

The Nebagamom Lake Association Newsletter

Spring 2019



President's Message

Welcome back to the lake for those residents that don't live or visit in the winter. Your lake association has been hard at work since the fall preparing for current year projects. This will be a great year for our boat launch monitoring as we have two experienced monitors and we will have expanded hours as a result of generous donations from our members. Our Healthy Lakes team has been working with property owners who have already been awarded a grant and are looking for interested owners to file a 5th round of grants this Fall. There are many other things going on as well as can be seen throughout this newsletter. Do you have an idea for a future project or cause that would benefit our favorite lake? You can always reach me at lakenebagamonwisconsin@yahoo.com.

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Reminder—Important Dates in 2019

June 22	Garage sales, 8:00 a.m. – 3 p.m.
June 29	Annual meeting, 9:30 a.m., Auditorium
July 4	Boat Parade, 7 p.m.
August 10	Summer Social, 6 p.m. at Botten's Green Acres Golf Course

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Membership Report

For the year ending June 30, 2019 at this time we have 202 paid members, with many paying in advance. This is 24 less than we had in the previous year at this time. There are still 69 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. 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 Nebagamom.

Attached to the end of this newsletter is a dues form. Or you can take advantage of our online payment option for dues with your credit card. Go to <http://nebagamonlakeassociation.com/pay-online/>



Photo by Thomas Beetcher

Community Garage Sales June 22

The annual community garage sales will take place on Saturday, June 22. Contact George Lehman at 218-390-7346 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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AIS Boat Launch Monitoring

This year's boat monitoring for invasive species started on the weekend after fishing opener on Saturday, May 4th. We normally monitor 11 hours a day from 7am to 6pm on Saturdays and Sunday's only until Memorial Day weekend. Starting after Memorial Day 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 6th 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 additional time as we have needed.

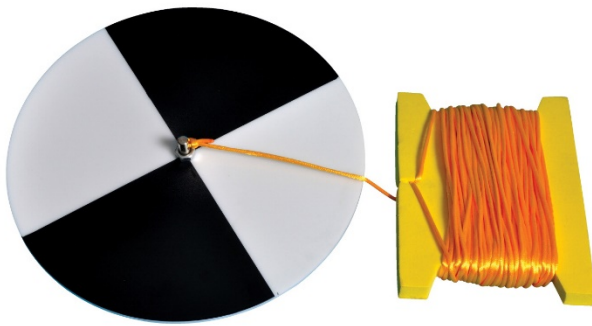
Andrew Nelson, a Senior at Northwestern, will be working five hour shifts this Summer (1-6 Monday-Thursday). Thanks to additional funding from the Village and generous donations from members, Andrew will be covering mornings for each of his shifts in July also. We will be testing these times to determine average boat launch activity. Andrew has also helped numerous local residents with miscellaneous household projects over the last couple years.

William Cain, who has monitored for us in the past has filled in for us 2 days to date and will help us out as we have needs and/or if he is able.

Dave Sprowls has been leading our boat launch monitoring for many years, and is continuing to do so. Mark Laskowski has agreed to act as his backup and is being trained in this year.

Jeff, Andrew, Mark, and Dave met in Iron River this Spring for a two hour intensive training course put on by the Bayfield County Invasive Species Coordinator Andy Teal.

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Water Quality Report

Lake Nebagamon had ice up occur on Nov 20, 2018, which was 18 days earlier than last year. The ice fully went off the lake on April 25, 2019, ten days earlier than last year.

The average secchi disk readings (water clarity) for 2019 have been 5.5 feet, which is similar to last year. Unfortunately, looking at historical data, 5.5 is on the lower end of the scale. 10 years ago, the five year running average for secchi disk readings was just under 8 feet. As always, water samples have been taken already a couple times in 2019 and sent to the lab for further analysis. We will report back results in the Fall newsletter.



Swimming, Fishing, Boating in Lake Nebagamon

By Jason Willett

Do you enjoy fun lake activities? Want your children and their children to enjoy them too?

The quality of lake life and fun is entirely dependent on us – on our water quality (and controlling invasive species).

Your Lake Association board is hard at work on this – but we can't do it without more of us working to protect our lake and our fun in it.



Background: The Healthy Lakes Initiative program, initiated by the Wisconsin DNR, is dedicated primarily towards reducing and eliminating harmful chemicals and biomass runoff into our lakes. Stormwater runoff from driveways, roofs and lawns contribute to lake contamination. Solutions to minimize such runoff include storm water diversion ditches, rock pits or trenches to capture and infiltrate water into the ground, rain gardens and shoreline vegetation. The "Fish Sticks" projects also provide feeding, breeding and nesting areas for all sorts of native critters - including walleye and song birds – and prevent bank erosion, protecting your lakeshore and enhancing water quality. More info from the DNR can be found at: healthylakeswi.com.

Recent results of Lake Nebagamon work is promising:

- We've been *recognized by the DNR as a flagship* example of HLI local leadership and property owner participation. In April, we joined a statewide HLI focus group to provide feedback on program improvements, including a possible "ambassador" program.
- Locally, 21 of our lakeshore properties have and are participating in the runoff mitigation in the first three grants rounds – many with multiple projects- and many others of your neighbors have installed fish sticks (the walleye fingerlings are thriving!)
- We've *just received our 4th grant*, for 4 more properties. This again provides 75% of the funding for this work and our Lake Association provides another 15% (participant may be able to avoid a cash outlay completely by providing their own labor).

