first few years until a few homes were built. The first homes were mostly seasonal cabins and RV's owned by retiree's looking for a nice quiet lake with good fishing. A lot has changed in the past 50 plus years, the majority of the homes now are year round residences and a more diversified age group. But they all share the same desire to live on a nice quiet lake with good fishing!

## Be Safe On Our Lakes

This winter has been unusual. Our winter began with a very late freeze, mid-December through mid-January was extremely cold, on Christmas day we had a rain storm, and in late January we are experiencing temperatures in the high 30s. Who knows what the rest of winter will bring - we will have to wait and see.

With the changing temperatures please keep these facts from the Minnesota DNR in mind when you are out on our lakes:

- You can't judge ice conditions by appearance or thickness – other factors

including water depth, size of waterbody, currents, snow cover, and local weather all combine to determine its strength.

- Ice seldom freezes uniformly – it may be 9 inches thick in one location and only an inch or two just a few feet away.

- Ice formed over flowing water and currents is often dangerous – ice along streams, springs, and channels between lakes, bridges or aeration systems is usually weaker due to faster current.

- Also be aware that the movement of fish can bring warm water up from the bottom of the lake.

When out on the ice just remember there is no such thing as 100 percent safe ice. Keep you, your family and friends in mind when you are out fishing, snowmobiling or driving on the ice.

Below is a chart on how long a person can survive in the cold water and the minimum ice thickness guidelines for new clear ice.

Be safe and stay alive!!!



### How Long Can A Person Survive In Cold Water?

Water Temperature (°F)	Expected Time Before Exhaustion or Unconsciousness	Expected Time of Survival
32.5°	< 15 minutes	45 minutes
32.5-40°	15 – 30 minutes	30 – 90 minutes
40-50°	30 – 60 minutes	1 – 3 hours
50-60°	1 – 2 hours	1 – 6 hours
60-70°	2 – 7 hours	2 – 40 hours
70-80°	3 – 12 hours	3 hours – indefinite
> 80°	Indefinite	Indefinite

Source: <http://www.seagrant.umn.edu>

**SELF-REGISTER FOR THE NEW CODE RED EMERGENCY WEATHER ALERTS**

Otter Tail County is now using the **CodeRED® Emergency/Weather Warning Notification System** - a high-speed community communication service.

This system allows us to send specific information to individuals, businesses, and organizations throughout the county - or just in affected areas - in case of an emergency or severe weather situation.

The **CodeRED® Emergency/Weather Warning Notification System** also delivers weather warning information to anyone that signs up to receive it - whether on your phone, by text, or email.

Self-registration is easy.



Go to <https://public.coderedweb.com/cne/en-US/BF58FD528F29> for the new **CodeRED®** registration page. If you need assistance to sign up, or have any questions about the system, please contact **Otter Tail County Emergency Management: 218-998-8067**



## Why Do They Call It Camp Nidaros?

Submitted by Stan Satre

The clear tone of a bell, a large brass bell, echoes through the woods as a breeze from Otter Tail Lake brings fresh air to a secluded spot among the trees. Wooden benches with backs on them are neatly lined up auditorium style.



What's up?

It's a Sunday morning in July. The people in the cabins that are part of what is called Camp Nidaros are being reminded of a tradition that is more than a hundred years old; church in the woods.

In 1910 a group of Lutheran pastors from Minnesota and eastern North Dakota began the tradition. They built the first of 15 cabins (they called them cottages) and completed the last in 1918. They were on a piece of land between the north shore of Otter Tail Lake and Walker Lake just west of the Dead River. The idea was to have a place of their own where they and their families could rest and relax away from parish life.

The wives and children would spend the better part of the summer in this remote location in cottages provided with only the bare essentials. That and the fact that there

was social activity led them to call it a summer camp. A place was set aside for Sunday services.

These pastors were of Norwegian ancestry, many from a place where the northern-most cathedral in Europe is found; Nidaros cathedral in Trondheim, Norway. It is at the mouth (which is oros in Norwegian) of the River Nid that empties into the sea, just like the Dead River empties into Otter Tail Lake.

