

# The Nebagamon Lake Association Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2011

Editor Ann Parker

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## **The Lake.....Everyone's Responsibility**

By President, Pat Sherman

Here we are with another summer of fun sitting right in front of us.... "The Lake." Many of us are able to see it right outside our back door, and for others it's across the road or a short walk to the village beach. It really doesn't matter where you live, we can all help protect the lake and the quality of the water. It's in everyone's best interest both physically and financially. The better quality lake we have, the more people will want to live here and raise a family. That's good for our business community, and it doesn't hurt our real estate values either.

We need to be good stewards of the lake. It's important that we tell our guests to check their boat trailers for weeds that need to be removed before putting their boats in the water. Make sure they drain their live wells and bilge water. If Milfoil or aquatic species get in the lake, it won't be long before they would overtake the lake and take our fun and joy, too. Don't be afraid to speak up if you see a neighbor fertilizing with phosphorus. Using the wrong fertilizer doesn't just grow grass on the lawn--it feeds the growth of weeds in the lake. Watch for items floating in and around the lake as well. Foreign items can damage wild life and fish habitat and be a potential hazard to both children and adults using the lake.

Someone once said that living in Lake Nebagamon is like living in the fifties, which is one of the main reasons we moved here. Respecting the lake and one another is what will make this summer one to remember. Let's continue to be good neighbors and help one another out by taking care of our lake!!!



Isn't it wonderful to see some color again after the long monochrome winter and brown spring? (Photo by Ann Parker)

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### **Summer schedule—Mark your calendars!**

- June 14-15—Boater safety classes for youth—  
1-5 p.m. (see article)
- June 18—Village-wide Garage Sale, 8 a.m.-  
3 p.m. (see article)
- June 25—Annual Meeting at Auditorium:  
9:30 a.m. social hour, 10 a.m.-business  
meeting.
- July 4—Boat parade at 7 p.m.
- August 13—Summer Social at Botten's Golf  
Course

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### **Hmmmmm**

A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise.

(Aldo Leopold)

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**Food for Thought**

Everyone needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength for body and soul. (John Muir)

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What a view!!! (Photo—Ann Parker)

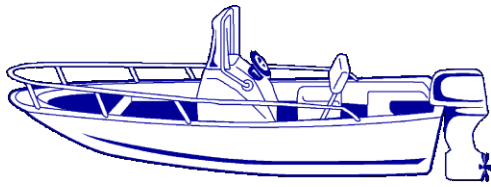
**Village-Wide Garage Sale** by Carol Arthur  
**Come one...Come all to the Lake Nebagamon Village-Wide Garage Sale** to be held on Saturday, June 18, 2011 from 8 am – 3 pm. We need lots of buyers and lots of sellers. Have fun, get rid of unused items, support the community, and **go green**. For only \$10 get your name on a garage sale list and on the map. Call Carol Arthur at 374-2529 or Nancy Smith at 374-3357 or email [ja069@centurytel.net](mailto:ja069@centurytel.net) by June 16. Send your name, address of sale, list of a few “hot” items to 7697 S County Rd S, Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849. Make your check out to the Nebagamon Lake Association. Proceeds of this sale go to support projects of the Nebagamon Lake Association.

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**MEMBERSHIP REMINDER**

Please send in the attached membership application as soon as possible. We count on your support to make a difference for the lake!

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**Boater safety classes for youth offered again:**  
 These classes are for young people ages 12-16 and enable them to be certified to legally operate power boats. Classes will be held on June 14-15 from 1-5 p.m. at the Village Auditorium, with Tom Blundell teaching. The fee remains \$10, and you can register your children or grandchildren at the Village office in the Auditorium or by calling 715-374-3101—or you may register on the first day of class.  
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**What’s happening at the Lake Nebagamon beach? (interview with Howard Levo, Village Board trustee)**