- Look on our web site for a list of the projects your neighbors have done / are doing and local contractors to do the work:
<http://nebagamonlakeassociation.com/healthy-lakes-initiative/>

In August we'll be having another "open yard" opportunity for you to see what these projects look like right here in Nebagamon. Let's make sure our HLI program and our lake is the best! We have an active HLI team, and funding *ready to help you*. You could be eligible for thousands of dollars in grant funds! "Don't wait for your boat to come in, swim out after it!" Call our volunteer engineer for a free evaluation to consider possibilities, [Al Yoshimoto at 715-817-0439](mailto:Al.Yoshimoto@nebagamonlakeassociation.com), or project administrator, Jason Willett at 651-303-1850.



Permeable filter fabric installed in an infiltration trench to mitigate runoff from large rainfalls.



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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.

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Boat Ramp Updates

In the fall we reported a project in conjunction with the Village and the DNR to improve the boat launch pad and have our biggest Healthy Lakes program to date with rain diversion and infiltration pits. Last year, the NLA contributed \$1,000 towards the initial study. These projects have now advanced into final design phases. Through the continued design, the size and scope of the project expanded significantly as engineers considered what was necessary to handle a good size rainfall (ie. 2 inches). The new project will feature a tiered rain garden instead of infiltration tanks, along with improvement to the concrete boat launch pad.

With the significant size/scope of the project comes a significant cost. Next steps are for this to be considered at the Village Board level for the 25% share that they would be responsible for. Then, a grant application with the final plans would need to be submitted for a 75% cost share from the DNR, which would happen over the coming winter. Should these steps be successful, the project could begin as early as next spring. We will provide further updates as they become available.

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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. 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!

addition to dinner, ice cream sundaes with an assortment of toppings will again be served for dessert at no charge to attendees. We will also have 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

Two of the awesome stars of Lake Nebagamon are some fascinating creatures, our loons and our eagles. How many times have you taken a pontoon ride, cruising around Honeymoon Point to view the eagles in their enormous nest? Or have you headed over to the bay east of the village to catch a glimpse of the loons and hopefully observe their chicks as they grow and mature throughout the summer? Have you had the chance to watch the eagle chicks, as they squawk for food or take flying lessons? If you look closely at the nest on Honeymoon Point, you may notice that the nest gets slightly bigger each year. A typical nest is about 8 feet wide and 13 feet deep. And it weighs an incredible one ton, on average. Let's hope that big pine supports it for a long time.

Other than the fact that they are both from the bird



Join Us at the Summer Social!

Please join us for the Lake Nebagamon Annual Summer Social on Saturday August 10, 2019 at 6pm! It will be held at Botten's Green Acres Golf Course. In

family, there are few similarities between the loons and the eagles. The loons on our lake (one pair with two chicks, and a floater last summer) entertain us with their swimming skills and their haunting calls. Surveys by Loon Rangers on other Douglas County lakes indicate that other lakes have about the same number of loons as we do each year. Our lake is large enough and adaptable enough to support more than one pair, but we've rarely seen more than that over the years. It's quite remarkable to hear about a documented case of a banded Loon that flew 670 miles in one 24 hour period, just to get back to the lake where it was born!

We've heard stories about our resident eagles as well. An eagle was seen swooping down to grab a dead fish laying on a dock. In another observation an eagle was seen flapping its wings in a swimming motion to get a large fish to shore that it couldn't lift. Eagles can lift about 4 pounds, so that must have been a pretty big fish. An eagle's vision is 4 times better than ours, so their spotting abilities are excellent. Unfortunately for the loons, they sometimes spot a loon chick and attack it.

So, as you cruise around the lake this summer, hopefully you'll see the loons and the eagles. Respect them, give them their space, and most of all appreciate and enjoy them. Have a great summer!

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Fishery Enhancement Initiative



We have had great success with enhancing the fishery of Lake Nebagamon dating back to 2011, with over 60,000 walleye stocked. These walleye fingerlings came as a result of local lake owner fundraising, local businesses, the Red Cliff tribe, and the WDNR. In June 2019, committee members Phil Takkunen and Will Kiefer will be meeting with Scott Toschner of the DNR to set a plan for the next five years. This plan will be all-inclusive for different types of fish, and will include lake

stocking, keeper limits, and habitat. A walleye stocking is hoped for this Fall. To hear more about this initiative and to provide your input, please attend the annual meeting or contact Phil Takkunen at 949-412-8690

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Photo by Thomas Beetcher



Photo by Thomas Beetcher

Proposed NLA Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

THE NEBAGAMON LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC

BUDGET 7-1-2019 TO 6-30-2020

INCOME:

DUES	\$ 4,500
RUMMAGE SALE	300
SOCIAL	600
DONATIONS	2,000
HEALTHY LAKES PROJECT	17,000
BOAT MONITORING	6,500
RAFFLE	100
INTEREST	10
TOTAL	31,010

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.	640
TOTAL	30,965

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
Dave Sprowls	239-676-4064
Phil Takkunen	949-412-8690
Jason Willett	615-303-1850

Board Member Project Committees:

- Healthy Lakes Initiative – Alan Yoshimoto, Tom Maas, Jason Willett, Dave Conley
- Fisheries Enhancement - Phil Takkunen, Willard Kiefer
- 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?

The Village of Lake Nebagamon has supported our boat launch inspection program from the beginning (over 10 years) with annual contributions to the program of \$1,500. As costs of labor have risen, we made a request that that Village consider raising this contribution to \$2,500. This request was recently approved and paid towards this year's program. Thank you to the Village Board!

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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
1983	4/30	216	12/2

<u>Year</u>	<u>Ice-Out</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Ice-Free</u> <u>Days</u>	<u>Ice-In</u> <u>Date</u>
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	198	11/20
2019	4/25		
Averages			
Last 5	4/18	231	12/5
Last 10	4/17	231	12/4
Last 20	4/16	232	12/4
Overall	4/19	223	11/28

Credits:

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