

The Nebagamon Lake Association Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2010

Note: If you are getting this newsletter on paper and would like to get it by email, send your current email address to tw.maas@yahoo.com. It is also available on our website www.nebagamonlakeassociation.com.

Editor's note—by Ann Parker

I don't know about you, but I've really enjoyed seeing everything turn green this year—after a long period of brown and dead and serious fire danger, the green has been wonderful—and there are SOOO many shades! It seems that something new is poking its head out of the soil every other day or so to provide more color, from the marsh marigolds to the little violets to the wild strawberry blossoms. And aren't we lucky here that our lake level is high enough to do all of our water activities, unlike many other lakes in this area?

In addition to seeing the seasons change, those of us who are "year rounders" (or "rounders" for short) are very happy to once again see our friends who go away for the winter (or "drainers"—those who shut off their water and drain their pipes.) We welcome you back, as you help to make our community complete.

As you read this newsletter, please note our summer activities calendar and **DO** make an effort to take part. Enjoy Mark Twain's thoughts on fishing and the Perfect Moment poem. Also note the new protocol to prevent the spread of VHS as well as the new NR 115 rules re impervious surfaces. We look forward to seeing **you** soon. Have a relaxing and enjoyable summer!



Honeymoon Point & Lighthouse—a Village icon

Summer Schedule—Mark your calendars!

June 16-17—Boater safety classes for 12-16 yr. olds at Auditorium, 1-5 p.m.

June 19—Village-wide Garage Sale, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

June 26—Annual Meeting at Auditorium: 9 a.m.-social hour, 10 a.m.- business meeting.

July 4—Boat parade

August 14—summer social: details to come later

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NLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pres—Pat Sherman—374-2920

Vice-Pres.—Ed Noltner—374-3707

Sect.—Gail Levo—374-2185

Treas.—Jack Sellwood—374-2529

Jack Arthur—374-2529

Luanne Hunter—374-3508

Willard Kiefer—374-3544

Al Lisdahl—374-3370

Tom Maas—374-2147

Dennis Raas—374-3228

Eric Takkunen—612-867-7951

Phil Takkunen—274-3047

Boat Monitoring Project—by Jack Sellwood

Our monitoring of boats launching in Lake Nebagamon is entering its sixth year. Your Board believes this is an important project both for the benefit of inspecting the boats entering the Lake and preventing the spread of invasives, and for the educational opportunity of explaining the dangers of introducing aquatic hitchhikers from infected lakes to ours.

The State of Wisconsin provided grant funding for the first four years. Unfortunately this stopped last year. The Village helped with \$1500, and our members through a special appeal raised \$1509. Again this year the Village is contributing \$1500. We ask you again this year to help fund this valuable project. Thanks in advance.

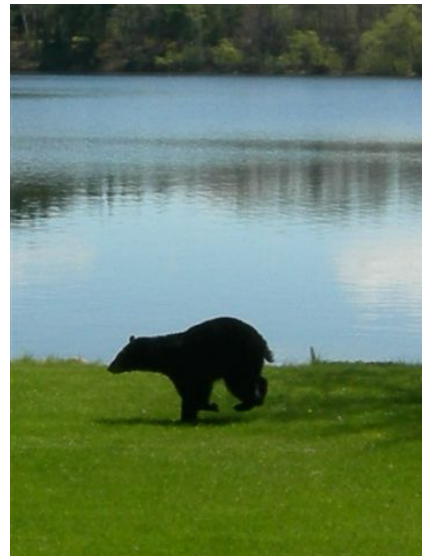
Note: We expect to have 50 five-hour inspection times, mostly on weekends between May 28 and Sept. 6.

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Membership—by Jack Sellwood

We have the greatest members in the world. Our dues are \$15 per year which extends from July 1 to June 30 each year. Our last news letter, in error, contained a membership form that indicated dues had not been paid. Many of our over 200 members happily mailed their payment. For the past few years, we have encouraged advance payment of dues. At this time over 100 families are paid in advance. Please let Luanne Hunter know of any potential members in your neighborhood. Thanks for your help and continued support.

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Ah, Summer

Spring has come once more, we think,
And summer's on the brink.
Yes, there's work that must be done,
But save some time to have some fun!
(Anonymous)



Lions, and Tigers, and Bears, Oh My!
(Recent photo by Howard Levo in his yard)

One of the factors most of us enjoy about being in the country is watching the birds and wildlife. However, there are quite a few bears around the lake this year, and it would be prudent to take steps to discourage them. Bears that get habituated to humans often become dangerous. What should you do? Remove birdfeeders if bears have been bothering them. Do **not** intentionally feed them human food. Be careful outside, especially if you have small children—or if the bears have cubs present.

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Boater Safety Classes—Boater safety classes for youths ages 12-15 will be from 1-5 p.m. June 16 & 17 at the Auditorium. When successfully completed, young people can solo a powerboat. To register, call 374-3101. This is a great opportunity—encourage your children/grandchildren to attend. It is \$10 well spent! Class size is limited to 50.