They decided to call the collection of cottages Camp Nidaros. The church in the woods gathering, in it's 107th in the summer of 2016, continues to draw the people of Nidaros together on Sunday mornings. Most of them are the descendants of those Norwegian pastors.

The benches are out, the clear tone of the bell is heard and the church in the woods happens.



**Camp Nidaros Is Located Between The North Shore Of Otter Tail Lake And Walker Lake, Just West Of The Dead River.**



Photos submitted by Stan Satre

## Cold Temperatures Create Ideal Tree Pruning Conditions

Winter is the ideal time to prune trees and help prevent the spread of diseases like oak wilt and Dutch elm, according to experts with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

"My rule of thumb is when winter weather conditions are less desirable for humans, the timing for tree pruning is great," said DNR forestry specialist Randy Schindle. "Pruning in the winter is less risky to tree health, and it's a good way to get some outdoor exercise and stay warm."

Correct Prune The reason for wintertime pruning is simple—it minimizes the risk that an open wound could invite decay or insects that carry oak wilt or Dutch elm disease—according to DNR forestry outreach specialist Jennifer Teegarden.

"In the spring and summer, tree sap

from open wounds can attract insects that carry oak wilt and Dutch elm disease. The moisture from the sap in a fresh wound can also encourage decay," Teegarden said. "Another consideration is that when trees lose sap, they lose energy to grow in the spring. Winter pruning reduces sap flow from a wound."

Winter pruning also allows the wound time to dry out before the sap runs and insects become active. "Much of the sap goes underground into the root system during a typical winter," Schindle said. "Sap stored in the roots moves to the upper part of the tree when the weather warms up. The more time a tree has to heal before the sap begins to run, the better."

**Tree pruning is done for the following reasons:**

Safety—to remove limbs that hang over walkways or threaten to fall unpredictably.

Tree health—to remove diseased limbs or crossing and rubbing branches.

Aesthetics—to enhance the natural form or stimulate flower production.

### Tree pruning tips:

Minimize wound size by trimming branches before they grow to be 2 inches in diameter.

Save the branch collar—don't cut flush to the trunk.

Use the 3-cut method for larger branches.

More tree health tips are available on [www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/index.html)

## Did You Know?

Zebra Mussels can cut the feet of swimmers and dogs, clog water intakes, and damage ecosystems by reducing food for young fish. Their microscopic larvae can be moved in bait buckets, livewells, and other boat areas if not drained.

Source: [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)

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# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## 2017 Upcoming OTLPOA Board Meetings

March 23 • April 27 • May 25 • June 22  
July 27 • Aug. 24 • Sept. 21 TBD • Oct. 26  
7pm • Ottertail Community Center (103 Lake Ave. S)

**Annual Meeting June 24, 9am**

Note **NEW** location - Zion Lutheran Church, Amor

[www.otlpoa.com](http://www.otlpoa.com)

## Clip and Save

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<b>Vice President:</b>	Scott Simdorn	<a href="mailto:scott.simdorn@swansonflo.com">scott.simdorn@swansonflo.com</a>	701.640.1572
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	Janice Johnson	<a href="mailto:janladybug@gmail.com">janladybug@gmail.com</a>	218.367.2271
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	Marc Wing	<a href="mailto:mwing@prtcl.com">mwing@prtcl.com</a>	218.495.3570



# Walker Lake Hatchery

This information was provided to Marc Wing by Jim Wolters from the Walker Lake Hatchery

The Walker Lake Hatchery is located on the Dead River which is an inlet to Walker and Otter Tail Lakes. Walleye begin spawning in April as water temperatures approach 45 degrees F. Workers collect, then combine, the eggs and milt from walleye spawning in the Dead River. Spawning usually ends in three to four weeks. In a typical season, 300 to 900 quarts of eggs are taken with an average of 135,000 eggs per quart.

Annually, the hatchery produces 25 to 80 million walleye fry. Walleye fry are stocked into area lakes and rearing ponds. Fry that are stocked in rearing ponds are harvested in the fall as fingerlings and stocked into area lakes.

