



# LAKE WASHBURN ASSOCIATION

*Working to protect our lake and its environment for future generations*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*I hope you had a wonderful winter and a good start to the summer.*

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Thank you to those who responded to our LWA survey! Summary results can be found on page 12 and full results are available at [www.lakewashburnmn.org](http://www.lakewashburnmn.org) under "Survey" on the main menu. The survey was sent to Washburn area property owners, and the responses were primarily from LWA members.

I found the demographic information particularly interesting. It may sound dull, but understanding who our current and potential members are is important. According to the survey, the average age for a property owner on our lake is approximately 65 years old. So, our membership is not just greying but also whitening, and in general, we have very low engagement with the younger generation. Only 11 percent of owners believe they will not pass on the property to a family member.

We have a tendency to view the Association as a Lake Washburn-area property-owner's association, and that is what it is today. I don't think it should be this way, and I don't think this situation is sustainable. We're already seeing that as long-time board members and volunteers step down, we have difficulty filling their roles, and when someone does step up, they are also property owners, but not our adult children or adult grandchildren who also cherish the lake. It would be a dangerous to assume that when properties are passed on, the adult children will suddenly be active in the association when they have never had any engagement before.

Why does any of this matter? Let's step into Jimmy Stewart's shoes in *It's a Wonderful Life*. What would Washburn be like without

the lake association? One thing is clear: we would have Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) well established, making boating difficult to impossible, especially in East Lake. We'd also have similar and worsening conditions in the other basins. It was clear from the survey that the membership considers AIS our most important work – 94 percent agreed this was very important, and only 3 percent were neutral or considered it only somewhat important. The DNR would not organize, and treat for an infestation. We could likely have other AIS infestations such as zebra mussels, curly-leaf pond weed, and/or starry stonewort if we had not increased boat monitoring over the past 25 plus years.

Water clarity was identified as the next important activity. We would not have 20 plus years of detailed data on water conditions in all basins if the LWA did not do it. We wouldn't have helped educate owners on shoreline management, which now the vast majority of owners see as important and is proven to be linked to water clarity, the fishery, and wildlife.

We'd have the fishery the DNR chose for us. Our LWA Fisheries Committee, advocating for Lake Washburn, makes sure the lake gets the attention and resources it deserves. We would have no buoys, unless the sheriff decided to take on the work and expense of having 30 buoys around the lake. We might well have had boating accidents due to a lack of buoys as well as the deterrent effect of the presence of the volunteer Sheriff's Water Patrol.

*Continued on page 2*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *Continued from page 1*

Membership in the Lake Washburn Association is too low. Only about 60 percent of area property owners are members. This restricts the financial resources available but more importantly, it reduces the number of people willing to volunteer and to do the work around the lake. Very few of our children are LWA members at this time.

Organizations facing a demographic shift like we are, are usually actively working to attract future members. For example, the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association, Ducks Unlimited, AARP and even the NRA, are keenly aware they need to cultivate relationships with future members, or they will be less effective or even cease to exist.

I am asking property owners to reach out to neighbors and encourage them to join and become involved in the important work of the LWA. Property owners also need to start talking to their children and grandchildren to get them interested and involved as well, so they receive newsletters, know about and attend membership meetings and other events - helping them become educated and informed. I believe we need to reach out to everyone who loves this lake and welcome them as members and volunteers. The LWA mission is to *"Protect our lake and its environment for future generations."* Lake Washburn is far too important to all of us to neglect looking ahead. We need to take steps now to make sure our kids and future owners can take over as the caretakers of this beautiful lake.

*by Ted Johnson*



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS & VOLUNTEERS

### **PRESIDENT**

Ted Johnson  
612-619-6533 • ttjohnsoncpa@comcast.net

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Bob Holman  
218-792-5492 • outingbob@gmail.com

### **SECRETARY**

Janis Judd  
952-445-5378 • djudd2@usfamily.net

### **TREASURER**

Greg Gilbertson  
763-617-0494 • gregilb@aol.com

### **DIRECTORS AT LARGE**

Glen Goodwin  
218-792-5298 • lwagoodwin@icloud.com

Ellen Leger  
763-913-1485 • legerellen@gmail.com

Dave Patterson  
651-357-8101 • dpatters@hotmail.com

Larry Pfaff  
218-792-5437 • lwpfaff@yahoo.com

### **DIRECTORS AT LARGE**

Ron Reich  
952-888-7813 • rreich@usfamily.net

Susan Tyra  
630-379-6952 • susan\_tyra@sbcglobal.net

**OPEN Directors (3)**  
*Interested? Contact any member!*

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**AIS:** Ted Johnson  
612-619-6533 • ttjohnsoncpa@comcast.net

**Buoys:** Dave Braun  
320-250-6058 • dbraun@netlinkcom.com

**Data Base and Communications:**  
Glen Goodwin  
218-792-5289 • lwagoodwin@icloud.com

**Fisheries:** John Harris  
763-427-3938 • jnhnj@yahoo.com

**Highway 48 Clean-up:** Mark Stange  
mark\_e\_stange@optum.com

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Nominating Committee:** Ron Reich  
952-888-7813 • rreich@usfamily.net

**Meetings/Reservations:** Janis Judd  
952-445-5378 • djudd2@usfamily.net

**Membership/Newsletter:** Ellen Leger  
763-913-1485 • legerellen@gmail.com

**Township Liaison/Boat Monitoring:**  
Bob Holman  
218-792-5492 • outingbob@gmail.com

**Water Patrol:** Pat Maranda  
763-458-7323 • patmaranda49@gmail.com

**Water Patrol:** Vicki Lipstreuer  
218-792-5289 • goodwinltg@mac.com

**Water Quality Testing:** Dave Snesrud  
763-753-2790 • snesrud@usfamily.net

**Webmaster:** Kathy Pfaff  
218-792-5437 • kpfaff@yahoo.com

# AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) UPDATE



We have an important summer coming up. We have not found Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) for two years and if we make it through this summer, our risk of a reemergence will continue to go down.

