

Green Lake Breeze

P.O. Box 362 • Spicer, MN 56288

www.greenlakespicer.com

September 2014

BOARD MEMBERS

President

Jamie Duinick 320.796.4100
jamied@prinsco.com

Vice President

Bruce Schweitzer 320.796.6627
507-440-0905
brschweitzer@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Tom Johnson 320.796.2008
tomjohnson@jmsklaw.com

Secretary

Valerie Sechler 320.796.0765
jvsechler@me.com

Executive Secretary

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

Wayne Dahlen

320.905.4965
wayne.dahlen@gmail.com

Greg Holmstrom

320.796.2646
lynnholm@mchsi.com
320.564.4903

Harvey Lange

320.796.2243
harveylange@charter.com

Steve Linder

320.796.5319
slinder@kwlm.com

Steve Lykken

320.894.4393
slykken@j-ots.com
apowersmn@gmail.com

Eric Roberts

320.796.6767
eroberts@d-e.net

Bob Schemel

320.796.0093
drschemel@yahoo.com



Our summer started with excitement and promise about what lay ahead for our GLPOA. While we have faced some significant challenges, we have also celebrated some important wins!

To start, your GLPOA partnered with the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed and City of Spicer to install a decontamination unit and boat washing station near our main public access. I am proud to report that it has been well used and is one more important tool in our battle with AIS. We are already strategizing about improvements to that facility and program for next season.



In June, we were informed that Minnesota passed legislation to allocate \$10 million/year to qualified counties who are battling AIS. We were also thrilled to learn that Kandiyohi County will receive \$256 thousand/year of these subsidies, which will be a huge help in our efforts! In preparation for the receipt of the funding, our executive secretary, Terry Frazee, is working with the county and serving on a county-wide committee to develop a plan for how best to put that money to work in our area to ensure the health of our beautiful lakes!



Also, please note that we will be offering an electronic version of the Green Lake Breeze for 2015. This new format is a much-requested and needed improvement, as it will offer us more ability to send out important, time-sensitive information about weather or AIS reports, even if you are not in the area. Watch our website for more information and the request form to get on our email list!

I also want to remind you that our annual meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2015 at the Green Lake Bible Camp. Please mark your calendars to join us that morning at 8:15 AM.

Have a great remainder of 2014! We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Jamie Duinick, President GLPOA



Please Assist Us!

The Board of Directors, of the Green Lake Property Owners Association, will print a new directory, to be mailed when dues are paid, starting in May 2015.

We would like to ask for your assistance to make sure that we have your name and address spelled correctly. Please check the 2012 directory to see that this information is the way you wish to have it printed.

We wish to ask you to inform anyone new to the neighborhood about the directory so their names may be printed. We need to hear from you, as we do not know the changes! Please write to us.

The Board of Directors is also looking for colored and black and white pictures which might be used for the front cover of the directory. If you have a picture which you wish for the Board to consider, please print your name, address and telephone number on the back side of the print and mail it to: **Green Lake Property Owners Association • P. O. Box 362 • Spicer, Minnesota 56288**



What is Eurasian Water Milfoil?



Eurasian Water Milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) is an invasive, submersed (underwater) aquatic plant accidentally introduced in the 1940s to North America from Europe, where it is widespread. It most likely reached eastern North America through the aquarium trade, entering the waters when aquarium owners released the contents of their aquariums into local lakes. Eurasian Water Milfoil flourished and began to spread westward by clinging to recreational boats. People using Lake Minnetonka near Minneapolis, reported the first Eurasian Water Milfoil infestation in Minnesota in 1987. Eurasian Water Milfoil now occupies over 284 water bodies throughout the state.



Eurasian Water Milfoil likes to live in lakes, ponds, shallow water reservoirs and slow moving rivers and streams. It reproduces very fast and in many different ways. If a stem breaks off, it can start a new plant. It also produces flowers and seeds that appear above the water, while the rest of the plant is under water. And it spreads by roots or runners (stolons) in the ground. It is also very tolerant of cold water, so it can grow fast in cold Minnesota lakes in early spring.

