



## Spring Newsletter~May 2022

Lake Jennie Improvement  
Association Board

**President:** Mitch Fabel  
(320)583-8933

**Vice President:** Laura Os-  
borne:  
(320) 455-2300

**Treasurer:** John Curtiss

**Secretary:** Mary Nass

Mike Kotila

Ryan Lovald

Randy Nass

Ross Portele

Scott Rosenau

Mark Theis

Contact us at

lakejennieimprove-  
ment@gmail.com

Upcoming Events:

**June 25**—Lake Jennie  
Annual Meeting of the  
membership and guests

**July 3**—Independence  
Day celebration Boat  
Parade contest and  
Best Dock contest

### **A Message from the LJIA President**

As this newsletter hits the stands the best time of the year will hopefully be in full swing! It has been a delayed spring with cooler temps but the moisture has been a welcome site. I think everyone is ready to put last year behind us and prepare for a great Summer season!!! This newsletter is full of great information and news of upcoming events for our Lake this summer. Please be sure to check out the update about the Annual Meeting for this year. Your attendance this year would be great as we will be discussing all of our projects and plans for improvement to our great lake. Thank You and see you on the lake. Mitch Fabel

### **2022 LJIA Annual Meeting and Picnic**

**When:** Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 1:00 – Social Hour

2:00 – Meeting

4:00 – Music

**Where:** Jim and Karen Meyer residence

71568 CSAH 18 Dassel, Mn 55325

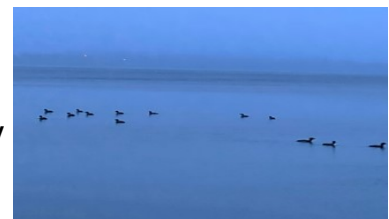
**Details:** Hot dogs, chips, fish fry, water and pop will be provided. BYOB for other beverages. There will be a silent auction and raffles being held during the day.

**Discussion:** We will be discussing all the projects, current and future that the association has been working on.

**Memberships:** This is a great opportunity to renew memberships for this season!!

## Lake Jennie Bullet Points

- In late March LJIA volunteers cleaned debris left by fishermen on the ice. Reach out to LJIA board member with any thoughts in how to reduce this problem and educate violators.
- The LJIA board sends condolences to the family of Loren Brovald, long time Lake Jennie resident on the south side. Loren passed away April 19.
- DNR Fisheries will be stocking Lake Jennie with 535,000 Walleye fry this spring. They will also be conducting fish species counts this June via test nets, gill nets and trap nets. Several board members will be riding along to learn and report.
- Remember this Spring to use non-phosphorus lawn fertilizer. Also, try not to blow leaves and lawn debris into the lake.
- Official “ice out” was on April 11<sup>th</sup> this year. Spring rains have helped raise water levels as well.
- LJIA board will again be installing and monitoring Zebra Mussel Settlement Plates at both public accesses. If you would like one for your dock, please contact Randy Nass through the lakejennieimprovement@gmail.com.
- With record high scrap metal prices, the LJIA board is seeking more donations. They can either be dropped off at Nass’ recycling trailer on the east side of Lake Jennie or Randy can come and pick it up. We are looking for any aluminum (cans, cookware, old boat lifts) , brass, copper, and old batteries. In the last year residents have donated over \$500 to the general fund with recycling.
- Dozens of loons are using Lake Jennie as a staging area in their continued migration north. Hopefully several will be enticed to stay here with the loon nesting platforms on the south and west shores.
- Lake Jennie resident Paul Nass will be operating the AIS decontamination unit for the DNR in Meeker County this summer. If you feel your watercraft was exposed to zebra mussels, please contact Paul through the Hutchinson DNR.
- Please contact the LJIA Board if you have any interest in a social golfing event to be held later this summer.

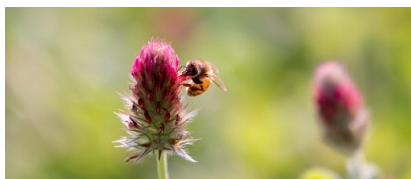


## Gardening at Lake Jennie

Warmer spring weather is finally here and after the long wait, many of us are eager to dig in the dirt. Please remember.