That means a couple of things. First, we had a very effective treatment three years ago. Second, our survey work this year is even more critical. Since finding EWM in 2009, we have learned early detection and swift thorough treatments have allowed us to not just contain EWM, but perhaps even eliminate it. That would be a remarkable achievement, and if we continue to have this level of control and containment, we've achieved what many lakes have not.

Remember, we can only treat EWM when we find it. The DNR only issues permits to treat on that basis. Given where EWM has been located and the resurgence of native vegetation, scuba diving is not the best option for monitoring our lake. This year we will again contract with a third party to perform a systematic survey for us, but the more we supplement that with our own work, the better we can sleep.

It's important that we follow these steps to avoid the spread of EWM in our lake.

- Learn what EWM looks like— if you do not already know.
- Check the weeds that wash up on your beaches. EWM spreads primarily by fragments from the plant breaking off and finding a new place to grow. If we find fragments, we'd know where to look for the rooted plants.

- Keep an eye out as you cruise the water. Mature EWM generally starts matting on the water surface by late July in our area.
- Fisherman should check the weeds they snag on the propeller, fishing line, lures, etc. That's how we found EWM initially.

Northern Watermilfoil (not considered invasive) is on the left, and Eurasian Watermilfoil is on the right. Northern Watermilfoil has fewer than ten pairs of leaflets and EWM has over ten, often more than 15 pairs.

If you think you see EWM, contact me at [tjohnsonCPA@comcast.net](mailto:tjohnsonCPA@comcast.net). If you find a fragment you aren't sure about, save it in a plastic bag and we'll help identify it. If you think you see it rooted in the water, mark it with GPS or a fisherman's marker so we can locate it more easily.

Also, keep an eye out for other vegetation that appears invasive. Curly-leaf pond weed and starry stonewort are plants that are also threatening our water. Zebra mussels are a threat as well. You are most likely to notice these invertebrates when touching dock sections or boat hulls that have been in the water for a significant time. Before they mature, zebra mussels often make smooth surfaces feel like sandpaper.

Once an invasive is established, attempts to eradicate it often fail and management becomes very expensive. Preventing the spread of AIS is critically important. Please be vigilant and let's keep a collective eye on our lake!

Have wonderful summer.

*by Ted Johnson*

# CROOKED LAKE TOWNSHIP AIS ACTIVITIES

The Crooked Lake Township (CLT) Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Committee has been active since 2012, when it was created by a group of CLT residents at an annual meeting. Ed Evans, the person behind starting this AIS Committee, saw the need to begin AIS inspections with an oversight committee to organize and oversee our three main township landings. He will long be remembered for his insight, enthusiasm, and leadership. We can take pride that CLT was one of two townships in the state with a DNR grant and delegation agreement for an AIS inspection program and the first in Cass County.

This AIS Committee continues to work with Cass County for watercraft inspections at the township's three main public landings. As in years past, the county allocates the funding received from the DNR to various lakes in the county. Lakes Washburn, Roosevelt and Lawrence are considered key lakes in the area and the county has pledged Level 1 inspectors at their public landings every Friday through Sunday, 10 hours each day for watercraft inspections for the boating season, likely through mid-September. In addition, the Decontamination unit near the Town Hall is staffed by a trained DNR Level 2 Inspector. This unit is operated free of charge to boaters every Friday through Sunday, 10 hours per day during the inspection season. Our Level 2 inspector has also established a Decontamination Office in the old library which contains our AIS education material.

Lake Washburn has had Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) since 2009; Lake Roosevelt most recently. Treatments for EWM are very expensive, typically exceeding \$20,000 for each treatment. In addition, AIS surveys for lakes are necessary and can approach \$5,000 depending on the lake area surveyed.

At the March 2018 Annual Crooked Lake Township Meeting, the township citizens voted and passed a \$10,000 addition to the existing annual AIS fund. This makes available up to \$15,000 annually to manage AIS in our township waters. The cost for treating AIS is expensive but a lake left untreated will result in waters not conducive to many water activities and native aquatic life.

A draft of the *Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Treatment and Survey Expenditure Policy* has been established by the CLT AIS Committee for township assistance in the treatment and survey of Aquatic Invasive Species. This policy documents how the township can help defray the cost of said treatments and surveys. Once approved by the CLT Board, request instructions for this funding will be made available to the Lake Association.

We have received recognition by the DNR, Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (MLR), Association of Cass County Lakes (ACCL) and Cass County, as a leader in AIS efforts. Thousands of boats have been inspected - many decontaminated. The AIS Committee thanks Cass County, the lake associations and the township citizens for their efforts and support.

*by Bob Holman*



# STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS



## STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™

Clean ALL recreational equipment. It's the law.

### Dear Boater,

Most lakes and rivers in Minnesota do not have aquatic invasive species (AIS)—and you can help keep it that way. These nonnative species harm fish populations, water quality, and water recreation. You can help prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species by following both the required and recommended actions listed on this card.

