Lake Detroiters Association 2013 Annual Newsletter

Come by Boat, Bike, Feet or Street ANNUAL MEETING - Historic DL Pavilion "It's Happening at the Lake"

Saturday - June 15, 2013

8:00-9:30 Pancake Breakfast (\$5-Knights of Columbus) & Exhibits

9:30 Meeting

11:00 NR Zebra Mussel Sniffing Canine Demonstration Outside

All New Format &
Fun at the Annual
Meeting. Don't Miss
it! Bring this
Newsletter - others
will not be available.
See You at the
Pavilion!

Your Beach Captain Information:

Lake Detroiters Association P.O. Box 1310 Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 info@lakedetroiters.com www.lakedetroiters.com



Editor: Dick Hecock May 1, 2013

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Editor: Dick Hecock May 1, 2013

Join Lake Detroiters Today - Dues are \$25 Why Should You Join?

Lake Detroiters Association (LDA) has been serving and protecting the lake since 1944 and is one of the oldest organized lake groups in the area. 2013 marks the beginning of the 70th year Lake Detroiters have been involved with lake concerns. It is dedicated solely to maintaining the quality of life in and on the waters of Big and Little Detroit Lakes and Deadshot Bay.

If you haven't already joined LDA please read on to see why it is important to do so, and why the organization is worthy of your support and membership.

- You preserve your property values by protecting your lake
- You have a voice in your concerns regarding the lake
- Your voice will be heard at the City Planning Commission, the Pelican River Watershed District, Becker County, and the Becker County Coalition of Lakes Association (COLA).
- You have available to you a variety of free information such as shoreline landscaping, erosion control, water quality, and more

If you are fortunate enough to live on the lake, you have inherited a responsibility to maintain and oversee these beautiful waters and shoreline. As more vacationers and boats use the lakes each year, and as more intensive development takes place in and around the lakes, the impact on water quality is evident. There are more weeds, more shoreline erosion, more sediments into the lake, and a host of other issues concerning the lake.

Lake Detroiters' concerns itself with these issues and addresses them. It works closely with the Pelican River Watershed District, the City, the MN DNR, and the Coalition of Lake Associations. The organization is here to represent the land owners of the lake shores – without your membership and input; representative's voices cannot be heard.

Lake Detroiters' Board meets once a month, usually on the 2nd Thursday at 7AM in the Essentia meeting Room; North Campus in Detroit Lakes. These meetings are open to the public (contact a board member for details).

Each year a spring newsletter is delivered to each of the 625 lakeshore property owners by 56 Beach Captains. Lake homeowners each belong to a Beach Neighborhood. View the lake map to help identify yours.



Help us to maintain a strong organization to help and know our lakes.

Lake Detroiters' Association membership is open to every lakeshore property owner within 1,000 feet of Big and Little Detroit Lake and Deadshot Bay (Curfman).



Our Lake Detroiters Business Sponsor Program

To assist in our Association's mission, we are expanding our membership support to include area businesses who share our interest in preserving the water quality and usefulness of our lake. If you are aware of businesses who would like to (or should) participate, please contact your Beach Captain, Board Member or info@lakedetroiters.com

As a Lake Detroiter Association member, it is, then, our responsibility to support the products and services of such sponsors. Because of their generosity, we will be provided with additional resources to continue the mission of Lake Detroiters Association.



Lake Detroiters Association (LDA) Annual Meeting Saturday - June 15, 2013 -- Historic Detroit Lakes Pavilion

"Come by Boat, Bike, Feet or Street" ... see you at the Pavilion

"It's Happening at the Lake"

8:00 - 9:30 Pancakes and sausage, juice, coffee \$5/person by Knights of Columbus 8:00 - 9:30 View Exhibits

Invited Exhibitors:

DNR - AlS, Enforcement, Zebra Mussel Sniffing Canine, Water Permits, Shoreland Repair City of Detroit Lakes - West Lake Drive Project and Heartland Trail Professional Lakes Management - Weed Applicator Becker County - Water Safety Patrol, AlS Deputy Becker County Soil & Water - Shoreland Restoration Fishing Organizations and Guide Services Pelican River Watershed - Flowering Rush Control Research and Treatment Flowering Rush Research Project - Concordia College Sucker Creek Preserve Detroit Lakes Water Carnival, WE Fest, Pine-to-Palm, etc. Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates (formerly MSRPO)

9:30 Call to Order

Approval of Agenda
Introductions (Mayor, Legislators, DNR, Commissioners, LDA Board)
Secretary's Report
2012 Treasurer's Report

	Secretary's Report 2012 Treasurer's Report
9:50	2012 in Review and 2013 Opportunities
9:55	Beach Captain Program
10:00	Aquatic Plant Management - Flowering Rush Update
10:15	AIS Watercraft Inspection Project
10:25	"The Lake Detroiter" Member Directory
10:35	2013 Budget Approval
10:40	Nominations and Election of New Board Members
10:50	Questions and Comments
11:00	Adjourn
11:15	DNR Enforcement - Zebra Mussel Sniffing Dogs Demonstration Outside

LDA Mission Statement:

Lake Detroiters Association (LDA) Board of Directors and Terms

Officers

President	Barb Halbakken Fischburg	2012-2015
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Vice President Dennis Fuhrman 2011-2014

Secretary Laurie Olson 2010-2013

Treasurer Reneé Alsop 2010-2013



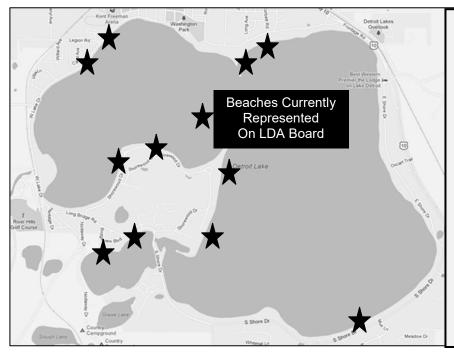
Members

Carol Bergren, 2011-2014 Sue Disse, 2012-2015 Dick Hecock, 2011-2014 Julie Herman, 2012-2015 Jeff Jasperson, 2011-2014 Curt Jundt, 2010-2013 Ryan Manke, 2012-2015 Mike Metelak, 2010-2013

Dave Welte, 2011-2014

Barb Halbakken Fischburg serves as LDA's representative to Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA) Barb also serves:

Executive Board for Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA) Board of Director; Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates (MLR) Minnesota DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Committee



There will be 2 open Board positions in June.

Beach areas have different concerns.

West Lake Drive Shorewood Drive Deadshot Bay

South Shore East Shore

North Shore

Consequently it is best to have all areas of the lake represented on the

Board. East & South we could use your voice on the Board.

Please consider serving as a Board of Director for LDA.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT: Welcome to the lake for the summer - or welcome summer to the lake!

As I reflect on 2012, a lot has been accomplished.

We are proud that our membership is over 225, the highest in many years. LDA has worked hard to ensure that our members are represented at a broad range of important city, county, watershed district, and state meetings dealing with a variety of topics, including aquatic invasive species, public accesses, boat inspections, and zoning issues. With 600 Facebook friends, and thousands of hits on our data-filled website, we are pleased that LDA claimed the attention of many lake and non-lake residents. LDA continues to work with the Pelican River Watershed District and the City of DL to support Flowering Rush research and control, shoreland protection, and work to find ways homeowners can make changes and yet protect critical landscapes. Lake Detroiters hit milestones and all that is good. 2012 was a very good year. So now what?

Lake Detroiters is beginning its 70th year protecting the lake. Today that is 110 years from when the City's charter was first adopted. We have been at this for a long time and we have done a pretty good job, thanks to all the lake leaders that contributed in years past. But what is on the horizon now for Lake Detroiters? We hear of global warming, more Aquatic Invasive Species are on the way, ground water resources could diminish, critical shoreline areas are important for sustainability; our tourism and businesses depend on healthy lake eco-systems. So what should be made of all this?

LDA will be looking for new ways to protect our lake resources and continue building on programs already in place. How can the lake be effectively and efficiently shielded from new Aquatic Invasive Species entering the lake? How can we prevent runoff and contaminants from upsetting the natural eco-system to maintain a healthy lake?

The key to our success will be the Beach Captain Program. It is designed to connect with every homeowner on the lake to secure an association membership and current email address. Having the ability to quickly and efficiently communicate with lake homeowners is very important, while at the same time maintaining a stable financial bottom line.

Our new website and email system is putting us in a position to better use technology and social media to reach out to homeowners and community with timely information more than ever before. The Business Sponsorship Program is well underway linking our lake community with the business community and asking for their financial support.

Let's think even more broadly on how we can make a difference and further protect our lake for generations to come. What we put in the lake and what we take out of the lake becomes critical. It is important we stay connected and informed. We all need to do our very best for the lake.

Lake Detroiters can make a bigger difference in protecting our community treasure if more volunteers could lend a hand. Please consider letting our Board know what expertise you may offer that could make our lake association even better.

Thank you to the LDA Board for being a great team. In the meantime, I am open to your ideas of how Lake Detroiters can serve our area the very best. Visit our new website often for more information and please be in touch at Barb@lakedetroiters.com

I hope to see many of you at the Annual Meeting June 15th - Come by boat, bike, feet or street - just come!

"It's Happening at the Lake"

Thank you for your support and enjoy what the lake has to offer - for Lake Detroiters,

Barb Halbakken Fischburg; President

Public Access Improvements on Detroit Lake - Lake Detroiters may be interested to know that there are some developing stories concerning two of the public accesses on Detroit.

The South Shore access (owned and operated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources), additional property adjacent to the current site has been purchased. This access is slated for an upgrade and re-designs. The layout will be changed and there will be some additional facilities with more parking and an area designed to better accommodate watercraft cleaning staging area for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

On the North Shore, near the Holiday Inn, there are some preliminary discussions about replacing the existing access with an upgraded one nearby. Currently that access is owed by the City of Detroit Lakes but with recent land acquisitions that may change.

In both instances, nearby residents and Lake Detroiters have provided input to DNR planners; LDA representatives have held discussions with both DNR and local city planners. LDA's primary goal is to ensure that any changes to these accesses give full consideration to the potential for environmental impacts, particularly those related to AIS. Please forward your concerns to Barb@lakedetroiters.com



Mission: "To promote the protection and enhancement of Detroit Lake."

Lake Detroiters Association

Annual Meeting Minutes

9AM - Saturday, June 9, 2012

Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn

The 2012 annual meeting was called to order at 9:00 by acting President, Mike Metelak with 130 people in attendance. The meeting was held at the Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn.

Guests/Speakers:

Representative Paul Marquart, Representative Kent Eken, Tera Guetter, Barb Halbakken Fischburg and Major Phil Meier

Past year recap of LDA activity - Mike Metelak

- AIS efforts/Awareness
- COLA/State Capitol efforts
- AIS Legislative Summit
- Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) Watercraft Inspection Program
- Lake Service Provider AIS Training
- Beach Captain Campaign
- Web Site Development (LDA)
- Becky DePree Coordinated 2011 Watercraft Inspection Volunteers at public accesses
- City Meeting attendance Volunteer Dick Alsop

Membership and Other Activity:

- Current LDA membership is at approximately 30% of the lake residents. Goal: near 100%
- Jack Chivers has agreed to assist with increasing membership
- Bruce Imholte has agreed to assist with Business Memberships
- Beach Captain Enhanced program Meeting prior to annual meeting

Keynote Speaker - Major Phil Meier, DNR Enforcement - St. Paul, MN.

- Lake home owners play a big role in AIS fight
- 47 Billboard/TV Spots/Commercials to promote
- Signage at Public Accesses
- 13,600 hours devoted to AIS effort
- Current violation rate: 25% (463 Civil, 973 written warnings)
- Most common violations: Failure to open drain plug, live well and bait buckets
- Call local law enforcement to report (Not 911)

Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) Update - Tera Guetter

- Strong Lake Associations working with PRWD and Government to make a difference in AIS effort
- Flowering Rush (FR) Research Continues.
- 200 Acres including the city beach part of research project
- FR treatment (Diquat) First round this week. Emergent and submergent treatments will be done.
- Mechanical harvesters Curley Leaf Pondweed. This can be treated for \$1000 per acre, and is a five year treatment plan.
- Cutting lanes will not be done in the flats this year. Other treatment methods will be employed in this area.
- Curfman Septic System no other areas on the lake have septic systems.
- Hand removal permit for FR

Kent Eken – Speaker Summary

- AIS Legislative Summit helpful to let St. Paul know of importance
- Economic and Environmental impacts
- Legacy funding for Asian Carp: \$2M
- \$3.8M in funding AIS research at U of M

Paul Marquart - Speaker Summary

- Thank you for local effort
- Ground swell from grassroots makes a difference when we introduce and pass laws
- DL effort has influenced changes in policy, research and enforcement

COLA Report - Barb Halbakken Fischburg

- 2100 Inspections at local accesses
- Lake home owners asked to do what they can to prevent AIS spread
- Donations for Inspections last year: City =\$4,000 and LDA =\$1800. (60% increase this year)
- This year: City/PRWD = \$7000. LDA needs to raise \$3,000. Barb started pledges with \$100. Jack Chivers pledged \$500, several others pledged \$25.00 (More collected at the door upon exit)

Beach Captain Report - Carol Bergren

- Talk to your neighbors and encourage membership
- Beach Captains to meet prior to annual meetings to get word out ore Beach Captains needed

Secretary Report – Laurie Olson

- Annual meeting minutes approved as read.
- Monthly meeting minutes are posted on the web site
- Review of LDA Website
- To adequately dry watercraft when moving from lake to lake check <u>www.100thmeridian.org</u> under "tools" for dry time information based on science and research handout in Beach Captain packet

Treasure's Report - Renee Alsop

- Treasure's Report
- PayPal Account set up to pay dues online

New Board Members

- New: Sue Disse and Ryan Manke
- Renewed BOD positions: Barb Halbakken Fischburg and Julie Herman.
- Motion made, second and passed to accept nominations.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Olson, Secretary



LDA History, Anyone?

<u>www.lakedetroiters.com</u> website includes a history segment about the organization's history.

The 2006 Directory is available to view on the website which contains historic pictures as well as numerous anecdotes describing the "olden days". Also, newsletters (bulletins) from the 1950's and 1960's show that many of the problems we currently face are not so different from the ones concerning lake residents then.

If anyone has old LDA materials or documents, we would be very pleased to have them and add them to our website for everyone to view. NEW FOR 2013 is our very own Lake Detroiters sweatshirt by Lakeshirts. It is unisex and will be available for \$40. There is a limited supply so contact a Board member or info@lakedetroiters.com before supplies are sold out!

COLORS: Gunmetal & Mustard SIZES: Small to 2X

Great weight for year round wear - especially for the evening boat cruise or early morning - and don't forget the evenings around the bonfire!

Lake Detroiter Proud!



Finally Spring

We saw a dramatic difference in Spring 2013 being much delayed from the early ice-out of March 2012. As we look back, 2012 continued a pattern of unusual weather. A very warm winter and early spring led to near-record early ice-outs in March on most area lakes.

Precipitation in each of the last two years has been about twenty percent less than the 20-year average. The drought that began in the summer of 2011, continued in the 2012 winter with low snowfall. Spring rains were helpful, but there was only one significant runoff event (June 19) and in general streams flowed at unusually low rates. Drought conditions returned in the summer and persisted for the rest of the year.

Higher temperatures, less precipitation, little runoff, and longer ice-free conditions led to falling lake levels throughout the District. As winter approached, Detroit reached its lowest level since the 1980's.

