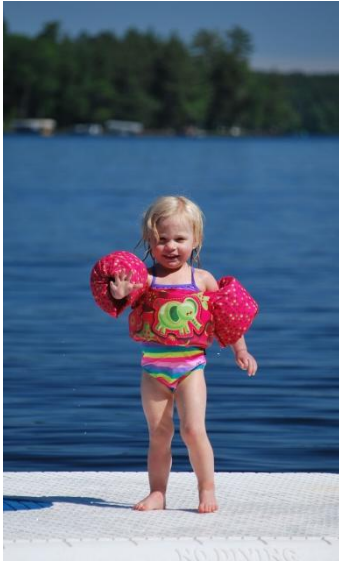


# The Nebagamon Lake Association Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2015

Ann Parker, Editor

Note: If you would like to get this newsletter by email, send your email address to [lakenebagamonwisconsin@yahoo.com](mailto:lakenebagamonwisconsin@yahoo.com). It's in color by email and on the web. Our web site is [www.nebagamonlakeassociation.com](http://www.nebagamonlakeassociation.com). On Facebook search for Nebagamon Lake Association.



## President's Message

By Erik Takkunen

At this time last year I was commenting on the unbelievable snowfall that the Lake Nebagamon area just had, the caved-in roofs, the excellent snowmobiling, and the resulting high lake levels. What a difference a year makes! It was not much of a Winter, snow-wise, which had many outdoor recreation enthusiasts

looking forward to Summer.

This Spring and Summer mark the beginning of certain NLA projects as well as the continuation of others. In response to the rebounding **purple loosestrife** growth around the lake, we have partnered with the DNR to raise the beetles which feast on these plants. Additionally, we will be partnering with the DNR on the new **"Healthy Lakes" initiative**, which is aimed at preservation of volunteered lakeshore properties to create a natural habitat near the water. Both of these programs appear very promising thanks to many willing NLA members who are volunteering their time and/or property. Additionally, we will again be moving full steam ahead with our **Clean Boats/Clean Waters** program at the boat launch, as well as our **Walleye Enhancement Project**.

All of our programs are made possible by the dedication of our membership, particularly our Board members who are leading the initiatives. I would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to all of these folks. Membership is as strong as ever, with 229 members this past year as of press time! This includes approximately 70% of lakeshore property owners! As I've said before, this strong membership enables a very valuable member network which is critical in the eyes of the State of Wisconsin when making selections for funding requests. Additionally, it provides a larger sounding board to elevate the issues that the Association should be focusing on in the future. Please consider attending one or all of the NLA events this Summer to network

with your neighbors and discuss issues that are important to you. These include the **community-wide garage sales** on June 20, the **annual meeting** on June 27, the **boat parade** on July 4, and the annual **picnic social** on August 8. I look forward to seeing many of you out enjoying our great lake in the months to come.

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**Summer Schedule**—Mark your calendars! Look for more complete info further on in this newsletter.  
June 20—Village-wide Garage sale, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.  
June 27—Annual Meeting—Auditorium, 9:30 a.m.  
July 4—Boat Parade—Honeymoon Point, 7 p.m.  
August 8—Annual Summer Social, Botten's Green Acres, 6 p.m.

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## Quotable

I go to nature to be soothed and healed, and to have my senses put in order. (John Burroughs)

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**FYI**—The NLA recently contributed \$1,000 towards a new dock to provide access to the village. It has been ordered and should be in soon. Dairy Queen, here we come!

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What a beautiful, foggy morning. (E. Takkunen)

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## Village-Wide Garage Sale June 20 Buyers and Sellers needed!

To be a part of this activity and get on the map for buyers, contact Gail at 715-374-2185 before June 18<sup>th</sup>. To get a map of the sale locations, stop at Ole's Market on the morning of the sale. Happy shopping!!!

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## Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting June 27 will begin with coffee and goodies at 9:30 a.m. in the Auditorium. The business meeting will start at 10 a.m., and we think you will all want to hear the speaker, Randy Lehr from Northland College, who will be presenting the results of the recent lake study.

