



Lake Washburn Association NEWSLETTER

Working to Protect our Beautiful Lake and its Environment for Future Generations

LATE SUMMER 2005

Inside:

Page 2

*From the President
Volunteers Needed!*

Page 3

Burning Barrels & Open Burning

Page 4

*Open Letter to Members of Lake
Washburn Association
from Barb Witkus Harrington*

Page 5

*Loon Report by Richard D. Nelles
Adopt-A-Loon-Platform*

Page 7

Alternatives to Toxic Cleaners

Page 8

*What Does Intra-Lake Zoning Mean to
Washburn Lake*

Page 9

Kids New Life Jacket Law

Page 10

*New Visions for Lakeshores - Excerpts
from the MN Conservation Volunteer*

Page 11

*Remembering Our Washburn Lake
Friends*

Also look for :

Phenology Notes

July 4th Boat Parade

Classy Lakeshore Owner Redefined

DNR Approved Burner Plan

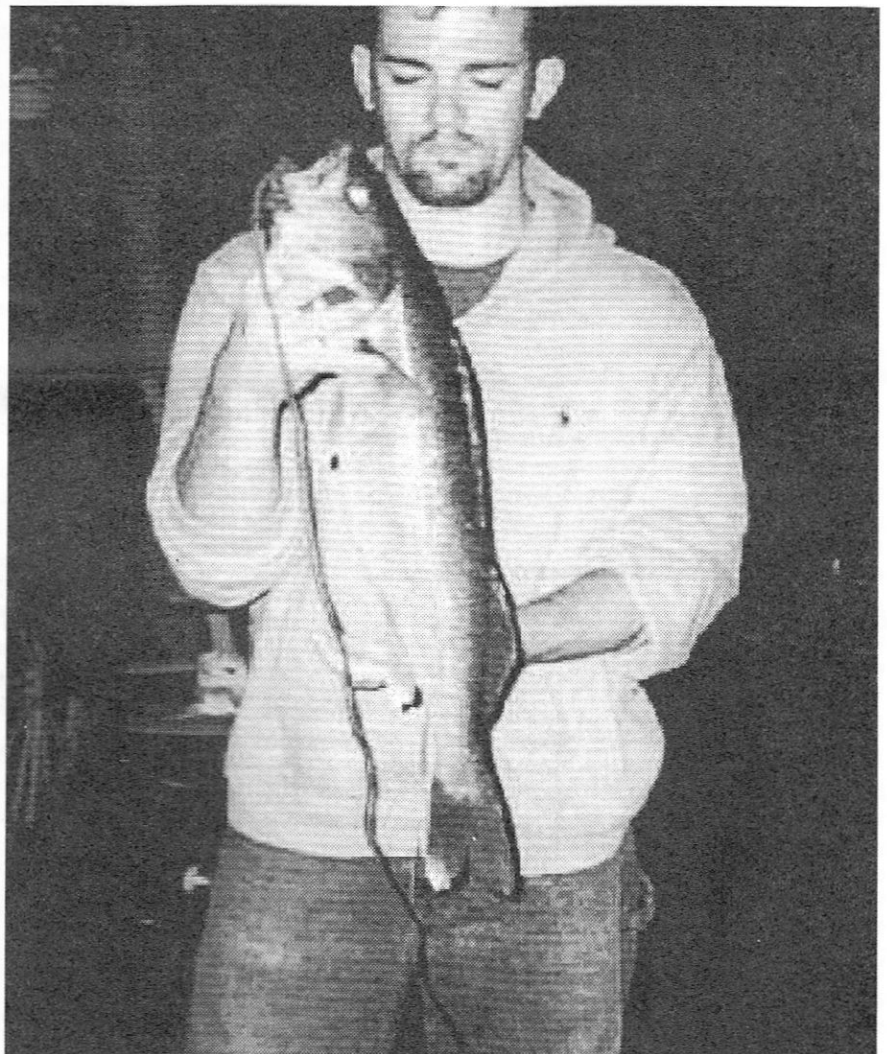
*Zero Phosphorus Law for
Lawn Fertilizers*

Outing Information & Events

Lots of Other Good Stuff!

Yes...

IT WAS CAUGHT ON WASHBURN!



Lee Smith (Fehr's Road) proudly displays his 26" walleye. This is the second largest walleye he has ever caught on Washburn. He released a 27.5" walleye he caught a year ago while ice fishing, so he thought he would keep this one! Lee shares some of his secrets. See page 6.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Dave Snesrud



As I finish my term as president, I would like to leave you with this recurring message one last time...

Buffers Are Better

Once again I would like to remind all of you of the value of buffers and dispell some of the myths I have heard.

First, buffer strips prevent nutrient run off into the lake. The deep roots of the native vegetation allows water to infiltrate the soil, so the nutrients can be absorbed by the plants. (Remember: One pound of phosphorus can produce 300-500 pounds of algae.)

Second, the deep roots of native grasses and sedges can help stabilize the shoreline. The roots of these plants can penetrate four feet or more which binds the soil together preventing shoreline erosion. Grass on the other hand has roots only a couple of inches deep which does not bind the soil, so therefore the soil erodes. Have you ever seen a shoreline with grass flopped over the bank? The soil under the sod has eroded causing the most common pollutant to get into the lake--- sediment. Emergent vegetation and floating leaf vegetation (bulrushes, wild rice, lily pads, etc.) absorb the wave action, reducing the effect of erosion on the shore.

Third, habitat is the foundation for all animals, birds, insects and fish. Buffers provide the needed habitat for nature's creatures. One of the reasons most people go to the lake is to enjoy the abundance of wildlife that live in and around the lake's edge---loons, deer, otter, eagles, fish, osprey, ducks, butterflies...the list is endless. When natural buffers are destroyed, these creatures have nowhere to live and can't find anything to eat so they move on. Please save a home for them on your lot.

