

# Upper South Long Lake Improvement Association Newsletter



## May 2012

Board members: Ron Trosvig, President, Dan Martonik, Vice Pres, John Pietruszewski, Secretary, Don Crust , (temp treas.) Sandy English, Jeff Gans, Ron Kossila, Terry Lahti, Past Pres., Beth Larson, Mary Jane Reetz, Chuck Yancy

### A Note From the Lake Association President

Greetings to the Upper South Long Lake community.11 What a mild winter! Jack Rolfs informed us that the official ice-out was March 23<sup>rd</sup> which is three weeks earlier than the 15 year average which is April 13th. I heard that the Wise's had their dock in during the first week of April and the dock at the public landing was in as well. We are off to another great summer at "the lake".



Our Lake Improvement District is in place and Bruce Dybvig, President of the LID recently sent out a newsletter outlining our funding priorities in 2012.

PLM Lake & Land Management Corp and the DNR did the annual Curly Leaf assessment during the first week of April and determined that we will need to treat 22 acres this summer. The treatment will be done during the last week of April or the first week of May depending on water temperature. Treating this on an annual basis is the best way to control and reduce infestation and we are making progress. This can be found at [USLLIA.org/Curly Leaf Treatment](http://USLLIA.org/CurlyLeafTreatment).

We enter 2012 with a strong history and supportive community.

**What will USLL look like in 2030?** Last summer we co-funded a study in conjunction with Crow Wing County and Central Lakes College. They produced a paper: "Upper South Long Lake – Affects of Land Use on Phosphorus Loading". Key findings include:

- By 2030 we could see a 45% increase in households within the USLL watershed
- This change could increase the level of phosphorus entering the lake which could result in:
  - Larger and longer algae blooms
  - Lowered water clarity
  - Thicker weeds
  - Lowered dissolved oxygen
  - Warmer water temperatures
  - Fish die offs

Continuing to proactively manage our watershed and effective zoning policies are strategies to minimize these impacts. Brad and Sandy English have arranged to have a family friend, Matt Moore, Administrator, South Washington Watershed District, speak at the annual spring meeting on the problems of increasing population and what can be done about it. This should be an excellent presentation!

The USLLIA BOD will continue to monitor and influence these decisions with your input. This study can be found at [USLLIA.org/Lake Information](http://USLLIA.org/Lake Information).

**2012 ANNUAL SPRING MEETING:** Please join us at the Green Lantern - 10AM on Saturday, May 26 to socialize, hear committee reports and to find out which direction the Fourth of July Parade will go this year!

We are always looking for volunteers to serve on our boards and committees so please consider volunteering your talents and energy.

Thanks for your ongoing lake stewardship and support.

Ron Trosvig – USLLIA President



## **NO SURPRISE – EARLY ICE OUT**

It's probably no surprise to anyone who spent this winter in Minnesota to hear that the ice on Upper South Long Lake went out early – very early. It was deemed that all the ice was finally 'out' on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. In the past 15 years of records the previous earliest ice-out was March 26<sup>th</sup> back in 2000. The 15 year average ice-out is April 13<sup>th</sup>.



## **'FEED' YOUR DIRECTORY**

Our lake directory needs to keep being fed in order to stay 'alive'. Fed with updates and new owners and latest email addresses, etc. If we don't keep it updated it will cease to be of any value. So if you have a change of ownership in your area let the directory know. Even if a seasonal resident becomes a full timer at the lake please let us know about that as well so we're not sending newsletters to the wrong place. You can give changes to any association director or get them to Jack Rolfs (218-764-2922 / [jrolfs@brainerd.net](mailto:jrolfs@brainerd.net)).

In case you missed out last year be aware that a new lake directory was published in 2011. All association members in 2011 should have received their complementary copy last summer. If you need a copy they will be available at the spring meeting or you can arrange to get a copy by contacting either Beth Larson (218-829-7481 / [angelmox@yahoo.com](mailto:angelmox@yahoo.com)) or Jack Rolfs.

**DUES ARE DUE**

For 25 bucks you can join the  
*"Best little lake association in the Midwest"*

Send a check to USLLIA, Box 201, Brainerd, MN 56401. Use the  
used envelope. Paid members will receive a **FREE DOOR STICKE**

## Do you have a new ice ridge this year?

### What can be done after an ice ridge has formed:

The question arises ... **Is a DNR permit required to remove or grade soil material (ice ridge) pushed up by ice action onto my shoreline?**

Near-shore areas are critical to the health of a water body's ecosystem. Therefore, for most projects involving work below the **ordinary high water level (OHWL)** of **public waters**, an individual **Public Waters Work Permit** is required.

Minnesota rules allow for some exceptions with regard to **ice ridges**. An individual Public Waters Work Permit would **not** be required from the DNR for ice ridge removal or grading under the **following conditions**:

- The **ice ridge** resulted from ice action within the last year;
- The project is either exempt from local permits or is authorized by issuance of a local government permit;
- Not more than 200 feet of shoreline is affected;
- All **ice ridge** material that is composed of muck, clay or organic sediment is deposited and stabilized at an upland site above the ordinary high water level (OHWL);
- All **ice ridge** material that is composed of sand or gravel is removed as provided above or graded to conform to the original cross-section and alignment of the lakebed, with a finished surface at or below the ordinary high water level (OHWL);

No additional excavation or **replacement** fill material occurs on the site;

- All exposed areas are immediately stabilized as needed to prevent erosion the original cross-section and alignment of the lakebed, with a finished surface at or below the ordinary high water level (OHWL);

- Local zoning officials, the Watershed District, if applicable, and the Soil and Water District are given at least seven days prior notice.

