

Lake News

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Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes Area Association



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Membership Update

The Lake Association mailed out 587 membership renewal notices in April. As of the end of May, we have received 457 renewals. Please continue to send in your membership renewals and dues. We would like to have all 2023 membership renewals returned no later than June 7.

We appreciate all members returning their renewal form with updates to contact information as needed. This information is entered into our membership database to keep information current.

There are 781 homes on Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes with 194 homeowners that are not currently members of the Association. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join and participate with the Association.

Approximately 82% of members currently choose to receive CGWLAA communications through email. If you would like to change to email, please contact membership@womanlakechain.org. Using email for communications has been effective in reducing mailing costs.

Thanks to all members who indicated their interest in volunteering through membership renewals. Committee Chairs will be contacting you directly. We also appreciate the generosity of those members who made donations toward AIS or the general fund when renewing their memberships.

Chuck Miotke, Membership

Important Dates - 2023

Monthly Board of Directors Meetings

Woodrow Town Hall - 6:30 PM

Dates: 5/18, 6/15, 7/20, 8/17, 9/21, 10/5

Members are welcome

Annual Membership Meeting - Plan to Attend!

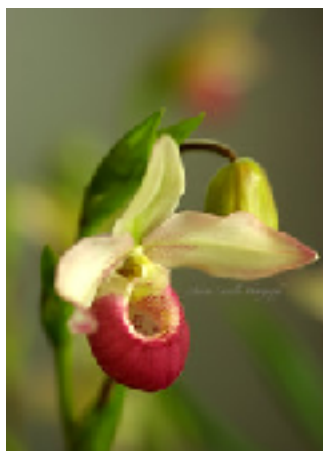
Woodrow Town Hall - 10:00 AM

Saturday, 8/5

Nominations for upcoming open Board Officer positions of the Association are requested. (Please see page 7.)

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Location and time to be announced



Get the Lead Out

Lead is a toxic material that needs to be disposed of properly at your county household hazardous waste facility. In Longville, you will find a disposal box at Full Stringer.

This year they will again have non-lead fishing tackle sample kits provided by the CGWLAA. To determine if your tackle contains lead, check the packaging as it will have a lead warning. If you do not have the packaging, the following tips can help.

- Most fishing tackle with any density, especially older tackle, contain lead.
- Lead is a dense but soft material that is easy to mold and shape. Using pliers is a good way to test this out.
- Lead is gray and dull. It will leave a mark if you scratch it on paper. If painted, it will still leave a gray mark after the paint layer is scratched.



Always wash your hands after handling lead, as it is toxic to humans, both when handling and in the manufacturing process.

Lead is toxic to wildlife. Even a small amount, such as a lead sinker, is lethal to loons, eagles, and trumpeter swans. Lead is responsible for approximately 25% of loon deaths. Loons pick up lost lead tackle while gathering pebbles for their gizzards. Loons are also exposed when eating fish that have ingested lead.

Non-toxic alternatives are: tungsten, bismuth, steel, tin, glass, stone, and metal composite. For a list of lead-free tackle manufacturers, visit the Minnesota state website: www.pca.state.mn.us/leadout.

Please help us protect our state bird, the common loon, and Get the Lead Out!

Sue Meyer, Girl Lake

Boating Guidelines (Reprint from Spring 2022 Newsletter)

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.

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 Tree & Shrub Distribution

As in past years, the tree and shrub program announcement was made in the fall 2022 newsletter. with orders requested by early January 2023

The 2023 tree and shrub program offered 5 free trees/shrubs to members. Species initially offered this year were White Pine, Red Oak, American Plum, Common Ninebark, Red Osier Dogwood, and Serviceberry.

White Pine and Red Oak were added to the 2023 program as a result of member suggestions. Red Oak was chosen as a species that is likely to move into more northern areas due to climate change.

Unfortunately, the American Plum and Common Ninebark were out-of-stock when our order was placed, so replacements of Black Cherry, Black Chokeberry, Common Chokeberry, False Indigo, and Red Crabapple were ordered. All were purchased from the Crow Wing County Soil and Conservation District.