I am truly amazed at how many people complain about the fishing. Just take a look at all the properties that have manicured lawns down to the lake and emergent vegetation removed. The water's edge is where the food chain begins. This is where fish spawn and have their nurseries. This is where all the microscopic insects live that start the food chain. **By destroying buffers and lake vegetation, you are effectively helping to lower the fish population.**

Fourth is aesthetics, Which is more pleasing to look at? A natural shoreline with its abundant wildlife and flowers, or a lawn which is mowed down to the lake void of nature's beauty. The answer for me is very simple...I go for nature's beauty. I can stay at home and see all the green grass and green lakes I ever want to see!

Now for the myths...

- You can't swim if you restore your shore. **WHY NOT?!!!!**
- A buffer strip requires a lot of work. It is true that it does take time and effort to get it established the first couple of years. Once established it requires little or no work, no water, and no fertilizer. Once more, you don't need to mow or rake. This allows you more time to play and enjoy the lake, which is why you are here in the first place!

Some think that I want the entire lake restored with buffer strips all around it. This is not a myth! I want to see better water quality, more wildlife, more fish, and a lake protected for generations to come. Is that so wrong? For me it is obvious...**BUFFERS ARE BETTER!!!**

Lastly, and most importantly, I would like to thank those of you who have volunteered your time and countless hours in support of the mission of the Association...to ensure that this beautiful lake and its environment will survive to be enjoyed by those generations that follow us. Your efforts and support have been greatly appreciated!

2005 BOARD MEMBERS & RESPONSIBILITIES

New Officers & Directors will be elected at the Annual Meeting & Ice Cream Social on August 20th, and will appear in the next issue.



NEEDED!

Buoys

Are you available in the fall and spring to help take out and put in buoys? If so, contact Rod McKinley at 218-5228.

County Road 48 Cleanup

Volunteers for the fall cleanup needed!

We will be walking the ditches along County Road 48 on Saturday, September 10th beginning at 11:00 a.m. Please meet us at the Boat Landing/Clint Converse Campground to divide up the bags, vests and duties. There will be a sign-up list at the August 20th General meeting. You may also call me at 792-5470 or (952) 445-5378 to volunteer your time.

This activity qualifies as "service hours" for junior/senior high students who need opportunities to serve their community for Civics or Social Studies classes.

Road cleanup will take anywhere from 30 minutes to 1-1/2 hours depending on how many volunteers can help. Make sure to wear work gloves and sturdy shoes or boots for walking in the ditch. Bug spray might also be a must! We will meet rain or shine - I look forward to seeing you and/or the whole family there! Janis Judd - LWA Board

Water Patrol

The water patrol is in need of more volunteers. If you are willing to help or just need more information, please contact Rod McKinley at 792-5228 or Rollie Hirman at 792-5528.

Wildlife Committee

If you are interested in helping take in and put out loon platforms, help with loon watching, looking for eagles and their nests, finding where the otters make their home, or just enjoy the wildlife, we can use your help. Please contact Dave Snesrud at 763-753-2790 or snesrud@usfamily.net.



BURNING BARRELS & OPEN BURNING

Using burning barrels for garbage disposal is illegal in Cass County. You must dispose of garbage at one of the transfer sites, or have it picked up by a licensed hauler. With few exceptions, building material wastes must go to Construction and Demolition sites.

The only materials that can lawfully be burned with a permit and under certain conditions are brush, tree trimmings, and other vegetative material, and unpainted lumber that contains no glue or resins.

Unless the ground is snow covered, any open burning of vegetative material requires a burning permit from the US Forestry Service, the local DNR Forestry Registry office, or local fire warden.

Why is Home Burning of Garbage Illegal?

Home burning of garbage can cause severe health problems and pollute air, soils, and water. Studies have shown that due to low burn temperatures and lack of pollution control equipment, the smoke from burning household garbage in backyard burners produces levels of dangerous toxins many times higher than a municipal incinerator. Smoke created from burning household waste releases many toxic materials such as acidic gases, heavy metals, and dioxins. Inhalation of, and contact with, these materials may cause severe health problems including eye and throat irritations, respiratory problems, and an increased risk of cancer. (Source: Minnesota DNR website)

For a description of the DNR approved burner plan, see page 7.



JULY 4TH BOAT PARADE

By Jack & Grace Schuller

Our 13th Annual Boat Parade was held on Saturday, July 2nd. This year 34 boats participated. The weather was a little windy, but NO RAIN! Thanks to all the participants and observers.

We hope everyone enjoys doing the parade and we'll see you next year!

NOTE: Schuller's have extra copies of photographs they took of the boats that were in the parade. Below is one of the pictures. If you are interested in seeing the pictures, contact Schullers at 792-5256.



JUNE GENERAL MEETING

The June General Meeting was well attended by 73 lake association members. They enjoyed a wonderful presentation on loons by Pam Perry, DNR Wildlife Specialist. There were many "oohs" and "aahs" as she showed her slides. Pam also brought along loon posters to provide to those who wanted them.

Don't forget the Annual Meeting and Ice Cream Social on August 20th. The Ice Cream Social will begin at 5:00 with the meeting following at about 5:30. Richard Nelles will be making a presentation on the 15-year deer study done by the DNR. Hope to see you there!

PHENOLOGY NOTES

Mosquitoes, horseflies and deerflies putting a damper on your summer fun? The same beautiful summer weather that brings us out onto Minnesota waters and deep into Minnesota forests also provides prime conditions for some of our most notorious insects. With 50 species of mosquitoes flying the Minnesota skies we can all be grateful only 28 of these species bite people. And while the male mosquito is contented with plant sap, the female mosquito needs the protein of animal blood for her eggs. Sit inside the safety of a tent at dusk and you'll understand mosquitoes' ability to sense carbon dioxide and warmth. With the release of each warm breath we unwittingly draw them near! Similarly, female deerflies and horseflies require animal blood protein to form their eggs and can detect very low levels of carbon dioxide, whereas the males are more easily satisfied with pollen and nectar.

While our time-perfected ability to recognize these creatures is usually paralleled by our loathing for them we should also begrudgingly admit the benefits they bring to Minnesota's natural world. Happy to have excellent fisheries and birding throughout the state? If so, you should note mosquito larvae are a major food source for fish, while adult mosquitoes are food for countless birds, dragonflies and many other unique characters making up Minnesota's wildlife. Deerflies and horseflies are also primary food sources for the beloved dragonfly, many birds, and fish. So, the next time your perfect summer afternoon is disturbed by these pesky bugs you might be able to find a little solace in the fact that their presence spurs a healthy fishery, bird migrations from throughout the world, and serves as the base for a food web that supports much of Minnesota's less-pesky wildlife.