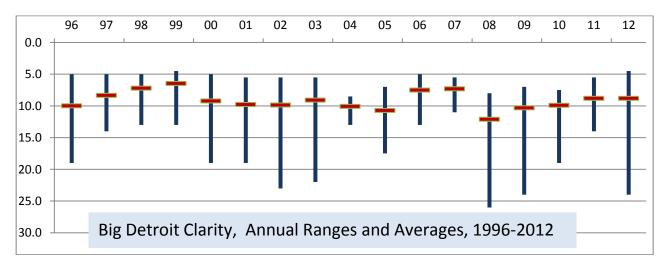
The winter started out pretty mild and dry, even January and February were pretty average in terms of temperature. But it started snowing in January, with several storms in February and March, and even into April. Snowfall totals exceeded 70 inches, over two feet more than the average. Meanwhile March and April temperatures were the coldest in more than 20 years.

The combination of cold temperatures and heavy snow accumulations caused a substantial delay in the 2013 open-water season. May ice-outs are not uncommon, occurring in about one of nine years based upon our 121 year record.

If there was any good news it was that the snow was rich in water content – total precipitation was about 5.6 inches in the first three months of the year – that's twice the average rate, and helped raise water levels in our lakes by a few inches.

2012 Was a Pretty Good Water Quality Year

Like all lakes, Big and Little Detroit Lakes and Curfman (Deadshot) exhibit variable conditions from year to year. Displayed below is a summary of clarity conditions for Big Detroit from 1996 through 2012. Note the range in clarity from 4.5 feet to 24 feet is one of the larger in recent history. Also, the relatively poor August conditions, including the lowest clarity reading since 1999 (4½ feet), is troublesome. It seems likely that very early ice-out coupled with relatively high summer temperatures were contributing factors.



On the other hand, lack of runoff bringing nutrients to the lakes was a positive factor, so that the average conditions were reasonably good.

Both Big and Little Detroit have seen modest improvements in water quality over the last fifteen years (there are not sufficient data on Curfman/Deadshot) to ascertain trends). Of particular interest is a reversal of the circumstances between Big and Little Detroit. Whereas in the past Big Detroit has had better water quality conditions than Little Detroit, with the installation of sanitary and storm sewers and other lake protection measures, Little Detroit's water quality now regularly exceeds that of Big Detroit. During much of 2012 Little Detroit's weed-covered bottom was visible even in its deepest parts.

This situation has developed because the major remaining nutrient source causing water quality problems for the Detroit Lakes is the Pelican River which continues to bring nutrients to Big Detroit. These nutrients are "filtered" out beforce they reach Little Detroit or Curfman.

The Rice Lake Restoration

Many of these nutrients flowing to Big Detroit via the Pelican River oiginate from a partially drained lake/wetland area about three miles north of Detroit Lake. The area was partially drained in 1918; such drained wetlands often are sources of nutrients which are flushed during periods of high water.

To counter this situation, PRWD has initiated the Rice Lake Nutrient Reduction Project which is expected to reduce total phosphorus loading to Big Detroit, by approximately 50%.

A partial restoration of the lake/wetland complex will increase the depth and duration of inundation in the Rice Lake area creating more natural wetland hydrology conditions. The project will increase the wetland depths by an average of two feet by the construction of two dam structures, some road improvements, and ditch modifications.

In addition to the water quality benefits, approximately 78 additional acres of prime wetland vegetation will be restored with a total of 462 acres of various types of wetlands created or enhanced. This wetland expansion also will greatly enhance primary brooding and nesting habitat for several species of migratory waterfowl.

The project area involves acquisition of flowage rights from private lands (503 acres), MN DNR Wildlife Management area (510 acres), and City of Detroit Lakes land (145 acres). Completion of the engineering and construction of the control devices is expected to occur within the next 12 months.

Other Important Lake Protection Measures

Much has been done in the way of protecting our Lakes from major sources of nutrient pollution. Large scale projects include the sanitary and storm sewer projects around the lakes, the Highway 10 upgrade, and many stormwater detention projects around Detroit Lakes. There has also been attention to other "non-point" sources - elimination of the use of phosphorus fertilizers, control of shoreline runoff, and the like. Continued monitoring has revealed some nutrient discharges from a portion of the Industrial Park north of Highway 10, and the nutrient-rich overflows from the storm sewer along West Lake Drive.

Dick Hecock, April 2013

ALL NEW LDA WEBSITE

www.lakedetroiters.com

- → "Homebase" for everything about the lake, what's new, AIS, history, photos
- → Pay dues individual or Business Sponsorships online via PayPal
- → Your Up-to-date lake information site
- → Facebook entries on website for members not on Facebook
- → New more secure email system: Info@lakedetroiters.com
- → Live weather feed
- → Members only area
- → Blog
- → Highlights Business Sponsors
- → Provides additional growth capacity



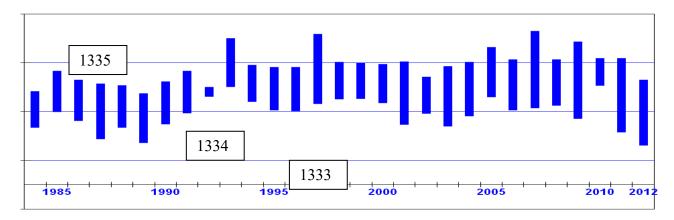




And what about those lake levels?

In the 1990's and early 2000's many lake residents complained about high lake levels – shore erosion caused damage to shoreline vegetation and structures. Recently they have lamented low water levels. Last fall the lake dropped below 1333.3 feet above mean sea level, sixteen inches lower than this year's high water in June. The lowered lake has exposed an unusual expanse of beach around much of the lake. Flows of streams to the lake dropped to near zero. There was almost no water running out of the lake. Lakeshore residents were frustrated by having their boats stranded on boat lifts which could not be lowered far enough to permit them to float. Also many props were damaged in newly discovered shallow waters.

But is "the lake lower than it ever has been", as some have asked? The short answer is "no". In several years during the 1980's the lake dropped to levels similar to those experienced recently. During the 1930's and 40's most years saw lower water levels than now.



Detroit Lakes' Annual Lake Level Range, 1984-2012 (elevations in feet above mean sea-level).

Last year's low lake levels are a response to a significant shift in precipitation starting in August 2011. In the 12 months prior to that time, our area received about 46 inches of precipitation; in the following 12 months, there were only21 inches. Also the period was accompanied by higher temperatures resulting in higher evaporation rates, and greatly diminished flows from upstream areas and nearby spring.

What can be done about these conditions? Very little! Some have asked "why isn't the dam raised to keep water from flowing out of the lake?" The answer to that one is that there are currently no structures available to control the water level in Detroit.

For more than 120 years the level of Detroit Lake was maintained about four feet above natural levels by a succession of structures at the Muskrat Lake outlet into Lake Sallie. The original lock and dam system was built to facilitate navigation through the Pelican River. Prior to about 1985, the Dunton lock/dam system was sometimes operated by the City of Detroit Lakes to change water levels. The efforts were considered unsuccessful because of the poor record of predicting flows from one season to the next, and because of the differing views of what water levels were appropriate.(Consider, for example, the impacts on downstream lakeshores if water was to be held back to satisfy Detroit residents.) In any case, for at least 25 years, there has been no attempt to manage water levels in Detroit Lake.

The current outlet structure, referred to as Dunton Rapids, was completed in 2001 in order to facilitate fish migration. It was specifically engineered to replicate the flow control attributes of the dam and lock system that it replaced. It is not possible to control flows through Dunton Rapids.

Where are we headed with water levels? Obviously we are the mercy of weather patterns. Conditions since January offer some hope for at least temporary relief. Detroit's water level at ice-out will be up by nearly a foot over last year's fall conditions. If the precipitation continues at the above-average rate, we could well seem some increase in water levels. At the same time, conditions in Detroit's watershed will absorb quite a bit of surplus water. Even "normal" precipitation levels would not produce a rapid restoration of lake levels because of the deficits in soil moisture and groundwater, and empty wetlands which would intercept runoff in upstream areas.

Noteworthy Websites:

In addition to Lake Detroiters website: www.lakedetroiters.com

- City of Detroit Lakes: www.ci.detroit-lakes.mn.us
- Becker County www.co.becker.mn.us
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: www.dnr.state.mn.us
- Pelican River Watershed District: www.PRWD.org

Make this site a "favorite" for info on...

Flowering Rush spraying schedule

Ice damage info and permits

Water quality data on your lake

Road side pickup schedule

Rain garden fact sheet

Use the District's aerial map to zoom in on your neighborhood

- Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce: <u>www.visitdetroitlakes.com</u>
- Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates (MLR formerly MSRPO): www.mnlakesandrivers.org
- 100th Meridian cooperation of agencies to stop AIS spread: www.100thmeridian.org
- Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC): www.maisrc.umn.edu
- Stop Asian Carp Coalition: <u>www.stopcarp.org</u>
- Minnesota Environmental Congress: www.mn.gov/EnvironmentalCongress
- Minnesota Legislative Information: <u>www.leg.state.mn.us</u>



Roadside Pickup of Aquatic Plant Material

PRWD's collection of gathered up aquatic plant debris will continue as in previous years. Generally speaking this will be done early in each week from June through September. Pickup is limited to aquatic plants that have been placed next to, but off, the road on the owner's property.

Garden waste, branches, leaves, etc. will not be picked-up by the Pelican River Watershed District, nor will any weed piles that include such items.

Flowering Rush Success at the City Beach!

BEACH REPAIR

The general case is that homeowners need a Pelican River Watershed District permit to make alterations to the natural condition of the shore impact zone (37 feet from lake on Detroit, 50 feet from lake on Curfman). However, if the only result of the ice-action is a mound of sand that can be redistributed by hand tools, no permit will be required. If mechanical equipment is used, or if beach debris includes pieces of cement, retaining walls, railroad ties, or stone, a permit will be required.

If there is any doubt, call the Pelican River Watershed District at 846-0436 for more specific information.





2012 Watercraft Inspection Program on Detroit Lake

The 2012 AIS Watercraft Program ended with 2 dedicated DNR trained workers. The DL Regional Chamber of Commerce recognized their contribution to Detroit Lakes and presented them a *Community Service Award*. In connection with the LDA-sponsored 2012 Watercraft Inspection program, 2058 surveys were conducted at two Detroit public accesses, the DNR access on the south shore of Big Detroit, and the City's Rossman access on Little Detroit. There is much to be learned from these surveys, especially in the context of results from a similar survey project in 2011.

- Approximately 30% of boats entering Big and Little Detroit were from (licensed in) North Dakota, 60% from Minnesota, about 7% from other states (3% of the origins were undetermined).
- Overall about 45% of the boats surveyed were identified as fishing boats, and 30% as "runabouts", but there
 were substantial differences at the two sites. Runabouts, pontoons and personal watercraft accounted for a
 much larger share of the total boats at Rossman, and correspondingly, there were fewer fishing boats at this site.
 These patterns of boat origins and types were similar to those observed in 2011.
- Observers identified fewer than 3% of the boats entering Detroit in violation of Minnesota's AIS laws, nearly all of
 these cases involved boats which arrived at the access with the drain plug in. It is noteworthy that this rate of
 violation is much lower than rates cited by the DNR in their surveys. The Detroit 2012 rates also were also less
 than half of the violation rates observed in the 2011 survey. These figures suggest that educational programs
 have been successful in increasing boater awareness of the AIS problem and AIS boat regulations.

The movement of boats is known to be the most significant vector for spread of AIS. Accordingly, the watercraft inspection survey was designed to ascertain boater movement prior to entering Detroit.

- Among the 1290 surveyed boats entering Detroit at these two accesses, 16% were being launched for the first time in the 2012 season. Another 50% were boats previously in the water during 2012, but had last been launched in Detroit. In other words, two-thirds of boats entering Detroit pose little or no risk of introducing new AIS into that lake.
 - Of the remaining boats entering Detroit, 7% were last in lakes in Becker County (7%) and 17% elsewhere from lakes that are not known to be infested with Zebra Mussels, Spiny Waterflea, or Eurasian Watermilfoil. Of these boats, about half have been out of the water seven days or more, which offers some further measure of lowered risk
- Three percent of boats entering Detroit in 2012 were determined to have last been in an infested water (including Pelican, Gull, Leech, Michigan, Minnetonka, etc.). Of those 34 boats, 24 (71%) had been out of the water seven days or more, and 16 of those more than fourteen or more days.

For 8% of the boats entering Detroit there was no information on previous lake visits.

As to boats leaving Detroit Lake, it is not surprising that the patterns of state origin, and type of boat are very similar to those entering the lake. 75% of those leaving Detroit are day-users.

The 2012 inspection surveys were conducted during 395 hours on 78 different days, by 6 different inspectors, at two different sites, mostly during weekends or holidays between May 13 and September 30. This seems like a large sample of survey hours, but it is well to keep in mind that to completely cover the two sites with one person during this period would require at least 960 surveyor hours for weekends, and 2400 surveyor hours for weekdays. Also, a significant number of boats entering and exiting the lake involves fishing in months prior to May and after September and hours in the middle of the night.

Dick Hecock, November 9, 2012

DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Committee

The DNR AIS Advisory Committee was appointed by DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr in December 2012 to help the DNR maintain strong relationships with AIS stakeholders. Advice and recommendations from the 15-member committee, and four ex-officio members, will be used to help guide the department's activities. Committee members will bring a range of personal and professional experience to the discussion about how to prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals in our lakes, rivers and wetlands. Tera Guetter; Administrator at the Pelican River Watershed District and Barb Halbakken Fischburg; President of Lake Detroiters were appointed to serve on this committee.

To view the works of the Advisory Committee visit the website:

Some New Faces at PRWD



Joining the District's administrator, Tea Guetter, and Dick Hecock, Senior Advisor, are two new staff members.

Jon Staldine, the District's new Assistant Administrator, grew up in Gillette, WY, and pursued a BS in Environmental Horticulture from Montana State University. Upon completion he then sought a BS of Landscape Architecture, MS in Natural Resources with an emphasis in Restoration Ecology, and graduate certifications in Bioregional Planning and Water Science from the University of Idaho. Jon and his wife have a six month old son named Jackson, and two Border Collies. His family enjoys camping, hiking, fishing, and is looking forward to getting to know the community and the region!

Brenda Moses, now our Office Manager, recently moved to Detroit Lakes from Jackson, MN. She grew up in Wahpeton, ND, and studied business at North Dakota School of Science. Most of her career has been spent in manufacturing businesses where she has been involved in customer service or accounting activities. Her husband Tom, a Detroit Lakes native, is Director at Pet Care Systems. They have two grown children, a son serving in the Air Force, and a daughter, attending UND in Grand Forks.

These are folks you are likely to encounter if you do some shoreline work on your property, or you are looking for information on protecting shorelines, lessening runoff to the lake, Flowering Rush concerns, and many other topics.

See the District's website, <u>www.prwd.org</u>, for District regulations and application forms or other information. Call (218) 846-0436, or stop by the office, 2nd Floor, Wells Fargo Bank in Detroit Lakes (corner Holmes and Minnesota) – you will almost certainly meet someone.

Dick Hecock, April 2013

Upstream Sucker Creek



Sucker Creek Preserve's regular visitors will find new delights in Upstream Sucker Creek's additional 52.7 acres. And newcomers to the now 117 total acres of Preserve will be challenged just to take in all the natural wonders. In Upstream Sucker Creek, forty-one acres are wooded; 6+ are meadow and the remainder mineral freshwater springs flowing through Sucker Creek Preserve and thence to Big Detroit Lake.

Not a park, but a natural woods Sucker Creek Preserve's Natural and Scenic Area Grant offers wildlife a sanctuary as well as teaching persons the history, health, and functioning of ecosystems.

