

The Nebagamon Lake Association Newsletter

Spring 2018



President's Message

What an interesting spring season it was! Late season snow and cold was sure making it look like we would be setting a record for latest ice out in our recorded history. But, mother nature had other plans, and 20+ inches of ice disappeared in a matter of a week or two to allow for open water on the fishing opener, May 5. After that, I thought it would be late June or early July before the lake warmed up. Yet, by late in the week before Memorial Day (just 2 ½ weeks later!), the water was already 70 degrees for everyone's Memorial Day fun.

The Nebagamon Lake Association has not stopped moving forward since you last heard from us. Last October, over a two day stretch we sought volunteers to assist in stocking the lake with walleye. The goal was to try to move walleye to different parts of the lake, as without this help, all fish would be deposited at the boat launch. I was so proud of the turnout of the members of the organization to complete this project. This was an unprecedented approach according to our DNR contact, and we certainly hope it will improve the success of the stocking in the long term.

As the Winter progressed, we were hard at work applying for and successfully obtaining DNR grants to continue our boat launch monitoring program as well as additional Healthy Lakes projects around the lake. There is still significant money to be granted, and we need additional property owners to consider projects! Remember, these projects can both beautify and protect your property, and can come at little or no out-of-pocket cost to you. You have nothing to lose by

having a conversation with one of our committee members, who are lakeshore owners themselves.

We welcomed in numerous new members last year and look forward to continued outreach to new area residents. If you have a new neighbor, please let them know about our organization!

We are excited about our projects and events in 2018. Please let us know of any questions, concerns, or comments you may have about our organization. You can always reach me at lakenebagamonwisconsin@yahoo.com.

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Reminder—Important Dates in 2018

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| June 16 | Garage sales, 8:00 a.m. – 3 p.m. |
| June 23 | Annual meeting, 9:30 a.m., Auditorium |
| July 4 | Boat Parade, 7 p.m. |
| August 11 | Summer Social, 6 p.m. at Patti's Dockside |

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Membership Report

For the year ending June 30, 2018 at this time we have 226 paid members, with many paying in advance. This is 1 more than we had in the previous year at this time. There are still 39 members who we haven't heard from. We will indicate along with this newsletter if you are one of these members. Please note that the majority of dues collection occurs at the beginning of the fiscal year (Summer), so we apologize in advance if you catch up on last year's dues and are then asked about current year dues within a few months. Attached to the end of this newsletter is a dues form.

The total current and non-current members comprise over 75% of lakeshore property owners. If you have sold or transferred your property, please let us know who is currently enjoying Lake Nebagamon. We will be happy to contact them, and stop bugging you if you wish!

Finally, you can take advantage of our online payment option for dues with your credit card. Go to <http://nebagamonlakeassociation.com/pay-online/>

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Community Garage Sales June 16

The annual community garage sales will take place on Saturday, June 16. Contact George Lehman at 715-374-9068 or geolehman1@juno.com to have your house included on the map. \$10 per house goes to the Nebagamon Lake Association for projects that will benefit the lake and community. Happy shopping!



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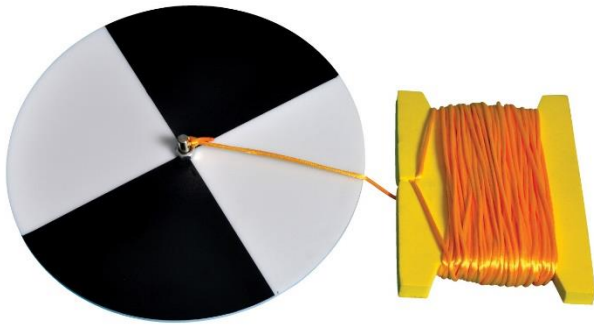


WI Healthy Lakes Initiative

Once again, the Nebagamon Lake Association received the Healthy Lakes Project grant from the Wisconsin DNR. This is the third grant awarded to the NLA. The new grant has five new property owners with a total of 12 new healthy lakes practices. There will be 5 rain gardens, 5 diversion practices, 1 native plantings and 1 rock infiltration project. The period for the grant is from April 15, 2018 through December 31, 2019.