Eurasian Water Milfoil grows and spreads really fast. So fast, that it can choke out native plants and reduce the amount of light that reaches into the lake. This aggressive growth kills off other native aquatic plants. And when the native plants can't grow, other aquatic species that rely on the native plants for food and shelter have trouble surviving. Eurasian Water Milfoil's dense growth makes it difficult for invertebrates and other organisms that fish eat to survive. So, with less to eat and less open water, fish populations also decrease.

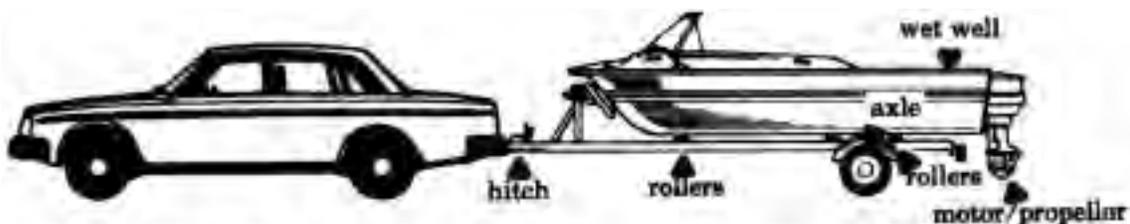


Have you ever tried to swim in weeds? Kinda hard, isn't it. Well, imagine a whole lake full of Eurasian Water Milfoil— so full that it's almost impossible to swim in, fish in, or drive a boat through. If you were a fish it would be really hard to live in a lake so full of Milfoil that you couldn't swim around and catch food.

What Does It Look Like?

Eurasian Milfoil looks almost like Northern Milfoil, which is native to Minnesota. But, Eurasian Milfoil has 12 to 21 leaflet pairs, while Northern Milfoil has only 5 to 10 leaflet pairs. But, the best way to tell the two apart is to pick them up. Eurasian Milfoil is limp and soft, while Northern Milfoil (the native species) is stiff and bristly.

Please call Bob Schlagel at 320-796-0093 with any questions about Eurasian Milfoil in Green Lake.



▲ Locations where aquatic weeds are often found



Check For Zebra Mussels On Docks, Posts, Rafts, Etc.

It was just last month when I wrote “before too long... docks will be coming out of the water.” Well, it seems that time is approaching very quickly. While we should expect open water for another couple months (no rush, Old Man Winter!), the cabin season is coming to a close. Soon, many of you will begin your annual migration to warmer climates, but before you do, those docks, lifts, rafts, and other water related equipment need to come out of the water. This time of year provides a great opportunity for monitoring for Aquatic Invasive Species.



In the last issue of the Breeze, I reported that an adult zebra mussel was reported from Green Lake back in July, but follow-up searches yielded no more mussels - neither adults nor larval veligers. That’s good news! Still, we at the DNR intend to be vigilant with additional monitoring. In a lake the size of Green, it’s difficult for us to check all the docks, lifts, rafts, toys and rocks ourselves, so that’s why we turn to you, the property owners, to help us out. When those items come out of the water, please look on the posts, wheels, and underwater support bars of docks and lifts, as well as any parts of boats, pontoons, and rafts that may have been submerged in water for an extended period. In a newly infested water body, like we suspect Green Lake is, zebra mussels may not be abundant and there may be only a few mussels on a piece of equipment. On a smooth surface, juvenile mussels feel gritty, like sandpaper. If you hire a Lake Service Provider to remove your water-related equipment, they’ve been trained to do the same, and have been working with the DNR to allow us to check those docks and lifts after they’ve come out for the season.



If additional zebra mussels are found, or a new infestation of faucet snails or some other aquatic invasive species is suspected, please note the exact location and keep a specimen in water or rubbing alcohol. And please, take photos! The last step would be to contact me at 320- 234-2550 ext. 238 or at Nicholas.brown@state.mn.us to report the sighting. Responding quickly to new AIS infestations is critical to help curb the spread into other lakes and streams.

Thanks for all your help!

