



Preserve Your Lake Property

Lakeshore News

The Official Newspaper Of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association

Vol. 46, No. 01

P.O. Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515

February 2016

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PSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 22
SLAYTON, MN

OTLPOA Association Of The Year



ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR

To follow up from last August's nomination for Association of the Year, OTLPOA has been announced as the award winner. OTLPOA, over the years has done an excellent job protecting and preserving our lake's area as well as keeping the community updated with the latest news concerning the area. This year was the year OTLPOA was finally recognized for all the hard work that happens behind the scenes to help protect and preserve our beautiful freshwater waters and environment. OTLPOA had to meet certain nominee criteria requirements to be eligible for the Association of the Year. That criteria being:

- Must be a present member of the OTC COLA; and
- Successfully implemented a lake improvement project; or
- Successfully implemented an educational or outreach program; or
- Has substantially increased membership or participation of members; or
- Has successfully partnered with the local county, state or federal government or agencies

With the nominee criteria met, the OTLPOA has been recognized as the Association of the Year for 2015. Thank you for all that you do and our congratulations!

Clean Water Summit Survey

Governor Dayton has scheduled a Clean Water Summit for February 27th, 2016. This event will likely set the Governor's water agenda in coming months and years.

As Lake Association members and lake home and cabin owners we know the water problems facing our state. You may never have a better opportunity to bring forward the issues you are about.

Please take the time to fill in the survey. The survey can be found online at tiny.cc/MNWATERsurvey.

Let Gov. Dayton know Aquatic Invasive Species is a biological pollutant, a problem of destroying Minnesota's lakes and water based tourism economy.

Information provided by Jeff Forester, MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates

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 11, please fill out and mail to PO Box 21, Battle Lake, MN, 56515.

Thank You To Our Water Testers



Water Testers: Stan Satre, Ray Long, Marc Wing, Ken Wentz, & Dan Carlisle

A big thank you to this group of people for going out once a month, five months out of the year, to test our local Minnesota waters. Starting in May and ending in September, each of these citizen volunteers goes out to collect water samples of our local waters to then be submitted to the lab for

analysis. The results are then stored electronically using a web-accessed database. By doing so, each user can follow up on the samples taken and sent in.

Thanks again, for all that you do! The work you do is very much appreciated; keep it up!



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analysis. The results are then stored electronically using a web-accessed database. By doing so, each user can follow up on the samples taken and sent in.

Thanks again, for all that you do! The work you do is very much appreciated; keep it up!

President's Corner



Ken Wentz,
OTLPOA
President

Happy New Year and may it bring much joy and laughter into your life! By this time you should have received the membership mailing dues notice and in fact, many of you probably have already returned it with your payment and for this we thank you! This is our Directory year!! It's very important for you to complete the information forms so that we have the correct addresses (summer/winter) in order that the directory be delivered in a timely fashion. We are also requesting email addresses so that you may be apprised of a variety of information updates throughout the year at times when the Lakeshore News is not published. Linda and Rita have been working very diligently over these winter months to make our membership list more complete. Your prompt payment, current information, and comments are welcome and will assist your association to continue to operate smoothly.

We send billing notices to all property owners on the Association's six lakes (Blanche, Deer, Long, Otter Tail/Otter Tail River North, Round, and Walker) whom we represent for a total of approximately 1700 notices mailed out. Our membership goal this year is to achieve 70% of property owners or 1200 paid members this year. The many benefits provided through membership are certainly a bargain for the membership dues. The directory alone has a value of \$25.00 and provides information on the names and addresses for all property owners on the six lakes and Otter Tail River North.

We do our best to keep you, our members abreast of the many issues that face our lakes and environment, other lakes in Otter Tail County, as well as lakes statewide. Besides the important challenge of AIS (aquatic invasive species) and tentaculophores another important issue addressed is the potential blocking of muskies in specific lakes in our county. While your lake may not be directly affected, because many of the lakes are connected through waterways your lake may be indirectly affected. This could be both positive or negative depending upon your point of view, opinion, or your interest in certain issues. When the Association is presented with an issue, we do our

best to listen to all sides discuss amongst ourselves (directors, and listen to your opinions whenever possible before taking a stance or voting the directors' outcome to the appropriate parties. At this time, the position the board has taken (which is in unison with the county commission) is that no blocking of muskies should be done until there is scientific research to indicate any positive or negative impact the muskie would have on the lakes.

We, on the board, do our best to please all our members but we also realize with over a thousand members we may not please everyone. It is our hope that for the majority of issues we are representative for at least 90% of the members. We also hope that because of differing opinion on an issue, no matter how large, someone is not deterred from being a member. There are times I have heard of a property owner disagreeing with the way we have handled a specific issue, but yet this person continues to be a member of our association. This is the kind of open-mindedness that we also experience on the board from time to time. With fifteen directors, who have a variety of experiences and philosophies we do not always find ourselves in agreement. The board continues to serve you knowing

that although they may not agree on all issues they do agree that the association is great for the area lakes. The board prides itself on being able to listen to all sides before putting forth statements or decisions as we represent over 1000 members.

This attribute is just one of the many reasons your association was named Association of the Year in 2015. We plan on celebrating this accomplishment this summer in 2016 during our annual meeting which will take on a different flavor this summer. Look to future publications of the Lakeshore News to find updates on our annual meeting and award celebration, an occasion celebrating YOU, our members.

The board is looking forward to serving you this year in a number of ways. We encourage all of you to renew or become a new member in order to receive the Lakeshore News, the biannual OTLPOA Directory, and, above all, to be an integral part of an award winning organization that stands by its logo of Preserving Your Lake Property."

Sue Seeger Art in Battle Lake

The newest sculptures in Battle Lake, "Rusty" and "Little Rusty" were brought to life by a Minnesota local, Sue Seeger. Rusty stands approximately 14 feet tall and both sculptures are made of steel patinas. Sue is not only a metal artist but she also does screen printing, digital art, fiber art, fashion and home accessories and also furniture. Sub great talents keep doing what you're doing Sue!



If you would like to learn more about Sue and the metal art that she does simply search Sue Seeger's name on YouTube. There you will find her channel and videos from the building of "Rusty" and "Little Rusty".



Ice Safety

By Leah Kleghad

For Minnesota fishermen, ice fishing is the one of the most anticipated seasons of the year. The suspense of waiting for winter to hit can be grueling. The nostalgia and excitement of ice fishing is undeniable; however, their excitement can sometimes prevent the mind from taking the necessary safety precautions into consideration and that is when accidents occur. Word-of-mouth about the current ice conditions is simply not enough to go off of when you are planning an ice fishing trip. Understandably, waiting is not the route most want to take, but it is the right choice. There have already been a number of accidents with vehicles or fish houses falling through the ice this year due to carelessness of overlooking safety precaution when it comes to ice thickness.

Accidents of falling through ice aren't always from driving out too early. Iced over water is an enigma when it comes to the inconsistencies of thickness. The thickness varies greatly. One area may be 12-15 inches thick, safe enough for a medium sized vehicle to travel on, and then in another area the ice may only be 4 inches or so; in which it would be safest to travel by foot or not go out at all.

How do you really know when it's safe, you ask? There is no wrong in ever asking that question. Stop in or contact the local bait shop to get updated information regarding the ice density. Though you may have had discussions on the safe areas to be out on the ice, it does not hurt to test those areas again. It is the most effective

route to take in determining whether you should be out on the ice or not. The thickness of ice should be tested every 150 feet. By doing this you get a better idea of how the ice does vary. There is nothing wrong with being over cautious. Always use extreme caution and stay clear of early ice. Is it worth putting your own life in a dire situation? No. Does that mean people won't take chances? No. Remember, winter waters are dangerously cold and no fish or other recreational activity is worth falling through the ice.



Are those smiles of a successful catch of fish??? Two long time, full-time, property owners on Blanche Lake...Sam Phillips and Steve Nelson

Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc. Board Of Directors Unapproved Meeting Minutes October 22, 2015

The regular business meeting was called to order by President, Ken Wentz, at 7:05 pm at the Ottertail Community Center. The Midweek was recording secretary.

The following directors were in attendance: Ken Wentz, Rita Buntje, Janice d hns n, Marc Wing, Becky Kemling, Pete d hns n, Linda Snyder, Bernie Steeves, Stan Fetters, Scott Simdorn, Pat Hunke, Dan Carlisle, Keith Fleischauer

Absent: Lee Rosenquist, Rob Nelson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Dan Carlisle for the approval of the agenda, and seconded by Marc Wing. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Pat Hunke to approve the September, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Becky Kemling. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: A motion was made by Bernie Steeves to approve the financial report as presented. Seconded by Becky Kemling. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No Report

Guest- No Guest

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Membership Committee – Ken, Linda, Rita, d n, Keith, Amy
i. We are at 1,041 members
ii. Get information out by Nov. 1 for Directory discussed. Working with Midweek as well.

b. Auditing/Finance/Budget Committee – Ken, Linda, Karen, Rob
i. No Update

c. DNR & Government (awareness of what's going on in the area and beyond and bringing it back to the board) – Lee, Dan, Bernie, Becky
i. AIS hiring full-time AIS Specialist position. 4 deacon units out in 2016 in an area this position will be working on.

d. Water Testing/COLA – Dan, Marc, Ken
i. No Update

e. Communications Committee – (Disseminating information to the news media.)
i. No Update

f. Worm Committee – Bernie, Stan, Jan, Marc, Ken
i. No Update

g. Ottertail Wastewater/Sewer District Committee – Rob
i. No Update

h. Fundraising Committee – Pat, Scott
i. No Update

i. Foundation
i. No Update

OLD BUSINESS:
September dinner report. Good food, everyone had a good time.

NEW BUSINESS:
Motion made by Becky Kemling, seconded by Keith Fleischauer, to approve the following bills with in ballpark of these amounts. Motion carried.

• 831 Web LLC	\$150.00
• Sheldon's (Buoy Removal)	
• Paragon Document-	\$25.00
• Karen Young (Quarterly Payment)	
• Rita Buntje	\$1,000.00
• Linda Snyder	\$500.00

Motion made by Stan Fetters, seconded by Rita Buntje, to approve the following donations. Motion carried. Glendalough check approved 10-22-15 and will be handed out in May of 2016 at their event. That payment is for the 2015 donation.

- Glendalough \$500.00
- Battle Lake Fire \$500.00
- Battle Lake Rescue \$500.00
- OT Fire Rescue \$1,000.00
- Community Center \$500.00

Motion made by Rita Buntje, seconded by Pat Hunke, to approve the following blanket bills. Motion carried.

- All bills associated with Membership Drive
- All bills associated with worm drive

Motion made by Stan Fetters, seconded by Marc Wing, to approve the Midweek as minutes/agenda provider. Motion carried.

Motion made by Jan Johnson, seconded by Dan Carlisle, to approve Ken getting information about combining the Annual

Meeting and Association of the year into an one event. Motion carried.

Motion made by Stan Fetters, seconded by Pete Johnson, to support the position of OTC COLA on no Muskie stocking until more data can be provided on the environmental and economic impact. Motion carried. (One person did vote no).

Motion made by Becky Kemling, seconded by Marc Wing, to accept Pat Hunke as the new Treasure. Dan made an

amendment to the motion to include the rate of \$20.00 per hour and other expenses that Pat may incur with Quick Books until the process is smoothed out. Seconded by Scott Simdorn. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Dan Carlisle motioned to close the meeting. Seconded by Marc Wing. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.



Join us in worship!

Visitors Church Directory 2016

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
Am. Baptist Women - 3rd Monday

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
218-862-4908
Worship: 10:30 am
Website: bethellutheran.church

First Lutheran - ELCA ♿
505 Holdt St. W., PO Box 268, Battle Lake
Jake Dyrhaug, Pastor
bfirstlutheran.org
Church—218-864-5686
June - November
Traditional Worship 9am
Children's Ministry Sept.-Nov. 9:50 am
Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am
Contemporary Worship 11:00 am
December - May
Children's Ministry 9:00 am
Coffee Fellowship 9:00 am
Worship 10:00 am

Sverdrup ♿
209 Southeran Ave. E., Underwood
Nancy Monke, Pastor
Church—218-826-6919
Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:15 am (September-May)

LUTHERAN ■■■■

Tingvold
6 miles north of Underwood, Co. 1 & Co. 35
Nancy Monke, Pastor
Church—218-826-6487
Worship 11:00 am
Sunday School 10:00 am (September-May)

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: zionamoroffice@prtcl.com
Website: www.zionamor.org
Memorial Day thru Labor Day —
Worship 8:15 am & 10:00 am
Labor Day thru Memorial Day —
Worship 10:00 am only
Fellowship & refreshments between services
Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
Bible Study - Tuesday 10:00 am (year round)
Contemporary Worship Services - Check Website

METHODIST ■■■■

Ottertail United Methodist Church ♿
104 Shore Drive, Ottertail
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
Sunday School 10:15 am (September-May)

PRESBYTERIAN ■■■■

Maine Presbyterian ♿
30761 Co. Hwy. 45, Maine Township
2 miles north of Phelps Mill
Tom Junkert, Pastor
Email: 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
Staffed nursery & playroom
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

♿ *Indicates Barrier-Free Access*

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, Please email secretary @otlpoa.com

LOST &
FOUND

www.otlpoa.com

Calendar of Events

Feb. 20	Ottertail Lions Mardi Gras	July 9-10	Phelps Mill Festival, Maine
March 11	Monroe Crossing Concert, NYM	July 10	Aim Weekend Walleye Series, OTL
March 24	OTLPOA Board Meeting	July 12	Courthouse Lunch/Band Concert, FF
March 26	Ottertail Easter Egg Hunt	July 14	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
March 26	NYM Easter Egg Hunt	July 15-17	Art of the Lakes Studio Tour
April 9	Maple Syrup Fest, Vergas	July 20-23	West Otter Tail County Fair, FF
April 9-10	The Gathering, Perham	July 21	COLA General Meeting
April 16-17	Lions Smelt Fry, Parkers Prairie	July 21	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
April 21	COLA General Meeting	July 21	MS Tram
April 23	Walk for Glendalough	July 21-24	BL Wenonga Days
April 28	OTLPOA Board Meeting	July 21-24	East Otter Tail County Fair, Perham
May 7	Dent City-Wide Garage Sales	July 23	Deer Trails Day, Deer Creek
May 19	COLA General Meeting	July 23	Art in the Park, Pelican Rapids
May 20	KRCQ Reel Country Classic Fishing Tournament, OTL	July 23-26	Ottertail Art & Music Festival
May 26	OTLPOA Board Meeting	July 28	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
May 27	Mt. Pleasant Cemetery Tour, BL	July 28	OTLPOA Board Meeting
June 2	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	July 29	Pebble Lake Youth Triathlon
June 7	Music on the Green, Ottertail	July 30	Hoot Lake Triathlon
June 9	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	Aug. 2	Music on the Green, Ottertail
June 10	Downtown FF Mystery Tour	Aug. 4	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
June 10-11	Summerfest	Aug. 5-6	Perham Crazy Days
June 11	Running Wild Trail Run, MSP	Aug. 6	Lakes Country Fly-in Air & Car Show, Perham
June 11	Ronald McDonald House Ride, NYM	Aug. 11	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
June 11	NYM Youth Baseball 10th Annual Walleye Tournament, Big Pine Lake	Aug. 11-14	Looney Daze, Vergas
June 11	NYM Great American Think Off	Aug. 12	Rod & Gun Demo Derby
June 11	Frazee Crazy Daze	Aug. 13	BL Art & Craft Affair
June 12	Lake Country Sportsmen's Club 22nd Annual Walleye Tournament, OTL	Aug. 13	Otterfest
June 15-18	Perham Turtle Fest	Aug. 13	Otterfest Lions Breakfast
June 16	COLA General Meeting	Aug. 13	Glendalough State Park - Celebrating 125 and 25 Years of History
June 16	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	Aug. 16	Music on the Green, Ottertail
June 17	Relay for Life West Otter Tail County	Aug. 18	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
June 18	Henning Citywide Garage Sale	Aug. 18	COLA Annual Meeting & Awards
June 18-19	West BL Walleye Tournament	Aug. 19	World Famous Turkey BBQ Henning
June 21	Music on the Green, Ottertail	Aug. 19	Puppet Pageant, NYM
June 22	Lake Alice Cyclone Tour	Aug. 20	Watermelon Day, Vining
June 22	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	Aug. 25	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
June 23	OTLPOA Board Meeting	Aug. 25	OTLPOA Board Meeting
June 30	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	Aug. 27-28	Finn Creek Festival, NYM
July 1	Parking Lot Party, Ottertail	Sept. 1	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
July 1-2	Prairie Fire (area kids) performance of Peter Pan, Vergas	Sept. 3	Gathering of Airplanes, BL
July 5	Music on the Green, Ottertail	Sept. 15	COLA General Meeting
July 7	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	Sept. 17	The Viking Challenge & Crusade
July 8	Summer Celebration, NYM	Sept. 22	OTLPOA Board Meeting
July 8	Fish House Festival, NYM	Sept. 24	Central Lakes Cycle Duathlon
July 8	Perham Relay for Life	Sept. 24	Colors & Textures of MN Autumn, BL
July 8	Lund Mania Fishing Tournament, OTL	Sept. 24	Pumpkin Fest, BL
July 8-10	Henning Area Festival	October 1	Vergas Hairyman Festival
July 9	Dent Daze		

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

Conservation Corps Assisting Homeowners

By Gabe Dretz



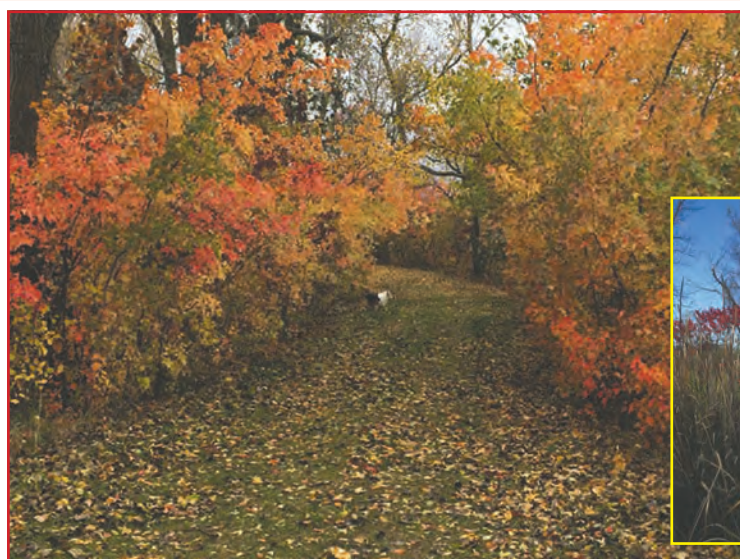
A Minnesota Conservation Corps Young Adult Crew assisted landowners with installing shoreline stabilization projects. The Minnesota Conservation Corps is a non-profit agency which provides young adults ages 15-25 the opportunity to participate in meaningful natural

resource, emergency response, and community based service learning projects.