The purpose of the Healthy Lakes Project is to divert runoff from asphalt paving and roofing material from entering the lake. Runoff from these areas can transport contaminants to the lake. The rain gardens provide a collection area for the runoff and enhance the property. The diversion practices directs the runoff into rain gardens. Rock infiltration projects provide a collection area for the runoff which is dispersed underground and is filtrated naturally before entering the lake. The native plantings are along the shoreline and will enhance the natural beauty of the lake. There is also a fish sticks project which provides a safe habitat for the aquatic animals.

The NLA will be looking for new property owners that are interested in participating in the Healthy Lakes Projects. Our members will provide on-site evaluations of your property to determine if your property is a candidate for the project. Sign-ups for the project will be at the Annual Meeting. If any property owner is interested in seeing the some of the ongoing projects, please inquire at the Annual Meeting.



Water Quality Report

Lake Nebagamon had ice up occur on Dec. 8, 2017. The temperature was below normal for the majority of the winter. Our snowfall was 20 inches below normal up until the last week in February when received 20-24 inches in one week. The spring started out cold with a good chance for ice to still be on the lake for the opening day of fishing. But the ice fully went off the lake on May 5, 2018 the day of opening fishing.

Last year was a very good year for water clarity. The average secchi disk reading for 2017 was 7.6 feet. The only reading this year on May 20 was a step backwards as it was only 5 feet. After checking recent history I have noticed a pattern of one year having low water clarity followed by a year of high water clarity. Here is the last few years and the secchi disk reading in feet:

- 2014 - 5.97
- 2015 - 7
- 2016 - 5.75
- 2017 - 7.6
- 2018 - 5 (one reading)

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AIS Boat Launch Monitoring

This year's boat monitoring for invasive species started on the weekend after fishing opener on Saturday, May 12th. We normally monitor 11 hours a day from 7am to 6pm on Saturdays and Sunday's only until Memorial Day weekend. Starting on Friday, May 25th we normally monitor 7 days a week. This is a total

of 53 hours a week (5 hours/day Monday-Thursday and 11 hours/day Friday, Saturday and Sunday). This is the same number of hours as previous years.

Our main monitor this year is Jeff Giansanti. Jeff is starting his 5th year working for us and he covers the 11 hour shifts on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. He also covers the 11 hour shifts on our 3 holidays (Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day). Jeff has also helped us this year by covering some Thursday's. We are in need of two more monitors and have been advertising for the open positions since May 14th.

William Cain, who has monitored for us in the past has filled in for us 4 days to date. Unfortunately, William has many other commitments but has graciously agreed to help out when he can until we are able to fill the open positions. From the period of May 12-31st we have monitored 226 boats.

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The boats gather around the boat launch in preparation for the volunteer led walleye stocking in October 2017.

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Calling all photographers – we need more pictures around Lake Nebagamon to be featured in this newsletter and on our Facebook page. Please share pictures on our Facebook page or send to lakenebagamonwisconsin@yahoo.com.

Boat Ramp Updates

We have initiated two projects for the municipal boat launching ramp, together with the Village. The first project is to divert contaminated rain runoff into the lake from the ramp and surrounding streets. This can be done by constructing a trench across the ramp to catch the runoff and diverting it into underground holding tanks; a steel grate is placed over the trench to permit normal launching activities. Initial concept drawings and funding (75% DNR-25% village) are completed with final drawings and installation expected by next fall.

The second project is to improve the boat launch pad which has taken a beating from weather, powering motors and ice over the years. This has caused numerous cracks and uplifts in the pad and a 18" dropoff to develop at the end of the concrete ramp. Initial design, final design and installation all need to be completed. Funding from the DNR to cover 50% of costs is available but needs to be applied for and awarded yet. The Village Public Works Dept., under the direction of Jim Jonasen, is addressing all of these issues as well as completing the ramp rain diversion project.

All types of boats are welcome to take part. We will again be taking pictures of the festivities and determining which boats have the best combination of decorations, spirit, and creativity. The top two winners will receive a Dilly Bar for every person on board. Pictures will be shared on the NLA Facebook page as well as in the fall newsletter, as space allows.

Don't forget to stop by Jack's pontoon at the end of the parade (near the Boy's Camp) to get a Dairy Queen gift certificate!

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Boat Parade July 4th

Join your neighbors for the annual July 4th boat parade again this year. The parade starts at 7 p.m., and is led by Jack Sellwood (look for the teal-colored Bennington). The parade usually lasts about 45 minutes.

Join Us at the Summer Social!