"The mission of the board of Sucker Creek Preserve is to restore, preserve and maintain the native biodiversity of the Preserve for the education and enjoyment of all visitors."

The 2013 DNR Parks and Trails Legacy Fund allows Upstream Sucker Creek to teach the wonder of mineral springs, appreciate the value of new wildflowers, insects, and amphibians along a grand bogwalk in this new ecological environment. Attractive additions: a picnic shelter, picnic tables and gender bathrooms make group activities easily fulfilled. Trout fishing enthusiasts have use of the bogwalk. This grant urges our community to learn from the great outdoors and to bring more of their activities into adventurous areas of landscape.

Because of the delicacy of the terrain, great care will be taken in building the bogwalk. Cost of the entire purchase and restoration is estimated at the grant, \$495,000, and the hope is to complete the project, sans interpretative signs, by the end of 2013.

DIRECTIONS: From Detroit Lakes: East on Highway 10 to 290th Avenue. Right turn.3/10 mile. Preserve on the right. **Sally Hausken, Chairperson**15 April, 2013

In August the City of Detroit Lakes under the guidance of City Councilman, Bruce Imholte, held an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Public Information Meeting. Steve Hirsch, DNR St. Paul along with nearly 100 concerned citizens packed City Council Chambers. While much concern was expressed over warding off AIS in the community, no decisions were made. A common message was: "All units of government need to pool resources and get a plan in place to protect our area lakes."

Detroit Lake Fishery Status

Detroit Lake Annual Fish Stocking Plans:



Walleye—1,895 pounds of fingerlings annually



Lake Sturgeon—2,000 fingerlings annually



Muskellunge—3,000 fingerlings in odd-numbered years

Fisheries Surveys: The next fish population assessment in Detroit Lake is planned for **2015**. This study will include spring electrofishing for black crappie and largemouth bass, spring muskie trapping, and mid-summer gill net, trap net, and shoreline sampling.

Fishing Report: There were several reliable reports of excellent walleye fishing in Detroit received during the hottest part of last summer. Anglers also reported catching large perch and muskies over 50 inches in length.

Request: Anglers are asked to report incidental catches of lake sturgeon to the local area DNR Fisheries office at 218-846-8340. This species was initially stocked in Detroit Lake in 1997 as part of the Red River watershed sturgeon restoration effort. Lake sturgeons similar to the one pictured above and even larger were part of Detroit's fishery in the past.



Other Information: A wealth of information including lake reports for all managed Minnesota lakes is available at the DNR website www.dnr.state.mn.us. Click on the "Lakefinder" link and enter the lake name and county.

Nathan Olson will begin his new duties May 22nd. He has recently worked for 4 years as our local AIS Specialist and currently is the NW Region's Watercraft Inspection Supervisor. Nathan is originally from South Dakota, where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from South Dakota State University in 2002. Nathan then went on to get his Master's Degree in Fish and Wildlife Management from Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana in 2004. Nathan has worked for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for 9 years, working as a fisheries specialist in the Minneapolis Area and also in Ortonville, MN. **Welcome Nathan!**

Thank you to FM Muskies, Inc.

Saturday, April 27, 2013 seven muskie members scoured Big and Little Detroit on their ATVs for garbage left on the lake from hard water recreationists. They removed cement blocks, wood, fish house bottoms and other types of trash. Our LDA member Bob Collins assists in this wonderful lake clean-up!

Next year - let's spread the word so folks do not leave trash. It is against the LAW and not good for the lake!



ALL NEW DNR MUSSEL SNIFFING CANINE PROGRAM

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has added three mussel-sniffing K-9 units to combat the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

The Division of Enforcement will strategically deploy these K-9s at organized AIS check stations, routine lake access inspections, and will be called out for inspections as needed. In addition, the K-9s will be a leader in public relations surrounding the Division's AIS enforcement and education initiatives. The mussel detecting K-9s will also be trained in tracking, evidence recovery, firearms detection, and wildlife detection.

The new mussel detection K-9 teams are Water Resource Enforcement Officers 2LT Julie Siems with "K-9 Brady" and 2LT Larry Hanson with "K-9 Digger". Both of their dogs are Labrador Retrievers, and both were obtained from animal rescue organizations. CO Travis Muyres is the department's certified K-9 trainer. Travis is paired with K-9 "Laina", a Belgian Malinois.







CHINESE MYSTERY SNAILS



Chinese Mystery Snails (CMS) have been found in growing numbers in Detroit. They are an exotic species, originally brought to this country more than 100 years ago. They feed on dead plankton and algae; they do not eat plants. In sufficient numbers they may compete with other snails and other bottom feeders; the extent of their impacts on habitats and other species is not known. They seem to becoming more of a nuisance, especially when they die and accumulate in shallow areas or on beaches.

The "mystery" in Chinese Mystery Snails (and other *mystery* snails) has to do with the habit of sudden hatches of fully-developed young snails "mysteriously" appearing. They also have a (somewhat) mysterious ability to achieve dormancy when removed from water.

They are edible, but at present there is no known control method.

CURLYLEAF PONDWEED

Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP) has been a nuisance since the 1960's. Though CLP is found scattered in many parts of the lake, major infestations are confined to relatively small portions of Big Detroit, but these interfere with boating and to some degree fishing. Large floating mats of dead CLP also cause minor fish kills; but most of impacts are associated with beaches when the mats reach shore. Here they cause odor problems, prevent swimming, and are costly to remove.

Swimmer's Itch

Here's another reason not to feed waterfowl. Swimmer's itch is caused by a fluke which lives alternately in snails and waterfowl. If waterfowl are not present, the parasite cannot survive. Swimmers serve as accidental hosts – the flukes burrow into the skin, but quickly die, causing an itchy reaction. Children are especially susceptible.

To reduce risk swimmers can avoid warm shallow water, especially after mid-day, and during on-shore winds (which tend to accumulate the fluke near the shore). Swimmers should rinse off as soon as they get out of the water. Do not allow water to evaporate from skin. Rub legs and arms with a towel after swimming. Do not wear wet bathing suits after swimming. Waterproof sunscreen or insect repellents containing DEET may offer some protection.

The City of Detroit Lakes is permitted to apply copper sulfate to control swimmer's itch along the public beach. Private landowners can obtain a DNR treatment permit too, but remember, copper sulfate is hard on snails that don't carry swimmer's itch, and on other plants and animals too. Repeated applications may be necessary, and even then the flukes may blow in from distant untreated areas.

Dick Hecock, April 2013

Becker County AIS Task Force

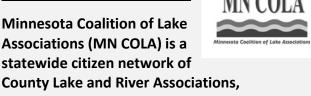
LDA Directors were heavily involved in the creation and support of the County's Task Force appointed to enhance relationships between local and state government agencies and organizations, to identify steps for preventing AIS, to develop steps for combating AIS if found; and to present further recommendations to the Becker County Board on future measures.

During 2012 Inspection programs, volunteer or paid, were not notably successful. There were an insufficient number of DNR inspection training sessions, resulting in only 90

number of DNR inspection training sessions, resulting in only 90 trained inspectors in the County. Only a few lakes were added to the roster of lake-based inspection programs. New and existing programs provided inspections at only a small portion of the times during which boaters used public accesses. Also, there was some push-back from lake residents who felt that they were being asked to accept a disproportionate share of the responsibility for preventing spread of AIS. Other accomplishments included:

- Considerable information on AIS risk from boater use of public accesses were obtained from survey data
- While some inspection programs may continue, and others emerge, a different model is needed if we are to be aggressive in discouraging lake-to-lake spread of AIS by boaters.
- Utilizing funds from DNR Awareness grants and local sources, a wide variety of educational resources were developed. Additional efforts are needed to ensure that these resources are activated and implemented effectively.
- It is unclear to what extent there has been increased local enforcement of AIS rules.
- A full-time AIS Coordinator is needed for Becker County.
- The Task Force was too large (and contained persons without direct knowledge of AIS); some subcommittees (e.g. Rapid Response Plan) were too large.
- Clear lines of authority between the AIS coordinator and County Staff are needed.
- There may be some opportunities for coordination of prevention actions among governments within the County, and among adjacent counties and the Tribe.

Minnesota Coalition of Lake
Associations (MN COLA)



County Lake and River Associations, representing the interests of over 40,000 advocates, organized to protect and improve the waters and shorelands in Minnesota.

MN COLA advocates to the MN Legislature, DNR and Governor for improved lake related issues. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), shoreland protection, better aquatic plant management and other emerging concerns pertaining to protecting the natural ecosystems of our Minnesota Lakes and Rivers. MN COLA conducted a Statewide AIS Spending Survey on local monies spent on AIS. Since 2010 local funds amounting to \$759,500 have been spent in Becker County on AIS. MN COLA's position on AIS spending is the burden should not be placed on local taxpayers for the protection of public waters. 2008 Legacy Amendment funds should be used to protect MN Lakes from further AIS infestations. Barb Halbakken Fischburg serves on their Executive Board.

Dick Hecock, Feb, 2013

Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) and "Weed" Control

Weed problems and weed control are not new to District lakes. Concern about lake weeds was a central reason for the formation of both Lake Detroiters and Melissa-Sallie Improvement Association in the 1940's. The failure of those organizations' many efforts to solve the "weed problem" had a good deal to do with the formation of the Pelican River Watershed District.

Accordingly, cutting and removal ("harvest") of lake vegetation was a part of PRWD activities from its inception. The District has operated aquatic plant management programs since the mid-1960's on lakes Sallie and Melissa and since the late-1980's on Detroit Lake.

In 2006, a major operational shift occurred in the programs with the District directing more efforts and funding towards chemical control and less on mechanical harvesting. The District's plant management activities have been closely scrutinized and supervised by the MN DNR.

The shift resulted from awareness that: (1) nuisance aquatic vegetation has gradually decreased over the years and (2) mechanical harvesting of flowering rush has not been an effective control measure, and (3) DNR resistance to mechanical harvesting of native species. It seems likely that future mechanical harvesting will be limited to the control of curly-leafed pondweed infestations; the District is currently in the process of selling most of its harvesting equipment.

The District has been working closely with DNR staff to develop Lake Vegetation Management Plans (LVMP) for Detroit, Sallie, Mellissa and Muskrat lakes. When finally approved, these plans will serve to guide the overall direction of vegetation management on these lakes. The plans also will contain the basic outlines of specific management techniques that will be used on these lakes. Once approved, the annual DNR permitting process will be expedited because there already will have been agreement on the key components. It is anticipated that these plans will be completed in 2013.

Recognizing the existence of severe impacts from AIS infestations on District lakes, and anticipating a worsening of these problems, the District considered treatment alternatives and administrative arrangements, including financing. The recommended solution for providing education, conducting research, and undertaking treatment of AIS infestations, was the creation of a district-wide project. Accordingly, Project LMP-01 was established in 2010. The Project will extend for 15 years, and is funded from an ad valorem levy which is applied throughout the watershed district. This source of funds, together with money from the two harvest projects described above, and grants from the City of Detroit Lakes and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has been used in the battle to control Flowering Rush.

Dick Hecock, 2011 with updates in 2013

FACEBOOK

May 2012 marked the beginning of LDA using Facebook. Within the first month 150 were friends of Lake Detroiters. One year later, LDA has over 550 that receive periodic updates on lake related issues from our Facebook page. If you are on Facebook -"Like" Lake Detroiters. If you are not, LDA's website will offer a live feed of Lake Detroiters Facebook page.

Like Us: Lake Detroiters facebook

West Lake Drive Re-construction - Looking Ahead

Among other road projects planned for the next few years is a major upgrade of West Lake drive along the shore of Little Detroit Lake. West Lake Drive is a Becker County road and plans are not complete, but local residents should be aware that changes in the width and function are likely, and that there will be small alignment changes.

Lake Detroiters representatives will continue to provide input for the project which will seek to improve stormwater runoff treatment associated with the roadway. These shoreland improvements will greatly serve as protection for lake. The reconstruction is tentatively slated for 2017 and is dependent on a funding mechanism.

Ecology and Management of Flowering Rush in Detroit Lake

After a number of years of its own experimental work on chemical treatment options, in 2009 the Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) turned to outside experts to expand and refine its treatment approaches.

To developing greater effective management methods for Flowering rush, in 2010 the District turned to Dr. John Madsen, Geosystems Research Institute/Mississippi State University and Dr. Michelle Marko, Concordia College to study the plant life/growth cycle, ecology, and plant biomass in relation to water depth. This new information was used to assist the Army Corps of Engineers chemical application research team led by Dr. John Skogerboe to identify and test optimum treatment products and methodologies to increase FR management effectiveness. Field research continued in 2011, and throughout the open water season of 2012.

In addition to laboratory tests by the Corps of Engineers, in 2010 and 2011 various tests were performed in Detroit Lake, using different herbicides, treatment protocols, on different kinds of flowering rush conditions.

A major management issue has to do with the fact that Flowering Rush has similar habitat requirements to Hardstem bulrush, which is considered to be very important to fish (walleye) propagation and population health. Several available herbicides which might be used to control Flowering Rush have ruinous impacts on Hardstem bulrush.

By the spring of 2012 it had been determined that the chemical product **Diquat** seemed to possess attributes that could provide effective control of Flowering Rush. Given enough dosage and contact time, and successive treatments it offered fast-acting and a high level of control. Also Diquat was found to have no impact on Hardstem bulrush, and only temporary impacts on other important native plants.

In 2012 Diquat was used to treat 124 acres of Flowering Rush on two occasions. Many observers felt that the treatments were very successful. An additional 10 acres of emergent Flowering Rush were also treated using the chemical **Imazypyr** in August.

Research conducted by Madsen and Marko and associates confirms that Diquat significantly reduced Flowering Rush plant material (biomass) for the tested areas in 2012. The research also indicated that the chemical treatment also reduced belowground plant mass and densities, thereby reducing the likelihood for plants to re-grow and spread. The research also confirmed that while Diquat had some negative effects on some native plants, others were unaffected or actually improved.

2012 research on the efficacy of Imazypyr in Detroit was not conclusive.

In 2013 the District has applied for Diquat permits that could involve as much as twice as much area as was treated in 2012. However, what the DNR will allow will be



determined by their interpretation of the research results from 2012, together with an inspection of Flowering Rush populations as they begin to grow after ice-out.

Research will continue at some level to monitor treatment efficacy through the summer of 2013, and probably beyond.

Private property owners also MAY engage in aquatic plant control

Riparian property owners are allowed to hand-remove submerged aquatic plants in an area up to 2,500 square feet to enhance swimming or boating. The dimensions of the cleared area along the shore may not exceed 50 feet, or half the width of the property's frontage, whichever is less.

The use of chemicals or mechanized methods (weed rollers) or the removal of emergent plants, including Flowering rush, requires a permit from the DNR. While the criteria for granting such a permit are complicated and extensive, most are issued only when plants interfere with an applicant's ability to use watercraft, swim or engage in other traditional recreational uses. Permits for control of swimmer's itch and transport of cattail bogs also must be obtained. Permit application forms can be obtained on-line at the DNR's website, or at the Lake Sallie Area DNR office.

