



Upper Hay Lake Association

P.O. Box 769
Pequot Lakes, Minnesota 56472

Winter Newsletter

January 2013

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The snow has been falling right along with the temperatures! The lake froze over on November 6th. No wait, on the 7th it reopened. There... freeze up on November 27th. Oops; reopened on December 3rd. Finally; December 4th it froze over again. This is NUTS!! Oh, but you should have seen the Trumpeter swans! We had a bunch! On a couple occasions there were nearly 70 (at least) on the lake. Man they are big!!



Oh, did I mention the Golden eyes? Well they are now gone as well as those other birds; the "Snowbirds". OK, we're "putty butts" but it's so nice to be warm and not have to shovel. Fifty-five years of that was enough. But I digress.

Spring Meeting

The annual membership meeting will be on May 18th at the Jenkins VFW as usual. Pancake breakfast starts at 8:00 and you can't miss this! The dining is "fine" and the cost is reasonable. OK, it's free. Can't beat the price, right? The business meeting will start at 9:00. Our guest speaker will be Greg VanEeckhout, Watershed Project Manager. He will go over the data we have been collecting over the past several years concerning water quality and let us know exactly where we stand and, hopefully, have suggestions as to where we should head.

Elections

This year as always, three Board Members are up for re-election. John Frober, Jim Fleming and Whitey Larson will be completing their current three year terms. John has said he would like to run for another term and Whitey will run again, also. Jim said he plans to "turn over the reins", but will still work at the access. All three of these guys have served for many years and we surely appreciate all they have done for Upper Hay. We

are happy that one of our board members from the past has agreed to step up again and run for the board, if needed. Karen Bowman served several years on the board and then was transferred to the Metro area while working for MnDOT and was inactive for some time. She is now retired and back on the lake full time. However, it is time for "next generation" to step up and help preserve an asset that is invaluable to us all. Please, please, let Steve Scarborough or Ken Meyer know if you are willing to be considered on the ballot.

Lake Turnover

We hear on an annual basis comments about "lake turnover" but most of us have no clue what it's all about. The following is a brief "primer" on the topic.

There are three "layers" in a lake. The top is the "epilimnion", the narrow middle layer is the "thermocline" and the lowest is the "hypolimnion". Shallow lakes (I believe Upper Hay could fall into that category as our average depth is only 17-ft) experience very little turnover while deep lakes experience major changes as water of different temperatures mix.

In the summer, the top layer is warm, heated by the sun. Of course, the warmest water rises. That's easy to understand. However, in the fall, the top layer begins to cool and the difference in temperatures of the 3 layers becomes less disparate. As the top layer (epilimnion) cools, it becomes more dense and eventually sinks. This movement of more dense water downward and less dense upward continues until the temperature at all depths is around 39°F. Winds further the mixing action. During the spring, the process reverses. The ice melts and this cooler water sinks until once again, the temperature at all depths is about 39°.

Fall turnover is considered a "bad thing" by fishermen because as the water temperatures change fairly quickly, the fish "shut down". Remember, they are a cold blooded animal and when their body temperature changes suddenly, they are negatively affected. It takes time for their bodies to adjust. Now a shallow lake such as Mille Lacs may not experience much "turnover" because winds are able to mix the water as long as the ice is out. Upper Hay would be similar.

The big benefit of turnover is that it can reintroduce oxygen to the lower layers of the lake. Once spring turnover has occurred and the coldest, most dense water is at the bottom, oxygen levels begin to once again, drop. Bacteria on the bottom use up oxygen as they decompose the vegetation that died off in the fall and sank. Therefore, below the thermocline there are few if any fish due to the absence of oxygen. That's why the most dedicated of fishermen buy fish locaters that are capable of showing where the thermocline (if one exists) is located. Fish above that level.

I don't know if that cleared much up, but hopefully at least we now have better understanding of what is happening and why. Enjoy the rest of the winter.

