

# Lake Washburn Association Newsletter

Winter, 1992-1993



## President's Memo by Jan Hron

1992 was everything I expected it would be as President of the Lake Washburn Association. Our committees have been very active again. Look for Committee reports in this newsletter. Of special note is the work being done by the Water Quality Committee in initiating the boat inspections during peak holiday launching times. This was very successful and we expect to continue these inspections in 1993. Also the Natural Resources Committee is once again active in getting our Lake stocked, so fishing is bound to improve in the future. The newcomers to the Board of Directors, Pat Behning and Bob Chapman are already taking up assignments on the Zoning committee and Water Quality Committee, respectively.

Our membership has increased by over 30% and all the Directors and members of the Executive Committee are keeping this as a top priority for '93. Again this year, every director will be responsible for a specific area of the Lake. If you have any questions or concerns about the Lake Association you may call the director responsible for your area or any of the Directors or Officers of the Association. The Directors and designated areas are as follows:

John Houston..... Fehrs Rd  
Jack Schuller..... Birch Bay  
Steve Hacker..... Muchow Bay  
Marje Anderson and  
Bob Chapman..... Eastburn Rd  
Jerry Ballard..... Peninsula Rd  
Harold Hegman..... Plummers Pt  
Pat Behning..... Longwood Pt  
Jan Hron..... Anywhere needed

Each Director is also assigned to a Committee. The 1993 Committee selections are:  
John Houston..... Natural Resources  
Jack Schuller and  
Pat Behning..... Water Quality  
Jerry Ballard and  
Harold Hegman..... Membership  
Bob Chapman..... Zoning

## Notes from the Zoning Committee

# Do you know...

### When do I need a land use permit?

Generally speaking you will need a land use (building) permit for any permanent non-portable structure that you intend to construct. That includes, but is not limited to, additions to existing buildings, storage buildings, decks, patios, lot line fences, etc. If you are in doubt, check with the zoning officer at the Cass County courthouse in Walker.

### What are the setback requirements for Lake Washburn?

All structures must be 75 feet back from the ordinary high water mark (OHWM). All waste treatment systems (septic tanks, holding tanks, drain fields, etc.) must be 100 feet back of the OHWM.

### What type of a lake is Lake Washburn?

Lake Washburn is considered a "General Development Lake." This includes lakes which, in general, are from 800 acres to 1499 acres in area and with a maximum depth of not less than 20 feet.

### What is the difference between a Riparian Lot and a Non-Riparian Lot?

A Riparian Lot is a lot which abuts public waters. A Non-Riparian Lot is a lot which does not abut public waters.

### What is the lot size requirement for Lake Washburn?

The lot size requirements are as follows:

Single Lot - Riparian Lot: 20,000 area; 100 wide  
Non-Riparian lot: 40,000 area; 150 wide  
Duplex Lot - Riparian Lot: 40,000 area; 180 wide  
Non-Riparian Lot: 80,000 area; 265 wide

### How much clearing am I allowed to do on my lot?

Best management practice is to leave your lot in as natural a condition as you possibly can. If you feel you must, 25% of the mature trees and shrubs and cutting, pruning and trimming of trees is allowed to provide a view to the water from the principal dwelling site and to accommodate the placement of stairways and landings, picnic areas, beach and water craft access areas and permitted water-oriented accessory structures or facilities provided that the screening of structures, vehicles, or other facilities as viewed from the water, assuming summer, leaf-on conditions, is not substantially reduced.

The above provisions are not applicable to the removal of trees, limbs, or branches that are dead, diseased, or pose safety hazards.

### What can I do about bulrushes and other emergent vegetation?

The best practice is to do nothing because such vegetation is a natural spawning area for bass, crappies and other pan fish. If the vegetation becomes a problem, you must obtain a permit from the DNR office in Brainerd.

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# What you can do to protect your lake's water quality

- Be extremely careful not to dispose of hazardous wastes either in your waste treatment system (septic tank) or by distributing such materials on the ground.

