



10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing Lakes Association  
 "Neighbors helping neighbors for the greater good of the lakes!"  
 2011 Spring Newsletter

April 1, 2011

Happy spring! Where do I start with Lake Association news for you? There's so much!

First of all, an official Lake Management Plan for our lakes is now done (barring a couple of quick edits requested from Healthy Rivers and Lakes Foundation mentors) and I have the new grays hairs to prove it. Holy cow, it was a pain! And it's like 70 pages long now or something. BUT! The good thing is, we now have a fluid document (can be adjusted each year) listing our lakes' most recent DNR fisheries and vegetation surveys, water clarity history, recreational use, brief explanation of when and why Lake Association formed, identifying goals that Lake Management Team thought we, as an association, could work on to become more effective, and then listing six Plans of Action that were identified from last summer's Community Visioning session (more detail below). I plan to forward final copy soon to our Lake Association Website Committee to post on the new website so that you or anyone can open it and view anytime you like. This completion of the writing makes us eligible to receive \$800 from Healthy Lakes & Rivers program, plus we'll receive an additional \$800 for just starting to implement any of the 6 projects we outlined (which we have!) Therefore, I am expecting to report to you at Spring Meeting that we have received \$1600 for following through with Lake Management Plan training. Yippeee!



Spring Meeting will be May 7 where we'll hear reports from all committees and vote on funding requests, action plan approvals, bring up new issues from members. (Meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. sharp and end at noon on time!) We've invited Lowell or Jim from Sheriff's Water Patrol to speak at noon-12:45, but this isn't confirmed yet. We're hoping to get their advice on how to deal with reckless boat operators, collect handouts and learn about other lake safety tips to keep you and your family/friends safer on the lake (I imagine they might be scaring the bejeesus outta us with real life true stories here in Hubbard County to hold up as examples.)

Two weeks prior to this, all concerned neighbors who aren't already on a committee are strongly urged to join one of 'em and come meet at my house (Crow Wing Crest Lodge). Saturday, April 23 at 10 a.m.-1ish. ("Committee" is a loosely based term here . . . this is just helpful way to keep track of different projects and help those involved focus attention to what needs to get done and communicated to rest of association. Most of these committees are just one or two peeps, so we really, really, really could use a couple of hours of your time to help if you can spare a bit of time on a Saturday morning. And YES! You can be on a couple of different committee, you bet! See agenda below for list.) This is where we get to work hard, play hard. ☺ (Free snacks, meet new neighbors and you get to beat the crap out of some drums for five minutes to get us started for the day . . . sound like fun? Good, get your patootie over here! ☺) Do you care about having better fishing on the lakes? Come join us and meet with the new Fisheries Committee to give your opinion and be liaison between DNR and us (there's a real probability of \$500-\$1000 from a resort fundraiser for a fisheries project for our lakes in the next 2 years - we need to gather info and advice and make a plan). Do you have a desire or gripe about erosion along your shoreline, attracting more wildlife to the lakes, public boat safety issues, Highway 64 stuff (ATV trail safety, noise and erosion issues into the lake, culvert replaced with bridge issue – this has been biggest concern of lake association for 10 years, etc.)? Here's your chance to make a little difference – no grumbling about the state of affairs on your lake unless you're willing to step up and make a bit of an effort to contribute. And yah, some of these projects have been frustrating or a struggle, but the more we share the burden amongst us, the easier the task, or so they say. The more opportunity we spend doing projects together, the more we understand each other. And the stronger we can establish relationships with each other, the more secure and content we'll feel in our lakeside neighborhood. Here are some of the projects we plan to work on:



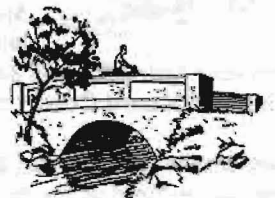
- 1) Solie Bay restoration of shoreline & aquatic vegetation plan: Decreased vegetation in the bay (SW basin of 11<sup>th</sup>), due to a variety of causes (boat wake traffic, purposeful removal of vegetation from some property owners, overabundance of beaver population) has caused concern in some members who've noticed increased erosion along their shoreline, fewer loons, ducks and nesting fowl, and a disturbing decrease in fish spawning beds. Action steps have been outlined (2 "no wake" buoys installed across mouth of bay, communicate to property owners that vegetation helps clarify water/attracts wildlife/better fisheries/controls erosion, educate campers at public city campgrounds about "no wake" speeds, discuss

beaver control) and some of these steps are already in process of getting done, but more volunteers would be most appreciated to brainstorm action needed.