#### REQUIRED ACTIONS: You must...

✓ **CLEAN** all visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species from watercraft, trailers, and water-related equipment before leaving any water access or shoreland.

✓ **DRAIN** water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait container, motor) and drain bilge, livewell, and baitwell by removing drain plugs before leaving a water access or shoreland property. **Keep drain plugs out** and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft.

✓ **DISPOSE** of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches, and worms, in the trash; it is illegal to release bait into a water body. If you want to keep your live bait, you must refill the bait container with bottled or tap water.

Violating these regulations may result in fines up to \$1,000. To report a violation, contact a DNR Conservation Officer. You can locate officers at [mndnr.gov/officerpatrolareas](http://mndnr.gov/officerpatrolareas) or by using the QR code below.



DNR Conservation  
Officer Locator

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### ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

**Spray, rinse, dry** — Some invasive species are small and difficult to see at the access. To remove or kill them, take one or more of the following precautions before moving to another water body, especially after leaving zebra mussel or spiny waterflea infested waters:

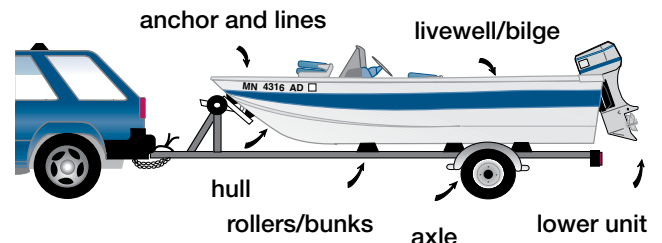
- **Spray** with high-pressure water
- **Rinse** with very hot water\*
- **Dry** for at least 5 days
- **Run personal watercraft motor** for a few seconds to discharge water before leaving a water access.
- **Transport fish on ice** — be prepared, bring a cooler.

\* These water temperatures will kill zebra mussels and some other AIS: 120°F for at least 2 minutes; or 140°F for at least 10 seconds.

#### To help protect Minnesota's lakes, rivers, and wetlands, I will:

- Clean all plants, prohibited invasive species and mud from my boat and trailer
- Drain my boat and equipment before I leave a water access
- Dispose of all unwanted bait, worms, and fish parts in the trash
- Learn to recognize aquatic invasive species
- Follow Minnesota's AIS laws and regulations
- Share these steps with others who spend time fishing, boating, or recreating in Minnesota

#### Check these places on your boat and trailer for aquatic plants or animals:



#### To report new AIS sightings or for more information contact:



Minnesota DNR Invasive Species Program  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025  
651-259-5100  
[mndnr.gov/ais](http://mndnr.gov/ais)

# CHARGING BATTERIES

*This is a Public Safety Announcement article based upon a true story*

This spring, I was getting ready for the ice-out, as everyone was, and part of my ritual is to charge various batteries which have been sitting since last October.

The batteries were stored inside a utility closet, so I hooked up the charger and set it to automatic. While in Crosslake, I received a phone call from the security system company saying that our carbon monoxide (CO) detector was going off. After many frantic phone calls, my wife Vicki, left me in a dentist chair to rush back to the house. Our main concern was for the safety of our 18-year-old dog, Snickers.

Upon arrival, Vicki found her sleeping through the alarms, oblivious to the chaos occurring inside. Once Snickers was safely outside, Vicki called back the Crooked Township Lake Fire Department to determine what was triggering the alarm. Fire Chief Rolf came out and used his detector to scan the house. Upon reaching the utility room and discovering the battery being charged, the source of the CO alert became

evident. Once the battery was placed outside, the CO levels went down and within an hour the house was clear.

Chief Rolf said that most people do not realize that lead acid type batteries “off gas” during the charging process and should always be placed in a well-ventilated area.

I did some additional research and learned hydrogen gas from charging batteries can set off CO alarms as well, and potentially become an explosive hazard. Gases produced or released by the batteries while they are being charged are a significant safety concern, especially when the batteries are located or charged in an enclosed or poorly ventilated area. If they are placed in an attached garage, a window or door should be propped open.

Lesson learned. We will always charge our batteries outside.

*by Glen Goodwin*

## SPRING HIGHWAY 48 CLEANUP ON MAY 5, 2018



Fourteen LWA members participated in this spring's Highway 48 pickup, collecting over a dozen bags of trash, two tires and an ATV hood.

Jerry Anderson, Hope Blackburn, Kathy & Gary Bochman, Aric & Mindi Genz, Glen Goodwin, Jackie Hagel, Vicki Lipstreuer, Bob & Shannon Nagle, Mark Stange, Audrey and Mark Wheeler

# 2018 LAKE WASHBURN BOAT PARADE



Attention all ye who would decorate your boats and participate in the annual boat parade, and all ye who would sit on shore enjoying/rating/teasing those same boaters!

The annual boat parade will begin at 1:00 pm on Saturday, July 7. As in the past, the flotilla will assemble by the buoys in front of Schuller's on Birch Bay (the only buoys in the bay) at 12:30 pm to get organized! All Lake Washburn-area residents are invited to dress their boats up, using the Fourth of July theme, and take part in this event!

An air horn blast at 1:00 pm sharp will signal the start of the parade.

*Please refrain from the use of Water Balloons*

**Parade route:** The parade, led by the Sheriff's Water Patrol, will wend its way south along the shore from the buoys and then around Birch Bay up to the last cabin on the east side of the bay, next to the property managed by the DNR.