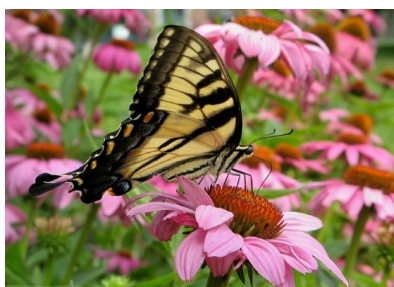
Cleaning up flower beds - A good rule of thumb is to **wait until daytime temperatures are consistently about 50 degrees F. (10 C.) for at least 7 consecutive days**. This will help protect habitat in the spring and ensure you have a robust and healthy pollinator population and overall garden ecosystem.

### What is a pollinator?



Pollinators are animals that fertilize plants by carrying pollen from one plant to another. Insects (bees, butterflies, flies, hoverflies, moths, wasps) as well as some birds and bats are pollinators. Pollinators and other insects are crucial to the interdependent food web. We— and so many other species— literally cannot live without them.

### Go native!



Pollinators need more than nectar (food) to flourish. Host plants that provide nesting sites and protection are also key for each stage of the insect's life. Since native plants have coevolved with native pollinators, they provide the best support and are the most attractive throughout the life cycle of pollinators.

# Gardening Continued...

## Pollinators – not just for daytime.



Plant a moon garden - between dusk and dawn, when moonlight illuminates the plants, visitors can enjoy unique insight into a garden's personality. Night pollinators such as moths, native bees and bats are attracted to plants in a moon garden with white and pale-colored flowers that are intensely fragrant and produce a lot of nectar. Just like some of us, there are pollinators that work the night shift! And to support them you need a moon garden filled with flowers that bloom at night.

### Learn More:

UMN - <https://extension.umn.edu/news/help-pollinators-plant-pollinator-garden>

[https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Extension-Community-Horticulture/Gardening\\_for\\_Pollinators\\_and\\_Beneficial\\_Insects\\_2021\\_.pdf](https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Extension-Community-Horticulture/Gardening_for_Pollinators_and_Beneficial_Insects_2021_.pdf)

<https://extension.umn.edu/lawns-and-landscapes/flowers-pollinators>

Pollinator Classes and Workshops MN Arboretum - <https://arb.umn.edu/pollinator-classes>

Birds and Blooms - <https://www.birdsandblooms.com/gardening/backyard-wildlife/backyard-benefits-moon-garden/#:~:text=Between%20dusk%20and%20dawn%2C%20when,produce%20a%20lot%20of%20nectar.>

Kare 11 - <https://www.kare11.com/article/life/home-garden/grow-with-kare/plant-a-moon-garden/89-1bc68362-c234-42ec-af76-91ef4324730d>

## From The Dock...



*Hutchinson DNR staff r-l Chris Foster, Scott Mackenthun, and Hannah Anema shown during a tagging and genetic research project.*

*Anglers who catch tagged walleyes on Collinwood Lake should call 320-753-0339 to report the catch.*

On Sunday morning April 24 the Hutchinson Area DNR Fisheries held an informational meeting about walleye tagging and stocking genetics at Collinwood County Park. Several LJIA board members attended and learned about a new tagging study the DNR is doing on Collinwood Lake. After netting these fish, metal tags were installed in their lip so Fisheries can track them, as they are caught and turned in by fishermen. A sampling from each walleye (the pelvic fin was clipped) will be sent to a lab and help determine genetically which strain of walleye is best suited for fish stocking in our area lakes. Historically, most of our walleye stocking comes from northern Minnesota in the Leech Lake area. Early results are showing that a Lower Mississippi strain has faster growing and survival rate in Meeker County. Fisheries staff are hoping to use the new data in developing management plans for Lake Jennie and other lakes.

As stated earlier, Hutchinson DNR Fisheries will stock Lake Jennie with 500,000 walleye fry from the New London Hatchery. They feel that Lake Jennie is now set up for a successful stock because the northern population is down, and the perch population is way up (providing a food source for large predator fish). Because of the stocking, the Lake Jennie Improvement Association Board cannot use Diquat as a chemical for the treatment of AIS curly leaf. Diquat is toxic to small walleye fry. This was our preferred herbicide because of the low cost. Unfortunately, we will be forced to treat less acres this spring, because of the higher cost herbicide Aquathol.