### Proposed 2015-2016 Budget

#### INCOME:

Dues	\$4000
Rummage Sale	400
Social	600
Donations	2000
Boat Monitoring	5500
Interest	<u>5</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$12505</u></b>

#### DISBURSEMENTS:

Boat Monitoring	\$8000
Walleye Stocking	
Boat Parade	100
Fireworks	400
LN Swimming Class	200
Purple Loosestrife	
Hazard Markers	300
Social	600
KIN—Christmas	200
Annual Meeting	75
Educational Materials	100
New Project	1000
WI Association of Lakes dues	350
Douglas Co. Lake Assoc.	50
State Lakes Convention, conferences	250
Rummage Sale Expense	50
Web site	200
Newsletters, Postage, Office exp.	<u>500</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$12375</u></b>

### Boater Safety Classes for 12-16 year olds

The boaters' safety class is only available this year on line at [www.DNR.WI.GOV](http://www.DNR.WI.GOV). This class is for children who are between the ages of 12 and 16 and who want to operate a power boat with the supervision of an adult. The student will need a DNR number to successfully complete the course. It is available by calling 1-888-936-7463 between 7 a.m.-10 p.m. After completing the course, the student may take the exam until he or she passes. The cost is \$29.50, and you print

your own temporary certificate. The permanent boater education card will then be sent to you in the mail.



The lupines are blooming—yeah spring!  
(Note that these are very different from loosestrife—see loosestrife article later in this newsletter.)

### Boat Monitoring 2015

By Dave Sprowls

This year's boat monitoring for invasive species started on the fishing opener, May 2, and will continue each weekend thereafter. Beginning on Friday, May 22, we began monitoring 7 days a week for a total of 53 hours per week. The breakdown is as follows: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday—11 hours per day (7 a.m. -6 p.m.), and Monday-Thursdays 5 hours per day (1 p.m.-6 p.m.). This is the same amount of hours as last year.

Our three monitors for the Lake Nebagamon Boat Launch are Jeff Giansanti and Judy Dalbec, who both were monitors for us last year, and a new addition, Diana Michelizzi. We are already a month into our monitoring, and all the monitors have been very involved in the process and seem enthusiastic about helping keep our lake free of invasive species. We will continue the daily monitoring through Labor Day weekend on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

### Summer Social Info

By Adam Riutta

Please join us for the Annual Summer Social on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at 6 p.m.! It will be held at Botten's Green Acres. Note that this has been scheduled one hour later this year to allow for more lake fun prior to the event. Expect picnic-style fare at a

cost of approximately \$8-9 per person. Final details will be announced at the Annual Meeting. Ice cream sundaes with an assortment of toppings will again be served for dessert at no charge to attendees! For this year's fundraiser, 50/50 tickets will be on sale during the event.

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Another example of the beauty around us! (E. Takkunen)

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### Boat Parade July 4<sup>th</sup> By Erik Takkunen

Join your neighbors for the annual July 4<sup>th</sup> 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. All types of boats are welcome to take part. Back for the second year, my family will 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 LNA Facebook page as well as in the fall newsletter, as space allows.

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### Purple Loosestrife Control Program By Dave Conley

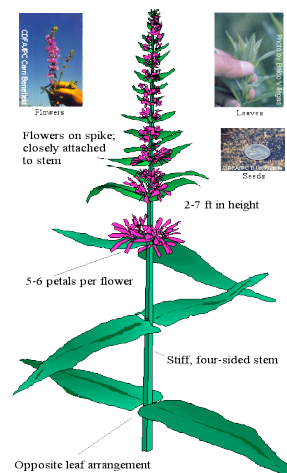
More than a dozen people attended the recent purple loosestrife control training at the LN Auditorium May 19<sup>th</sup>. The workshop was organized by the NLA with the DNR & the UWS Extension teaming up to provide the instruction and materials. Loosestrife plants are not native, and they spread rapidly, making them an exotic and invasive plant species. When they come into an area, they out-compete the native species and replace other plants that serve as a food source for insect & bird species.

People have used pesticides to get rid of loosestrife, but it always returns. In addition, one of the pesticides commonly used, glyphosphate, found in RoundUp and Rodeo has been recently classified as a probable carcinogen by the WHO. We are using the galerucella

beetle instead. They are European and have a long record of successful use. The beetles are plant-host specific, meaning they only attack loosestrife.