Now Accepting 2013 Tree and Plant Orders

Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) invites you to participate in the 13th Annual Tree and Plant Pre-Order Sale Program. SWCD sells low cost native tree seedlings, flowers, grasses, and seed mixes. The public can pre-order and purchase plants until March 1, 2013. Pre-orders before February 9th receive the Early Bird Bucks: \$5.00 off every \$50 spent.

District Technician Darren Mayers ordered the plants. "This year the sale features 16 tree species, 9 shrubs species, and 18 plant species. We also sell planting kits and seeds for landowners who want more variety. Kits contain 36 plugs of six plant species. Seed packets contain dozens of species in each bag and cover 500 square feet. Three mixes include: urban habitat oasis, shoreline buffer, and rain garden. We only sell native plants from businesses in Minnesota" explained Mayers.

"Local residents often ask me how to protect the lake. Healthy plants help keep lakes and river clean." said Beth Hippert, District Technician. "Plant roots filter polluted runoff. Plant roots help shorelines resist ice heave. Properly planted and managed trees can also block winter winds, so you save on your heating bills. A twenty-eight dollar bundle of trees is one of the best investments you can make in your home."

To pre-order trees and plants: complete the SWCD order form, submit payment and order form to SWCD Office, 322 Laurel Street, Suite 13 in Brainerd. To receive Early Bird Bucks, orders must be placed by February 9, 2013. To receive an order form:

visit <http://www2.co.crow-wing.mn.us/swcd>
e-mail robert.bauer@crowwingswcd.org
or call (218)-828-6197

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Division of Ecological and Water Resources NOTICE OF HEARING

Proposed Amendments to Rules Relating to Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Species, *Minnesota Rules*, parts 6134.0170, 6134.0200, 6134.0300, and 6134.0400; Revisor's ID Number R-03921

Public Hearing. The Department of Natural Resources intends to adopt rules after a public hearing following the procedures in the rules of the Office of Administrative Hearings, *Minnesota Rules*, parts 1400.2200 to 1400.2240, and the Administrative Procedure Act, *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 14.131 to 14.20. The department will hold public hearings on the above-named rules starting at 6:00 p.m. and continuing until the hearing is completed at the following locations and dates:

- Tuesday, January 29, 2013, at Ramada Hotel and Conference Room, 1517 16th Street SW, Rochester, MN 55902
- Wednesday, January 30, 2013, at New Ulm Community Center, 600 North German, New Ulm, MN 56073
- Tuesday, February 5, 2013, at The Sanford Center – Bemidji Regional Event Center, 1111 Event Center Drive NE, Bemidji, MN 56601
- Wednesday, February 6, 2013, at Gitchee Gumees Conference Center, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Mid-Continent Ecology Division, 6201 Congdon Boulevard, Duluth, MN 55804
- Thursday, February 7, 2013, at Best Western Plus Kelly Inn, 2705 North Annapolis Lane, Plymouth, MN 55441

The agency will schedule additional days of hearing if necessary. All interested or affected persons will have an opportunity to participate by submitting either oral or written data, statements, or arguments. Statements may be submitted without appearing at the hearing.

The War On Invasive Species Continues To Ramp Up

The DNR ramped up efforts in 2012 to stop the spread of invasive species such as zebra mussels and Eurasian water milfoil. Officers checked approximately 18,000 boaters and issued 2,500 citations and warnings – a 14% percent violation rate. For the first time, officers conducted random roadside checks, where the violation rate was 31%. This means that a significant percentage of boaters are still violating the law, risking the spread of invasive species.