Pick up was scheduled at Stuart Memorial Park in Longville on Saturday, May 13 and 20, from 9 AM until noon. This site was different than previous years (Woodrow Town Hall) to offer the convenience of combining pick up with other activities in town.

Participation in the program declined this year with 33 members placing orders, and only 22 of these orders being picked up. Because of the large number of remaining plants, an additional pick was scheduled on Saturday, May 27, 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. Last year, the additional distribution was very successful, as all extra plants were taken within 10 minutes. However, this year, even after 2 hours, a number of plants remained.

Copies of the Cass County *Shoreland Homeowner's Guide to Lake Stewardship* were also provided to members.

Bill Pilacinski, Shoreline Buffer & Restoration

Water Patrol - Why?

Well, there are many reasons:

- A long history - more than 30 years of patrol activities.
- The Cass County Sheriff values our representation and presence on the lakes as volunteers for their department.
- It is a pleasant way to spend a few hours on the lake in a nice boat.
- Handing out coupons for free ice cream to youngsters under 10 who are wearing their life jackets lights up everyone's day!



- Helping boaters with fuel issues or mechanical problems.
- Monitoring warning buoys and checking for potential navigation hazards.
- Assisting boaters new to the lakes find their way to, from, or back to their destination through our sometimes confusing system of channels and bays.
- Checking boaters for proper safety equipment.
- Representing the Lake Association to the public.
- Sometimes offering fishing advice (no promises on accuracy).
- On rare occasions responding to emergencies.

These are all reasons for the water patrol, but our primary goal is to encourage that all boating activities on the lakes are conducted in a safe, courteous, and legal manner. We hope some of you will join us in supporting these goals. Please contact Gordie Hess, patrol coordinator, at 651-402-6258 or email drgado@comcast.net, to learn more about volunteering.

Gordie Hess, Water Patrol

Fisheries

Woman Lake was electroshocked on September 22, 2022, to assess the status of young-of-the-year (yoy) walleye. The majority of these are stocked in the spring and are not from natural reproduction in the lake. The capture rate was very good at 105 yoy walleye/hour. The mean length was 5.96", with larger fish up to about 8". The larger the fish enter the winter, the better their chance of survival. Good catches occurred at all sampling stations. In addition, 57 age-1 walleye/hour were captured, which appears to be a strong 2021 year class.

Gill net catches of all walleyes averaged 14.0 walleye/gill net. Also captured were 23.6 yellow perch/gill net, 4.3 northern pike/gill net. The apparently strong 2021 year class dominated the walleye catch.

The walleye egg take took place from April 27 to May 3, 2023. Approximately 450 quarts of walleye eggs were collected. There are approximately 125,000 walleye eggs per quart. A small female may produce about 50,000 eggs. Older, larger females can produce 150,000 eggs.



In 2023, it is anticipated that 79,000 walleye fry will be stocked in Child Lake, 136,000 in Girl Lake, and 976,000 in Woman Lake. None of these will be marked.

Rich Hess, Fisheries

AIS Update



No new waters in Cass County were listed as infested through March 31.

As a reminder, it is important to decontaminate watercraft that have been in the zebra mussel infected waters of our chain of lakes before putting them in another body of water.

As highlighted in the fall newsletter, the Cass County

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program and area lake associations have partnered to implement the FiveStar Lake Service Provider Program, modeled after Itasca County's FiveStar Programs.

The FiveStar Program enrolls and promotes to the public area business who are savvy about AIS and implement prescribed AIS safeguards. FiveStar Lake Service Providers (LSPs) are Department of National Resources (DNR) certified, sign a contract agreeing to apply additional specified AIS best practices and safeguards when moving from one lake or river to another, and agree to help identify and disseminate AIS best practices and safeguards throughout Cass County.

If you use a provider that is not on this list, please verify they are a DNR-permitted lake service provider, and ask if they will consider becoming a FiveStar LSP.

