

Green Lake Breeze

P.O. Box 362 • Spicer, MN 56288

www.greenlakespicer.com

August 2010

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Kelly TerWisscha 320.796.5190
ktw@twcinc.com

Vice President

Ron Schneider 320.796.2710
schneiderlawfirm@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Dick Gunderson 320.796.5167
randbgunderson@aol.com
480.502.9531

Secretary

Jamie Duinink 320.796.4100
jamied@prinsco.com

Executive Secretary

Terry Frazee 320.796.2502
frazee@tds.net
863.439.0455
terry.frazee@verizon.net

Brett Aamot 320.796.5257
brett@cdscpa.com
320.235.6464

Trudie Lieser 320.796.6196
trudie@lieserinsurance.com

Ron Minke 320.796.2612
rdminke@gmail.com

Greg Roverud 320.796.6335
roverudgreg@tds.net

Valerie Sechler 320.796.0765
jvsechler@tds.net

Bob Schemel 320.796.0093
mkschemel@yahoo.com
320.894.8555

Ron Schneider 320.796.2710
schneiderlawfirm@yahoo.com

Roger Stehn 320.796.2374
arstehn@aol.com
281.970.8217

Dear Green Lake Property Owners,

Happy August every one! It's so hard to believe that we are already in August, it seems like summer just started.

This month I have good news, bad news and even worse news. Let's go with the good news first. As you may have noticed, on Tuesday, July 20th we began the first treatment of the milfoil on Green Lake. The treatment went well and the best part is that many of the larger stands of milfoil from last year were NOT able to be found! Our treatments from

last year seems to have had some significant effect. I would like to thank Bob Schemel, Roger Sowder and Terry Frazee for taking the day and helping with the treatment.



The bad news is that we are short of funds in our AIS fund to cover the expense for the chemicals for this year's treatment. If you haven't done so yet, please consider a donation to this fund to help out in the treatment. If you have already donated, please consider additional funds as our treatment program is having positive effects on the milfoil in Green Lake!

The even worse news, you have probably already heard about this but Zebra Mussels have been found in Lake Minnetonka. These little critters are getting around. We have been in close contact with the DNR on this issue and they are scheduling a Phase II stakeholders meeting in the very near future to get interested parties together and discuss what can be done to stop the spread of Zebra Mussels. What we have been finding in our working with them already is that it will take some legislative action to make a significant step in stopping or slowing the spread and that takes time. As you are all aware, legislative action takes a lot of people contacting their legislators and letting them know their concerns. I'm sure that you will be hearing more about that in the very near future from us. In the meantime, any opportunity that you have to inform others about how to stop the spread of these creatures, please make use of the chance to inform and educate them. If you need any further information regarding Zebra Mussels check out the website www.greenlakespicer.com or contact one of your GLPOA board members.

Have a great rest of the summer!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. TerWisscha'.

Kelly TerWisscha, President, GLPOA

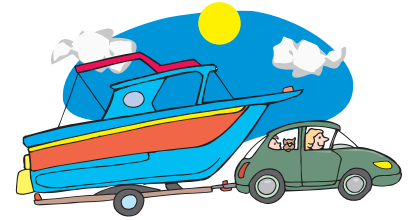


Where Do We Go From Here?

IS THE WOLF AT OUR FRONT DOOR?

Q: Why are boats which are used in waters infested with zebra mussels (ZM) allowed to go directly to Green Lake from such infested waters?

A: Current Minnesota laws permit it and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has either been unable to get the law changed or hasn't attempted to do so.



Q: How close to Green Lake is the nearest body of water which is infested with ZM?

A: About 60 miles, at Lake Le Homme Dieu (Alexandria), at the Sartell Dam on the Mississippi River and most recently Lake Minnetonka!



Q: How could ZM infest Green Lake?

A: The infestation of large, heavily-used lakes like Minnetonka, Mile Lacs, Pelican and the Le Homme Dieu chain (all infested with ZM) has increased the risk that Green Lake will soon be infested because ZMs in these lakes can travel on trailered boats to Green Lake. The risk to Green Lake is increased as more boats are brought to the lake.