- Take your waste crankcase and outboard motor lubricants to a recycling facility. It is a misdemeanor to pour waste oil of any kind onto a road or onto the ground.

- If you winterize your residence, use RV anti-freeze, Propylene glycol, rather than regular anti-freeze, ethylene glycol. The former is not toxic, will not harm your waste disposal system, and effectively protects your plumbing in the coldest weather.

- Get in the habit of recycling and conserving your everyday trash. It's good for the lake and good for the country. Cass County has an active recycling program in place for cans, bottles, plastics and paper. There is a recycling center located behind the town hall in Outing, MN. You may get a copy of recycling guidelines from the solid waste office at the Walker Courthouse.

- Either have your garbage or other refuse picked up by a solid waste service at regular intervals or deliver it yourself to a proper facility.

- Do not dump fish cleanings in the lake or bury them on your lot; both practices are illegal. Dis-

pose of them as you do your regular garbage.

- Resist the temptation to install a garbage disposal. The refuse from such equipment can greatly shorten the life of your waste disposal system. It also will concentrate such plant enriching substances as nitrogen and phosphorus. If you already have a disposal, consider having it removed, or in any case use it as infrequently as possible. Composting is a better alternative.

- Reduce water usage as much as you can. If you are building or remodeling, install low flow appliances, shower heads, toilets and the like.

- Consider retiring your electronic bug zapper. Studies indicate their value in mosquito control is limited, and worse, they kill large numbers of useful insects, among them many that comprise the main food source for certain songbirds.

- Organize your building and living activity so as to preserve as nearly as possible the natural environment typical of the area.

- Don't discard anything in the lake (beverage cans, bottles, bait containers, sandwich wrappers, etc.) or along roadsides. Such behavior degrades lake quality and damages the environment.

## General information

- The Cass Co. Sheriff's Dept. has requested that Fire numbers be put on the ends of docks so they can be read from the lake.

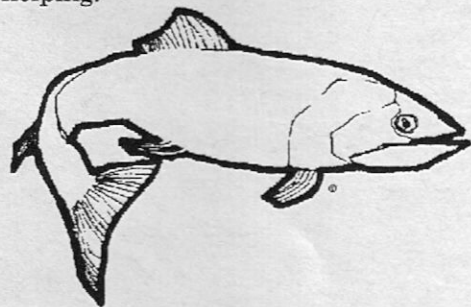
- In 1992 The Lake Washburn Association voted to give \$50 donations to the Outing Fire Department and Remer Ambulance Service.

- In case of emergency call the Outing Fire Department at 792-5100. They can respond faster than calling 911 because of the way the 911 calls are directed.

- Copies of the LWA bylaws will be available at the June 1993 meeting.

- The Department of Natural Resources has reported that Eurasian water milfoil has been found in Hunter's Bay on the SW side of Bay Lake. This is the farthest north in Minnesota so far.

In this regard, the Water Quality Committee is planning to hold inspections of boats being launched into Lake Washburn during the busiest times during the upcoming summer. Our inspections during Labor Day weekend were well received by those launching their boats. Help is needed for these inspections for the 1993 season. Training is provided. Please call Jack Schuller at 792-5256 if you are interested in helping.



## An introduction to Deep Portage

Deep Portage, a non-profit environmental education center, is dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding of our Earth and inspiring advocacy for conservation and the environment. The organization believes that "When people enjoy a quality experience in a quality environment they will work to maintain that quality environment."

Deep Portage is located in the middle of the State of Minnesota. Its vast, ten-square mile forest

classroom makes Deep Portage an ideal spot for a hands-on natural resource education experience. The 6,107 acres are forested hills, lakes, streams, swamps and brush.

Each of the more than 150 activities available from the Deep Portage curriculum is referenced to the specific learner outcomes recommended by the Minnesota State Legislature and the Department of Education.

