

The Nebagamon Lake Association Newsletter

Fall 2016



President's Message

2016 is the year of Healthy Lakes for the Nebagamon Lake Association. With five completed projects over the summer, homeowners held an "open yard" on Labor Day weekend to show off their completed projects. The momentum generated from these five projects has been significant. 18 additional property owners volunteered for site evaluations in September, for which we expect around 15 projects to be proposed for a grant from the State of Wisconsin. As an association, we are still on the early curve of this project in the State, and hope to receive grant funding for a number of years into the future.

Thanks to the leadership of Phil Takkunen and Willard Kiefer, we are standing out as an organization when it comes to receiving DNR funding, using Fish Sticks, walleye stocking, and boat launch monitoring as examples preceding Healthy Lakes.

While we continue to work on important projects like boat launch monitoring, Fish Sticks, walleye stocking, invasive plants, and social events to connect our members, Healthy Lakes is the next "Big Thing" for Lake Nebagamon.

-Erik Takkunen



At Alan & Mary Yoshimoto's property, trenches filled with small rock control run-off from the downspouts of their home, ultimately running into a rain garden.

Reminder—Important Dates in 2017

June 17	Rummage sale
June 24	Annual meeting, 9:30 a.m., Auditorium
July 4	Boat Parade, 7 p.m.
August 12	Summer Social, 6 p.m. at TBD

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4th of July Boat Parade with another Huge Year!

With improved weather, the boat parade drew another record turnout this year. We saw boats of all types: pontoons, ski boats, and fishing boats. We even had a family of inflatable swans make an appearance. Check out the Nebagamom Lake Association on Facebook to see all of the pictures.

We look forward to a great turnout again next year. Bring your best decorations, costumes, and spirit and you may win the grand prize of Dilly Bars for everybody on board! As a reminder, don't forget each and every year to end the boat parade by stopping at the lead pontoon boat to pick up your free Dairy Queen gift certificate.

-Erik Takkunen

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Walleye and Healthy Lakes Initiatives

The stated goal of the Wisconsin Healthy Lakes initiative is “To protect and improve the health of our lakes by increasing lakeshore property owner participation in habitat restoration and runoff and erosion control projects.” Through our participation as an association with the program, the DNR pays 75% of a project, the Nebagamon Lake Association pays 15%, and the homeowner pays 10%. The homeowner may reduce their cash outlay through credit for their own hours of work on the project, should they choose.

Six Healthy Lakes projects were submitted and approved with DNR cost sharing. Five have been completed with the 6th to be carried over into 2017. The main emphasis for Healthy Lakes projects is to control runoff and erosion on lakefront properties with the intent to promote natural shore lands. This fall we conducted a walkthrough of 18 lakeshore properties where the owners expressed interest in a Healthy Lakes project. Those interested will have a project(s) suggested for their lakeshore property for application under DNR's Healthy Lakes project. The NLA will submit these projects together to the DNR for grant consideration. Next year we expect to be approved for 15 projects, of which some include multiple projects per property. Some of the properties visited did not exhibit any apparent need for a project. Each project approved is limited to \$1,000 DNR funding. If you would like an evaluation in the future, please contact Will Kiefer at 715-374-3544 or Phil Takkunen at 949-412-8690.

There is more good news from Scott Toshner, WDNR Fisheries Biologist. The DNR will place more fish sticks along the lake shore this Winter at no cost and stock another 14,783 large (7-10in) fingerling walleye in the fall of 2017. Scott also indicates the electrofishing last spring and this fall indicates the walleye population is rebounding in Lake Nebagamon.

-Phil Takkunen & Willard Kiefer



At Dan & Barb Takkunen's property, rainwater comes off the roof and runs through a rain chain, which then deposits into a four foot deep rock infiltration pit to slow or eliminate run-off down the hill.



At Dan & Barb Takkunen's property, a shoreline restoration project featuring native plantings will further slow the flow of runoff into the lake.

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
Mark Laskowski	715-374-3747
David Conley	715-375-2088
Willard Kiefer	715-374-3544
George Lehman	218-390-7341
Ed Noltner	715-374-3707
Tom Maas	715-374-2147
David Sprowls	239-676-4064
Phil Takkunen	949-412-8690

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2016 AIS Boat Launch Monitoring

This year our monitoring on the lake started with the fishing opener on May 7. Once again the monitoring continued through Labor Day on September 5. We monitored only weekends until Memorial Day on May 30, when we began monitoring 7 days per week.

We employed four monitors. They were Jeff Giansanti, Judy Dalbec, William Cain, and Diane Michelizzi. All four monitors had worked for us in previous years. Again as in previous years we gave special emphasis to boats that had been in other waters in the last five days. We were even more thorough with these boats, especially those that had been in bodies of water with either zebra mussels or Eurasian Water Milfoil problems. There were 26 such boats this year.

We also screened particularly to make sure drain plugs were out, and checked people's live wells. We had 99 work shifts completed by our monitors. There were 51 ten hour shifts and 47 four hour shifts. Monitors were paid \$8.50 per hour. We expect three of the four monitors to return next year, which should cover all shifts.

We monitored 1,917 boats. (89 less than last year which was our busiest) There were 1230 boats entering the lake and 675 boats leaving the lake. There were 87 boats that had been in another lake within the previous five days (down from 147 boats in 2015), of these 26 had been in a lake or river identified as having zebra mussel or Eurasian Water Milfoil problems (down from 47 boats in 2015). We again had no violations and the number of people contacted was 3,483 (1.8 per boat). This was down from last year's high of 3,817 people.