Source: MLA Lake Bulletin - July 2005

Dab lavender oil on your pulse points; it smells great on you, but repels insects.

GUYS: If you're not thrilled with the lavender oil idea, splashing plain rubbing alcohol on yourself and allowing it to dry will deter mosquitoes from biting you.

Open Letter to Members of Lake Washburn Association

I understand some of you in the association are not happy with Bear Paw Lodge being sold to a developer. I want to remind you that it is because all of you have made your homes and cottages on Lake Washburn that we are forced to sell to a developer.

Due to the residential build-up on the lake the real estate prices and taxes are incredibly high. The value of the land has become so high that it is not financially feasible to continue to run the resort.

Bear Paw has for years operated at a loss just to keep the place going so people could continue to vacation there. In my email this morning came a picture of my mother in front of the lodge being built in 1947. Generations of families have enjoyed the pines and shores of Lake Washburn at Bear Paw.

Now there are very few family resorts left in Minnesota due to this trend. These resorts are almost extinct according to the Minneapolis Star. Most of the people that buy residential property on lakes where resorts operated were originally guests at the resorts they have now replaced.

I had wanted to take over the resort and keep it operating, perhaps with selling a few lots in order to upgrade the resort somewhat...still keeping it's original character. After doing the research it was evident it wasn't financially feasible for me to do that and buy out my sister who wanted to sell.

Bear Paw for 58 years brought outside (tourist) money to the local economy and hopefully the development will be sold to people that will support these local businesses and not bring all their purchases from the cities. My mother, especially, was very aware of purchasing from local stores. She was the one, too, who decided back in the late 1960's to have guests bring their own bed linens and towels, so there wouldn't be so much waste water going into the ground.

I hope this has helped you to understand why Bear Paw is being sold to a developer. Naterra is one of a few companies that tries to keep developments in a natural wooded state, discouraging lawns where fertilizers added are extremely damaging to the lake making it age way before it's time.

Sincerely,


Barbara Witkus Harrington

27 May 2005

LOON REPORT

By Richard D. Nelles

The loon watchers are happy to say as of 7-12-05 we have four new baby loons on the lake --- two pair of loons each with one chick on the East Lake, one pair with one chick located on the southwest part of the lake, and one pair with one chick on the northeast part of lake. We also have eight adult loons without chicks and some of these come and go from other lakes. Of the four chicks, two of them hatched on platforms put out by the loon watchers. The northeast loon platform that I put out has been occupied five years in a row.

Platforms are put out as soon as the ice is out. In the East Lake the ice out date this year was April 4th. Most successful hatches by loons come from island nests. Predators usually take shoreline nests. Putting a platform a short way out from the shore is working very well.

The southern most island in East Lake is called Loon Island and always has a natural nest but is subject to flooding and then nest abandonment. This spring I put alder sticks down on the nest area and a large amount of lake canary grass to raise the level of the nest. On April 30th the loons at Loon Island had staked down that territory and on May 2nd were forming the nest. Even with all the rain this year the nest survived and provided one of the new loons.

John Harris found a nest on the big island in West Lake that produced two eggs. The nest was only a couple of inches above the water line in some cattails. Some time later, while John was on loon patrol, he found that the eggs had come off the nest and were lying on the bottom of lake. I retrieved the eggs and put them back on the nest. The loons went back on the eggs for three days. On the fourth day the loons were gone and so were the eggs. There were no signs of the eggs or any broken shells.

Dave Snesrud and I put out a platform in the southwest corner of the lake near State land that produced a new loon. We also put one in the bay where Lake George creek comes in. Two eggs were laid, sat on and then abandoned. We are not sure why they left the nest. This could have been due to boat traffic or perhaps the vegetation is too thick. (Loons like to have clear access to their nests. If the vegetation is too thick it is harder for the loons to swim through it and it also hampers their ability to get off the nest quickly, if need be.) We will move that platform next spring.

On the 4th of July weekend the northeast chick and parent survived a near miss from two boats. One boat driver was concentrating on another boat coming way too fast and close. At the last second the loon and chick dove out of sight. After the boats passed, the adult quickly surfaced then the chick several seconds behind. I am surprised that we haven't had any serious boat accidents on our lake yet. I did see a pontoon and a Lund fishing boat sideswipe each other last summer at this same spot.

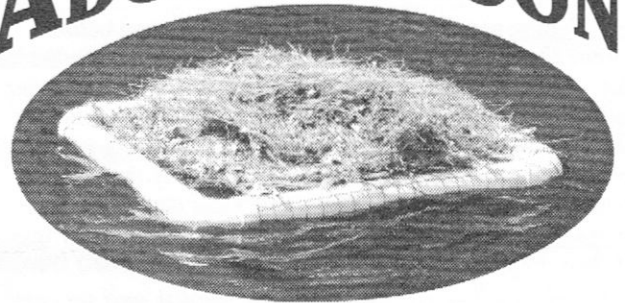
Loon watching families this year are as follows: Jerry Abts, Jane Gaskill, John Harris, Richard Nelles, Dave Snesrud, and Nancy Toth. Nancy Toth submits our official report at end of the season to the DNR. Pam Perry, DNR Wildlife Specialist out of the Brainerd office, is very interested in what Lake Washburn Association is doing with loons. Thanks to our president Dave Snesrud's interest and leadership we are gathering good data as well as helping out the wildlife.

As well as keeping a close eye on the West Lake loons, John Harris has done a lot of work this spring and summer. He headed up the fish spawning survey for the DNR. The hottest walleye spawning area is now going to be developed. We will lose that walleye habitat no question about it, but the owner is entitled to a return on his investment. We have all contributed to the loss of fish habitat, so please don't blame the DNR for the lack of fish in our lake.

If you enjoyed reading this report please ask yourself the following question: What can I do personally or what could I have done this past year to enhance or protect Washburn Lake?