People who volunteered to raise the beetles now have kiddie pools in their yards where they are growing the loosestrife plants. The beetles will arrive later and will be transferred to these plants, which are enclosed with netting, and will stay there until they have eaten their fill and multiplied. The plants and beetles will then be transported to an area of loosestrife concentration and the beetles will be set loose.

Even if you are not raising beetles, you can help by identifying and pulling any loosestrife plants you find near your lakeshore. They have purple pink flowers and an unusual square stem. If the plants are already flowering when you find them, cut the flower head carefully and bag it before pulling out the stem. This prevents seeds from spreading. There are web pages to help you identify the plant. (Also, see below.)



Purple loosestrife—the bad guy!



Purple loosestrife likes to grow near water.

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### For those who fish

"I think I fish, in part, because it's an antisocial, bohemian business that, when gone about properly, puts you forever outside the mainstream culture without actually landing you in an institution."

(John Gierach)





Loosestrife crusaders getting armed for battle!

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### **Walleye Initiative Accomplishments to Date:** By Willard Kieffer

#### **Stocking Large Fingerlings**

2011- 5,400 5.5 /acre purchased, local funds  
2012- 8,821 9.0/acre, local funds, Red Cliff & DNR  
2013- 15,888 16.1 /acre, Red Cliff & DNR

#### **Fish Sticks Projects**

2012- 9 properties, 1875 frontage feet  
2013- 13 properties, 2000 frontage feet  
2015- 15 properties, 2700 feet.

#### **Plans for 2015 Walleye Initiative**

##### **Large Fingerling Stocking**

Fall 2015 – 15, 000 EGW by the DNR

##### **DNR Regulation Change**

Went into effect on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015  
Walleye - Minimum size of 18 inches and a daily bag limit of 3.

#### **Spawning Sites**

Continue to remove all beaver and beaver dams from Minnesuing Creek . There are two prime spawning sites in Minnesuing Creek. Fall of 2014 four beaver were trapped out and three beaver dams removed in April 2015.

#### **Lakeshore Restoration Projects**

Continue to pursue lakeshore restoration projects within Wisconsin's Healthy Lakes Plan, both shoreline and shoreland. Participants are needed. If any lakeshore property is interested in having their property inspected for possible projects, please contact Will Kieffer at 715-374-3544 or Phil Takkunen at 949-412-8690.

#### **Wisconsin's Healthy Lakes Implementation Plan**

A new project in the Lake Nebagamon Walleye Improvement Initiative – Lakeshore Restoration This statewide Healthy Lakes Implementation Plan, as proposed by the Wisconsin DNR includes relatively simple and inexpensive best lakeshore practices that lakefront property owners can implement themselves to help make healthy lakes for current and future generations.

This plan includes funding for the promotion, planning, establishment, accountability and evaluation of such practices for implementing lakeshore habitat restoration and erosion and runoff control.

The target audience for this plan and implementation of the associated practices is the individual lakefront property owners, including: permanent and seasonal homeowners, municipalities, and businesses.

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#### **From the Nest of the Loon Ranger**

by Dan Takkunen

The loon is the state bird of Minnesota and the Canadian one dollar coin is called a loonie. But what do we know about the common loon on Lake Nebagamon? We hear the beautiful and haunting calls of the loon (sometimes at 4:00 a.m.!) and we see them diving for food, but what else can we learn?

This past October, Northland College in Ashland held the North American Loon Symposium. Top loon experts from the U.S. and Canada gave overviews of the latest research on loons. Researchers attached antennas to some loons to study migration patterns, stopovers, and wintering grounds. They discovered new information or reconfirmed previous findings. They determined that the loons leave northern Wisconsin with a stopover at Lake Michigan, spending 2-3 days flying to the Gulf.

They then winter just offshore between Gulf Shores and Tampa Bay. Researchers also noted that incubating adults as well as the loon chicks are vulnerable to bald eagles. By banding some loons' legs, they also reconfirmed the belief that loons don't mate for life and that the males choose the nesting site. Research also showed that as the mercury level in the lake goes up, loon reproduction goes down.

