



Clearwater Lake

Property Owners Association

2019 Summer Newsletter

Save the date:

Friday, August 2, 2019: 2:00 PM; CLPO Golf Outing/Dinner: Whispering Pines

Saturday, August 3, 2019: 10:30 AM-1 PM; Annual CLPO Picnic: Lower level of the Annandale City Park Pavilion

CLPO Annual Picnic:

CLPO 2019 Picnic

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 3rd; 10:30 AM TO 1:00 PM
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there!***













Membership:


2019 Dues are \$50 and go to support many lake benefits. You may pay your dues via check (a Dues form is attached), on our website at www.clpo.org, or at the Annual Picnic. (The online payment option is in the process of being setup on our new website and should hopefully be functioning by the end of the month.) All donations are tax deductible and if you pay on-line, PayPal will issue you a receipt. Please remember that the activities of the Lake Association benefit everyone! If you have paid your dues already, we've noted this on the last page by the mailing address with a paid thru date.



2019 Annual CLPO Meeting


Also, please make sure we have your current contact information, especially your email address. We send many updates throughout the year and it helps us save on postage. To update your information, please complete the membership form attached and check the box that your information has changed or send us an email at clpomn@gmail.com with that information. Thank you!

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A word from our president...

It's mid-summer and weather-wise this has been a weird year. We had a variable winter that seemed to hang on for as long as it could. That transitioned into a later and wetter spring, which resulted in high water and enforcement of a No Wake ordinance. The water quickly went down but with the recent heavy rain it's now back up. I recently attended a joint annual meeting of the Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates (MLR) and the Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA). The evening keynote presentation was given by MPR's Chief Meteorologist Paul Huttner. He spoke about climate change and how it will affect our state, and he listed a number of eye-opening facts and expectations. The last five years are among five of the ten hottest on record and the typical Twin Cities weather will have moved north to the Canadian border by the end of the century. The red maples are already taking over the northern pine forests. The poles are warming faster than the equator, which leads to less movement of air between them, which changes the jet stream leading to more undulations and variations of it, which leads to more severe weather including in the central latitudes, which means us. The average annual moisture in central Minnesota is now over 31", which is more than a 20% increase in a few decades. Historically, this would normally take centuries to millennia. The bottom line was this is real and the global 'we' need to act now.

CLPO Annual Picnic and 1st Annual Golf Tournament: We will again this year host our Annual Picnic at the Annandale Park Pavilion (lower level) on August 3rd at 10:30am-1:00pm. All are welcome and for all CLPO members it's free. Food, fun, and prizes! But this year we are also sponsoring our first annual golf tournament at the Whispering Pines Golf Course. Signup forms are in this issue or call the golf course [(320) 274-8721].

Swimmer's Itch: Several of you have emailed me and/or informed other CLPO Board members of very recent severe bouts of swimmer's itch. Many were infected while at the sandbar on the two Saturdays around July 4th. You can get a quick summary of swimmer's itch on Wikipedia, but basically it's caused by a water-borne parasite that causes a short-term allergic immune reaction in the skin of humans (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swimmer%27s_itch). The parasites swim in the open water near the surface and normally in shallow water. The parasites will enter a person's skin and then immediately die, but they begin an immune reaction that results in raised welts that itch for days. There are no known lake-wide treatment or management schemes to eradicate the parasite (without killing everything else). There are water treatment regimens that can be used to reduce the risk but these are very short term. CLPO again this year arranged to have the sandbar treated ahead of the events. This involved applying a copper sulfate based liquid to the water, but unfortunately we were only able to get in one of the two treatments before the 4th of July due to receiving the permit much later than in past years. Also, a cooler spring meant cooler water which is better for parasite survival and growth. With better conditions and the delay, the parasites eventually migrated back into the treated area.

There are a number of 'home remedies' that have been used over time that can be found online, and a water-resistant insect repellent that contains DEET also has been shown to be effective. Also, when you leave the water, rinsing and vigorously toweling off sometime reduces the impact. Sorry I don't have a better answer but this is what we have.