ADOPT-A-LOON



PLATFORM

*WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADOPT A LOON PLATFORM?
IT'S EASY! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TAKE IT OUT
IN THE FALL & PUT IT IN ITS ASSIGNED PLACE IN
THE SPRING AS SOON AS THE ICE IS OUT.*

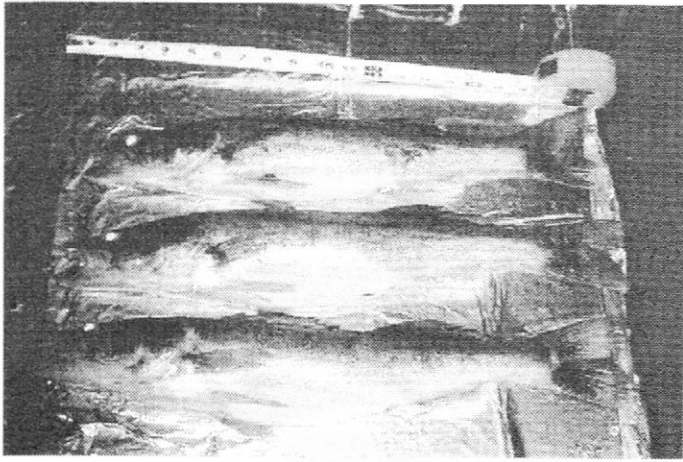
*IF INTERESTED CONTACT: RICHARD NELLES
218-792-5892
HABITAT@BRAINERD.NET*



BLIND AS A BAT

**In fact, all bats can see,
but most species augment
their vision with echo-location**

**where the sounds they emit bounce back to them,
identifying what lies ahead as they flit through the
air. In experiments, bats have been known to fly
across rooms crisscrossed with string without
becoming entangled, even when their vision has
been obscured.**



FRONT PAGE STORY

Lee Smith has been fishing Washburn Lake for walleyes since before he could even walk! Lee and his family (Craig Smith) have a cabin on the northeast shore of Washburn. Lee's grandpa bought their place in the early 1960's. Since then they have made many upgrades and added on. Lee and his family are at the lake almost every weekend.

Lee's fishing secrets: They usually Lindy rig and bottom bounce around Dead Man's Point and the rock piles in the big lake. They have had a great amount of success this summer trolling crank baits in these same areas. The huge sand bar that stretches across the southern portion of the big lake also holds walleyes. Lee reports that unfortunately the bite is cooling off a little lately. The single most deadly tactic he knows of for catching walleyes on Washburn is Lindy rigging off their dock!

Thank you Lee for sharing your photos and secrets!



LAKE HOME & CABIN KIT

This sturdy and portable boxed kit contains 50 cards that offer information on septic systems, trees and woodlands, waterways and shorelands, and wildlife & insects.

The kit is a way for lake home and cabin owners to pick up some tips on improving the value of their property and protecting the environment. "People in Minnesota care deeply about their state's lakes and forests", says Bob Stine, associate dean of the College of Natural Resources. "They want to do what's right for the environment [and the kit is a way for us] to help people learn what they can do to keep Minnesota's natural areas healthy."

The U of M Extension Service partnered with the College of Natural Resources and the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Services to produce the kit.

The kit is available for \$34.99. It may be purchased online (www.extension.umn.edu/cabin) or call 800-876-8636. It is also available at U of M Bookstores.

CLEAR 911 SIGNS

Cass County Sheriff Randy Fisher is urging county residents to clear over-grown brush and grass away from 911 address signs.

Clearing the growth enhances the response time of emergency responders such as fire departments, first responders, and ambulance service, as well as law enforcement, according to the Sheriff.



CLASSY LAKESHORE OWNER REDEFINED

*Written by Warren Shaffer, Trout Lake, Coleraine, Minnesota
Reprinted from the Minnesota Lakes Association Reporter
Volume B, No. 2, September 2004*

There was a time when your neighbor judged you by how neatly your lawn came down to the lake. That is still true, but the judging has been reversed. Before, you were thought to be classy if your lawn was mowed right down to the lake. You got extra points for rocks to make a riprap barrier and for dumping white sand. Now your neighbors go "tsk, tsk" if you mow down to the lake, dump rocks or bring in sand. The new idea of classy lakeshore owner is defined by how wild you have left your lakeshore. Neatness is a negative. Neatness shows that you don't care about the lake.

The new, wild definition of classy is part of a creeping responsibility for everything. Before, you were only responsible for your own property. Now you're responsible for the health of the whole lake, and by inference, for the whole world.

There isn't any way to fight creeping responsibility. Increased personal responsibility is the spirit of our time. But there are days when I wish that the definition of what is classy would stay the same long enough so that what was classy for my parents would be the same for my children.

I've let my lakeshore go wild. I've got a dock out, but you can hardly see the path down to the dock. My neighbors love me.



DNR APPROVED BURNER PLAN

An Approved Burner:

- 🔥 Shall be used to burn dried vegetative materials or other materials allowed under Minnesota Statutes.
- 🔥 Shall be constructed of a non-combustible material.
- 🔥 Shall have no combustible material within five feet of the base of the burner.
- 🔥 Shall have a capacity of at least three bushels and be maintained with a minimum burning capacity of at least two bushels.
- 🔥 Shall have a cover which is closed when in use.
- 🔥 Shall have no openings in the sides or cover of burner larger than one inch.
- 🔥 Shall only be used where open burning is allowed. (Check with your local DNR Forestry Officer or Fire Warden.)

NOTE: A burner may be used between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. without a burning permit.

A permit is required for:

- Burner use between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
 - Burning at any hour in an unapproved burner.
 - Burning at any hour outside of a burner.
- Obtain permits from Fire Wardens or DNR Forestry offices.

Burn only when it is safe. During evening hours, winds are usually low and the humidity is high, which reduces the possibility of a fire escaping. Watch your fire at all times.