**Attention boaters:** Although it's akin to herding cats, all participating boats are asked to please continue as a participant in the parade till the end. If your boat happens to become accidentally engaged in a rare but vicious water battle with miscreants in another boat, call a truce until after the parade route is completed.

**Weather issues:** If the weather does not cooperate, check the Association website <https://www.lakewashburnmn.org/> or go to the LWA Facebook site to learn of alternative plans, if any. Notice of any delay or cancellation will be prominently posted on the homepage.

All Lake Washburn-area folks are welcome to either view or participate in this annual event!

For general guidance about our Fourth of July parade, it is our intention to conduct the parade on the same day as the Outing Fireworks.

*by J. N. Harris*



## SAVE the DATE



**Membership Meeting**  
Saturday, June 16, 2018  
10:00 AM  
at the CL Town Hall



**Boat Parade**  
Saturday, July 7, 2018  
1:00 PM  
Starting at buoys in  
Birch Bay (Schuller's)



**Membership Meeting**  
Saturday, August 11, 2018  
10:00 AM  
at the CL Town Hall

**Ice Cream Social:**  
Date TBD



**48 Clean Up**  
September 1, 2018  
9:00 AM  
Meet at the Public Access  
Clint Converse Campground

Visit the Lake Washburn Association Website and follow us on Facebook for updates  
[www.lakewashburnmn.org](http://www.lakewashburnmn.org) [www.facebook.com/LakeWashburn2017/](https://www.facebook.com/LakeWashburn2017/)

# A FOREST RANGER'S FAMILY REMEMBERS

*Chad Converse, son of Clint Converse, provides memories of growing up at the Washburn Lake Forest Ranger Station in the 1940s and '50s*

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp area, now the Clinton Converse Campground, had an underground bunker where several steel framed bunkbeds were stored. There was a set of wood double doors closing the entrance to this bunker, but we were never sure what this area was used for. Most likely, it was a place to keep vegetables cold for the camp. Because of safety concerns for the public, the bunker was filled in to make the CCC camp area useable for the public as a campground. The camp needed a potable water source and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) tried drilling a well but they didn't find suitable water. They didn't have the money to keep trying different locations without knowing they'd be successful. There was a fellow who lived near Emily who said he could "witch" a well location for the campground. My dad agreed to let him try and he came out with his Y-shaped willow stick and after trying several areas, witched a location and told my dad how deep they had to go to find water.

Dad had the well drilled at that location and they found potable water! The water was just a couple of feet from where the well-witcher said it would be. The well-witcher suggested that my brother, Clinton Jr., try to witch water so he tried but didn't have any luck until the well witcher put his hand on my brother's arm and then ... found a spot! My brother said he could not keep the stick from pointing down. The number of times the stick points down was an indication of the depth of the water source.

In 1958, I worked for Mae Witkus at Bear Paw Lodge. I earned \$2 a day plus room and board. I stayed at the resort as I was too young to drive back and forth from home. That was the year they bought the Caboose. Oh, how we worked on cleaning it up. It must have been used with a coal-fired steam engine, as the soot was about three feet deep on the walls, ceiling and floors. I can't remember if we finished cleaning it before I had to go back to school. The goal was to turn it into a cabin for use by people coming to stay at the resort.

When the Wikus family was building their resort, they built one cabin where they lived while they built the second cabin. When that was finished, they would move into the second

cabin, so they could rent out the first and continued to move from cabin to cabin until they built the lodge where they lived permanently. They saved the sawdust from working on the cabins and poured it into the walls as insulation.

Jim Witkus liked to paint, and my parents asked him to paint an outdoor scene for us. Jim chose a scene in front of their lodge looking towards the little bay on Washburn Lake, where the small creek goes out. After Jim completed the painting, it had a small crooked red pine in the foreground. My dad, who was the District Forester for the DNR, did not like that Jim painted a cooked red pine tree. I remember walking with my dad and Jim to the scene that Jim had painted and yes, there was the little cooked red pine. Jim commented that Mother Nature made the pine that way so that was how he painted it. My brother, Clinton Jr. has this 60+ year-old painting hanging on his living room wall.

The old Rowan Sheep Ranch was owned by Cliff and Loretta Nelson. They had several cattle, one of which was their milk cow. One day, all their cattle came down the Lake Washburn road to our place off Highway 6. Cliff and his wife came to herd them back home. We were helping them get turned around and headed back when their milk cow must have thought her calf had been left behind. She turned and ran back toward the highway. Just as she entered the road, a car came and crashed into her.

There was extensive damage to the car and the cow was killed. Cliff went on to develop a wild rice processing business at their place, and my brother and I helped sell some of the wild rice. Cliff later moved this business to the Grand Rapids area.

At Birch Bay Resort, the Mechelkes would make a sledding (toboggan) path down to the lake with a bump in it. They'd host the Luther League kids from Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Outing, as well as other groups. It was a challenge to see which kids could make it down the hill and out onto the lake ice without falling off. That was the fastest and most thrilling ride around.

*by Chad Converse*



# IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM (BILL) JACKMAN PARSONAGE TRAIL, LAKE WASHBURN



My dad was William (Bill) Jackman. He was born and raised in Minneapolis. Growing up, he knew love and compassion. In time he'd pass on these gifts with gentle generosity to others. He loved family, wood crafting, wild berry picking and the lakes and woods around Outing.