MLR – MN COLA – CRWD – S&W – Who are these groups? When I first joined the CLPO Board, I quickly learned of many organizations involved in water management in Minnesota. Being an engineer and always wanting to understand organizations and goals, I naively asked how these groups all work together. A chuckling "not well" was the usual reply. I've since found that while these are different organizations, they do work fairly well with each other. There is considerable natural 'cross-pollination' among these groups as the areas of interest intersect and the memberships overlap. But each one has a specific mission and approach to its work. Here are brief descriptions of each:

MLR (Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates) is an "advocacy group solely focused on protecting Minnesota's lake and river heritage for current and future generations by forging powerful links between lakes, lake advocates and policy makers." MLR spends a substantial amount of its time with the MN Legislature, the

state's Administration, and other policy makers. The benefit to Clearwater and CLPO is that this organization is a primary lobbyist at the Capitol for water policy. (<http://www.mnlakesanddrivers.org/>)

MN COLA (Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations) is an association of associations, specifically of lakes and rivers associations and lake coalitions. MN COLA "serves to help its members preserve, protect, and improve the waters and shorelands of the State of Minnesota through advocacy, education, and sharing of best practices." The benefit to Clearwater and CLPO is in sharing of best practices and adding a larger voice to our needs. I was just elected to the MN COLA Board of Directors. (<http://mncola.angelfire.com/index.html>)

CRWD (Clearwater River Watershed District) "is a local unit of government operating under the authority given by Minnesota Statutes 103D." The CRWD manages water-related projects within the district and has the authority to assess properties for specific projects. The CRWD provides to Clearwater and CLPO financial management of the projects on Clearwater Lake. CLPO conducts or arranges for the work and the CRWD pays the bills using our tax dollars. (<http://crwd.org/index.html>)

Soil & Water Conservation Districts (Wright and Stearns counties): The CDs have a much larger purview in that they address all of the land and water, not just lakes and rivers. In Minnesota 78% of the total land area is private property and the SWCDs provides "local leadership in the conservation and wise use of soil, water and related resources through a balanced program that protects, restores and improves those resources by utilizing education, regulation and incentive programs." CLPO has less direct contact with CDs in either county but the benefit to Clearwater and CLPO is the provision of overall soil and water conservation services to the local environment. (<http://www.wrightswcd.org/index.html> and <https://www.stearnscountyswcd.net/>)

New Website: We have a new website! Congrats go to our Communications Manager, Wendy Nelson, for a seamless transition to a new website and a new host company. The new platform has many new features as well as the ability to streamline and customize it to suit our particular needs. The new site was launched on July 7th and we'll be adding features over the next short period of time, including our sponsors. Let us know what you think.

Changes to the CLPO Board: At the Annual Meeting on June 1st Paul Pattee was elected as our newest Board member and Tim Ilse, our AIS Manager, was reelected. Welcome Paul and thanks to Tim! We said goodbye to three retiring Board members: Steve Maeyaert, Joel Dehmer, and our long-time Treasurer Debbie Flygare. Many thanks to them for their years of service to the community and to the lake. At the subsequent Board meeting Jeff Golden was elected as our new Treasurer, Mark Bertelsen and Joy Carlson were reelected as Vice President and Secretary, respectively, and I was reelected President. Board elections take place at the Annual Meeting on the first Saturday in June. If you're interested in serving the community and the lake and having a lot of fun doing it, please consider nominating yourself or another for this important role. Look for a Call for Nominations in the early spring.

Have a great rest of the season and stay safe! And remember: **Clean! Drain! Dry!**

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Sandbar Treatment for Swimmers Itch:

The sandbar will be receiving its second treatment for Swimmers Itch sometime around the middle of July. The date is dependent on the water temperature. **Please remember that this does not eliminate swimmers itch. Nevertheless, helps reduce it.**





Wild Rice Removal

The rapid expansion of wild rice beds has resulted in many questions about what can be done to remove wild rice from a lake.

First, **it is illegal to remove, either by manual or chemical means, wild rice without a permit from the DNR.** A failure to get a permit prior to removing the wild rice plants can cause liability issues, including fines for the persons removing the wild rice.

It is possible to apply for a permit to remove the wild rice in order to open the water around a dock and/or to develop a channel to the larger body of water. One can apply for a permit to remove the wild rice by either manual or chemical means. The online site <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/mpars/index.html> is the one where you fill out an application. It is also possible to email Audrey Kuchinski at Audrey.kuchinski@state.mn.us to get assistance with this process.

Once the application is received, a DNR representative will come out to assess the situation, and either deny the request or develop the parameters of the treatment. Submitting an application does not entitle an individual the right to remove the wild rice. Only after the DNR representative checks the treatment area and formally grants permission to remove the wild rice, can the removal begin.

They have just recently issued the 2019 permits for all the wild rice applications they received for Clearwater Lake. If you are interested in obtaining permits for next year, we recommend that you contact them now, so they can come out and observe your wild rice to help facilitate the 2020 application process.