Please join us for the Lake Nebagamon Annual Summer Social on Saturday August 11, 2018 at 6pm! It will be held at Patti's Dockside. On the menu will be chicken, scalloped potatoes, cole-slaw, and buttermilk biscuits. Cost will be \$9.00 per adult, \$5.00 per child. Ice cream sundaes with an assortment of toppings will again be served for dessert at no charge to attendees. We will also have a drawing for free prizes and a 50/50 raffle. Come support our beautiful lake and meet your lake neighbors! Also, if you would like to pay your Association dues that day, you can as well.

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Photo taken of loon chick on Lake Nebagamon, 2016, Dan Takkunen

From the Nest of the "Loon Ranger," Dan Takkunen

It was mid-June when a neighbor down the shore alerted me about a loon nest, with two eggs in it, that she had seen on Lake Nebagamon a few days before. Of course, my curiosity and interest got the better of me so I had to go check it out. So, I hopped in my kayak with my camera around my neck and slowly paddled towards the nest location. What I saw was not a nest, but a pair of beautiful loons and two chicks swimming. I was careful not to get too close, giving them all the space they needed, and took multiple shots with the zoom lens on my camera. It was warm, the sun was shining, and the lake was like glass. It was a great day!

About a month later, I had a phone call from another neighbor about a sighting of seven or eight adult loons in front of his place, diving for food, preening, and doing other things that loons do. So, I walked over and observed this raft of loons. This was somewhat of an unusual sighting on Lake Nebagamon, as we usually have only one or two pairs on the lake at any given time. This was turning out to be another great day! Loon experts will tell you that in July and August, loons in the area that didn't acquire a territory or lost their chicks start to congregate in a sort of "coffee clutch." These loons were actually checking things out, looking for information on the territorial pairs on the lake to see if they had chicks and how defensive they were of their territory. The large group may try to harass the pairs, and even go so far as to kill the chicks.

As September rolled around, I occasionally saw a pair of loons with one chick, who by now had grown quite

large. This chick will begin to test its wings in anticipation of migrating down to the Gulf of Mexico. But the chick would be the last to leave for the Gulf. The single loons (floaters) fly out first, followed by the loon parents, and finally the chick. Hopefully that chick will return to Lake Nebagamon in three years, the general time that it needs to mature. Here is hoping that you have many great days as well this summer, days that include a lot of loon sightings.

Walleye Enhancement Initiative

Our goal to improve the lake's walleye fishery continues. Last Oct., over 15,000 more fingerlings were stocked into our lake courtesy of the WI DNR. A big thank you to our neighbors who came with 18 boats to distribute these fish into all the lake bays. Since 2011 when our program started, over 60,000 fish have been stocked, thanks to fund raisers from local lake owners and businesses, the Red Cliffs tribe and the DNR; each fingerling costs about \$2 to raise to a 6-10" length prior to stocking. DNR reports good survival numbers for these stocked fish in our lake, due in large part to our efforts to improve fish habitat. This is done by cabling cut trees to shorelines to simulate fallen trees and thereby provide protective habitat for small fish. We have had numerous owners set aside shoreline for this project, called "Fish Sticks". But no additional shoreline was volunteered last year. We NEED more owners to set aside a small amount of shoreline to help our fish survive! Simply call Phil Takkunen (949-412-8690) or Alan Yoshimoto (715-817-0439) for a free evaluation.



Proposed NLA Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

THE NEBAGAMON LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC

BUDGET 7-1-2018 TO 6-30-2019

INCOME:		
DUES	\$	4,000
RUMMAGE SALE		400
SOCIAL		600
DONATIONS		2,000
HEALTHY LAKES PROJECT		17,000
BOAT MONITORING		5,500
INTEREST		10
TOTAL		29,510
DISBURSEMENTS:		
PROJECTS:		
BOAT MONITORING		9,000
HEALTHY LAKES PROJECT		18,000
BOAT PARADE		100
FIREWORKS		400
L N SWIMMING CLASS		200
HAZARD MARKERS		500
SOCIAL		600
KIDS IN NEBAGAMON - CHRISTMAS		100
ANNUAL MEETING		75
EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS		100
NEW PROJECT		1,000
RUMMAGE SALE EXP		50
WEB SITE		200
NEWS LETTERS, POSTAGE. MTGS. OFFICE EXP.		500
TOTAL	\$	30,825

