

WINTER FUN AT

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The Windemere Lake & Landowners Association

WINDOW

"If you want Information, just open your window"

Volume 9, Issue 1

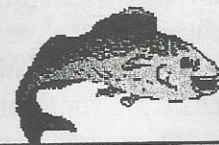
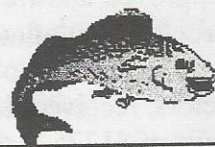
Fall 2004

RECAP OF 2004 ACTIVITIES

- ACTIVE MEMBER OF MINNESOTA LAKES ASSOCIATION
- HELD GENERAL MEMBER MEETINGS IN JUN, JUL & AUG; GUEST SPEAKERS WERE:
JUN: SHERYL CORRIGAN, COMMISSIONER, MPCA
JUL: DAN SWANSON, DNR EXOTICS
AUG: STEVE HEISKARY, MPCA
- PUBLISHED ONE NEWSLETTER
- COLLECTED SECCHI READINGS
- ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS
- EDUCATION PROJECT WITH MOOSE LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT
- COLLECTED TRASH THREE TIMES FOR ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY/ 7 ½ MILES EACH COLLECTION
- REGISTERED ASSC WITH STATE
- ICE FISHING CLEAN-UP
- LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION
- YARDWASTE DISPOSAL
- DNR MILFOIL GRANT RECEIVED

ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

Our Association Board of Directors at its July 31, 2004 meeting voted to rejuvenate and upgrade our website. Tom Landsberger, Director from Sturgeon Lake, offered to tackle this project over the winter. Anyone with any thoughts on the subject or time to assist on the effort, please give him a call at (218) 372-3358 or (651) 770-3067. The existing website is at <http://mooselake-net.com/home.html>



COMMITTEE CHAIR APPOINTMENTS 2004-05

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY	SHIRLEY ARNOLD
DNR INTERFACE	STEVE KOZAK
EDUCATION	PAULINE DEE
NATURAL GAS	SANDY SCHUMANN
NEWSLETTER	CHUCK ERICKSON
WEBSITE	TOM LANDSBERGER
SEWER	CHUCK ERICKSON



SAND LAKE **Eurasian Watermilfoil Infestation**

As everyone undoubtedly knows by now, Sand Lake was discovered in August, 2003 to have an infestation of Eurasian Watermilfoil.

Considerable effort has been expended by our association to date in 2004 to formulate a go-forward plan to address this problem.

Eurasian Watermilfoil is an emotional issue due to its ability to spread and mat at the surface to such an extent that it is problematic to swimmers, boaters and general fishing; the sad reality is that it is probably only a matter of time before this non-native aquatic plant invades the other lakes in our area. Accordingly, we face a future challenge in addressing the watermilfoil issue.

Dan Swanson, MN DNR Exotics office was the guest speaker at our July, 2004 general membership meeting. He indicated that Eurasian Watermilfoil was first discovered in Lake Minnetonka in 1987 and has now been found in 165 lakes in Minnesota. Dan explained how it spreads, methods to attack the problem and what the public can do to minimize further spread.

Chip Welling heads the MN DNR Exotics Species office. He advises that some 140 milfoil-infested lakes in Minnesota are currently undergoing treatment to control the spread of milfoil. **Eradication has not occurred in even one of these lakes.** In short, once infestation occurs, control is the only recourse.

One might ask why Eurasian Watermilfoil can't be eradicated. The simplistic answers are: one can't dig out all of the plants; they fragment and the fragments create new plants. Chemicals strong enough to absolutely kill all the growth would likewise kill useful native plants and fish; so a safe compromise chemical treatment can only help in the control process. Finally, each property owner is responsible for the control of aquatic plants within 150 feet of the shoreline of their property. Not all property owners are typically willing to apply or pay for a DNR permit to treat or additionally pay for the cost of treatment at their shoreline if the growth of the plant is such that use of the lake water is just a nuisance instead of a problem.

DNR EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL GRANT FUNDING

We learned in early August, 2004 that the MN DNR received some supplemental funding in support of their 2004 milfoil program. On August 6th, we applied for grant funding to pay for a comprehensive survey of aquatics in Sand Lake. Our application was approved and we were given a grant in the sum of \$1775 on August 19th. Conditions of the grant were the procurement of at least two bids from independent licensed contractors and conduct of the survey before the end of September to ensure a survey before the milfoil went dormant. We requested bids from four potential contractors, received three written bids and contracted with Blue Water Science, St. Paul, to conduct the survey at a cost of \$1775.

A comprehensive aquatic plant survey of Sand Lake was conducted on September 8th by Mr. Steve McComas of Blue Water Science. The written report is not expected before early November. However, Steve telephonically advised the following: Eurasian Watermilfoil has not spread substantially beyond those locations earlier detected by the DNR one year ago. Existing milfoil consists of single stems, with none branching or reaching the surface. In other words, no matting has yet formed.