He would often say that life is what you make of it and it doesn't take money to bring happiness. Here's how he lived that philosophy.

As children growing up we experienced much love and caring. Dad believed in spending time with his girls. One fun memory I have is how he'd get on his hands and knees and wave his arms around like a monkey and we'd be wild with fright, laugh and run away.

We spent time outdoors, sledding, picnics, bike rides, feeding the ducks. Some special times were trips to Birch Bay and the huge treat of heading off to Duluth. When grandchildren came along, they were part of Dad's playfulness and sense of adventure. One memory especially pleased him: he loved to see the grandkids walking around in his shoes. He'd tell me it wouldn't take much for them to fill Grandpa's shoes. All he hoped for them was that they would believe in God and help others along life's path.

Living in Outing was a tremendous joy for Dad. He had first come there as a young boy with his family. When he had his own family, he brought them back to Outing. As time went by he built a cabin just up the hill from Lake Washburn. Dad called Outing "God's Country" and I still believe it is.

His love of woodworking began with his own father. One Christmas he received Lincoln Logs that his father had made

himself. And so, Dad began to do woodworking. He so loved working with his hands and being able to gift others. God gave him the talent and he gave bits of himself back through his woodworking.

He brought smiles to people's faces with hand-made signs, doll cabins, trucks, crosses with doves, elves and many other wood crafts as well as his sketches. Bringing smiles brought Dad joy! He was once offered money for some doll cabins. He responded that he didn't take money for his work and told them to donate to the local food pantry instead, and they did.

He provided Christmas trees to people in need. He'd go into the nearby woods to pick wild raspberries - with the bears! He'd return home, make raspberry jam, and share it with others.

Dad so enjoyed his time in Outing and was blessed by his lake family. He was truly an Angel on Earth with his giving and caring. Reggie Smith said it best: "Bill was a great teacher! His heart was glued on giving back to all he encountered. He made something out of nothing - to others it was just a scrap of wood but to Bill it was doll cabins, trucks, elves, a cross with a dove and many other treasures. It was all about spreading joy through his gifts."

How truly blessed we were to have known him as our father.

*by Valerie Goad and the Jackman girls*

*The Jackman carvings are displayed  
at the Outing Volunteer Library*

# FISHERIES REPORT



If you are at all interested in fishing, chances are you are well aware of the change in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regulations with regard to northern pike. In any event, you probably received a 90-page booklet of current fishing regulations when you purchased your fishing license and it is quite likely that you immediately sat down and read the entire document. No? Then here's a quick summary:

**TEN:** That's the number of northern you can have in your possession, up from a limit of three in past years. BUT, it's not just any ten. There are rules including a slot, so be sure to understand these rules:

*In the north-central zone (including Washburn and other lakes in our area), anglers may keep 10 **northern pike**, but not more than two **pike** longer than 26 inches; and all from 22 to 26 inches must be released.*

We've talked about the "why" of this new regulation. It is an attempt to reduce the number of "hammer handle" size northern, increase the number of large, exciting-to-catch trophy-size northern and, to improve walleye fishing. The hammer handles are voracious eaters and one of their favorite targets is small walleye. Hammer handles are like little piggies, which is why you catch them so often. And, they are all competing for a finite food supply that is insufficient to allow most of them to become large, trophy-size fish.

The new regs are not a quick fix and any success is dependent upon anglers. If you don't want to mess with small northern, preferring to release those you catch, then nothing changes. However, my family has found that even 15-16" northern yield decent filets that are difficult to tell from walleye in a fish fry. So, let's keep those small northern, thereby benefiting the table and possibly the fishery.

Filleting northern is a little tricky at first. Those Y bones can be a pain and is one reason many anglers release northern. Don't give up! After cleaning northern a few times, you'll have filets that are boneless and delicious.

Here are a few sites on the internet that provide guidance, and there are other resources as well.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m4KRj5iga5>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Clean-and-Fillet-a-Northern-Pike>

<http://fishingtackleretailer.com/letter-editor-apologies-late-weirdness>

All set? Great... now go out and catch some good eatin'.

## COMING UP:

**Stocking:** The DNR has discontinued stocking fryling, the smallest of the walleye stocking resource. The current, temporary plan for Washburn is to, if available, stock walleye fry (the next size up) this late spring.

**Electro-fishing:** This process will continue again late this summer/early autumn, probably in September. Electro-fishing is one method of determining the status of our walleye fishery, and targets walleye under one year of age.

**DNR Fishery Plan:** You might recall that the Fishery Management Plan for Washburn has expired. Later this summer, the DNR intends to develop a medium to long-term plan to maintain and improve our fishery. Specifically, the plan will target improving the quantity and quality of walleye in our lake. They will be asking for our input and I'll be seeking information from a few folks who fish Lake Washburn willing to share their knowledge, experience and perspective as part of that process.

As always, good or not so good, please share your fishing results with me. It's the only way we can keep a pulse on our angling success.

*by J. N. Harris*

# DEALING WITH A LOCAL EMERGENCY



## CROOKED LAKE ROAD AMBASSADORS

Eleven of the 35 total Road Ambassadors; Left to right

Rod Schloesser, Jack Schuller, Keith Ahlquist, Bob Holman, Helen Jubert, John Ryder, Ron Lohse, Dave Schaumburg, Glen Goodwin, Bill Bernhjelm, Lyle Gaines, Lloyd Theyen (photographer)

Thank you to the Crooked Lake Township (CLT) Emergency Planning Team for their efforts to help area residents and visitors be better prepared to deal with an emergency. Please read the information that follows, and check the websites listed if you have any questions.