Q: What evidence supports the theory that there is a correlation between the number of fishing tournaments on a body of water and the probability of ZM infestation?

A: There are over 12,000 lakes in Minnesota. Approximately 40-45 of those are known to be infested. The infestation probability is .00375. Of the top 10 tournament water bodies in Minnesota (which includes Green Lake), four are infested. That is a 40% infestation rate. Putting this information into context: if the infestation rate which we see among tournament waters was applied to all of our 12,000+ lakes, we would have 4,800 lakes contaminated by ZMs.



Q: What action has DNR taken to stop the spread of ZM?

A: DNR's strategy for limiting the spread of ZM is based on influencing the behavior of boaters through education and enforcement of the current law, which provides that it is unlawful to:

- * transport aquatic plants on public roads, except as allowed in statute (\$50 civil penalty);
- * transport zebra mussels and other prohibited species of animals on a public road (\$250 civil penalty or misdemeanor)

- * place or attempt to place into waters of the state a boat, seaplane, or trailer that has aquatic plants (\$100 civil penalty), zebra mussels or other prohibited invasive species attached (\$500 civil penalty or misdemeanor).

When using infested waters, the following regulations also apply:

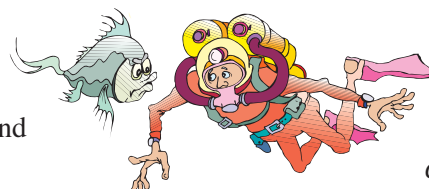
- * water from infested waters may not be used to transport fish except by permit;
- * persons leaving infested waters that contain populations of spiny waterflea or zebra mussels must drain bait containers, other boating-related equipment (excluding marine sanitary systems) that holds water, and livewells and bilges by removing the drain plug before transporting the watercraft and associated equipment on public roads (\$50 civil penalty or misdemeanor);

- * water from infested waters may not be transported on a public road or off riparian property on infested waters except in emergencies or under permit (\$200 civil penalty or misdemeanor).

When leaving any water body, infested or uninfested, as of August 1, 2010, the bilge plug must be removed.

Q: How effective have these laws been?

A: In 2009, in the entire state of Minnesota which has 900,000 licensed boats, there were 59 reported citations for violations and



continued on next page

Where Do We Go From Here? continued....

several more water bodies were designated “infested” by DNR. Dive surveys in Mille Lacs Lake by DNR found a ten-fold increase in ZM over numbers from 2008.



Q: Is DNR’s program for controlling the spread of ZMs effective?

A: The numbers speak for themselves, but both the adult ZM and their offspring (veligers) are small and difficult to see, particularly if inside the boat motor intake or on the trailer’s rollers/bunks. With the adult ZM about 1 1/2” long and the veliger being microscopically small, they are easy to miss, even in a careful inspection. The presence of veligers is usually found by rubbing the boat or trailer with one’s bare hand. Can we say that the ZM program is effective when more lakes are added to the infested list every year?



Q: Are there any experts who believe that the anti ZM program could be improved, and if so, how?

A: Richard Steinberg, a prominent fresh water biologist, has been hired by GLPOA, Kandiyohi County, MFCRWD and the Lakes Association to evaluate the effectiveness of the current program and to make recommendations to both DNR and the Minnesota legislature. Many of you may have seen the power point presentation which Dick has produced as part of that effort.

Other states, including Lake Tahoe in Nevada/California, have aggressive successful containment and decontamination programs in place.