In doing so, participants receive a modest living allowance, health insurance, valuable work experience, on the job training, career development, and an AmeriCorps education award. The crews work ten hours a day, four days a week, come equipped with all tools and personal equipment needed to accomplish the job at hand, depending on project location the crew at times camps overnight at state parks while working on projects. This effort was funded by a grant submitted by the landowner to the MN Conservation Corps through the Clean Water Legacy Program. In 2015 the MCC Labor Crew, with a permit from EOTSWCD staff, was able to install 13 projects on lakes throughout Otter Tail County in just 7 days of work. A grant will also be submitted again for the upcoming 2016 installation season to help assist landowners with installations.



Fish house on Blanche Lake..one of the many winter activities!



A wonderful trail in the Wildlife Management Area along Hwy. 78.



Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs)

...the crown jewels of Minnesota's wildlife management operation.

- 1,440 public wildlife areas with 1.29 million acres of habitat, from prairies and wetlands to forests and wetlands for Minnesota's wildlife species
- Recreation for upland, waterfowl, and deer hunters.
- Wildlife watching opportunities including: sandhill cranes, herons, prairie chickens, shorebirds, waterfowl, and more.

Source: 2016 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Contractor License #ea6511969

OHREN ELECTRIC LLC
www.ohrelectric.com

Serving Fergus Falls & Surrounding Communities

Residential Commercial Agricultural

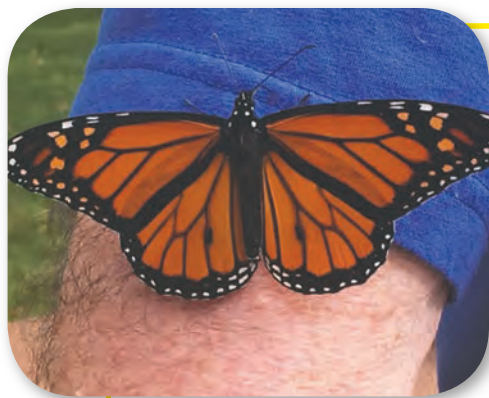
Your Full Service Electrical Contractor

16 Years of Experience
Locally Owned & Operated

Justin Ohren, Electrical Contractor

24663 Rose View Drive | Dalton, MN
218.770.2890 | ohrelectric@yahoo.com





Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus*

The monarch butterfly is a common insect that lives throughout Minnesota during the summer. It's seen in ballparks and in rural areas. Its large size, wide range, and bright orange and black wings make it one of Minnesota's most well-known insects.

Source: 2016 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Fishing Tournaments

The DNR regulates fishing contests to protect fish and their habitat, to restrict activity during high use periods and for environmental safety. Regulating contests also serves to reduce the potential for conflicts with other water recreationists at public access sites and on the water.

To look at the rules and to download a fishing tournament application go to <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/tournaments/requirements.html> and click on Fishing Tournament Application.

Please also note there are civil penalties if you are in violation of transporting aquatic macrophytes or nonnative species into Minnesota waters. These fines range from \$100 to \$500. (see below)

Listed below are the 2016 Walleye Tournaments that are on file in Otter Tail County.

2016 Walleye Tournaments in Otter Tail County

Name/Lake	Hrs: Day 1/Day 2	Est. Entrants/Boats	
Date	Entry Fee	Est. Prize	Contact Phone #
5/20/16 KRCQ Reel Country Classic Fishing Tournament	Otter Tail 8am-4pm/na	200/100	
	\$87.50	\$10,000 - \$24,999	Jeff Leighton 218-847-5624
6/11/16 New York Mills Youth Baseball 10th Annual Walleye Tournament	Big Pine 7am-3:15pm/na	100/50	
	\$90.00	\$2,000 - \$4,999	Trent Ament 218-639-3697
6/12/16 Lake Country Sportsmen's Club 22nd Annual Walleye Tournament	Otter Tail 7am-3pm/na	100/50	
	\$100.00	\$5,000 - \$9,999	Dean Sharpe 218-495-3040
6/18/16 32nd Annual West Battle Lake Walleye Tournament	West Battle 7am-3:30pm/7am-2:30pm	100/50	
	\$100.00	\$5,000 - \$9,999	Ribbard Bullard 320-429-0541
7/8/16 Lund Mania Fishing Tournament	Otter Tail 7am-2pm/na	100/50	
	\$175.00	\$25,000 - \$49,999	Julie Gerber 218-385-2213
7/10/16 Aim Weekend Walleye Series	Otter Tail 7am-3:15pm/na	200/100	
	\$150.00	\$10,000 - \$24,999	Brett King 507-456-4130

Source: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/tournaments/index.html> as of Jan. 25, 2016

Penalties

- Failing to have drain plugs or similar devices removed or opened while transporting water-related equipment or for failing to remove plugs open valves and drain water from water-related equipment, other than marine sanitary fixtures before leaving waters of the state \$100

- Transporting aquatic macrophytes in violation of section 84D.09 \$100
- Placing or attempting to place into waters of the state water-related equipment that has aquatic macrophytes attached \$200

- Unlawfully possessing or transporting a prohibited invasive species* other than an aquatic macrophyte \$500

- Placing or attempting to place into waters of the state water-related equipment that has prohibited invasive species attached when the waters are not listed by the commissioner as being infested with that invasive species \$500

- Intentionally damaging, moving, removing, or sinking a buoy marking, as prescribed by rule, Eurasian watermilfoil \$100

Also a civil citation that is issued to a person who has one or more prior convictions or final orders for violations of Minnesota Statutes 84D.13 is subject to twice the penalty amounts listed above.

Source: 2015 Minnesota Statutes 84D.13

***What is An Aquatic Macrophyte?** It's a macroscopic nonwoody plant, either a submerged, floating leafed, floating, or emergent plant that naturally grows in water.

****What Is An Invasive Species?** It's a nonnative species that causes or may cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health; or threatens or may threaten natural resources or the use of natural resources in the state.

Source 2015 Minnesota Statutes 84D.01 Definitions Subd. 2 and 9a

DIY Organic Bird Feeder

By Leah Kleghad

If you are a bird lover or have a love for crafts you might like this little project. This is a fun and organic bird feeder that adults and children alike will enjoy assembling. The materials you will need are:

- A few large and untreated pinecones
- Bakers twine or any other non-toxic ribbon or string
- Sugar free, salt free peanut butter or organic nut butter
- Birdseed or organic nuts and seeds
- Scissors
- WARNING this project can get messy

Step 1: Tie a piece of ribbon, string or Baker's Twine near the top of your pinecone. It is important to tie the string on right away so you have something to hold onto when you continue on with the following steps

Step 2: Roll your pinecone in white or nut butter you have as listed above in the materials needed. Feel free to use a butter knife or simply use your fingers to get the nut butter in every nook and cranny of the pinecone.

Step 3: Next, you can start rolling your gooey nut-butter coated pinecones in the birdseed or organic nuts and seeds. Make sure to push pieces into the crevices of the pinecone for an added surprise!

Step 4: Go ahead and hang your Organic bird feeder in the tree of your choice, then sit back and enjoy some bird watching!

Something to note, is that you shouldn't worry about enticing birds to stay at your residence during the winter. Most birds are usually just passing through and being out the wintery skies you have sitting out for them!



Clip and Save

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	Bernie Steeves	bsteeves@arvig.net	218-367-2104
	Marc Wing	mwing@prtcl.com	218-495-3570

Cost Share

By Gabe Dretsch

Cost share assistance may be available for landowners interested in pursuing a water quality project along their shoreline. Projects such as shoreline buffers, rain gardens and other storm water management practices have the ability to be cost shared depending on the availability of funding. Visiting with a shoreline specialist will help you understand the cost share process and whether or not your project will qualify for cost share funds, there is certain criteria for qualifying for cost share and this should be visited about prior to project installation with a

representative from the EOTSWCD's shoreline program. In 2015 the EOTSWCD was able to assist 27 landowners with cost share funding totaling \$156,154.52. The EOTSWCD still has approximately \$30,000 unallocated grant dollars through our Community Partner's Grant program. The best way to way to find out about cost share funding availability through our grant programs is to contact a shoreline specialist either Gabe Dretsch or Aimee Zimmermann. They can be reached at 218-346-4260 Ext. 3.

Aquatic Invaders Summit II

Save the date! The Aquatic Invaders Summit II will be held October 5 & 6 at the Riverside Convention Center, St. Cloud, MN.

Many aquatic invasive species (AIS) are now present in Minnesota, most notably Eurasian watermilfoil, zebra mussels, and spiny water flea. A new nasty invader – curly leaved pondweed – has recently appeared and others are on Minnesota's doorstep. These invaders threaten the current and future recreational enjoyment of our state's waters. Not only can AIS impede recreation, but they can change the ecosystem balance, potentially forever.

Learn how local units of government are utilizing their County AIS Aid; hear about unique approaches to prevention and new research on control and management of AIS; experience new and unique communication technologies to reach boaters with AIS prevention messages explore ways the business reports, and sporting communities can help stop the spread of AIS... and more.

More information to come from www.mnlakeassociation.org.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Proposed Musky Stocking – Public Comment

January 2, 2016

DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr
Proposed Musky Stocking – Public Comment

Tullibee, Walleye, Musky, Changing Weather

I grew up in Battle Lake and remember when non-native muskies were introduced into West Battle in the 1960's. Musky rearing ponds were built just north of town by Darly Trumbauer. After living and working in areas around the county including Fargo, Assland

WI, Minot ND, Elk River MN, Challis ID, Annandale, MN, Missoula MT we moved back to our families 1926 property on Clitherall Lake in August 2000.

I've been a member of the Clitherall Lake Association since then in addition to Otter Tail Co COLA. I attended the COLA meeting in July 2012 in Ottertail City and saw the presentation by Peter Johnson, DNR Fisheries regarding tullibee and their sensitivity to water temperature. Clitherall, West Battle and East Battle have tullibee while West Battle also has/had whitefish.

About that same period of time, I found a dead 52" musky at the south DNR access on Clitherall Lake. Clitherall is only a couple miles upstream from West Battle so musky sightings are not uncommon. As far as I am concerned, a tullibee that a musky eats is a tullibee not available for a walleye; to the detriment of the health of our Clitherall Lake walleye and tullibee fishery.

Clitherall Lake was one of 9 lakes in Otter Tail Co shortlisted for musky stocking. At the July 12, 2014, Clitherall Lake Association (CLA) Annual Meeting, Jim Wolters DNR Fisheries made a presentation on proposed musky stocking including a 2 page Q & A document which stated that musky prefer "white sucker and tullibee" and that there are 290,000 musky anglers. Following Jim's presentation, while he was still present, a vote was taken with 8 in support and 80 against musky stocking. A presentation by Jim Wolters

the previous week at the East Battle Lake Annual meeting resulted in a similar, overwhelming vote against stocking.

On Jan 30, 2015 Star Tribune article on Saving the tullibee points out that "Tullibees are a great variety in the mine's affluents and "for Minnesota's prize gamefish – especially walleye, muskies and lake trout – tullibees are a favorite meal far around."

A May 2, 2015 Star Tribune article regarding tullibee in Mille Lacs by Peter Johnson describes that "Tullibee, a cold-water loving fish that is a critical prey (forage) for walleye, is largely gone from Mille Lacs. In fact, tullibee is in trouble across the state."

A Dec 2, 2015 Star Tribune article describes the "second monster musky in 17 days on Mille Lacs which was

"gorging on high-calorie, high-fat forage fish" The fishermen described their "plan of following congregations of (tullibee) near shallow, underwater rock shores where the forage fish were spawning."

A Dec 29, 2015 Star Tribune article regarding the Otter Tail Co Board unanimous vote against musky stocking includes Jim Wolters characterization that feedback from area residents was "neutral to slight opposition". His quote is well beyond misleading; it is simply not true. How many of the 88 plus attendees at that July 12, 2014 CLA meeting believed to believe him or any other DNR representative when they proclaim that "muskies do not negatively affect other species" I'm reminded of the tobacco company presidents at a congressional hearing in Washington, DC passing the microphone down the line from one to the other, each repeating "smoking tobacco does not cause cancer"

A moratorium on musky stocking is necessary until science can prove no harm. With tullibee at risk state wide, the results and prognosis from Mille Lacs could be repeated state wide on a regular and proposed musky stocked lakes

Jeff Stabnow
Clitherall MN

These are my comments on stocking for your information and do not represent Otter Tail COLA, OTPLA or the Clitherall Lake Association
Jeff Stabnow

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Grants For Watercraft Inspections

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Invasive Species Program is offering grants for watercraft inspections by DNR staff in 2016. These grants are intended to help prevent the spread of AIS especially zebra mussels, into Minnesota waters. This grant program is designed to assist local organizations that would like additional watercraft inspections (beyond what is done by the DNR Watercraft Inspection Program) at particular water accesses.

Application for the deadline is February 22, 2016. For more information contact Wendy Crowell, Ecological Resources Grants Coordinator DNR at Wendy.crowell@state.mn.us or 651-259-5085

First MLR Lake Association Summit

The first Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (MLR) Association Summit is planned for Feb. 20, 2016. The summit will be located at the Minneapolis Convention Center from 2:00-3:30pm.

For the first time MLR will bring representatives from many lake associations together, identify issues, talk about successes and gaps to success, and identify agenda items that are important to all of you.

Dr. Peter Sorensen, a world renowned AIS researcher, will be there to make a short presentation and answer questions.

Executive Director Jeff Forester will announce the 2016 Aquatic Invaders Summit, present the suggested tracks and potential speakers, and get feedback from the group as to what would be most useful. He will also hold a listening session to get a clear idea of your priorities for 2016, and give an update on the upcoming Legislative Session and the 2016 election.

MNCOLA, which is a member of MLR, will also have representatives there to talk about the important work they are doing to advance lake and river issues.

The MLR Lake Association Summit is open and FREE to two representatives from all Lake Association members.

MLR has quickly become Minnesota's largest advocate for Lake Associations across the state. Our strength comes from all of us speaking with one voice

Information provided by Jeff Forester, MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates

A Happy Place

Submitted by Linda Wisman (LeNoue)

On August 1, 2015, Maggie Wisman and Sean Collins both from Flagstaff Arizona, were married at the lake house of Marv and Bette LeNoue. Maggie, a senior at Northern Arizona University, has spent fifteen summers with her sister at their Grandparents Otter Tail Lake cabin. The girls call Otter Tail Lake their 'happy place' and they traveled there from all across the United States while they were growing up. Maggie wanted to have her wedding at her grandparents house to welcome Sean into the Minnesota family and to share her lake love with him.

Family from Arizona, California, Georgia, Montana, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Washington and Iowa gathered with the Minnesota branch to enjoy a beautiful lake day, BBQ and dancing.

Sean and Maggie are seniors in the mechanical engineering program at NAU where they met. In addition, they are Air Force ROTC cadets and upon graduation next spring, they will commission as Second Lieutenants and have a mutual goal to train as pilots. Grandpa and Grandma are very proud.