- For more information, contact your local [DNR Waters Area Hydrologist](#)   
Heather Baird 218-833-8648

\* Used directly from DNR website

## Trees and Seed available from Crow Wing SWCD

In addition to the usual native trees and bushes for sale, the SWCD has native seed packets for sale. **To Place An order:**

**Step 1:** Print Order Form

**Step 2:** Fill Out Order Form (Sales tax included in all prices)

**Step 3:** Print out form and send with 50% or full payment to

Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District, 322 Laurel St. Brainerd, MN 56401

To view plants and costs, check the website: <http://www2.co.crow-wing.mn.us/swcd/Forestry.html>

### Crow Wing Co. Lakes with Eurasian Milfoil

Bay Lake 18-0034

Clearwater 18-0038

Kimball Lake 18-0361

Long (Tame Fish) Lake 18-0002

Louise Mine Pit 18-0746

Lower Mission 18-0243

Ossawinnamakee Lake 18-0352

Ripple River, between Bay Lake and Tame Fish Lake

Crow Wing County Lakes with Zebra Mussels

Little Rabbit Lake 18-0139

Black Bear Lake 18-0140

Love Lake 18-0388

Boom Lake 18-0529

Miller Lake 18-0133

Half-Moon Lake 18-0238

Nisswa Lake 18-0399

### Clean it up!!

When removing your fish house, PLEASE remember to clean up any debris around it. This includes any materials that have been brought onto the ice To bank your house. We all want a clean lake to enjoy!

The cost of this newsletter is shared by these fine businesses.

Please keep them in mind for your needs!



## OAK LAWN TAVERN

Great Burgers and Broasted Chicken

15483 State Hwy 18, Brainerd, MN 56401

218-829-7656

# Wild Bird <sup>llc</sup>

## STORE

At Little Farm Market

For all your gardening and feathered friend's needs!!

Shelly Stanley—Jon Lonsky

Ph. 218-829-5436

516 C St. NE, Brainerd, MN 56401

Fax 218-828-2045

## HERGET CONSTRUCTION

New construction for: Cabins, Porches, Decks & Garages.

Remodeling Interior & Exterior.

Installation of New Windows & Siding.

**For Quality Work call Joe at: 218-764-3554**

10064 Leisure Ln, Brainerd, MN, 56401



# BE LOON AWARE:

## Boaters and Loons



A Minnesota treasure is the Loon with its beautiful plumage and haunting calls. The loon became our state bird in 1961. Loons make many of Minnesota's lakes their summer home and nesting area. Upper South Long Lake is very fortunate to be one of those lakes! We must remember and respect that we share the lake with the Loons and all wildlife.

Loon chicks hatch in late June, which coincides with the start of the busy boating season. Loon awareness and responsible watercraft use will help reduce the conflicts that can occur between boaters and loons. There are many ways that watercraft can have a negative effect of loons:

Power boats can send waves crashing into shorelines and loon platforms, drowning nests.

Jet skis can speed in shallow water and run over chicks.

Boats pulling water skiers and tubers may speed near shorelines and run over chicks.

LISTEN TO LOONS ~ If you approach a loon and hear it start to call, it is distressed or scared and means you are too close. MOVE AWAY IMMEDIATELY! If the danger is still present after the parents have called a few times, the adults will sink into the water and swim away. They'll pop up far away and call to their babies to follow them, but it may be too late. Young chicks don't dive! Eagles and gulls that heard the distress call (tremolo call) often fly over in hopes of finding an unprotected baby loon. During the time the little loons are scrambling to find their parents again, they can get eaten.

WATCH WHAT LOONS DO ~ If you see a loon "dancing" straight up out of the water and slapping with its wings, it is stressed and alarmed by your presence. MOVE AWAY IMMEDIATELY!

GIVE LOONS PLENTY OF SPACE and enjoy watching them from a distance! They need solitude to breed and raise their young. Approaching too closely can inadvertently cause adult loons to leave their nests, potentially for long periods of time, causing chilling of the eggs and failure of the nest!

Upper South Long Lake has not had a totally successful hatch for some time now! They come back if they are successful in their hatch but can choose to go elsewhere if they are not! The biggest danger they face is from humans and human actions.

It takes all of us to watch out for the loons! Harassment of wildlife is against the law! If you see loons being harassed, report it to the Conservation Officer, Paul Kuske, for Upper South Long Lake. His office number is: **320-745-2023** or he can be dispatched through the Minnesota State Patrol at **218-828-2400**. (Record these numbers in your lake directory or other handy place)

Supply him with as much information as possible, videotaping, taking a picture of the event and/or recording the vessel's registration number, vehicle and/or boat trailer license number and the name of person involved in incident if known.

**We ALL must be vigilant! Be loon aware now and always!**

Upper South Long Lake  
Improvement Association  
PO Box 201  
Brainerd, MN 56401



**You're invited!**  
**Upper South Long Lake  
Improvement Association  
Spring Meeting  
Saturday, May 26, 2012  
Green Lantern— Jct of 8 and 18  
10 am-noon  
Stay Informed about the  
Lake Association's Activities!!  
Get to know more people !!**