

Windemere Township Lakes Association

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



WINDOW

"If you want information, just open a window"

Spring 2021

Dock and Lift Installments

By Katie Sickman, Invasive Species Coordinator
St. Croix River Association

Lake Service Providers

What is a Lake Service Provider?

Lake service providers (LSP) are any businesses that installs, removes, rents, or decontaminates any water-related equipment from state waters. LSP's must apply for and obtain a permit from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, this is to regulate the transport of invasive species, equipment, and water to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS).

What you Need to Know:

If you hire a business to install or remove your boat, dock, lift, or other water-related equipment, make sure they have completed AIS training and are on the DNR's list of Permitted Service Providers.

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lsp/index.html>

Transporting to Different Waters:

- If you plan to move a dock, lift, or other water equipment from one lake or river to another, all visible zebra mussels, faucet snails, and aquatic plants must be removed whether they are dead or alive. According to Minnesota law, the equipment must be free of AIS and dried for 21 days before it can be placed in another waterbody.
- When removing water-related equipment, it is legal to take the equipment out of infested waters – even if it has zebra mussels or other prohibited invasive species attached – and place it on the adjacent shoreline property.

Removing Boats for Winter Storage:

- It is illegal to transport any watercraft with zebra mussels, faucet snails, or other prohibited invasive species attached away from a water access or other shoreland property, even if you intend to put it in storage for the winter.
- To transport watercraft at the end of the season, the DNR has developed a special one-way pass, or authorization form. The form allows boaters to move watercraft to another location to clean off invasive species, and once cleaned, to store it for the winter.

For more information, please contact katies@scramail.com.

DID YOU KNOW THAT WE ARE FIFTY YEARS OLD????

That's right, our Association was started June 22, 1971 under the name Windemere Township Lake and Land Owners, Inc. under and in accordance with the provisions of the Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation Act. Arlen I. Erdahl, was our Minnesota Secretary of State. Some of you may remember our members: Gale Beccus, Herb Pieper, George Sivanich, Erling Michelson, David Aufderhar, Joe Kohl, Clifford Hauberg, Elmer Franz, Sharon Palas, William Morse, Donald Tchida, Donald Chatterton, Col. Eric Bischoff and David Stepan.

Because this is our 50th year together as an association, the board thought it would be interesting to take a look back in time so we are looking for photos of our lakes around the time of 1971. If you have a photo and would like to share it with us digitally, please send it to windemerelakes@yahoo.com with a sentence or two about the photo. We will compile the photos and post them on our website later this summer!



“Meet our Board”

Jerry Blazevic and his wife purchased their home on Sand lake in 1977 and together with their three boys would live at the lake all summer while Jerry commuted back and forth from his air national guard duties in Duluth. Jerry has been on the board since 2010 and has been known to be the Sand Lake Historian. He says the most often asked question by his neighbors is about the lake water levels as it can vary up to 6 feet from year to year depending on the amount of precipitation. He especially remembers the high levels during the flood of 2012!

The main reason Jerry joined the WTLA Board was “to be a voice in support of water recreational activities” but now focuses mainly on invasive species. After Arnie Toumi retired from the board, Jerry took on his lake level monitoring and then water quality responsibilities from Pauline Dee when she retired. He also worked to maintain waterflow coming into Sand Lake through his beaver management efforts, has focused on eliminating invasive species, but perhaps he is best known for trapping the shoreline eroding muskrats!



Eurasian Milfoil Research for Windemere Township Update

By Sherry Lahti, Board Member WTLA

This winter the board applied for and received a grant from Pine County to treat both Sand and Sturgeon Lakes with *ProcellaCor* as we continue to try and mitigate the Eurasian Milfoil growth. We will notify residents prior to treatment this summer once a permit to treat is obtained by the DNR.

Remember to: Clean, Drain & Dry!

Island Lake Water Quality

By Chip Wells, Board Member WTLA

Every ten years the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) extensively surveys watersheds in the state. Our area was done in 2020 and a Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) report has been completed. In the report Island Lake is identified as being close to an “impaired water” due to high levels of phosphorous in the lake. The phosphorus creates green algae blooms in the lake. The lake association board has decided to determine the source of the phosphorus and what if anything can be done about it. This summer volunteers on the lake will be collecting water samples and other data from the lake and tributaries. The data will be provided to WENCK, a national environmental consulting and engineering company. WENCK will provide a report on the sources of the phosphorus and any remedial action that we might take. The report should be available before the end of the year.

RE M I N D E R – 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



BRUSH PILE: Property owners wanted a place to dispose of brush and leaves in Windemere but the township supervisors were concerned about people dumping trash. So, the lakes association volunteered to staff the gravel pit once a month to monitor its use. We are pleased to announce that we will continue to provide this service on the 3rd Saturday of each month from April-October from 10:00-1:00. Last fall the pit area was cleaned up and the brush pile pushed together. Please continue to use this site near the airport responsibly so that it can remain a valid source for all of us.

2021 Lake Association General Meetings: We are back in business...General meeting space has been reserved at the Social Hall in Holy Angels Catholic Church, 60 Hartman Dr, in Moose Lake, at 9:00 AM. Current COVID restrictions will be observed. We encourage everyone to check our website @ <http://Windemere.mnlakesanddrivers.org/> before each meeting to ensure COVID-19 restrictions have not forced cancellation.

June 12 - Mark Dunanski - *WTLA High Water Committee - Sturgeon Lake
 July 10- Dennis Genereau, Windemere Twp Zoning Administrator
 August 14 - Paul Swanson, Pine Soil & Water Conservation District

***Sturgeon Lake High Water Issue - A complete update, too lengthy for this newsletter, will be presented at the June 12th General Membership Meeting.**

Windemere Township Lakes Association Board Members			
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