Following are FiveStar providers in the area:

The Boat Doctor Up North (Current Customers only)

The Dock Guys, Pine River

Grand Rapids Marine, Grand Rapids

Holter's Snow, Lawn & Dock, Remer

- Lake Life Lift and Dock, Walker
- Lakes Area Powersports, Walker
- Land O' Lakes Marine, Outing
- Musky House, Longville
- Northwoods Dock & Service, Hackensack
- Olds Lift and Dock Service, Outing
- Prososki All Care Services, Pine River
- Resort Marine and Service, Walter
- Rock Solid Services, Longville
- SewFast, Hackensack
- Walker Bay Dock, Walker
- Wheeler Dock & Lift Service, Longville
- Wheeler Marine, Longville

Please check the Cass County website for updates to this information.

Watch the boat launches for an upcoming cleaning station with tools to assist with cleaning your boat, trailer, and gear. These stations will help us prevent the spread of AIS and protect our lakes and rivers.

Dana Gutzmann, Cass County; Rich Hess, AIS; Linda Kane, Editor



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!
Be A Good Steward. Clean. Drain. Dry.
stopaquatic hitchhikers.org

Loon Liaison Task Team Update

The CGWLAA Loon Liaison Task Team lead has changed from Kathy Scharmer to Jenny Wuebker Chapman as of May 18. As a reminder, 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.

A loon watcher is needed for Child Lake. Please contact Jenny Wuebker Chapman at 651-324-1040 / jennifer.wuebker@gmail.com if you can help.

Linda Kane, Editor

Watch for future articles on how to handle dead or injured loons. Meanwhile, visit the nationallooncenter.org or call 218-692-LOON (5666).

Protect Loons While Boating

The Woman Lake Chain is home for many of our state bird, the common loon. Once the loon eggs are laid around Mother's Day or soon after, it takes 26 to 31 days for the loon chicks to hatch. Father's Day weekend is usually when the first loon chick hatches on Woman Lake, most of the time from the artificial loon platforms. The other chicks will soon follow and hatch around July 1- just in time for the busy 4th of July weekend! If all the loons are successful, our Woman Lake Chain could have more than 14 little black feather balls swimming around in our lakes.

The chicks are very vulnerable. They cannot dive or feed themselves. The adult loons eat 2-3 pounds of fish each day plus they feed their offspring 75 times a day! This means the loon parents are under the water retrieving food for their young and leaving the chicks on top of the water by themselves making it very hard for boaters to see them.

If you see adult loons, loon chicks will be on their back for the first 2 weeks or closer by in the water. Please do not assume the loons will dive out of your way. Loon parents will not dive out of the way when they are protecting loon chicks. If the loons make a "yodel" or

"tremolo" call, you are too close and need to back away.

While enjoying your day on the lake, please observe the following tips for loon-safe boating:

Stay at least 150 feet away from the nesting loons.

Keep your watercraft speed slow to minimize wakes near nesting sites.

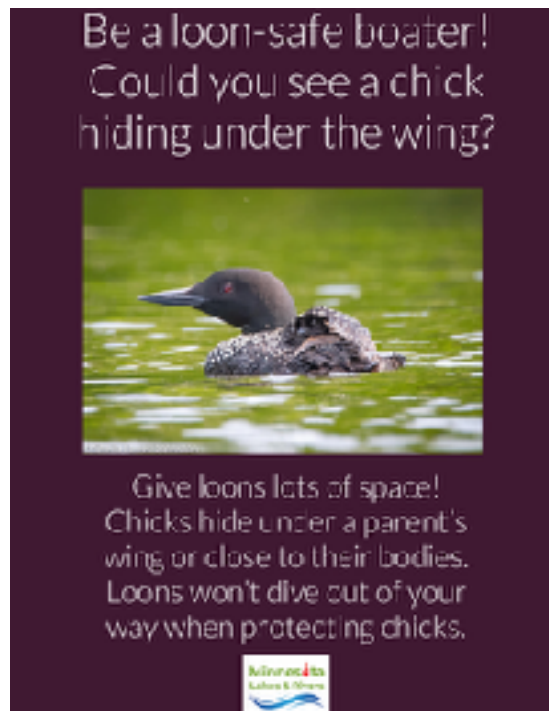
Immediately back away if you see a loon in a head-down position.

Stay away if you hear the "yodel" or "tremolo" call. Both calls are made when loons feel threatened, but only the male loon will make the yodel sound.