CLPO Website & Newsletter

Our website developer/host notified us earlier this year that he was retiring and closing his business. So, after extensive research, we found a company out of WI that created and is hosting our new website for us. Our address has not changed, it's still www.clpo.org

The new website is live. However, they are currently working on the member and admin tools. Once the tools are functional, they will send an email to everyone that we have an email address for, with your login information. If you have never received an email from us, please email, mail, or call us with the information. We'll update and send you your login information.

In our spring newsletter, we stated that we were going to email the newsletters and only mail to members with no email addresses on file. Since then, we've received much feedback, and we have decided to continue to mail and email all future newsletters.

As always, if you are interested in submitting an article of interest for our up-coming newsletters, or pictures to post to the website, please email them to: clpomn@gmail.com.



Penne with Sun-Dried Tomato Pesto



Recipe courtesy of Giada De Laurentiis
Show: Everyday Italian | Episode: Power of Pesto



Level: Easy
Total: 25 min
Prep: 10 min
Cook: 15 min
Yield: 4 servings
Level: Easy

Ingredients:

- 12 ounces penne pasta
- 1 (8.5-ounce) jar sun-dried tomatoes packed in olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 cup (packed) fresh basil leaves
- 1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan

Directions:

- 1 Cook the pasta in a large pot of boiling salted water until tender but still firm to the bite, stirring occasionally, about 8 minutes. Drain, reserving 1 cup of the cooking liquid.
- 2 Meanwhile, blend the sun-dried tomatoes and their oil, garlic, salt and pepper, to taste, and basil in a food processor and blend until the tomatoes are finely chopped. Transfer the tomato mixture to a large bowl. Stir in the Parmesan.
- 3 Add the pasta to the pesto and toss to coat, adding enough reserved cooking liquid to moisten. Season the pasta, to taste, with salt and pepper and serve.

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Lake Property Weed Control

Many have inquired about who to contact in regards to have their lake weeds commercially treated. Please remember that it does take some time to get through the permit process.

DNR approved Aquatic pesticide companies:

https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/fisheries/apm/commercial_aquatic_pesticide_applicators.pdf


DNR Permitted Commercial Mechanical Control Companies:

https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/fisheries/apm/commercial_mechanical_control_companies.pdf



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Eurasian Water Milfoil Update: by Tim Isle, AIS Committee

As many lake residents have noticed, the amount of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in Clearwater Lake has decreased dramatically during the past several years. In fact the decrease has been so dramatic that this year, the DNR, in an early June search, was unable to find enough EWM to approve our request for chemical treatment this summer. However, the DNR is willing to approve a permit if we can send them evidence that the EWM is present in treatable amounts.

Lake Restoration, the firm that has done the chemical treatments for the past three years, recommended that a summer search for EWM be done in order to be sure that we stay on top of that invasive species. As a result, the CLPO Board has contracted with AIS Consulting to undertake a mid July search to determine if the EWM is present in treatable amounts. The rationale for this additional search is to make sure that we keep the amount of EWM at a minimum so that we keep our future treatment costs as low as possible. Look for details regarding the results of this search in the fall newsletter.

The following treatment details illustrate the success we have enjoyed in the treatment of EWM over the course of the last four years (all acre figures rounded to the nearest whole number):

2016 – 74 acres

2017 – 59 acres

2018 – 13 acres

2019 – Currently unable to treat due to a lack of discovered EWM in treatable quantities.

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St. Mark's Episcopal Church



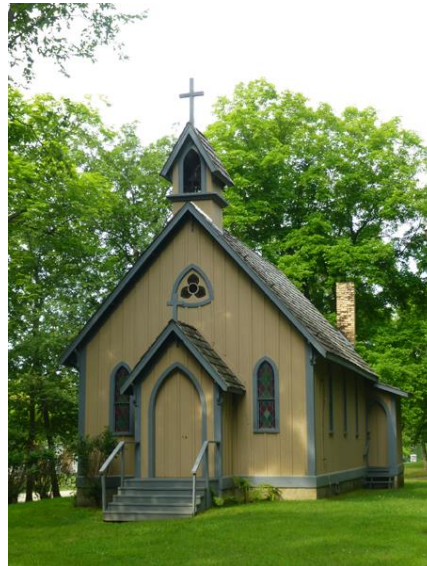
A copy of this article written for the Annandale Advocate by Jane Schulzetenberg in the 1980s now hangs in the church.

St. Mark's Corinna, fondly known to its faithful's as the "Little Church," is the oldest Episcopal church in Minnesota still operating in its original building. Built in 1871, the Little Church looks "like a church ought to look" – it is the picture one's mind forms at the thought of the word "church." The frequent comment of visitors and regulars to Sunday services at St. Mark's: "It makes you feel like you've been to church."