### Habitat Requirements:

Walleye prefer clean, medium to large lakes and rivers, with cool to moderately warm water. They thrive in Mille Lacs, Leech, Lake of the Woods, and Winnibigoshish Lakes. In the spring, walleyes migrate up streams and rivers to spawn. Many also spawn on bars and shoals in large lakes. Fish make up the majority of the walleye's diet along with invertebrates and crustaceans.

### Fish Management

In general, fish management tools fall into one of four categories:

- Protecting and restoring habitats and water quality;

- Regulating the harvest;
- Stocking; and
- Public education.

Lake surveys and research provide the information used to select appropriate management tools.

### Walleye Management

Minnesota has more walleye, walleye lakes, and walleye anglers than any other state. Each year, anglers harvest about 3.5 million walleye.

**Walker Lake Hatchery  
Is A Seasonal,  
Cool Water Facility Where  
Walleye  
Species Are Produced**

The best way to maintain walleye numbers is to protect critical habitat. Shore land zoning and related laws aid fish by controlling development and protecting spawning sites and aquatic plants that fish use for cover.

Stocking is another management tool used. Minnesota's cool water hatcheries produce 2 to 5 million walleye fingerlings and millions of fry each year. Stocking can provide walleye fishing in lakes that lack spawning habitats but can otherwise support walleye. Stocking is also effective for lakes



Walleye eggs being taken from a female

that have been "rehabilitate" or occasionally winter-kill. Like any tool stocking must be used appropriately. If misused, it will be ineffective or possibly harmful to existing fish populations. Stocked walleye may compete for food with other game fish, particularly largemouth or smallmouth bass.

Stocking a lot of small fish does not guarantee catching a lot of big fish. Fish managers estimate only 4% of the annual statewide walleye catch comes from stocked fish. The rest is the result of natural production.

Loss of habitat, pollution, and increasing fishing pressure continue to be the biggest issues in walleye management. Everyone must work to improve water quality, control runoff and waterfront development, and maintain aquatic vegetation. Anglers, in addition, will need to comply with regulations and harvest only what they intend to use, for Minnesota to maintain a quality fishery.

# Walk For Glendalough

The Annual Walk for Glendalough is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 22 from 9am to noon at Glendalough State Park.

During this spring fundraising event you can take a hike in Glendalough State Park, enjoy coffee, cider, and donuts before you hike, and a bratwurst lunch on your return. Also take some time to tour the The Historic Lodge and view the eagle on its nest. A free shuttle is provided to and from the nest for the elderly or disabled. Also look for the naturalist as they may have a cartful of surprises!

There is no entry fee on this day, but a small donation and registration is required to qualify for door prizes. There's also a free will offering for all food items.

For more information call 218-864-0110.

**WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS!  
Please submit to  
secretary@otlpoa.com  
and include a byline  
and brief description**