The Village and Douglas County are working on a joint project to prevent most polluted run-off from getting into the lake. You may have already noticed that the road past the Dairy Queen has been torn up and that some ponds have been dug. These ponds are to absorb much of the run-off; they will be similar to large rain gardens, with plants that will help absorb the water. However, the ground is not as absorbent as it was hoped it would be, so the engineers are modifying the plan a bit. When that redesign is completed, the revised rain gardens can be dug, the base for the new road can be started, and then the brick paver walkway can be put in. A last step will be to pave the road. It is hoped that the project will be completed before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. There will still be the same swimming beach and dock, as well as handicapped parking, and there will still be access to the lake in the winter. **For more info or to ask questions, come to the annual meeting,** (Note: The street by the boat launch and Fitch Ave. also have serious run-off problems.)  
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**Tips for Good Lake Stewardship from WILCO News, winter 2010**

- GIVE A HOOT—Don’t litter!
- NO DUMPING—Never dump fish remains or leftover bait in any lake or stream.
- STOP THE INVASION—Clean your boat, motor, trailer, anchor, and live well to stop the invasion of invasive species.
- TURN UP THE QUIET—Reduce your noise contribution whenever possible.
- TURN DOWN THE LIGHTS—Shield all lights that can be seen from the lake & turn them off when not needed.
- KEEP YOUR DISTANCE—Loons and other animals may abandon young if stressed. Maintain ample space between you and wildlife. Harassing loons & other wildlife is a punishable offense.
- PLAY SAFE—Make sure your equipment is safe and legal. Youngsters should wear approved lifejackets whenever on, in, or near the lake.
- DON’T DRINK & DRIVE—Most lake-related boating accidents involve alcohol.



Photo by Ann Parker

**NOTHING'S PERFECT** by Tom Hegg

Well, sure, there are a few things I don't love about the place. . .

Like unseen spider filaments that drape across your face.

And oversize mosquitoes—ever numerous and near—

That hum sustained high C's at night while dancing 'round your ear.

And yes, I must confess that I am none too fond of bats.

They have this way of folding up and slipping through the slats.

And leeches! Just the sight of one can make me go all green.

The very thought of what they do is perfectly obscene.

But even with this host of things that crawl and flit and ooze,

There isn't a vacation spot on Earth I'd rather choose!

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**An Initiative to Improve the Walleye and Other Fishery in Lake Nebagamon** by Will Kiefer

An expression commonly heard is: "Lake Nebagamon is turning into a Bass Lake. The trend now appears it is easier to catch small mouth bass, but harder to catch walleyes. Those of us who have fished Lake Nebagamon the past 20 to 40 years remember the excellent walleye fishery that existed. Several Nebagamon Lake Association members have discussed this issue, and with Phil Takkunen and Will Kiefer taking the lead, met with Scott Toshner, DNR Fishery Biologist for our lake, and put together a plan to achieve an improved walleye fishery. This initiative has four goals:

1. Establish a more restrictive walleye harvest regulation,
2. Increase the walleye population by stocking extended growth walleyes,
3. Select 4 to 20 test properties to place trees (woody debris-fish sticks) in the shoreline water for a fish habitat restoration goal, and

4. Gain the support of the Lake Association, the Village Board and the entire community to create and enhance Lake Nebagamon's recreational resources.

This initiative was introduced at the September 15, 2010, Nebagamon Lake Association Board Meeting. To thoroughly discuss this initiative, the board scheduled a meeting for Wednesday, October 20, 2010, at 7 PM in the Auditorium. Scott Toshner presented more information at this meeting. As with improving our water purity, we believe that improving the fishery will also enhance our lake's value as a place to live and recreate. The Nebagamon Lake Association Board of Directors approved this initiative by e-mail vote November 9, 2010. The Lake Nebagamon Village Board passed a Resolution on November 9, 2010, supporting this initiative. This initiative was put together by Phil Takkunen and Will Kiefer with the assistance of Scott Toshner, Fisheries Biologist, Brule DNR. Currently we are in the process of making contact with the Red Cliff Biologist. One important part of this project is to secure lake shore property owners willing to participate in shoreline restoration work and the placement of fish sticks (trees) for fish habitat. If you may be interested and want more information, please feel free to contact either Phil Takkunen 374-3047 or Will Kiefer 374-3544. This walleye improvement initiative will be on the agenda at the Annual Meeting June 25, 2011.