Do you have a good story or event that you would like to share? If so send your story or event to secretary@otlpoa.com

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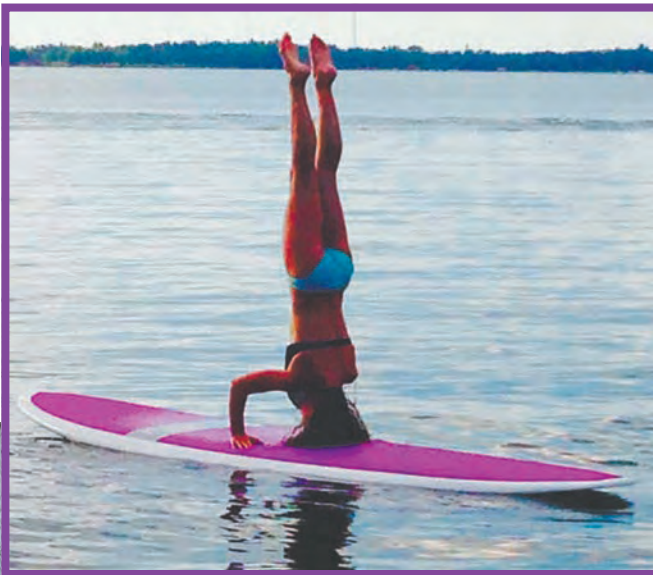
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Alexa Weber

Equipment Essentials

Remember that the life jackets are not the same in two spots. Always make sure you are buying every 150 feet. There are various tools you can bring that will help minimize the risk of you plunging into the deadly cold waters like rope, an inflatable and tape measures are essential tools and light to carry. Always make sure that someone knows where you are going and when you will be back. By someone else knowing where you are they are able to be in on you to see if you are all right or how good the fishing is. With that said, make sure to have a personal locator or mobile device on you so that people can get a hold of you if need be.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the only time you are to never wear a life jacket on the lake is when you are riding in a watercraft? The reasoning for that is it could delay the escape from your sinking watercraft, which can result in drowning.

The act of wearing a life jacket should always be practiced when you are on the lake no matter what time of the year it is. Minnesota's Department of Natural Resources statistics clearly state that most boating accidents and fatalities happen during the "cold water season". In those accidents most of the deaths are from drowning due to lack of a life jacket.

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2016 Cola Meetings

COLA will hold their General Meetings on the third Thursday of each month (April thru September) starting at 7pm. These meetings will be held at the Community Center, 103 S. Lake Avenue, Ottertail, MN.

The 2016 dates are April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18 and September 15. The August 18 meeting will be Cola's Annual Meeting including awards, volunteer of the year, organization of the year and election of officers and directors.

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Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc. Board Of Directors

Approved Meeting Minutes September 24, 2015

The regular business meeting was called to order by President, Ken Wentz, at 6:05pm at Beach Bums Bar & Eatery.

The following directors were in attendance: Ken Wentz, Scott Simborn, Linda Snyder, Dan Carlisle, Stan Fetters, Pat Hunke, Janice Johnson, Rob Nelson, Lee Rosenquist, Bernie Steeves, Rita Buntje and Marc Wing

Absent: Keith Fleischauer, Becky Kemling, and Pete Johnson

Water testers in attendance: Ray Long - Round Lake, Stan Satres - Walker Lake, Dan Carlisle - Otter Tail Lake, Marc Wing - Otter Tail Lake, Ken Wentz - Blanche Lake

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Lee Rosenquist to approve agenda, Jan Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Rob Nelson to approve the August 20, 2015, meeting minutes. Stan Fetters seconded.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made by Stan Fetters to pay bills as noted. Marc Wing seconded. Motion carried.

Amy Kern (4 Hrs.)	\$80
Beach Bums Meals	As billed
Water Testers Mileage	\$400

OTHER BUSINESS:

This was the annual appreciation meal held in honor of our water testers and Foundation members. Ken Wentz thanked all of the guests for their participation this year.

The next meeting will be held on October 22, 2015, at the Ottertail Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Stan Fetters to adjourn current meeting. Marc Wing seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40PM.



Summer Art; The Family Totem Pole
Ken's Grandkids Eva, Josephine, and Shepherd Wentz

Fun Family Totem Pole

By Leah Klegstad

Each summer our OTLPOA President, Ken Wentz, and his family get together to do an art project that will commemorate a fulfilling summer spent at the lake. This past summer of 2015 Wentz and his family decided to orchestrate a vibrant and fun family totem pole.

The masks were blank canvases waiting for imagination to run its course. With vibrant colors and small details these one blank faces had some life and personality breathed into them. To withstand the harsh weather we sometimes experience here in Minnesota, a layer of bear finish was applied to each mask to assure the durability. Wentz and his grandkids then hung each face on a tree at their lake home, completing their fun family totem pole. Truly a fun craft and an excellent way to commemorate the laughs and smiles shared amongst loved ones.

The totem pole has been stored for the winter, but when summer hits you can bet that Ken and his family will be assembling it out on their tree. The memories that painted a picture of last summer will be reminded upon one again.



What a fun way to commemorate a fulfilling summer.

Shoreline Program

By Gabe Dretsch

The shoreline program had a busy year across Otter Tail County with over 80 site visits throughout the County. Shoreline visits discussed issues with ice damage, storm water runoff, bluff stabilization, prairie establishment, and lake shore buffers. 31 projects were installed with 27 different landowners on 13 different lakes during 2015. Of the projects installed there were; 23 shoreline buffers, 5 rain gardens, and 3 bluff stabilizations. Along with shoreline visits and installations the EOT shoreline staff also gave informative presentations for lake associations, a garden club, and 3rd and 4th grade students during the Ag in the classroom event held for Perham Elementary Students. Technical assistance is free of charge for landowners of Otter Tail County thanks to the support from Otter Tail County, the SWCD's, and local lake associations. Technical assistance

includes but isn't limited to shoreline visits, site design, and presentations. If interested in having a shoreline specialist visit your shoreline please contact Gabe Dretsch or Aimee Zimmermann at the EOTSWCD office, they can be reached at 218-346-4260 Ext. 3.

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Want To Try Making Your Own Totem Pole?

By Leah Klegstad

This is a fun project for adults and children alike, here are the materials you will need:

- blank paper Mache masks of any kind
- white outdoor acrylic paint
- any other color of outdoor acrylic paint you want
- clear finish for weather durability

Step 1: The first step to creating your mask is to paint a couple coats using the white outdoor acrylic paint. This will be a nice base coat and assure that the colors you apply afterwards will be bright and vibrant. This layer of paint should be set out to dry overnight.

Step 2: Now that your white base coat has sat overnight, it is ready for your imagination to run its course on the blank surface, using the colored outdoor acrylic paint. After your design is finished, you must let it dry again for a few hours. It is best to let it sit overnight.

Step 3: Once your mask is completely dry, the final step is to put a coat or two of clear finish. Once dried your mask is ready to wear or hang on your own fun family totem pole for everyone to see.

2015 Wine and Appetizer Fundraiser Event

This event was held at the beautiful Thumper Pond last summer. Both the inside and outside facilities were used allowing an indoor/outdoor-like atmosphere. The weather was great and many were more than happy to enjoy the fresh air. Wine and appetizers were provided to those who purchased a ticket, with a cash bar for other drinks. A silent auction was held with many unique items provided by individuals and various businesses. The DNR representative that attended this event was providing info on AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species). All in all this was yet another successful Fundraising event with an estimate of 120 people who attended!



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Look For The History Of Blanche Lake In Our May Issue!

An Autumn pontoon ride on Blanche Lake, with Nancy Oehler Love, Judy and Bill Oehler.

If you have any history you would like to share or have published in the May issue of Lakeshore News regarding the history of Blanche Lake, we would like to encourage you to send in old photos and descriptions of the events that have taken place.

Please send in your old photos and stories to share at: leah@themidweekpublications.com or stop by The Midweek Office and send your images. Deadline is April 20th by 4pm.

You Can Help MAISRC

Please consider making a financial contribution to the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC). Researchers at the MAISRC are working tirelessly to protect Minnesota's precious lakes and rivers from aquatic invaders.

MAISRC works to develop research-based solutions that can reduce the impacts of AIS in Minnesota. This is done by preventing spread, controlling populations and managing ecosystems. Whether it's developing early detection tools for zebra mussel veligers, testing removal techniques for common carp, or evaluating controls for Eurasian watermilfoil, this crucial research requires boats, motors, trailers and other capital equipment to advance.

To make a gift go to crowdfund.umn.edu/AISresearch.

We Need Your Help! Have You Filled Out Your Membership Renewal Form?

We need your help!!!! Below is a copy of OTLPOA's 2016 Membership Renewal Form that was mailed to you in January. If you no longer have the letter please use the form on this page and mail it by March 1, to OTLPOA, PO Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515.

WHY IS THE FORM SO IMPORTANT?

In an effort to ensure all of our records are correct, we would like to confirm the information we have on record for you.

Summer And Winter Address Information

We use your "winter" address to send all Association members any information we feel you would like to know regarding issues that are developing regarding our lakes area during this time frame (Oct-Nov-Dec-Jan-Feb-Mar-Apr). Also, members will receive our February issue of the Association Newsletter at their winter address. We will use your "winter" address for that Newsletter issue. Please let us know if the name and address we have on the Membership Renewal Form as your "winter" address is not correct.

The "summer" address is what we would use to mail all "summer" notifications and newsletters. Many times, this address is different than your summer lake home address. The lake home address is what we will use within our Directory but your "summer" address is where you receive your mail during the summer. This must be an address that's recognized by the United States Post Office and where they can deposit your mail for pickup. Please let us know if what we have on the Membership Renewal Form as your "summer" address is not correct.

Email Information

As you may be aware, there are times when we would like to notify you quickly (such as when we will be delivering the updated 2016 Directory, when we would be doing the army caterpillar spraying, annual OTLPOA meeting reminder, etc). By supplying us with an email, we can ensure you receive this type of notification in a timely manner. If the owner of the property does not have an email, please feel free to supply us with the email address of a family member who can then follow up with a phone call or visit, as the notice would require. We will NEVER share this information with any person or group.

Additional Comments

As always, we are interested in knowing if you have any suggestions or comments for our association. Please note any questions, concerns or comments on the backside of the membership form. We will try to either personally contact you or post your questions/comments (anonymously) in our newsletter for others to view.

2016 IS ALSO THE YEAR FOR A NEW/UPDATED LAKE DIRECTORY

This directory covers the 5 lakes (Blanche, Deer, Otter Tail, Round, and Walker – as well as Otter Tail River North) that comprise our Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association. As you are probably aware, our directories are free to all paid 2016 OTLPOA members and cost \$25 for non-members. We publish an updated directory every 2 years and hand deliver these to our members throughout the summer as needed but we focus on delivery July 1 – through July 15. (If you have provided an email address, we will notify you of a more definite date).

We have heard from various members that

they have not received their directory in the past and we are working diligently to ensure this doesn't happen again. All directories are left at the address of the lake property. We are sorry but mailing these is just not an option – it would just be too costly. If no one is home when we deliver these directories, we have – on occasion – left the directory at your lake home by putting the directory between the doors or put into a plastic bag and left it hanging from the door handle. We have also left the directory with a neighbor when they have volunteered to deliver it to the correct property when someone is on site.

We publish a notice in our Lakeshore Newsletter to inform everyone when the directories are available and delivery has

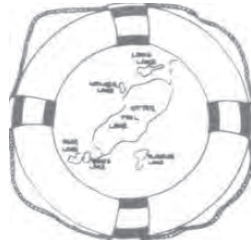
started. The article encourages anyone that is eligible for a directory but has not received it to notify us so that delivery can be arranged and verified by all parties involved.

As you can see, we are trying our best to ensure that everyone receives their Lakeshore Directory. We understand what a valuable tool this is to most of you. If you have not received a directory in past years, here is a brief summary of what was in the 2014 Directory.

- 911 Number Listing by Lake
- Advertisements
- AIS Problems and DNR Facts
- Alphabetical Listing of all Lakes
- Alphabetical Listing of Businesses by Lake
- County and Township Officials
- Emergency Numbers

- Explore the Links on Our Website
- Fish Transportation, Shipping, Storage
- Index of Advertisers
- Map of Businesses
- Map of Lakes
- OTLPOA Association Directors

If there is something you would like to see changed or added, we welcome your suggestions. Just note them on the back of the Membership Form or if you use the form below, write them on an additional sheet of paper, and include them with your membership Renewal Form. As always, please feel free to contact any of the OTLPOA directors directly or email us with your comments/concerns at Secretary@otlpoa.com.



OTTERTAIL LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.

PO Box 21 - Battle Lake, MN 56515

Secretary@otlpoa.com

2016 Membership

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

- Membership \$25
- Foundation \$10
- TOTAL \$35**

- Includes \$10 donation to OTLPOA Foundation

\$ 35

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

Make check payable to: OTLPOA

P. O. Box 21
Battle Lake, MN 56515

(Total enclosed) \$ _____

I do not want to join the Association at this time

(If this is your choice, would you share your reasons by noting on an additional sheet on paper? We will use any comments as a means to improve our Association to meet the expectations of our members)

(Please return this form to ensure accurate information)

MEMBER INFORMATION

Property Owner at summer lake property address:

The information as shown on the attached label will be used in this year's update of our directory unless otherwise notified

(label attached here)

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

(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)

Email address will be used for notification of the delivery of 2016 Lakeshore Directory,

Notification of date for tent caterpillar/worm spraying, updates of possible lake changing issues, etc

(If you don't personally have an email address, you can substitute one for a family member who will let you know of these notifications)

How can the association better serve you? Please include an additional sheet of paper with this info

- What lake related topic or issue is most important to you. How do you think our Association can help?
- Suggestions for Lakeshore Newsletter

Did You Know?

Finding a control for purple loose strife took 25 years from initial exploration to implementation.

It took over \$5 million and 20 years to find and develop a bacteria into the product Zequanox that is just being tried in open water zebra mussel treatments now.

Source : www.maisc.umn.edu

PULL THE PLUG ON AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS

Actions Required by MN Law to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species:

- ✓ **Clean** aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species off watercraft, trailers, and equipment before leaving the water access.
- ✓ **Drain** water from boat, ballast tanks, portable bait container, and motor before leaving a water access – and drain bilge, livewell, and baitwell by removing drain plugs. **Keep drain plugs out** while transporting boats.
- ✓ **Dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash. It is illegal to release live bait into the water, or to dump worms on the ground.



mndnr.gov/ais
© 2014 MNDNR



IBI Testing On Blanche

Captured in the photos below, you will see a fisheries group based out of Brainerd Minnesota. The crew was collecting samples of small fish and minnows for a program called the Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI). The fish data can be collected a few different ways, which are by the use of trap nets, gill nets, breamline seines, or backpack electrofishing. Based on all of the data of fish species collected, each lake is then given an IBI score. By giving each lake an IBI score, it can then be used for assessing the lake water resource quality as part of the state's Clean Water Legacy Program.



Ken Wentz took these pictures on Blanche Lake as fish were tested at 18 different locations



(The photos show breamline seining with a 50 foot, 1/4-inch mesh seine)

-Steve Kubeny
MN DNR Fisheries Specialist
Fergus Falls MN

Who Do I Contact?

You should have no hesitation when it comes to asking about something you are unsure of. Minnesota Conservation will be more than happy to help you identify if you have found traces of the zebra mussel. Minnesota Conservation will then reach out to the Minnesota DNR (Department of Natural Resources) to further help in your investigation to identifying the zebra mussel or other unusual items.

All you have to do is snap a picture and send it with a description along with your name and contact information to Conservation. Minnesota email at: info@conservationminnesota.org



Did You Know?

Did you know that 5 percent of Minnesota's fresh waters are infested with invasive species? Two percent of which are infested with the pesky zebra mussel. Although it may not seem like much, it is a problem nonetheless that needs to be assessed and corrected before it grows even larger.

Invasive Hitchhiker: Zebra Mussel

By Leah Klegstad

The zebra mussel, a mollusk that originates from Eastern Europe and Western Russia, has hitchhiked its way into our freshwater lakes of Minnesota. Quite the distance, wouldn't you say? This invasive species was first found in the Duluth/Superior Harbor, part of the Minnesota Great Lakes in the late 1980s.

In more recent studies some of the Otter Tail County lakes have been added to the MN DNR List of Infested Waters. There are exactly 1,048 lakes located right inside Otter Tail County. Out of that immense number of lakes 19 of them are in fact infested with the zebra mussel.

You may think big deal or who cares it's just a mere clam, that doesn't affect me. Well, I'm sorry to burst your bubble, but zebra mussels cause a vast amount of problems for both people and other aquatic life. The damaging effects that this invasive species has on us people are barely only. Zebra mussels are known to clog irrigation systems and other pipes many of which are big city power plants. These little hitchhikers can clog the water intake resulting in a costly aftermath.

