

DNR UPDATE—Randy Nass

Lake Jennie will receive a full fish survey this spring and summer. Gill nets and trap nets will be set out in June throughout the lake. These tests will survey all species of fish in the lake, except largemouth bass. Bass will be checked by a process called electro-shocking. This temporarily stuns the fish, so they float to the surface and can then be counted and measured.

The DNR plans to stock Jennie this year with 1,064,000 walleye fry. They are stocking these numbers on even years (2014, 2016). This fall they'll conduct another electro-shock survey for walleye. If they do not see at least 75 walleye per hour, there will be a contingency stock plan calling for 1064 fingerlings added to Jennie this October.

Scott Mackenthun is taking over the Hutchinson fisheries division of the DNR. He replaced Lee Sundmark on March 9th. The Lake Jennie board is eager to start working with him, on what we perceive is a serious lack of fish in the lake, caused by predation from cormorants and pelicans. The first meeting will take place in May.

REDUCE YOUR PHOSPHORUS FOOTPRINT—TIPS FOR LAKEFRONT HOMEOWNERS

Clean lakes need healthy lakeshores and healthy lakeshores need you! - Randy Newman, LJIA Board

- ◆ Fertilize less to keep out pollutants, and use zero-phosphorus fertilizer. Never apply fertilizer to frozen ground.
- ◆ Water your lawn (<1") after fertilizing, but do not allow water to run off into the lake. Mow lawn tall, ideal height for healthy grass is 2.5-3 inches to filter runoff, and do not mow clippings into the lake.
- ◆ Landscaping practices that force runoff to filter through the soil before entering the lake are suggested:
 - Leaving a "buffer zone"- a strip of unmanaged grasses or natural vegetation to grow around the shoreline. This will help prevent soil erosion, and also remove/retain nutrients that would otherwise enter the lake.
 - Construct and maintain a modified berm along the shoreline. This slight hump in the ground that runs near parallel to the shoreline served as an obstacle to nutrient-rich runoff.
- ◆ Remove pet waste regularly from your lawn.
- ◆ Make sure your septic system is in compliance; preventing seepage into lake.
- ◆ Never allow soaps and other cleaning agents to wash into a lake, stream or wetland.
- ◆ Become involved with your local lake association - do you can do something positive for your lake and meet your neighbors in the process!



Lake Jennie Improvement Association Board

President: Mike Kotila
mkotila@sehinc.com
612.749.6458

Vice President: Randy Newman
newman@newulmtel.net
507.276.3735

Treasurer: Laura Osborn
lauraleebaumberger@gmail.com

Secretary: Peg Truax
penguins61@msn.com

Randy Nass
miamooch@yahoo.com
320.587.0643

Mark Theis
mdtheis55@yahoo.com

Doug Renkes
dougrenkes@formafed.com

Dick Nesvold
dick.nesvold@southpointfed.com

Mitch Fable
mfabel@hutchtel.net

Dan Lundin, Alternate
dan.lundin@probuild.com

Lake Jennie Improvement Association Board Activities

Work continues on prevention projects. The board has been working with local farmers and Joe Norman of the NRCS to create land design projects that will deter agricultural run-off from entering Lake Jennie. These important preventive projects are one of the keys to improving the lake quality. The Association will be responsible for a portion of these costs as the projects are completed later this fall.

We continue to encourage lakeshore owners to test their septic systems and upgrade when necessary. In our recent lake survey, it was found that failing septic systems are one of the most likely contributors to internal phosphorous load in the lake and responsible for the algae problems we experience each summer. There are low cost loans available through the county for people wanting to upgrade or repair failing systems.

In addition to the prevention projects, the board has also approved an expenditure for curly leaf treatment again this year. We were not successful in getting DNR or Meeker County grant money this year, so the project is severely limited. We will be treating 15 acres this spring, targeting northern edge shorelines to the east and west Eagle Point, where the mass created the most problems in spring navigation last year. The DNR noted that there was no curly leaf detected in the area treated last year, and this success leaves us hopeful that the overall algae blooms will decrease as well. We are eligible to treat up to about 110 acres per year, but treatment is an expensive proposition. The board intends to continue to generate funds for these treatment projects, and continue to identify areas that can best improve the lake quality.

The board has approved extending the porta-potty season and will supplement the DNR expenditure so that there will be one at the south landing for the bulk of the summer recreation season.