2) Aquatic Invasive Species: Curly Leaf Pondweed Control plan of action was put into successful effect last year. A little over \$1,000 was put into new AIS Fund in 2010 (\$500 voted in from general Lake Association Funds, \$300 from 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> CW Lakes Association, and personal donations from you in amounts of \$6, \$12 and even \$100!) and we used every penny for buckets of chemical and DNR permits. Thank you so much! Neighbors really helped each other out with hand pulling and spreading chemical, and other neighbors throughout season brought suspicious specimens over to me personally, or contacted me that I should check out possible CLP patches. It was incredibly helpful to have more of you out there paying attention and really scouting for a few minutes when you were out enjoying a beautiful day on the lake. Good news: most of the possible new CLP was not CLP (including a scare that it might have spread to lower SW basin— but it hasn't yet that we know of, thank goodness!) Bad news: one neighbor brought me a specimen that was positive CLP and it was in a new area of the upper NE basin which we now can't locate again. (Come to Spring Meeting and I'll show you on the map where we think it is so you can help us look when you're out on the lake this summer. I also have free CLP identification handouts.) We'll keep scouting and looking in the area she said her son found it while fishing, but in the meantime: Keep looking! If you think you might spy some, mark it with a simple float or if you have a GPS or cell phone access, mark the spot if you can and then connect with me. Neighbors who tried the chemical last year commented that it really worked, and we will be using chemical on some of the more stubborn patches and new growth this season. If you can manage to donate a few dollars again this year towards AIS Fund, please know it will be going to good use and we will guarantee that every cent will be used as effectively as possible!

3) Akeley Campgrounds Erosion Control plan: This is a new project and will need lots of volunteers at some point, although the committee is only in planning stages now. If you are interested in erosion control or implementing a rain garden or natural planting buffer strip along your own shoreline, though, you might want to get in on the planning stages of this project for ideas to take back to your place. This should prove to be a very educational process!

4) Highway 64 over 11<sup>th</sup> Issues: Three of the projects outlined in Lake Management Plan have to do with this area including ATV trail safety/lakewater pollution concern, noise pollution/bicycle safety concern from highway guard strips, and of course, the big issue of replacing culvert with a bridge. At last fall's annual meeting, the idea was tossed around that we should plan another Community Visioning Session on just this topic and invite MN DOT, an environmental engineer, DNR (local ATV groups) and one of our legislators to educate, communicate and outline issues, address specific concerns from property owners, and get community support. If you care about any of these topics regarding this area of our lakes, join the committee and as a group decide your plan of action for the year, or volunteer to help make a few phone calls for them, create flyers or help market the community session.



## Spring Meeting Saturday, May 7 10:00 - Noon

ARCC -- NEW PLACE!!! a.k.a. old Akeley elementary school (across the hall from the used clothing center)

Coffee and snacks will be provided!!!!

So, there ya go, we're starting off season with a WOW! Would love to see you be part of the stewardship of your lake, whether it's just dipping your toe in, or diving right in. C'mon in - the water's fine! ☺ See you at one of the upcoming meetings . . . . .

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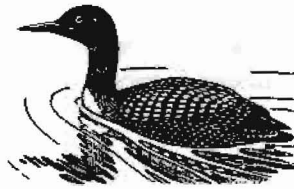
### AGENDA

- Minutes from last fall's bi-annual general meeting approved/amended (Jan Carlson)
- Treasurer's Report (Lisa Hansen)
- Water Clarity Testing Report (Rich Wilhaus)
- COLA Report (Kim- ask feedback about forwards from COLA, comment @ shoreline case, legislative bills) (Katie Magozzi)
- Lake Management Plan Report (Kim and team)
- Fisheries Committee Report (John Bowen, Barbara Riggs)
- Website Committee Report (Scott Solberg, John Seals)
- Loon Nest Restoration Committee Report (Phil Bergstrom, Amos Hard, Dan Rud)
- Akeley Campgrounds Erosion Control Committee Report (Frank "Bob" Thelin, Rich Wilhaus)
- Solie Bay Restoration of Vegetation Committee Report (Jim Todd)
- Curly Leaf Pondweed Control Plan Committee Report (Kim Bowen)
- Highway 64 Committee Report (Katie Magozzi, Martin Merck, Norris Kowalke)

### New Business

- Request member vote to donate \$10 to ARCC for meeting space
- Any new issues from members that need heard????? Bring it!