# LAND TRANSFERS August 9, 2016 until February 6, 2017

TWP	LAKE	PROPERTY TYPE	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	PRICE	TWP	LAKE	PROPERTY TYPE	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	PRICE
Amor	Walker	Seas/Rec Improved	Kottke, Timothy C. & Jean	Wendt, Michael & Malissa	\$215,000	Girard	West Battle	Residential < 4 Units	Johnson, Cynthia A. & Melissa K. & Stephanie L.	Rezac, Lisa M. & Allen P./ Johnson, Gacia A & To Nelson	\$242,282
Amor		Farm Improved > 35 Ac	Loy C. Berg Family Trust	Herbrandson, Richard	\$150,000	Girard	Ethel	Seas/Rec Improved	Anderson	Nelson	\$151,100
Amor		Forest Management > 35 Ac		Loy C. Berg Family Trust	Temus, Michael James/Guthmann Temus, Debra	\$142,000	Girard	West Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Kienitz, J. Elaine	\$559,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Weeks	Thimjon	\$825,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas Res Unimproved	Flora Hill Trust	Bjornlie, David L. & Vivian J.	\$209,900
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Olson	Olson	\$115,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Kramer/Brendefur	Sturte	\$455,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Bergerson	Flack	\$264,475	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Dacy	Dacy	\$301,500
Amor	Otter Tail	Farm Unimproved > 35 Ac	Stans, Gary H.	Roberts, Eric J & Brian R. & Robert R.	\$244,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Dacy	Dacy	\$301,500
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Johnson/Hillier	Kloesterman/Jordan	\$1,000,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Leier	Malm/Manske	\$480,000
Amor		Commercial Unimproved	Bobcat Of Otter Tail County, Inc.	Kutch, Eric N. & Pamela S.	\$38,000	Otter Tail	Long	Residential < 4 Units	Burmeister, Lynn & Lynn	Hawes, David & Mary	\$0
Amor		Commercial Unimproved	Bobcat Of Otter Tail Co Inc.	Kutch	\$38,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Gail	Birkeland	\$254,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Lundeen/Driscoll	Sirek	\$512,901	Otter Tail	Round	Seas Res Unimproved	Limmer	Horn	\$42,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Beyer,joel P & Carolyn M	Folkedahl, Bruce C. & Connie L.	\$260,400	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Thimjon Properties, LLC	Althoff, Donald J. & Claire J.	\$431,700
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Bostrom	Wegscheid	\$139,800	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Steiner/Swangstue	Rupp	\$435,850
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Tobkin, Nate & Jean	Swanson, Jana Lynn	\$43,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Thimjon	Brown	\$518,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Salmonson, Donna	Berg, Bonnie	\$299,075	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Winkelman, Harold M. & Jacquelin G.	Hanson, Tonette	\$91,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	J. Elaine Andrews Estate/N. Kay Andrews Estate			Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Coury, Donald George & Vivian Gay	Coury, Donald Lewis Sr	\$90,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved		Morstad, Thomas & Barbara	\$150,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas Res Unimproved	Madsen	Century 21 Vista Inc	\$6,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Colussy, Debra & Alan/ Metzger, Susan & Willia	Frampton, Andrew & Michelle & Martha & David	\$241,920	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Roberts	Madsen	\$7,500
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Wood, Patsy	Jorde, John H.	\$288,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Levitt, Leon & Yolla Blinkind	Bowen, James A. & Deborah K.	\$105,000
Amor	Walker	Seas/Rec Improved	Henderson, Christopher D. & Laarnie O. & Kyle	Fritz, Jamie J. & Janelle J.	\$200,250	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Gades Tst	Moss	\$175,000
Amor		Seas Res Unimproved	Dietz, Val	Kissell, Keith & Susan	\$10,246	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Pioneer Equity Inc	Goeden/Dysthe	\$71,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Foty	Becker	\$185,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Trosvig	Thimjon Prop LLC	\$712,400
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Nelson, Evan & Darby	Gast, Timothy	\$304,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas/Rec Improved	B&I Strategies LLC	Hagen	\$58,671
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Nelson, Dale & Marilyn	Gast, James	\$304,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Fritz	Brandt	\$241,150
Amor	Otter Tail	Resorts	The Lodge On OTC LLC	Johnson	\$137,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Pederson, Dany K.	Paquin, David & Jean M.	\$120,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Kloesterman	Fenske	\$425,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Bethke, Kathleen	Bedford, Jason	\$212,500