- **Register for Nixle if you have not done so.** Nixle is a Community Information Service dedicated to helping you stay connected to the information that matters most to you, depending on your physical location, by sending out weather and other emergency-related alerts. To receive these notices, go to <http://www.co.cass.mn.us/index.php> and click on Nixle Alerts, or sign up on the Nixle website at <http://nixle.com>. The website includes an FAQ section with more information. You may also sign up via text messaging.
- **The Road Ambassador program** is a network of volunteers in our area created to coordinate communication in the event of weather-related events or other kinds of emergencies. Ambassadors will do their best to keep everyone up-to-date regarding what is happening in their area. Ambassadors are identified by neon yellow CLT Road Ambassador caps. Find the name and phone number of your Road Ambassador on the CLT website at: <http://crookedlake.govoffice2.com> or you can check the Township/Ambassador maps posted at the canister station and in the CLT Town Hall.

- **Changes in CLT road conditions** arising from an emergency-related event can be reported by calling 218-792-5918 and leaving a message.
- **Some area businesses may be able to post information** either on their electronic billboards or via posted notices. Information will also be available on the CLT website as it becomes available.
- **A Mutual Aid Agreement** with the City of Fifty Lakes (Emily agreement is pending) has been established to provide additional resources as needed in an emergency, such as temporary use of heavy equipment and operating personnel. Also, a list of private local heavy equipment contractors has been created and they have agreed to contract their services to help with recovery efforts in a major damage event. CLT will pursue the purchase of an emergency backup generator system to provide power to the Fire Hall/Emergency Services building, which could be open in the event of an emergency.
- **REMEMBER: Dial 911 for all fire, officer needed, or medical emergencies.** The Cass County Sheriff's office dispatches these calls to the appropriate agencies.

The CLT Emergency Planning Team's efforts have been recognized by Cass County officials, and our Crooked Lake Town Board of Supervisors supports and augments their efforts.

*by Keith Ahlquist*

*To volunteer to be a Road Ambassador  
call Keith Ahlquist at 612-799-5787*

# LAKE WASHBURN AREA PROPERTY OWNERS SURVEY

Over the past seven months, the Lake Washburn Association Board (LWAB) conducted a survey of Lake Washburn area property owners. A total of 382 owners were contacted via email and US mail. There were several ways to complete the survey: an online form was the preferred method, but many took advantage of a survey booklet that was mailed out, and a PDF downloadable version which could be completed and sent back.

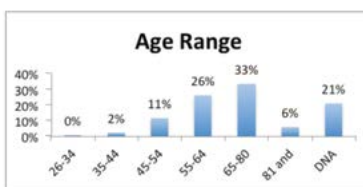
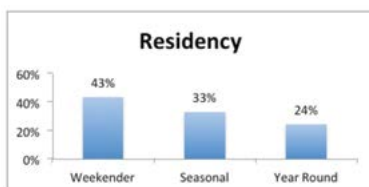
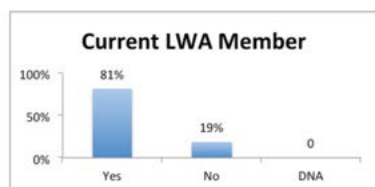
We are happy to announce that we had a fantastic response rate of 53 percent, with 204 surveys completed and returned. This is the most ambitious and comprehensive survey ever carried out by the LWAB and we thank all those who took the time to complete it, with honest and revealing comments about their view of the role of the Association and the health of Lake Washburn.

One purpose of the survey was to get a snapshot of how Lake Washburn property owners use the lake. We also wanted to find out what topics you felt the LWAB needs to address or continue to work on.

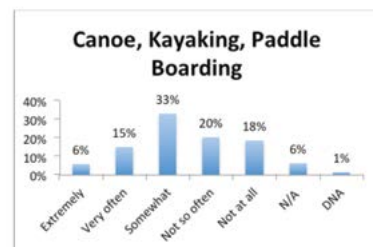
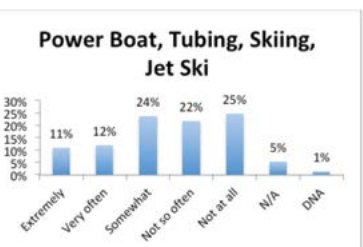
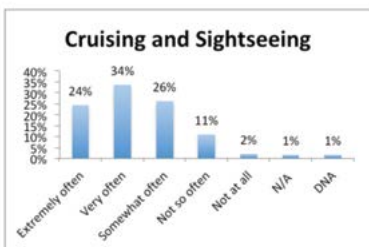
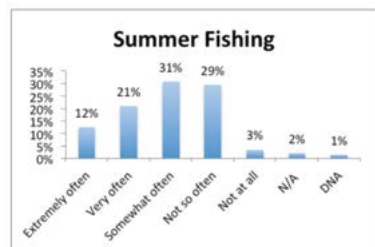
The survey provided some clear results including: the desire for continued vigilance against invasive species, concern for a healthy fish population, and proper buoy placement. Other suggestions included the desire for more social functions, support of boat launch monitoring efforts, and a preference to move the general membership meetings to a morning time slot.

