

Lake News

2 0 2 2 S p r i n g I s s u e 1 0 5

Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes Area Association



In This Issue:

Membership Update.....	Cover
Important Dates - 2022.....	Cover
Get the Lead Out.....	2
Boating Guidelines.....	2
Spring Planting.....	3
Water Patrol.....	3
The Osprey.....	4
Loon Liaison Task Team.....	4
Poison Hemlock.....	5
Water Quality Committee.....	6
Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates.....	6
Financial Statement.....	7

Membership Update

As of May 15, the Lake Association had 510 paid member families. We are in the process of sending out reminders to 62 members who have not yet renewed. The membership year continues to run from January 1 to December 31 with renewals going out in late winter.

As before, members have the option to pay for 1-, 2-, 3-, or 4-year memberships. Numerous members have chosen multi-year memberships, and this is working well. We are especially appreciative when multi-year members return their renewal forms with updates to their contact information as needed, even when they do not have to pay dues. This helps keep our database current.

Members who choose to receive CGWLAA communications through email is also remains popular and reduces mailing costs. We continue to work on adding an electronic dues payment option. Hopefully by next season, this will become a reality. Finally, we are very grateful to those members who made donations toward AIS or the general fund when renewing their memberships. To date, 50 members have made donations. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

Cindy and Bob Hankey, Membership

Important Dates - 2022

Monthly Board of Directors Meetings

Woodrow Town Hall - 6:30 PM

Dates: 5/19, 6/16, 7/21, 8/18, 9/15, 10/6

Members are welcome to attend.

Special Member Meeting, Saturday, 6/25

Woodrow Town Hall - 10:00 AM

All members are invited to attend an informative fishery presentation by Doug Schultz, Regional Fisheries Biologist. Q&A to follow presentation. Coffee will be provided.

Annual Membership Meeting - Plan to Attend!

Location to be announced - 10:00 AM

Saturday, 8/6

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Location and time to be announced



Get the Lead Out



CGWLAA will be participating in the Get the Lead Out (GTLO) program again this year. Like last year, we will have some non-lead tackle kits in exchange for lead tackle at our annual meeting in August.

Lead-free tackle is available in Longville at the **One Stop** and **Full Stringer** along with lead tackle collection boxes. If you do not see the boxes, please ask. **Full Stringer** will also have some lead-free tackle sample kits in exchange for lead tackle.

Lead poisoning is one of the main reasons for loon deaths, as well as eagles and swans. Loons need pebbles

to assist in their digestive system. Lead sinkers are scooped up in the process, as they are small and round. Just one lead sinker is death for a loon. Stomach acid dissolves the lead, it is absorbed into their bloodstream. It is a slow, painful death within 2 to 3 weeks after ingesting lead. Unfortunately, there is no treatment or cure.

Please help save our Minnesota state bird and prevent lead pollution in our waters. Join us in participating in the Get the Lead Out program and safe fishing!

Make a difference by choosing lead-free materials when shopping for fishing tackle. Lead-free alternatives are available and perform as well as traditional tackle.

Sue Meyer, Girl Lake Rep

Boating Guidelines

One of the most joyous events of spring is when the boat comes out of storage. Although it can be stressful, wondering if the boat will start, navigating a busy launch ramp, etc., it is still an exciting time! As Minnesotans, we are fortunate to have over 10,000 lakes to choose from for our boating pleasure, and we own more than 800,000 boats.

Recreational boating should be enjoyable for all, and you can help make this a reality by practicing some basics while navigating the waters. This article highlights ways to be courteous and safe while boating as we start a new season.

Be respectful of others before you enter the water - at the ramp. Have your boat and equipment ready before getting into the launch position.

Watch your wake as throwing a big, obnoxious wake at another boat, swimmer, angler, or shoreline owner is more than a nuisance or disruption. It is dangerous to others who cannot tolerate a large wake. Stay at least 200 feet from shoreline and other boaters.

Although most of us like music, the particular style we prefer may vary greatly. Sound over water is amplified including music and voices. To allow safe communication within your boat and as a courtesy to others who are enjoying the lake, please keep noise at a reasonable level and consider your language.

Just like camping "pack in and pack out." Leave no trace says it all. Seems simple, but shorelines are often lined with trash that has been thrown overboard. Please save trash and recyclables and dispose of properly when on shore. Make a difference by taking care of our beautiful lakes!