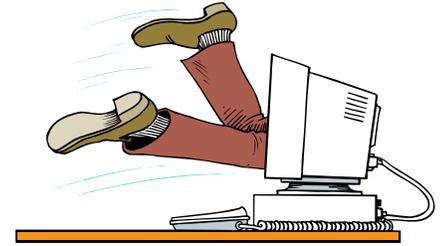


Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Training Required Starting In 2015



If you trailer a boat or water-related equipment like docks and lifts in Minnesota, you must take AIS training and get a trailer decal.

- Online training will be available here on January 5, 2015.
- Paper home-study training packets will also be available.
- Trailer decals are required on trailers starting July 1, 2015.



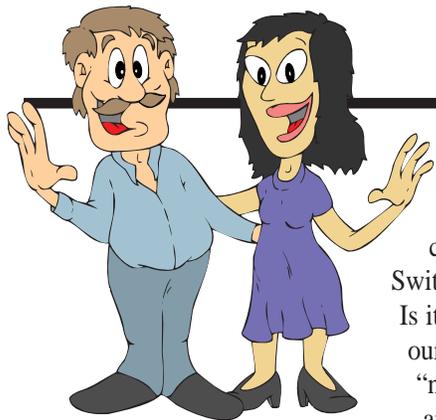
Frequently Asked Questions

- What is it?
- Who needs to take the training? How often do I need to renew?
- What if I have more than one trailer?
- When can I trailer a watercraft or water-related equipment?
- Where can I get a decal? Where do I display the decal?
- How is this different from past AIS decals for my boat or trailer?
- I bought a new trailer and need to get a decal on it. What do I do?
- Is the AIS trailer training required by law?
- What is the penalty for not displaying an AIS decal on my trailer?
- I don't have access to a computer; can I take this training in person?
- How long does the trailer training take? Where can I get more information?
- I'm visiting Minnesota from another state with my boat and trailer. Do I still need a decal?
- I just found out about this and can't take the class before I transport my boat. What can I do?
- I violated invasive species law and have been ordered by a conservation officer to take training. Is this a course I need?



Visit the website at
trailers.mndnr.gov
for more information

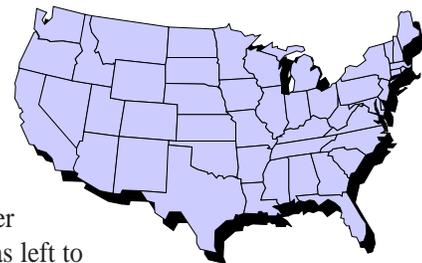
How Well Do You Know Your Neighbors?



We, here on Green Lake, not only take our beautiful surrounding for granted, but also our neighbors! Our lake shore ring consists of 810 homes, of which we find 718 homes are people with residency of Minnesota! In looking at our “lake community,” we find 18 other states and the country of Switzerland, noted as residency.

Is it not interesting to see that one of every 27 homes within our “neighborhood” are from South Dakota! In thinking “neighborhood,” one must also think of “neighborhood nice” and of keeping our shore lines, roads, ditches and storm sewer

gutters cleaned up so that our beautiful Green Lake will always be clean, clear and pristine as it was left to us by our parents/grandparents!



It should be “our legacy” to keep it that way for “our children/grandchildren!” Let us keep our neighborhood “Green Lake nice!” States which homeowners come from:

Arizona	8	Montana	1
California	6	Nebraska	4
Colorado	5	Nevada	2
Florida	8	North Dakota	1
Illinois	3	Oregon	1
Iowa	7	South Dakota	30
Kansas	1	Switzerland	2
Maryland	2	Texas	1
Minnesota	718	Virginia	3
Missouri	2	Washington	2
		Wisconsin	3
		Total	810



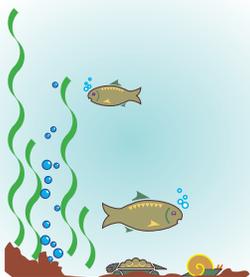
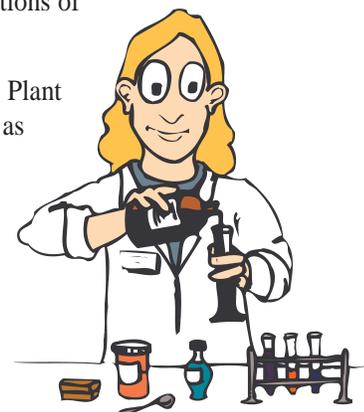
Watermilfoil Survey