Everts		Farm Unimproved < 35 Ac	Meis, Thomas E. & Margith A.	Dotzenrod, Trustee, Joel S. & Sharon R.	\$50,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Kern Family Properties, LLC	Schauff, Stacy	\$292,000
Everts	Silver	Seas Res Unimproved	Waller, Clyde O. & Venna	West, Andrew M./Krasky, Laura E.	\$65,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Kersten Tst	Glorvigen	\$100,000
Everts		Seas Res Unimproved	Johnson, Ryan	Wheeler, Mitch M. & Sarah A.	\$22,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Farnberg, Lisa M. & Eric B.	Nelson, Evan P. & Darby	\$621,750
Everts	West Battle	Residential < 4 Units	Hanson, Ryan & Maria	Reynolds, Sue	\$675,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas/Rec Improved	Clark, Gary D. & Karen J.	Salmonson, Scott & Deborah	\$224,300
Everts	West Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Hanson	Reynolds	\$675,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas Res Unimproved	Meyer/Hedstrom	Ulmer	\$299,500
Everts		Residential < 4 Units	Biederman	Hiedeman	\$44,800	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Stock	Freight Kings Inc	\$10,000
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Thomas Tst	Thomas	\$170,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Alliance Pest Protection Inc	Ecs Holdings Of Pelican Rapids	\$30,000
Everts	Blanche	Residential < 4 Units	Book, Roxanne & Daniel/Hochstein, Thomas & Ri	Collentine, Brian & Susan	\$240,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Schelkoph	\$54,900
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Taylor	Taylor	\$125,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Prescher, Brad & Luann	Fritz, Glen & Karen	\$379,000
Everts	West Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Dow	Anderson	\$446,200	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Comm Improved	Ellingson, Stephanie L	Currie Ottertail Properties, LLC	\$125,000
Everts	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Zarling	Gunwall	\$310,800	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Commercial Unimproved	Ottertail Aggregate Inc.	Kbj Investment Partnership LLP	\$50,000
Everts	Blanche	Residential < 4 Units	Sullivan Tst	Norgaard Tst	\$500,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Commercial Unimproved	Thumper Pond Real Estate LLC	City Of Ottertail	\$150,000
Everts		Seas Res Unimproved	Olson Properties	Koski	\$23,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Comm Improved	Wiebe, Delmar & Manila K.	Haberman, Roger & Mary	\$32,000
Girard		Farm Improved < 35 Ac	Bock, Michael & Daun	Deshler, Derek & Lori	\$150,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Lueders	Burr	\$120,500
Girard		Farm Unimproved > 35 Ac	Roger Luhnig Estate	Palubicki, Ronald & Mary	\$245,708	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Rice	Thompson	\$10,250
Girard		Residential < 4 Units	Sec Of Housing & Urban Dev	Davis Estates LLC	\$90,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Schafer	Vein	\$375,000
Girard	East Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Gregg	Doll	\$177,200	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Moxness, Loren & Karen	Dale, Randall & Rochelle	\$226,000
Girard	East Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Kensok	Smith	\$204,500	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Woessner Construction, Inc	Strommen, Matt E. & Joanne	\$49,000
Girard	West Battle	Residential < 4 Units	Lundquist	Engelbrektsen	\$339,500	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Tollefson, Stuart J.	Thompson, Scott A. & Jennifer	\$32,000
Girard	West Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Infaiith Community Foundation	Bailey, Jeffrey/Kemmet, Lori	\$465,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Toyne	Budak	\$63,900
Girard	West Battle	Residential < 4 Units	Wurzer	Gust	\$376,850	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Mcgowan, Harold E. & Mary A.	Nelson, Ronald D.	\$30,000
Girard	West Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Wilson	Wurzer	\$590,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Bethke	Branson	\$270,000
Girard	West Battle	Seas Res Unimproved	Busch, Jay D. & Marie L	Busch, Megan	\$60,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Meskimen, Larry P. & Nancy I.	Bethke, Larry H. & Benjamin E.	\$66,000
Girard	West Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Doom	Doom	\$350,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Res Unimproved	Carlisle, Daniel Thomas & Jeannie L.	Miller, Jeffrey Norman & Ronette Elizabeth	\$40,000
Girard						Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Thalmann Et Al	Olson	\$90,000

