

Windemere Lake and Landowners Association



WINDOW

“If you want information, just open a window”

Fall 2012

a letter from Jerry Blazevic

I was asked when ice fishing season starts, and ends. It will be here sooner than you think, unless it was like last winter. The answer is when you get brave enough to venture out on the ice. Some people will start with 2 inches, but you should wait for 4 inches or more. At least 6 inches are recommended for 4 wheelers to be safe.

Game fish limits are the same as summer rules. The winter fishing usually ends late in February. Many people fish later as Sunfish and Crappie are a continuous season.

Remember, you can use two lines when ice fishing, but you must stay within 200 feet of your tip ups.

When using a shelter on the ice be sure to check all the rules and keep your area clean. Removal dates vary depending on your area and ice conditions.

Jerry Blazevic

Don't Sell AIS

By the Side of the Road!

As one travels those winding roads around Minnesota lakes in the summertime, we often see pieces of lake equipment sitting out by the driveway with a “For Sale” sign on it. It usually doesn't take long for these items to sell – it's a great way for newer residents to get the pieces they need and for other residents to make a few bucks getting rid of something they are done with. But make sure you're not throwing in a free family of zebra mussels to sweeten the deal!! Any equipment that comes out of one lake and gets out into another can spread aquatic invasive species to more lakes. Take the time to thoroughly clean and dry any piece of equipment that you want to sell, before you put it out by the road or list it for in the local paper.

And if you buy any lake equipment from a private owner, make sure it's thoroughly clean and dry before putting it into your lake. It's all too easy for some zebra mussel larvae to hide in a puddle on a dock wheel, or that green goop on the back of a floating dock to be a strand of milfoil.

Remember –before you put anything new or used in your lake, make sure it's clean and dry!

MW

Reports of our Lakes

Our lake committee now consists of Laurie Patrick... watchdog of our small lakes, Passenger, Rush, Johnson and Lake 11 and 12. Ron Hansen is watch-dogging Island Lake, Dennis Huddleston is watch-dogging Sturgeon Lake and Pauline Dee and Jerry Blazevic are keeping watch on Sand Lake.

Island Lake: We have now addressed the culvert problem on Island Lake. As you probably know, Island Lake has two large and old culverts in the SW corner of the lake. This is the out-flow for the lake and after through many culverts, the water eventually reaches Sand Lake. One of these culverts is totally plugged up by the roots of a giant willow tree, sand, soil and plants and a collapsing culvert “roof” doesn’t help. The other culvert is partially clogged by the same. Someday, no doubt, these culverts will collapse and a big job will have to be done to replace them with some form of a culvert. The changing of the type and size of the culverts will result in a change in the lake level. The DNR hydrologist in Pine County, Lonnie Thomas and his intern, met us at the culvert area and discussed with us the problems, rules and regulations of this type of project. Because there is such a limited flow leaving Island Lake due to the compromised culverts, some homes were flooded last spring when the water rose due to spring rains. The very same thing happened in 2001 as we have the letters and photos our then president, Chuck Erickson, wrote and sent out to various agencies for help. He got none.

The appropriate lake level of each lake is set by the DNR. When the appropriate level is decided upon, the DNR places a measuring device in the shoreline of a person who agrees to this. That person then reads the level and reports it to the proper authority. The DNR uses the information to determine the mean water level for each lake. This is all a part of the Lake Level MN Monitoring Program. To learn more about this program, go to www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/.

Guy Schaumberg checks the lake levels on Island Lake.

We also need to concentrate on some of the homeowners who mow to the lake. They need to build a buffer zone that will filter phosphorous loaded materials from entering the lake. These materials are grass clippings, lawn fertilizer, pet waste, soaps of all kinds from washing the car to letting grey water flow down to the lake. What is grey water? It is bath water, dishwater, etc. All lake shore owners on all lakes must learn to protect our waters. It is the phosphorus in this grey water and in the other things listed above that produce excessive algae in the water.

Sturgeon Lake: Sturgeon Lake was treated for 17.2 acres of EWM (Eurasian WaterMilfoil). A few homeowners also had their lakeshore treated. Dennis Huddleston has now surveyed the lake for signs of remaining EWM and new beds of it. His map has been sent to our DNR friend, Rich Rezanka, who will use the map along with his spring survey to see what is needed next year.

We need some new board members from Sturgeon Lake. We are down to four and it is a very large lake. Dennis is writing a history of EWM facts on the lake. This will help you and prospective members to be aware of the cost of treating this lake. We received \$3632.25 from the DNR in the form of a grant to pay

for off-shore treatment. This amount was for both Sturgeon and Sand Lakes. We paid \$9724.25 to Lake Management for off-shore treatment on both Sturgeon and Sand Lakes. Lake shore owners pay their own way.

Tom Landsberger is the person who checks lake levels on Sturgeon Lake.

Sand Lake: Sand Lake was treated for 2.85 acres of EWM this summer.... off-shore EWM. There was a lot of the plant on-shore though. Eight properties were treated on the north end and due to timing and communication problems, another group of homeowners did not get treated. Also, the winter and summer weather was very conducive to EWM growth. On September 8th, Jerry Blazevic and Jeff Puhl surveyed the lake and found a lot of EWM even where it was sprayed this summer. The map has been sent to Rich Rezanka. Next spring, all lakeshore owners have to be pro-active and alert to their lakeshore and get permits early, if necessary, so that treatment can be done in a timely fashion.

Greg Carlson checks lake levels on Sand Lake.

Windemere Lake and Landowners Board Members

Sturgeon Lake	Sand Lake	Island Lake	Passenger/Rush/Johnson Lake Eleven
Sandy Schumann 218-390-1141	Pauline Dee 485-8578	Chip Wells 485-8254 or 218-380-0409	Laurie Patrick 651-429-3700
Tom Landsberger 372-3358 or 651-770-3067	Jerry Blazevic 218-628-1651	Ron Hansen 485-8567	
Dennis Huddleston 372-3005	Janette Muller 485-8048	Shirley LaFond 372-4209	
Ron Goettsch 651-4231991 or 651-675-8648	Barbara Krig 952-474-2041		
	Greg Carlson 485-5784		

WEEVIL NEWS

We are keeping in touch with the Chub Lake Association as to the EWM-eating weevils they had planted in their lake last spring. The weevils were chomping away during the summer and now we are anxiously awaiting to see if they make it over the winter.

NEW OFFICERS

At our September board meeting, Chip Wells was voted in as Chair and Dennis Huddleston was voted in as Vice-Chair. Janette Muller and Pauline Dee remain Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

THANKS to the Sturgeon Rush Association for once again giving our association \$500. for our fight against Eurasian WaterMilfoil. We are so grateful for help such as this.

A Word from Our Treasurer- Jeanette Muller

Thank you for your memberships and your gifts to the Milfoil and Water Quality funds. We need to continue to expand our membership and special gifts. We are grateful that we were able to secure a grant from the DNR to partially cover the Milfoil treatment on Sand and Sturgeon Lakes. However, grants from the local townships and the DNR are not accessible due to decreased local and state resources. The association is in the process of developing a brochure and expanding our publicity effects. You can help by inviting your lake neighbors to become members.

Lake Memberships:

Island	30
Sand	75
Sturgeon	70
Other	4
TOTAL	179

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2013 General Meeting Dates

June 8

July 13

August 10

**Meetings are held at Hope Lutheran Church at 9:00 a.m.
Moose Lake**