Slow down... Know and respect the speed limits and slow-no-wake restrictions of your lake. You are responsible for damage caused to property while going too fast. Pay attention to wildlife and vegetation. Sadly, many loons, including babies, have washed ashore because of boater carelessness. Also, it is illegal to chase wildlife with a motorboat.

Be familiar with waterway markers, educate yourself about navigation rules, and follow other water safety regulations. Set a good example by wearing a life jacket and have enough life jackets for each person onboard. Also, make sure life jackets have the appropriate fit. If you are the captain, it is your responsibility to maintain safety on your boat and for your passengers.



The fuel dock is similar to the boat ramp. At the dock, get fuel, pay your bill, and move out of the way. If you plan on doing some shopping, relocate your boat to a parking space.

Whether anchoring or mooring, enter the area at a slow speed. Avoid creating a wake that will disrupt other boats. Tie your boat at a length and distance that does not interfere with other boats.

Finally, give a wave and smile to other boaters. Boating is all about having fun and being part of the boating community. After all, any day on the water is a good day!

Nancy Coughlin & Linda Kane, Woman Lake

Source: DNR Boating Etiquette

Spring Planting - Tree & Shrub Distribution

As in past years, the 2022 tree and shrub distribution program offered 5 free plants to association members. Species offered this year were Black Chokeberry, False Indigo, Highbush Cranberry, Mountain Ash, Red Osier Dogwood, and Staghorn Sumac. All were purchased from the Crow Wing County Soil and Conservation District. An initial program announcement was made in the fall 2021 newsletter. Orders were requested by early January 2022 with pick up at the Woodrow Town Hall on Saturday, May 14 and 21, from 9 AM until noon.

Perhaps because of unseasonably cold weather, a number of orders were not picked up. Additionally, there are always a few extra plants because orders must be made in bundles of 24 plants. Thus, it was decided to have an additional pick up on Saturday, May 28, from 10 AM until noon. An email was sent to all members offering these extra plants - 5 free to any member who had not already received theirs - first come, first served. This was very successful, and all extra plants were gone within 10 minutes!

Fifty-nine members in total took part in the program this year, which was up a bit from 57 last year. In

addition to the trees and shrubs, copies of the Cass County *Shoreland Homeowner's Guide to Lake Stewardship* were offered along with information on Longville's garden club, the Petal Pushers.

I also distributed about 20 milkweed seedlings from seeds I collected in the fall along Highway 5. Milkweed species are the sole host plant for Monarch butterfly caterpillars and northern Minnesota is prime breeding area for the last generation of Monarchs that migrate to Mexico in the fall.



Bill Pilacinski, Shoreline Restoration

Water Patrol - Is Summer Finally Here?

The water patrol season is finally underway, much like our delayed onset of summer here in Minnesota. The late season ice out on Woman Lake led to a late completion of the patrol dock and lift installation at All Seasons Resort. The patrol boat was brought down the week after the fishing opener and is in place on the lift ready for the new season.

The old two-stroke 200 HP Mercury motor that idled poorly, smoked, and was noisy is gone. It has been replaced by a new 200 HP four-stroke Mercury motor. No more rough idle, sticky choke, smoking, and much less noise at all speeds. No longer will we have to shut off the motor when engaging with folks on the water. This will also ease boat handling when we approach other boats. All in all, it will make for a more enjoyable and smoother time on the water.

Patrol activity began the first weekend in June, and we are always looking for more volunteers to participate in



patrol duties. This helps make our lake activities safer and more enjoyable for everyone on the water. One of the greatest times is seeing excited youngsters proudly pointing out they have their life jackets on and waiting for the **Frosty's** ice cream cone coupon. We have several experienced patrol members who are happy to go out with newcomers to explain duties and procedures along with how we interact with folks enjoying the lakes.

The emphasis is on having a pleasant time while helping others keep their boating safe and fun. Ideally, patrol duties would entail one day a month on a weekend or rarely a second day in the month. We do not want any volunteer to feel burdened or overcommitted. Please consider giving 2 to 3 hours a month for a weekend day as an effort in making our lakes a safer place for all. You can contact the patrol coordinator, Gordie Hess, at 651-402-6258 or email drgordo@comcast.net. See you on the water!.

Gordie Hess, Water Patrol

The Osprey - Another Large Raptor

In a recent newsletter, I wrote about eagles, but what do we know about the other large raptor - the osprey?