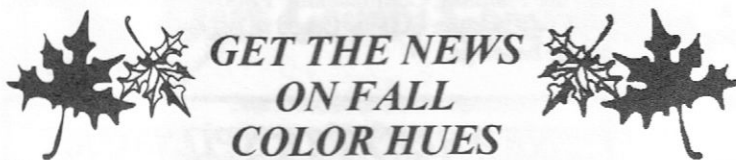
BE ADVISED that there are alternatives to burning that are environmentally safe and free of health risk, such as :

- ♻️ **Reduce:** Be a careful shopper
- ♻️ **Reuse:** Reuse saves money as well as waste
- ♻️ **Recycle**

Fact:

Every year, Department of Natural Resources Forest Officers and local fire departments respond to some 7,500 wildfires. About 40 percent of these are caused by careless debris burning.

Burning of household waste has been illegal in Minnesota since 1969.



Every fall, Minnesota puts on a show. As trees and shrubs prepare for winter, their leaves put on brilliant displays of color... yellow, gold, bronze, orange, red and purple.

Weekly reports by Explore Minnesota Tourism and the Department of Natural Resources track this color display as it spreads from north to south. The reports, available by phone or online, are based on detailed updates provided by staff at state parks and forestry stations. In addition to fall color news, the reports also give details of fall flowers, bird migrations and other seasonal highlights.

www.exploreminnesota.com
888-868-7476

Source: Minnesota Explorer, Fall 2005

ALTERNATIVES TO TOXIC CLEANERS

Household Products That May Surprise You

Baking soda will remove stains. Lemon juice can combat mildew. Here are some alternatives to using toxic products when cleaning your boat. (Don't be afraid to try them in your cabin, at home, or on your car.)

TOXIC	ALTERNATIVE
Detergent/Soap	Elbow grease & often
Bleach	Hydrogen peroxide
Scouring powder	Baking soda or salt
Floor cleaner	1 c. vinegar in 2 gal. water
Window cleaner	1 c. vinegar in 1 qt. warm water, rinse and squeegee
Varnish cleaner	Wipe with solution of 1/2 c. vinegar and 1/2 c. water
Head cleaner	Put in baking soda and use a brush to clean
Shower cleaner	Wet surface, sprinkle with baking soda, rub with scouring cloth
Aluminum cleaner	2 T. cream of tartar in 1 qt. hot water
Chrome cleaner/polish	Apple cider vinegar to clean, baby oil to polish
Fiberglass stain remover	Baking soda paste
Drain Opener	Disassemble and replace; Do not use toxic drain openers
Mildew remover	Make a paste using equal parts of lemon juice and salt
Wood polish	Use 3 parts light weight mineral oil and 1 part white vinegar; almond or mineral oil (for interior unvarnished wood only)

Suggestions compiled by the International Marina Institute --- www.imimarina.org.

Source: Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine
www.wnrmag.com

LAWNS & GOD

GOD: St. Francis, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there in the USA? What happened to the dandelions, violets, thistle and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect, no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honeybees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But all I see are these green rectangles.

ST. FRANCIS: It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers weeds and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD: Grass? But it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees, only grubs and sod worms. It's temperamental with temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

GOD: The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it, sometimes twice a week.

GOD: They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

ST. FRANCIS: Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD: They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS: No, sir --- just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD: Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

ST. FRANCIS: Yes, sir.

GOD: These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST. FRANCIS: You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD: What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. Plus, as they rot, the leaves form compost to enhance the soil. It's a natural circle of life.

ST. FRANCIS: You'd better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD: No! What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter and to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST. FRANCIS: After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD: And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS: They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

GOD: Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST. CATHERINE: "Dumb and Dumber", Lord. It's a real stupid movie about ...

GOD: Never mind. I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.

WHAT DOES INTRA-LAKE ZONING MEAN FOR WASHBURN LAKE?

On Saturday, July 23rd, 158 concerned property owners filled Crooked Lake Town Hall to find out how they would be impacted by intra-lake zoning.

The meeting was requested by John Sumption, Director of Cass County Environmental Services Department to explain what intra-lake zoning means and how it will affect Washburn. John explained that with the dramatic increases in development pressures, there is a need to more closely consider land use impacts on our lakes. "It is generally recognized that areas within lake basins may vary greatly, having different ecological characteristics, providing different habitats for wildlife and fish species, and performing different water quality functions. However the current lake classification system assigns one class to an entire lake basin without regard for these varied characteristics."

John went on to explain that "the goal of this project is to identify critical resource areas on lakes that are not being protected under the one class system and provide additional protection, creating a Resource Protection zoning district." In addition to Washburn, 5 other pilot lakes were selected for this project: Leech, Ten Mile, Woman, Birch, and Sand.

The areas on Washburn that would be subject to the new zoning are the unplatted and undeveloped areas on East Lake and in Mulchow's Bay where Daggett Brook comes in. The proposal includes standards for new lots in these areas, including larger lot sizes, buildable area, and setbacks.

John assured those in attendance that intra-lake zoning **WOULD NOT** affect existing conforming lots in regard to lot size, buildable area, and setback. There would be new requirements to establish vegetated shoreline buffers for all lake properties in conjunction with any county permit.

While the mood at the beginning of the meeting was tense, fears were allayed and the outcome was positive.

Informational meetings are being held on the other pilot lakes. The proposals will be reviewed by the Environmental Services Citizen Advisory Committee and the Planning Commission. Following those reviews, John will ask the County Board to set dates for two public hearings.

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Thanks to the efforts of Rollie Hirman, we have **14 new sponsors** for our newsletter. Please take an extra minute or two and read through the "Sponsor Acknowledgment Pages".

Please use these business whenever possible and thank them for their support

We'd like to thank our new sponsors and loyal, long time sponsors for their generous contributions.

If you, or someone you know of, would like to become a sponsor of our newsletter, please contact Rollie Hirman at 792-5528



We would like to thank these businesses who have made donations to support our efforts. Please acknowledge them when using their services.

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Fall Removal

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bribecca@brainerd.net



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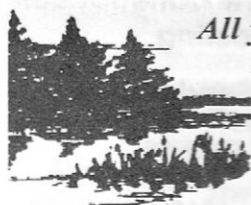
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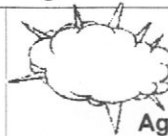
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KIDS NEW LIFE JACKET LAW

A new requirement for children under the age 10 to wear a life jacket while boating on Minnesota waters went into effect May 6th. Called the "Grant Allen Law", the measure was named in memory of the child who drowned after falling out his father's boat in 2003.