Keep your eyes peeled when using equipment that will be submerged in the water, as it is very easy to get cut by the shell of a zebra mussel. It is very important to keep your water amenities and equipment clear of any weeds or debris. Zebra mussels in the past, have been found attached to boat motors or hulls along with other aquatic debris. This can reduce the performance and efficiency of your boating equipment.

How do I know if it's a zebra mussel or not? There are many things you can do as an individual to help eliminate this pesky species from our Minnesota waters. The first step in doing so is to know how to identify this aquatic animal. The zebra mussel is quite small in size. The adult mollusk can be anywhere from a 1/4" to 1 1/2" in length

with a 'D-shaped' shell. Yellow and brownish colored stripes are the typical color pattern of the zebra mussel.

I am ready to take action, what do I do? As I stated before, keeping your water amenities and equipment clean is key. Clean, drain, dispose and dry, these are the steps you must take. By cleaning your boats, docks, jet skis, etc., thoroughly you should be able to see if there are any aquatic hitchhikers attached. One cleaned and hitchhikers are removed, you can then drain any live-wells, baitwells, or other drain plug your water vehicle may have. One other important tip is to always remove the plugs while traveling.

Next, you should dispose of any unwanted bait in the trash. Why, you may ask? Well, the zebra mussels can attach to anything solid as well as other aquatic animals. The zebra mussel is also known for attaching itself to native freshwater mussels and smothering them. This is just one more reason on why we need to be rid of this invasive species as it is impacting the freshwater animals native to Minnesota. The eggs of a zebra mussel are microscopic making them impossible to see. Like the adult mollusk, the little eggs will attach to anything they can. Since they are impossible to see, it is necessary to dispose of any unwanted bait properly, even though it seems like a waste.

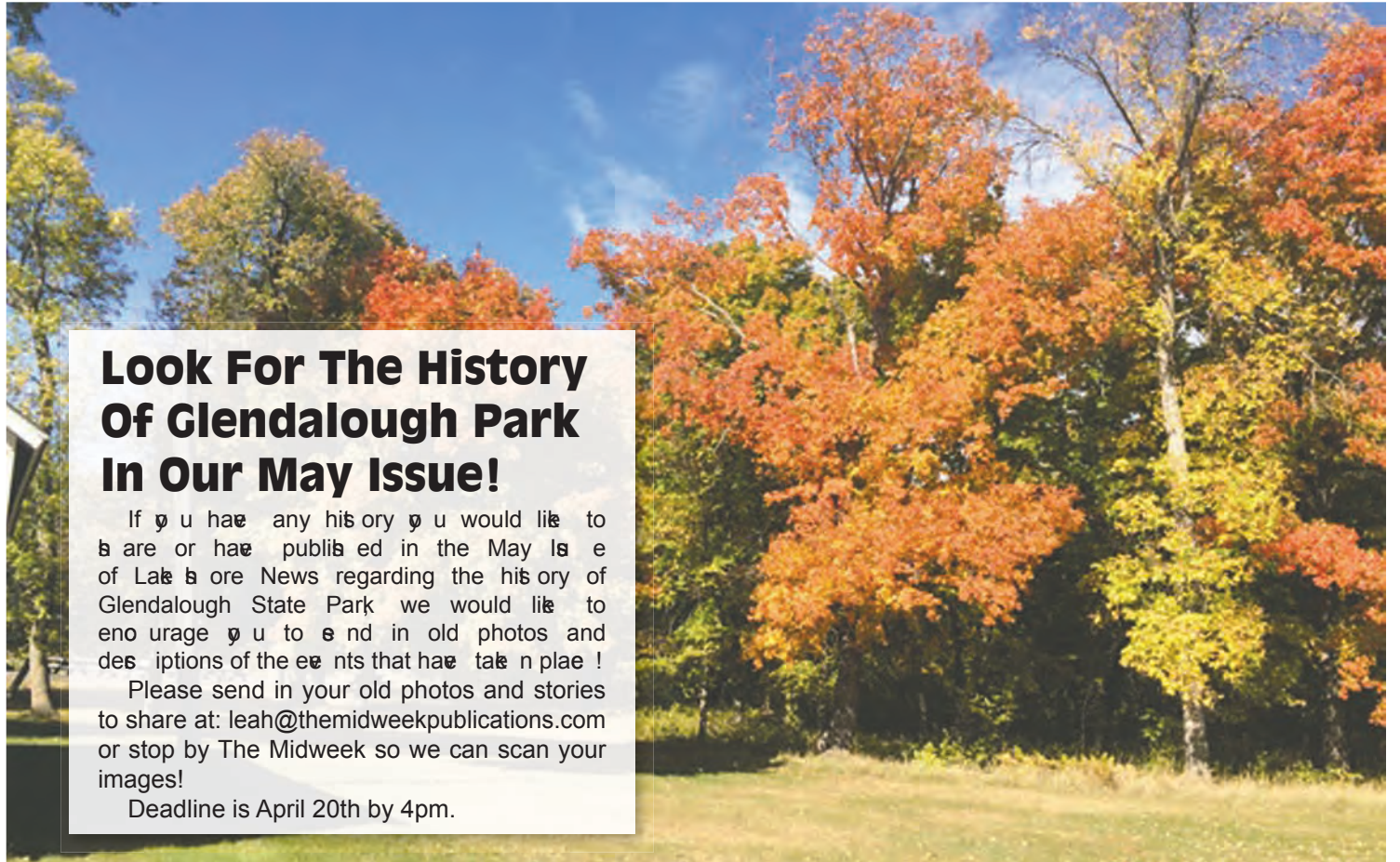
Lastly, before you even think about going to another lake with any aquatic equipment or vehicle, it is important and necessary to let everything dry thoroughly. This may not be the most convenient choice but it is the right one. Anywhere from five to 21 days, your equipment should sit out and dry. It is absolutely crucial that this precaution is taken seriously. The zebra mussel, after all, is an aquatic hitchhiker; so let's do all we can as individuals to help stop this invasive species from hitching a ride from lake to lake and keep our beautiful freshwater lakes of Minnesota clear of any invasive species.

Ice Thickness Guidelines

What are the minimum ice thickness guidelines?

The ice thickness guidelines are very important to follow for any kind of recreational activity taking place on the frozen lake. It seems like there are so many technicalities it feels taxing, right? Wrong. The more precautions you take the better.

At the very least, there needs to be four inches of ice for you to be able to ice fish or other on-foot activities. For snowmobiles or an all-terrain vehicle there needs to be at least five inches for safe travel. A car or small pick-up can travel safe on 8–12 inches of ice. For a medium sized vehicle there needs to be 12–15 inches of ice. Remember not to assume the ice density, always test and check! If the ice is white or covered with snow, all of these minimums can be doubled, but remember that no ice can ever be considered “safe ice,” always be prepared for the worst.



Look For The History Of Glendalough Park In Our May Issue!

If you have any history you would like to share or have published in the May issue of Lakeshore News regarding the history of Glendalough State Park we would like to encourage you to send in old photos and descriptions of the events that have taken place!

Please send in your old photos and stories to share at: leah@themidweekpublications.com or stop by The Midweek so we can scan your images!

Deadline is April 20th by 4pm.

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What Is Heterosporis?

Heterosporis was recently identified as a priority species by the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center. It is caused by the parasite *Heterosporis sutherlandae* which was first reported in 1990 in Leech Lake, Cass County, MN and Catfish Lake, WI. These type of emerging fish diseases threaten our already at-risk wild fish populations, sport fishing, and aquaculture in Minnesota.

The parasite is known to infect 15 species of freshwater fish, including walleye, yellow perch, and fathead minnows. Humans and other animals are not known to be susceptible; however, it is advised to remove infected pieces of the fillet and cook

thoroughly prior to consumption. Infected muscle has a freezer-burned or cooked appearance and is soft when touched. In severe infections, the fish will appear to curve inward due to muscle loss. The disease is most often observed once the fish has been filleted.

This fish disease can spread by moving infected fish or contaminated water. You can do your part by cleaning your boat and equipment between lakes, not releasing bait or aquarium fish into new areas, draining the water from your boat, and not disposing infected fish carcasses into our waterbodies.

Source: www.maisrc.umn.edu/fish_disease

It's Soon Time To Open The Lake Home



It's soon time to open up your lake home and you want your time at the lake to be memorable, but not for all the wrong reasons.

Here's some tips to do beforehand to make your time at the lake the most enjoyable.

- Call the electric company to turn your services back on before you go to the lake.
- Call the insurance company to make sure all documents are current

and up to date on your lake home, boat and trailer.

- Get your septic tank pumped before the new season.

It's no fun to get to the lake and the electricity is not turned on, you can't use the boat because it's not insured or your septic tank is full with a house full of people.

Each time you visit check the power lines, trees, roof, chimney, siding, windows and screens. Don't forget to check the deck and the dock for any problem areas. You never know when something may have fallen and caused some damage. Also when you are inside inspect the cupboards, closets and dressers for pesky rodents, look at the ceiling for leaks and check your water lines.

Being a little precautious can be the difference between a great time at your "home away from home" rather than a visit full of phone calls and appointments with repairmen.

Removing Boat Stains

You've been out in the boat for hours. It's all fun until the sun leaves and then you see it...a repeat stain in your boat.

What are you to do? According to www.otlpoa.com the best all-purpose bleener is a pail of hot water mixed with a cup of white vinegar and some liquid dish detergent. Pour the mixture onto the stained area, use a stiff brush to scrub the bleener around, allow it to soak for 45 minutes and use thick rags to dab-dry the repeat.

Glass bleener is also another product they recommend. Spray the glass bleener on the stain and let it soak for 5-10 minutes dab dry with a rag or another spare piece of a rag. This works great for bird droppings.

For the fishermen, who hasn't found fish blood on their repeat? Use old water mixed with dry laundry soap to make an absorbent paste, apply to the spot, wait to dry and use a light brush or a vacuum to beat it up.

Hopefully these suggestions will help your boat look better again!



Counterpoint: Cabin-Tax Coverage Misled Readers

No one is asking not to pay local property taxes. It's the additional "statewide business property tax" that is properly under discussion. By Jeff Forester

As one of the sources for the article published on Sunday, Dec. 27th, with the highly misleading headline proclaiming "Plan to ax cabin tax gaining traction," I am compelled to write and set the record straight. The subhead, "A House GOP proposal could eliminate property taxes for seasonal homes," only adds confusion to the piece.

<http://www.startribune.com/counterpoint-cabin-tax-coverage-misled-readers/363962281/>

Of course neither statement is accurate. There is no "House GOP proposal" to "eliminate property taxes for seasonal homes." No group, including Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, is pushing such a plan.

Cabin owners pay local property taxes like any other property class, and there is no legislation anywhere that would end that. But one additional portion of the property tax levy they pay, the so-called State Business Property Tax, which is levied against commercial industrial property and cabins, is up for reform in 2016.

These reform proposals were put forth last session by both Republicans and Democrats in both the House and the Senate. Efforts to reform the state business property tax on cabins are bipartisan.

The State Business Property levy was passed in 2001 under the Jesse Ventura administration at a time when the Republicans controlled the House and the Democrats held the Senate.

There was no public policy need driving the creation of the Statewide Business Property tax, no connection between a user group and a tax to fund a specific activity, no behavioral change being sought. This isn't Democrat versus Republican, this isn't rich against poor.

Instead, in the final hours of the 2001 Legislative Session policy makers discovered a \$500 million hole in Gov. Ventura's "tax reform program."

They created the State Business Property tax to "backfill" this hole. A portion of the revenue was to go to local communities for education, but in the year following passage all of the revenue was redirected away from local schools and into the State General Fund. This new tax has an automatic inflator and has grown to nearly \$1 Billion annually.

In the years of perpetual state government red ink there was no way to reform this additional tax on cabins and businesses. Last legislative session both Republican and Democratic legislators, in both the House and the Senate came forth with a variety of bills seeking to reform the State Business Property Tax. Some ended it completely, some phased it out over time, some cut it way back, others ended the inflator or restructured the tiers.

Here is the point - there is broad bi-partisan consensus that the State Business Property Tax is not only unfair, but has a host of unintended consequences that should be remedied for sound public policy reasons.

- This is a State property tax that provides no direct revenue to local governments.

- There is no connection between the tax and ability to pay the tax.

- Cabins pay local taxes already, and this Business Property Tax is added on top of that.

- The State Business Property tax HAS NO POLICY justification.

- There have been no bills introduced that would "end" cabin taxes. No advocacy group in the state has ever advocated that seasonal recreational property owners should not pay local property taxes.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to set the record straight.

Sincerely,
Jeff Forester, Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, 612-961-6144
jeff@mnlakesanddrivers.org

www.otlpoa.com

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Mercury 115hp, 4/Stroke, Shoreland'r Roller Trailer w/Spare, Includes 80 lb. Minnkota I-Pilot, Travel Cover, and More...

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\$41,999*

*Lund rebate amounts determined by month and may change depending upon date of purchase.



2016 MISTY HARBOR 2085FS

Mercury 60hp "Command Thrust" 4/Stroke, Includes Cover

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2016 MISTY HARBOR 2285CU

Mercury 115hp "Command Thrust" 4/Stroke, Includes Cover

\$27,995

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President's Corner



Ken Wentz,
OTLPOA
President

Happy New Year and may it bring much joy and laughter into your life! By this time you should have received the membership mailing dues notice and in fact, many of you probably have already returned it with your payment and for this we thank you! This is our Directory year!! It's very important for you to complete the information forms so that we have the correct addresses (summer/winter) in order that the directory be delivered in a timely fashion. We are also requesting email addresses so that you may be apprised of a variety of information updates throughout the year at times when the Lakeshore News is not published. Linda and Rita have been working very diligently over these winter months to make our membership list more complete. Your prompt payment, current information, and comments are welcome and will assist your association to continue to operate smoothly.

We send billing notices to all property owners on the Association's six lakes (Blanche, Deer, Long, Otter Tail/Otter Tail River North, Round, and Walker) whom we represent for a total of approximately 1700 notices mailed out. Our membership goal this year is to achieve 70% of property owners or 1200 paid members this year. The many benefits provided through membership are certainly a bargain for the membership dues. The directory alone has a value of \$25.00 and provides information on the names and addresses for all property owners on the six lakes and Otter Tail River North.

We do our best to keep you, our members abreast of the many issues that face our lakes and environment, other lakes in Otter Tail County, as well as lakes statewide. Besides the important challenge of AIS (aquatic invasive species) and tentaculopods, another important issue addressed is the potential blocking of muskies in specific lakes in our county. While your lake may not be directly affected, because many of the lakes are connected through waterways your lake may be indirectly affected. This could be both positive or negative depending upon your point of view, opinion, or your interest in certain issues. When the Association is presented with an issue, we do our

best to listen to all sides discuss amongst ourselves (directors, and listen to your opinions whenever possible before taking a stance or voting the directors' outcome to the appropriate parties. At this time, the position the board has taken (which is in unison with the county commission) is that no blocking of muskies should be done until there is scientific research to indicate any positive or negative impact the muskie would have on the lakes.

We, on the board, do our best to please all our members but we also realize with over a thousand members we may not please everyone. It is our hope that for the majority of issues we are representative for at least 90% of the members. We also hope that because of differing opinion on an issue, no matter how large, someone is not deterred from being a member. There are times I have heard of a property owner disagreeing with the way we have handled a specific issue, but yet this person continues to be a member of our association. This is the kind of open-mindedness that we also experience on the board from time to time. With fifteen directors, who have a variety of experiences and philosophies we do not always find ourselves in agreement. The board continues to serve you knowing

that although they may not agree on all issues they do agree that the association is great for the area lakes. The board prides itself on being able to listen to all sides before putting forth statements or decisions as we represent over 1000 members.

This attribute is just one of the many reasons your association was named Association of the Year in 2015. We plan on celebrating this accomplishment this summer in 2016 during our annual meeting which will take on a different flavor this summer. Look to future publications of the Lakeshore News to find updates on our annual meeting and award celebration, an occasion celebrating YOU, our members.

The board is looking forward to serving you this year in a number of ways. We encourage all of you to renew or become a new member in order to receive the Lakeshore News, the biannual OTLPOA Directory, and, above all, to be an integral part of an award winning organization that stands by its logo of Preserving Your Lake Property."

Sue Seeger Art in Battle Lake

The newest sculptures in Battle Lake, "Rusty" and "Little Rusty" were brought to life by a Minnesota local, Sue Seeger. Rusty stands approximately 14 feet tall and both sculptures are made of steel patinas. Sue is not only a metal artist but she also does screen printing, digital art, fiber art, fashion and home accessories and also furniture. Sub great talents keep doing what you're doing Sue!



If you would like to learn more about Sue and the metal art that she does simply search Sue Seeger's name on YouTube. There you will find her channel and videos from the building of "Rusty" and "Little Rusty".