The common loon is a federally protected species. Please call the Minnesota DNR at 800-652-9093 24 hours a day to report incidents of loons being harassed by people. Ask for the local nonage wildlife specialist or conservation officer.

If you have any questions or need help, please notify Jenny Wuebker Chapman, Loon Liaison for the Woman Lake Chain, at 651-324-1040/jennifer.wuebker@gmail.com.

Jenny Wuebker Chapman, Loon Liaison Task Team Lead



Did you know: Boat and jet ski strikes are the leading cause of loon deaths!

Navigational Safety

The CGWLAA Navigational Safety Committee is led by Jon Stevenson. The Association owns, maintains, and coordinates the installation of warning buoys that identify hazardous boating areas on the Woman Lake Chain. Please refer to the map below for descriptions and approximate locations. Membership dues contribute to this valuable service that promotes safety on the lakes.

SewFast is the firm we use to install and remove the buoys. These buoys are installed before the fishing opener and removed after October 15 each year. The cost for this service is \$700 for installation and \$700 for removal. Special thanks to All Seasons Resort for storing these buoys during the off-season.



Ongoing maintenance is handled by volunteers from the association usually in the spring before installation and the fall after removal. If you are interested in helping with maintenance, please contact navigation@womanlakechain.org.

These navigational buoys are especially beneficial if you are unfamiliar with the topography of our lakes or are boating after dark. To address ongoing concerns by

members, 3 new buoys have been installed at the entrance to the Boy River in Bungey Bay. Be sure to **stay to the right of the buoys** when entering the river.

If you have any questions about navigational safety efforts, please contact navigation@womanlakechain.org.

Jon Stevenson, Navigational Safety



BUOY & MARKER KEY

- | | |
|---|--|
| #1 Rock piles (4 buoys) | #7 Rock at entrance to harbor |
| #2 Huge submerged rock | #8 No Wake channel |
| #3 KeeNeeMooSha, rock | #9 Cove marker between Patrick's & Resort |
| #4 Stoney Point reef marker | #10 Deadheads near Patrick's |
| #5 Broadwater Bay sand bar/weeds | #11 Boy River, Longville |
| #6 No Wake channel | #12 Boy River Bunge Bay (3 buoys-keep to the right when entering) |

Financial Statement through December 30, 2022

Budget Line	Budget	Expense YTD	Reimbursement	Remaining Budget Balance
Newsletter	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,107.73		\$ 1,392.27
Water Patrol	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 220.19		\$ 1,179.81
Road Signs	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 483.68		\$ 616.32
Water Quality	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,260.00		\$ 240.00
Annual Meeting	\$ 300.00	\$ 237.94		\$ 62.06
Public Relations & Membership	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,051.54		\$ 198.46
Admin & Travel	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 4,634.13		\$ (3,359.13)
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	\$ 1,081.16		\$ 1,918.84
Navigational Safety	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,452.01		\$ (1,452.01)
Total	\$ 15,125.00	\$ 11,871.88		\$ 3,253.12
Current Month Balance				\$ 42,981.84
Endowment Account				\$ 25,331.82
Total Assets				\$ 68,313.66

Upcoming Open Board Officer Positions

The CGWLAA officers, directors, committees, volunteers, and members are critical to the ongoing success of the Association. This notice is to advise you that nominations are open for the following positions and will be voted on at the Annual Meeting, August 5.

President - The President shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the corporation. The President shall have the duties as set forth in Minnesota Statute Section 317A.305, as amended from time to time.

Secretary - The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and any member meetings, keep the minutes of such meetings, give notices, and keep records as assigned.

If you are interested or have further questions, please contact the current President, Rich Hess, at president@womanlakechain.org or 218-363-2282.

CGWLAA Board

Get Involved!

Become a volunteer and make a difference.

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	Chuck Miotke	vp@womanlakechain.org	
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	Nancy Coughlin	womanrep@womanlakechain.org	
Girl Lake Rep	Larry Anderson	girlrep@womanlakechain.org	
Child Lake Rep	Bill Hornung	childrep@womanlakechain.org	218-507-0904
Standing Committees			
Membership	Chuck Miotke	membership@womanlakechain.org	
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	
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