Even though the summer is winding down, I suspect open water will be with us for a while. Since I’ve never had a chance to do so, I am planning on doing a whole-lake Eurasian watermilfoil survey on Green Lake before fall is out, possibly beginning before this article goes out. Of course I look at the milfoil each spring or summer before the chemical treatment is permitted, but those inspections usually focus only on the most problematic areas where plants are growing very densely at or near the water’s surface. With this survey, I hope to find all locations of Eurasian watermilfoil growing in the lake.

The last whole-lake vegetation survey conducted on Green Lake was done by Donna Perleberg, Aquatic Plant Ecologist, MNDNR, in 2009 (available online). While, I do not intend to conduct as thorough a survey as Donna’s, I should be able to compare my findings to hers in some ways to determine how the plant growth has changed since then. By understanding exactly where the plant is growing now, I can better evaluate the efficacy of future treatments and also compare that data to future growth to better understand the health of the lake. With recent discovery of a zebra mussel in Green Lake, there is potential for vegetation to expand to areas where it has not previously been. Since zebra mussels are filter feeders and can clear the lake-water, more light may be allowed to reach the lake bottom, in turn leading to increased plant growth.

I plan on sharing the results of the mapping with the GLPOA Board, but anyone can contact me for more detailed information. If you have any questions, please contact me at (320) 234-2550 ext. 238 or at nicholas.brown@state.mn.us.



Green Lake Breeze “Stuff”



Fall will soon be upon us, the temperatures are starting to drop, and a cool swim in Green Lake is quite welcome! Fall cleanup is well under way. During the cleanup you may have certain “stuff” or “problem” materials, that you just do not know what to do with and you do not wish to store them in your garage over the fall/winter months. Of course, we know that certain items should not go in the garbage, but what do we do with them?

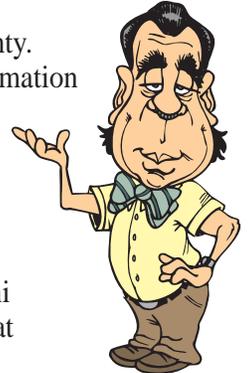


Some of the most common items prohibited from going in the garbage include fluorescent bulbs, brush, leaves, grass clippings, old paint, stains, varnishes, herbicides, pesticides, household cleaners, appliances, tires, electronics, old computers, television sets, used oil and oil filters.

Most of the items listed above cost very little or cost nothing to dispose of for residents in Kandiyohi County. But this is where the confusion comes in, where do I bring this “stuff”? Or who do I call to get more information about this “stuff?”

All of this “stuff” may be accepted at the Kandiyohi County Sanitary Landfill, in designated areas. Fluorescent tubes and household hazardous waste may be accepted at the Kandiyohi County Household Hazardous Waste Facility located in Willmar.

So if you are scratching your head wondering what to do with this leftover “stuff” please call the Kandiyohi County Sanitary Landfill at 320.354.2707 or the Kandiyohi County Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 320.231.3587.



Include Green Lake in Your Year End Giving Along With Estate Planning



Planned giving may be an important part of your estate/year end plan. You may realize significant financial benefits while take pride in having helped to save Green Lake for your children and grandchildren.

Benefits of planned giving:

- * significant income and estate tax savings
- * the knowledge that your assets will continue to work for a healthy Green Lake



Green Lake Property Owners Association

- * GLPOA is a tax exempt, non-profit organization under code section 501(c)(3) for federal tax purposes.
- * We are also properly registered with the State of Minnesota’s attorney general’s office, and are recognized as a charitable organization by the state’s charities division.
- * To meet IRS rules concerning substantiation for donor deductions, the GLPOA must provide a contemporaneous, written receipt to anyone who makes a donation of \$250.00 or more. The receipt will include the date and amount of the donation, and a statement that no goods or services were received by the GLPOA in exchange for the donation.