For those in the Child, Girl, Woman lakes area, you have probably seen the large osprey nest on County Road 5 (Woman Lake Road) overlooking Child Lake. Nests like this are ideal because they are near the osprey's favorite food supply.



Also known as a sea hawk, river hawk, and fish hawk, the osprey's diet consists 99% of fish. They will also eat snakes, frogs, and sometimes birds. Hunting by day and sleeping by night is their lifestyle.

Osprey's are classified as having a "cosmopolitan distribution," which means they are found across most of the world, except Antarctica. This is rare in any species. It is interesting to note that in South America, they do not breed.

While eagles weigh between 1 pound (babies) to 15.4 pounds, osprey only weigh between 2 and 4 pounds. The osprey's wing span is approximately 10 inches smaller than the eagle, and the eagle tends to live 15 years longer than an osprey.

Maybe some of you have witnessed or heard of eagles and osprey fighting. An eagle will fly to an osprey holding a fish and try to pull it away in mid air. Eagles have also been known to steal a baby osprey from its unguarded nest.

Osprey can detect underwater objects from the air. In fact, they hover between 33 and 131 feet. Once the osprey has honed in on a fish, they plunge feet first into the water. Because they sometimes fully submerge, their

Loon Liaison Task Team

The CGWLAA has established a Loon Liaison Task Team that is being led by Kathy Scharmer. The primary responsibilities of this team include:

- Integrating loon conservation information into lake association management plans, newsletters, websites and agenda items in association meetings.
- Training lake association members as volunteers to assist with loon monitoring.
- Working with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) staff to integrate the Get the Lead Out (GTLO) elements into their lake association activities.

bodies are well adapted to water. The osprey's nostrils close and their dense plumage is oily, which impedes their feathers from becoming wet.

In order to make catching fish easier, the osprey's two outer toes are reversible, which means they can have two toes in front and two in back. Owls are the only other raptor that have this. Holding onto slippery fish can be hard;



however, this feature makes it much easier. Each of their talons are equal in size and rounded, rather than grooved.

Osprey bodies are dark, shiny brown with a white breast but can also be streaked with brown. Their lower parts are pure white. The osprey's white head has a brown mask that stretches across its eyes to the sides of the neck. Eyes are golden brown and their bill is black with blue coloring at the base. Their feet are white with black talons. Their wings are very distinct because not only are they narrow, but they have four long narrow feathers and a shorter fifth. The male can only be differentiated from the female by its narrower body and wings. They breed between the ages of 3 and 4 and usually mate for life. Osprey babies typically weigh 1 to 2 pounds when they fledge at 8 to 10 weeks.

In flight, the osprey has arched wings and drooping "hands" giving it a gull-like appearance. They migrate to the South Atlantic Ocean coast and the Pacific coast including Florida and the Gulf coast. Some make it to Mexico and South America.

Their call is a series of sharp whistles described as cheep, cheep or yewk, yewk. This call can be heard at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=rGB82spHjBE.

I hope this clears up some confusion between these two raptors. We are so very fortunate to have both of these to watch and enjoy!

Nancy Coughlin, Woman Lake

Kathy is also currently serving as Loon Liaison for the Association of Cass County Lakes (ACCL). She is responsible for recruiting loon liaisons for the ACCL and facilitating communication between the loon liaisons and the Minnesota Loon Restoration Project.

Linda Kane, Editor



Poison Hemlock

During the CGWLAA annual meeting last August, the topic of poison hemlock was brought up. We are sharing this article along with pictures to educate you about this invasive plant that is on the Prohibited Eradicate List. Poison hemlock must be destroyed, and transportation, propagation, or sale is prohibited. It is highly toxic and can be fatal to humans and livestock.

Poison hemlock is an invasive plant that is native to Europe and North African. It requires sunlight to thrive and is often located by railways, ditches, field edges, farms, and bike paths. Poison Hemlock typically does not grow in shady areas or places frequently mowed.

Poison hemlock is a herbaceous plant with a 2-year cycle that starts as a low-growing rosette and matures into a tall flowering stock up to 8 feet tall and is highly poisonous. Attributes of the plant that can help with detection and identification are described below.

Stem

- Smooth, hollow, light green stems with purple spots.
- May appear ridged due to veins.

Leaves

- Alternate, generally triangular in shape with lacy appearance.
- Divided into smaller leaflets arranged on each side of the central stalk of the leaf, up to 18 inches long by 12 inches wide, with dark green leaves.
- Leaflets are fern-like, deeply divided, and typically twice as long as wide.
- The stalk that joins the left to stem has a protective covering called a sheath.