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/regulations.html or

If you want to remove Flowering Rush, please contact <u>Barb@lakedetroiters.com</u> ASAP in order to be included in the DNR permit



HOW to CONTACT ELECTED OFFICIALS THAT REPRESENT YOU:

US Senator Amy Klobuchar → senator.klobuchar@senate.gov

US Senator Al Franken → senator.franken@senate.gov

Governor Mark Dayton → mark.dayton@state.mn.us

Senator Kent Eken (District 4) → sen.kent.eken@senate.mn

Representative Paul Marquart (District 04B) → rep.paul.marquart@house.mn

Becker County Commissioner Ben Grimsley (District 2) → bdgrims@co.becker.mn.us

Mayor Matt Brenk → mbrenk@arvig.net

City Council → http://cityweb.lakesnet.net/government/electionsvoting/ for council members representing your neighborhood

Detroit Lakes Heartland Trail Project

The Goals of the Detroit Lakes City Trail System is:

- To develop a long range guide to help promote Detroit Lakes as a community to not only grow up in but to grow old
- To create safe family pedestrian and non-motorized pathways developing a friendly, healthy community lifestyle
- To promote our economic strengths and business-friendly environment keeping Detroit Lakes as a destination community

The City of Detroit Lakes is working with the State of MN to link the Minnesota Heartland Trail at Park Rapids to Detroit Lakes and Moorhead, connecting the counties of Hubbard, Becker and Clay; including the communities of Park Rapids, Osage, Wolf Lake, Frazee, Detroit Lakes, Audubon, Lake Park, Hawley, Glyndon, Dilworth and Moorhead. Funding for this project is included in Governor Dayton's request to the Legislature and will be voted on prior to adjournment in May.

This summer MNDOT will construct a Highway 10 underpass just East of Detroit Lakes that will be available for multi-use recreation. A Cooperative Agreement with the MN DNR for \$310,000 will facilitate a trail completion from the underpass towards DL and connect with the existing trailway system near the Overlook area towards Corbett Road. This will enable more bike pathways into the City.

CAUTION

Boaters should avoid driving through stands of Flowering Rush whether they are emergent (above the water) or below the surface. Boat engines uproof the plants, allowing root fragments to float away to establish a new colony.

LAKE DETROITERS STRONLY URGES HOMEOWNERS TO CONTRACT WITH A DNR PERMITTED LAKE SERVICE PROVIDER TO MOVE BOATS, DOCKS, PONTOONS, LIFTS AND OTHER WATER-RELATED EQUIPMENT.

Relocating a dock or lift from one lake to another during the summer months is discouraged. By **LAW** such water equipment must be out of the water for <u>at least 21 days</u> to prevent the spread of AIS. Due to the ability of AIS to survive in the internal construction, it is very risky. That is how nearby Rose Lake in Otter Tail County became infested with Zebra Mussels. The safest is to buy new or freezing over winter kills all AIS. **Take the precaution - not the risk!**

Becker County DNR Permitted Lake Service Providers in the Detroit Lakes area (as of April 8, 2013)

At Ease Dock & Lift, Inc.
Beechcombers Beachcleaning
Bear Paw Resort
Bucks Shoreline and Handyman
Dan & Karen Mulari
Detroit Power Sports
DL DOCK&LIFT
EDS MARINE AND STORAGE
High Pines Resort
J & K Marine
Jim's Custom Lake Service
Krause Repair
Kujawa Fiberglass Repair Inc
Lakecrest Resort
Lakes Lawn and Dock Service
Lakes Marine and Recreation
Lakes Pace, LLC
Landscapes and Beyond
Lee Michael Horstmann
McLaughlins RV and Marine
Moore Dock and Lift Service
Murph's Home Maintenance
N & R Docks & Lifts
Orth Landscaping and Hewitt Docks and Lifts
R & R Groundskeeping of Detroit Lakes Inc
RainMan LLC
Rick Nelson Lake Service
RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.
SAVIG DOCKS CONSTUCTION
SEABERG POWER SPORTS
T.S. Dock & Lift Service
Tim Nelson
Whaleys Resort
James Heller
Peter Heldebrand
Benjamin Huso
William Purington
Chace Roquette

WHAT IS A LAKE SERVICE PROVIDER? By law anyone who receives payment to put "water-related equipment" into or remove it from waters of the state of Minnesota for another person or another business is required by law to obtain a permit from the DNR. The cost is \$50. Anyone working for a Lake Service Provider is only required to take a free online course. Proper identification must be with anyone moving a dock, boat, lift or other water-related equipment.



LDA is utilizing QR codes - short for "Quick Response Code"

What is a QR Code?

It is an easy way to access types such as a website, phone number or email address without typing the information. A QR code is read by an imaging device such as a smartphone with the "app" (application) downloaded. An example would be the "Quick Scan" app.



This QR Code can be scanned using a SmartPhone and directly access the DNR website for a complete list of permitted Lake Service Providers in Minnesota. Please check the website for the most current information

Updated information can be obtained using the following link:

www.files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/permits/lsp/lsp-permits.pdf

LAKE DETROITERS IS A MEMBER of Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates (MLR)

Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, MLR, (formerly MSRPO) is the **only** advocacy group solely focused on representing lake concerns at the Minnesota State Capitol. A full-time lobbyist and Jeff Forester, Executive Director, both advocate for key lake issues, organize grassroots coalitions and serve on statewide committees and working groups year round. Representing Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) has been one of the main focus areas for the past few years. Establishing reliable ongoing funding for AIS work has been hotly debated during the 2013 session.

MLR sought a variety of funding sources; Legacy Funds, State General Fund Money, an increase to the AIS surcharge on boater registration or a new AIS decal, all with the proceeds directed to local efforts. At this writing, it is impossible to say which of these efforts, if any, will bear fruit.

One thing is clear - without a reliable and ongoing source of funding for Aquatic Invasive Species work, Minnesota has no chance of success.

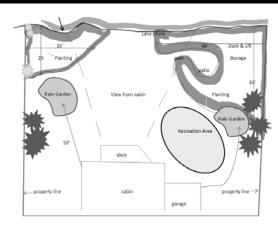
"The lakes have never been well organized statewide and this is why lakes are like the forgotten stepchild. Lake residents are expected to staff public boat landings to educate the public on AIS. What State Parks ask neighboring property owners to do the same at their access gates?" asked Jeff Forester, Executive Director of MLR. "It is by building the thousands of individual property owners into an organized grassroots force that we can put Minnesota's lakes at the table when policy decisions and appropriations are being made." Forester continued, "With a bigger, more organized and strategic membership base, lakeshore owners will emerge as one of the most powerful political forces in the state. It is long overdue."

The lakes we all love deserve no less. MLR invites people and groups to visit their website at www.mnlakesandrivers.org and join. Get involved in local lake associations and your county Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA). Each plays an important role. But also consider joining MLR as an individual. It is an investment in your lake that will pay huge dividends. There is important work to be done together to preserve the Minnesota lake heritage we all love. MLR does not accept grant or public funding but depend on memberships to fund our work. We need you to sign on for a nominal fee membership to continue our efforts so we can continue to be your advocate in St. Paul! Jeff Forester; Executive Director (612-961-6144) or Jeff@msrpo.org

What is Minnesota's Environmental Quality Board (EQB)? Quality of Life is directly linked to environmental quality and economic prosperity. The strength of our economy, and the future of job growth in Minnesota, depends in part on the people and systems that manage the health of our environment. Clean air, clean water, and clean energy are the foundation of healthy, livable, and sustainable communities. Minnesotans expect and deserve clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, swim and fish, and open spaces where we can enjoy Minnesota's treasured natural resources. There will be more work from the Governor's office to drive some of these initiatives. Read more about it at: www.eqb.state.mn.us

Getting Started on Shoreline Buffers and Rain Gardens

- 1. Site Evaluation: identify everything that is on the site: note sunlight patterns, wind patterns, slopes, rain runoff areas, climate, existing plant material, type of soil, structures, walkways, and driveway.
- 2. Choosing the right location and plants for rain gardens will improve the filtering of water, success of healthy attractive plants and create an aesthetically pleasing view from all angles.
- 3. Now it's time to start a sketch, find out what plants will do well and are attractive to you, and the steps necessary in preparing the structure of a successful rain garden.



Take a look at this helpful booklet: Becker County Lakeshore Landscaping Manual link.

www.co.becker.mn.us/dept/soil_water/PDFs/Lakeshore%20Landscaping%20Manual.pdf For more information on shoreland landscaping and rain garden design contact Becker County Shoreland Specialist Technician, Marsha Watland, at Becker Soil & Water Conservation District 218-846-7360 or mjwatla@co.becker.mn.us



LAKE DETROITERS BEACH CAPTAIN PROGRAM

Lake Detroiters has enhanced the Beach Captain approach in order to facilitate interaction and communication among lakeshore residents, their LDA officers and board members. This approach enables a face-to-face contact between representatives of LDA and residents of the lake.

Carol Bergren chairs the LDA Beach Captain Program. 56 Beach Captains are leading the 2013 efforts and will be contacting each homeowner with important information about the lake.

Please contact Carol if you have not heard from your Beach Captain or do not know which Neighborhood Beach is yours.

cbergren@hotmail.com

847-4126

BEACH NAME	ADDRESSES	BEACH CAPTAIN
WEST LAKE DRIVE #1	302-408 West Lake Drive	Jane Spaeth
WEST LAKE DRIVE #2	410-502 West Lake Drive	Opal Rogstad
WEST LAKE DRIVE #3	608-716 West Lake Drive	Bonnie Helm
LEGION	918-996 West Lake Drive	Julie Herman
BOWMAN	1000-1064 West Lake Drive	Jim Langemo
VILLA LANE #1	1052 West Lake Drive	Lyle Dahl
VILLA LANE #2	1010-1085 Villa Lane/1041-1069 Highwood Circle	Janine Schneider
WEST SHORE #1	1070-1116 West Lake Drive	Char McKenzie & Kathy Mitchell
WEST SHORE #2	1135-1217 West Lake Drive	Sandra & Sonja Taves
PELICAN OUTLET	1225-1590 West Lake Drive	Deb/Brad Wimmer
NODAWAY #1	1594-1648 Long Bridge Road	Tom Disse
NODAWAY #2	1656-1736 Long Bridge Road	Cheryl Chivers
SUNSET BEACH#1	102-156 Shorewood Drive	John Ekern
SUNSET BEACH #2	162-210 Shorewood Drive	Betty Cook
SUNSET BEACH #3	216-268 Shorewood Drive	Ruth Olson
SUNSET BEACH #4	270-298 Shorewood Drive	Laurie Olson
CITY VIEW #1	302-500 Shorewood Drive	Carol Bergren
CITY VIEW #2	504-640 Shorewood Drive	Julie Raphael
COX'S POINT	650-720 Shorewood Drive	John Cox
WILDWOOD	724-814 Shorewood Drive	Curt Jundt
WHITE CLOVER #1	820-834 Shorewood Dr/840-858 White Clover Beach Rd	Ed Welke
WHITE CLOVER #2	864-902 White Clover Beach Road	Ed VanHall
TAYLORS POINT	1071 Shorewood Dr/2028-2053 Long Bridge Rd	Jack Chivers
DEADSHOT ESTATES	1974-1925 Long Bridge Road	Linda Wiedmann
DEADSHOT NORTH #1	13885-14315 260th Ave/14325-14351 No Deadshot Ln	Colin Gedrose
DEADSHOT NORTH #2	1849-1921 Bridgeview Blvd.	Ryan Manke
DEADSHOT SOUTH #1	433-446 Deadshot Circle/2111-2132 Memory Lane	Cookie Friesen
DEADSHOT SOUTH #2	2107-2186 Shady Lane/2190-2194 Sunrise Lane	Cookie Friesen
NASON BAY #1	400-521 South Shore Drive	Mary Green
NASON BAY #2	524-576 South Shore Drive	Connie & Bob Collins
SOUTH SHORE #1	602-664 South Shore Drive	Rosie Jacobs
SOUTH SHORE #2	668-720 South Shore Drive	Ginny Imholte
SOUTH SHORE #3	726-766 South Shore Drive	Vicki Johnson
SOUTH SHORE #4	772-820 South Shore Drive	Lois Solheim
SUCKER CREEK #1	826-900 South Shore Drive	Mona Streyle
SUCKER CREEK #2	904-962 South Shore Drive	Nancy Henke
SUCKER CREEK #3	1000-1062 South Shore Drive	Patti Corwin
SUCKER CREEK #4	1070-1124 South Shore Drive	Rob Kost
BURRITT #1	1130-1176 South Shore Drive	Maureen Karsnia
BURRITT #2	1208-1268 South Shore Drive	Dick Alsop
BURRITT #3	1274-1336 South Shore Drive	Judi & Jim Herk
BURRITT #4	1342-1384 South Shore Drive	Judy Stowman
EAST SHORE #1	1836-1800 East Shore Drive	Ruth Gunderson
EAST SHORE #2	1792-1748 East Shore Drive	Carl Fingalson
EAST SHORE #3	1740-1664 East Shore Drive	Judie Cherry
OX CART #1	1658-1594 East Shore Drive	Karen Hagen
OX CART #2	1586-1536 East Shore Drive	Cheri Bergien
OX CART #3	1530-1492 East Shore Drive	Cindy Fritz
POKEGAMA #1	1452-1342 East Shore Drive	Dave Pratt
POKEGAMA #2	1332-1240 East Shore Drive	David Birchem
OVERLOOK #1	1141-1067 North Shore Drive	Amy Stearns
OVERLOOK #2	1059-911 North Shore Drive	Kim Green
NORTH SHORE	907-743 North Shore Drive	Maxine Nelson
BREEZY POINT #1	739-609 North Shore Drive	Dick Hecock
BREEZY POINT #2	607-501 North Shore Drive	Dennis Fuhrman
PARK	421-401 North Shore Drive	Jean Benson
CITY	321-309 Park Lake Blvd.	

Lake Map and Neighborhood Beaches



Lake Detroiters needs your help.

our Board of Directors meet year round to make the lake a better place

Barb@lakedetroiters.com

- Dry time estimated for Zebra and Quagga Mussels
 *All visible mussels should be removed from watercraft or
 equipment following drying & prior to launch.
- *Dry with all hatches open in sun, wind and air when not raining. All standing water must be removed.
- * Where practical, the 100th Meridian Initiative "Quarantine Time Calculator" should be used to determine length of dry time required. Information see www.100thmeridian.org
- *When the use of the "calculator" is not practical, the standards listed should be applied to determine the length of drying time required.
- * Content for this calculator is based on information from USACE Contract Report EL-93-1 and MN State Statute 84D.01 Subd. 3a.

Maximum daily	Minimum days	
temperature	out of water	
Degrees Fahrenheit		
<30	3	
30-40	28 (4 weeks)	
40-60	21 (3 weeks)	
60-80	14 (2 weeks)	
80-100	7 (1 week)	
>100	3	

"Watercraft with motors, ballast or storage tanks that can't be completely drained must be flushed with 140°F water, be chemically treated or be professionally decontaminated regardless of dry time. Professional decontamination recommended.

Note: Add 7 days for temperatures ranging from 32-95 degrees Fahrenheit if relative humidity exceeds 50%.



What Can YOU do to Halt the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)?

"Eyes and Ears of the Lake" is Good Lake Stewardship

VISIT www.lakedetroiters.com for more information



Zebra Mussels impact recreational use of lakes



Zebra Mussels can attach to aquatic plants



Juvenile
Zebra Mussels
are small



Zebra Mussels on a native clam ALSO: Zebra Mussels deplete food supply for native fish

Hire dock &boat lift installers that are DNR trained Lake Service Providers

They are trained to protect non-infested waters from AIS and identify new infestations. It's the law for anyone working for hire in Minnesota public waters - the business is required to obtain a \$50 DNR permit. The employee is required to obtain a FREE DNR certification online. (DNR website - search *LSP*) Use your Smartphone to scan this QR code for a list of DNR permitted Lake Service Providers.

Ask to see the DNR issued certificate of the LSP dock and lift worker. They are required to carry. Businesses and workers that are properly trained will be happy to show you their credentials.