The fact is that the spread of ZM has accelerated and Steinberg believes that to reduce the risk of further spreading, several measures should be taken ASAP:

- * close public water accesses which are redundant;
- * make hot-water pressure washers available for decontaminating boats (consider the dilemma of the boater who arrives at Salisbury Beach or County Park 5, only to be told by an inspector that his boat and trailer are contaminated and it is illegal to travel a public highway transporting ZM)
- * containment of those bodies which are infested is the key to preventing the further spread of ZM; the current program is not working. Containment could include ensuring that every watercraft and trailer which migrates from infested waters to uninfested waters is decontaminated, either by use of a hot water pressure washer or by remaining out of the water for five days; reducing the number of fishing tournaments; possible elimination of tournaments on those lakes which are infested, etc.
- * we must work with state-wide groups such as Minnesota Waters, Ducks Unlimited, etc. to elect and influence legislators who will see to it that infested bodies and those who use them are treated differently so that they do not continue to be part of the problem



Rep. Al Juhnke, at a meeting with DNR officials in Spicer this summer, summed it up when he said “Containment is the only thing that will work.”

Q: If we join a lobbying effort, won’t that cost us money?

A: Many GLPOA members recognize this and might contribute to a fund which would allow us to hire the right talent, including a fund administrator. If just 500 of us were to contribute 5% of what we pay annually in property tax, we could raise \$250,000. If we don’t do this, what are the alternatives?

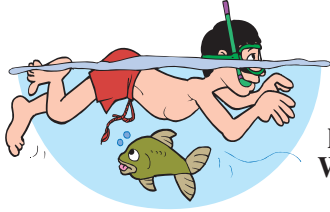
Your board of directors would appreciate hearing from you.



Lake Watcher Program Report



GLPOA has developed a 'Lake Watcher' Program to monitor existing Eurasian watermilfoil areas and to watch for new infestations. The program is based on 15 mapped areas, or zones, up to 21 feet in depth, with zone maps developed by Dave Coahran, DNR Spicer Fisheries Biologist. The Zone maps include marked waypoints of known milfoil areas.



Lake Watchers' work will assist with annual Eurasian watermilfoil survey which is the basis of the herbicide treatment and diver removal milfoil control program. **The most important part of the Green Lake survey of Eurasian watermilfoil is the continual notification from property owners and lake users who see new milfoil plants and stands and report the locations. When you see a change or suspect milfoil plants please contact a person listed below.**

Property owners have volunteered to monitor 13 of the Lake Watcher Zones: the zone areas are identified by addresses around the lake to provide property owners with a contact person in your area. Should you view a possible Eurasian watermilfoil site, you can contact the person in your zone with the information.

ZONE 1: North Shore — addresses from 8009 to 9999 North Shore Drive (includes Old Mill Inn and Rush Brown Access): *Kelly TerWisscha, 796-5190*

ZONE 2: North Shore — addresses from 10011 to 11845 North Shore Drive (includes Lone Tree Bar): *Bill and Ann Latham, 796-5264*

ZONE 3: North Shore to Indian Beach Harbor — addresses 11867 North Shore Drive to 13426 Indian Beach Road (includes County Park 5 and Outlet area): *Jim and Jenny Olson, 796-5427*

ZONE 4: Indian Beach Road — addresses 13398 to 12040 Indian Beach Road: *Duane Hanson, 796-2246*

ZONE 5: Indian Beach Road to 1/2 Indian Beach Circle — addresses 12026 Indian Beach Road to 11024 Indian Beach Circle: *Mike Hanson, 235-2780*

ZONE 6: Indian Beach Circle to Lake Avenue S — addresses 11010 Indian Beach Circle to 10134 Lake Avenue S (includes Bible Camp, Emerald Bay and Gratz's Bar): *Dean Quale, 796-2448*

ZONE 7: City of Spicer, Lake Avenue N and South — addresses 271 Lake Avenue S to 334 Lake Avenue N (Whistle Stop, includes Melvin's, Lion's Park): *Tom and Pat Broman, 798-5611*

ZONE 8: Lake Avenue N, Skyline Drive to Old Mill Inn — addresses 335 Lake Avenue N to 7595 through 14474 Skyline Drive and 7595 through 7911 North Shore Drive: *Darrell and Mary Sunvold, 796-0204*

ZONE 9: Off Shore, lakeward of Green Lake Beach, Rice Estates and Rush Brown Access: *Bob Hodapp, 796-2009*

