

Windemere Lake and Landowners Association

www.minnesotawaters.org/windemerelakes



WINDOW

“If you want information, just open a window”
2015

Fall

Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center

The Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) was created in 2012 to develop new tools to measure, control, and eradicate AIS in Minnesota. The Center is part of the University of Minnesota and is located on the St. Paul Campus. MAISRC is working on developing ways to measure the presence of AIS using early detection methods. They are also working on methods to control and/or eradicate Asian carp, zebra mussels, Eurasian water milfoil and curly leaf pondweed. Finally they will monitor for additional AIS threats.

In September MAISRC held an all-day showcase highlighting their current activities. About 150 people attended including one of our board members, Chip Wells. Most of the attendees were representatives of lake associations. Chip attended interesting workshops that explained some of the current activities of the center. The first workshop discussed a new citizen AIS monitoring program that will start in the spring of 2016. The second and third sessions described the use of modeling to predict the spread of AIS and the use of microbes to possibly control or eradicate AIS. The final session was a field trip to a local lake to learn about managing submersed aquatic plants.

We are hopeful that MAISRC will make progress and be able to assist us in our efforts to control the existing Eurasian water milfoil in Sand and Sturgeon lakes and help prevent new threats to our enjoyment of the lakes in Windemere Township. Additional information can be found online at www.maisrc.umn.edu.

RECAP OF 2015

- In 2014, the state of Minnesota appropriated funds to the counties of the state to help with measures to halt the spread of invasive species. Lake associations who already had a problem with invasive species were offered help from the county with their ongoing battle with AIS, in our case, Eurasian water milfoil. Our lake association asked for and was granted \$25,000.00 by the Pine County commissioners to help with our problem. We decided we would use this money to treat all the EWM found in the DNR survey of Sand and Sturgeon lakes, both on shore water and off shore water. This was a change in our approach as in previous years lakeshore property owners paid a lot of money to help keep the lake open and usable to all who use the lakes for boating and water recreation. We were able to treat 40 acres on Sand and Sturgeon lakes and some follow-up treatment later on in the summer. Lakeshore owners could opt out of treatment by following the rules of the waiver we received from the state for this project. We are happy to report that we didn't need all of the money we asked for. We are hopeful that the actions we took this year will prove to be a big help in our fight against AIS.
- We also applied for and received two grants from the state, one for each lake to help us with the EWM problem which helped cut down the county money we needed.
- We were able to increase our membership to over 200 members!
- We had a float in the Moose Lake 4th of July parade with the hopes of bringing awareness to our association.
- We were able to make some headway on the Island Lake culvert problem.
- We picked up road trash three times during the summer on 8-1/2 miles of our township!
- We staffed the airport quarry six times this summer allowing residents to bring their brush for disposal.
- We published two Newsletters.
- We updated our website www.minnesotawaters.org/windemerelakes/
- We attended the MAISRC at the University of Minnesota to learn what the University was doing in the AIS battle.
- We also sent three of our members to the Pine County commissioners in September to thank them for their help with our EWIM.

In early December, already thinking ahead to our lakes in 2016, we will be attending a meeting in Sandstone concerning the plans for the ongoing AIS battle on the lakes in Pine County. Leading this meeting will be Caleb Anderson. You will remember Caleb spoke at our August general meeting and will be one of our presenters next August. So the cycle begins again!

Remember to: Clean Drain & Dry!

Local News:

Two parties were on a paddle boat on Sand Lake Saturday, October 17 when it began to sink. According to Conservation Officer Dustie Speldrich's report, the two attempted to swim back to shore before being rescued by good Samaritans as law enforcement and emergency medical services arrived. The parties were not wearing personal flotation devices and were transported to the hospital.

General Meetings: The 2016 calendar of our lake association is as follows. All general meetings are held at the Hope Lutheran Church-204 Elm Avenue-Moose Lake at 9:00am. Mark them on your calendar now. We hope to see you at these meetings next summer. Coffee and cookies will be served!

June 11-Fisheries

July 9 - Heidi Kroening, Chair of Windemere Township Board

August 13 - Rich Rezanka, DNR and Caleb Anderson, Pine County Aquatic Invasive Species Program

Windemere Lake and Landowners Board Members

Sturgeon Lake	Sand Lake	Island Lake	Passenger
Sandy Schumann 218-390-1141	Pauline Dee 218-485-8578	Chip Wells 218-485-8254	Laurie Patrick 651-429-3700
Tom Landsberger 218-372-3358 or 651-770-3067	Jerry Blazevic 218-626-1651	Ron Hansen 218-485-8567	
Dennis Huddleston 651-900-9085	Janette Muller 218-485-8048	Gregg Hetznecker 651-249-3912	
Ron Goettsch 651-423-1991 or 651-675-8648	Barb Krig 952-474-2041	Clair Strandlie 218-485-8868	
Tara Prachar 218-372-8492	Rita & Richard Menke 218-485-8071		
Terry Peterson 218-372-3459			