



# Clearwater Lake

## Property Owners Association

# 2021 Spring Newsletter



### Save the Date

Subject to Change During the Pandemic

**Saturday, June 5, 2021:** 9 AM - 10:30 AM Annual CLPO Meeting at Corinna Town Hall

**Saturday, July 3, 2021:** Annual Clearwater Lake Sandbar July 4th Celebration - Weather Permitting

**Early & Late June, 2021:** Sandbar Treatment for Weed Itch - Weather Permitting

**Saturday, August 7, 2021:** 10:30 AM - 1 PM Annual CLPO Picnic: Annandale Pavillion Lower Level



*"Welcome to Spring and open water sunsets"  
- Clearwater Lake, East Basin*

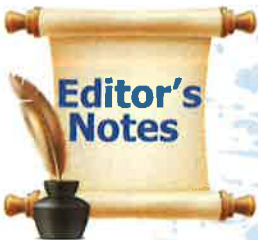
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by Paul Pattee, CLPO Board Member

Spring 2021 opens the door to a new season of activity on our favorite playground, Clearwater Lake. We at the CLPO Board hope you & yours have weathered well the winter season . . . & pandemic, ready for all the welcomed changes Spring can bring. Maybe it's just me but I've noticed a significant amount of lake activity during the Summer of 2020 & recent winter months. I suspect the pandemic had people feeling most safe at home, but when the walls begin closing in, the outdoors & winter activity is hard to pass up. Anyway, its been wonderful seeing so many people take advantage of the lake as a treasured gift to us all.

The long winter months & social isolation of the pandemic had me experimenting with content and format changes to the 2021 CLPO newsletter. What was an exercise keeping me from blank stares and drooling, turned into perhaps an overworked trip down the rabbit hole & the current newsletter. Publishing a newsletter only three times a year may not lend itself to any noticeable change but let me touch on a few.

The "Editor's Notes" is my greeting to you as the new editor of the newsletter. Jim Kutzner, our CLPO President, will continue to not only offer his leadership but also valuable information on the threats to our waters and the CLPO's response in the context of other, statewide conservation efforts. Tim Ilse, AIS Manager, addresses the 2021 efforts targeting AIS monitoring and treatment. Jeff Golden, CLPO Treasurer, has an excellent article on the financial status of our organization.

I've expanded the newsletter's content to include not only new graphics but subjects beyond AIS that I hope you'll find interesting as a member of our lakeside community. As writer for the "Rookie Corner", I'll have one more entry in the June Summer newsletter at which point it'll be dropped. I've discovered that, no longer being a rookie, much of what I have to say is repetitive and told better by Jim Kutzner & Tim Ilse.

Part of expanding the newsletter involves *canvassing for content*. In other words, asking for contributions from you the reader. The different forms/forums that may take are still rattling around in my head but I'll be asking for specific things as we go along. If all I get is the sound of crickets, I'll do my best trying to keep the content interesting and relevant.

One more thing, I'm a terrible speller and the design tool I use for the newsletter doesn't have spell-check so your kind indulg(a)ence would be greatly appreciated. **Enjoy!!**



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## A Word From Our President

by Jim Kutzner, CLPO President

Spring 2021 has arrived and we're all anxious to get out on the water. As I write this the ice has receded and it looks like ice-out in a matter of days. Covid is also largely receding but the potential for a resurgence by the variants remains so stay vigilant! The vaccines are here and the end is near!

The first thing I want to address is membership. The lake association – your lake association – takes care of the lake. Everyone on the lake benefits from the work we do, HOWEVER, less than a third of you are members. All we ask of you is \$50 a year; quite a bargain when you consider all the benefits. Some say "I pay my taxes. I already pay for the lake." That is only partly true. All lakeshore owners (and indirectly renters) pay into the AIS fund and the Bog Control fund managed by the Clearwater River Watershed District, but those funding streams don't pay for all of the work of the lake association. The current major scourge we trying to avoid is starry stonewort. We have a small team of volunteers – your neighbors! – who go to assigned ramps every couple of weeks, toss in double headed rakes on ropes and drag in whatever they find. Suspect samples are taken to the DNR for lab analysis. The sooner starry stonewort is discovered in a lake the smaller the infestation will be and the easiest and the lowest cost it will be to eradicate it. We've learned that by watching what has happened on Koronis where the starry stonewort infestation was not caught early and is now disastrous, versus watching the folks at Sylvia discover an infestation very early and then jump on it with low costs. To add to our search efforts we also hire divers to inspect the ramps a few times a year.