Once we receive the comprehensive written report, we provide a copy to the DNR, along with our claim for grant funding to reimburse our expenditure for the survey. The next step over the winter months will be a coordinated effort with the DNR, based on the Blue Water Science report, to formulate a formal aquatic plant management plan for Sand Lake, which will serve as a combined DNR/lake association plan for future treatment/control of Eurasian Watermilfoil at Sand Lake.

We will provide all particulars at our June, 2005 general membership meeting. Meanwhile, please forward any comments to our P.O. Box address.

LAKE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (LAP) REPORTS

Moose Lake Area Lakes

Sand (58-0081)

Sturgeon (58-0067)

Island (58-0062)

Moose Head (09-0041)

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) conducted LAP studies of the Moose Lake area lakes throughout 2003. Steve Heiskary presented the results of the study at our August 14th, 2004 general membership meeting. All Board members have a written copy. If you care to browse the report, borrow your board member's copy. You may also access the report on the MPCA website.

FISH ARE REALLY BITING IN ISLAND LAKE, BOY DISCOVERS

(The following is a reprint of an article from the Saturday, August 28, 2004 issue of the Duluth News Tribune)
By Sam Cook, News Tribune Outdoors Writer

One moment, 11-year-old Mason DeRosier was hunting frogs. The next, he became the hunted.

Mason and his 9-year-old sister, Katelyn, were wading in about a foot of water on Island Lake, near Moose Lake, when he was attacked by a muskellunge or a northern pike. The resulting lacerations required 11 stitches.

Both kids are from Silver Bay and were at a family cabin on Island Lake when the incident occurred about 5 p. m., Thursday.

Mason's father, Richard DeRosier, was in a paddle boat just offshore and witnessed the event.

"I was facing them, and I see a hell of a swirl," said DeRosier, a Lake County deputy sheriff. "Before I can say Holy moly! Look at that!" all of a sudden the swirl is by their feet."

Mason saw the original swirl just offshore.

"It was like maybe five feet in front of us," Mason said. "Then it splashed right at my foot and bit me. It hurt." And the fish didn't let go immediately.

"I smacked it in the head and tried to pry it off my foot," Mason said. "He let go, but he bit my hand."

Both children were screaming throughout the incident, their father said. Katelyn wasn't bitten.

Mason was taken in his grandfather's motorboat back to the cabin, where he washed his wounds. Then he was off to the hospital emergency room in Moose Lake.

He received eight stitches in his left hand and three in the bottom of his right foot. He has numerous other bite marks across the top of his foot, his dad said.

"I'll bet he has 20 cuts on his foot and 10 cuts on his hand," Richard DeRosier said.

Nobody got a good look at the fish. Island Lake, just across Interstate 35 from Sand Lake in Pine County, has muskies and northern pike, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Either species would be capable of inflicting the kind of wounds Mason suffered.

Because Mason's foot hurts too much to walk on, the family decided to postpone a planned trip to Valleyfair in Shakopee, Minn. On Friday, Mason was back at the cabin recuperating.

But he and Katelyn weren't chasing any frogs.

2005 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

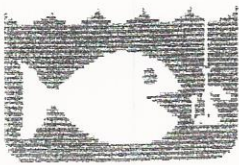
Saturday, June 11th

Saturday, July 9th

Saturday, August 13th

All meetings are from 9—11 a.m., at Camp Miller

Post Card reminders will be mailed in advance of each meeting



ICE FISHING CLEAN-UP
If anyone is interested in cleaning up
debris from ice fishing this winter,
please contact:

Tom Landsberger - Sturgeon Lake
Arne Tuomi - Sand Lake
Shirley Arnold - Island Lake



Windemere Lake & Landowners Membership: Membership in our local association is via a separate membership drive that we conduct in January of each year, with membership extending for the calendar year. You will receive your renewal notice/opportunity to renew by separate mailing in January. Our bargain membership fee is only \$10 per year, so please renew when you hear from our membership chair.

Seasonal vs residential population: As a part of the 2003 LAP study of Sand Lake, our Association had to submit a survey on the number of lakeshore properties that are seasonal versus year-around. We went to the county assessor's office for a computer run—the computer time was no more costly for a run of Sturgeon and Island Lakes than it would have been for just Sand Lake, so we thought it would be interesting to have the figures for all three lakes. This is a reprint from our Fall, 2003 newsletter, but due to continuing interest, here it is again:

	Homestead	Seasonal	Total
Sand Lake	120	176	296
Island Lake	103	127	230
Sturgeon Lake	115	232	347

The figures do not include non-shoreline properties; example: If 40 dwellings off the lakeshore share a single piece of shoreline as a common beach, the figures reflect only 1 shoreline owner. Still, the mix is interesting.