- * Know that watercraft and all water-related equipment can spread AIS Adult Zebra Mussels (ZM) can live for up to 30 days and ZM larvae (veligers) are microscopic and cannot be seen. Veligers can live in water for up to 27 days so any watercraft that has moist areas and not completely dry could transport live veligers when moving boats from lake to lake. That includes all wakeboard/fishing/sail boats, jet skis, scuba gear, float planes, canoes, kayaks, all fishing gear, waders and waterfowl hunting gear. CLEAN DRAIN and DRY thoroughly before going from lake to lake.
- Moving a dock, boatlift or other water-related equipment is risky Docks, boat lifts, rafts and all other water-related equipment must be out of water at least 21 days prior to installing into another lake. IT'S THE LAW!! If purchasing used equipment, be cautious about where it previously had been installed. The safest is to let used equipment freeze over winter and install in the spring.
- **Educate guests!** Make sure transported watercraft or water-related equipment of guests arriving from other lakes/rivers (including out-of-state) are free of zebra mussels and other Aquatic Invasive Species. (Eurasian watermilfoil, spiny water fleas and others not yet in Minnesota like hydrilla)

Watercraft coming from infested waters should adhere to recommended dry times or professional decontamination. (100thmeridian.org - search *dry time estimator*)

- * Know current laws and follow them. Before leaving public accesses, water must be drained from all water-related equipment. All bait containers with lake water must be drained and watercraft must be transported with the plug out. (DNR website search *invasive species laws*)
- * Know where designated infested waters are in Minnesota (DNR website search infested waters) and other states. It is important to know that others waters could be infested and not yet identified. It is best to take precautions when moving any watercraft or equipment from lake to lake. This means treating with 140° water for 10 seconds or drying for recommended times which can be found at: www.lakedetroiters.com or 100thmeridian.org search dry time estimator. 5 days in MN is not be enough.
- **Learn to identify each aquatic invasive** (zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, spiny water fleas, rusty crayfish etc). Be aware of AIS not currently in MN such as hydrilla which is in Iowa.
- **Promote good relationships** among your lake neighbors. Make sure neighbors know how to prevent the spread of AIS and follow the laws of the state. Boats coming from other lakes should take precautions.
 - Report suspected new AIS sightings to the DNR. It's the law!

QUESTIONS: Lake Detroiters Association (LDA)

Info@lakedetroiters.com

DNR - Ecological and Water Resources - 651-259-5100

www.dnr.state.mn.us







Produced and distributed by
Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA)

MinnesotaCOLA@gmail.com

Join Lake Detroiters Today - Dues are \$25 Why Should You Join?

Lake Detroiters Association (LDA) has been serving and protecting the lake since 1944 and is one of the oldest organized lake groups in the area. 2013 marks the beginning of the 70th year Lake Detroiters have been involved with lake concerns. It is dedicated solely to maintaining the quality of life in and on the waters of Big and Little Detroit Lakes and Deadshot Bay.

If you haven't already joined LDA please read on to see why it is important to do so, and why the organization is worthy of your support and membership.

- You preserve your property values by protecting your lake
- You have a voice in your concerns regarding the lake
- Your voice will be heard at the City Planning Commission, the Pelican River Watershed District, Becker County, and the Becker County Coalition of Lakes Association (COLA).
- You have available to you a variety of free information such as shoreline landscaping, erosion control, water quality, and more

If you are fortunate enough to live on the lake, you have inherited a responsibility to maintain and oversee these beautiful waters and shoreline. As more vacationers and boats use the lakes each year, and as more intensive development takes place in and around the lakes, the impact on water quality is evident. There are more weeds, more shoreline erosion, more sediments into the lake, and a host of other issues concerning the lake.

Lake Detroiters' concerns itself with these issues and addresses them. It works closely with the Pelican River Watershed District, the City, the MN DNR, and the Coalition of Lake Associations. The organization is here to represent the land owners of the lake shores – without your membership and input; representative's voices cannot be heard.

Lake Detroiters' Board meets once a month, usually on the 2nd Thursday at 7AM in the Essentia meeting Room; North Campus in Detroit Lakes. These meetings are open to the public (contact a board member for details).

Each year a spring newsletter is delivered to each of the 625 lakeshore property owners by 56 Beach Captains. Lake homeowners each belong to a Beach Neighborhood. View the lake map to help identify yours.



Help us to maintain a strong organization to help and know our lakes.

Lake Detroiters' Association membership is open to every lakeshore property owner within 1,000 feet of Big and Little Detroit Lake and Deadshot Bay (Curfman).



Our Lake Detroiters Business Sponsor Program

To assist in our Association's mission, we are expanding our membership support to include area businesses who share our interest in preserving the water quality and usefulness of our lake. If you are aware of businesses who would like to (or should) participate, please contact your Beach Captain, Board Member or info@lakedetroiters.com

As a Lake Detroiter Association member, it is, then, our responsibility to support the products and services of such sponsors. Because of their generosity, we will be provided with additional resources to continue the mission of Lake Detroiters Association.



Lake Detroiters Association (LDA) Annual Meeting Saturday - June 15, 2013 -- Historic Detroit Lakes Pavilion

"Come by Boat, Bike, Feet or Street" ... see you at the Pavilion

"It's Happening at the Lake"

8:00 - 9:30 Pancakes and sausage, juice, coffee \$5/person by Knights of Columbus 8:00 - 9:30 View Exhibits

Invited Exhibitors:

DNR - AIS, Enforcement, Zebra Mussel Sniffing Canine, Water Permits, Shoreland Repair City of Detroit Lakes - West Lake Drive Project and Heartland Trail Professional Lakes Management - Weed Applicator Becker County - Water Safety Patrol, AIS Deputy Becker County Soil & Water - Shoreland Restoration Fishing Organizations and Guide Services Pelican River Watershed - Flowering Rush Control Research and Treatment Flowering Rush Research Project - Concordia College Sucker Creek Preserve Detroit Lakes Water Carnival, WE Fest, Pine-to-Palm, etc. Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates (formerly MSRPO) Many More...

9:30 Call to Order

Approval of Agenda Introductions (Mayor, Legislators, DNR, Commissioners, LDA Board) Secretary's Report

2012 Treasurer's Report 9:50 2012 in Review and 2013 Opportunities 9:55 **Beach Captain Program** 10:00 Aquatic Plant Management - Flowering Rush Update 10:15 AIS Watercraft Inspection Project 10:25 "The Lake Detroiter" Member Directory 10:35 2013 Budget Approval 10:40 Nominations and Election of New Board Members 10:50 **Questions and Comments** 11:00 **Adjourn** 11:15 **DNR Enforcement - Zebra Mussel Sniffing Dogs Demonstration Outside**

LDA Mission Statement:

Lake Detroiters Association (LDA) Board of Directors and Terms

Officers

President	Barb Halbakken Fischburg	2012-2015
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Vice President Dennis Fuhrman 2011-2014

Secretary Laurie Olson 2010-2013

Treasurer Reneé Alsop 2010-2013



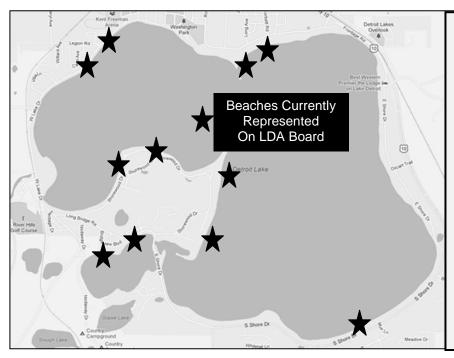
Members

Carol Bergren, 2011-2014 Sue Disse, 2012-2015 Dick Hecock, 2011-2014 Julie Herman, 2012-2015 Jeff Jasperson, 2011-2014 Curt Jundt, 2010-2013 Ryan Manke, 2012-2015 Mike Metelak, 2010-2013

Dave Welte, 2011-2014

Barb Halbakken Fischburg serves as LDA's representative to Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA) Barb also serves:

Executive Board for Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA) Board of Director; Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates (MLR) Minnesota DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Committee



There will be 2 open Board positions in June.

Beach areas have different concerns.

West Lake Drive Shorewood Drive Deadshot Bay

South Shore East Shore

North Shore

Consequently it is best to have all areas of the lake represented on the

Board. East & South we could use your voice on the Board.

Please consider serving as a Board of Director for LDA.



Mission: "To promote the protection and enhancement of Detroit Lake."

Lake Detroiters Association

Annual Meeting Minutes

9AM - Saturday, June 9, 2012

Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn

The 2012 annual meeting was called to order at 9:00 by acting President, Mike Metelak with 130 people in attendance. The meeting was held at the Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn.

Guests/Speakers:

Representative Paul Marquart, Representative Kent Eken, Tera Guetter, Barb Halbakken Fischburg and Major Phil Meier

Past year recap of LDA activity - Mike Metelak

- AIS efforts/Awareness
- COLA/State Capitol efforts
- AIS Legislative Summit
- Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) Watercraft Inspection Program
- Lake Service Provider AIS Training
- Beach Captain Campaign
- Web Site Development (LDA)
- Becky DePree Coordinated 2011 Watercraft Inspection Volunteers at public accesses
- City Meeting attendance Volunteer Dick Alsop

Membership and Other Activity:

- Current LDA membership is at approximately 30% of the lake residents. Goal: near 100%
- Jack Chivers has agreed to assist with increasing membership
- Bruce Imholte has agreed to assist with Business Memberships
- Beach Captain Enhanced program Meeting prior to annual meeting

Keynote Speaker - Major Phil Meier, DNR Enforcement - St. Paul, MN.

- Lake home owners play a big role in AIS fight
- 47 Billboard/TV Spots/Commercials to promote
- Signage at Public Accesses
- 13,600 hours devoted to AIS effort
- Current violation rate: 25% (463 Civil, 973 written warnings)
- Most common violations: Failure to open drain plug, live well and bait buckets
- Call local law enforcement to report (Not 911)

Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) Update - Tera Guetter

- Strong Lake Associations working with PRWD and Government to make a difference in AIS effort
- Flowering Rush (FR) Research Continues.
- 200 Acres including the city beach part of research project
- FR treatment (Diquat) First round this week. Emergent and submergent treatments will be done.
- Mechanical harvesters Curley Leaf Pondweed. This can be treated for \$1000 per acre, and is a five year treatment plan.
- Cutting lanes will not be done in the flats this year. Other treatment methods will be employed in this area.
- Curfman Septic System no other areas on the lake have septic systems.
- Hand removal permit for FR

Kent Eken – Speaker Summary

- AIS Legislative Summit helpful to let St. Paul know of importance
- Economic and Environmental impacts
- Legacy funding for Asian Carp: \$2M
- \$3.8M in funding AIS research at U of M

Paul Marquart - Speaker Summary

- Thank you for local effort
- Ground swell from grassroots makes a difference when we introduce and pass laws
- DL effort has influenced changes in policy, research and enforcement

COLA Report - Barb Halbakken Fischburg

- 2100 Inspections at local accesses
- Lake home owners asked to do what they can to prevent AIS spread
- Donations for Inspections last year: City =\$4,000 and LDA =\$1800. (60% increase this year)
- This year: City/PRWD = \$7000. LDA needs to raise \$3,000. Barb started pledges with \$100. Jack Chivers pledged \$500, several others pledged \$25.00 (More collected at the door upon exit)

Beach Captain Report - Carol Bergren

- Talk to your neighbors and encourage membership
- Beach Captains to meet prior to annual meetings to get word out ore Beach Captains needed

<u>Secretary Report – Laurie Olson</u>

- Annual meeting minutes approved as read.
- Monthly meeting minutes are posted on the web site
- Review of LDA Website
- To adequately dry watercraft when moving from lake to lake check <u>www.100thmeridian.org</u> under "tools" for dry time information based on science and research handout in Beach Captain packet

Treasure's Report - Renee Alsop

- Treasure's Report
- PayPal Account set up to pay dues online

New Board Members

- New: Sue Disse and Ryan Manke
- Renewed BOD positions: Barb Halbakken Fischburg and Julie Herman.
- Motion made, second and passed to accept nominations.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Olson, Secretary



LDA History, Anyone?

www.lakedetroiters.com website includes a history segment about the organization's history.

The 2006 Directory is available to view on the website which contains historic pictures as well as numerous anecdotes describing the "olden days". Also, newsletters (bulletins) from the 1950's and 1960's show that many of the problems we currently face are not so different from the ones concerning lake residents then.

If anyone has old LDA materials or documents, we would be very pleased to have them and add them to our website for everyone to view. **NEW FOR 2013 is our very own Lake Detroiters sweatshirt by Lakeshirts.** It is unisex and will be available for \$40. There is a limited supply so contact a Board member or info@lakedetroiters.com before supplies are sold out!

COLORS: Gunmetal & Mustard SIZES: Small to 2X

Great weight for year round wear - especially for the evening boat cruise or early morning - and don't forget the evenings around the bonfire!

Lake Detroiter Proud!



This situation has developed because the major remaining nutrient source causing water quality problems for the Detroit Lakes is the Pelican River which continues to bring nutrients to Big Detroit. These nutrients are "filtered" out beforce they reach Little Detroit or Curfman.

The Rice Lake Restoration

Many of these nutrients flowing to Big Detroit via the Pelican River oiginate from a partially drained lake/wetland area about three miles north of Detroit Lake. The area was partially drained in 1918; such drained wetlands often are sources of nutrients which are flushed during periods of high water.

To counter this situation, PRWD has initiated the Rice Lake Nutrient Reduction Project which is expected to reduce total phosphorus loading to Big Detroit, by approximately 50%.

A partial restoration of the lake/wetland complex will increase the depth and duration of inundation in the Rice Lake area creating more natural wetland hydrology conditions. The project will increase the wetland depths by an average of two feet by the construction of two dam structures, some road improvements, and ditch modifications.

In addition to the water quality benefits, approximately 78 additional acres of prime wetland vegetation will be restored with a total of 462 acres of various types of wetlands created or enhanced. This wetland expansion also will greatly enhance primary brooding and nesting habitat for several species of migratory waterfowl.

The project area involves acquisition of flowage rights from private lands (503 acres), MN DNR Wildlife Management area (510 acres), and City of Detroit Lakes land (145 acres). Completion of the engineering and construction of the control devices is expected to occur within the next 12 months.

Other Important Lake Protection Measures

Much has been done in the way of protecting our Lakes from major sources of nutrient pollution. Large scale projects include the sanitary and storm sewer projects around the lakes, the Highway 10 upgrade, and many stormwater detention projects around Detroit Lakes. There has also been attention to other "non-point" sources - elimination of the use of phosphorus fertilizers, control of shoreline runoff, and the like. Continued monitoring has revealed some nutrient discharges from a portion of the Industrial Park north of Highway 10, and the nutrient-rich overflows from the storm sewer along West Lake Drive.

Dick Hecock, April 2013

ALL NEW LDA WEBSITE

www.lakedetroiters.com

- → "Homebase" for everything about the lake, what's new, AIS, history, photos
- → Pay dues individual or Business Sponsorships online via PayPal
- → Your Up-to-date lake information site
- → Facebook entries on website for members not on Facebook
- → New more secure email system: Info@lakedetroiters.com
- → Live weather feed
- → Members only area
- → Blog
- → Highlights Business Sponsors
- → Provides additional growth capacity



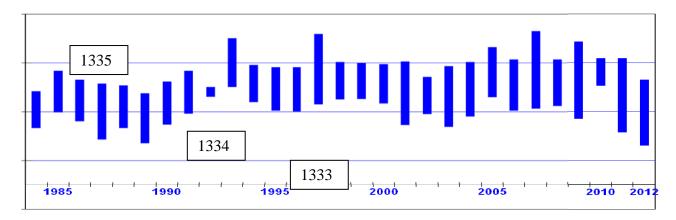




And what about those lake levels?