CLPO is the only organization out searching for invasives in Clearwater. If we don't do this it won't get done, our lake will become invaded, beaches will become overgrown with AIS, and property values will drop. So, please take a moment to consider the benefits you get all year, and please consider joining CLPO. The membership form is available as an insert with this newsletter.

Why do we have so many aquatic invasive species coming our way? It's the human factor. With the conveniences we have for quick movement and the variety of activities and the benefits of our modern society, people are unintentionally providing



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non-natural rapid pathways for AIS to travel. People are more mobile than ever, and in our haste, we may not take all the important steps to clean our boats, trailers, and tackle. We may not always clean, drain, and properly dry everything. It's natural for species to migrate over time to locations favorable to them, but these natural migrations occur over years to millennia. We are short-circuiting the process and quickly transporting species to locations where they don't belong. Case in point: As we previously reported in all the lakes in Minnesota where starry stonewort has been found it was found at a ramp, and in many cases only at the ramp. Simply put, starry stonewort is spread by man.

Clearwater now has Eurasian Watermilfoil, Curlyleaf Pondweed and zebra mussels. We're facing the prospect of starry stonewort, hydrilla, spiny water fleas, and a whole host of other bad species that don't belong here, both plant and animal. There are more than a hundred other potential AIS species that are on the doorstep of Minnesota, and the best thing that you and I can do to avoid unintended spread of any of it is to take a bit of time to clean, drain and dry everything. That's why we keep pounding the drumbeat of

## Clean, Drain, Dry

### Treatment Plans for 2021

This year CLPO expects to again treat for Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) and Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP). CLP will come first as the best time of the year is soon after ice-out when the plants are spreading their turions or seeds. Unlike EWM, treatment of CLP is a multi-year process where the treatment regime addresses the reproductive stage. We will also have a delineation survey performed, which is required for permitting. EWM surveys and treatment will come mid-summer when the EWM peaks in growth. Tim Ilse, our AIS Manager, reports on the planned work in this issue.

Our eagle-eyed Board members have learned that the annual Band on the Sandbar event is in the planning stages. Look for announcements. To help out we will also be treating the sandbar for swimmer's itch just ahead of the July 4th holiday period. The treatment is not perfect but it's the best that can be done in a wildly popular location with hundreds of people milling around in the water. Our recommendation is to vigorously towel off when exiting the water to minimize any effects of the little buggers.

### MAISRC Update

The Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC), headquartered on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota, was established in 2012 by the Minnesota Legislature "to develop research-based solutions that can reduce the impacts of aquatic invasive species in Minnesota by preventing spread, controlling populations, and managing ecosystems; and to advance knowledge to inspire action by others." MAISRC's work extends across the entire state, and MAISRC coordinates with other bodies such as the Minnesota DNR, the US Geological Survey and the University of Montana. MAISRC issued its summary 2020 Research Report, which can be found at

<https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/2020researchreport>





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Here are a few of their projects that may affect Clearwater Lake:

### Spiny Water Fleas

Spiny water fleas may be the next invasive to hit us. Spinies are tiny water-borne insects that eat quite a bit of the lower end of the food chain, thus depriving other small organisms of food. This impacts the entire food chain and leads to a reduction in larger fish. Spinies are also eaten by those larger fish but the spiny skeletons can remain in the stomachs of fish and kill them from the inside. The best (and only) way to prevent spiny water fleas from moving from lake to lake is to clean, drain and dry everything, including your rods, tackle, anchor rope, and anything else that touched the water.



Source: <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/spinywaterflea-research>

### Zebra Mussel Treatment Update

We reported last fall on MAISRC's work on addressing zebra mussels. A very early research project was conducted last year in two bays of Lake Minnetonka. A low-dose treatment of copper solution, much lower than the printed instructions, was applied in one bay while the other bay was used as the untreated reference location. The treatment was very successful in reducing the zebra population to near zero. However, this was an initial test on one bay in one lake under localized conditions. Whether a program based on the treatment can be scaled up to a lake-wide treatment program remains an open question. MAISRC plans to continue its research this summer and we look forward to hearing the results.

### Starry Trek – Saturday, August 21st

Do you want to meet a few of your neighbors, have a good time, and help out the lake at the same time? Starry Trek is a program begun in 2017 and managed by MAISRC where volunteers like you spend part of a Saturday in August and go to assign lakes and search for the invasive weed. Last year Native - Leaf blade color is deep green in early summer as the plants emerge. Plants begin to senesce and yellow as early as August and can readily be picked out by their yellow tone by early September (inset page 6). Non-native - Leaf blade color is typically darker bluishgreen. Dark green lasts until after the first hard frost. during Starry Trek starry stonewort was found in nearby Lake Carnelian and was immediately addressed by Stearns AIS folks and the DNR.