Some highlights from the survey:

## DEMOGRAPHICS



## PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES



*Continued on page 13*

**OUTING CHAMBER  
FIREWORKS**  
*July 7, 2018 at Dusk*

*Do you see businesses  
you frequent here?*

*If not ask them to contact  
LWA to become a sponsor.*

# LAKE WASHBURN AREA PROPERTY OWNERS SURVEY

## Other Highlights and Insights from Survey Respondents

- 27% spend 21-50 days at the lake
- 40% are retired
- 65% plan to pass their property on to another family member
- 82% say that management of invasive species is very important
- 40% prefer to be contacted by mail; 39% by email
- 16% attend the membership meetings regularly
- 23% say that family functions and activities are the main reason for not attending meetings

The write-in comments were quite honest. Below are some of the action items the LWAB will be addressing in the coming year.

- There is an interest in providing family-friendly activities such as: picnics, fishing contests, water craft safety for kids, wild life presentations, and more.
- The LWA is going to look for a better way to encourage membership payments, such as an annual invoice reminder (other than the newsletter), and/or a PayPal or Square Space account for online payments.

- There appears to be a need/desire to promote a lake community, enabling people to meet lake residents beyond their immediate neighbors.
- The calendar and notification of LWA events needs to be easy to locate. Effective immediately, this information will be in the LWA Newsletter and on the LWA website at all times, with updates as needed. See the website link below.
- The LWAB needs to inform members of what LWAB does and does not have jurisdiction over. Concerns such as road grading, managing lake water level, limiting the horsepower of boats using the lake, road cleanup of State Highway #48, etc., do not fall under LWA control, and we need to make sure our membership understands this.

Complete survey results are available online by visiting the Lake Washburn website at [www.lakewashburnmn.org](http://www.lakewashburnmn.org) and clicking on the survey button. While the survey is now closed, we welcome all comments, questions and observations about the survey results.

Please feel free to contact Glen Goodwin:  
[lwagoodwin@icloud.com](mailto:lwagoodwin@icloud.com)

*by Glen Goodwin*

## WELCOME TO THE *NEXTDOOR* NEIGHBORHOOD!

Hello, Neighbors! Our *Nextdoor* Neighborhood, established for Lake Washburn and the immediate surrounding area in 2017, now has over 80 members!

*Nextdoor* is a private social network geared specifically for our "neighborhood". Each neighborhood's *Nextdoor* website is created and maintained for free by [Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com). *Nextdoor* acts like a mini, highly localized Facebook page and allows neighbors to post questions, security warnings or chat with others about pressing issues or social activities.

You can use *Nextdoor* to:

- Spread the word about an upcoming activity or event
- Report a break-in or security concern
- Request a contractor or tradesman referral
- Post warnings about bear sightings

- Announce the opening of a new business in the area
- Reunite a lost pet with its owner
- Request help putting in a dock or moving a boat lift
- Inquire about the best method to remove rust or water stains
- Post info about items you may want to buy, sell, borrow or give away

*Nextdoor* is a means for neighbors to connect with neighbors and establish a sense of community.

If you want to learn more or have any questions regarding *Nextdoor*, visit [Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com) or contact Lake Washburn Neighborhood Leader, Glen Goodwin.

Email: [lwagoodwin@icloud.com](mailto:lwagoodwin@icloud.com)  
Phone: 218-792-5289

*by Vicki Lipstreuer*

# THE PROPOSED NATIONAL LOON CENTER – CROSSLAKE, MINNESOTA



**Who:** The proposed National Loon Center is a collaboration between individuals and organizations at the local, state and federal levels. The proposed 15,000 square-foot Education/Interpretive Center is the concept of a group of Crosslake citizens who initiated an Education/ Interpretive Center. Locally they raised approximately \$100,000, and approached legislators, foundations and national leaders for direction and support. To date, there are 160 associations signed up as “supportive”. Funding is being requested from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on MN Resources (LCCMR) under the Minnesota Lottery Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund and Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Trust. If funding is available, initial construction of the waterway may begin in 2018.

**Why:** The National Loon Center’s mission is to: the survival and protection of the common loon and its habitats through the construction of this research and education center for migratory wildlife. We have other similar centers in our state: the Minnesota International Wolf Center (Ely) and the National Eagle Center (Wabasha). Loons are sometimes called “The Most Magical Bird in the World”. The United States Forest Service has designated the common loon a species of special status because of threats from habitat loss and toxic metal poisoning in its US range.

Dr. Jon Wefald Ph.D., told the June 9, 2018 gathering in Crosslake, that Minnesota’s loon population is roughly 12,000 birds who nest here and migrate to the Gulf of Mexico during winter. The largest concentration of loons is in a triangle

formed between Duluth, Grand Rapids, and Bemidji. The loon is an ancient bird dating back twenty million years. The “call of the loon” appears in research books, poetry and recorded on musical CDs, and is prominent in local Native-American storytelling and culture.

**What:** The Audubon and National Geographic Societies believe loons may be headed for extinction by 2080. Environmental hazards include lead in ammunition and fishing tackle. If a loon ingests a lead sinker, it is lethal. Additionally, the tragic oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico (Deepwater Horizon) is suspected to have damaged the DNA of loon chicks and resulting offspring. What is also critical is a balance of food. A loon can eat up to two pounds of fish a day. A balance of healthy fish life in our lakes is critical for future loon populations.

