

Windemere Township Lakes Association

www.windemere.mnlakesandrivers.org



WINDOW

"If you want information, just open a window"

Spring 2018



Eurasian Watermilfoil Treatment

The Pine County Board of Commissioners has announced that our Windemere Township Lakes Association will be able to count on them for the \$20,000 we requested to treat Sand and Sturgeon lakes for Eurasian Watermilfoil. They also told us that we can count on the \$1,500 needed to send six (6) of our Early Detectors for training to be more able to watch and check for invasives in our township lakes. We want to thank the commissioners for their help in our ongoing struggle to keep our lakes clear and free of invasives.

Remember to: Clean, Drain & Dry!

LET'S KEEP WINDEMERE WONDERFUL!

Have you heard about Windemere Township's Comprehensive Plan? Well, we have one that is over ten years old. Since May 2017 about 23 of your neighbors have been volunteering on a Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee to work with a planning consultant to update the plan for the 21st century. The plan **does not** institute any new rules but is intended to be a policy guide for the township, a reference tool for development going forward, and a guide for decision makers within the township.

After several meetings, roundtable discussions and subcommittee work the plan made 27 recommendations that touch on zoning, land and water quality, natural resource protections and goals and visions for Windemere's future.

The Comprehensive Planning Steering Committee is looking forward to sharing its work and getting your feedback before the final document is presented to the Township Board for consideration at the July 12, 2018 meeting and proposed adoption at the August 8, 2018 Town Board Meeting. Open house presentations are being offered for all township residents at Mitchell Lodge at Camp Miller on Saturday, May 5, 2018 from 1-3 PM and again on Saturday, June 23 from 9:30-11:30 AM. Steering Committee members will make a brief presentation at our June 9, 2018 meeting and be available for questions and comments. **YOU ARE INVITED TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND SUPPORT THE PLAN.**

Windemere Township Shoreland Zoning

Ryan Clark, Zoning Administrator

Lake Associations play a vital role in educating and helping property owners voluntarily conserve water quality and fish/wildlife habitat. As a land use zoning official, I have the difficult role of regulating development on private property along our lakes. These regulatory and voluntary approaches to natural resource conservation work together to keep our lakes in a healthy ecological state. Here in Windemere we are lucky to have lakes with good water quality and fish habitat. I applaud Windemere Lakes Association's efforts to promote wise land use that results in further water quality protection.

Shoreland Zoning Ordinances vary across the State, but they all must meet or exceed the restrictions of the higher jurisdiction. Here in Windemere Township we must meet Pine County's Shoreland Zoning, and further yet, Pine County must meet the State of Minnesota Shoreland Zoning requirements. All this means, is most of the requirements are passed down from the State. The goal of a well written zoning ordinance is to protect natural resources while allowing responsible development of private property. No-one likes to be told what they can do with their property, so it is important to understand the shared responsibility every property owners have in protecting our lakes. Not all parcels in the township were created equal by mother nature, and many lot configurations can cause frustration when trying to comply with zoning rules. The Township Zoning staff is here to help property owners plan for projects that meet their goals but also comply with ordinance requirements.

When working on a project in the shoreland zone (1000' from lake) there are several things to consider. Beyond basic shoreland best management practices like not mowing or using fertilizer near the lake, tree and native vegetation removal is restricted in ordinance. Grading and filling

within the shore impact zone (half the distance of structure setback from lake) requires a permit in most cases. Areas with slope exceeding 15% cannot be altered and wetlands must be identified and avoided when working in shoreland.

When planning a new structure or addition there are size limitations and set back requirements. Structural coverage on a lot is calculated as a percentage of lot area and vary depending on sewer status. For a detailed list of setbacks please see the Township website for the whole ordinance and/or FAQs. <http://windemeretownship.com/zoning.html>

I encourage everyone to read through our most up-to-date Zoning Ordinance. We are in the process of developing a new Comprehensive Plan. If you have any ideas for guiding future land use or changes to specific ordinances, please contact me or anyone on the Windemere Township Planning Commission. I can be reached at Ryan.clark@windemerretownship.com.

Remember to Clean Up the Ice!



Volunteers continue a 15-year ice cleanup tradition on White Bear Lake. The event began back in 2004 as an Eagle Scout project for 11 different Boy Scout Units and since then has become an annual event. This year 134 volunteers from 11 different Scout Units and the Minnesota Geocaching Assoc. collected more than 700 pounds of trash that otherwise would have dropped into the lake when the ice melted!!! Organizers estimated that the annual cleanup has prevented more than three tons of litter from sinking into the lake over the years. So, let's remember to clean up the ice!

TEE-SHIRTS: Back by popular demand, we will continue to offer our Lake Association tee-shirts at our general meetings. These are short sleeve tees with our association logo on the front. The tees are available in five colors, in many sizes and are only \$10.00!

2018 Lake Association General Meetings: 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. Coffee and cookies are served!

June 9 - Ryan Clark, Windemere Township Zoning Administrator
 July 14- Representative Mike Sundin & Senator Tony Lourey
 August 11 - Rich Rezanka, Biologist & AIS Specialist, Minnesota DNR

Windemere Township Lakes Association Board Members			
Sturgeon Lake	Sand Lake	Island Lake	Small Lakes
Ron Goettsch Home: 651-423-1991 Cell: 651-675-8648	Pauline Dee Home: 218-485-8578	Chip Wells Home: 218-485-8254	Laurie Patrick Cell: 651-336-1024 Passenger Lake
Dennis Huddleston Home: 651-900-9085	Jerry Blazevic Home: 218-626-1651 Cell: 218-213-2797	Ron Hansen Home: 218-485-8567	Bruce Jacoby Home: 651-458-0491 Cell: 651-600-7193 Passenger Lake
Terry Peterson Cell: 218-380-0996	Barb Krig Home: 952-474-2041 Lake: 218-485-8862	Clair Strandlie 218-485-8868	Vern Anderson II Cell: 218-522-0301 Johnson Lake
Tara Prachar Home: 218-372-8492 Office: 218-390-1626	Rita & Richard Menke Home: 218-485-8071	Paula Gramling Home: 715-273-6474 Cell: 715-523-9444	
Dave Yost Cell: 763-742-6302	Patty Stasson Home: 952-895-5209		
Mark Dunaski Cell: 612-867-3515			

Check out our new website @ www.windemere.mnlakesanddrivers.org