Indeed, 25% of the lakes in Minnesota where starry stonewort has been found were found by Starry Trekkers. And, since in every lake where starry stonewort was found it was found at a ramp (and in many cases only at a ramp) volunteers don't go out in boats, they stay on shore and toss double headed rakes tied to ropes and see what they drag in.



Matthew Brown



Sheldon Brown

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Suspect samples are then taken to the DNR for confirmation. Starry Trek will again be held this summer on Saturday, August 21st. It's an enjoyable event where you get to meet some of your neighbors and learn a little bit about what's in the water.

Sign up will be coming soon. If you wish to join the fun contact us at [contact@clpo.org](mailto:contact@clpo.org) and we'll connect you, or watch the MAISRC website at <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/ais-detectors/starrytrek>.



### Phragmites

We reported last fall on phragmites (pronounced frag-MITE-ees). This is a massively aggressive wetland plant that grows to fifteen feet and can quickly take over a marsh. There are native and nonnative genotypes but it is difficult to distinguish between them, making management difficult. The invasive strain can quickly crowd out cattails and purple loosestrife (which is also an invasive) and reduce wildlife habitats. Phragmites are now well-entrenched in the Twin Cities and eastern Wright County and are moving west. Pockets have been spotted here and there including in Stearns County. The plant's highly aggressive nature is now being realized and the danger to Minnesota wetlands is a serious issue. MAISRC has begun a research project to find methods to eradicate the weed wherever possible. For more information on the plant and to learn of MAISRC's plans see <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/phragmites>.



**Native** - Leaf blade color is deep green in early summer as the plants emerge. Plants begin to senesce and yellow as early as August and can readily be picked out by their yellow tone by early September (inset).



**Non-native** - Leaf blade color is typically darker bluish-green. Dark green lasts until after the first hard frost.

Source: <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/identifying-phragmites>



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## **Free Webinars!**

MAISRC has been producing very useful and instructive webinars about every other month. These webinars are often summaries to date of research at MAISRC. Topics to date have included the low dose copper treatment for zebra mussels, spiny water fleas, carp control, phragmites, handling live baitfish, and a few aquatic management topics. Each webinar is one hour including recorded Q&A. To view the webinars go to <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/ais-detectors/webinars>. *They're free!*

## **What should I do with leftover live bait?**

Please, do not throw it in the lake!!! Dispose of it in the trash! Live bait includes non-native species that don't belong in the lake.

## **Shoreland Management: Something every homeowner can do to help the lake.**

Q: What is the worst plant in all of Minnesota that is the most injurious to lake water quality? It's probably not what you think it is...

A: It's Kentucky Bluegrass! Seriously!

We love our luscious green lawns, but it becomes a major problem when runoff from the lawn drains directly into the lake. Nutrients that should not be there are suddenly thrust into the shallow areas disrupting the ecosystem. I saw this problem (and admittedly contributed to it) in the 80's when we lived on Minnetonka. We had a grassy and hilly lot that ran right into the adjacent marsh. We always had a very green crop of algae, floating weeds and the like where the lawn had drained. The cattails and purple loosestrife were happy but overall I'm sure the lake was not.

When we moved to Clearwater about ten years ago and learning from past mistakes we had the landscapers tidy up the large rock riprap along the shore and remove the old timber wall that was about to collapse. Instead of a solid wall we left a sloping embankment just above the rocks and then we had dozens of native plants planted in and just above the bank. The variety of species left us with a variety of colors that change through the growing season. Even better, it didn't cost much and it doesn't require much maintenance. We also had a rain garden put in just above the native plants to capture runoff from the house and a portion of the sloping yard. Because of the volume of water in a heavy rain we left the rain garden in a bowl shape. It never overflows but instead water filters down through the ground, and it requires little maintenance.

# Stadium Bar & Grill

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**Tuesday**  
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**Wednesday**  
Bingo starts at 6:30pm 

**Thursday**  
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**Friday**  
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**Saturday**  
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Seeing the success, a couple of years ago we added Little Bluestem in another part of the yard to stabilize another embankment. The bank is staying put, the Bluestem is very happy, and so are we.

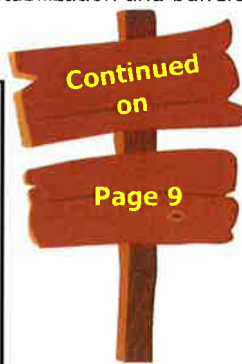
I recently contacted Greg Berg, a Riparian Resources Specialist in the Stearns County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD). Greg had presented an outstanding webinar on shoreland management where he illustrated the potential problems of lawn runoff and then presented inexpensive solutions that homeowners can do. The problem with Kentucky Bluegrass is that its roots are extremely short and provide little in absorption nor does it provide long-term soil support of embankments. The figure on page 9 shows the relative difference in root structure of Bluegrass versus a variety of native plants. Bluegrass roots extend down only a few inches whereas native plants can extend down up to fifteen feet.