The new law requires that a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket be worn by children younger than age 10 in boats that are underway or otherwise not tied up to a dock or permanent mooring.

Boat operators who violate the law are subject to a written warning for the first offense and a petty misdemeanor for a second offense until May 1, 2006. Any offense on or after May 1, 2006, will be a petty misdemeanor.

SELECTING A LIFE VEST FOR YOUR CHILD. . .

What is a Life Vest?

A life vest or a life jacket is a common name for a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) that helps the wearer float if they enter the water.

Why Should Your Child Wear a Life Vest?

A child should wear a life jacket anytime they are near water such as in a boat or float tube as well as on

docks and river banks and at the beach when allowed by the life guard.

Contrary to many TV shows and the movies, drowning is usually silent. A victim (of any age) in the process of drowning can NOT cry out for help. They just bob up and down in the water, their head tipped back, mouth wide open gasping for air, and they are *silent*. It takes as little as 30 - 45 seconds for a child non-swimmer and usually happens when an adult is nearby but doesn't recognize the telltale signs of a child in distress in the water.

Most boating accidents happen when the boat is moving slowly or standing still or drifting, so just wearing a life vest when the boat is moving at cruising speed isn't "safe enough".

Buying a Child's Life Vest:

If you own a boat or plan on renting a boat or boating with a friend, you need to buy your child their own PFD. PFDs come in various types and sizes and there may not be a PFD of the proper size and type to rent or borrow.

When buying a child's life vest, check for:

- ▶ U.S. Coast Guard approved label.
- ▶ A snug fit. Check weight and chest size on the label and try the PFD on your child right at the store. Pick up your child by the shoulders of the PFD; and tell them to raise their arms and relax. The child's chin and ears won't slip through a properly fitting vest. Do NOT buy a vest that is too large, hoping the child will "grow into it."
- ▶ Head support for younger children. A well designed PFD will support the child's head when the child is in the water. The head support also serves to roll the child face up.
- ▶ A strap between the legs for younger children. This helps prevent the vest from coming off over the child's head.
- ▶ Comfort and appearance. This is especially important for teens, who are less likely to wear a PFD.

Make it a fun experience for the child when you give them the vest. Wrap it up as a present. Get a bright one with colorful cartoon characters for younger kids and cool looking ski vests for older ones.

How Do You Use a Life Vest?

Every spring, check the life vest for fit as well as wear and tear. Throw it away if you find air leakage, mildew, rot or rust. Cut up discarded life jackets so someone else doesn't try to use them.

If a child panics in the water and thrashes about, they may turn onto his face, even though a PFD with a collar is designed to keep them on their back with face out of the water. Have your child practice wearing a life vest in the water - this will help prevent panic and rolling over.

Never cut or alter a PFD in any way. It will no longer be Coast Guard approved since it may lose its effectiveness.

Wear your own life vest to set an example for your child, and to enable you to help your child if an emergency occurs.

Never use toys like plastic rings, arm "floaties" or water wings in place of a life jacket.

Don't try wrapping a life jacket around a car seat for your baby. Much of the time, a car seat expelled from a boat in a crash or capsizing accident will flip upside down, holding your baby's face under water.

Some infants are too small for any life jacket, even though the label may say "0-30 lbs". In general, babies under 6 months or about 16 pounds are too small for a life jacket to be effective. This is partially due to the extreme size of their head in relationship to their body mass. If your infant is a newborn, please consider leaving him or her at home with a sitter or back at the cabin with Grandma.

REMEMBER: Life vests only work when they are worn, and they do not take the place of adult supervision!

For more information, visit the DNR website (www.dnr.state.us) or call 651-296-6157 or toll free 888-MNNDNR (646-6367).

Source: Minnesota DNR

WANTED & NEEDED!!

Thanks to those of you who contributed to this edition of the newsletter and have sent me items and suggestions for future issues. Please send me your articles of interest, lake happenings, photos, or other items. I'd like to have something of interest for everyone included in YOUR Newsletter. Please send your articles, etc. to:

Linda Snesrud
20880 Blackfoot St. NW
Anoka, MN 55303
or email them to:
snesrud@usfamily.net



Following are excerpts taken from articles in the July-August 2005 issue of the "Minnesota Conservation Volunteer" published bi-monthly by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Below the Surface

By Kathleen Weflen, Editor

Sometimes things are happening right at our feet, just below the surface, and we are practically clueless. A striking example in this issue is given in "New Visions for Lakeshores", our lead story on native aquatic plants. Lake lot by lake lot, Minnesota shores are losing acres of native vegetation. Like many seemingly small changes, the consequences of shoreline development multiply---in this case rippling throughout the lake ecosystem.

By design or default, we humans are conducting experiments on our lands and water every day. Like researchers, we'd do well to watch what's happening below the surface.

New Visions for Lakeshores

By Mary Hoff

Unfortunately, over the years, thousands of Minnesota property owners have turned undeveloped shoreland into mowed lawns and sand beaches. Today, with lakeshores being developed as never before, more and more people are following in their footsteps. As they do, they---often unwittingly---take a little something from all of us. Lakes are Minnesotan's pride and joy. And whenever someone removes native vegetation, the lake pays the price.

"It has consequences to fish. It has consequences to wildlife, amphibians, ducks, herons," says DNR research scientist Paul Radomski, who has been studying lakes for nearly a decade. "We're changing the character of our shoreline."

Simply put, a lakeshore's native vegetation is critical to the health of the lake. On land, native vegetation shelters a variety of living things, from frogs to mink. It also helps keep the water clean. A natural area will absorb 90 percent of the rain that falls on it, while less permeable surfaces such as pavement and even lawns send much of the precipitation that hits them into the lake. This runoff carries silt, which clouds the water; nutrients such as phosphorus, which speed algae growth and deplete oxygen; and chemicals, which contaminate natural habitat.

