

Windemere Township Lakes Association

<http://windemere.mnlakesanddrivers.org/>



WINDOW

"If you want information, just open a window"

Fall 2020

We hope this fall edition of the "WINDOW" finds you all healthy and COVID free. I think we can all agree, it's been a challenging year! Despite the many hurdles we've all encountered, your Windemere Township Lakes Association (WTLA) Board was able to accomplish quite a bit along with the help of our many members. Together we were able to:

- Hold three board meetings while practicing social distancing.
- Staff the airport quarry six times this summer allowing residents to bring their brush for disposal.
- Publish spring and fall newsletters with an additional summer edition.
- Keep our website up to date.
- Pick up a little over 9 miles of road trash around the south and east side of Sand Lake as well as roads around Island and Sturgeon Lakes.
- Purchase and install three "No-Wake" bouys to reinforce Pine County Sheriff's no-wake advisory within 300' feet of shore on Sturgeon Lake.
- Obtain permits for and treat two lakes for milfoil, 30.6 acres on Sturgeon and 10 acres on Sand.
- Complete our fourth year of the AIS Early Detection Program.
- Re-appoint the High Water Committee with focus on Sturgeon Lake.
- Hold a mail-in election of board members.

WTLA High Water Committee – Sturgeon Lake Update

By Mark Dunanski, Board Member WTLA

As you may recall from our summer edition of the "WINDOW", a High-Water Committee had been formed to seek a solution to the record high level of water on Sturgeon Lake.

Throughout the summer months, this committee and its members have been recording water levels and talking to various Sturgeon Lake home owners about their shorelines. At our last board meeting on September 23, it was reported that Sturgeon Lake was down 8+ inches from first measurements taken on May 20th and some residents had seen an even greater drop since the high level of last October. While this is good news, most who have traveled around the lake have witnessed a lot of shoreline work being done again this year and the township zoning administrator has indicated numerous permits are being pulled to

fix shorelines. In fact, in his estimation, several hundred thousand dollars are being spent on shoreline restoration!

Members of the Windemere Township Board recently spoke with both Senator Rarick and Representative Sundeen regarding the high water and were encouraged by their interest in assisting. Additionally, the township may apply for a grant from the Environment and Natural Resource Trust Fund to help fund a feasibility study regarding possible solutions to the high- water situation. The High-Water Committee is recommending the WTLA put support behind the township's efforts.



Eurasian Milfoil Research for Windemere Township Update

By Sherry Lahti, Board Member WTLA

Sand and Sturgeon Lakes received grants from both the state and county for AIS treatment in 2020 and both lakes were treated in August 2020.

The DNR issued permits for application of chemical treatment for Eurasian Milfoil in Sand and Sturgeon lakes. 10 acres in Sand lake were treated with a new chemical, called Procellacor, which is a very expensive and relatively new and unproven treatment option. Early indications are that it seemed to be effective and we will reassess in the spring.

Sturgeon Lake, which had much more acreage treated in larger patches for a total of 30.6 acres, was treated with 2,4-D. Early indications were that the effectiveness was inconsistent, and will be reassessed in the spring of 2021.

This winter the board will again apply for grants for funding to continue to treat the Eurasian milfoil present in both lakes.

LOGO APPAREL

Valley printing is up and running now with our association logo garments. You can find a variety of women and men items including shirts, hats and even aprons. For easy ordering go to <https://www.valleyprinting.ink> and click Online Stores/Catalog to place your order. They will ship it directly to you



“Meet our Board”

Thank you to all that responded to our board election process this summer. We received your post cards and are pleased to announce the addition of Loren Radtke – Sturgeon Lake to the board. Loren will serve as our Vice Chair.

Loren Radtke – My wife Vicki and I moved to the South shore of Sturgeon Lake in 2010. Our property is part of an area that was once known as Wold’s Resort during the 1940s and 50s. Fishing, swimming and recreation near Minnesota lakes are some of the foundational experiences I grew up with and our family has always shared. One of my interests is shoreline restoration with native plants. My technical background is in engineering management. My career background includes being part of project teams which manage construction of energy infrastructure. I look forward to serving as your board member with the WTLA. I believe protecting and improving the quality of our lakes and the natural recreation facilities of Windemere Township is something we can all come together to support.

Remember to: Clean, Drain & Dry!



University of Minnesota lab to study size, force of boat wakes

WTLA along with other lake associations across the state have contributed to the St. Anthony Falls research center at the U of M. They are launching a new research initiative this Fall that looks to measure the height and energy of waves and depth and force of propeller wash generated by wake boats and other large watercraft to better understand and quantify their impacts on lake bottoms and shorelines. This information can help build understanding on how best to manage and protect our lakes and rivers for future generations.

Researchers will deploy sensor arrays and cameras above and below the water surface to collect data on wind waves and on watercraft-generated wakes and propeller wash while being operated

under different conditions, lake depths, and various distances from shorelines. Observations of impacts to the surrounding environment will also be collected. Additionally, the project looks to develop a prototype wave monitoring sensor station and training program that will enable interested citizen scientists and organizations to collect data on their lake of interest, building and supporting a statewide monitoring effort. The first results should be available by the summer of 2021.

2021 Lake Association General Meetings: General meetings will continue to be held, COVID-19 restrictions allowing, at the YMCA Camp Miller, 89382 E. Frontage Road, Sturgeon Lake at 9:00AM. Mark them on your calendar now. We hope to see you at these meetings. Coffee and cookies are served!

June 12 - Presenter to Be Determined
 July 10- Presenter to Be Determined
 August 14 - Presenter to Be Determined

Check out our new website @ <http://Windemere.mnlakesandrivers.org/>

Windemere Township Lakes Association Board Members			
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