I also contacted Dan Nadeau, the Senior Resource Conservationist at the Wright County SWCD. Dan and his team provide technical assistance to homeowners interested in determining the best methods for managing their lakeshore for stability, fish, wildlife, and water quality. Their assistance includes on-site consultation, help with project design and cost estimation. They'll also provide guidance throughout the project and offer suggestions of ongoing maintenance. Dan stresses a balanced and comprehensive approach that includes the home, the lawn and surrounding vegetation, shoreline stabilization and buffers, choice of native plants, and overall sightlines that enhance the property while helping out nature.



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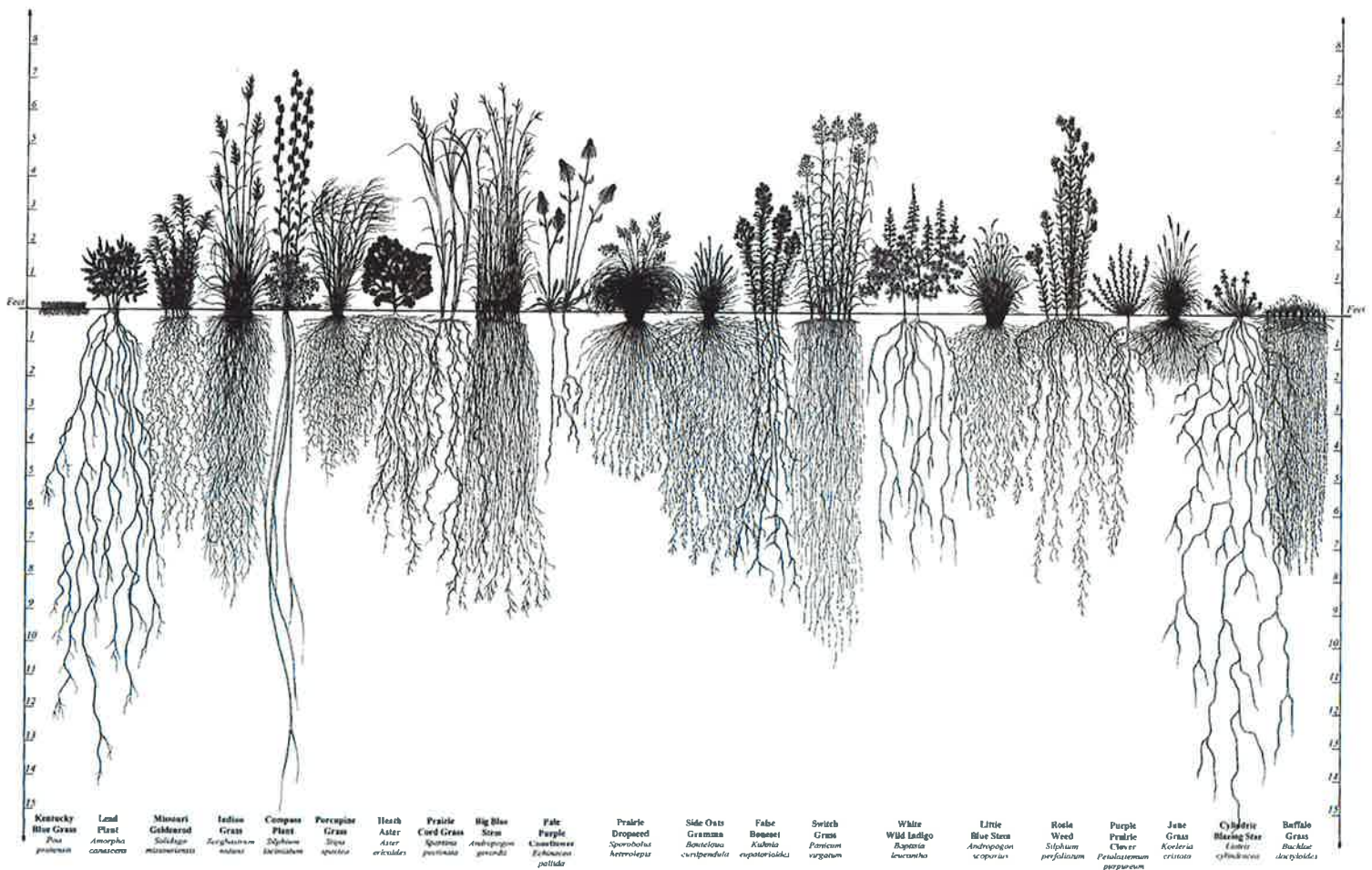


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The fundamental basis for encouraging use of native plant species for improved soil erosion control in streams and stormwater facilities lies in the fact that native plants have extensive root systems which improve the ability of the soil to infiltrate water and withstand wet or erosive conditions. Native plant species, like those listed in this Guide, often have greater biomass below the surface. In this illustration, note the Kentucky Bluegrass shown on the far left, which, when compared to native grass and forb species, exhibits a shallow root system. Illustration provided by Heidi Natura of the Conservation Research Institute.