In the 1990's and early 2000's many lake residents complained about high lake levels – shore erosion caused damage to shoreline vegetation and structures. Recently they have lamented low water levels. Last fall the lake dropped below 1333.3 feet above mean sea level, sixteen inches lower than this year's high water in June. The lowered lake has exposed an unusual expanse of beach around much of the lake. Flows of streams to the lake dropped to near zero. There was almost no water running out of the lake. Lakeshore residents were frustrated by having their boats stranded on boat lifts which could not be lowered far enough to permit them to float. Also many props were damaged in newly discovered shallow waters.

But is "the lake lower than it ever has been", as some have asked? The short answer is "no". In several years during the 1980's the lake dropped to levels similar to those experienced recently. During the 1930's and 40's most years saw lower water levels than now.



Detroit Lakes' Annual Lake Level Range, 1984-2012 (elevations in feet above mean sea-level).

Last year's low lake levels are a response to a significant shift in precipitation starting in August 2011. In the 12 months prior to that time, our area received about 46 inches of precipitation; in the following 12 months, there were only21 inches. Also the period was accompanied by higher temperatures resulting in higher evaporation rates, and greatly diminished flows from upstream areas and nearby spring.

What can be done about these conditions? Very little! Some have asked "why isn't the dam raised to keep water from flowing out of the lake?" The answer to that one is that there are currently no structures available to control the water level in Detroit.

For more than 120 years the level of Detroit Lake was maintained about four feet above natural levels by a succession of structures at the Muskrat Lake outlet into Lake Sallie. The original lock and dam system was built to facilitate navigation through the Pelican River. Prior to about 1985, the Dunton lock/dam system was sometimes operated by the City of Detroit Lakes to change water levels. The efforts were considered unsuccessful because of the poor record of predicting flows from one season to the next, and because of the differing views of what water levels were appropriate.(Consider, for example, the impacts on downstream lakeshores if water was to be held back to satisfy Detroit residents.) In any case, for at least 25 years, there has been no attempt to manage water levels in Detroit Lake.

The current outlet structure, referred to as Dunton Rapids, was completed in 2001 in order to facilitate fish migration. It was specifically engineered to replicate the flow control attributes of the dam and lock system that it replaced. It is not possible to control flows through Dunton Rapids.

Where are we headed with water levels? Obviously we are the mercy of weather patterns. Conditions since January offer some hope for at least temporary relief. Detroit's water level at ice-out will be up by nearly a foot over last year's fall conditions. If the precipitation continues at the above-average rate, we could well seem some increase in water levels. At the same time, conditions in Detroit's watershed will absorb quite a bit of surplus water. Even "normal" precipitation levels would not produce a rapid restoration of lake levels because of the deficits in soil moisture and groundwater, and empty wetlands which would intercept runoff in upstream areas.

Noteworthy Websites:

In addition to Lake Detroiters website: www.lakedetroiters.com

- City of Detroit Lakes: www.ci.detroit-lakes.mn.us
- Becker County <u>www.co.becker.mn.us</u>
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: www.dnr.state.mn.us
- Pelican River Watershed District: www.PRWD.org

Make this site a "favorite" for info on...

Flowering Rush spraying schedule

Ice damage info and permits

Water quality data on your lake

Road side pickup schedule

Rain garden fact sheet

Use the District's aerial map to zoom in on your neighborhood

- Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce: www.visitdetroitlakes.com
- Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates (MLR formerly MSRPO): www.mnlakesandrivers.org
- 100th Meridian cooperation of agencies to stop AIS spread: <u>www.100thmeridian.org</u>
- Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC): www.maisrc.umn.edu
- Stop Asian Carp Coalition: <u>www.stopcarp.org</u>
- Minnesota Environmental Congress: www.mn.gov/EnvironmentalCongress
- Minnesota Legislative Information: <u>www.leg.state.mn.us</u>



Roadside Pickup of Aquatic Plant Material

PRWD's collection of gathered up aquatic plant debris will continue as in previous years. Generally speaking this will be done early in each week from June through September. Pickup is limited to aquatic plants that have been placed next to, but off, the road on the owner's property.

Garden waste, branches, leaves, etc. will not be picked-up by the Pelican River Watershed District, nor will any weed piles that include such items.

Flowering Rush Success at the City Beach!

BEACH REPAIR

The general case is that homeowners need a Pelican River Watershed District permit to make alterations to the natural condition of the shore impact zone (37 feet from lake on Detroit, 50 feet from lake on Curfman). However, if the only result of the ice-action is a mound of sand that can be redistributed by hand tools, no permit will be required. If mechanical equipment is used, or if beach debris includes pieces of cement, retaining walls, railroad ties, or stone, a permit will be required.

If there is any doubt, call the Pelican River Watershed District at 846-0436 for more specific information.





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2012 Watercraft Inspection Program on Detroit Lake

The 2012 AIS Watercraft Program ended with 2 dedicated DNR trained workers. The DL Regional Chamber of Commerce recognized their contribution to Detroit Lakes and presented them a *Community Service Award*. In connection with the LDA-sponsored 2012 Watercraft Inspection program, 2058 surveys were conducted at two Detroit public accesses, the DNR access on the south shore of Big Detroit, and the City's Rossman access on Little Detroit. There is much to be learned from these surveys, especially in the context of results from a similar survey project in 2011.

- Approximately 30% of boats entering Big and Little Detroit were from (licensed in) North Dakota, 60% from Minnesota, about 7% from other states (3% of the origins were undetermined).
- Overall about 45% of the boats surveyed were identified as fishing boats, and 30% as "runabouts", but there
 were substantial differences at the two sites. Runabouts, pontoons and personal watercraft accounted for a
 much larger share of the total boats at Rossman, and correspondingly, there were fewer fishing boats at this site.
 These patterns of boat origins and types were similar to those observed in 2011.
- Observers identified fewer than 3% of the boats entering Detroit in violation of Minnesota's AIS laws, nearly all of
 these cases involved boats which arrived at the access with the drain plug in. It is noteworthy that this rate of
 violation is much lower than rates cited by the DNR in their surveys. The Detroit 2012 rates also were also less
 than half of the violation rates observed in the 2011 survey. These figures suggest that educational programs
 have been successful in increasing boater awareness of the AIS problem and AIS boat regulations.

The movement of boats is known to be the most significant vector for spread of AIS. Accordingly, the watercraft inspection survey was designed to ascertain boater movement prior to entering Detroit.

- Among the 1290 surveyed boats entering Detroit at these two accesses, 16% were being launched for the first time in the 2012 season. Another 50% were boats previously in the water during 2012, but had last been launched in Detroit. In other words, two-thirds of boats entering Detroit pose little or no risk of introducing new AIS into that lake.
 - Of the remaining boats entering Detroit, 7% were last in lakes in Becker County (7%) and 17% elsewhere from lakes that are not known to be infested with Zebra Mussels, Spiny Waterflea, or Eurasian Watermilfoil. Of these boats, about half have been out of the water seven days or more, which offers some further measure of lowered risk
- Three percent of boats entering Detroit in 2012 were determined to have last been in an infested water (including Pelican, Gull, Leech, Michigan, Minnetonka, etc.). Of those 34 boats, 24 (71%) had been out of the water seven days or more, and 16 of those more than fourteen or more days.

For 8% of the boats entering Detroit there was no information on previous lake visits.

As to boats leaving Detroit Lake, it is not surprising that the patterns of state origin, and type of boat are very similar to those entering the lake. 75% of those leaving Detroit are day-users.

The 2012 inspection surveys were conducted during 395 hours on 78 different days, by 6 different inspectors, at two different sites, mostly during weekends or holidays between May 13 and September 30. This seems like a large sample of survey hours, but it is well to keep in mind that to completely cover the two sites with one person during this period would require at least 960 surveyor hours for weekends, and 2400 surveyor hours for weekdays. Also, a significant number of boats entering and exiting the lake involves fishing in months prior to May and after September and hours in the middle of the night.

Dick Hecock*, November 9, 2012

DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Committee

The DNR AIS Advisory Committee was appointed by DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr in December 2012 to help the DNR maintain strong relationships with AIS stakeholders. Advice and recommendations from the 15-member committee, and four ex-officio members, will be used to help guide the department's activities. Committee members will bring a range of personal and professional experience to the discussion about how to prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals in our lakes, rivers and wetlands. Tera Guetter; Administrator at the Pelican River Watershed District and Barb Halbakken Fischburg; President of Lake Detroiters were appointed to serve on this committee.

To view the works of the Advisory Committee visit the website:

Detroit Lake Fishery Status

Detroit Lake Annual Fish Stocking Plans:



Walleye—1,895 pounds of fingerlings annually



Lake Sturgeon—2,000 fingerlings annually



Muskellunge—3,000 fingerlings in odd-numbered years

Fisheries Surveys: The next fish population assessment in Detroit Lake is planned for **2015**. This study will include spring electrofishing for black crappie and largemouth bass, spring muskie trapping, and mid-summer gill net, trap net, and shoreline sampling.

Fishing Report: There were several reliable reports of excellent walleye fishing in Detroit received during the hottest part of last summer. Anglers also reported catching large perch and muskies over 50 inches in length.

Request: Anglers are asked to report incidental catches of lake sturgeon to the local area DNR Fisheries office at 218-846-8340. This species was initially stocked in Detroit Lake in 1997 as part of the Red River watershed sturgeon restoration effort. Lake sturgeons similar to the one pictured above and even larger were part of Detroit's fishery in the past.



Other Information: A wealth of information including lake reports for all managed Minnesota lakes is available at the DNR website www.dnr.state.mn.us. Click on the "Lakefinder" link and enter the lake name and county.

Nathan Olson will begin his new duties May 22nd. He has recently worked for 4 years as our local AIS Specialist and currently is the NW Region's Watercraft Inspection Supervisor. Nathan is originally from South Dakota, where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from South Dakota State University in 2002. Nathan then went on to get his Master's Degree in Fish and Wildlife Management from Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana in 2004. Nathan has worked for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for 9 years, working as a fisheries specialist in the Minneapolis Area and also in Ortonville, MN. Welcome Nathan!

Thank you to FM Muskies, Inc.

Saturday, April 27, 2013 seven muskie members scoured Big and Little Detroit on their ATVs for garbage left on the lake from hard water recreationists. They removed cement blocks, wood, fish house bottoms and other types of trash. Our LDA member Bob Collins assists in this wonderful lake clean-up!

Next year - let's spread the word so folks do not leave trash. It is against the LAW and not good for the lake!



Swimmer's Itch

Here's another reason not to feed waterfowl. Swimmer's itch is caused by a fluke which lives alternately in snails and waterfowl. If waterfowl are not present, the parasite cannot survive. Swimmers serve as accidental hosts – the flukes burrow into the skin, but quickly die, causing an itchy reaction. Children are especially susceptible.

To reduce risk swimmers can avoid warm shallow water, especially after mid-day, and during on-shore winds (which tend to accumulate the fluke near the shore). Swimmers should rinse off as soon as they get out of the water. Do not allow water to evaporate from skin. Rub legs and arms with a towel after swimming. Do not wear wet bathing suits after swimming. Waterproof sunscreen or insect repellents containing DEET may offer some protection.

The City of Detroit Lakes is permitted to apply copper sulfate to control swimmer's itch along the public beach. Private landowners can obtain a DNR treatment permit too, but remember, copper sulfate is hard on snails that don't carry swimmer's itch, and on other plants and animals too. Repeated applications may be necessary, and even then the flukes may blow in from distant untreated areas.

Dick Hecock, April 2013

Becker County AIS Task Force

LDA Directors were heavily involved in the creation and support of the County's Task Force appointed to enhance relationships between local and state government agencies and organizations, to identify steps for preventing AIS, to develop steps for combating AIS if found; and to present further recommendations to the Becker County Board on future measures.

During 2012 Inspection programs, volunteer or paid, were not notably successful. There were an insufficient number of DNR inspection training sessions, resulting in only 90 trained inspectors in the County. Only a few lakes were added

Minnesota Coalition of Lake

trained inspectors in the County. Only a few lakes were added to the roster of lake-based inspection programs. New and existing programs provided inspections at only a small portion of the times during which boaters used public accesses. Also, there was some push-back from lake residents who felt that they were being asked to accept a disproportionate share of the responsibility for preventing spread of AIS. Other accomplishments included:

- Considerable information on AIS risk from boater use of public accesses were obtained from survey data
- While some inspection programs may continue, and others emerge, a different model is needed if we are to be aggressive in discouraging lake-to-lake spread of AIS by boaters.
- Utilizing funds from DNR Awareness grants and local sources, a wide variety of educational resources were developed. Additional efforts are needed to ensure that these resources are activated and implemented effectively.
- It is unclear to what extent there has been increased local enforcement of AIS rules.
- A full-time AIS Coordinator is needed for Becker County.
- The Task Force was too large (and contained persons without direct knowledge of AIS); some subcommittees (e.g. Rapid Response Plan) were too large.
- Clear lines of authority between the AIS coordinator and County Staff are needed.
- There may be some opportunities for coordination of prevention actions among governments within the County, and among adjacent counties and the Tribe.

Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA)



MN COLA advocates to the MN Legislature, DNR and Governor for improved lake related issues. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), shoreland protection, better aquatic plant management and other emerging concerns pertaining to protecting the natural ecosystems of our Minnesota Lakes and Rivers. MN COLA conducted a Statewide AIS Spending Survey on local monies spent on AIS. Since 2010 local funds amounting to \$759,500 have been spent in Becker County on AIS. MN COLA's position on AIS spending is the burden should not be placed on local taxpayers for the protection of public waters. 2008 Legacy Amendment funds should be used to protect MN Lakes from further AIS infestations. Barb Halbakken Fischburg serves on their Executive Board.

Dick Hecock, Feb, 2013

LAKE DETROITERS STRONLY URGES HOMEOWNERS TO CONTRACT WITH A DNR PERMITTED LAKE SERVICE PROVIDER TO MOVE BOATS, DOCKS, PONTOONS, LIFTS AND OTHER WATER-RELATED EQUIPMENT.

Relocating a dock or lift from one lake to another during the summer months is discouraged. By **LAW** such water equipment must be out of the water for <u>at least 21 days</u> to prevent the spread of AIS. Due to the ability of AIS to survive in the internal construction, it is very risky. That is how nearby Rose Lake in Otter Tail County became infested with Zebra Mussels. The safest is to buy new or freezing over winter kills all AIS. **Take the precaution - not the risk!**

Becker County DNR Permitted Lake Service Providers in the Detroit Lakes area (as of April 8, 2013)

At Ease Dock & Lift, Inc.		
Beechcombers Beachcleaning		
Bear Paw Resort		
Bucks Shoreline and Handyman		
Dan & Karen Mulari		
Detroit Power Sports		
DL DOCK&LIFT		
EDS MARINE AND STORAGE		
High Pines Resort		
J & K Marine		
Jim's Custom Lake Service		
Krause Repair		
Kujawa Fiberglass Repair Inc		
Lakecrest Resort		
Lakes Lawn and Dock Service		
Lakes Marine and Recreation		
Lakes Pace, LLC		
Landscapes and Beyond		
Lee Michael Horstmann		
McLaughlins RV and Marine		
Moore Dock and Lift Service		
Murph's Home Maintenance		
N & R Docks & Lifts		
Orth Landscaping and Hewitt Docks and Lifts		
R & R Groundskeeping of Detroit Lakes Inc		
RainMan LLC		
Rick Nelson Lake Service		
RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.		
SAVIG DOCKS CONSTUCTION		
SEABERG POWER SPORTS		
T.S. Dock & Lift Service		
Tim Nelson		
Whaleys Resort		
James Heller		
Peter Heldebrand		
Benjamin Huso		
William Purington		
Chace Roquette		

WHAT IS A LAKE SERVICE PROVIDER? By law anyone who receives payment to put "water-related equipment" into or remove it from waters of the state of Minnesota for another person or another business is required by law to obtain a permit from the DNR. The cost is \$50. Anyone working for a Lake Service Provider is only required to take a free online course. Proper identification must be with anyone moving a dock, boat, lift or other water-related equipment.