PLEASE help us catch a litterer! There has been garbage dumped at the south landing several times recently. There is not a garbage receptacle there, so whomever is doing this is just leaving their garbage. One of the board members has been picking this up and putting it in their own garbage. If you spot anyone dumping garbage at the landing, please call the sheriff, or get the license number and report it to the board. Thank you!

Fun and Fundraising

- ◇ Plan to attend the annual meeting on June 18th, where there will again be a silent auction and raffle sales. These fun sales will go to help fund the lake improvement projects. Be sure to make your annual dues donation at the meeting. There will again be Lake Jennie gear available to order. Lake Jennie gear/gifts will also be provided for people making more substantial donations to aid in our improvement efforts, so please consider doing so by the deadline of July 1st!
- ◇ Randy Nass continues to collect aluminum cans and we use this money to pay for the streetlight at the south bay landing. Please bring your aluminum cans to Randy Nass, or contact him and he will stop by and pick them up from your house!

Upcoming Events

the Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 18
12:00 noon
Mike and Brenda Kotila's
71222 CSAH18
All new neighbors and friends are also welcome to attend and join the LJIA.

The annual **JULY 4th** boat parade and judging will be on **Sunday, July 3**. The parade begins at the **South Landing at 2:00 pm**. Prizes for best dock, most creative and most patriotic boats.

Join the fun!

Curly-leaf pondweed (Potamogeton crispus)

It was first noted in Minnesota about 1910. A submersed aquatic plant, it generally grows in three to ten feet of water. Leaves are somewhat stiff and crinkled, approximately 1/2-inch wide and two to three inches long; leaves are arranged alternately around the stem, and become more dense toward the end of branches. It tolerates low water clarity and will readily invade disturbed areas. It is generally the first to come up in spring, then dies back in mid-summer. The flower stalks, when present, stick up above the water surface in June. It appears reddish-brown in the water, but is actually green when pulled out of the water. In spring, curly-leaf pondweed can form dense mats that may interfere with boating and other recreation on lakes. It also can cause ecological problems by displacing native plants. In mid-summer, it usually dies back, resulting in rafts of dying plants piling up on shorelines, and often is followed by an increase of the nutrient phosphorus in the water, creating undesirable algal blooms. It is a ***prohibited invasive species***, which means import, possession, transport, and introduction into the wild is prohibited.



Common Carp, European Carp (Cyprinus carpio)



The common carp is a large omnivorous fish. They have large scales, a long dorsal fin base, and two pairs of long barbels (whiskers) in its upper jaw. Native to Europe and Asia, it was intentionally introduced into Midwest waters as a game fish in the 1880s.

- Common carp are one of the most damaging aquatic invasive species due to its wide distribution and severe impacts in shallow lakes and wetlands.
- Their feeding disrupts shallowly rooted plants muddying the water
- They release phosphorus that increases algae abundance
- Carp induced declines in water quality causes declines of aquatic plants needed by waterfowl and fish

Zebra Mussel (Dreissena Polymorpha) NOT at Lake Jennie, but found in several lakes in Meeker!

Zebra mussels are small, fingernail-sized animals that attach to solid surfaces in water. Adults are 1/4 to 1-1/2 inches long and have D-shaped shells, often with alternating yellow and brownish colored stripes. Female zebra mussels can produce 100,000 to 500,000 eggs per year. These develop into microscopic, free-living larvae (called "veligers") that begin to form shells. After two to three weeks, the microscopic veligers settle and attach to any firm surface using tiny fibers called "byssal threads." Zebra mussels are native to Eastern Europe and Western Russia and were brought over to the Great Lakes in the ballast water of ships. Populations of zebra mussels were first discovered in the Great Lakes in 1988. They eat tiny food particles that they filter out of the water, which can reduce available food for larval fish and other animals, and cause aquatic vegetation to grow as a result of increased water clarity. Zebra mussels can also attach to and smother native mussels.

Zebra mussels also cause problems for lakeshore residents and recreationists; for example, they can:

- attach to boat motors and boat hulls, reducing performance and efficiency
- attach to rocks, swim rafts and ladders where swimmers can cut their feet on the shells
- clog irrigation intakes and other pipes



MNDNR, with partners, has used pesticides to treat zebra mussels in several Minnesota lakes since 2000. The DNR will consider permitting pilot projects to control zebra mussels in public waters with pesticides beginning in 2015.

