

FROM: Scott Solberg, 10th & 11th Crow Wing Lakes Association

DATE: April 26, 2018

Hubbard Co. Sheriff's Dept. Water Patrol Safety (218) 732-3331
24-hour Tip Hotline for Fishing Poachers: 800-652-9093
Our area DNR Fisheries in Park Rapids (218) 732-4153
Lake Association Webpage: <http://crowwing11.org>

Hello Neighbors! I remember traveling up to our Cabin late into the evening on Christmas as the temps were bottoming out in the low -20's (next morning was -34F!). Thinking wow, *no one is on the roads. And nothing is open*; hope our 16 year old pickup truck has no issues. When we got to our destination, I remembered exactly why we do what we do. We absolutely love it up in Akeley. Right next to this lovely lake. Going out for a load of firewood I looked up. The stars were absolutely popping out of the sky that night. It's a memory I won't soon forget. Fast forward a bunch of spring snow storms later, and we appear to be close to ice-out after some sunny warm weather. Bring on the open water!!



New members and current members - Please note dues increase: We are a group that can both laugh together and also have serious discussions about lake and lakeshore topics. We meet just twice per year: May and October. We voted in our Fall 2017 meeting to have slight increases of dues (\$25 for the 1st year members, \$20/year thereafter (up from \$20 and \$14 respectively)). Dues support numerous projects in and around 10th and 11th Crow Wing lakes, but mainly for purchase of CLP treatment chemical and funding watercraft inspections. We encourage you to read on to find out why this dues increase is so valued.

Spring Meeting

Saturday May 12, 2018

ARCC (old Akeley school - meeting room behind stage) 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.,



Let's drink some hot coffee (BYOC) and discuss topics relevant to our favorite lakes

SAVE the DATE: Fall Meeting will be Saturday **October 13, 2018**

LAKEWEEDS Minnesota DNR allows you to hand pull/rake submerged vegetation in a 15 foot wide path (i.e. the area around your dock) to open water for swimming/boating recreational use without a permit. More info: www.dnr.state.mn.us/ef/eh/landmanagement/regulations.html

Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) update on 11th Crow Wing Lake Challenging year for us on a couple of fronts. First off, the DNR discontinued its AIS control grant monies as of November 2017. No word on whether this may return, but it's probably safe to assume that it will not. The grant monies had decreased over the years

from the original \$1000 to the \$250 that we were approved for in spring of 2017. Read below for info on why we were not able to submit for reimbursement of the \$250. It would seem that we will need to self-fund chemical treatment going forward.

Which brings us to the second issue: Lakewide DNR chemical permits. We have proceeded with a lakewide chemical permit since 2014. This entailed a map showing usual areas of CLP patches, affected shorelines, and signatures from owners with treated shorelines. These permits operate on a 3 year cycle. They were a lot more reliable and cost effective than having individuals apply for and pay \$35 annually. In spring of 2017 we were denied our lakewide DNR permit, despite some pretty stiff protest from Kim and Scott. The permitting process now involves a far more detailed review of CLP patch locations (GPS locations, jeesh!). When the DNR did come out to attempt to find the CLP patches, it was an overcast and windy day. We all know how difficult it can be to see your hand just a foot underwater when the water is churned up, much less identify plants. No CLP plants identified (any plants?!?), so no chemical permit. Kim Bowen wrote an impeccable email to the DNR Commissioner which laid out the issue background, a well-documented timeline, and our request that we have further discussions if/when we apply for a new permit. Thank you Kim!!!





AIS Watercraft Inspections: To help prevent aquatic invasive species (namely *Eurasian Milfoil* and *Zebra Mussels*) from entering our lakes, the following contributions were made to fund paid lake access inspections in 2017 (5th year of paid inspections): City of Akeley \$814, Akeley Township \$814, and 10th/11th Lake Association \$814. **Thank you all** for this critical funding! Summary of inspection results:

- Higher occurrence of plants, animals, water, or mud found during 10th/11th CW inspections (3.5% and 5.4% vs County Average of 0.9%)
- Similar number of boats entering from infested waters vs county average (one measure of risk)
- 11th Crow Wing has similar boat launch traffic vs County average. 10th Crow Wing receives less launch traffic and is below average

Strictly by the infested water statistics and number of boats with observed issues, we are seeing a continued need for boat inspections. Please remain vigilant of your own boating habits and that of your guests.