2004-05 Officers

CHUCK ERICKSON, PRESIDENT
DUTIES:

- presides at all board and general meetings
- preserves order and enforces the by-laws
- decides all questions of order and usage governed by Roberts Rules of Order
- appoints all committees not otherwise provided for
- serves as liaison between the Association, other organizations and the public

TOM LANDSBERGER, VICE PRESIDENT
DUTIES:

- assumes Presidents duties in Presidents absence

**JANETTE MULLER, TREASURER/
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**
DUTIES:

- maintains membership records & collects dues
- takes care of all banking & accounting functions
- publishes treasurer's report

PAULINE DEE, SECRETARY
DUTIES:

- reserves facility for board and member meetings
- reminds board members of meeting dates/times
- takes minutes at all board and general meetings
- publishes meeting minutes

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

STURGEON LAKE
Don Niss 372-8009
Sandy Schumann 372-4403
Tom Landsberger 372-3358 or
651-770-3067
Dennis Huddleston 372-3005 or
651-704-9606

**RUSH LAKE/ JOHNSON/
PASSENGER LAKE**
Ron Birkholz, Passenger Lake
651-429-5971

ISLAND LAKE
Chuck Erickson 485-8651
David Stark 651-778-8568
Shirley Arnold 372-4209
SAND LAKE
Pauline Dee 485-8578
Steve Kozak 485-8974
Janette Muller 485-8048
Arnie Tuomi 485-4063

WINTER FUN AT THE LAKE

(Got this off the internet. It is purported to be a true story heard on a Wisconsin radio station which was reporting the incident).

A guy bought a brand-new Lincoln Navigator truck for \$42,500 and had monthly payments of \$560.00. He and a friend went duck hunting in mid-winter and of course all the lakes were frozen. They went out on the lake with their guns, a dog, and of course the new Navigator. They drove the Navigator out onto the frozen lake and got ready to place the decoys. They decided they wanted to make a natural looking water area for the ducks, something for the decoys to float on.

Making a hole in the ice large enough to invite a passing duck is going to take a little more power than the average drill auger can produce, so out of the back of the new Navigator came a stick of dynamite with a short 40-second fuse. Our two rocket scientists, afraid they might slip trying to run away quickly after lighting the fuse and become toast, along with the Navigator, lit the 40 second and with a mighty thrust threw the stick of dynamite as far away as possible.

Remember a couple of paragraphs back when I mentioned the Navigator, the guns, and the dog? Let's talk about the dog. A highly trained Black Lab used for retrieving, especially things thrown by the owner. You guessed it, the dog took off at a high rate of doggy speed on the ice and captured the stick of dynamite with the burning 40-second fuse just as it hit the ice. The two men swallowed, blinked, started waving their arms and with the veins in their necks swelling to resemble stalks of rhubarb, screamed and hollered at the dog to stop.

The dog, apparently cheered on by his master, kept coming. One hunter panics, grabbed the shotgun and shot the dog. The shotgun was loaded with #8 birdshot, hardly big enough to stop a black lab. The dog stopped for a moment, slightly confused, then continued on. Another shot and this time the dog, still standing, became really confused and of course terrified, thinking these two geniuses have gone insane. The dog took off to find cover under the brand new

Navigator. The men continued to scream as they ran.

The red-hot exhaust pipe on the truck touched the dog's rear end, he yelped, dropped the dynamite under the truck and took off after his master.

Then BOOOOOOOM!! The truck was blown to bits and sunk to the bottom of the lake, leaving the two idiots standing there with a "I can't believe this just happened" look on their faces. The insurance company said that sinking a vehicle in a lake by illegal use of explosives is NOT COVERED. He still had yet to make the first of those \$560.00 a month payments!!!

And you thought YOUR day wasn't going well.

BRUSH DAYS AT WINDEMERE

Last Spring, Dennis Huddleston, Director from Sturgeon Lake, sought and received permission from the Windemere Town Board to open the township sand pit for brush deposit. The second Saturday of each month from July thru October was designated for deposit of lawn debris. Dennis staffed the operation with lake association volunteers. The program was such a success that the association will try to obtain town board authorization for an expanded program next year. Watch for more information in the Spring of 2005!

STURGEON LAKE SECCHI READINGS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

A volunteer from each of our lakes takes periodic water clarity tests, records the depth reading and reports the results in a cumulative report at the end of the summer season. We need 1 or 2 volunteers to take Sturgeon Lake readings next Spring/Summer.

If you are interested or want to find out more information before volunteering, please contact one of the Sturgeon Lake directors for details.

This is an important, but very simple, process and we need your help.