## **AIS Treatment Concerns:**

Some lakeshore owners have questions on how herbicides in the treatment of invasive species in the lake affect their daily life and environment. The following three questions are answered by Daniel Larkin, University of Minnesota Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation.

1. How chemical use affect humans and pets swimming in and drinking the treated water.
2. How chemical use affects fish and other small animals living along the shore.
3. The safely of consuming fish from a treated lake.

To get through regulatory approval, pesticides must be demonstrated to pose low acute risk under likely exposure scenarios. So occasional mammalian swimmers like humans and dogs are unlikely to have adverse health effects given that exposure will be quite low (the compounds drift, dilute, and are broken down by light, bacteria, and other processes). There are of course examples where unanticipated toxicological effects have later been found, and questions about the rigor of different regulatory frameworks, but long story short, acute risk will generally be lower for these types of incidental contacts. Important exceptions can arise for the applicators themselves., as demonstrated by harm to farmworkers. That's why proper use of personal protective equipment is so important.

For organisms living in the water, doses (exposures) are higher, with risks of non-target impacts increasing accordingly. This is especially true for organisms that are more closely related to the target species (e.g. native molluscs when zebra mussels are being treated, native plants when invasive plants are being treated, etc.). This is because the biological pathways that the pesticides exploit are more likely to be present in a close relative. For example, something that inhibits photosynthesis could hurt me in some other way, but not by that targeted mechanism.

Risks for consumers of fish treated with modern pesticides should be relatively low. For one, fish will be component of overall diet but generally not a very large component. More importantly, these tend to be compounds that don't persist for long periods and bioaccumulate. The more worrying toxins are things like heavy metals that stay in the environment and magnify up the food chain.

## LJIA Membership:

The time is upon us to once again send in our checks for 2022 membership. Our fiscal year runs from July 1 so we consider membership to be that time. Any dues received now will be applied to the 2022/2023 fiscal year unless you specify otherwise.

In the 2021/2022 fiscal year we had 64 paid members contributing \$7,775. Our dues are set at \$50 but as you can see many members contribute much, much more than that. When we have this extra money we can treat more acres of lake for weeds which makes the lake experience better for all of us.

The board works very hard at securing grants to multiply the money you give. To give a preview of what we will cover at the annual meeting: Our deposits this fiscal year are over \$27,000. So in addition to the dues at \$7,775 we have members who have directed their 3M Cares and Thrivent Choice money to the Lake Association, last years weed control raffle and grants. All this money adds up and we can work harder at mitigating phosphate (long term) and weed control (short term.)

### Membership Goal 90%

#### Lake Jennie Improvement Association

**Mail to:**  
**John Curtiss**  
**71749 178TH ST**  
**Dassel, MN 55325**  
**LJIA Financial Director**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_



The suggested donation for annual dues is \$50. Other suggested donation packages include:

- \$50
- \$100
- \$500

Authorize e-mail for LJIA purposes. E-mail will not be for other purposes.

We are a 501c3, your contribution MAY be tax deductible.

You can pay online with PayPal at [Lakejennie.com](http://Lakejennie.com) or Mail membership donation. Dues run from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Water Quality Win



*Fig. 6. Sampling locations, including established MPCA Citizen Lake Monitoring Program (CLMP) sampling site in one of the deeper areas of the lake.*

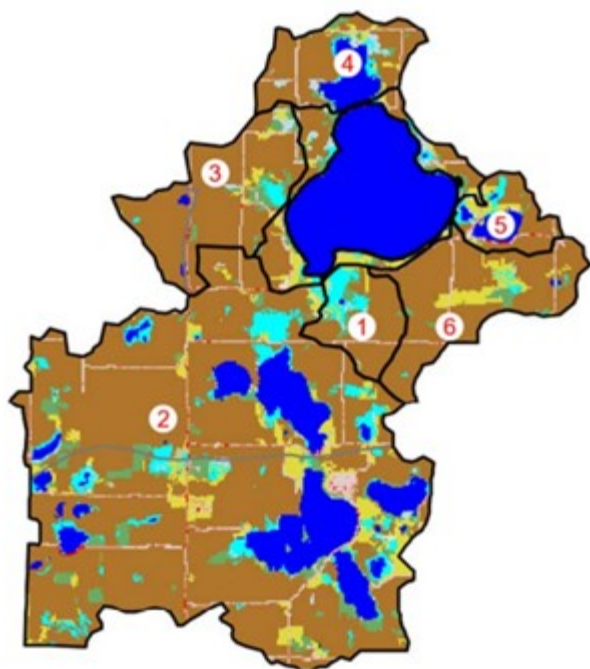
Hutchinson High School Science Teacher, Courtney Fogarty volunteered her class to assist the LJIA Water Quality Committee in collecting samples and recording data (water temperature, PH ranges and nitrates/phosphorous levels) in Lake Jennie's six inlets. Secchi disc readings and lab samples were taken at MPCA site 201.