Bulrushes, cattails, water-lillies, horsetail, and other forms of aquatic vegetation are as valuable as shoreland plants. They too filter nutrients from runoff, reducing algal blooms. They create oxygen needed by fish, invertebrates, and other water life. They intercept waves and wakes, protecting the shore from erosion. And they help keep the water clear by holding sediments in place.

"They're the heart and lungs and kidneys of the lake," says Robert Ekstrom, DNR regional aquatic habitat specialist in Bemidji.

Not to mention the nursery and pantry. Northern pike lay their eggs on near-shore aquatic plants. Loons nest among the

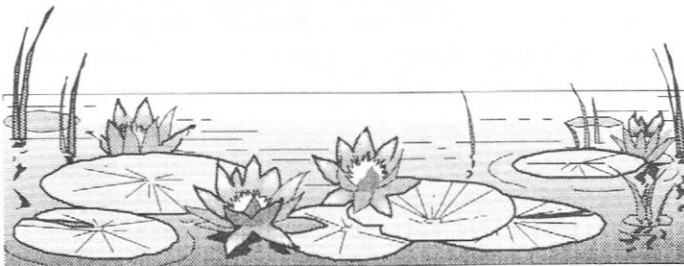
grasses and reeds. Mink frogs and green frogs lay their eggs on bulrushes and lily pads. Snails and insect larvae cling to submerged vegetation, eating algae and being eaten in turn by bluegills and other fish. Canvasbacks and other diving ducks forage on wild celery and bushy pondweed.

Though anglers might get cranky at submerged vegetation when it snags their lures, underwater plants keep fish populations healthy. In his studies, Radomski found that lakes with higher occurrence of some types of aquatic vegetation also tended to have more bluegills, pumpkinseeds, and northern pike. Other research has shown black crappies prefer to nest along undeveloped stretches of shore.

On shore, as well as in the water, manicure mania tends to prevail. With chain saws and rakes, herbicides and hauled-in sand, landowners recast nature's perfect shoreline into their image of an ideal playground. "When the number of people on the lake was small, it didn't really matter. But now it's turning into a huge problem," Ekstrom says.

What You Can Do

- **Spread the word** about the value of lakeshore vegetation.
- **Adjust your mindset.** Learn to appreciate the variety of colors, shapes, and textures natural vegetation adds to the landscape. Instead of thinking "weeds" when you look at wild plants, think "beautiful habitat".
- **Preserve or restore natural vegetation** on land and in the water. Make just a small path meandering through trees and shrubs down to the lake. Use little or no fertilizer and chemicals on your lawn and garden because they could end up in the lake.
- **Plan to keep a shoreline natural** if you buy it that way. If you buy previously altered shoreline, think about restoring it with some local-origin native aquatic plants. For a list of native plant suppliers, see www.dnr.state.mn.us/gardens/nativeplants/suppliers.html.
- **Don't plant non-native species** in or near a lake. For information and permit requirements, see www.dnr.state.mn.us/ecological_services/pubs_aquatics.html.



Be courteous of others and
kind to the shoreline.

**KEEP YOUR WAKE IN THE
MIDDLE OF THE LAKE!**

REMEMBERING OUR WASHBURN LAKE FRIENDS

Joanne Stadler Downey

Joanne Stadler Downey, 69, died November 3, 2004. Joanne was born in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1935.

She is survived by her loving husband, Arthur J. Downey; children, Mark (Marguerite), Keith (Amy), Bruce (Susan), and Meg Johnson (Tim); special niece Vicki (Tiff) Hartwigsen and nephew, Ken (Kim) Stadler; sister-in-law, Jacqueline Stadler Schreck; 13 grandchildren; Erin, Joe, Bob, Elizabeth, Rachel, Hannah, Sarah, Samantha, and Michael Downey, Patrick, Liam, Faith, and Hope Johnson; grand-nieces and nephews, Cole and Kevin Hartwigsen, Kyle and Katie Stadler.

Memorial services were held on Saturday, November 6, 2004, at Edina-Morningside Church. In lieu of flowers, memorials were preferred to the Joanne S. Downey Music Fund.

Information obtained from the Minneapolis Star Tribune.



Eugene Paul Olsen

Eugene Paul Olsen, 72, a 38-year NWB/US West retiree, passed away on November 2, 2004, from cancer.

Eugene is survived by his wife of 50 years, Monica; children, Nancy, Karen Voyles (Dennis), Susanne, and Mark (Deb) and their daughter, Dawnae Sexton (Luke); grandchildren, Erik and Karl Skweres and Anna Voyles; sister, Loretta Seidl (Arthur); brother, Leonard (JoAnn); and several nieces and nephews.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran and a 20-year retiree of the Mendota Heights Volunteer Fire Department.

Funeral Services were held on Friday, November 5, 2004, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Mendota Heights. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery. Memorials were preferred to the Church of St. Peter New Church Fund.

Information obtained from the St. Paul Pioneer Press.



Robert C. Mogren

Robert C. Mogren, 68, cherished Husband, Dad, Papa, and Great-Grand Papa, died peacefully on February 20, 2005.

He is survived by his wife, Rosemary; children, Annette Kenzler (Mark), Diane Nierenhausen (Mike), William (Jody), Monica (Linda) and Barb Zibell; step-children, Jean Buller (Mike), Jeff Murray (Kathy), Tom Murray (Kate) and Mike Murray (Anna); 14 grandchildren; 13 step-grandchildren; 1 great-granddaughter; brothers, Thomas 'Dean' (Cathy) and Gary; sister-in-law, Arlene.

Bob was a kind and gentle man, and will be greatly missed by his many friends and family. He was a long time Maplewood resident and business owner and a member of the Air Force Reserve for 14 years.

Mass of Christian Burial was held on Thursday, February 24, 2005 at Church of St. Peter in North St. Paul. Interment was on Friday, February 25, at Pine Ridge Cemetery in Emily. In lieu of flowers, memorials were preferred to the Demontreville Carmelite Monastery.

Information obtained from the St. Paul Pioneer Press.