Lake	11th Crow Wing	11th Crow Wing	11th Crow Wing	10th Crow Wing	Hubbard Cty
Parameter	Percent (2014)	Percent (2015)	Percent (2017)	Percent (2017)	2017
Entering	60.7%	55.6%	58.2%	60.7%	57.9%
Exiting	39.3%	44.4%	41.8%	39.3%	42.1%
Drain plug in on arrival	5.8%	1.7%	0.4%	2.7%	0.9%
Plants, Animals, Water, or Mud Found	2.8%	2.9%	3.5%	5.4%	1.6%
Entering from infested waters	12.7%	21.4%	12.4%	5.4%	12.6%
Entering from out of state	4.0%	20.2%	8.7%	13.5%	15.3%
Total Inspections	285	648	830	61	21,559
Hours Worked	188	532.5	536	68	14,444
Inspections per hour	1.52	1.22	1.55	0.90	1.49



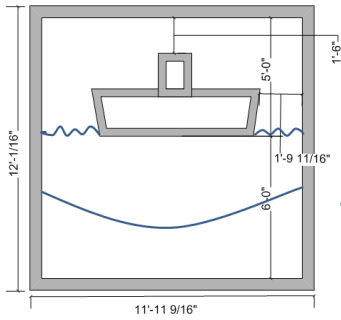
Loon Nests: Loon nests were not placed in the lake in 2017. The loons are still busy hatching young, catching fish, and singing roll call after the sunset!

Culvert/Boating Survey Results: We had excellent feedback for the online survey this winter. Out of the 85 members on our email distribution list, we had over **50%** participation (good statistical sampling). The 10 questions focused on current and desired culvert usage, as well as quantifying the size of primary and secondary boats of lakeshore owners to assess passage opportunity. Full results will be presented and distributed at the Spring Meeting (please come!), but the extra 6 pages are difficult to add to this mailing. If you would like to see the full data set and do not plan on attending the spring meeting, please request addition to the email distribution list (email Scott.Solberg@bsci.com if not already receiving emails).



The current culvert does not serve our boating needs very well. Only **1/3** of respondents currently pass through the culvert with primary or secondary boat (**10%** pass through weekly). Of the **2/3** owners who never pass through the culvert, **96%** would pass through if the opening was larger. Desired passage with new solution would be excellent; **61%** of owners would pass through more than once per week, **27%** would pass through once per 2-3 weeks, **9%** would pass through a few times per summer, and only **2%** would avoid passage. Primary boat type of respondents were: **30%** fishing boat without windshield (or removable), **13%** fishing boat with permanent windshield, **15%** runabout or I/O cruiser, **2%** wakeboard boat, **34%** pontoon boat, and **6%** other.

The culvert replacement proposed by MnDOT in 2022 is a 12' wide x 12' high box culvert. We are working with them to request a slight increase in size to a 13'w x 13'h culvert. For this slightly larger culvert, **62.5%** of boats would be able to pass through with the owner's primary boat. An additional **25%** of respondents could pass through this culvert with their secondary boat, leaving **12.5%** of respondents without an option for passage. To make passage possible for all boats (pontoons and wake board boats), a bridge would be required. Construction costs

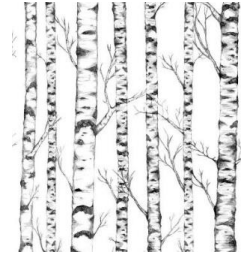


really balloon quickly for a bridge (\$2-3,000,000). More discussion on this at the spring meeting, but this would require A LOT of dedicated support and organization to raise monies required for upcharge.

A question was phrased at the end of the survey to gather general thoughts on culvert replacement. Owners were free to give any comment, but summary is as follows: **5** owners want to keep the culvert small to minimize traffic (or don't replacement), **6** support the proposed or slightly larger culvert, **1** mentioned current culvert is dangerous, **9** desired passage for pontoon boats (requiring a bridge), and **2**

felt the culvert should not have happened in the first place (hard to argue, yet here we are 😊). As you can see we have a large diversity of opinion. We again encourage you to attend the spring meeting to voice your concerns, as MnDOT is finalizing the plan this year. Please also realize that there is no single solution that everyone will agree on.

eNewsletter: For those tech savvy folks who can view .pdf's from an email, please let me know via email (Scott.Solberg@bsci.com) and I can remove you from the future distributions of printed newsletter. You will receive an emailed version instead. It saves printing and postage costs, time and effort. Might even save a future tree 😊




Water Quality Testing & Water Level Monitor: We have two volunteer needs to help support our lake association. The first is a member who would be willing to take over water quality testing. We typically do this every other year to be efficient on costs (~ \$200 for full spectrum testing). Alternating years would just be taking monthly Secchi disk readings (free) for monitoring clarity. This is not a huge time commitment, yields very tangible results, and does not require a lot of scientific background. It will be best suited to a member who lives on the lake during the summer or someone who regularly visits during warm months.