On our lake it's important that we show loon etiquette, never feeding loons or fishing near them. Loons can die from ingested lead fishing tackle or from getting wrapped up in fishing line, which was observed on our lake last summer. Try to keep a respectable distance from a loon when boating. The loons appreciate it! Last summer we had one pair of loons and a floater, or loner, on our lake. Let's hope for their safe return this spring.

"Above came a soft whisper of wings, and as the loons saw us they called wildly in alarm and took the laughing with them into the gathering dusk. The shores echoed and re-echoed until they seemed to throb with the music. This was the symbol of the lake country, the sound that more than any other typifies the rocks, waters, and forests of the wilderness."

Sigurd Olson, Environmentalist

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**Lake Minnesuing Association Updates**  
By Erik Takkunen

I recently met with Jim Giffin, Treasurer of the Lake Minnesuing Association (LMA) and Lake Minnesuing Sanitary District, to jointly discuss our Associations, past and current projects, and goals for the future. For those unfamiliar, Lake Minnesuing drains into Lake Nebagamon through Minnesuing Creek, on the western side of Lake Nebagamon. With the shared waterways, the well-being of Lake Minnesuing should be of high interest to those with a vested interest in Lake Nebagamon. Lake Minnesuing, at 450 acres, is roughly half the size of Lake Nebagamon. Their Association has

currently has 78 property owners, which they estimate to be around 60% of the total lake property population.

The LMA and the Lake Minnesuing Sanitary District partner together on most projects affecting the lake, in a similar way that the NLA partners with the Village of Lake Nebagamon. One of the key projects over the last three years has been a Clean Boats/Clean Waters program for which the LMA has received a grant similar to Lake Nebagamon. Through five paid employees and a team of three supervisors the Hallberg boat landing is monitored weekends between the fishing opener and Labor Day, with Friday afternoon coverage during peak periods. While they are there for compliance reasons, they view their role as more educational, so boaters are aware of the risks affecting our lakes.

In 2014, during a routine boat tour with the Douglas County AIS Coordinator and a DNR representative, Yellow Flag Iris, an invasive species, was found to be in evidence around the lake. The LMA is currently working on a response plan and seeking landowner participation in an eradication effort (i.e. Plants need to be dug-up and physically removed).

Finally, similarly to the NLA, the LMA is looking to partner with the State of Wisconsin and lakeshore owners in the "Healthy Lakes Initiative." Through a couple of key meetings with the DNR in June, the LMA hopes to begin building plans for a sponsored program.

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**Spring Water Quality Report**  
By Mark Laskowski

There isn't much water quality news of data to report since last fall. We had a normal lake water temperature turnover in October of 2014 where water temperature was the same from the surface to the bottom (39 feet). The winter of 2014-2015 proved to be below normal in precipitation and near normal, if not slightly above, in temperature. Some of the weather highlights include a large snowstorm on November 10-11 that dumped over a foot of snow on the area, which had everyone with the fresh memory of the winter of 2013-14 saying, "Here we go again!" We had full ice up on November 21. On December 12-15 we had an unseasonably warm spell with temps in the 40s that melted almost all the snow, but the ice remained. The ice went off the lake on April 12, the first time in three years that we had an ice-free fishing opener. Lake Nebagamon is doing quite well considering that it has a surface area of 914 acres (1.43 square miles) and a drainage area at the outlet of 40.9 square miles for a drainage area/lake size ratio of 28.6:1. Lakes with drainage area/lake size ratios of greater than 10:1 tend to develop water-quality problems.

### Lake Nebagamon Ice In & Ice Out Dates

<u>Year</u>	<u>Ice-Out</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Ice-Free</u> <u>Days</u>	<u>Ice-In</u> <u>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</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Ice-Free</u> <u>Days</u>	<u>Ice-In</u> <u>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	198	11/26
2014	5/6	199	11/21
2015	4/12		
<b>Averages</b>			
<b>Last 5</b>	<b>4/18</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>11/30</b>
<b>Last 10</b>	<b>4/13</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>11/29</b>
<b>Last 20</b>	<b>4/16</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>12/1</b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>4/19</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>11/28</b>

#### Credits:

Jack Arthur, Gail DeBrunye, Willard Kiefer, Andy Mack, Mark and Joe Snyder. Joe Snyder compiled the first 56 years.

July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016  
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 2016 (July 2015 - June 2016)

\$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.