Prevention: Mussels attach to boats, nets, docks, swim platforms, boat lifts, and can be moved on any of these objects. They also can attach to aquatic plants. Attached adult mussels can survive out of water and spread from one water body to another. Microscopic larvae (veligers) can survive in water contained in bait buckets, bilges, ballast bags or any other water moved from an infested lake or river. In Minnesota, you must take the following steps to prevent the spread of zebra mussels:

- **clean** weeds and debris from your boats, and remove any attached zebra mussels,
- **drain** your boat, livewells, and baitwells, and keep all drain plugs out while traveling,
- **dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash, and
- **dry** docks, lifts, swim rafts and other equipment for at least 21 days before placing equipment into another water body.

It is a **prohibited invasive species**, which means import, possession, transport, and introduction into the wild is prohibited.

You should know: Civil Citation Penalties for AIS

Transport aquatic plants on public road	\$100	Launch into non-infested waters with AIS attached	\$500
Launch with plants attached	\$200	Failure to drain water/have drain plug out	\$100
Transport/possess prohibited species	\$500	Transport infested water without a permit	\$200
<i>Subsequent offenses Amounts double</i>		<i>Refuse inspection; Lose boat license for up to 1 year</i>	

Controlling Curly-leaf Pondweed

Under Minnesota law, aquatic plants growing in public waters are the property of the state. Because of their value to the lake ecosystem, they may not be destroyed or transplanted unless authorized by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources.

Activities NOT allowed:

- Excavating the lake bottom for aquatic plant control
- Destroying or preventing the growth of aquatic plants by using lake bottom barriers.
- Removing aquatic vegetation within posted fish-spawning areas.
- Removing aquatic plants from an undeveloped shoreline.
- Removing aquatic plants where they do not interfere with swimming, boating, or other recreation.

Control methods which MUST HAVE A PERMIT

- Destruction of any emergent vegetation (for example, cattails and bulrushes).
- Cutting or pulling submerged vegetation (by hand or mechanical means, in an area larger than 2,500 square feet.
- Applying herbicides or algicides.
- Moving or removing a bog of any size; free-floating or lodged in an area other than its original place.
- Transplanting aquatic plants into public waters.
- Use of automated aquatic plant control devices (such as the Crary WeedRoller).
- Physical removal of floating-leaf vegetation from an area larger than a channel 15 feet extending to open water.

When a PERMIT IS NOT needed

If you are a lakeshore property owner who wants to create or maintain a swimming or boat-docking area, you may cut or pull submerged vegetation without a DNR permit under certain conditions:

- The area to be cleared must be no larger than 2,500 square feet.
- The cleared area must not extend more than 50 feet along the shoreline or one-half the length of your shoreline, whichever is less.
- A boat channel up to 15 feet wide, and as long as necessary to reach open water, may also be cleared. (The boat channel is in addition to the 2,500 square feet allowed). See DNR website for more information.

If you have questions on control activities that do not require a permit, please contact your local DNR office. If you plan to dispose of the aquatic vegetation someplace other than on your property you will need to download the aquatic plant transport authorization form. This form allows you to transport the aquatic vegetation to a suitable location for disposal.

****Scott Mackenthun**, Supervisor, Hutchinson Area Fisheries notes that M.R. (Minnesota Administrative Rules) 6280 does allow for treatment of the entirety of your shoreline frontage if the proposed plant to be treated is invasive, like curlyleaf pondweed or Eurasian watermilfoil. For native plants, only half the shoreline frontage or 100 feet, whichever is less, will be allowed.



Coupon good for purchase:
Hydrothol & 29-0-20 Lawn Fertilizer

Present this coupon at
Hutchinson Co-op Cenex
1110 Hwy 7 W - Hutchinson, MN



Hutchinson Co-op has graciously offered a reduced price for Lake Jennie shoreline owners on the low phosphorous fertilizer and Hydrothol, a product for controlling aquatic weeds.

29-0-20 Lawn Fertilizer with controlled release Nitrogen	50# lb bag	\$20.00
Hydrothol TM Enough for more than two applications	20# lb bag	\$84.50

Please note that the use of Hydrothol requires a permit from the DNR. Please visit the DNR website for regulations on it's use. The permit application can be found at http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/fish_wildlife/fisheries/apm/apm-app.pdf

Protocols for moving boat lift, dock, swim raft, or associated equipment: *Items that have been removed from any water body may not be placed in another water body until a minimum of 21 days has passed. It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to fully decontaminate some parts of water-related equipment, thus drying is the only option to ensure aquatic invasive species that could not be removed are not alive. It is recommended that all other equipment from infested waters should be dried a minimum of five days prior to entering another body of water. The best practice is to allow the equipment to overwinter prior to being placed in another water body.*



Protect your waters

 **STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!** mndnr.gov