The second volunteering opportunity is for a water level monitor. We have a water level gauge near the outlet weir of 11th CW (SW corner of West basin). So this is best suited for someone who lives or is a very regular visitor to the west basin. Very time efficient opportunity; Just motor over to the corner, record your level reading in a notebook, and report back via email to our DNR contact. Even get some good vitamin D in the process from the sun!

If either of these opportunities sounds interesting to you, we would really appreciate if you let us know either via email or directly at the meeting. This will be an agenda topic, so please think about it. A small group of volunteers can really make a big difference in the health of our lake. COLA is hoping we get volunteers for both roles.

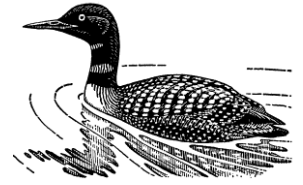
Solo Dock: We had a very generous donation of \$100 to our lake association that was made by the owner of Solo Dock, John Gehring, after one of our lake association members installed one on their property. The system is able to be installed by a single person without getting in the water (sounds pretty groovy!). For more information, check out their website at <http://www.solodock.com>, or contact John directly at JGehring@SoloDock.com

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Facebook Ask to join 10th & 11th CW lakes assoc. page to view and post your own lake photos and links to affiliated video clips! (Need help signing up? Contact Carl: imagery@iuidesigns.com 651-489-7040 or search 11th Crow Wing Lake Association from the Facebook search engine for application instructions

Hope to see you all at the spring meeting on Sat May 12th! We will meet at the ARCC between 10:00 am and 12:30 pm

10/11th Crow Wing Lake Association

10th & 11th Crow Wing Lakes Association (<http://crowwing11.org>)



Request for Membership

Hello property owners around 10th & 11th Crow Wing lakes! Please consider joining our team and get your voice heard at the semi-annual meetings.

What do your annual dues pay for? Postage and printing of the annual newsletter, lake water clarity testing through COLA (Coalition of Lake Associations in Hubbard County), and various projects that members approve in any given year (loon nests, fees to facilities where meetings take place, etc.) *There are no paid employees in this volunteer driven, non-profit association.*

To become a member, simply pop a check in the mail, along with this page into the enclosed envelope addressed to the Treasurer.

I am a NEW member - enclosed is \$25 for this year's membership

I am renewing my membership - enclosed is \$20

ADDITIONAL FUNDS OVER AND ABOVE THE ANNUAL DUES -- Please consider supporting the Lake Association with extra funds. This is a good way to support if you are unable to attend meetings or volunteer for other endeavors. WE SINCERELY APPRECIATE THE EXTRA FUNDS FOR PROJECTS!

I would like any additional amount of \$_____ to go towards helping Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) efforts (specifically the Curly Leaf Pondweed Control Project and the Watercraft Inspection Program at public boat ramp on 11th.)

I would like additional amount to go into general funds to support whatever is needed.

I would be willing to volunteer a couple of hours of my time this year to help with

(Examples: work with others to fix existing loon nests, write an article for the newsletter, write letters to our local legislators on behalf of the association, become a committee member (fisheries, Highway 64 issues, website data, erosion control or re-vegetation projects, water safety patrol, Aquatic Invasive Species control), gather history on the lake for a scrapbook or publishing on upcoming association website, attend COLA meetings when COLA rep cannot make it each month, create welcome packets for new property owners on lakes)

REMEMBER: the association is only as strong/constructive as the volunteers who are willing to participate! If everyone donated at least 1 hour of their time per season to whichever project they're most interested in to help the lakes, we'd be very effective indeed! We're looking forward to working with you: Neighbors helping neighbors for the greater good of the lakes . . .

-- President Scott Solberg, Scott.Solberg@bsci.com (Dues can be brought to the meeting or mailed direct to)
(612) 819-3556
6690 153rd Ct NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Please add (OR DOUBLE CHECK THE SPELLING OF) my e-mail address: _____

(Don't miss out on local workshops, pertinent lakes legislative news, bonus lake association events, and last minute notices! E-mails are a handy communication tool!)