LDA is utilizing QR codes - short for "Quick Response Code"

What is a QR Code?

It is an easy way to access types such as a website, phone number or email address without typing the information. A QR code is read by an imaging device such as a smartphone with the "app" (application) downloaded. An example would be the "Quick Scan" app.



This QR Code can be scanned using a SmartPhone and directly access the DNR website for a complete list of permitted Lake Service Providers in Minnesota. Please check the website for the most current information.

Updated information can be obtained using the following link:

www.files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/permits/lsp/lsp-permits.pdf

Join Lake Detroiters Today - Dues are \$25 Why Should You Join?

Lake Detroiters Association (LDA) has been serving and protecting the lake since 1944 and is one of the oldest organized lake groups in the area. 2013 marks the beginning of the 70th year Lake Detroiters have been involved with lake concerns. It is dedicated solely to maintaining the quality of life in and on the waters of Big and Little Detroit Lakes and Deadshot Bay.

If you haven't already joined LDA please read on to see why it is important to do so, and why the organization is worthy of your support and membership.

- You preserve your property values by protecting your lake
- You have a voice in your concerns regarding the lake
- Your voice will be heard at the City Planning Commission, the Pelican River Watershed District, Becker County, and the Becker County Coalition of Lakes Association (COLA).
- You have available to you a variety of free information such as shoreline landscaping, erosion control, water quality, and more

If you are fortunate enough to live on the lake, you have inherited a responsibility to maintain and oversee these beautiful waters and shoreline. As more vacationers and boats use the lakes each year, and as more intensive development takes place in and around the lakes, the impact on water quality is evident. There are more weeds, more shoreline erosion, more sediments into the lake, and a host of other issues concerning the lake.

Lake Detroiters' concerns itself with these issues and addresses them. It works closely with the Pelican River Watershed District, the City, the MN DNR, and the Coalition of Lake Associations. The organization is here to represent the land owners of the lake shores – without your membership and input; representative's voices cannot be heard.

Lake Detroiters' Board meets once a month, usually on the 2nd Thursday at 7AM in the Essentia meeting Room; North Campus in Detroit Lakes. These meetings are open to the public (contact a board member for details).

Each year a spring newsletter is delivered to each of the 625 lakeshore property owners by 56 Beach Captains. Lake homeowners each belong to a Beach Neighborhood. View the lake map to help identify yours.



Help us to maintain a strong organization to help and know our lakes.

Lake Detroiters' Association membership is open to every lakeshore property owner within 1,000 feet of Big and Little Detroit Lake and Deadshot Bay (Curfman).



Our Lake Detroiters Business Sponsor Program

To assist in our Association's mission, we are expanding our membership support to include area businesses who share our interest in preserving the water quality and usefulness of our lake. If you are aware of businesses who would like to (or should) participate, please contact your Beach Captain, Board Member or info@lakedetroiters.com

As a Lake Detroiter Association member, it is, then, our responsibility to support the products and services of such sponsors. Because of their generosity, we will be provided with additional resources to continue the mission of Lake Detroiters Association.



Lake Detroiters Association (LDA) Annual Meeting Saturday - June 15, 2013 -- Historic Detroit Lakes Pavilion

"Come by Boat, Bike, Feet or Street" ... see you at the Pavilion

"It's Happening at the Lake"

8:00 - 9:30 Pancakes and sausage, juice, coffee \$5/person by Knights of Columbus 8:00 - 9:30 View Exhibits

Invited Exhibitors:

DNR - AIS, Enforcement, Zebra Mussel Sniffing Canine, Water Permits, Shoreland Repair City of Detroit Lakes - West Lake Drive Project and Heartland Trail Professional Lakes Management - Weed Applicator Becker County - Water Safety Patrol, AIS Deputy Becker County Soil & Water - Shoreland Restoration Fishing Organizations and Guide Services Pelican River Watershed - Flowering Rush Control Research and Treatment Flowering Rush Research Project - Concordia College Sucker Creek Preserve Detroit Lakes Water Carnival, WE Fest, Pine-to-Palm, etc. Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates (formerly MSRPO) Many More...

9:30 Call to Order

Approval of Agenda

Introductions (Mayor, Legislators, DNR, Commissioners, LDA Board)

Secretary's Report 2012 Treasurer's Report

9:50 2012 in Review and 2013 Opportunities

9:55 Beach Captain Program

10:00 Aquatic Plant Management - Flowering Rush Update

10:15 AIS Watercraft Inspection Project

10:25 "The Lake Detroiter" Member Directory

10:35 2013 Budget Approval

10:40 Nominations and Election of New Board Members

10:50 Questions and Comments

11:00 Adjourn

11:15 DNR Enforcement - Zebra Mussel Sniffing Dogs Demonstration Outside

LDA Mission Statement:

Lake Detroiters Association (LDA) Board of Directors and Terms

Officers

President	Barb Halbakken Fischburg	2012-2015
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Vice President Dennis Fuhrman 2011-2014

Secretary Laurie Olson 2010-2013

Treasurer Reneé Alsop 2010-2013



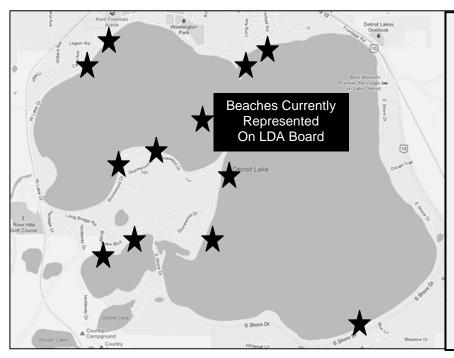
Members

Carol Bergren, 2011-2014 Sue Disse, 2012-2015 Dick Hecock, 2011-2014 Julie Herman, 2012-2015 Jeff Jasperson, 2011-2014 Curt Jundt, 2010-2013 Ryan Manke, 2012-2015 Mike Metelak, 2010-2013

Dave Welte, 2011-2014

Barb Halbakken Fischburg serves as LDA's representative to Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA) Barb also serves:

Executive Board for Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA) Board of Director; Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates (MLR) Minnesota DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Committee



There will be 2 open Board positions in June.

Beach areas have different concerns.

West Lake Drive Shorewood Drive Deadshot Bay

South Shore East Shore

North Shore

Consequently it is best to have all areas of the lake represented on the

Board. East & South we could use your voice on the Board.

Please consider serving as a Board of Director for LDA.



Mission: "To promote the protection and enhancement of Detroit Lake."

Lake Detroiters Association

Annual Meeting Minutes

9AM - Saturday, June 9, 2012

Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn

The 2012 annual meeting was called to order at 9:00 by acting President, Mike Metelak with 130 people in attendance. The meeting was held at the Detroit Lakes Holiday Inn.

Guests/Speakers:

Representative Paul Marquart, Representative Kent Eken, Tera Guetter, Barb Halbakken Fischburg and Major Phil Meier

Past year recap of LDA activity - Mike Metelak

- AIS efforts/Awareness
- COLA/State Capitol efforts
- AIS Legislative Summit
- Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) Watercraft Inspection Program
- Lake Service Provider AIS Training
- Beach Captain Campaign
- Web Site Development (LDA)
- Becky DePree Coordinated 2011 Watercraft Inspection Volunteers at public accesses
- City Meeting attendance Volunteer Dick Alsop

Membership and Other Activity:

- Current LDA membership is at approximately 30% of the lake residents. Goal: near 100%
- Jack Chivers has agreed to assist with increasing membership
- Bruce Imholte has agreed to assist with Business Memberships
- Beach Captain Enhanced program Meeting prior to annual meeting

Keynote Speaker - Major Phil Meier, DNR Enforcement - St. Paul, MN.

- Lake home owners play a big role in AIS fight
- 47 Billboard/TV Spots/Commercials to promote
- Signage at Public Accesses
- 13,600 hours devoted to AIS effort
- Current violation rate: 25% (463 Civil, 973 written warnings)
- Most common violations: Failure to open drain plug, live well and bait buckets
- Call local law enforcement to report (Not 911)

Pelican River Watershed District (PRWD) Update - Tera Guetter

- Strong Lake Associations working with PRWD and Government to make a difference in AIS effort
- Flowering Rush (FR) Research Continues.
- 200 Acres including the city beach part of research project
- FR treatment (Diquat) First round this week. Emergent and submergent treatments will be done.
- Mechanical harvesters Curley Leaf Pondweed. This can be treated for \$1000 per acre, and is a five year treatment plan.
- Cutting lanes will not be done in the flats this year. Other treatment methods will be employed in this area.
- Curfman Septic System no other areas on the lake have septic systems.
- Hand removal permit for FR

Kent Eken – Speaker Summary

- AIS Legislative Summit helpful to let St. Paul know of importance
- Economic and Environmental impacts
- Legacy funding for Asian Carp: \$2M
- \$3.8M in funding AIS research at U of M

Paul Marquart - Speaker Summary

- Thank you for local effort
- Ground swell from grassroots makes a difference when we introduce and pass laws
- DL effort has influenced changes in policy, research and enforcement

COLA Report - Barb Halbakken Fischburg

- 2100 Inspections at local accesses
- Lake home owners asked to do what they can to prevent AIS spread
- Donations for Inspections last year: City =\$4,000 and LDA =\$1800. (60% increase this year)
- This year: City/PRWD = \$7000. LDA needs to raise \$3,000. Barb started pledges with \$100. Jack Chivers pledged \$500, several others pledged \$25.00 (More collected at the door upon exit)

Beach Captain Report - Carol Bergren

- Talk to your neighbors and encourage membership
- Beach Captains to meet prior to annual meetings to get word out ore Beach Captains needed

<u>Secretary Report – Laurie Olson</u>

- Annual meeting minutes approved as read.
- Monthly meeting minutes are posted on the web site
- Review of LDA Website
- To adequately dry watercraft when moving from lake to lake check <u>www.100thmeridian.org</u> under "tools" for dry time information based on science and research handout in Beach Captain packet

<u>Treasure's Report – Renee Alsop</u>

- Treasure's Report
- PayPal Account set up to pay dues online

New Board Members

- New: Sue Disse and Ryan Manke
- Renewed BOD positions: Barb Halbakken Fischburg and Julie Herman.
- Motion made, second and passed to accept nominations.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Olson, Secretary



LDA History, Anyone?

www.lakedetroiters.com website includes a history segment about the organization's history.

The 2006 Directory is available to view on the website which contains historic pictures as well as numerous anecdotes describing the "olden days". Also, newsletters (bulletins) from the 1950's and 1960's show that many of the problems we currently face are not so different from the ones concerning lake residents then.

If anyone has old LDA materials or documents, we would be very pleased to have them and add them to our website for everyone to view. NEW FOR 2013 is our very own Lake Detroiters sweatshirt by Lakeshirts. It is unisex and will be available for \$40. There is a limited supply so contact a Board member or info@lakedetroiters.com before supplies are sold out!

COLORS: Gunmetal & Mustard SIZES: Small to 2X

Great weight for year round wear - especially for the evening boat cruise or early morning - and don't forget the evenings around the bonfire!

Lake Detroiter Proud!



This situation has developed because the major remaining nutrient source causing water quality problems for the Detroit Lakes is the Pelican River which continues to bring nutrients to Big Detroit. These nutrients are "filtered" out beforce they reach Little Detroit or Curfman.

The Rice Lake Restoration

Many of these nutrients flowing to Big Detroit via the Pelican River originate from a partially drained lake/wetland area about three miles north of Detroit Lake. The area was partially drained in 1918; such drained wetlands often are sources of nutrients which are flushed during periods of high water.

To counter this situation, PRWD has initiated the Rice Lake Nutrient Reduction Project which is expected to reduce total phosphorus loading to Big Detroit, by approximately 50%.

A partial restoration of the lake/wetland complex will increase the depth and duration of inundation in the Rice Lake area creating more natural wetland hydrology conditions. The project will increase the wetland depths by an average of two feet by the construction of two dam structures, some road improvements, and ditch modifications.

In addition to the water quality benefits, approximately 78 additional acres of prime wetland vegetation will be restored with a total of 462 acres of various types of wetlands created or enhanced. This wetland expansion also will greatly enhance primary brooding and nesting habitat for several species of migratory waterfowl.

The project area involves acquisition of flowage rights from private lands (503 acres), MN DNR Wildlife Management area (510 acres), and City of Detroit Lakes land (145 acres). Completion of the engineering and construction of the control devices is expected to occur within the next 12 months.

Other Important Lake Protection Measures

Much has been done in the way of protecting our Lakes from major sources of nutrient pollution. Large scale projects include the sanitary and storm sewer projects around the lakes, the Highway 10 upgrade, and many stormwater detention projects around Detroit Lakes. There has also been attention to other "non-point" sources - elimination of the use of phosphorus fertilizers, control of shoreline runoff, and the like. Continued monitoring has revealed some nutrient discharges from a portion of the Industrial Park north of Highway 10, and the nutrient-rich overflows from the storm sewer along West Lake Drive.

Dick Hecock, April 2013

ALL NEW LDA WEBSITE

www.lakedetroiters.com

- → "Homebase" for everything about the lake, what's new, AIS, history, photos
- → Pay dues individual or Business Sponsorships online via PayPal
- → Your Up-to-date lake information site
- → Facebook entries on website for members not on Facebook
- → New more secure email system: Info@lakedetroiters.com
- → Live weather feed
- → Members only area
- → Blog
- → Highlights Business Sponsors
- → Provides additional growth capacity



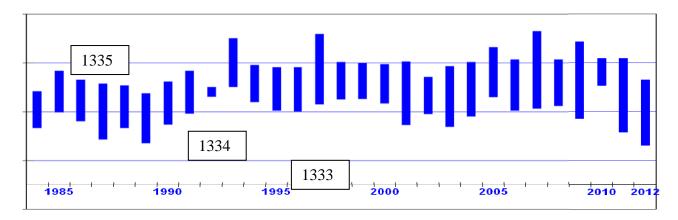




And what about those lake levels?

In the 1990's and early 2000's many lake residents complained about high lake levels – shore erosion caused damage to shoreline vegetation and structures. Recently they have lamented low water levels. Last fall the lake dropped below 1333.3 feet above mean sea level, sixteen inches lower than this year's high water in June. The lowered lake has exposed an unusual expanse of beach around much of the lake. Flows of streams to the lake dropped to near zero. There was almost no water running out of the lake. Lakeshore residents were frustrated by having their boats stranded on boat lifts which could not be lowered far enough to permit them to float. Also many props were damaged in newly discovered shallow waters.

But is "the lake lower than it ever has been", as some have asked? The short answer is "no". In several years during the 1980's the lake dropped to levels similar to those experienced recently. During the 1930's and 40's most years saw lower water levels than now.



Detroit Lakes' Annual Lake Level Range, 1984-2012 (elevations in feet above mean sea-level).

Last year's low lake levels are a response to a significant shift in precipitation starting in August 2011. In the 12 months prior to that time, our area received about 46 inches of precipitation; in the following 12 months, there were only21 inches. Also the period was accompanied by higher temperatures resulting in higher evaporation rates, and greatly diminished flows from upstream areas and nearby spring.