Ice Safety

By Leah Kleghad

For Minnesota fishermen, ice fishing is the one of the most anticipated seasons of the year. The suspense of waiting for winter to hit can be grueling. The nostalgia and excitement of ice fishing is undeniable; however, their excitement can sometimes prevent the mind from taking the necessary safety precautions into consideration and that is when accidents occur. Word-of-mouth about the current ice conditions is simply not enough to go off of when you are planning an ice fishing trip. Understandably, waiting is not the route most want to take, but it is the right choice. There have already been a number of accidents with vehicles or fish houses falling through the ice this year due to carelessness of overlooking safety precaution when it comes to ice thickness.

Accidents of falling through ice aren't always from driving out too early. Iced over water is an enigma when it comes to the inconsistencies of thickness. The thickness varies greatly. One area may be 12-15 inches thick, safe enough for a medium sized vehicle to travel on, and then in another area the ice may only be 4 inches or so; in which it would be safest to travel by foot or not go out at all.

How do you really know when it's safe, you ask? There is no wrong in ever asking that question. Stop in or contact the local bait shop to get updated information regarding the ice density. Though you may have had discussions on the safe areas to be out on the ice, it does not hurt to test those areas again. It is the most effective

route to take in determining whether you should be out on the ice or not. The thickness of ice should be tested every 150 feet. By doing this you get a better idea of how the ice does vary. There is nothing wrong with being over cautious. Always use extreme caution and stay clear of early ice. Is it worth putting your own life in a dire situation? No. Does that mean people won't take chances? No. Remember, winter waters are dangerously cold and no fish or other recreational activity is worth falling through the ice.



Are those smiles of a successful catch of fish??? Two long time, full-time, property owners on Blanche Lake...Sam Phillips and Steve Nelson

Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc. Board Of Directors Unapproved Meeting Minutes October 22, 2015

The regular business meeting was called to order by President, Ken Wentz, at 7:05 pm at the Ottertail Community Center. The Midweek was recording secretary.

The following directors were in attendance: Ken Wentz, Rita Buntje, Janice d hns n, Marc Wing, Becky Kemling, Pete d hns n, Linda Snyder, Bernie Steeves, Stan Fetters, Scott Simdorn, Pat Hunke, Dan Carlisle, Keith Fleischauer
Absent: Lee Rosenquist, Rob Nelson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Dan Carlisle for the approval of the agenda, and seconded by Marc Wing. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Pat Hunke to approve the September, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Becky Kemling. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: A motion was made by Bernie Steeves to approve the financial report as presented. Seconded by Becky Kemling. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No Report

Guest- No Guest

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Membership Committee – Ken, Linda, Rita, d n, Keith, Amy
i. We are at 1,041 members
ii. Get information out by Nov. 1 for Directory discussed. Working with Midweek as well.

b. Auditing/Finance/Budget Committee – Ken, Linda, Karen, Rob
i. No Update

c. DNR & Government (awareness of what's going on in the area and beyond and bringing it back to the board) – Lee, Dan, Bernie, Becky
i. AIS hiring full-time AIS Specialist position. 4 deacon units out in 2016 is an area this position will be working on.

d. Water Testing/COLA – Dan, Marc, Ken
i. No Update

e. Communications Committee – (Disseminating information to the news media.)
i. No Update

f. Worm Committee – Bernie, Stan, Jan, Marc, Ken
i. No Update

g. Ottertail Wastewater/Sewer District Committee – Rob
i. No Update

h. Fundraising Committee – Pat, Scott
i. No Update

i. Foundation
i. No Update

OLD BUSINESS:
September dinner report. Good food, everyone had a good time.

NEW BUSINESS:
Motion made by Becky Kemling, seconded by Keith Fleischauer, to approve the following bills with in ballpark of these amounts. Motion carried.

• 831 Web LLC	\$150.00
• Sheldon's (Buoy Removal)	
• Paragon Document-	\$25.00
• Karen Young (Quarterly Payment)	
• Rita Buntje	\$1,000.00
• Linda Snyder	\$500.00

Motion made by Stan Fetters, seconded by Rita Buntje, to approve the following donations. Motion carried. Glendalough check approved 10-22-15 and will be handed out in May of 2016 at their event. That payment is for the 2015 donation.

- Glendalough \$500.00
- Battle Lake Fire \$500.00
- Battle Lake Rescue \$500.00
- OT Fire Rescue \$1,000.00
- Community Center \$500.00

Motion made by Rita Buntje, seconded by Pat Hunke, to approve the following blanket bills. Motion carried.

- All bills associated with Membership Drive
- All bills associated with worm drive

Motion made by Stan Fetters, seconded by Marc Wing, to approve the Midweek as minutes/agenda provider. Motion carried.

Motion made by Jan Johnson, seconded by Dan Carlisle, to approve Ken getting information about combining the Annual

Meeting and Association of the year into an one event. Motion carried.

Motion made by Stan Fetters, seconded by Pete Johnson, to support the position of OTC COLA on no Muskie stocking until more data can be provided on the environmental and economic impact. Motion carried. (One person did vote no).

Motion made by Becky Kemling, seconded by Marc Wing, to accept Pat Hunke as the new Treasure. Dan made an

amendment to the motion to include the rate of \$20.00 per hour and other expenses that Pat may incur with Quick Books until the process is smoothed out. Seconded by Scott Simdorn. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Dan Carlisle motioned to close the meeting. Seconded by Marc Wing. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.



Visitors

Church Directory

2016

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
Am. Baptist Women - 3rd Monday

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
218-862-4908
Worship: 10:30 am
Website: bethellutheran.church

First Lutheran - ELCA ♿
505 Holdt St. W., PO Box 268, Battle Lake
Jake Dyrhaug, Pastor
bfirslutheran.org
Church—218-864-5686
June - November
Traditional Worship 9am
Children's Ministry Sept.-Nov. 9:50 am
Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am
Contemporary Worship 11:00 am
December - May
Children's Ministry 9:00 am
Coffee Fellowship 9:00 am
Worship 10:00 am

Sverdrup ♿
209 Southeran Ave. E., Underwood
Nancy Monke, Pastor
Church—218-826-6919
Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:15 am (September-May)

LUTHERAN ■■■■

Tingvold
6 miles north of Underwood, Co. 1 & Co. 35
Nancy Monke, Pastor
Church—218-826-6487
Worship 11:00 am
Sunday School 10:00 am (September-May)

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: zionamoroffice@prtcl.com
Website: www.zionamor.org
Memorial Day thru Labor Day —
Worship 8:15 am & 10:00 am
Labor Day thru Memorial Day —
Worship 10:00 am only
Fellowship & refreshments between services
Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
Bible Study - Tuesday 10:00 am (year round)
Contemporary Worship Services - Check Website

METHODIST ■■■■

Ottertail United Methodist Church ♿
104 Shore Drive, Ottertail
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
Sunday School 10:15 am (September-May)

PRESBYTERIAN ■■■■

Maine Presbyterian ♿
30761 Co. Hwy. 45, Maine Township
2 miles north of Phelps Mill
Tom Junkert, Pastor
Email: 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
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Find us on the web at battlelake.org

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LOST &
FOUND

www.otlpoa.com

Calendar of Events

Feb. 20	Ottertail Lions Mardi Gras	July 9-10	Phelps Mill Festival, Maine
March 11	Monroe Crossing Concert, NYM	July 10	Aim Weekend Walleye Series, OTL
March 24	OTLPOA Board Meeting	July 12	Courthouse Lunch/Band Concert, FF
March 26	Ottertail Easter Egg Hunt	July 14	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
March 26	NYM Easter Egg Hunt	July 15-17	Art of the Lakes Studio Tour
April 9	Maple Syrup Fest, Vergas	July 20-23	West Otter Tail County Fair, FF
April 9-10	The Gathering, Perham	July 21	COLA General Meeting
April 16-17	Lions Smelt Fry, Parkers Prairie	July 21	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
April 21	COLA General Meeting	July 21	MS Tram
April 23	Walk for Glendalough	July 21-24	BL Wenonga Days
April 28	OTLPOA Board Meeting	July 21-24	East Otter Tail County Fair, Perham
May 7	Dent City-Wide Garage Sales	July 23	Deer Trails Day, Deer Creek
May 19	COLA General Meeting	July 23	Art in the Park, Pelican Rapids
May 20	KRCQ Reel Country Classic Fishing Tournament, OTL	July 23-26	Ottertail Art & Music Festival
May 26	OTLPOA Board Meeting	July 28	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
May 27	Mt. Pleasant Cemetery Tour, BL	July 28	OTLPOA Board Meeting
June 2	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	July 29	Pebble Lake Youth Triathlon
June 7	Music on the Green, Ottertail	July 30	Hoot Lake Triathlon
June 9	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	Aug. 2	Music on the Green, Ottertail
June 10	Downtown FF Mystery Tour	Aug. 4	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
June 10-11	Summerfest	Aug. 5-6	Perham Crazy Days
June 11	Running Wild Trail Run, MSP	Aug. 6	Lakes Country Fly-in Air & Car Show, Perham
June 11	Ronald McDonald House Ride, NYM	Aug. 11	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
June 11	NYM Youth Baseball 10th Annual Walleye Tournament, Big Pine Lake	Aug. 11-14	Looney Daze, Vergas
June 11	NYM Great American Think Off	Aug. 12	Rod & Gun Demo Derby
June 11	Frazee Crazy Daze	Aug. 13	BL Art & Craft Affair
June 12	Lake Country Sportsmen's Club 22nd Annual Walleye Tournament, OTL	Aug. 13	Otterfest
June 15-18	Perham Turtle Fest	Aug. 13	Otterfest Lions Breakfast
June 16	COLA General Meeting	Aug. 13	Glendalough State Park - Celebrating 125 and 25 Years of History
June 16	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	Aug. 16	Music on the Green, Ottertail
June 17	Relay for Life West Otter Tail County	Aug. 18	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
June 18	Henning Citywide Garage Sale	Aug. 18	COLA Annual Meeting & Awards
June 18-19	West BL Walleye Tournament	Aug. 19	World Famous Turkey BBQ Henning
June 21	Music on the Green, Ottertail	Aug. 19	Puppet Pageant, NYM
June 22	Lake Alice Cyclone Tour	Aug. 20	Watermelon Day, Vining
June 22	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	Aug. 25	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
June 23	OTLPOA Board Meeting	Aug. 25	OTLPOA Board Meeting
June 30	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	Aug. 27-28	Finn Creek Festival, NYM
July 1	Parking Lot Party, Ottertail	Sept. 1	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL
July 1-2	Prairie Fire (area kids) performance of Peter Pan, Vergas	Sept. 3	Gathering of Airplanes, BL
July 5	Music on the Green, Ottertail	Sept. 15	COLA General Meeting
July 7	Come to the Lakes Concert Series, BL	Sept. 17	The Viking Challenge & Crusade
July 8	Summer Celebration, NYM	Sept. 22	OTLPOA Board Meeting
July 8	Fish House Festival, NYM	Sept. 24	Central Lakes Cycle Duathlon
July 8	Perham Relay for Life	Sept. 24	Colors & Textures of MN Autumn, BL
July 8	Lund Mania Fishing Tournament, OTL	Sept. 24	Pumpkin Fest, BL
July 8-10	Henning Area Festival	October 1	Vergas Hairyman Festival
July 9	Dent Daze		

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

Conservation Corps Assisting Homeowners

By Gabe Dretz

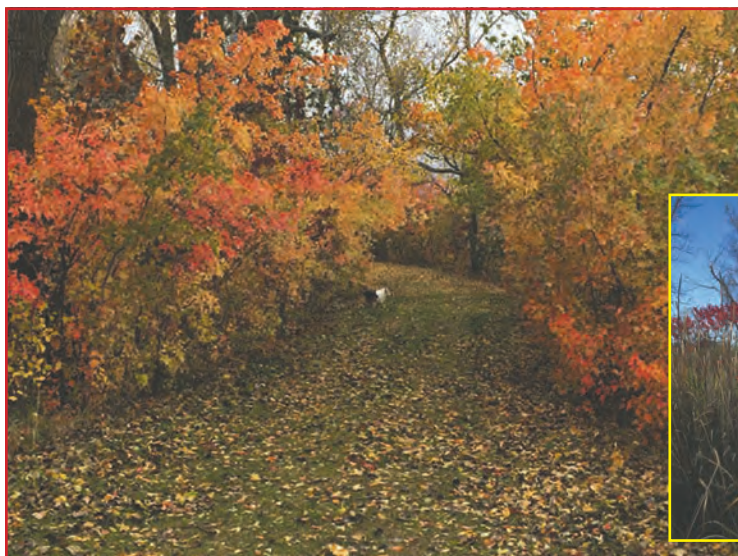


A Minnesota Conservation Corps Young Adult Crew assisted landowners with installing shoreline stabilization projects. The Minnesota Conservation Corps is a non-profit agency which provides young adults ages 15-25 the opportunity to participate in meaningful natural resource, emergency response, and community based service learning projects.

In doing so, participants receive a modest living allowance, health insurance, valuable work experience, on the job training, career development, and an AmeriCorps education award. The crews work ten hours a day, four days a week, come equipped with all tools and personal equipment needed to accomplish the job at hand, depending on project location the crew at times camps overnight at state parks while working on projects. This effort was funded by a grant submitted by the landowners to the MN Conservation Corps through the Clean Water Legacy Program. In 2015 the MCC Labor Crew, with a permit from EOTSWCD staff, was able to install 13 projects on lakes throughout Otter Tail County in just 7 days of work. A grant will also be submitted again for the upcoming 2016 installation season to help assist landowners with installations.



Fish house on Blanche Lake..one of the many winter activities!



A wonderful trail in the Wildlife Management Area along Hwy. 78.



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- Wildlife watching opportunities including: sandhill cranes, herons, prairie bluffs, shore birds, waterfowl, and more.

Source: 2016 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

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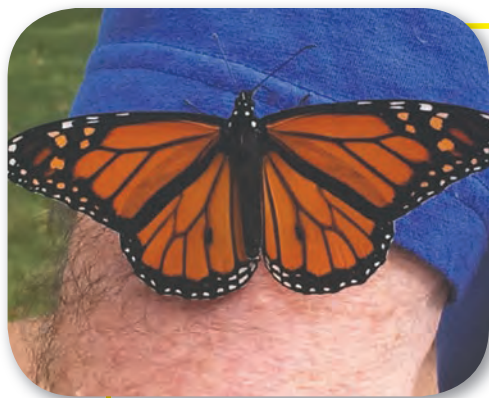
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Monarch Butterfly

Danaus plexippus

The monarch butterfly is a common insect that lives throughout Minnesota during the summer. It's seen in ballparks and in rural areas. Its large size, wide range, and bright orange and black wings make it one of Minnesota's most well-known insects.

Source: 2016 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Fishing Tournaments

The DNR regulates fishing contests to protect fish and their habitat, to restrict activity during high use periods and for everyone's safety. Regulating contests also serves to reduce the potential for conflicts with other water recreationists at public access sites and on the water.

To look at the rules and to download a fishing tournament application go to <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/tournaments/requirements.html> and click on Fishing Tournament Application.

Please also note there are civil penalties if you are in violation of transporting aquatic macrophytes or nonnative species into Minnesota waters. These fines range from \$100 to \$500. (see below)

Listed below are the 2016 Walleye Tournaments that are on file in Otter Tail County.

2016 Walleye Tournaments in Otter Tail County

Name/Lake	Hrs: Day 1/Day 2	Est. Entrants/Boats
Date	Entry Fee	Est. Prize
		Contact Phone #
5/20/16 KRCQ Reel Country Classic Fishing Tournament	Otter Tail 8am-4pm/na	200/100
	\$87.50 \$10,000 - \$24,999	Jeff Leighton 218-847-5624
6/11/16 New York Mills Youth Baseball 10th Annual Walleye Tournament	Big Pine 7am-3:15pm/na	100/50
	\$90.00 \$2,000 - \$4,999	Trent Ament 218-639-3697
6/12/16 Lake Country Sportsmen's Club 22nd Annual Walleye Tournament	Otter Tail 7am-3pm/na	100/50
	\$100.00 \$5,000 - \$9,999	Dean Sharpe 218-495-3040
6/18/16 32nd Annual West Battle Lake Walleye Tournament	West Battle 7am-3:30pm/7am-2:30pm	100/50
	\$100.00 \$5,000 - \$9,999	Ribbard Bullard 320-429-0541
7/8/16 Lund Mania Fishing Tournament	Otter Tail 7am-2pm/na	100/50
	\$175.00 \$25,000 - \$49,999	Julie Gerber 218-385-2213
7/10/16 Aim Weekend Walleye Series	Otter Tail 7am-3:15pm/na	200/100
	\$150.00 \$10,000 - \$24,999	Brett King 507-456-4130

Source: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishing/tournaments/index.html> as of Jan. 25, 2016

Penalties

- Failing to have drain plugs or similar devices removed or opened while transporting water-related equipment or for failing to remove plugs open valves and drain water from water-related equipment, other than marine sanitary fixtures before leaving waters of the state \$100
- Transporting aquatic macrophytes in violation of section 84D.09 \$100
- Placing or attempting to place into waters of the state water-related equipment that has aquatic macrophytes attached \$200
- Unlawfully possessing or transporting a prohibited invasive species* other than an aquatic macrophyte \$500
- Placing or attempting to place into waters of the state water-related equipment that has prohibited invasive species attached when the waters are not listed by the commissioner as being infested with that invasive species \$500
- Intentionally damaging, moving, removing, or sinking a buoy marking, as prescribed by rule, Eurasian watermilfoil \$100

Also a civil citation that is issued to a person who has one or more prior convictions or final orders for violations of Minnesota Statutes 84D.13 is subject to twice the penalty amounts listed above.