HHS Science students on Thursday, May 5 at inlet 2 gathering data to be used for both classroom education and LJIA analysis for future water quality improvement projects.



## Water Quality Win Continued ...



.This map shows the large Lake Jennie Watershed. It illustrates how all the land and lakes are connected including their pathways to the Crow River Watershed (which Lake Jennie is a part of). It was used to demonstrate to HHS students prior to collection how difficult it is to be removed from The MPCA's Impaired Waters List. Large watersheds make reduction of phosphorous and nitrate levels challenging to lake associations.



Secchi disc readings and water samples were taken by HHS Science students in the deepest part of the lake. This data will be sent to RMB Labs for analysis data used on a Crow River Watershed improvement program.

## PWC Reminders

### Minnesota Personal Watercraft Laws

#### You Must...

- Wear a USCG approved life jacket.
- Travel at slow-no wake speed (5 mph or less) within 150 feet of: non-motorized boats, shore (unless launching or landing skiers directly to or from open water), docks, swim rafts, swimmers or any moored or anchored boat.
- Operate only from 9:30 a.m. to 1 hour before sunset.
- Use the cutoff lanyard properly.
- Obey operator age/permit laws for those younger than 18 years old.

#### You May Not...

- Chase or harass wildlife.
- Jump the wake of another boat within 150 feet of the craft.
- Operate a personal watercraft in a manner that endangers life, limb or property.

#### Protect Your Sport

- Respect your neighbors...don't operate for long periods in the same area or near occupied boats or shore.

*This is only a summary of the laws as of January 2014 and is required to be visible to the operator on all personal watercraft in Minnesota. For more information contact:*



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Boat and Water Safety Section  
500 Lafayette Rd., Saint Paul, MN 55155-4039  
651-259-5400, 1-888-646-6367, TTY 651-296-5484, 1-800-657-3929  
[mndnr.gov/boatingsafety](http://mndnr.gov/boatingsafety)

The most frequent complaint to the LJIA Board is operators using their PWCs later than one hour before sunset. With no lights on PWCs this is a safety concern for some residents on Lake Jennie. Thanks for following the rules.

## MCAL Updates

Meeker County Lakes had their annual meeting on April 21. The following were topics of discussion:

- When members are buying a used dock or boat lift, wait for a three week drying time before installation. This ensures that no zebra mussels will be transferred from lake to lake.
- MNCOLA (Minnesota Coalition Of Lake Associations) of which Meeker County is a member of is looking for a new volunteer to represent MCAL since our former representative has moved away. MCAL will pay for gas and meals to attend the MNCOLA meetings held in Brainerd.
- Meeker County will be paying up to \$400 for Water Quality Testing done on area lakes. Receipts to be turned into Greg Schultz in Planning and Zoning. Going forward Meeker County will be distributing \$35,000 total annually for all MCAL grant applicants with each lake being eligible for up to \$4,000.
- Hach Water Test Kits were distributed to Jennie, Clear, Collinwood and Belle Lakes. Both Jennie and Clear will be working with the local high school science classes in collecting this new data.
- Many lakes in the county are reporting the new experience of residential lake homes being purchased and being set up as VRBOs on area lakes. Last summer there were multiple issues with parking, loud partying, septic systems overburdened and lack of knowledge of boating and PWC regulations.
- The control of the invasive species Carp was discussed. Belle Lake tried a night time bow fishing contest. Other lakes including Lake Jennie are looking into the baiting and trapping of Carp as they move into shallow inlets during the June spawn. Creekside Soils in Hutchinson and a few area farmers have been contacted in the disposition of the deceased Carp.
- Area lakes were asked by Meeker County to document their "in kind hours" and expenses more frequently and accurately for better cost analysis at grant application time.
- The next MCAL meeting is July 21 in Litchfield. Election of new officers will be held. Contact Randy Nass if interested in attending.