Village-wide Garage Sale—by Carol Arthur
Come one...Come all to the Lake Nebagamon Village-Wide Garage Sale to be held on Saturday, June 19, 2010 from 8 am – 3 pm. We need both buyers and sellers. Have fun, get rid of unused items, support the community, and **go green**. For only \$10 get your name on a garage sale list and map. Call 374-2529 or email ja069@centurytel.net by June 16. Proceeds go to support projects of the Nebagamon Lake Association.

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Annual Meeting—Our annual meeting will be Saturday, June 26, at the Village Auditorium with social hour (coffee, juice, and goodies) at 9 a.m., and the business meeting at 10 a.m. Our business meeting will approve the budget for the next year, discuss issues of importance to us, and elect board members. This is also a good time to bring up your concerns and suggestions. If you care about what we do, please consider running for the board. Call Pat Sherman or Ed Noltner and let one of them know.

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Fishing by Mark Twain

Returning home after a weekend in the Maine woods, Mark Twain was lounging in the smoking car of the train to Boston. He could not resist the temptation to boast to the rustic-looking New Englander seated beside him about the twelve big fish he had caught.

“The season is closed for fishing now,” he confided, “but just between you and me, my friend, out there in the baggage car I’ve got two hundred pounds of the best rock bass that you ever laid eyes on.”

“Waal,” drawled the New Englander, “that’s interestin’, but d’ya know who I am?”

“No,” said Twain. “Who are you?”

“Waal,” said the homespun gentleman. “I’m the state game warden.”

Mark Twain puffed on his cigar. “That’s interestin’,” he said. “But d’ye know who I am?”

“No, who are you?” asked the warden

“I’m the d.....est liar in the United States!”

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VHS – Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia --has now been verified as being in Lake Superior and the St Louis River system.

The Nebagamon Lake Association provides the following information for boaters and anglers to help prevent the spread of VHS to our inland lakes in both Wisconsin and Minnesota. Listed below are the laws and guidelines for all who fish Lake Superior, St Louis River, St Louis Bay, Superior Bay and connecting water ways.

Wisconsin Law:

- Remove any attached aquatic plants or animals from your boat and trailer before leaving the water access.
- You must drain all water from boats, containers and fishing equipment when leaving any state waters, banks or shores, or entering Wisconsin over land.
- You may not transport any live fish or fish eggs away from any state waters. There is an exception for minnows obtained from a Wisconsin bait dealer. These minnows may be transported away live and used again on the same body of water, or on any other waters if no lake water, or other fish were added to the container
- You may not use dead fish, fish eggs or fish parts as bait on any waters except if they were preserved by a method that does not require freezing or refrigeration.
- You may not possess or use minnows for bait that are obtained outside of Wisconsin unless such minnows were imported under a WI DATCP permit. Go to dnr.wi.gov/fish/vhs for complete listing of all laws concerning VHS.

Minnesota Enforcement Rules:

- Remove all visible plants from your boat and trailer before leaving a water access;
 - Drain water from your boat, motor, live well and bait containers, including removing the bilge drain plug;
 - Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash; and
 - Spray, rinse or dry boats and recreational equipment before transporting to another body of water.
- Go to dnr.state.mn/fish_diseases for a complete listing of all laws concerning VHS.



VHS info, cont.

A Lake Superior charter boat captain recently indicated he uses an additional procedure to help prevent the spread of VHS and other invasive species. He carries a small quantity of bleach, which he puts in his bilge and live well after he leaves the water access to disinfect any water that may have not drained out. He then flushes out the disinfectant at a safe location.

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PERFECT MOMENT #1: MORNING by Tom Hegg

I glance at the clock. . .take a deep, filling yawn. . .
I make out the dock in the first light of dawn. . .

The sap-sweetened air is delicious and cool. . .
The snap of the maple branch burning for fuel. . .

The lake starts to sparkle with rays from the sun. . .
The songbirds are singing. . .and day has begun.

Ma Duck and her brood on a Morning Explore. . .
The wash of the waves on the rocks of the shore. . .

My cane-pole alive with the tug of a fish. . .
The hug of my down-vest. . .what more could I wish?
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**UPDATE ON SHORELAND ZONING REGULATIONS:
NR115**

(From The Lake Connection, Spring 2010)

It's been 40 years since shoreland zoning rules were first adopted, and they have recently been updated to better protect lakes and rivers while also giving property owners more flexibility on their land. Owners of existing homes and buildings can keep what they have—unless they propose a major change on their property. Then they may have to take steps to offset the potential impacts from their project—that is called mitigation. Counties have two years to get the changes into their zoning ordinances. One change of special interest to all who care about water quality is that the amount of hard or impervious surfaces will be limited to 15%

of total lot size. (This is because impervious surfaces of more than 10% adversely affect water quality.) Again, if the total of impervious surfaces is between 15 and 30 percent of the lot size, property owners would be required to take measures to offset the environmental impact of any proposed project.



Eagle photo by Dan Parker

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE ERADICATION PROJECT:

The lake association has not had any contact with the statewide DNR person in charge of this project this year. In lieu of raising and releasing beetles this year, we strongly urge each of you who has purple loosestrife on your property to cut and bag the flowering heads before they can go to seed and spread. If you have questions, please call either Ed Noltner (374-3707) or Ann Parker (374-2138). Thank you!