Flowers

- White with 5 small petals, cluster in an umbrella shape at the tips of branches.
- Flower clusters with stalks of nearly equal length spring from a common center and can be two to three inches across.
- Blooms May to August.

Seeds

- Round, ridged seeds produced in abundant quantities.
- Two seeds per capsule that split at maturity.
- Each seed is flattened on one side and lined with vertical, wavy ribs.

Roots

- Taproot resembles a small white carrot or parsnip but deadly when eaten.

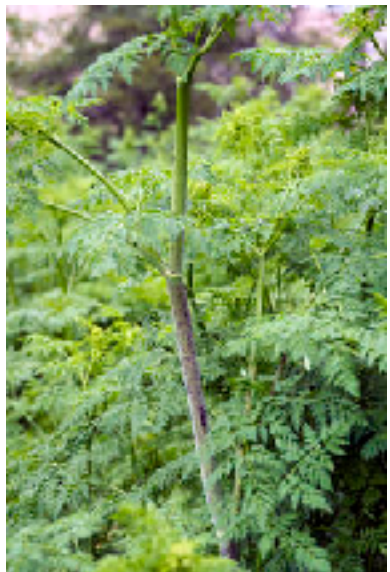
There are many plants that can be mistaken for poison hemlock. Please visit extension.umn.edu using the path Home - Natural Resources - Invasive Species - Identify Invasive Species - Poison Hemlock to learn about plants that look like poison hemlock.

Report any potential poison hemlock at mda.state.mn.us. Send a picture of the plant including stem with purple spots, leaves, and location. Reporting helps track the extent of invasion and need for future control across the state.

It is highly recommended that you call a professional for assistance with poison hemlock because all plant parts are highly toxic. Extensive protective measures are required when working with poison hemlock, and there are specific management strategies and disposal requirements.

This information has been presented to create awareness. Please visit the University of Minnesota Extension site for complete information on poison hemlock.

Source: extension.umn.edu



Water Quality Committee

The CGWLAA Water Quality Committee is led by Ann Stevenson. Volunteers from our membership participate on this committee and collect water samples from Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes as part of the Volunteer Lakes Monitoring Program through RMBEL (RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.).

The collection of simple water quality data is one way to begin to quantify the physical, chemical, and biological condition of lakes. Over 1,000 Minnesota lakes have chosen to participate in this program. Staff of RMBEL train over 500 volunteers in lake sample collection annually.

Each lake is unique due to the many characteristics and variables that influence its makeup. In 1993, Bruce Paakh of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) developed a monitoring program that was user friendly and provided citizen lake managers with the ability to characterize the fertility and resultant productivity of a lake. RMB Environmental

Laboratories has worked closely with the MPCA since 1995 to enhance the program following its goals and has increased participation in Minnesota.

The lakes monitoring program involves the collection of total phosphorus and chlorophyll-a samples. Other observations such as Secchi disk, lake level, rainfall, and recreational suitability are also documented. Volunteers collect water samples from May through September and submit these to the lab. Following laboratory analysis, the collected data is electronically stored and tracked using a web-accessed database that allows users to view and access the data. Visit www.rembel.info/data to see reports.

Thanks to Ann for leading this effort and our volunteers - Amy Tuqua, Keith Lorensen, Jon Stevenson, and Ed Odeen - for their continued assistance collecting water samples.

Source: *Womanlakechain.org*

Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates

Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (MLR) is a group in Minnesota that does so much to protect the lakes and rivers we all love.

MLR has successfully lobbied to lower property taxes on lakeshore, create grant programs through DNR that support lake association programming, training and education from the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center for lake home and cabin owners, and technical assistance from local units of government to support property owners and lake associations.

When members told MLR they were seeing boating conflicts, dangerous boating, damage to shorelines and lake bottoms, and rude boating behavior, MLR took action.

Last year MLR worked to fund research (\$160K) at the St. Anthony Falls Lab, the oldest fluid dynamics lab in the US, to study the height and energy of different wakes, from an 18 foot runabout to a wake surfing boat. The study was released in February. Check the blog section of the MLR website (mnlakesandrivers.org) to see the released study.

Last fall MLR worked to build a broad base of partners, including Hennepin and Goodhue County sheriffs, the National Marine Manufacturing Association, Marine Retailers Association of the Americas, the Community of MN Resorts, Tonka Bay Marina, and MN DNR in support of a new boater education and certification requirement.