*A higher quality image can be found at:*

[https://www.oakgov.com/water/resources/education/Documents/EnvEducation/native\\_plant\\_root\\_system\\_schematic.pdf](https://www.oakgov.com/water/resources/education/Documents/EnvEducation/native_plant_root_system_schematic.pdf)

### Contact Info

These are the resources and expert advice available to you. In Stearns County contact Greg Berg in the Stearns SWCD office at 320-251-7800 ext. 3 or at [greg.berg@mn.nacdnet.net](mailto:greg.berg@mn.nacdnet.net). In Wright County contact Dan Nadeau in the Wright SWCD office at 763-682-1970 or at [daniel.nadeau@mn.nacdnet.net](mailto:daniel.nadeau@mn.nacdnet.net). These folks are paid through our taxes – they work for you and they are eager to help you with shoreland management. There are rules and regs but they are not onerous and they don't have to be costly.

Additional free information can be found in the Shoreline Living brochure at [http://midwestglaciallakes.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/VBCD\\_2020\\_ShorelineLiving\\_WEB.pdf](http://midwestglaciallakes.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/VBCD_2020_ShorelineLiving_WEB.pdf) and in the Shoreland Owners Brochure at <https://content.civicplus.com/api/assets/4c3805c1-1912-4dfe-af59-11773a9ea0d7?cache=1800>.

The Minnesota DNR has developed information guides for homeowners who are planning changes near their shores. "Score Your Shore" will give you step-by-step instructions on how to assess your shoreline and help you determine what should be done to address the land-water interface, and thus improve water quality (<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/scoreyourshore/index.html>). I encourage you to look into your own shoreline starting with the 'Score Your Shore' worksheet.

### What do you want to learn about?

What do you want to hear and learn about in these newsletters and other mailings? If there are specific topics you'd like CLPO to address, either in the newsletters or separately, please drop us a note to [contact@clpo.org](mailto:contact@clpo.org).



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by Jim Kutzner, CLPO President

We are sometimes asked, "What do the Board of Directors of the CLPO actually do?" Board officer duties are defined in the organization Bylaws, found on the CLPO website <https://clpo.org/about/bylaws.asp>. There are several CLPO activities beyond those defined in the Bylaws. If you would like to be part of a team tasked with the improvement and protection of our treasured Minnesota waters, please consider becoming a Board member or member volunteer. What follows is a summary of several positions at work within the CLPO which, as an organization, is always vested in recruiting talent, dedicated to a worthy call. See the Call for Nominations to the Board of Directors on page 21 of this newsletter.



### Board Officers:

**President** – current office holder: **Jim Kutzner**

The President is the chief executive officer of the organization and has active management of its work. The President is responsible for executing all contracts, appointing chairs of the various committees and groups, preparing agendas, and presiding over all membership and Board meetings. As the organization executive officer, the President also functions as an emissary to other statewide groups & associations.

**Vice President** – current office holder: **open**

The Vice President assists the President, serving as President when the chief executive is absent from office, and/or unable to manage work of the CLPO. The Vice President also performs other duties in support of the President as assigned.

**Secretary** – current office holder: **Joy Carlson**

The Secretary prepares the minutes of regular and special meetings, maintaining a permanent record of CLPO activity including amending Bylaws, meeting content, membership rosters, and other relevant documents. The Secretary prepares and issues the notice of meetings & meeting agendas.

**Treasurer** – current office holder: **Jeff Golden**

The Treasurer is responsible for the financial activity of the CLPO, including receiving and depositing membership dues and other source funds, maintaining a financial record of all CLPO transactions, and the preparation/presentation of financial reports.





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**Other Managers:**

**AIS Manager** – current office holder: **Tim Ilse**  
The AIS Manager surveys for and prepares all permit applications, grant applications, contracts for AIS water inspection and treatment while canvassing & securing all requirements for outside resource funding. The AIS Manager also organizes and manages the volunteer raker team.

**Website Manager** – current office holder: **Wendy Nelson**  
The Website Manager is responsible for all content of the CLPO website, including the innovation, formatting and contracting for content.