ZONE 10: Off-shore, includes Hultgren's Bar: *Robert Schemel, 796-0093*

ZONE 13: Off-shore, lakeward north of Bible Camp: *Roger Sowder, 796-2491*

ZONE 14 and ZONE 15: Lakeward off Spicer and lakeward north of Gratz's Bar: *Gene Kubesh, 796-6901*

Note: we need two Lake Watch volunteers for Zones 11 and 12, lakeward off County Park 5 and lakeward straight north of Indian Beach Circle. Please call Terry Frazee at 796-2502 or Ann Latham at 796-5264 if you are willing to Lake Watch these areas.

Please retain this Lake Watch information for your address location and contact person. **Please call in any observations you have that may assist GLPOA survey of Eurasian milfoil sites.**



A huge thank you to all the volunteers willing to make the Lake Watcher Program work for Green Lake!

Ann Latham



Milfoil Treatment

On July 13th Roger Sowder, Kelly TerWisscha, Terry Frazee and myself treated Eurasian milfoil.



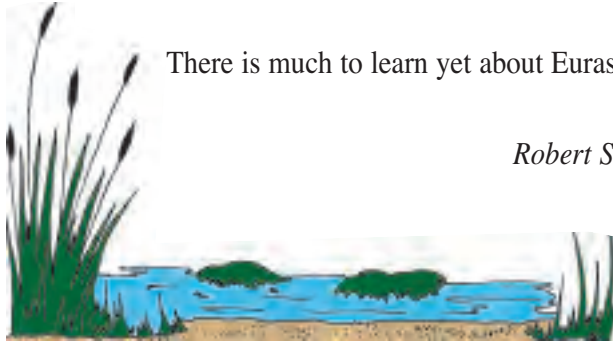
The milfoil was treated with a product called Renovate OTF.

Renovate is a selective herbicide and works through the entire system of milfoil; with this process we expect a good kill of the treated milfoil. Grant Christianson and Kyle Schow also helped to provide a GPS John Deere Starfire mapping system. This system will help in many ways now and in the future. The GPS system has a screen in which the treated areas of milfoil are marked; so when we return to the same spot we can tell exactly what was treated and monitor the results.



There is much to learn yet about Eurasian milfoil and the timing of the treatment.

Robert Schemel



ARE YOU ONE OF THE 5000?

Have you recently opened the websight www.greenlakespicer.com lately? Then, you are one of only 5072 visitors since May 31, 2006.

Did you know that the minutes for all Board meetings are posted 24 hours after the meeting?

Have you read the *Green Lake Breeze* posted on this sight in its entirety? They date back to 1999.

Have you browsed the web's index to find other important committee reports?

Have you seen the beautiful pictures of Green Lake or the picture postcards that can be sent to friends around the Internet?

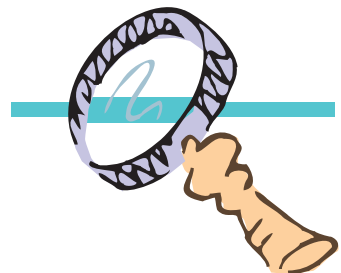
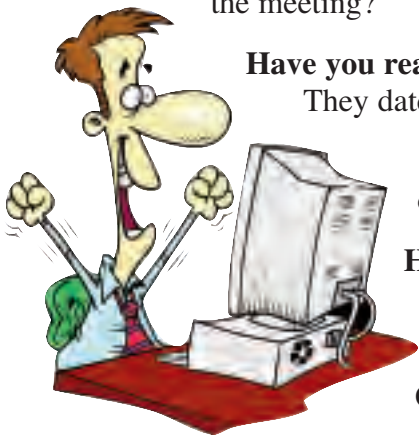
Have you reached out to the "Links" and read about other happenings in our area? Or you can also read minutes of other Boards that are pertinent to every one of us.

Do you share Spicer's true history with guests in your home?