NLA Board of Directors

Erik Takkunen, President	612-867-7951
Adam Riutta, Vice President	317-407-5395
Alan Yoshimoto, Secretary	715-374-2467
Jack Sellwood, Treasurer	715-374-3254
David Conley	715-375-2088
Willard Kiefer	715-374-3544
Mark Laskowski	715-374-3747
George Lehman	218-390-7346
Ed Noltner	715-374-3707
Tom Maas	715-374-2147
David Sprowls	239-676-4064
Phil Takkunen	949-412-8690
Jason Willett	615-303-1850

Board Member Project Committees:

- Healthy Lakes/Walleye Initiative – Phil Takkunen, Willard Kiefer, Alan Yoshimoto, Tom Maas, Jason Willett
- Invasive Plants – David Conley, Ed Noltner
- Summer Social – Adam Riutta, Ed Noltner
- Membership/Outreach – Erik Takkunen
- Water quality – Mark Laskowski
- Boat Launch Monitoring – Dave Sprowls
- Garage Sales – George Lehman
- Finance/Treasury – Jack Sellwood

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Did You Know?

After many years, the Lake Nebagamon Dairy Queen is under new ownership. We wish Bonnie all the best in the future and look forward to the new owners (who also own a DQ in Ashland) continuing the tradition in Nebagamon dating back to 1953. Due to training and remodeling requirements, the DQ will open a little later this year, but as of press time they expect to open on Friday, June 15!

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Lake Nebagamon Ice In & Ice Out Dates

<u>Year</u>	<u>Ice-Out Date</u>	<u>Ice-Free Days</u>	<u>Ice-In Date</u>
1943	No Data	-	11/13
1944	5/1	214	12/1
1945	3/31	233	11/19
1946	3/31	237	11/23
1947	5/2	205	11/27
1948	4/12	240	12/8
1949	4/18	251	11/25
1950	5/14	194	11/24
1951	4/18	215	11/19
1952	4/21	221	11/28
1953	4/22	207	11/15
1954	4/20	224	11/30
1955	4/16	217	11/19
1956	4/28	215	11/29
1957	4/24	215	11/25
1958	4/14	227	11/27
1959	4/19	209	11/14
1960	4/20	225	12/1
1961	4/22	221	11/28
1962	4/25	228	12/8
1963	4/14	231	12/1
1964	4/22	212	11/20
1965	4/30	216	12/2
1966	4/22	223	12/1
1967	4/14	221	11/21
1968	4/11	239	12/6
1969	4/20	228	12/4
1970	4/24	217	11/27
1971	4/20	226	12/2
1972	5/1	182	11/30
1973	4/14	231	12/1
1974	4/26	218	11/30
1975	5/1	207	11/24
1976	4/14	215	11/15
1977	4/13	226	11/25
1978	4/19	215	11/20
1979	4/27	221	12/4
1980	4/22	215	11/23
1981	4/13	242	12/11
1982	4/24	214	11/26

<u>Year</u>	<u>Ice-Out Date</u>	<u>Ice-Free Days</u>	<u>Ice-In Date</u>
1983	4/30	216	12/2
1984	4/20	243	12/19
1985	4/18	218	11/22
1986	4/12	219	11/17
1987	4/7	240	12/3
1988	4/19	226	12/1
1989	4/26	212	11/24
1990	4/21	224	12/1
1991	4/12	213	11/7
1992	4/26	218	11/30
1993	4/24	217	11/27
1994	4/18	232	12/6
1995	4/18	209	11/13
1996	5/5	198	11/19
1997	4/24	210	11/20
1998	4/7	258	12/21
1999	4/13	248	12/17
2000	4/26	224	12/6
2001	4/25	239	12/20
2002	4/18	222	11/26
2003	4/24	223	12/3
2004	4/18	240	12/14
2005	4/11	229	11/26
2006	4/11	234	12/1
2007	4/19	226	12/1
2008	3/29	241	11/25
2009	4/16	234	12/6
2010	3/31	248	12/4
2011	4/13	233	12/2
2012	3/21	261	12/7
2013	5/12	197	11/26
2014	5/6	198	11/21
2015	4/12	257	12/26
2016	4/14	239	12/10
2017	4/4	247	12/8
2018	5/5		
Averages			
Last 5	4/21	228	12/4
Last 10	4/12	236	12/2
Last 20	4/14	237	12/4
Overall	4/18	224	11/28

Credits:

Jack Arthur, Gail DeBrunye, Willard Kiefer, Andy Mack, Mark Laskow ski, and Joe Snyder.