**Newsletter Editor** – current office holder: **Paul Pattee**  
The Newsletter Editor collects, edits and prepares all newsletter content and is responsible for final assembly, print and mailing services while also working with the Website Manager for on-line publication.

**Membership Manager** – current office holder: **Mark Wilkins**  
The Membership Manager manages & maintains an up to date membership listing, while at the same time, recruiting for new members.

**Advertising Manager** – current office holder: **Mark Wilkins**  
The Advertising Manager seeks advertisers for the newsletter, working with both the Website Manager and Newsletter Manager in maintaining an accurate list of advertising sponsors.

**Ramp Inspections Manager** – current office holder: **Liz Leitch-Sell**  
The Ramp Inspections Manager works with offices of Wright and Stearns County in securing grant assistance supporting the contract hire of ramp inspection service personnel and hours of inspection services. The Ramp Inspection Manager also provides service updates and reports to the CLPO Board.

**Picnic Manager** – current office holder: **Paul Pattee**  
The Picnic Manager is the overall manager of the Annual Picnic including the directing and coordinating, with Board members & others, equipment/site rental, food & beverage purchases, membership notification, cleanup and budget.

**Social Media Manager** – current office holder: **Brian Tommerdahl**  
The Social Media Manager works with the Website Manager to replicate relevant content on Facebook and other platforms as appropriate.

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meant to inform not lecture . . .**

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"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more." — H. Jackson Brown Jr.

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." — Mahatma Gandhi

"As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands — one for helping yourself, the other for helping others." — Audrey Hepburn

"The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away." — William Shakespeare

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." — Winston Churchill

"Help one another. There's no time like the present, and no present like the time." — James Durst

"At the end of the day it's not about what you have or even what you've accomplished... it's about who you've lifted up, who you've made better. It's about what you've given back." — Denzel Washington

**"If all you ever do is what you've ever done, then all you'll ever get is what you've ever gotten"**

**-- Unknown Author**



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by Tim Ilse, AIS Manager

This year we plan to chemically treat about six acres of Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) and roughly 35 acres of Curly-leaf Pondweed (CLP) in 2021. Prior to each chemical treatment by Lake Restoration, a delineation survey is done by AIS Consulting. The survey for CLP will be in late April since it is an early maturing plant with chemical treatment about ten days later. The delineation survey for EWM will be in early to mid-July with, once again, chemical treatment soon after.

We've been fortunate that, to date, there has not been any detection of Starry Stonewort (SS) in Clearwater Lake. Between two comprehensive scuba dive/rake inspections by Blue Water Science and regular rake inspections by some of our own members, no SS was detected in 2020. This year, we will continue to have CLPO members complete rake tosses at our major water access/landing sites where, without exception, SS is found. Blue Water Science will again conduct scuba dive/rake inspections, expanding to two additional landing sites for a total of six sites in 2021. It is critical that given SS aggressive growth, it be detected early for any hope of control or eradication. As we've previously reported on what has happened in nearby lakes, an early detection and cleanup of SS might cost us in the low five figure dollar amount where late detection would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars which is something none of us have. As a result, we remain vigilant as possible.

Because of last year's low water levels and heavy plant growth, it was not possible to conduct a comprehensive aquatic plant search of the northwest shore, west lake basin. This year, as part of the delineation process for CLP and EWM, that area will be surveyed in early spring and again in mid-summer for an accurate measure of plant type and growth.

We've been fortunate this year to receive a \$5000 AIS Contol Grant from the Minnesota DNR helping to defray some of the cost associated with delineation and treatment of CLP & EWM on Clearwater Lake. We have an additional grant application in process with the Wright County Soil & Water District; the dollar amount and time of dispersal will be communicated at a later date.





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### by Jeff Golden, Treasurer

The CLPO had another strong year financially in 2020, which continued an established trend of increasing our overall cash balance from the prior year.

We expected some pandemic-related negative effects, such as a drop in the important dues category. Many members take the opportunity to pay their dues at in-person events, and in 2020 we had only a virtual annual meeting and no picnic. Dues did in fact fall off some but by less than six percent, and this was fully offset by member donations actually increasing. Looking ahead to 2021, with hopes that the local economy is on track for a rebound, we expect a return to substantial advertising income that we lacked in 2020.

On the expense side, the major spending categories of newsletters and website had considerably lower costs in 2020. But as another notable change from the previous year, we had AIS expenditures exceeding \$18,000 for treatments and a full-lake detailed survey. In 2019 we did neither of these things. A summary of how we managed this cost demonstrates a typical flow of AIS funds out of and back into the CLPO.

