

10th & 11th Crow Wing Lake Association

"Neighbors helping neighbors
for the greater good of the lakes"

April 13, 2009

Spring Newsletter



Hello neighbors! Guess what? As I write this the MN DOT is working on dredging the culvert on Highway 64 between both sides of 11th Crow Wing Lake. Yeah!!! They have inserted silt fences and are using a long reach backhoe crane to dig up and carry away debris. Yes, the ice is still thick on 95% of the lake, but the culvert area has opened up and it looks like they will be finished with the job in a few days. You will be able to get your fishing boat through the culvert this season - won't that be a relief?

Great thanks go to the "squeaky wheel" members of our Lake Association who put time and effort into contacting MN DOT, DNR and our local legislators to get this task accomplished. (If you know these neighbors and see them, take a moment to thank them for their time: Norris Kowalke, Martin Merk, Rich Wilhaus, Joel Abraham, Phil Busch, and who else am I missing?)

The possibility of a NEW culvert is an increasingly real probability because of these Lake Association members - as evidenced by the following article reported in the *Northwoods Press*, March 12, 2009:

*Rep. Larry Howes (R-Walker) introduced a bill in the State House, HF0749, to replace the culvert that

goes under Hwy 64 at 11th Crow Wing Lake. State Senator, Mary Olson (DFL-Bemidji) introduced a companion bill, SF0679. Rep. Brita Sailer (DFL) is listed as a co-author to the House bill.

The price tag for a new culvert is \$1.5 million. Replacing the culvert is considered to be a DNR "waterway" issue, rather than a DOT issue, because the condition of the highway is not the question.

According to Howes, money for the project had been promised eight years ago by then DNR Commissioner Elwyn Tinklenburg, but the money never came through.

For years, residents and other users of 11th Crow Wing Lake have complained that the culvert is silted in and impassable by watercraft.

At a town hall meeting Olson conducted in Akeley last December the culvert issue came up again. Rich Wilhaus, who lives on 11th Crow Wing Lake, told Olson the culvert is so silted-in a canoe cannot pass through it.

Howes said it was members of the 11th Crow Wing Lake Association who contacted him to revisit the project during the 2009 session.

Howes said his bill most likely won't be included in this session's bonding bill, but added, "We will try to have it included and funded in the 2010 bonding bill." He said if the culvert did become included in the 2010 bill, it will take nine months to a year for the project to begin.

There will be lots to report and discuss at the May 2 meeting. Please consider lending your opinion to the group. We warmly welcome new members and new issues. Hope to see you there, or on the lake this summer. ☺

- Kim Bowen, Crow Wing Crest Lodge
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P.S. Last fall's meeting minutes can be viewed on the Akeley website: <http://www.akeleymn.com> Go to the 10th & 11th Crow Wing Lake Association page.

From the President's Pen . . .



With the advent of the summer season, we wish everyone a fun, safe season.

The Lake Association Board of Directors has been discussing and taking action on several ambitious projects. I think we all owe the board of director thanks for their work on the culvert. Good job done! They are also looking at the possibility of a new culvert being built.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve you. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 218-280-2912.

During summer, my lakehome address is 31090 County Road 23. Have a neighbor join the 10th and 11th Crow Wing Lake Association.

The annual spring meeting will be held the first Saturday in May (May 2) at the Akeley Senior's Center at 10:30 a.m.

---Daniel Rud, President
10th & 11th Crow Wing Lake Association



If you would like to be put on our e-mail group list to get occasional e-mail updates, contact Kim Bowen, (218) 652-3111 kimbowen@eot.com (Feel free to ask for more copies of this newsletter to spread around! ☺)



COLA provides financial support and over 40 volunteers each year for the Children's Freshwater Festival. Marilyn Berry of the Hubbard SWCD coordinates this event each year and is looking for volunteers again this year. The festival is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, at the Wilderness Boy Scout Camp on Bad Axe Lake. Many of you have volunteered in the past and I encourage you to help again this year. (It's fun and a wonderful service to the community!) PLEASE CALL MARILYN AT 1-218-732-0121 TO VOLUNTEER if you are interested. She can also answer any questions you have about the schedule. Thanks for your help.

Ken Grob, President
COLA (Coalition of Lake Associations for Hubbard County)



Northern Pike Spawning Project:

It's April 13, ice is still on the lake, but the temperature must be right for the pikos, 'cause they've started to line up at the mouth of our creek next to the lodge at Crow Wing Crest Resort in the 30 feet of open water next to shore. Soon they'll be shimmying and wriggling up the creek trying to get into the back rearing pond to lay and fertilize eggs. With wonder and awe, we know Mother Nature is telling us that spring is here! Thank you, DNR, for helping us continue this annual rearing project (the only northern pike rearing center in the county) and we hope this year's batch will be healthy and prolific!

—Kim Bowen, Crow Wing Crest Lodge
For more info and photos of past year's projects, check out www.crowwing.com/lake.html



Join us for the spring Lake Association Meeting

May 2, 2009 (Saturday)

10:30 a.m.

at Akeley Senior Center (next to grocery store)

(FYI: Skip breakfast and come early for the Pancake Breakfast 7:30-10 a.m. before the meeting. Also, there will be a Pie Social, -- yum, yum -- at 2 - 4 p.m. at the Senior Center, same day.)

AGENDA

- Secretary's Minutes from last meeting approved or amended
- Treasurer's report
- COLA report
- By law vote to change semi-annual meeting to 3rd week of August or keep in September
- Curly-Leaf Pondweed report and Plan of Action
- Report on dredging Hwy 64 culvert
- New culvert possibility report
- Open issues -- bring up a topic you think appropriate to discuss



NOT A MEMBER? BECOME ONE, it's easy!

Mail \$12 (annual dues -what a deal!) to Treasurer Lisa Hanson (or bring a check to the meeting with you) and you can VOTE at the next meeting. Your dues are helping to pay for this newsletter mailing, water clarity tests of your lake, and supplies to build loon nests, etc. Thanks for supporting the health of your lake!

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