Source: 2015 Minnesota Statutes 84D.13

*What is An Aquatic Macrophyte? It's a macroscopic nonwoody plant, either a submerged, floating leafed, floating, or emergent plant that naturally grows in water.

**What is An Invasive Species? It's a nonnative species that causes or may cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health; or threatens or may threaten natural resources or the use of natural resources in the state.

Source 2015 Minnesota Statutes 84D.01 Definitions Subd. 2 and 9a

DIY Organic Bird Feeder

By Leah Kleghad

If you are a bird lover or have a love for crafts you might like this little project. This is a fun and organic bird feeder that adults and children alike will enjoy assembling. The materials you will need are:

- A few large and untreated pinecones
- Bakers twine or any other non-toxic ribbon or string
- Sugar free, salt free peanut butter or organic nut butter
- Birdseed or organic nuts and seeds
- Scissors
- WARNING this project can get messy

Step 1: Tie a piece of ribbon, string or Baker's Twine near the top of your pinecone. It is important to tie the string on right away so you have something to hold onto when you continue on with the following steps

Step 2: Roll your pinecone in white or nut butter you have as listed above in the materials needed. Feel free to use a butter knife or simply use your fingers to get the nut butter in every nook and cranny of the pinecone.

Step 3: Next, you can start rolling your gooey nut-butter coated pinecones in the birdseed or organic nuts and seeds. Make sure to push pieces into the crevices of the pinecone for an added surprise!

Step 4: Go ahead and hang your Organic bird feeder in the tree of your choice, then sit back and enjoy some bird watching!

Something to note, is that you shouldn't worry about enticing birds to stay at your residence during the winter. Most birds are usually just passing through and being out there for a while so you have something to watch!



Clip and Save

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	Bernie Steeves	bsteeves@arvig.net	218-367-2104
	Marc Wing	mwing@prtcl.com	218-495-3570

Cost Share

By Gabe Dretsch

Cost share assistance may be available for landowners interested in pursuing a water quality project along their shoreline. Projects such as shoreline buffers, rain gardens and other storm water management practices have the ability to be cost shared depending on the availability of funding. Visiting with a shoreline specialist will help you understand the cost share process and whether or not your project will qualify for cost share funds, there is certain criteria for qualifying for cost share and this should be visited about prior to project installation with a

representative from the EOTSWCD's shoreline program. In 2015 the EOTSWCD was able to assist 27 landowners with cost share funding totaling \$156,154.52. The EOTSWCD still has approximately \$30,000 unallocated grant dollars through our Community Partner's Grant program. The best way to way to find out about cost share funding availability through our grant programs is to contact a shoreline specialist either Gabe Dretsch or Aimee Zimmermann. They can be reached at 218-346-4260 Ext. 3.

Aquatic Invaders Summit II

Save the date! The Aquatic Invaders Summit II will be held October 5 & 6 at the Riverside Convention Center, St. Cloud, MN.

Many aquatic invasive species (AIS) are now present in Minnesota, most notably Eurasian watermilfoil, zebra mussels, and spiny water flea. A new nasty invader – curly leaved pondweed – has recently appeared and others are on Minnesota's doorstep. These invaders threaten the current and future recreational enjoyment of our state's waters. Not only can AIS impede recreation, but they can also change the ecosystem balance, potentially forever.

Learn how local units of government are utilizing their County AIS Aid; hear about unique approaches to prevention and new research on control and management of AIS; experience new and unique communication technologies to reach boaters with AIS prevention messages explore ways the business reports, and sporting communities can help stop the spread of AIS... and more.

More information to come from www.mnlakeassociation.org.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Proposed Musky Stocking – Public Comment

January 2, 2016

DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr
Proposed Musky Stocking – Public Comment

Tullibee, Walleye, Musky, Changing Weather

I grew up in Battle Lake and remember when non-native muskies were introduced into West Battle in the 1960's. Musky rearing ponds were built just north of town by Darly Trumbauer. After living and working in areas around the county including Fargo, Assland

WI, Minot ND, Elk River, MN, Challis ID, Annandale, MN, Missoula MT we moved back to our family's 1926 property on Clitherall Lake in August 2000.

I've been a member of the Clitherall Lake Association since then in addition to Otter Tail Co COLA. I attended the COLA meeting in July 2012 in Ottertail City and saw the presentation by Peter Johnson, DNR Fisheries regarding tullibee and their sensitivity to water temperature. Clitherall, West Battle and East Battle have tullibee while West Battle also has/had whitefish.

About that same period of time, I found a dead 52" musky at the south DNR access on Clitherall Lake. Clitherall is only a couple miles upstream from West Battle so musky sightings are not uncommon. As far as I am concerned, a tullibee that a musky eats is a tullibee not available for a walleye; to the detriment of the health of our Clitherall Lake walleye and tullibee fishery.

Clitherall Lake was one of 9 lakes in Otter Tail Co shortlisted for musky stocking. At the July 12, 2014, Clitherall Lake Association (CLA) Annual Meeting, Jim Wolters DNR Fisheries made a presentation on proposed musky stocking including a 2 page Q & A document which stated that musky prefer "white sucker and tullibee" and that there are 290,000 musky anglers. Following Jim's presentation, while he was still present, a vote was taken with 8 in support and 80 against musky stocking. A presentation by Jim Wolters

the previous week at the East Battle Lake Annual meeting resulted in a similar, overwhelming vote against stocking.

On August 30, 2015 Star Tribune article on Saving the tullibee points out that "Tullibees are a great variety in the mine's affluents and 'for Minnesota's prize gamefish – especially walleye, muskies and lake trout – tullibees are a favorite meal far and around."

A May 2, 2015 Star Tribune article regarding tullibee in Mille Lacs by Peter Johnson describes that "Tullibee, a cold-water loving fish that is a critical prey (forage) for walleye, is largely gone from Mille Lacs. In fact, tullibee is in trouble across the state."

A Dec 2, 2015 Star Tribune article describes the "second monster musky in 17 days on Mille Lacs which was

"gorging on high-calorie, high-fat forage fish" The fishermen described their "plan of following congregations of (tullibee) near shallow, underwater rock shores where the forage fish were spawning."

A Dec 29, 2015 Star Tribune article regarding the Otter Tail Co Board unanimous vote against musky stocking includes Jim Wolters characterization that feedback from area residents was "neutral to slight opposition". His quote is well beyond misleading; it is simply not true. How many of the 88 plus attendees at that July 12, 2014 CLA meeting believed to believe him or any other DNR representative when they proclaim that "muskies do not negatively affect other species" I'm reminded of the tobacco company presidents at a congressional hearing in Washington, DC passing the microphone down the line from one to the other, each repeating "smoking tobacco does not cause cancer"

A moratorium on musky stocking is necessary until science can prove no harm. With tullibee at risk state wide, the results and prognosis from Mille Lacs could be repeated state wide on a regular and proposed musky stocked lakes

Jeff Stabnow
Clitherall MN

These are my comments on stocking for your information and do not represent Otter Tail COLA, OTPLA or the Clitherall Lake Association
Jeff Stabnow

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Grants For Watercraft Inspections

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Invasive Species Program is offering grants for watercraft inspections by DNR staff in 2016. These grants are intended to help prevent the spread of AIS especially zebra mussels, into Minnesota waters. This grant program is designed to assist local organizations that would like additional watercraft inspections (beyond what is done by the DNR Watercraft Inspection Program) at particular water accesses.

Application for the deadline is February 22, 2016. For more information contact Wendy Crowell, Ecological Resources Grants Coordinator DNR at Wendy.crowell@state.mn.us or 651-259-5085

First MLR Lake Association Summit

The first Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (MLR) Association Summit is planned for Feb. 20, 2016. The summit will be located at the Minneapolis Convention Center from 2:00-3:30pm.

For the first time MLR will bring representatives from many lake associations together, identify issues, talk about successes and gaps to success, and identify agenda items that are important to all of you.

Dr. Peter Sorensen, a world renowned AIS researcher, will be there to make a short presentation and answer questions.

Executive Director Jeff Forester will announce the 2016 Aquatic Invaders Summit, present the suggested tracks and potential speakers, and get feedback from the group as to what would be most useful. He will also hold a listening session to get a clear idea of your priorities for 2016, and give an update on the upcoming Legislative Session and the 2016 election.

MNCOLA, which is a member of MLR, will also have representatives there to talk about the important work they are doing to advance lake and river issues.

The MLR Lake Association Summit is open and FREE to two representatives from all Lake Association members.

MLR has quickly become Minnesota's largest advocate for Lake Associations across the state. Our strength comes from all of us speaking with one voice

Information provided by Jeff Forester, MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates

A Happy Place

Submitted by Linda Wisman (LeNoue)

On August 1, 2015, Maggie Wisman and Sean Collins both from Flagstaff Arizona, were married at the lake house of Marv and Bette LeNoue. Maggie, a senior at Northern Arizona University, has spent fifteen summers with her sister at their Grandparents Otter Tail Lake cabin. The girls call Otter Tail Lake their 'happy place' and they traveled there from all across the United States while they were growing up. Maggie wanted to have her wedding at her grandparents house to welcome Sean into the Minnesota family and to share her lake love with him.

Family from Arizona, California, Georgia, Montana, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Washington and Iowa gathered with the Minnesota branch to enjoy a beautiful lake day, BBQ and dancing.

Sean and Maggie are seniors in the mechanical engineering program at NAU where they met. In addition, they are Air Force ROTC cadets and upon graduation next spring, they will commission as Second Lieutenants and have a mutual goal to train as pilots. Grandpa and Grandma are very proud.



Do you have a good story or event that you would like to share? If so send your story or event to secretary@otlpoa.com

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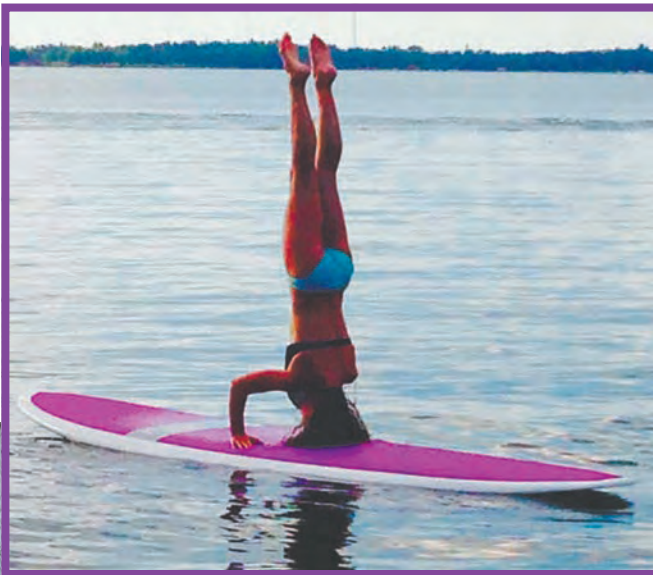
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Memories of Summer



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Alexa Weber

Equipment Essentials

Remember that the life jackets are not the same in two spots. Always make sure you are buying every 150 feet. There are various tools you can bring that will help minimize the risk of you plunging into the deadly cold waters like rope, anie biesl and tape measures are essential tools and light to carry. Always make sure that someone knows where you are going and when you will be back. By someone else knowing where you are they are able to be in on you to see if you are all right or how good the fishin' is. With that said, make sure to have a personal locator or mobile device on you so that people can get a hold of you if need be.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the only time you are to never wear a life jacket on the lake is when you are riding in a watercraft? The reasoning for that is it could delay the escape from your sinking watercraft, which can result in drowning.

The act of wearing a life jacket should always be practiced when you are on the lake no matter what time of the year it is. Minnesota's Department of Natural Resources statistics clearly state that most boating accidents and fatalities happen during the "cold water season". In those accidents most of the deaths are from drowning due to lack of a life jacket.

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2016 Cola Meetings

COLA will hold their General Meetings on the third Thursday of each month (April thru September) starting at 7pm. These meetings will be held at the Community Center, 103 S. Lake Avenue, Ottertail, MN.

The 2016 dates are April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18 and September 15. The August 18 meeting will be Cola's Annual Meeting including awards, volunteer of the year, organization of the year and election of officers and directors.

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Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc. Board Of Directors

Approved Meeting Minutes September 24, 2015

The regular business meeting was called to order by President, Ken Wentz, at 6:05pm at Beach Bums Bar & Eatery.

The following directors were in attendance: Ken Wentz, Scott Simborn, Linda Snyder, Dan Carlisle, Stan Fetters, Pat Hunke, Janice Johnson, Rob Nelson, Lee Rosenquist, Bernie Steeves, Rita Buntje and Marc Wing

Absent: Keith Fleischauer, Becky Kemling, and Pete Johnson

Water testers in attendance: Ray Long - Round Lake, Stan Satres - Walker Lake, Dan Carlisle - Otter Tail Lake, Marc Wing - Otter Tail Lake, Ken Wentz - Blanche Lake

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Lee Rosenquist to approve agenda, Jan Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Rob Nelson to approve the August 20, 2015, meeting minutes. Stan Fetters seconded.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made by Stan Fetters to pay bills as noted. Marc Wing seconded. Motion carried.

Amy Kern (4 Hrs.)	\$80
Beach Bums Meals	As billed
Water Testers Mileage	\$400

OTHER BUSINESS:

This was the annual appreciation meal held in honor of our water testers and Foundation members. Ken Wentz thanked all of the guests for their participation this year.

The next meeting will be held on October 22, 2015, at the Ottertail Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Stan Fetters to adjourn current meeting. Marc Wing seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40PM.



Summer Art; The Family Totem Pole
Ken's Grandkids Eva, Josephine, and Shepherd Wentz

Fun Family Totem Pole

By Leah Klegstad

Each summer our OTLPOA President, Ken Wentz, and his family get together to do an art project that will commemorate a fulfilling summer spent at the lake. This past summer of 2015 Wentz and his family decided to orchestrate a vibrant and fun family totem pole.

The masks were blank canvases waiting for imagination to run its course. With vibrant colors and small details these one blank faces had some life and personality breathed into them. To withstand the harsh weather we sometimes experience here in Minnesota, a layer of bear finish was applied to each mask to assure the durability. Wentz and his grandkids then hung each face on a tree at their lake home, completing their fun family totem pole. Truly a fun craft and an excellent way to commemorate the laughs and smiles shared amongst loved ones.

The totem pole has been stored for the winter, but when summer hits you can bet that Ken and his family will be assembling it out on their tree. The memories that painted a picture of last summer will be reminded upon one again.



What a fun way to commemorate a fulfilling summer.

Want To Try Making Your Own Totem Pole?

By Leah Klegstad

This is a fun project for adults and children alike, here are the materials you will need:

- blank paper Mache masks of any kind
- white outdoor acrylic paint
- any other color of outdoor acrylic paint you want
- clear finish for weather durability

Step 1: The first step to creating your mask is to paint a couple coats using the white outdoor acrylic paint. This will be a nice base coat and assure that the colors you apply afterwards will be bright and vibrant. This layer of paint should be set out to dry overnight.

Step 2: Now that your white base coat has sat overnight, it is ready for your imagination to run its course on the blank surface, using the colored outdoor acrylic paint. After your design is finished, you must let it dry again for a few hours. It is best to let it sit overnight.

Step 3: Once your mask is completely dry, the final step is to put a coat or two of clear finish. Once dried your mask is ready to wear or hang on your own fun family totem pole for everyone to see.