We are fortunate to have Deep Portage so close and available to

us. It is located east of Hackensack. Take highway 5 and turn off on Cass County 46 or Deep Portage Road. You can also get there by taking Highway 84 to Cass County 46.

If you are interested and want more information, contact Deep Portage Conservation Reserve, RT. 1, Box 129, Hackensack, MN 56452.

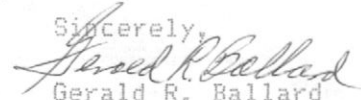
February 9, 1993

To: Peninsula Road Home Owners:

A report on sign/flower account: We now have as of 2/9/93 \$96.91 balance on hand. In 1992 we added seven new names and took out four names, with a total of eighty eight names now on the sign. Sometime (when needed) we will be thinking about repainting the names. When this is to happen you will be contacted for your cost per name board.

This is 1993 and my last year of a three year term as a director representing us home owners on Peninsula Road. In my term I have seen some real positive progress and hope each of you appreciate the good job done by the Newsletter Committee. As you can see I am part of the membership committee and encourage each of you to fill out the 1993 membership form in this newsletter and mail it in now. For your information in 1992 Peninsula Road had 49 members out of a possible of 96 home owners. I know we can do better, so if you fail to respond to my above request, don't be surprised if you see me or someone else calling on you this summer. Your full support is needed and requested.

Sincerely,

  
Gerald R. Ballard  
Fire #5146

P.S. A positive attitude can only go forward

Help the association by keeping it informed on any address change

## New officers elected for 1992-1993

At the August 1992 Annual Meeting the following Officers and Board of Directors were elected:

**OFFICERS** elected for a one year term:

		Lake Phone	Home Phone
President.....	Jan Hron.....	792-5517.....	612-934-8050
Vice President.....	John Houston.....	792-5540.....	507-282-9104
Treasurer.....	George Fortmeyer.....	792-5416.....	612-631-0154
Secretary.....	Marge Anderson.....	792-5317.....	612-941-1412

### DIRECTORS:

Gerald Ballard.....	1 Yr. Term.....	792-5286.....	515-964-4312
Jack Schuller.....	1 Yr. Term.....	792-5256.....	612-533-9107
Steve Hacker.....	2 Yr. Term.....	792-5422.....	612-774-0249
Harold Hegman.....	2 Yr. Term.....	792-5428.....	612-835-1067
Pat Behning.....	3 Yr. Term.....		612-920-2827
Bob Chapman.....	3 Yr. Term.....	792-5318.....	Same

You can contact the Association by calling any of the officers or Directors listed above or by writing to Box 26, Outing, MN 56662.

### Meeting Dates For 1993

All Board of Directors meetings are open to the membership. Please join us at the following times and places.

Saturday May 8, 1993 at 9:00 a.m., Outing Town Hall  
 Saturday, June 12, 1993 at 7:30 a.m., Outing Town Hall  
 Saturday, July 24, 1993 at 9:00 a.m., Outing Town Hall

Please submit agenda items to any of the Directors or Officers prior to the Board meetings.

The General Association meetings are scheduled as follows:  
 Saturday, June 12, 1993 - Coffee at 8:30 a.m. Meeting at 9:00 a.m.  
 Saturday August 14, 1993 - Dinner meeting starting at 6:00 p.m.

The general elections will be held at the August meeting. Please note new time.



### Lake Washburn Association Membership

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 PERM. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (L) \_\_\_\_\_  
 LK ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ FIRE# \_\_\_\_\_

**1993 MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$10.00** NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to Lake Washburn Association, Box 26, Outing, MN, 56662. Make checks payable to Lake Washburn Association, Inc.

I am interested in the following committees:

Natural Resources \_\_\_\_\_ Water Quality \_\_\_\_\_ Zoning/Planning \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_\_\_

Personal interests or suggestions:

## Adopt-A-Highway Program

In 1992 we joined many others in the State of Minnesota who are actively participating in the Adopt-A-Highway program. The Lake Washburn Association has adopted that part of Highway 48 from Highway 6 west for two miles. (But unofficially, the people who have joined us on our three-times-a-year cleanup have decided to clean up the entire stretch of road that is paved.)