First, upon completion of these AIS activities, we paid the service providers with CLPO funds, meaning the money came largely from accumulated member dues, donations, and advertising revenue. Then we documented the costs and activities for the state DNR and Wright County, which in turn, based on prearranged commitments to us, sent their separate grant awards. For the balance not covered by these grants, we applied for and received reimbursement from the Clearwater River Watershed District.

On the subject of CRWD reimbursement, all property owners around the lake—not just CLPO members—fund our AIS account at the CRWD with their taxes, and it is from this account that reimbursements come. In effect then, when we submit a request to the CRWD, we shift the burden for that AIS expense from our CLPO members alone to all the lake residents. Therefore, in the end the \$18,000 had only a temporary impact on CLPO finances, with no lasting effect on our cash balance.

As this summary shows, grants and reimbursements are important funding sources for us. Submitting the detailed applications, fully documenting the tasks, and doing the necessary follow-up can be complex and time-consuming. Board members Tim Ilse, Mark Bertelsen, and Liz Leitch-Sell have been most directly responsible for our continuing success in this area. As of March 31, we have over \$35,000 in state and county grant commitments for AIS in 2021, with most of this amount from Stearns County for inspections at the two public landings.

Thanks to the ongoing support of our members, we remain well positioned financially to carry on in 2021 with our usual activities and to cope with any unexpected new developments. A CLPO financial statement for 2020 will be available at the time of the annual meeting.





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## **Tape- worms**

**by Paul Pattee**

A great deal of attention has been given, and rightfully so, to the study and control of AIS life forms that adversely affect the bio-norms and stability of native water species. Pathogens that can infect native fish populations have been around a lot longer than AIS . . . perhaps even longer than our own human diseases. The spread of disease causing pathogens among native fish populations is made worse by the high risk habits of some anglers, doing so I hope, unknowingly. Recognizing there are millions of anglers fishing Minnesota waters each year, the

potential benefit of targeting anglers for better awareness of high risk behaviors can't be overstated.

Although many disease causing pathogens exist including viruses, bacteria and parasites, I've chosen to focus on a parasite, the tapeworm. There are many types. Being quite visible to the naked eye, they lend themselves to easy study. As an example, the picture on page 15 was taken by a Clearwater Lake angler who, on cleaning his prized walleye last summer, trashed his catch disgusted by the countless number of tapeworms found in the gut of the fish. On looking at the picture, only one thought came to mind . . . *yummy*. As it turns out, such tapeworm infestation is quite common. To better understand the ways in which we might improve the problem, a little Biology 101.

What we see in the fish image (page 15) are adult tapeworms . . . lots of them! Each segment of each adult worm has both male and female sex organs. As these segments mature, they become filled with eggs. Segments at the tail end of the worms are shed and pass with fish feces. The eggs, once in the water, are eaten by tiny aquatic crustaceans known as copepods. Copepods and other zooplankton are extremely important components of the aquatic food chain, no bigger than the period at the end of this sentence. After being eaten by the copepod, the tapeworm eggs hatch and develop into larva making the copepod the *first intermediate host*. Small fish that eat the copepod continue the life cycle of the tapeworm when the larva take up residence inside the muscles and internal organs of the forage fish making it the *second intermediate host*. Larger fish, such as walleye, eat the forage fish where larva reside in the *final host's* digestive tract, as in the picture, developing into an adult tapeworm. The life cycle of the tapeworm, now complete . . . is ready to start all over again.

**Continued  
on  
Page 15**





A review of the tapeworm life cycle, though not appetizing, does help clarify some of the regulations around the use of bait fish and proper disposal of entrails after cleaning a day's catch. Reducing the risk of contacting or using infected bait fish is one reason individuals cannot import live minnows or leeches into Minnesota from elsewhere. If an angler chooses to keep live bait after fishing, it is recommended that the water in bait containers be exchanged with tap or bottled water, prior to leaving a fishing site. This prevents the potential cross contamination of lakes with infected bait water. The recommended garbage disposal of unwanted live bait, such as minnows and leeches, even night crawlers, helps reduce the spread of disease in our native fish populations. The proper garbage disposal of fish entrails, after cleaning fish, helps lessen the reintroduction of disease causing viruses,

bacteria and parasites, including "our very visible friend", the tapeworm. In the Summer 2019, researchers of the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center finalized mailing of a paper survey to 4,000 anglers across the state receiving 669 completed responses. A different postcard survey administered at boat launches involving 1000 anglers resulted in 305 respondents. The surveys found that even though a majority of people thankfully follow safe handling practices of live bait (i.e. *not* releasing bait back into fishing waters), **20% to 30%, and perhaps even more**, continue to practice high risk bait release. Considering the millions of anglers that fish Minnesota waters each year, the noncompliant 20-30% are a great threat to a healthier native fish population.