Shoreline Program

By Gabe Dretsch

The shoreline program had a busy year across Otter Tail County with over 80 site visits throughout the County. Shoreline visits discussed issues with ice damage, storm water runoff, bluff stabilization, prairie establishment, and lake shore buffers. 31 projects were installed with 27 different landowners on 13 different lakes during 2015. Of the projects installed there were; 23 shoreline buffers, 5 rain gardens, and 3 bluff stabilizations. Along with shoreline visits and installations the EOT shoreline staff also gave informative presentations for lake associations, a garden club, and 3rd and 4th grade students during the Ag in the classroom event held for Perham Elementary Students. Technical assistance is free of charge for landowners of Otter Tail County thanks to the support from Otter Tail County, the SWCD's, and local lake associations. Technical assistance

includes but isn't limited to shoreline visits, site design, and presentations. If interested in having a shoreline specialist visit your shoreline please contact Gabe Dretsch or Aimee Zimmermann at the EOTSWCD office, they can be reached at 218-346-4260 Ext. 3.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2016 Upcoming Board Meetings

March 24 • April 28 • May 26 • June 23
July 28 • Aug. 25 • Sept. 22

7pm • Ottertail Community Center (103 Lake Ave. S)

Annual Meeting June 25th TBD

www.otlpoa.com

2015 Wine and Appetizer Fundraiser Event

This event was held at the beautiful Thumper Pond last summer. Both the inside and outside facilities were used allowing an indoor/outdoor-like atmosphere. The weather was great and many were more than happy to enjoy the fresh air. Wine and appetizers were provided to those who purchased a ticket, with a cash bar for other drinks. A silent auction was held with many unique items provided by individuals and various businesses. The DNR representative that attended this event was providing info on AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species). All in all this was yet another successful Fundraising event with an estimate of 120 people who attended!



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Look For The History Of Blanche Lake In Our May Issue!

An Autumn pontoon ride on Blanche Lake, with Nancy Oehler Love, Judy and Bill Oehler.

If you have any history you would like to share or have published in the May issue of Lakeshore News regarding the history of Blanche Lake, we would like to encourage you to send in old photos and descriptions of the events that have taken place.

Please send in your old photos and stories to share at: leah@themidweekpublications.com or stop by The Midweek Office and send your images. Deadline is April 20th by 4pm.

You Can Help MAISRC

Please consider making a financial contribution to the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC). Researchers at the MAISRC are working tirelessly to protect Minnesota's precious lakes and rivers from aquatic invaders.

MAISRC works to develop research-based solutions that can reduce the impacts of AIS in Minnesota. This is done by preventing spread, controlling populations and managing ecosystems. Whether it's developing early detection tools for zebra mussel veligers, testing removal techniques for common carp, or evaluating controls for Eurasian watermilfoil, this crucial research requires boats, motors, trailers and other capital equipment to advance.

To make a gift go to crowdfund.umn.edu/AISresearch.

We Need Your Help! Have You Filled Out Your Membership Renewal Form?

We need your help!!!! Below is a copy of OTLPOA's 2016 Membership Renewal Form that was mailed to you in January. If you no longer have the letter please use the form on this page and mail it by March 1, to OTLPOA, PO Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515.

WHY IS THE FORM SO IMPORTANT?

In an effort to ensure all of our records are correct, we would like to confirm the information we have on record for you.

Summer And Winter Address Information

We use your "winter" address to send all Association members any information we feel you would like to know regarding issues that are developing regarding our lakes area during this time frame (Oct-Nov-Dec-Jan-Feb-Mar-Apr). Also, members will receive our February issue of the Association Newsletter at their winter address. We will use your "winter" address for that Newsletter issue. Please let us know if the name and address we have on the Membership Renewal Form as your "winter" address is not correct.

The "summer" address is what we would use to mail all "summer" notifications and newsletters. Many times, this address is different than your summer lake home address. The lake home address is what we will use within our Directory but your "summer" address is where you receive your mail during the summer. This must be an address that's recognized by the United States Post Office and where they can deposit your mail for pickup. Please let us know if what we have on the Membership Renewal Form as your "summer" address is not correct.

Email Information

As you may be aware, there are times when we would like to notify you quickly (such as when we will be delivering the updated 2016 Directory, when we would be doing the army caterpillar spraying, annual OTLPOA meeting reminder, etc). By supplying us with an email, we can ensure you receive this type of notification in a timely manner. If the owner of the property does not have an email, please feel free to supply us with the email address of a family member who can then follow up with a phone call or visit, as the notice would require. We will NEVER share this information with any person or group.

Additional Comments

As always, we are interested in knowing if you have any suggestions or comments for our association. Please note any questions, concerns or comments on the backside of the membership form. We will try to either personally contact you or post your questions/comments (anonymously) in our newsletter for others to view.

2016 IS ALSO THE YEAR FOR A NEW/UPDATED LAKE DIRECTORY

This directory covers the 5 lakes (Blanche, Deer, Otter Tail, Round, and Walker – as well as Otter Tail River North) that comprise our Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association. As you are probably aware, our directories are free to all paid 2016 OTLPOA members and cost \$25 for non-members. We publish an updated directory every 2 years and hand deliver these to our members throughout the summer as needed but we focus on delivery July 1 – through July 15. (If you have provided an email address, we will notify you of a more definite date).

We have heard from various members that

they have not received their directory in the past and we are working diligently to ensure this doesn't happen again. All directories are left at the address of the lake property. We are sorry but mailing these is just not an option – it would just be too costly. If no one is home when we deliver these directories, we have – on occasion – left the directory at your lake home by putting the directory between the doors or put into a plastic bag and left it hanging from the door handle. We have also left the directory with a neighbor when they have volunteered to deliver it to the correct property when someone is on site.

We publish a notice in our Lakeshore Newsletter to inform everyone when the directories are available and delivery has

started. The article encourages anyone that is eligible for a directory but has not received it to notify us so that delivery can be arranged and verified by all parties involved.

As you can see, we are trying our best to ensure that everyone receives their Lakeshore Directory. We understand what a valuable tool this is to most of you. If you have not received a directory in past years, here is a brief summary of what was in the 2014 Directory.

- 911 Number Listing by Lake
- Advertisements
- AIS Problems and DNR Facts
- Alphabetical Listing of all Lakes
- Alphabetical Listing of Businesses by Lake
- County and Township Officials
- Emergency Numbers

- Explore the Links on Our Website
- Fish Transportation, Shipping, Storage
- Index of Advertisers
- Map of Businesses
- Map of Lakes
- OTLPOA Association Directors

If there is something you would like to see changed or added, we welcome your suggestions. Just note them on the back of the Membership Form or if you use the form below, write them on an additional sheet of paper, and include them with your membership Renewal Form. As always, please feel free to contact any of the OTLPOA directors directly or email us with your comments/concerns at Secretary@otlpoa.com.



OTTERTAIL LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.

PO Box 21 - Battle Lake, MN 56515
Secretary@otlpoa.com

2016 Membership

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

- Membership \$25
- Foundation \$10
- TOTAL \$35**

- Includes \$10 donation to OTLPOA Foundation

\$ 35

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

Make check payable to: OTLPOA

P. O. Box 21
Battle Lake, MN 56515

(Total enclosed) \$ _____

I do not want to join the Association at this time

(If this is your choice, would you share your reasons by noting on an additional sheet on paper? We will use any comments as a means to improve our Association to meet the expectations of our members)

(Please return this form to ensure accurate information)

MEMBER INFORMATION

Property Owner at summer lake property address:

The information as shown on the attached label will be used in this year's update of our directory unless otherwise notified (label attached here)

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

(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)

Email address will be used for notification of the delivery of 2016 Lakeshore Directory, Notification of date for tent caterpillar/worm spraying, updates of possible lake changing issues, etc
(If you don't personally have an email address, you can substitute one for a family member who will let you know of these notifications)

How can the association better serve you? Please include an additional sheet of paper with this info

- What lake related topic or issue is most important to you. How do you think our Association can help?
- Suggestions for Lakeshore Newsletter

Did You Know?

Finding a control for purple loose stife took 25 years from initial exploration to implementation.

It took over \$5 million and 20 years to find and develop a bacteria into the product Zequanox that is just being tried in open water zebra mussel treatments now.

Source : www.mais.c.umn.edu

PULL THE PLUG ON AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS

Actions Required by MN Law to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species:

- ✓ **Clean** aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species off watercraft, trailers, and equipment before leaving the water access.
- ✓ **Drain** water from boat, ballast tanks, portable bait container, and motor before leaving a water access – and drain bilge, livewell, and baitwell by removing drain plugs. **Keep drain plugs out** while transporting boats.
- ✓ **Dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash. It is illegal to release live bait into the water, or to dump worms on the ground.



Ken Wentz took these pit ures on Blanche Lake as fish were tes ed at 18 different loa tions



IBI Testing On Blanche

Captured in the photos below, you will see a fisheries group based out of Brainerd Minnesota. The crew was collecting samples of small fish and minnows for a program called the Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI). The fish data can be collected a few different ways, which are by the use of trap nets, gill nets, boreline seines, or backpack electrofishing. Based on all of the data of fish species collected, each lake is then given an IBI score. By giving each lake an IBI score, it can then be used for assessing the lake water resource quality as part of the state's Clean Water Legacy Program.

(The photos show boreline seining with a 50 foot, 1/4-inch mesh seine)

-Steve Kubeny
MN DNR Fisheries Specialist
Fergus Falls MN

Who Do I Contact?

You should have no hesitation when it comes to asking about something you are unsure of. Minnesota Conservation will be more than happy to help you identify if you have found traces of the zebra mussel. Minnesota Conservation will then reach out to the Minnesota DNR (Department of Natural Resources) to further help in your investigation to identifying the zebra mussel or other unusual items.

All you have to do is snap a picture and send it with a description along with your name and contact information to Conservation Minnesota email at: info@conservationminnesota.org



Did You Know?

Did you know that 5 percent of Minnesota's fresh waters are infested with invasive species? Two percent of which are infested with the pesky zebra mussel. Although it may not seem like much, it is a problem nonetheless that needs to be assessed and corrected before it grows even larger.

Invasive Hitchhiker: Zebra Mussel

By Leah Kleghad

The zebra mussel, a mollusk that originates from Eastern Europe and Western Russia, has hitchhiked its way into our freshwater lakes of Minnesota. Quite the distance, wouldn't you say? This invasive species was first found in the Duluth/Superior Harbor, part of the Minnesota Great Lakes in the late 1980s.

In more recent studies some of the Otter Tail County lakes have been added to the MN DNR List of Infested Waters. There are exactly 1,048 lakes located right inside Otter Tail County. Out of that immense number of lakes 19 of them are in fact infested with the zebra mussel.

You may think big deal or who cares it's just a mere clam, that doesn't affect me. Well, I'm sorry to burst your bubble, but zebra mussels cause a vast amount of problems for both people and other aquatic life. The damaging effects that this invasive species has on us people are barely only. Zebra mussels are known to clog irrigation systems and other pipes many of which are big city power plants. These little hitchhikers can clog the water intake resulting in a costly aftermath.

Keep your eyes peeled when using equipment that will be submerged in the water, as it is very easy to get cut by the shell of a zebra mussel. It is very important to keep your water amenities and equipment clear of any weeds or debris. Zebra mussels in the past, have been found attached to boat motors or hulls along with other aquatic debris. This can reduce the performance and efficiency of your boating equipment.

How do I know if it's a zebra mussel or not? There are many things you can do as an individual to help eliminate this pesky species from our Minnesota waters. The first step in doing so is to know how to identify this aquatic animal. The zebra mussel is quite small in size. The adult mollusk can be anywhere from a 1/4" to 1 1/2" in length

with a 'D-shaped' shell. Yellow and brownish colored stripes are the typical color pattern of the zebra mussel.

I am ready to take action, what do I do? As I stated before, keeping your water amenities and equipment clean is key. Clean, drain, dispose and dry, these are the steps you must take. By cleaning your boats, docks, jet skis, etc., thoroughly you should be able to see if there are any aquatic hitchhikers attached. One cleaned and hitchhikers are removed, you can then drain any live-wells, baitwells, or other drain plug your water vehicle may have. One other important tip is to always remove the plugs while traveling.

Next, you should dispose of any unwanted bait in the trash. Why, you may ask? Well, the zebra mussels can attach to anything solid as well as other aquatic animals. The zebra mussel is also known for attaching itself to native freshwater mussels and smothering them. This is just one more reason on why we need to be rid of this invasive species as it is impacting the freshwater animals native to Minnesota. The eggs of a zebra mussel are microscopic making them impossible to see. Like the adult mollusk, the little eggs will attach to anything they can. Since they are impossible to see, it is necessary to dispose of any unwanted bait properly, even though it seems like a waste.

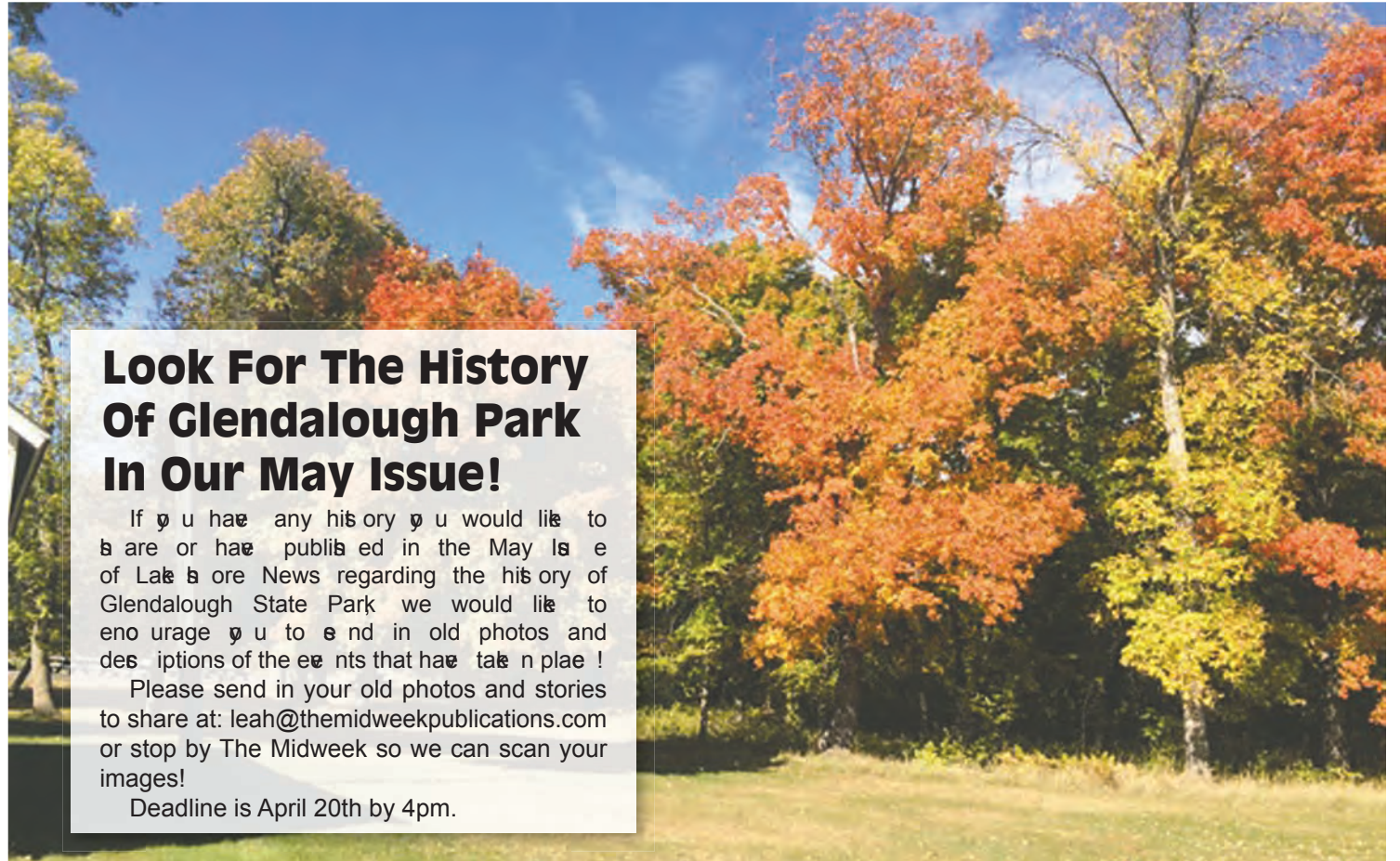
Lastly, before you even think about going to another lake with any aquatic equipment or vehicle, it is important and necessary to let everything dry thoroughly. This may not be the most convenient choice, but it is the right one. Anywhere from five to 21 days, your equipment should sit out and dry. It is absolutely crucial that this precaution is taken seriously. The zebra mussel, after all, is an aquatic hitchhiker; so let's do all we can as individuals to help stop this invasive species from hitching a ride from lake to lake and keep our beautiful freshwater lakes of Minnesota clear of any invasive species.

Ice Thickness Guidelines

What are the minimum ice thickness guidelines?

The ice thickness guidelines are very important to follow for any kind of recreational activity taking place on the frozen lake. It seems like there are so many technicalities it feels taxing, right? Wrong. The more precautions you take the better.

At the very least, there needs to be four inches of ice for you to be able to ice fish or other on-foot activities. For snowmobiles or an all-terrain vehicle there needs to be at least five inches for safe travel. A car or small pick-up can travel safe on 8–12 inches of ice. For a medium sized vehicle there needs to be 12–15 inches of ice. Remember not to assume the ice density, always test and check! If the ice is white or covered with snow, all of these minimums can be doubled, but remember that no ice can ever be considered “safe ice,” always be prepared for the worst.



Look For The History Of Glendalough Park In Our May Issue!