St. Mark's aura is both easy and difficult to explain. It is set in the woods, where sunlight filters in through lovely old stained-glass windows, and even rain patter on the uninsulated roof gives one the feeling that God did indeed have a hand in building the unpretentious structure – that His presence is one with Nature so close. The leaning headstones in the churchyard add their permanence to the surroundings.

The old building is at once charming and dignified. It's simple board and batten interior radiates warmth, though dimly lit and vaguely musty smelling, even with all side windows tilted open. Straight-backed roughhewn wooden pews are hard, but somehow comforting. From wide-planked floor to open rafters, native lumber abounds and blend with the splendor of the beautiful stained-glass windows above the altar, and another especially striking one high at the back of the church. With hefty tugs on its worn rope, the bell in the tower resounds through the woods, calling worshipers as it has for a century, a cue for the organist (Mrs. Dayton Barkley) to send a hymn floating into the summer air.

Seating capacity is small – around fifty – though there's always room for a few more. The hymns are generally "the old favorites," and everyone sings with gusto. St. Mark's congregation is just that – a gathering of people – some faces are the same Sunday after Sunday, but many are visitors, and all are welcome, regardless of church affiliation.



A few concessions to modern times and comfort have been made through the years, but these have been carefully carried out without corrupting the nature of the Little Church. Hurricane lamps mounted on the walls have been electrified, using small flame-shaped bulbs. Formerly sparsely-carpeted wooden kneelers have been padded. The old pump organ has been preserved, but replaced with one that plugs in! The black pot-bellied wood/coal stove still stands amidst the pews, but flowers decorate its burner, and it most likely will never again be stoked up to warm the Little Church. (There are no services at St. Mark's in winter months for lack of heat, though this past winter monthly services were held in parishioner's' homes.) Weekly summer services begin in late June and continue into September.

Until a few years ago, St. Mark's had no regular pastor – it depended on Episcopal priests from other parishes to take turns. Now Rev. Williams Goddard, rector of St. Edward the Confessor Episcopal Church in Wayzata, and a summer resident on Clearwater Lake, conducts services with the exception of an annual visit from the Bishop of the Diocese of Minnesota.

The first Bishop to set foot in St. Mark's Corinna was Bishop Whipple, who consecrated the church on September 4, 1872. Thirteen years before, in 1859 Octavius Longworth had settled on Clearwater Lake (then called Clear Lake). He began reading prayer services in his home, which soon became too small to hold an increasing congregation. With the help of Rev. David B. Knickerbacker and others, the Little Church was built in 1871. (There is one take about the builders "borrowing" logs being floated down the Clearwater River – but we don't want to start any Watergate investigations!)

Octavius Longworth died in 1889, at the age of 85, and the church property was given to the Bishop Seabury Mission and later to the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota. His home was later converted into Longworth Resort (known as Tuelle's by many people). It was destroyed by fire years ago.

The descendants of the founders of St. Mark's Longworth still actively participate in the business of the Little Church. Elwyn Knickerbocker is the grand-nephew of Bishop E. D. Knickerbacker, and Keith Smith, a great-grandson of Octavius Longworth.

Colin McDonald has been a warden of the church for over 40 years. He and his wife, Marion, have been record-keepers, bankers, custodian, altar guild, and faithful church-goers since the days of Keith Smith's Grandmother. Colin keeps the old Church Log up-to-date. The original book will last another 100 years, for there are few entries. But those names preserved among its precious pages tie bygone generations to the present – father to son to grandson to great-grandson – Baptism to Confirmation to Marriage to Death and Burial. All are set down therein. As the world changes, so it stays the same. May St. Mark's remain – changing and unchanging.



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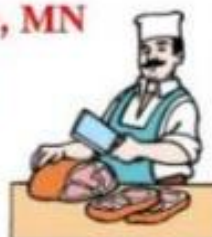
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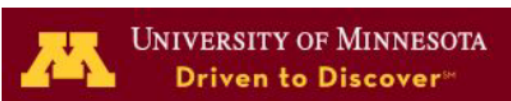
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Tax Bill Changes for Lake Shore Property Owners

Published by Jeff Forester, MLR, on Tue, 06/11/2019 - 18:52

Property Taxes

High property taxes on lakeshore property puts the dream of owning a lake place out of reach for many Minnesotans, makes it far more difficult to pass heirloom properties from one generation to the next, and increases development pressure on some shoreline that would be best left undeveloped as riparian wildlife habitat.

Property tax levies are driven largely by local schools, roads, and other infrastructure needs. Since different communities have different property tax bases due to the value of homes, the number of businesses and industries, and amount of agricultural land, the state provides equalization payments to areas with lower tax base.