**How:** At the meeting, residents from surrounding area lakes detailed their community efforts to build loon platforms, monitor loon populations and manage the local environment. The gathering-room at the Crosslake Lutheran Church was filled with visitors, residents, legislators and every day lake-dwellers wanting to know more about this ancient bird and what we need to do to keep the “call of the loon” on our lakes. For more information – visit the website: [nationallooncenter.org](http://nationallooncenter.org)

**Did you know?** When loons migrate south to the Gulf, they change color and do not make their distinctive call. Loon chicks stay in the Gulf for two to three years before returning to mate in familiar hatching areas. Loons live approximately 25 years.

*by Ellen Leger*



# WATER PATROL

## CASS COUNTY SHERIFFS WATER PATROL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



The Lake Washburn Association (LWA) participates in the Outing Lakes area Cass County Sheriffs Water Patrol Volunteer Program. Currently the Sheriff's Office has boats permanently on Leech, Gull, Woman, Pleasant, and Outing area lakes. The Outing Area program started as a coalition of Lakes Roosevelt, Lawrence, Leavitt and Washburn. Sadly, due to the lack of volunteers, Lake Washburn is now the only active participant in the program. We survive due to a group of twelve dedicated volunteers who give up some of their free time to promote safety on our lake. Besides educating and promoting safety, assisting distressed boaters and promoting goodwill between the Sheriff's Office and our members, we participated in two new events in 2017. The Patrol led the Birch Bay Boat Parade and also directed traffic during the Floating Ice Cream Social. If you are a recreational boater, a fisherman or a person who simply enjoys spending time on the water, why not join the Patrol? We are looking for people who enjoy being on the lake, meeting people and making a difference. If you would like more information of the program please let me know.

Have you ever considered the similarities between driving a car and operating a boat in the eyes of the law? Both activities require registration and badging (license plates, boat numbers, etc.), both have age and education requirements for the young. Though we don't have white lines down the middle of the lake like a highway does, we do have specific rules for yielding

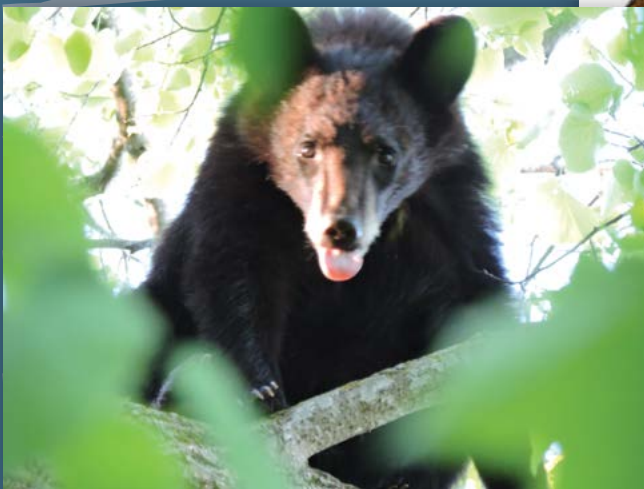
the right of way when passing, approaching, anchoring and yielding to other types of watercraft. Our street signs are buoys and our stop signs are the front navigation lights on most boats. If you do not know why you have a red light on the left and a green on the right of your boat, you need to read the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Boating guide which is available at <https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/regulations/boatwater/boatingguide.pdf> 4. When driving or boating you are subject to speed limits, noise limits and having required safety equipment installed and operational. Occasionally while on Water Patrol, we encounter boaters enjoying adult beverages. Remember to have a designated driver; both BWI (boating while intoxicated) and DWI (driving while intoxicated) are unsafe and illegal, sharing the same penalties from fines to imprisonment. You have responsibilities as a boat owner - when you have family and friends up to the lake make sure they know as much about the law and safe boating as you do before you grant them use your boat.

We are all neighbors here, and we live on the same street named Lake Washburn.

Be friendly, courteous and respectful to your neighbors, always.

*by Steve Carlson*

# Wild Washburn!



By: Dan Laakso



## REQUEST FOR SUBMISSIONS: ARTICLES OR PHOTOS

Please direct any comments, questions or concerns to:  
Glen Goodwin 218-792-5298 • [lwagoodwin@icloud.com](mailto:lwagoodwin@icloud.com)

### HOW TO CONTACT LWA:

Lake Washburn Association  
PO Box 26, Outing, MN 56662

[www.lakewashburnmn.org](http://www.lakewashburnmn.org) • [www.facebook.com/LakeWashburn2017/](https://www.facebook.com/LakeWashburn2017/)



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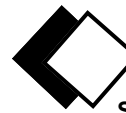
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Wednesdays at 5:00 pm - Barrett's Log Cabin

Fridays at 6:00 p.m. - Granny's Bar & Grill

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. - Barrett's Log Cabin

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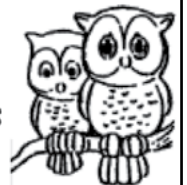
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## Annual Membership Dues and Donations

**Annual Membership Dues: \$25.00**

*Please complete the entire form so we can keep our database current*

*Mail forms to: LWA PO Box 26; Outing, MN 56662*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Winter Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Use Winter address from: \_\_\_\_\_ Until: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

New Property Owner: ☐ Y ☐ N Date Purchased: \_\_\_\_\_

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***Check all that apply***

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buoy Markers    | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheriff Water Patrol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Position  | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality Testing                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Committee  | <input type="checkbox"/> County Road 48 Cleanup                          |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boat Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Treatment |   |

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|--|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New               | Dues: \$ _____         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal           | General Fund: \$ _____ |
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