-Dave Sprowls

Membership Report

We finished our 2016 fiscal year with 209 member families. This was 21 members less than the previous year.

For the 2017 fiscal year starting July 1, 2016, at this time we have 207 paid members, with many paying in advance. This is 53 more than we had in the previous year at this time! Reminders have been recently been sent to remaining members.

We hope to exceed the record 230 membership count achieved two years ago. We do everything we can to provide reminders, and try to make it as convenient as possible whether including copies of the forms with the newsletter or providing an online payment portal at www.nebagamonlakeassociation.com. Additionally, we sent a letter with information about our organization to all lake properties who are not members over the summer. We have seen a new member rate of about 10% of these mailings so far, and hope to see more over the coming months.

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2016 Lake Nebagamon Water Quality Data

As some people have noticed this year the water clarity on Lake Nebagamon has been down. The average Secchi disk reading of 7 feet last year went down to a 5.75 average this year. Early to mid -we had heavy rains with large run offs which led to turbid water and higher than normal lake levels. Another problem we had was with Chlorophyll being twice as high as 2015. Wisconsin DNR has a formula that takes Chlorophyll data each year and gives the lake a Trophic State Index (TSI) score from 0-110 (the higher the score the worse the water quality). The overall TSI for Lake Nebagamon for 2016 was 51. That took us from being a Mesotrophic lake to being an Eutrophic one. The last time we did that was 2011 with a TSI score of 52. The lowest score we had in the last ten years has been a 43 in 2014.

TSI < 30 - Classical oligotrophy: clear water, many algal species, oxygen throughout the year in bottom water, cold water, oxygen-sensitive fish species in deep lakes. Excellent water quality.

TSI 30-40 - Deeper lakes still oligotrophic, but bottom water of some shallower lakes will become oxygen-depleted during the summer.

TSI 40-50 - Water moderately clear, but increasing chance of low dissolved oxygen in deep water during the summer.

TSI 50-60 - Lakes becoming eutrophic: decreased clarity, fewer algal species, oxygen-depleted bottom waters during the summer, plant overgrowth evident, warm-water fisheries (pike, perch, bass, etc.) only.

TSI 60-70 - Blue-green algae become dominant and algal scums are possible, extensive plant overgrowth problems possible.

TSI 70-80 - Becoming very eutrophic. Heavy algal blooms possible throughout summer, dense plant beds, but extent limited by light penetration (blue-green algae block sunlight).

TSI > 80 - Algal scums, summer fishkills, few plants, rough fish dominant. Very poor water quality

-Mark Laskowski

Thanks for All of Your Extra Contributions This Year!

We would like to extend a big thank you to the following members who generously made additional contributions in the 2016/17 fiscal year. These contributions were directed towards either aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention, walleye stocking, or other general projects.

- Karen & Robert Stroud
- Jim & Terry Urbaniak
- Richard Larson
- Camp Nebagamon
- Mary Grandmaison
- Richard & Peg Boudreau
- Dan & Barb Takkunen
- Bill & Linda Blust
- Phil Hagen
- Todd & Barbara Baker
- Walt & Kay Gower
- Eileen Merchart
- Kevin & Cindy Donley
- Dennis & Nancy Raas
- Margaret Ahrens
- John & Marilyn McGill
- Lucille Streng Family Trust
- Justin Quinn & Jennifer Nistler
- Mike & Nancy Young
- Dick & Linda Sonntag
- Scott Barnard
- Jim Bong
- Don Warmington
- James & Dessa Foote
- Fred & Ginger Strom
- Cecil Kuehlthau
- David & Deena Marshall
- Evonne Zosel
- John & Sondra Brunsting
- Walt & Kay Gower
- Paul & Kiett Takkunen
- Clyde & Diane Ekar
- David & Barb Gaddie
- Jason Willett & Sara Watson
- Bernard & Sally Stein
- Sheldon & Kathleen Beavers
- Darrel & Karen Kaldor
- Bob & Lois Heller
- Mark & Amy Callaway
- David & Patricia Saker
- Myron Neusteter, Jr.



Calm day in late July



Two of DQ's biggest fans enjoy a treat

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Boat Launch Conditions

Dave Sprowls has been talking to Mike Christner of the WDNR regarding having the boat launch resurfaced under the water. This was last done in 2006 and again needs work, especially at the deepest point of the platform. Mike noted that the DNR can do it for \$5,000, while a private contractor would charge around \$20,000. However, due to significant budget cuts, it is unclear if the funds would be available from the state. Dave will continue discussions on this topic.

-Dave Sprowls

July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL
NEBAGAMON LAKE ASSOCIATION
<http://nebagamonlakeassociation.com>



***Save time and postage! You now have the option of paying online with a credit card at <http://nebagamonlakeassociation.com/payonline.html>. When paying online you can also provide the below information.**

Name: _____

Spouse's name: _____

Phone number _____

Lake Nebagamon address (fire number & road only) _____

Mailing address (where you wish newsletters to be mailed) _____

☐ Please send the Spring and Fall newsletters by email. I want to help save printing and postage expense.

Email address _____

Dues are \$20 per year—a small amount that has a big impact!

Payment for fiscal year 2017 (July 2016 - June 2017)

\$20

If you wish to pay dues in advance (more than one year), indicate amount here

We are involved in many projects and would gladly accept additional contributions, if you wish to contribute additionally, indicate amount here:

- Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention
- Walleye Enhancement Initiative
- General Fund (Projects Determined by Membership)

Total paid

Please make your check payable to NLA and send it along with this information sheet to:

NLA

PO Box 216

Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849

THANK YOU! We do appreciate your support; it is necessary in order to continue the programs for which the association was founded