The Spicer History, as well as Green Lake's, is also found in the Index.

Well, **are you really up to date** and knowledgeable about what is happening and what you need to know about your home - Green Lake?

If not, then now is the time to investigate!!





Important Article for Green Lake Property Owners!

The Eurasian watermilfoil control program for Green Lake is dependent on costs paid by donations and volunteer labor.

Survey and treatment of known milfoil sites take place spring and fall of each year. Annual treatment of milfoil is essential to control the spread of Eurasian watermilfoil in Green Lake.

Green Lake Property Owners Association has taken the lead and the responsibility for the control program.



Annual costs are approximately \$16,000/year with volunteers doing the work. In 2008 property owners' total contributions were \$4,500 and contributions in 2009 were \$4,225.



Green Lake needs your generous contribution to continue the A.I.S. watermilfoil control program:

Please send to: Green Lake Property Owners Association
P.O. Box 362
Spicer, MN 56288

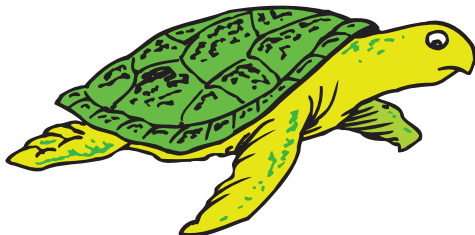
Include your mailing address to receive your receipt for the tax deduction. Specify for A.I.S. fund.

From: _____

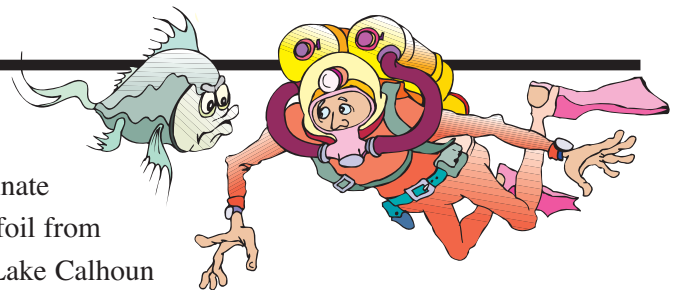
Address: _____



Group Dive for Milfoil

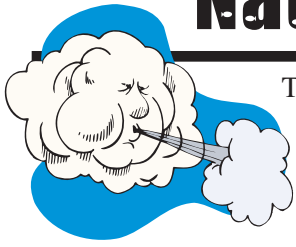


We are hoping to coordinate a group dive to pull milfoil from the bay at the outlet to Lake Calhoun during the last half of the month of August. If you have an interest in joining us please let us know.



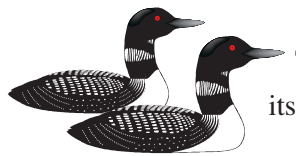
In addition to divers we will need volunteers to drive boats, pull the weeds onto the boat and load them on vehicles. Contact Pauline Spilseth at 796-0430 or Pauline.Spilseth@gmail.com

Nature at Green Lake with it's Breezes



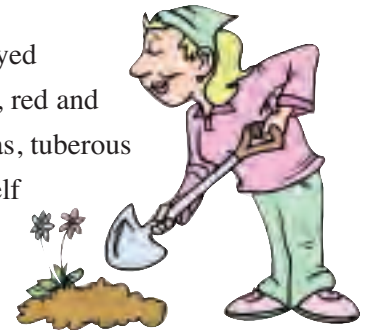
The early American Indian kept track of the years by a winter count. On a smooth buffalo hide they had tanned, a leader would draw the symbols for one main event of the year. With the gusty breezes we have had, this summer would have to be the “Year of Picking up Sticks.” Nature kept dropping dead sticks and twigs and occasionally a larger dead branch, almost every other day. Recently, however, the gusts took down some trees or parts of trees—the live portions, not the already dead parts. Go figure!