12 Noon -- Sheriff's Dept. Water Patrol Safety Speaker



10th & 11th Crow Wing Lakes Association

## 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 (first Saturday in May, 3rd Saturday in September).

What do your annual dues pay for? Your dues help pay for the postage and printing of the semi-annual newsletters, 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.

If you've never been a member, initial dues are \$20.

If you are renewing your membership, annual dues are \$14 (to be paid annually before the spring meeting.)

Also please consider donating a little extra to either the general funds, or specifically the new AIS FUND (Aquatic Invasive Species) to assist our efforts to control the spread of Curly Leaf Pondweed.

I am a NEW member - enclosed is \$20 (please allow any extra amount to go into general funds)

I am renewing my membership - enclosed is \$14 (please allow any extra amount to go into general funds)

I would like this additional amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to go towards helping to control and monitor the Curly Leaf Pondweed and other aquatic invasive species efforts (annual DNR chemical application permits, dry chemical reimbursement, possible stipend to local youth for helping to hand-pull or rake the CLP on a coordinated schedule)

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, 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, help to monitor aquatic plants, help coordinate the summer potluck picnic, help to . . . . .)

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 Kim Bowen  
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Please add my e-mail address to your Lake Association group e-mail list: \_\_\_\_\_  
(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!)



## Fisheries Committee Survey Questions:

For a full fisheries DNR summary for either 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing Lakes, go to [www.dnr.mn.state.us](http://www.dnr.mn.state.us) and click on "Lake Finder" (you will need to spell out "tenth" or "eleventh". Hubbard County.)

How many years have you been fishing on 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing Lakes? \_\_\_\_\_ (and do you mainly go fishing on 10<sup>th</sup>, or mostly on upper NE or lower SW basin of 11<sup>th</sup>, or all three equally? \_\_\_\_\_)

How often do you go fishing? (I.e. twice a year, twice a week, every day, mostly in spring, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

What kinds of fish do you focus on catching? (I.e. walleye, northern pike, bass, pan fish, anything you can catch ☺, etc., it varies throughout season, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you most interested in catch and release just for fun? Or fishing for your supper, or other reasons? \_\_\_\_\_

Fishing cycles go up and down throughout the years, but what have you noticed as any different in any of the fish species during the last 10 years (or as long as you've been regularly fishing?) \_\_\_\_\_

DNR Fisheries Manager, Doug Kingsley, would be happy to address any concerns or questions you may have about fishing on either lake. Lake Association Fisheries Committee will be collecting your comments and inquiries and act as liaison to DNR to get your questions answered and concerns addressed. Please ask away \_\_\_\_\_



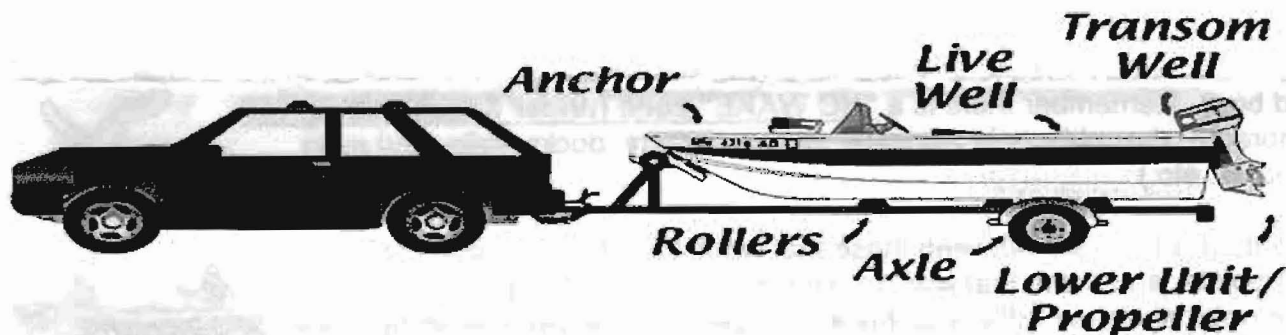
## Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers

WELCOME TO YOUR MINNESOTA LAKESHORE VACATION

**STOP AQUATIC  
HITCHHIKERS!**

Click on logo to learn about the Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers program!