But from 2003 to 2011, when Minnesota budgets ran in the red, the legislature and Governor Pawlenty rolled back these state equalization payments to cities, counties and school districts in order to balance budgets without increasing income and other taxes. Property taxes in many areas of the state rose to make up this lost equalization support.

This year, with a surplus, MLR joined many other groups to advocate for a restoration of these City, County and School District aid programs. The legislature passed and Governor Walz signed into law a budget that restores this equalization aid, which should have the effect of relieving some of the upward pressure on local property tax levies.

State General Tax - In the closing hours of the 2002 Legislative session, during the Gov. Ventura Tax reform negotiations, policy makers created a new tax, the State Business Property Tax. This property tax is the only state property tax and while a portion of the revenue was originally designated for local schools, the first year after passage the Legislature and Governor Pawlenty redirected it to the general fund. This property tax on commercial industrial property and cabins, provides no revenue for local communities. Last year the state general tax on cabins was about \$42 million statewide.

MLR has worked for years to reduce or repeal the State General Tax, successfully capping the percentage cabin properties must pay, removing the inflator which drove the tax higher every year.

This year MLR advocated for a reduction in the State General Tax. The Tax Bill signed into law last week reduced the state general tax on cabins by about 6%.

Sales Taxes

Lake Associations spend over \$6.2 million annually on lake projects and commit 1.25 million volunteer hours annually to the public good of clean and healthy lakes.

This year MLR advocated for the state to help lake associations leverage this incredibly work. Much of this expense and time is spent treating lakes for aquatic invasive species.

The 2019 tax bill provides for a sales tax exemption for herbicides used under an invasive aquatic plant management permit by lakeshore property owners, an association of lakeshore property owners, or by a contractor hired to provide the invasive aquatic plant management. The exemption applies only to chemicals registered with the Department of Agriculture for use on invasive aquatic plants.

When a lake becomes infested with Aquatic Invasive Species, the cost to treat the lake for those species is not paid by the Department of Natural Resources. Most typically the cost for managing the public waters falls on lakeshore property owners.

Economic Development

In repeated surveys of lake home and cabin owners, lack of reliable, high speed internet connection is given as a primary obstacle to economic development in greater Minnesota.

In 2019 MLR advocated for, and the Legislature passed and Governor Walz signed into law a state investment of \$40 million to bring high speed internet to underserved areas of the state. This will greatly enhance the jobs and economic activity of all of the lake's districts.



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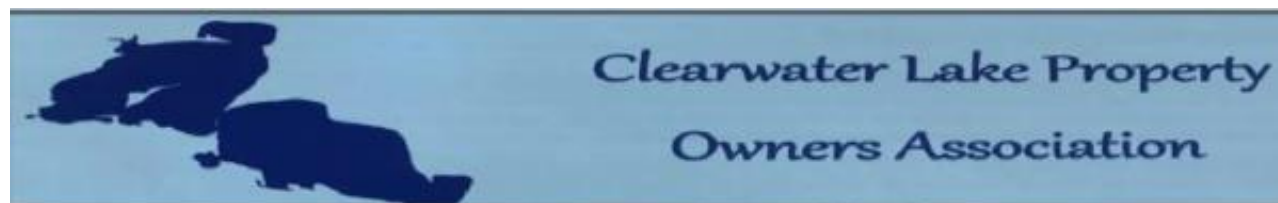
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Amount to Charge: Visa \$ _____ Mastercard \$ _____		Golfer _____
Name on card _____		Golfer _____
Card # / / /		Please complete registration form, enclose check (no cash), if not using cc, and drop off at WHISPERING PINES GOLF COURSE. *Entry fee includes Golf, Cart, Green Fees, Dinner & Prizes.
Expiration: Month _____ Year _____ CSV # _____		FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Signature: _____		** Rain Checks will be issued if bad weather that day **
		mark@whisperingpinesgolf.com or 612-385-7181

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Board Members: Dean Flygare, Tim Isle, Mark Wilkins, Westin & Wendy Nelson,
Liz Leitch-Sell & Paul Pattee

AIS Committee: t_ilse@yahoo.com
Membership Committee: markclpo@comcast.net
Communication Committee: clpomn@gmail.com

Talents

We are always looking for volunteers to help with misc items throughout the year. If you have a talent and/or resources you'd be available to help the CLPO with at some point, please let us know. Send us an email, talk to one of the board members or note it on the Membership form. Thank you!

**** Don't forget to Join or Renew your membership - Thank you! ****