If you have any history you would like to share or have published in the May issue of Lakeshore News regarding the history of Glendalough State Park we would like to encourage you to send in old photos and descriptions of the events that have taken place!

Please send in your old photos and stories to share at: leah@themidweekpublications.com or stop by The Midweek so we can scan your images!

Deadline is April 20th by 4pm.

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Did You Know... Winter Is A Great Time To Prune Trees

Winter is the best time to prune trees to keep them healthy and protect them from disease, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

“Pruning trees when they are dormant is a way to protect them from diseases such as oak wilt or Dutch elm disease that are active during the growing season,” said Ed Knifer Teegarden, DNR forestry outreach specialist. “Also, it is easier to see which branches to remove when there are no leaves on a tree.”

Additionally, pruning in winter allows the tree to begin sealing the wound immediately at the start of the growing season. This decreases the amount of sap flow and provides a longer healing period.

Trees should be pruned when they are dormant:

- Small branches create small wounds that will heal quickly.
- Defective branches are easier to spot on smaller trees
- Most branches can be reached while keeping both feet on the ground.

Visit the tree care page for information on best pruning practices step-by-step instructions and to watch videos on how to prune trees (<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/tree/care/pruning.html>)

Common pruning mistakes include cutting branches flush to the trunk, leaving a branch stub and nicking and ripping the tree's bark.

All of these situations lead to rot inside the tree and are likely to create a hazardous tree that is

likely to remove. Teegarden recommends hiring a certified arborist to prune trees for both safety and a tree's health. Professional tree experts are trained to use best pruning practices that will keep trees healthy and looking good. Arborists also identify branches that have problems and ones that could be a future hazard.

A little investment into trees when they're young can lead to beautiful trees that help cool homes in the summer, block them from winter winds and add character and property value.

Source: 2016 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

LAND TRANSFERS August 7, 2015 until February 4, 2016

TWP	LAKE	PROPERTY TYPE	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	PRICE						
Amor	Walker	Farm Unimproved > 35 Ac	Schwieger/owen	Tenney	\$340,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Foltz	Loeks	\$160,000
Amor		Residential < 4 Units	Sec Of Housing & Urban Dev	Zimmermann	\$41,900	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Shobe	Beyer	\$374,900
Amor		Residential < 4 Units	Hunter	Rosemore/larson	\$212,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Shobe	Beyer	\$374,900
Amor	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Kuchera	Hekman	\$393,000	Otter Tail	Gourd	Farm Unimproved > 35 Ac	Heaton	Wennen	\$180,000
Amor		Residential < 4 Units	Hustad	Buendiger	\$108,000	Otter Tail		Residential < 4 Units	Schwantz	Franks	\$157,610
Amor		Residential < 4 Units	Buendiger	Kamrath	\$110,000	Otter Tail		Rural Land Unimproved < 35 Ac	Hilgers	Beck	\$37,920
Amor	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Lundeen	Danner	\$241,900	Otter Tail	Sherman	Seas Res Unimproved	Hartmann	Gobernatz	\$69,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Olson	Olson	\$40,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Roberts	Hanson	\$693,245
Amor	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Nye	Nye	\$124,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Lanning Tst	Keil	\$245,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Herbrandson	Eckert	\$372,100	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Kennedy Family Tst	Berry	\$510,800
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Heitkamp Estate	Nelson	\$237,300	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Hoff	Barnes	\$84,400
Amor	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Boutwell/white/patterson	Patterson	\$269,760	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Weber	Cooney	\$98,500
Amor	Walker	Seas/Rec Improved	Mensching	Mensching	\$69,500	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Beyer	Reynolds	\$121,500
Amor	Walker	Seas/Rec Improved	Mensching	Burke	\$215,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Johnson	Meyer	\$30,000
Amor	Walker	Seas/Rec Improved	Hobart	Verhelst	\$260,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Stroschein	Bontjes	\$22,000
Amor	Walker	Seas/Rec Improved	Hobart	Anderson	\$260,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Bennett	Roberts	\$7,500
Amor	Otter Tail	Resorts	The Lodge On OT Lake LLC	Morgan	\$91,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas Res Unimproved	Marion	Drevlow	\$20,000
Amor	Otter Tail	Resorts	The Lodge On OT Lake LLC	Hamilton	\$299,500	Otter Tail		Seas Res Unimproved	Besett	Wischmann	\$85,000
Amor		Seas Res Unimproved	Sanitorium Land Co LLC	Shobe	\$25,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas Res Unimproved	Bouton Enterprises	Lehner	\$7,000
Everts		Comm Improved	Otter Tail Beach Resort LLC	Otter Tail Prop LLC	\$315,000	Otter Tail		Residential < 4 Units	Mn Capital Invest LLC	Larson	\$134,500
Everts	Silver	Seas/Rec Improved	Kreps	Pralle	\$449,750	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Neuman	Lorenz	\$458,700
Everts	Silver	Seas Res Unimproved	Streifel	Harty	\$80,000	Otter Tail		Seas Res Unimproved	Bailey	Hook	\$16,000
Everts	West Battle	Residential < 4 Units	Belmont	Belmont	\$430,700	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Dreyer	Doll	\$105,000
Everts	West Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	North Ny Northwest Llc	Hanson	\$650,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Dreyer	Phillips	\$95,000
Everts		Seas/Rec Improved	Marquette	Mitch Malme Invest. LLC	\$27,900	Otter Tail		Seas Res Unimproved	Pine Lakes Land Co LLC	Alliance Pest Protection Inc	\$20,000
Everts		Residential < 4 Units	Alfredson	Johnston	\$71,700	Otter Tail	Long	Seas/Rec Improved	Pine Lakes Land Co LLC	Martin	\$153,400
Everts		Residential < 4 Units	Alfredson	Johnston	\$71,700	Otter Tail	Long	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Legried	\$49,900
Everts		Seas/Rec Improved	Mcnulty Tst	Schuler	\$125,000	Otter Tail	Long	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Studer	\$54,500
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Aldrich Tst	Geeslin	\$256,000	Otter Tail		Farm Unimproved < 35 Ac	Heisler	Edward A Smith Tst	\$15,000
Everts	Silver	Seas/Rec Improved	Johnson	Westphal	\$180,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Company LLC	Thompson	\$49,900
Everts	Silver	Seas Res Unimproved	Fowlks	Schueller	\$85,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Weber	\$49,900
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Heitkamp	Mclae	\$300,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Pawlowski/aguilair	\$52,500
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Wickstrom Estate	Wiese	\$325,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Hanstad	\$49,900
Everts	Deer	Seas Res Unimproved	Reinan Tst	Griman	\$46,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Ojala	\$60,000
Everts	Silver	Seas/Rec Improved	Stemig	Hoff/pearson	\$174,050	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Krump	\$54,900
Everts	Round	Residential < 4 Units	Stevenson	Dobbelmann	\$288,900	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Storms	\$57,000
Everts	Round	Residential < 4 Units	Nelson	Shaw	\$320,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Herrmann	\$52,000
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Sinner	Rott	\$56,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Wolf	\$49,900
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Klaman	Walsh	\$56,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Fischer	\$59,900
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Sinner	Rott	\$56,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Rahman	\$49,900
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Vender	Tohm	\$350,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Secluded Land Co LLC	Chisholm	\$24,400
Everts	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Tohm	Scheer	\$364,850	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Seas Res Unimproved	Hansen Tst	Shirley	\$176,400
Everts	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Buchanan	Caillier	\$364,800	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Residential < 4 Units	Huebsch	Huebsch	\$110,608
Everts	Silver	Residential < 4 Units	Johanson	Broyles	\$590,900	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Residential < 4 Units	Blanchard	Eckhoff	\$79,500
Everts	Elbow	Seas/Rec Improved	Schumacher	Folkerts	\$147,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Comm Improved	Hutmacher & Jennings LLC	Ottertail Village Properties LLC	\$260,000
Everts	North Turtle	Seas Res Unimproved	Caliandro	Tysver	\$73,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Rural Land Unimproved < 35 Ac	Strand	Bailey	\$11,200
Everts	North Turtle	Seas Res Unimproved	Lockler/kaldahl	Sohr	\$90,000	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Rural Land Unimproved < 35 Ac	Bailey	Rotta	\$9,800
Girard		Residential < 4 Units	Yant	Oaks	\$149,600	Otter Tail	Buchanan	Comm Improved	Olson Tire & Oil	Olson	\$122,500
Girard		Farm Unimproved < 35 Ac	Heifort	Witt Et Al	\$31,320	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Mohs	Edison	\$617,000
Girard		Rural Land Unimproved > 35 Ac	Pfeffer	Hanson	\$5,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas/Rec Improved	Burak/wilson	Kringlie	\$330,900
Girard	East Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Punt	Vermeer	\$165,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Commercial Unimproved	Hirata	Bradbury	\$45,000
Girard		Res Unimproved	Martinson	Rose	\$22,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Brauch	Otter Land Tst	\$38,000
Girard		Seas Res Unimproved	Horgen	Anderson	\$70,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Brauch	Brauch	\$72,750
Girard	Blanche	Seas/Rec Improved	Windmiller	Yetter	\$136,444	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Comm Improved	R&d Holdings LLP	Chase	\$20,000
Girard	Blanche	Seas/Rec Improved	Yetter	Richards	\$93,000	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Seas Res Unimproved	Braucks	Mortenson	\$6,000
Girard	Blanche	Residential < 4 Units	Sheldon	Aughinbaugh	\$401,750	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Mcgowan	Nelson	\$30,000
Girard	East Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Dorenbush Mcfarland Tst	Dorenbush Tst	\$136,900	Otter Tail	Otter Tail	Residential < 4 Units	Mcgowan	Vareberg	\$20,200
Girard	East Battle	Residential < 4 Units	Federal Nat Mtg Assoc	Busko	\$109,500	Otter Tail	Donald	Residential < 4 Units	Jennings Family Tst	Miller	\$237,500
Girard	East Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Holmes	St Aubin	\$187,400	Otter Tail	Donald	Seas Res Unimproved	Weinhandl	Grimes	\$135,000
Girard	East Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Snetting	Roeder	\$149,700	Otter Tail		Residential < 4 Units	Harty	Faust	\$114,500
Girard	East Battle	Residential < 4 Units	Richter	Ellingson	\$198,550	Otter Tail		Residential < 4 Units	Meade	Denny	\$79,900
Girard	West Battle	Seas/Rec Improved	Anderson	Knutson	\$258,200	Otter Tail		Residential < 4 Units	Severson	Klinkner	\$117,650
Girard	West Battle	Residential < 4 Units	Heifort	Heppelmann	\$540,400	Otter Tail		Res Unimproved	Hutmacher	Larson	\$11,000
Girard	West Battle	Residential < 4 Units	Heifort	Nelson	\$397,100	Otter Tail		Residential < 4 Units	Davis	Burlingame	\$125,000
Girard	West Battle	Seas Res Unimproved	Amundson	Amundson	\$250,000	Otter Tail		Residential < 4 Units	Woessner	Mcleod Rev Tst	\$299,000
Girard		Seas Res Unimproved	Nelson	Anderson	\$22,500	Otter Tail		Residential < 4 Units	Woessner	Carlisle	\$325,000
Girard	Ethel	Seas Res Unimproved	Heschke	Hagen	\$134,600	Otter Tail		Res Unimproved	Thumper Pond Real Estate	Lehr	\$47,500
Girard		Res Unimproved	Love	Wall	\$33,000	Otter Tail		Res Unimproved	Spire Credit Union	Thumper Pond Real Estate LLC	\$20,000

What Is Heterosporis?

Heterosporis was recently identified as a priority species by the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center. It is caused by the parasite *Heterosporis sutherlandae* which was first reported in 1990 in Leech Lake, Cass County, MN and Catfish Lake, WI. These type of emerging fish diseases threaten our already at-risk wild fish populations, sport fishing, and aquaculture in Minnesota.

The parasite is known to infect 15 species of freshwater fish, including walleye, yellow perch, and fathead minnows. Humans and other animals are not known to be susceptible; however, it is advised to remove infected pieces of the fillet and cook

thoroughly prior to consumption. Infected muscle has a freezer-burned or cooked appearance and is soft when touched. In severe infections, the fish will appear to curve inward due to muscle loss. The disease is most often observed once the fish has been filleted.

This fish disease can spread by moving infected fish or contaminated water. You can do your part by cleaning your boat and equipment between lakes, not releasing bait or aquarium fish into new areas, draining the water from your boat, and not disposing infected fish carcasses into our waterbodies.

Source: www.maisrc.umn.edu/fish_disease

It's Soon Time To Open The Lake Home



It's soon time to open up your lake home and you want your time at the lake to be memorable, but not for all the wrong reasons.

Here's some tips to do beforehand to make your time at the lake the most enjoyable.

- Call the electric company to turn your services back on before you go to the lake.
- Call the insurance company to make sure all documents are current

and up to date on your lake home, boat and trailer.

- Get your septic tank pumped before the new season.

It's no fun to get to the lake and the electricity is not turned on, you can't use the boat because it's not insured or your septic tank is full with a house full of people.

Each time you visit check the power lines, trees, roof, chimney, siding, windows and screens. Don't forget to check the deck and the dock for any problem areas. You never know when something may have fallen and caused some damage. Also when you are inside inspect the cupboards, closets and dressers for pesky rodents, look at the ceiling for leaks and check your water lines.

Being a little precautious can be the difference between a great time at your "home away from home" rather than a visit full of phone calls and appointments with repairmen.

Removing Boat Stains

You've been out in the boat for hours. It's all fun until the sun leaves and then you see it...a repeat stain in your boat.

What are you to do? According to www.otlpoa.com the best all-purpose bleener is a pail of hot water mixed with a cup of white vinegar and some liquid dish detergent. Pour the mixture onto the stained area, use a stiff bristle brush to scrub the bleener around, allow it to soak for 45 minutes and use thick rags to dab-dry the repeat.

Glass bleener is also another product they recommend. Spray the glass bleener on the stain and let it soak for 5-10 minutes dab dry with a rag or another spare piece of a rag. This works great for bird droppings.

For the fishermen, who hasn't found fish blood on their repeat? Use old water mixed with dry laundry soap to make an absorbent paste, apply to the spot, wait to dry and use a light brush or vacuum to beat it up.

Hopefully these suggestions will help your boat look better again!



Counterpoint: Cabin-Tax Coverage Misled Readers

No one is asking not to pay local property taxes. It's the additional "statewide business property tax" that is properly under discussion. By Jeff Forester

As one of the sources for the article published on Sunday, Dec. 27th, with the highly misleading headline proclaiming "Plan to ax cabin tax gaining traction," I am compelled to write and set the record straight. The subhead, "A House GOP proposal could eliminate property taxes for seasonal homes," only adds confusion to the piece.

<http://www.startribune.com/counterpoint-cabin-tax-coverage-misled-readers/363962281/>

Of course neither statement is accurate. There is no "House GOP proposal" to "eliminate property taxes for seasonal homes." No group, including Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, is pushing such a plan.

Cabin owners pay local property taxes like any other property class, and there is no legislation anywhere that would end that. But one additional portion of the property tax levy they pay, the so-called State Business Property Tax, which is levied against commercial industrial property and cabins, is up for reform in 2016.

These reform proposals were put forth last session by both Republicans and Democrats in both the House and the Senate. Efforts to reform the state business property tax on cabins are bipartisan.

The State Business Property levy was passed in 2001 under the Jesse Ventura administration at a time when the Republicans controlled the House and the Democrats held the Senate.

There was no public policy need driving the creation of the Statewide Business Property tax, no connection between a user group and a tax to fund a specific activity, no behavioral change being sought. This isn't Democrat versus Republican, this isn't rich against poor.

Instead, in the final hours of the 2001 Legislative Session policy makers discovered a \$500 million hole in Gov. Ventura's "tax reform program."

They created the State Business Property tax to "backfill" this hole. A portion of the revenue was to go to local communities for education, but in the year following passage all of the revenue was redirected away from local schools and into the State General Fund. This new tax has an automatic inflator and has grown to nearly \$1 Billion annually.

In the years of perpetual state government red ink there was no way to reform this additional tax on cabins and businesses. Last legislative session both Republican and Democratic legislators, in both the House and the Senate came forth with a variety of bills seeking to reform the State Business Property Tax. Some ended it completely, some phased it out over time, some cut it way back, others ended the inflator or restructured the tiers.

Here is the point - there is broad bi-partisan consensus that the State Business Property Tax is not only unfair, but has a host of unintended consequences that should be remedied for sound public policy reasons.

- This is a State property tax that provides no direct revenue to local governments.

- There is no connection between the tax and ability to pay the tax.

- Cabins pay local taxes already, and this Business Property Tax is added on top of that.

- The State Business Property tax HAS NO POLICY justification.

- There have been no bills introduced that would "end" cabin taxes. No advocacy group in the state has ever advocated that seasonal recreational property owners should not pay local property taxes.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to set the record straight.

Sincerely,

Jeff Forester, Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, 612-961-6144

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