The dates for the Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup for 1993 are:

- May 29, 1993 at 9:00 a.m.
- July 3, 1993 at 9:00 a.m.
- Sept. 4, 1993 at 9:00 a.m.

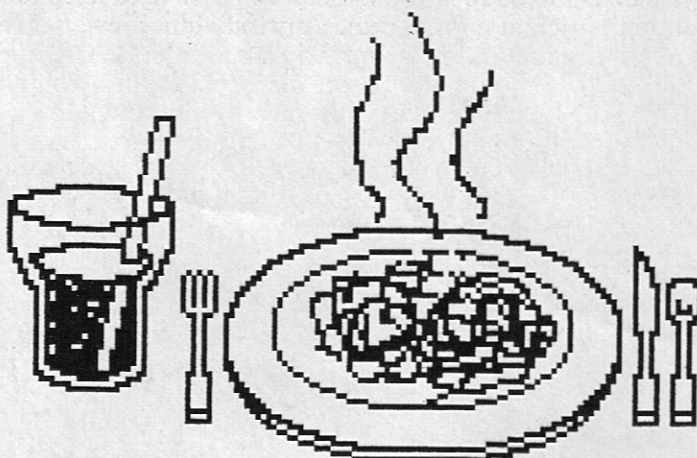
Please join us. We meet at the Converse Camp-ground picnic area at the times listed. Our area looks better, and besides the exercise is good for you!



## It's new! It's different!

What? When? Where?

This year the Lake Washburn Association is trying something different for our August general meeting. Please accept our invitation to dinner!



**What:** The meeting of the year – not to be missed.

**When:** Saturday, August 14, 1993 at 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** Outing Town Hall

For the first time we are having an evening dinner meeting. Everyone is welcome, adults and children. We will have a delicious spaghetti dinner, an entertaining program, and we will hold the general elections for the Association.

AND... you can't beat the cost.. Just \$5.00 per adult, \$2.50 per child, or \$12.50 for the whole family. COME! Join us! Bring your whole family and any guests you may have for the weekend. It's not to be missed-- see you there!

*I took my Soul for a walk one day  
Where Nature's gifts abound.  
We came back home with both arms full  
Of treasures we had found:  
From granite hills we gathered strength,  
From the trees, the upward look,  
Life's carefree joy from the butterfly,  
It's onward urge from the brook,  
The zest of work from the ants and bees,  
Music's sweet trill from the wren,  
From the flowers, the beauty and fragrance of trust -  
Come, Soul, let's go walking again.*

*Anonymous*

Zoning continued from page 1

### **How do I know whether my waste disposal (sewage) system is conforming?**

If your system was installed prior to 1972, if it is closer to the lake than 100 feet, if it does not have a drain field, if it is constructed of steel, plastics, concrete blocks, or any other non-durable material, it probably is a non-conforming system and should be replaced.

### **If my system is non-conforming, how long do I have to replace it?**

Your system should be replaced as soon as possible to keep lake and land contamination at a minimum. Any individual sewage treatment system must be brought into compliance with the Cass County Sanitary Ordinance upon sale or transfer of title of the property. The seller shall request that the County make a determination of conformance or non-conformance of the system. If the system is non-conforming, thirty days prior to the consummation of the sale of the property, the seller shall apply for a zoning permit for such work as is required to bring the system into conformance. The zoning permit shall specify the allowable time for the system to be brought into compliance.

### **How far should my waste system be from a well?**

A minimum of 50 feet from a deep well (deeper than 50 feet and cased) and a minimum of 100 feet from a shallow well (less than 50 feet and cased.)