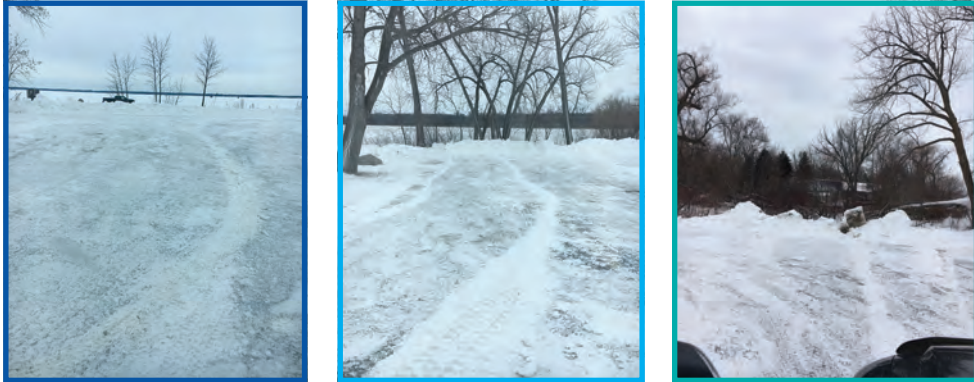


## Pelican Bay Access Is Open

The OTLPOA Board and OTLPOA Foundation have appropriated money to help keep Pelican Bay access open this winter. Normally it's snowed/heaved shut by first week of Jan. Here's a few pics showing it in a plowed, clean condition this winter.

Thanks to the OTLPOA Board and OTLPOA Foundation for keeping this access open.

Pelican Bay is just to the southwest of Ottertail city, off of Hwy 78. It is approx. 43 acres with 1 dirt ramp and 1 dock.



See more information on MAISRC on page 6

## Early Detection Tool Developed For Invasive Mussels And Their Larvae

Submitted by Christine Lee, Executive Office and Communications Specialist, Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center

MAISRC scientists have developed a new assay that can detect invasive mussels and their microscopic larvae, and distinguish between zebra and quagga mussels in the same sample – even when their numbers are very low, such as in samples from newly infested lakes.

Dr. Mike McCartney, Dr. Jessica Eichmiller, and student Sendra Best collaborated on development of this early detection tool. Early detection is critical because it provides a better chance for early intervention which may prevent the establishment of a nascent infestation.

To test for the presence of invasive mussels, this method is being applied to samples from plankton tows – a common method in which a fine mesh net is pulled through the water to collect microscopic organisms. The samples are analyzed using a quantitative PCR (qPCR) instrument. After only a few hours, this new assay will reveal whether zebra or quagga mussels are present, as well as estimate their abundance.

Until now, the industry standard for early detection required viewing samples of water using cross-polarized light microscopy, which is effective but very time-consuming. There had been no method for distinguishing zebra from quagga mussel veligers, which have a very similar size and shape. MAISRC researchers are now pursuing this molecular approach which appears to be a promising alternative: not only does it discriminate between zebra and quagga mussel DNA, but it is much easier to efficiently analyze multiple samples at once.

Quagga mussel populations have exploded in the lower Great Lakes, replacing zebra mussels. It's crucial that Minnesota has



an early detection method like this that can be readily applied to lake, river, and stream samples.

Going forward, researchers will further refine the assay by conducting Limit of Detection trials, which account for other factors that could influence results such as non-target planktonic organisms, detritus, and dissolved contaminants.

Learn more about MAISRC research on zebra mussels at [www.maisrc.umn.edu](http://www.maisrc.umn.edu).



Photos taken by Christine Lee -  
top photo: Zebra Mussels in comparison to a penny  
bottom photo: Zebra Mussels attached to a native mussel (and suffocating it)



Photos submitted by Ken Wentz

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Lakeshore News



Lakeshore News

The Official Newspaper Of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association

As an organization, OTLPOA recognizes the importance of a well-informed, well-educated membership. Strong effort has been made to not only increase membership, but to assure our members are well-informed through our "Lakeshore News" publication. By teaming with Midweek Publications, we have improved our five publication/yearly news source by increasing the number of members' photos included, informing members in an up-to-the-minute fashion of critical events, legislation, and problems/solutions, and by addressing individual members' concerns when possible or referring them on to a source for answers. Additionally, because of our concern and belief regarding not only a well-informed membership but a well-informed public, stacks of The Lakeshore News are placed in businesses in the surrounding communities.

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