What can be done about these conditions? Very little! Some have asked "why isn't the dam raised to keep water from flowing out of the lake?" The answer to that one is that there are currently no structures available to control the water level in Detroit.

For more than 120 years the level of Detroit Lake was maintained about four feet above natural levels by a succession of structures at the Muskrat Lake outlet into Lake Sallie. The original lock and dam system was built to facilitate navigation through the Pelican River. Prior to about 1985, the Dunton lock/dam system was sometimes operated by the City of Detroit Lakes to change water levels. The efforts were considered unsuccessful because of the poor record of predicting flows from one season to the next, and because of the differing views of what water levels were appropriate.(Consider, for example, the impacts on downstream lakeshores if water was to be held back to satisfy Detroit residents.) In any case, for at least 25 years, there has been no attempt to manage water levels in Detroit Lake.

The current outlet structure, referred to as Dunton Rapids, was completed in 2001 in order to facilitate fish migration. It was specifically engineered to replicate the flow control attributes of the dam and lock system that it replaced. It is not possible to control flows through Dunton Rapids.

Where are we headed with water levels? Obviously we are the mercy of weather patterns. Conditions since January offer some hope for at least temporary relief. Detroit's water level at ice-out will be up by nearly a foot over last year's fall conditions. If the precipitation continues at the above-average rate, we could well seem some increase in water levels. At the same time, conditions in Detroit's watershed will absorb quite a bit of surplus water. Even "normal" precipitation levels would not produce a rapid restoration of lake levels because of the deficits in soil moisture and groundwater, and empty wetlands which would intercept runoff in upstream areas.

Noteworthy Websites:

In addition to Lake Detroiters website: www.lakedetroiters.com

- City of Detroit Lakes: www.ci.detroit-lakes.mn.us
- Becker County www.co.becker.mn.us
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: www.dnr.state.mn.us
- Pelican River Watershed District: www.PRWD.org

Make this site a "favorite" for info on...

Flowering Rush spraying schedule

Ice damage info and permits

Water quality data on your lake

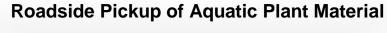
Road side pickup schedule

Rain garden fact sheet

Use the District's aerial map to zoom in on your neighborhood

- Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce: www.visitdetroitlakes.com
- Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates (MLR formerly MSRPO): www.mnlakesandrivers.org
- 100th Meridian cooperation of agencies to stop AIS spread: <u>www.100thmeridian.org</u>
- Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC): www.maisrc.umn.edu
- Stop Asian Carp Coalition: <u>www.stopcarp.org</u>
- Minnesota Environmental Congress: www.mn.gov/EnvironmentalCongress
- Minnesota Legislative Information: <u>www.leg.state.mn.us</u>





PRWD's collection of gathered up aquatic plant debris will continue as in previous years. Generally speaking this will be done early in each week from June through September. Pickup is limited to aquatic plants that have been placed next to, but off, the road on the owner's property.

Garden waste, branches, leaves, etc. will not be picked-up by the Pelican River Watershed District, nor will any weed piles that include such items.

Flowering Rush Success at the City Beach!

BEACH REPAIR

The general case is that homeowners need a Pelican River Watershed District permit to make alterations to the natural condition of the shore impact zone (37 feet from lake on Detroit, 50 feet from lake on Curfman). However, if the only result of the ice-action is a mound of sand that can be redistributed by hand tools, no permit will be required. If mechanical equipment is used, or if beach debris includes pieces of cement, retaining walls, railroad ties, or stone, a permit will be required.

If there is any doubt, call the Pelican River Watershed District at 846-0436 for more specific information.





9

2012 Watercraft Inspection Program on Detroit Lake

The 2012 AIS Watercraft Program ended with 2 dedicated DNR trained workers. The DL Regional Chamber of Commerce recognized their contribution to Detroit Lakes and presented them a *Community Service Award*. In connection with the LDA-sponsored 2012 Watercraft Inspection program, 2058 surveys were conducted at two Detroit public accesses, the DNR access on the south shore of Big Detroit, and the City's Rossman access on Little Detroit. There is much to be learned from these surveys, especially in the context of results from a similar survey project in 2011.

- Approximately 30% of boats entering Big and Little Detroit were from (licensed in) North Dakota, 60% from Minnesota, about 7% from other states (3% of the origins were undetermined).
- Overall about 45% of the boats surveyed were identified as fishing boats, and 30% as "runabouts", but there
 were substantial differences at the two sites. Runabouts, pontoons and personal watercraft accounted for a
 much larger share of the total boats at Rossman, and correspondingly, there were fewer fishing boats at this site.
 These patterns of boat origins and types were similar to those observed in 2011.
- Observers identified fewer than 3% of the boats entering Detroit in violation of Minnesota's AIS laws, nearly all of
 these cases involved boats which arrived at the access with the drain plug in. It is noteworthy that this rate of
 violation is much lower than rates cited by the DNR in their surveys. The Detroit 2012 rates also were also less
 than half of the violation rates observed in the 2011 survey. These figures suggest that educational programs
 have been successful in increasing boater awareness of the AIS problem and AIS boat regulations.

The movement of boats is known to be the most significant vector for spread of AIS. Accordingly, the watercraft inspection survey was designed to ascertain boater movement prior to entering Detroit.

- Among the 1290 surveyed boats entering Detroit at these two accesses, 16% were being launched for the first time in the 2012 season. Another 50% were boats previously in the water during 2012, but had last been launched in Detroit. In other words, two-thirds of boats entering Detroit pose little or no risk of introducing new AIS into that lake.
 - Of the remaining boats entering Detroit, 7% were last in lakes in Becker County (7%) and 17% elsewhere from lakes that are not known to be infested with Zebra Mussels, Spiny Waterflea, or Eurasian Watermilfoil. Of these boats, about half have been out of the water seven days or more, which offers some further measure of lowered risk
- Three percent of boats entering Detroit in 2012 were determined to have last been in an infested water (including Pelican, Gull, Leech, Michigan, Minnetonka, etc.). Of those 34 boats, 24 (71%) had been out of the water seven days or more, and 16 of those more than fourteen or more days.

For 8% of the boats entering Detroit there was no information on previous lake visits.

As to boats leaving Detroit Lake, it is not surprising that the patterns of state origin, and type of boat are very similar to those entering the lake. 75% of those leaving Detroit are day-users.

The 2012 inspection surveys were conducted during 395 hours on 78 different days, by 6 different inspectors, at two different sites, mostly during weekends or holidays between May 13 and September 30. This seems like a large sample of survey hours, but it is well to keep in mind that to completely cover the two sites with one person during this period would require at least 960 surveyor hours for weekends, and 2400 surveyor hours for weekdays. Also, a significant number of boats entering and exiting the lake involves fishing in months prior to May and after September and hours in the middle of the night.

Dick Hecock*, November 9, 2012

DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Advisory Committee

The DNR AIS Advisory Committee was appointed by DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr in December 2012 to help the DNR maintain strong relationships with AIS stakeholders. Advice and recommendations from the 15-member committee, and four ex-officio members, will be used to help guide the department's activities. Committee members will bring a range of personal and professional experience to the discussion about how to prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals in our lakes, rivers and wetlands. Tera Guetter; Administrator at the Pelican River Watershed District and Barb Halbakken Fischburg; President of Lake Detroiters were appointed to serve on this committee.

To view the works of the Advisory Committee visit the website:

Detroit Lake Fishery Status

Detroit Lake Annual Fish Stocking Plans:



Walleye—1,895 pounds of fingerlings annually



Lake Sturgeon—2,000 fingerlings annually



Muskellunge—3,000 fingerlings in odd-numbered years

Fisheries Surveys: The next fish population assessment in Detroit Lake is planned for **2015**. This study will include spring electrofishing for black crappie and largemouth bass, spring muskie trapping, and mid-summer gill net, trap net, and shoreline sampling.

Fishing Report: There were several reliable reports of excellent walleye fishing in Detroit received during the hottest part of last summer. Anglers also reported catching large perch and muskies over 50 inches in length.

Request: Anglers are asked to report incidental catches of lake sturgeon to the local area DNR Fisheries office at 218-846-8340. This species was initially stocked in Detroit Lake in 1997 as part of the Red River watershed sturgeon restoration effort. Lake sturgeons similar to the one pictured above and even larger were part of Detroit's fishery in the past.



Other Information: A wealth of information including lake reports for all managed Minnesota lakes is available at the DNR website www.dnr.state.mn.us. Click on the "Lakefinder" link and enter the lake name and county.

Nathan Olson will begin his new duties May 22nd. He has recently worked for 4 years as our local AIS Specialist and currently is the NW Region's Watercraft Inspection Supervisor. Nathan is originally from South Dakota, where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from South Dakota State University in 2002. Nathan then went on to get his Master's Degree in Fish and Wildlife Management from Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana in 2004. Nathan has worked for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for 9 years, working as a fisheries specialist in the Minneapolis Area and also in Ortonville, MN. Welcome Nathan!

Thank you to FM Muskies, Inc.

Saturday, April 27, 2013 seven muskie members scoured Big and Little Detroit on their ATVs for garbage left on the lake from hard water recreationists. They removed cement blocks, wood, fish house bottoms and other types of trash. Our LDA member Bob Collins assists in this wonderful lake clean-up!

Next year - let's spread the word so folks do not leave trash. It is against the LAW and not good for the lake!



Swimmer's Itch

Here's another reason not to feed waterfowl. Swimmer's itch is caused by a fluke which lives alternately in snails and waterfowl. If waterfowl are not present, the parasite cannot survive. Swimmers serve as accidental hosts – the flukes burrow into the skin, but quickly die, causing an itchy reaction. Children are especially susceptible.

To reduce risk swimmers can avoid warm shallow water, especially after mid-day, and during on-shore winds (which tend to accumulate the fluke near the shore). Swimmers should rinse off as soon as they get out of the water. Do not allow water to evaporate from skin. Rub legs and arms with a towel after swimming. Do not wear wet bathing suits after swimming. Waterproof sunscreen or insect repellents containing DEET may offer some protection.

The City of Detroit Lakes is permitted to apply copper sulfate to control swimmer's itch along the public beach. Private landowners can obtain a DNR treatment permit too, but remember, copper sulfate is hard on snails that don't carry swimmer's itch, and on other plants and animals too. Repeated applications may be necessary, and even then the flukes may blow in from distant untreated areas.

Dick Hecock, April 2013

Becker County AIS Task Force

LDA Directors were heavily involved in the creation and support of the County's Task Force appointed to enhance relationships between local and state government agencies and organizations, to identify steps for preventing AIS, to develop steps for combating AIS if found; and to present further recommendations to the Becker County Board on future measures.

During 2012 Inspection programs, volunteer or paid, were not notably successful. There were an insufficient number of DNR inspection training sessions, resulting in only 90

number of DNR inspection training sessions, resulting in only 90 trained inspectors in the County. Only a few lakes were added to the roster of lake-based inspection programs. New and existing programs provided inspections at only a small portion of the times during which boaters used public accesses. Also, there was some push-back from lake residents who felt that they were being asked to accept a disproportionate share of the responsibility for preventing spread of AIS. Other accomplishments included:

- Considerable information on AIS risk from boater use of public accesses were obtained from survey data
- While some inspection programs may continue, and others emerge, a different model is needed if we are to be aggressive in discouraging lake-to-lake spread of AIS by boaters.
- Utilizing funds from DNR Awareness grants and local sources, a wide variety of educational resources were developed. Additional efforts are needed to ensure that these resources are activated and implemented effectively.
- It is unclear to what extent there has been increased local enforcement of AIS rules.
- A full-time AIS Coordinator is needed for Becker County.
- The Task Force was too large (and contained persons without direct knowledge of AIS); some subcommittees (e.g. Rapid Response Plan) were too large.
- Clear lines of authority between the AIS coordinator and County Staff are needed.
- There may be some opportunities for coordination of prevention actions among governments within the County, and among adjacent counties and the Tribe.

Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA)

Minnesota Coalition of Lake
Associations (MN COLA) is a
statewide citizen network of
County Lake and River Associations,
representing the interests of over 40,000
advocates, organized to protect and improve

the waters and shorelands in Minnesota.

MN COLA advocates to the MN Legislature, DNR and Governor for improved lake related issues. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), shoreland protection, better aquatic plant management and other emerging concerns pertaining to protecting the natural ecosystems of our Minnesota Lakes and Rivers. MN COLA conducted a Statewide AIS Spending Survey on local monies spent on AIS. Since 2010 local funds amounting to \$759,500 have been spent in Becker County on AIS. MN COLA's position on AIS spending is the burden should not be placed on local taxpayers for the protection of public waters. 2008 Legacy Amendment funds should be used to protect MN Lakes from further AIS infestations. Barb Halbakken Fischburg serves on their Executive Board.

Dick Hecock, Feb, 2013

LAKE DETROITERS STRONLY URGES HOMEOWNERS TO CONTRACT WITH A DNR PERMITTED LAKE SERVICE PROVIDER TO MOVE BOATS, DOCKS, PONTOONS, LIFTS AND OTHER WATER-RELATED EQUIPMENT.

Relocating a dock or lift from one lake to another during the summer months is discouraged. By **LAW** such water equipment must be out of the water for <u>at least 21 days</u> to prevent the spread of AIS. Due to the ability of AIS to survive in the internal construction, it is very risky. That is how nearby Rose Lake in Otter Tail County became infested with Zebra Mussels. The safest is to buy new or freezing over winter kills all AIS. **Take the precaution - not the risk!**

Becker County DNR Permitted Lake Service Providers in the Detroit Lakes area (as of April 8, 2013)

At Ease Dock & Lift, Inc.		
Beechcombers Beachcleaning		
Bear Paw Resort		
Bucks Shoreline and Handyman		
Dan & Karen Mulari		
Detroit Power Sports		
DL DOCK&LIFT		
EDS MARINE AND STORAGE		
High Pines Resort		
J & K Marine		
Jim's Custom Lake Service		
Krause Repair		
Kujawa Fiberglass Repair Inc		
Lakecrest Resort		
Lakes Lawn and Dock Service		
Lakes Marine and Recreation		
Lakes Pace, LLC		
Landscapes and Beyond		
Lee Michael Horstmann		
McLaughlins RV and Marine		
Moore Dock and Lift Service		
Murph's Home Maintenance		
N & R Docks & Lifts		
Orth Landscaping and Hewitt Docks and Lifts		
R & R Groundskeeping of Detroit Lakes Inc		
RainMan LLC		
Rick Nelson Lake Service		
RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc.		
SAVIG DOCKS CONSTUCTION		
SEABERG POWER SPORTS		
T.S. Dock & Lift Service		
Tim Nelson		
Whaleys Resort		
James Heller		
Peter Heldebrand		
Benjamin Huso		
William Purington		
Chace Roquette		

WHAT IS A LAKE SERVICE PROVIDER? By law anyone who receives payment to put "water-related equipment" into or remove it from waters of the state of Minnesota for another person or another business is required by law to obtain a permit from the DNR. The cost is \$50. Anyone working for a Lake Service Provider is only required to take a free online course. Proper identification must be with anyone moving a dock, boat, lift or other water-related equipment.



<u>LDA is utilizing QR codes</u> - short for "Quick Response Code"

What is a QR Code?

It is an easy way to access types such as a website, phone number or email address without typing the information. A QR code is read by an imaging device such as a smartphone with the "app" (application) downloaded. An example would be the "Quick Scan" app.



This QR Code can be scanned using a SmartPhone and directly access the DNR website for a complete list of permitted Lake Service Providers in Minnesota. Please check the website for the most current information.

Updated information can be obtained using the following link:

www.files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/permits/lsp/lsp-permits.pdf