### **What maintenance does a waste system need?**

To prolong the life of the waste system and to keep it working properly, you should have it pumped and backwashed every 2 to 4 years, depending upon how heavily it is used.

### **Can I fertilize my lawn?**

The best practice is to use no lawn fertilize. If you feel you must, select one with low phosphorus content and apply it sparingly. Remember what makes your lawn green (nutrients) also makes the lake green because runoff enrichment encourages algae growth. Frequent watering may be all your lawn needs for vigorous growth.

### **What do I do with tree leaves?**

Above all, don't burn them and don't rake them into the lake! Gather your leaves and use them to fill low spots on your lot, compost them, or dispose of them at an acceptable location well away from any body of water. You are also encouraged not to burn anything near or at the lake shore edge. The resulting ash, very high in plant nutrients, will wash or blow into the lake and contribute to excessive weed growth.

Zoning questions can be referred to the County Court House in Walker or ask your LWA representative, Bob Chapman.

## **Association of Cass County Lakes**

ACCL is an organization made up of Cass County Lake Associations. According to ACCL President Wally Christensen, ACCL was formed in 1988 for the purpose of addressing water quality and water preservation issues. Working with various local, county and state agencies, ACCL has had significant input in legislation relating to septic systems, set backs, water quality testing, fisheries management and exotic species management. Currently ACCL is very active with issues relating to Eurasian water milfoil, specifically treatment options, containment options, and funding proposals to finance these.

ACCL holds four general membership meetings each year at Patrick's in Longville. The first meeting this year will be May 1, with additional meetings scheduled for June, July and August. Lake Washburn has been an ACCL member since its inception and is represented at each meeting. There are currently 26 lake associations that are members of ACCL.

Questions can be referred to LWA representative Jack Johnson, 792-5432.

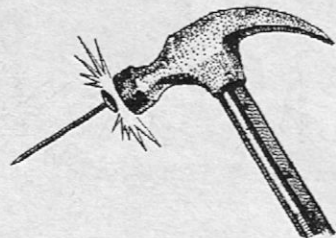
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# From The Natural Resource Committee

John Houston, Chair

The Lake Washburn Natural Resource Committee was organized this past summer. The members are John Houston, Chair, Gary Gabel, Douglas Johnson, Ron Nichols and Ted Walker.

The purpose of this committee is to determine what can be done in the following areas of concern:

- DNR fish stocking programs
- Quality of walleye fishing
- Fishing pressures
- Acid Rain
- Lakeshore environment impact
- Future programs (plans and guidelines of the DNR)

We will interface with Joe Fraune, of the Department of Fisheries in Brainerd, to obtain information on these concerns.

Some suggestions are:

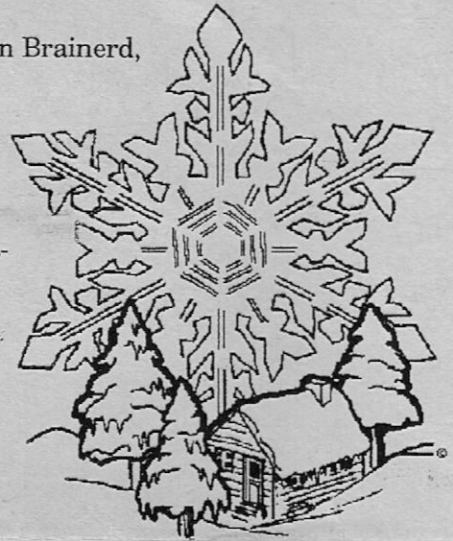
- Partnership programs with DNR
- Partnership programs with other lake associations
- Initiate our own rearing ponds

As the committee progresses in its search for information we will share information with you in the newsletters and at our summer meetings.

If you have any questions or input regarding the concerns of this committee, please contact John Houston at either of the following addresses:

Box 171 D  
Remer, MN 56672  
218-792-5440

402 SW 18th Ave.  
Rochester, MN 55902  
507-282-9104



Box 26  
Outing MN 56662