**If you are a water recreationist**—boater, angler, water-skier, sailor, jet ski user or canoeist—there are some important things you can do to prevent the transport of harmful invasive species from one lake or river to another. **In Minnesota it is illegal to transport harmful invasive species.**



### Tips for water recreationists to stop aquatic hitchhikers:

- **INSPECT** and **REMOVE** aquatic plants & animals before entering/leaving access
- **DRAIN** water before leaving access
- **DISPOSE** of unwanted live bait in the trash, not in the water or on land
- **SPRAY, RINSE** or **DRY** boats (zebra mussels, spiny & fishhook waterfleas)

### Learn to identify aquatic invasive species

- **SAVE** a suspected invasive plant or animal in a sealed plastic bag
- **CALL** local DNR before transporting any material
- **REPORT** location of suspected invasive
- **VISIT** [www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives)

### Know the rules:

- Do not transport aquatic plants, zebra mussels or other invasive species
- Do not launch a boat or place a trailer in the water if it has aquatic plants, zebra mussels or other invasive species attached
- Do not transport water from infested waters (bilge, live well, bait buckets, etc)
- Use **TIP** line to report violations: **1-800-652-9093**

### Protect Your Waters:

- **VISIT** [www.mnwaters.org/hubbardcola](http://www.mnwaters.org/hubbardcola)
- **VISIT** [www.ProtectYourWaters.net](http://www.ProtectYourWaters.net)

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US PROTECT & ENJOY OUR MINNESOTA LAKES

## “Heads up!” on the water, boys & girls . . .

Our MN state law requires life jackets be worn by children 10 years old or less if they in any boat while it is underway. They do not have to wear them if the boat is anchored or they are swimming.



May we remind you adults, also, to always have your LIFEJACKET with you when in any kind of boat— motorized or not (it's the law). You might be a cautious operator, but you never know 'bout that silly goofball who imbibed too much and is headed straight for you at 40 knots. Incidentally, if you are the silly goofball who imbibed too much, GET OFF THE LAKE PLEASE. At least have a designated driver. Yes, there have been serious accidents on the lake due to alcohol negligence - which is why we're reminding you and yours to be careful - we're all in this together.

**BOAT ETIQUETTE:** Please do not enter any of your neighbor's swim areas with a motorized boat. Remember there is a **“NO WAKE” zone (under 5 mph) within 150 feet of shore or other objects in the water (like swimmers, docks, rafts, and even OTHER boats, etc.)**



To ensure there's no ill will between those that want it quiet to fish, watch wildlife and contemplate, and those that want to “shake their groove thing” on skis, tubes, and boards, please adhere to this and respect your fellow lake enthusiasts so all of us can have a peaceful, yet fun time. May we suggest you and your family use the middle of the lake for watercraft recreation as far away from shore as possible and NEVER motor between a fisherperson and shore. It will be MUCH appreciated by both your neighbors and the resident nesting shoreline critters. We have plenty of room on our beautiful waters, just be conscientious about giving the “other guy” and “other critter” some space. ☺



**JET SKIS:** As a reminder, Jet Skis are only allowed until 1 hour before dark – please be considerate of fisherfolk and use the middle of the lake for your enjoyment. Please stay WELL away from anything else moving in the water (other boats, critters, shoreline, swim docks, etc.)



**BEACH:** Please remember that there is NO LIFE GUARD on duty at the beach, so look after each other, and swim with a partner.

**SWIMMING:** We do not recommend swimming beyond the designated swim boundaries of the swim raft and buoys. If someone in your group has an odd notion to swim across the lake, please make sure they have a buddy in a boat alongside in case of exhaustion or to head off other boats motoring near the swimmer(s). Also, please no diving, no jumping, and no riding bikes off the docks! Sheesh. (See attached flyer on Shallow Water Blackout – warning esp. for teenage boys)



So there ya go, campers, guidelines to minimize problems. Now go out and have some fun in the spring fed, clear waters of beautiful 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing Lake!

4/10th