- Minnesota is one of only 8 states without a watercraft certification program.
- Boating deaths broke a decades old record the summer of 2021.
- Boating sales of paddle craft, larger pontoon, and wake surfing craft have been up over 30%, escalating conflicts among user groups.
- Training will include Best Practices for safety, reducing user conflicts, preventing the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species, preventing damage to shorelines from wake action, and protecting lake bottoms from prop thrust.

MLR's mission is, "Protect Minnesota's lake and river heritage for current and future generations by forging strong links among lakes, lake advocates, and policy makers." Their strategy focuses on four legs: (1) advocacy of the Minnesota Legislature, (2) promotion of aquatic science, (3) education and organization of lake home and shore line owners to create a strong advocacy base, (4) professional media outreach to get your issues and accomplishments into local and state media.

Please visit mnlakesandrivers.org for more information about accomplishments, initiatives underway, and actions you can take to help!

Jeff Forester, Executive Director, Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates

Financial Statement through April 29, 2022

Budget Line	Budget	Expense YTD	Reimbursement	Remaining Budget Balance
Newsletter	\$ 2,500.00			\$ 2,500.00
Water Patrol	\$ 1,400.00			\$ 1,400.00
Road Signs	\$ 1,100.00			\$ 1,100.00
Water Quality	\$ 1,500.00			\$ 1,500.00
Annual Meeting	\$ 300.00			\$ 300.00
Public Relations & Membership	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,003.22		\$ 246.78
Admin & Travel	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 60.00		\$ 1,215.00
Communication Technology	\$ 1,000.00			\$ 1,000.00
Shoreline Buffer Restoration	\$ 700.00	\$ 343.50		\$ 356.60
Contingency Fund	\$ 1,100.00			\$ 1,100.00
Aquatic Invasive Species	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 224.00		\$ 2,776.00
Total	\$ 15,125.00	\$ 1,630.72	\$ 0.00	\$ 13,494.28

Current Month Balance	\$ 47,762.46
Endowment Account	\$ 25,119.14
Total Assets	\$ 72,881.60



Fishing tips or tales?

It would be great to hear from you!
Please contact the newsletter editor at
newsletter@womanlakechain.org.

Volunteers Welcome and Appreciated!
Please Contact Committee Chair,
Lake Rep, or Board Officer



Lake News

Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes Area Association
PO Box 335
Longville, MN 56655



Website: www.womanlakechain.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/womanlakechain
Email: info@womanlakechain.org

Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes Area Association

President	Rich Hess	president@womanlakechain.org	218-363-2282
Vice President	Jon Stevenson	vp@womanlakechain.org	763-226-6509
Treasurer	Terry Fay	treasurer@womanlakechain.org	
Secretary	Gwen Lappin	secretary@womanlakechain.org	952-239-4057
Directors at Large			
Woman Lake Rep	Nancy Schuelke	womanrep@womanlakechain.org	952-303-9988
Woman Lake Rep	Gary Knox	womanrep@womanlakechain.org	763-229-3948
Woman Lake Rep	Janis Kelley	womanrep@womanlakechain.org	218-682-3855
Girl Lake Rep	Sue Meyer	girlrep@womanlakechain.org	218-363-3659
Child Lake Rep	Bill Hornung	childrep@womanlakechain.org	218-507-0904
Standing Committees			
Membership	Cindy & Bob Hankey	membership@womanlakechain.org	218-682-2370
Road Signs	Jon Stevenson	roadsigns@womanlakechain.org	763-226-6509
AI Species	Rich Hess	ais@womanlakechain.org	218-363-2282
Fisheries	Rich Hess	fisheries@womanlakechain.org	218-363-2282
Water Patrol	Gordie Hess	waterpatrol@womanlakechain.org	218-363-2921
Water Quality	Ann Stevenson	waterquality@womanlakechain.org	612-490-5990
Newsletter	Linda Kane	newsletter@womanlakechain.org	612-327-4964
Communication & Tech	Kathy Scharmer	commtech@womanlakechain.org	
Task Committees			
Adopt-A-Highway	Ken Hanson	highway@womanlakechain.org	218-682-2045
Navigational Safety	Jon Stevenson	navigation@womanlakechain.org	763-226-6509
Webmaster	Carole Houghton	webmaster@womanlakechain.org	218-363-2286
Shoreline Restoration	Bill Pilacinski	shoreline@womanlakechain.org	314-541-0396