Chemicals

If you intend to apply chemicals (either through PLM or "do it yourself"), you need to let us know NOW so we can include you in the Association's permit application. Fill out the Chemical Permit Application and return it today along with your Membership Application, dues, and fees. Please be sure to complete ALL categories. One thing people seem to neglect is their **lakeshore footage**. The proposed treatment area should be as follows:

- Submerged vegetation
40-ft. along shore by 150-ft. lakeward
- Swimmer's itch
100-ft. along shore by 100-ft. lakeward

This is the maximum area allowed for a 100 ft. lot. If you have filled out this information, **you will not be doing a channel out to open water**. We will take care of the paperwork and you'll get some financial help from us. Your permit cost remains at \$25 if you plan to apply vegetation control either through PLM or doing your own **as long as you are on the Association's permit**. The Association covers any cost for swimmer's itch application permits. BUT, Ken Meyer needs your paperwork now so we can have the permit in place when it's time to apply. That's in very early June for aquatic vegetation! If we don't hear from you by April 1, it will be too late to get in on our permit and it will cost you an extra \$10 to apply direct. If this is your first time applying for an aquatic vegetation permit, please apply directly to the DNR on a two-page permit application.

StarTribune

Monday, December 24, 2012, Doug Smith
Minn.'s Invasive-Species Research Center At U Now Open For Business

The new world-class, invasive-species research center at the University of Minnesota doesn't look like much yet. Construction hasn't started on the fisheries laboratory, and researchers haven't been hired. Still, state legislators, officials and well-wishers crowded into the stark facility Tuesday in St. Paul to officially launch the center -- which has a lofty goal to slow the spread of aquatic invasive species, reduce their abundance and ultimately eradicate them from Minnesota waters. "I just thought the people of the state would want to know we've started -- we're here," Director Peter Sorensen said while bighead carp swam nearby in a holding tank.

One of the first major hires will be a zebra mussels expert, a researcher who might figure out how to slow and stop the spread of the mussels -- and maybe destroy the ones already here. Finding that person could take time. "There are very few of them out there," Sorensen said.

He pitched the idea of a world-class research center to legislators last winter, hoping to battle the non-native species threatening the state's outdoor recreation and economy. Legislators liked the idea. They diverted \$2 million from the Environmental Trust Fund (lottery) and \$1.8 million from the Clean Water Legacy Fund to launch the center. Another \$8.7 million could be approved by the Legislature this winter, which would fund the center for six years.

The center will work closely with the Department of Natural Resources to develop plans of attack. A lot is at stake. "The economic impact of doing nothing greatly exceeds the cost of doing something," DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr said.

Home Remedies: amazing, yet so simple: (A little Bruce Ohland humor)

1. Avoid cutting yourself when slicing vegetables by getting someone else to hold the vegetables while you chop.
2. Avoid arguments with the females about lifting the toilet seat by using the sink.
3. A mouse trap placed on top of your alarm clock will prevent you from rolling over and going back to sleep after you hit the snooze button.
4. If you have a bad cough, take a large dose of laxatives; then you'll be afraid to cough.
5. You need only two tools in life -- WD-40 and duct tape. If it doesn't move and should, use the WD-40. If it shouldn't move and does, use the duct tape.
6. If you can't fix it with a hammer, you've got an electrical problem.

That's about it for now. Enjoy the rest of the winter and be sure to send in your membership dues and chemical application intentions.

Steve Scarborough, President
Ken Meyer, Treasurer
Bruce Ohland, Past President



Upper Hay Lake Association

P.O. Box 769

Pequot Lakes, Minnesota 56472

2013 Membership Application

Name (s): _____

Lake Address: _____

Summer Mailing Address (if different than lake address)	Winter Mailing Address (if different than summer address)

Lake Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____

e-mail address: _____

Would you like to receive Newsletters etc. by e-mail rather than US mail? Yes _____ No _____

I am particularly interested in seeing the Lake Association do the following:

I would like to participate in the following committees:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AIS Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline Restoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Access | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

I would like my name placed on the ballot for 2013 Board of Directors position.

Enclosed is my tax deductible membership dues of \$25.

Enclosed is my Chemical Application with payment of \$25 for vegetation permit.

Enclosed is my additional tax deductible donation of \$_____ in support of UHLA's mission to promote environmental stewardship throughout the Upper Hay Lake area.

Make check payable to Upper Hay Lake Association and mail to the above address.