Flotillas of Canada geese still sail by almost daily, often hanging out by the outlet bridge. One morning we almost had a repetition of the adventure of a year ago when a hunting dog swam after one group. As the main group swam one way, one stayed behind and lured the dog into deeper and deeper water until it needed rescuing by a friendly boat driver. This dog swam far also in pursuit of one goose while the rest flew off. Fortunately, this dog answered his master’s whistle and returned— it hadn’t been used as a hunter, so that helped.



The loons still call. The solitary loon swims farther out than it used to, but we can both hear and see its calling. A boat ride around the lake reveals at least 10 to 15 loons, in pairs or solo.

A drive around the lake shows the full glory of flower gardens; wild phlox, tiger lilies, black-eyed susans, Russian sage and blue salvia, gaillardia, delphinium, trumpet-like honeysuckle, dahlias, red and pink geraniums—you name it, someone is growing it. Hanging baskets of coleus, wave petunias, tuberous begonias—again, one can see the variety of color on that drive. Spicer on Green Lake does itself proud with its baskets of petunias lining the main street and side streets. Admittedly, most of those named are cultivated plants, but they’re still part of nature as far as I’m concerned.



The sunsets the past week have been spectacular. Smoke from fires in Saskatchewan have drifted in the atmosphere to our skies and added to the mystery of sunsets’ glow. Similar are some early skies, as described by Charles Todd in “A Pale Horse”:

“The first reaches of light out of darkness
Pink with new birth, And then gold,
Like apricots on silk, And the morning was here.”

We missed a phenomenon of nature seen in Minneapolis skies last week—a circumzenith or “Fire” Rainbow. My daughter was fortunate to get a picture of it—a horizontal rainbow or one gently upturned in a smile, bright in broad daylight amongst the clouds and azure sky.



May the Moon of Geese Shed Feathers, Black Cherries Moon, Green Corn Moon and Thunder Moon of August (Dakota Indian) bring you gentle breezes and warm summer rain—without too much thunder— to relax and refresh you.

Gloria Benson

The Green Lake Breeze
Green Lake Property Owners Association
P.O. Box 362
Spicer, Minnesota 56288
www.greenlakespicer.com

Return Service Requested



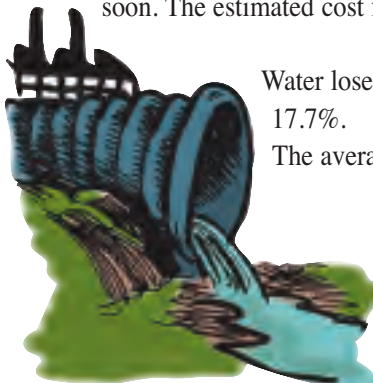
Water and Sewer Report



The Diamond Lake sewer project is progressing on schedule. Three crews are working on the main lines around the lake and are expected to complete the main line installation September 1st. Individual hookups will start after the main line is completed.

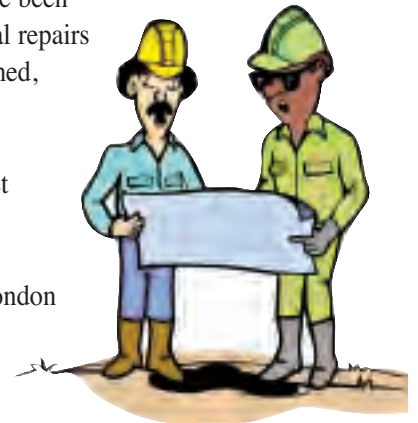
The water tanks (3 of them) at Green Lake (north side), City of Spicer and City of New London have been inspected to determine what maintenance work is needed. The Spicer water tank needs major internal repairs while the tanks at Green Lake and New London require only minor work. The costs will be determined, included in the 2011 Budget of the Sewer District.

Minnesota P.C.A. approval has been received for the bio-solids Treatment project and bids will be let soon. The estimated cost for this project is \$500,000.00.



Water loses for June 2010 were: Spicer 17.5%, Green Lake 17% and New London 17.7%.

The average, so far in 2010 is 20% and is the target for the District.



Roger Stehn, Board Chair of Committee