# MLR (Minnesota Lakes and Rivers)

What is One Thing You Can Do Today to Protect the Lake You Love?

***The answer is to join Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, (MLR) if you are not a member already.*** There is no other group in Minnesota that does so much to protect the lakes and rivers we all love.

**JOIN Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates NOW to protect the lake you love!**

**You can make a contribution online at [www.mnlakesandrivers.org](http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org).**

**Or, mail a contribution to MLR, PO Box 22262, St. Paul, MN 55122**

Your membership in Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates provides a significant Return on Investment. MLR has successfully lobbied to lower property taxes on lakeshore, create grant programs through DNR that support lake association programming, trainings and education from the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center for lake home and cabin owners, and technical assistance from local units of government to support property owners and lake associations.

When our members told us they were seeing more boating conflicts, dangerous boating, damage to shorelines and lake bottoms, and rude boating behavior, MLR took action.

Last year we worked to ***fund research (\$160k) at the St. Anthony Falls Lab***, the oldest fluid dynamics lab in the US, to study the height and energy of different wakes, from an 18 foot runabout to a wake surfing boat. The study was released in February. Check the blog section of the new MLR website (<https://mnlakesandrivers.org/>) to see the released study.

MLR has launched four programs as well in our efforts to protect your lake and river heritage and investment. While COVID-19 disrupted our pilots last summer, we had good feedback and impact and will work this summer to expand them.

***Stop Starry*** - with funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, MLR is providing boat cleaning stations at the public accesses of lakes infested with Starry Stonewort so boaters can Clean, Drain and Dry as they leave. This will lower the risk of AIS spread to the lake you love.

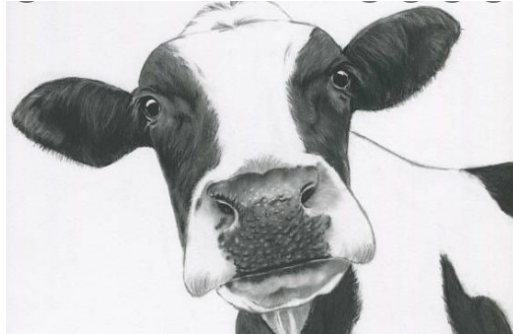
***Lake Steward*** rewards and recognizes property owners who have preserved their shoreline and supports those who want to restore their shore.

***Up the Creek Meats*** connects lake associations with meat producers in their watershed that use regenerative agriculture practices and work to protect water in their operations. You can buy food directly from producers that farm in a way that protects the water in

***Project WET*** is a national program that trains people and provides curriculum so they can engage audiences from classrooms to fair booths to Chamber of Commerce events. Education is the first step in protecting our lake heritage.

## Remembering When....

My Dad and I would troll Jennie's south shoreline for northern pike on warm summer nights. Simultaneously, Bud and Grace Schuman would turn loose their dairy cows from the barn after the evening milking. Many of them would beeline to the lake for a drink or swim to cool off. I carefully maneuvered the 6 hp Johnson thru them all, so we would not hook a cow with our big red and white daredevils. All the while my dad reminded me, "we are not fishing for Bud's Holstein cows".



Many of the teenagers in the area would hang out on Fred Comer's beach. Fred's sandy beach all along the east shore was the best option around for swimming, sunbathing, and flirting.

Breezy summer Sunday afternoons was the perfect time for the Lake Jennie Sailing Regatta. 4-5 times a summer, up to 20 sailboats would race around a course on the lake. Boston Whaler Harpoons, colorful Hobie Cats and small Sunfish scow all competed at the sound of Skip Quade's cannon shot start. After the race everyone would head back to Eagle Point for stories and cocktails.

The earliest map I ever had of Lake Jennie showed an island in the middle of the lake. Obviously, this was before my time, so years ago I asked two "old timers" what they recalled about the island. Donnie Carlson told me during the 1930's it was a favorite hot spot for local duck hunters in the fall. Bud Schuman relayed the story of how the island was loaded with raspberries. The kids would row out to the island and fill their buckets and bellies with fresh berries.