Elizabeth (Betty) Campbell Judd

Elizabeth (Betty) Campbell Judd was the beloved mother of Susan Coit (George), Allen (Patricia), Thomas (Susan), Steven (Barbara); grandmother of 7; great-grandmother of 6. She was the sister of Mildred Deans and William Albert Patterson.

Elizabeth was a member of White Bear Women's Club, White Bear Historical Society and long time member of First Presbyterian Church in White Bear Lake.

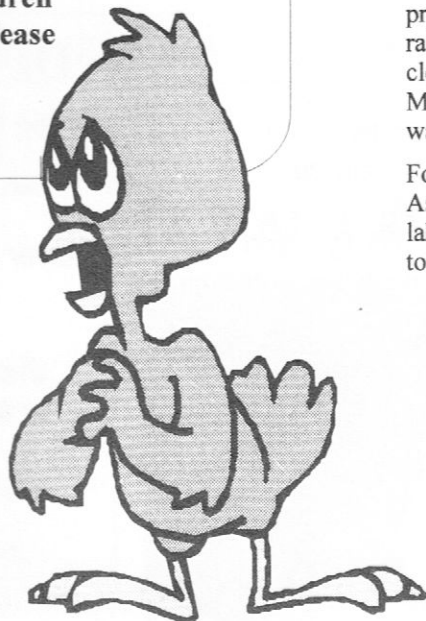
A funeral service was held on Saturday, October 30, 2004, at the First Presbyterian Church in White Bear Lake with a gathering for friends and family after the service. Memorials were preferred to the White Bear Lake Historical Society or the Healthiest Pillars Care Center.

Information obtained from the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

***THERE'S STILL TIME!
PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE...***

If you haven't paid your dues for 2005, please consider doing so. There's still plenty of time to pay your dues or make an extra contribution to LWA.

Do you have adult children who enjoy the lake? Please urge them to join too!



**REMINDER:
ALL DUES AND
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(Check you mailing label for your membership status.)

If you are coming to the Annual Meeting and Ice Cream Social, your dues need to be paid before August 20th, in order to be eligible to vote.

***ZERO PHOSPHORUS LAW FOR
LAWN FERTILIZERS***

The new statewide Minnesota law, prohibiting the use of phosphorus lawn fertilizers, went into effect January 1, 2005. Minnesota law bans the use of phosphorous fertilizer, because phosphorus is the nutrient turning Minnesota's lakes and streams green with algae. When shopping for your lawn and landscaping supplies purchase fertilizers that contain zero phosphorus, and only buy brands that have clearly indicated a middle number of zero (X-Q-X) on the packaging. This simple action will help protect Minnesota's lakes and streams from increasing algae blooms, excessive weed growth and deteriorating water quality.

The Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance (MOEA) offers the following suggestions for unwanted fertilizer containing phosphorus: use it in your compost bin or yard waste compost pile; you can also use the fertilizer carefully on your garden and shrubbery; however, if the fertilizer contains pesticides and herbicides DO NOT use it in the compost pile — take these fertilizers to your nearest household hazardous waste collection site. For more information on the new statewide phosphorus-free lawn fertilizer law please contact the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance at 1-800-877-6300.

The Minnesota Lakes Association, a statewide nonprofit dedicated to the protection and preservation of Minnesota's lakes, reminds Minnesota

citizens that aside from using phosphorus-free lawn fertilizers homeowners can take a variety of additional measures, in order to reduce the stormwater runoff reaching Minnesota's lakes and streams. Rake and sweep all lawn clippings, leaves and other yard debris into an enclosed yard compost bin or dispose of them at city composting piles. These are all sources of phosphorus and can quickly make their way to nearby water bodies if left in yards, on curbs, or in ditches. Pick up and properly dispose of all pet waste, because this can be a harmful source of bacteria in lakes and streams. And cover or protect any exposed soil in your yard, because spring rains quickly wash away any loose soil, resulting in cloudy sediment-filled waters. If we all do our part Minnesota lakes and streams will have cleaner and clearer waters this summer!

For more information on the Minnesota Lakes Association or what you can do to protect Minnesota's lakes and streams from harmful yard runoff, contact us today: 218-824-5565 or lakes@minnlakes.org

***DNR NEWS RELEASES
Hunting regulations handbook
now available (2005-08-02)***

The 2005 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Handbook, with information on seasons, new regulations and youth opportunities, is now available wherever hunting and angling licenses are sold.

Minnesota's first fall hunting seasons begin Sept. 1 with the opening of bear, mourning dove and early goose seasons in certain parts of the state.

"Hunters will notice new regulations affecting deer, pheasant, turkey and waterfowl hunting, to name a few," said Mike DonCarlos, DNR wildlife program manager. "We strongly encourage hunters to familiarize themselves with all the new regulations before the seasons begin."

The fold-out deer map, traditionally bound into the center of the book, is available separately this year. Removing the map from the book reduced costs and made the book easier to handle, DonCarlos said.

The 2005 Waterfowl Regulations Book, which contains waterfowl regulation information not available when hunting regulations handbook was printed, will be available later this month.

Note: Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge is incorrectly listed on page 142. The refuge is open to hunting.

Source: Minnesota DNR Website
www.dnr.state.mn.us



OUTING INFORMATION:

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Monday: 10 AM to Noon

Wednesday: 4 PM to 6 PM

Winter Hours

Saturday: 10 AM to Noon

Monday: 10 AM to Noon

Garbage is accepted only in the prepaid orange

"Outing" bags which can be purchased at:

Unity Bank, Owls N' Things, and Roosevelt Station.

Bins for recycling cardboard, paper, glass, cans, and plastic are open 24 hours.



OUTING U.S. POST OFFICE

Weekday Hours: 8 AM to 4:30 PM

Saturday: 8 AM to 10:15 AM

Phone: 218-792-5214

Postmaster: Theodore Frick

Crooked Lake Township

Phone: 218-792-5315

OUTING EVENTS:

September 16 & 17

ATVAM Convention

(All Terrain Vehicle Association of Minnesota)

Sponsored by:

Over the Hills Gang ATV Club
in Outing/Emily

Visit Outing's website at
www.outingmn.com



Lake Washburn Association

NEWSLETTER

BOX 26 • OUTING • MN • 56662

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