Donation/Estate Suggestions

- * Green Lake A. I. S. program
- * Green Lake Fishing program
- * Green Lake General program
- * Spicer First Responders

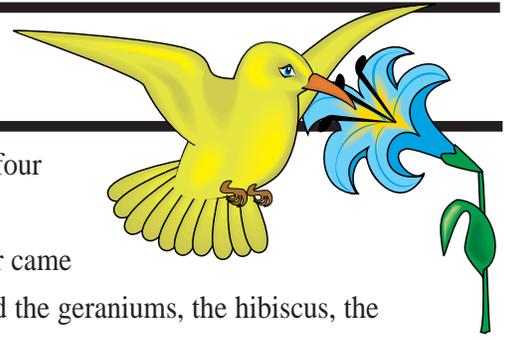


You will need to consult your tax estate planning and financial advisors to determine which planned giving vehicle is appropriate for you.



Please remember Green Lake at year end giving. Thank you.

Nature Notes



I was teased after the last issue when I mentioned seeing the large frog (at least four inches, not counting the legs), “Oh, now instead of hummingbirds, she’s gone to frogs!” As if to prove the little birds are still around, the day after the newsletter came out, I was besieged by hummingbirds. On almost every side of the house, around the geraniums, the hibiscus, the flowering hostas, the feeders - the hummingbirds were busy hovering and feeding or zooming by like a gentle breeze.



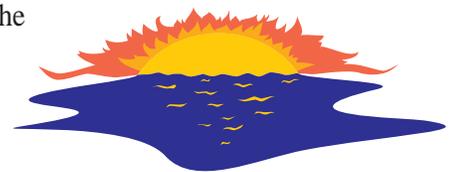
Then another neighbor reminded me that the loons have been plentiful even out from our docks, as well as farther out on the lake. I still wonder what they’re communicating about at midnight or 1:00 a.m.

A different visitor was napping on our shore this morning after last night’s storm. A cormorant with a crippled foot startled when my son came down to look at our canoe that had been wedged under the dock in the high wind. The big bird limped into the water and swam away. I used to see more cormorants swimming with the pelicans but maybe I just haven’t been as observant there either.



The gulls often call into the wind - I wish I knew what their messages are, too. Even the songbirds are twittering away; the crows caw; an occasional owl hoots at nighttime. I wish it didn’t remind me of *I Heard the Owl Call My Name*, the story of a priest who moves to the north woods in his later years. He has heard the legend that when a person’s life is over, the call of an owl will announce the approaching end, so he chooses to gratefully minister to American Indians who live in those woods.

The sunsets have been spectacular for some time - it’s unfortunate that wild fires on the west coast and in western Canada are responsible for the bright red descending orb and the orange, salmon and red skies with their streaks of turquoise and lavender. Earthquakes and volcanic eruptions almost anywhere on the globe have brought and will continue to cause the same effect.



It is difficult to think of another summer season drawing to a close at Green Lake, and everywhere else, obviously.



The colorful autumn days, the arrival of ice and snow (let’s hope the Farmer’s Almanac has it wrong) in winter, the renewal of life of spring time - these will come. Time moves so swiftly. May good health, pleasant camaraderie, and gentle breezes be yours until we welcome another summer at Green Lake.



Gloria Benson

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

Return Service Requested

Patrol Service to Begin October First

If you paid for membership along with Patrol Service, you will notice that the PATROL SIGNS will be placed on your residence shortly after the 1st of October, 2014.

This bi-monthly patrol will begin near the middle of October lasting until the middle of April, 2015.

The person who does the patrol will be identified this year by a vest with the words 'GREEN LAKE PATROL' on the back. If further I.D. is needed an identification card with the picture of the employee has been issued by the Kandiyohi County Sheriff's office.



Postcards will be mailed to your home residence during the six month period, as we do not know when you leave or your winter home. Please advise your postmaster to forward you PATROL CARDS as they do your regular mail.



September 5th is the deadline for signing up for patrol service if you wish to add the same to your membership. If you wish to add this membership, please send an additional \$30.00 to the Green Lake Property Owners Association, P.O. Box 362, Spicer, MN 56288. Please remember the last day to sign up is the 5th of September.

Thank you and have a wonderful winter season!