One final note . . . could our angler have eaten the fish he caught? Yes, so long as the fish is thoroughly frozen or cooked which would have killed any potential disease carrying pathogens. Of course, no amount of freezing or cooking will erase the visual image seared into ones brain when trying to enjoy a tasty, but tapeworm infested, fillet of fish. Eating under cooked or raw fresh-water fish . . . is ***not*** recommended.



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by C. B. "Zeke" Koehler with Paul Pattee

What follows are some excerpts of a letter dated 2010 from "Zeke" Koehler, a long time Clearwater Lake resident, to his family . . . "so that my children and grandchildren might know what it was like as a teenager & pre-teenager at our lake place on Minneapolis Point, west basin Clearwater Lake, Stearns county, Minnesota in the 1920's".

Traveling from Minneapolis to the town of Clearwater at age 7, they would "put our Hupmobile car on a ferry and be pulled across by the current to the South bank. This was the only way to cross the (Mississippi) river, for there was no bridge there in the 1920's and early 30's. To a seven-year-old putting our car on a ferry, only a foot or so out of the water was about as exciting as it can get. Then on to the North shore of Bass Lake; stopping at the Knickerbocker's farmhouse on Bass Lake for milk and eggs . . . going straight west to a single lane country road . . . with grass between the car tracks and no lake cottages on this shore (and) if you unfortunately met another car, one of you had to be very adept at reversing; heading south on around the west shore of this tiny back bay (to) where Maple Hill resort is (and) a small house and a boat rental facility since gone called Kewpies . . . Kewpie always scared me -- he'd come out of his house with a shotgun in his hand and inquire what someone was doing there possibly because he'd been making illegal alcohol, "Hootch" as it was called in the 1920's. (Then) to our property on Minneapolis Point, on past Zoubek's 200 ft. of Lake Shore and their large cottage; in 1924 my uncle G. Fred Lohman bought this historically unique lake home and peninsula, with more than one thousand feet of lakeshore; as a sort of fishing and hunting get-away. (He) never had to leave his property to go duck hunting; get(ting) his limit everytime. During the resort days of the late 1800's and early 1900's our building was the dining area and sleeping quarters for the cook and his helper; guests that came by train, I assume to South Haven, (got there) likely by horse and buggy to the Minneapolis Point Resort complex. I have a big old hotel registry book (with) signatures of those signing-in, from as far away as Chicago and Cleveland and Pittsburgh and Kansas City, with the most exciting signature being R. W. Sears, of Sears and Roebuck, signing-in from Chicago on June 7, 1905 when he was 42 years old.

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"I seem to hear my old friend Paul Dyste saying, "lets row over to the big island and explore", for Bungalow Island had the remains of a roaring 20's hotel-resort building with abandoned pool tables and the mahogany hull of a at one time beautiful Chris Craft rotting on the shore; Then there was Beecher's Resort in the East basin where Camp Friendship is now with a live twelve-piece band; I believe Beecher himself played the saxophone; and GIRLS, real live girls.

"How drastically our surroundings change in just one lifetime. Now, when you look out on our bay, there are acres and acres of Lilly pads, where there used to be only bulrushes, and bulrushes make for a healthy lake and good fishing; The bulrushes like to grow in sandy bottom, where fish can spawn. But Lilly pads delight in mud, the more the better; There's no more swimming off our shoreline! An inadequately built dam on the Clearwater River broke many years ago and with it (a) back-up of effluent that poured out, coupled with the 40,000 lbs. of phosphorous that came from the Watkins Creamery; which, over-time has created the 8-10 inches of muck by encouraging excessive weed growth eliminating much of the natural spawning beds for walleye and bass.





I remember the back bay had a bass rearing area . . . with floating signs prohibiting fishing in early spring, but no more with all the muck; It's a shame, Clearwater was a gem, but through man's carelessness our lake has probably been forcibly aged . . ."

I hate to leave Zeke's letter on such a *down*, but, important note . . . everyone and everything ages over time . . . even our natural resources. The CLPO association, with the support of its membership, strives to preserve that which we have, working as best we can to minimize the impact recreational use may have on, in Zeke's words, the *forcible aging* of our lake.

**Postscript:** Sadly, heavy editing for a condensed page of newsletter content doesn't do justice to Zeke's letter; sorry Zeke. There is much more material for another newsletter entry. More sadly, though, is that Zeke Koehler passed away on December 23, 2020 at the age of 95 and with him, a lot of history once lived. He was a decorated Navy veteran of World War II having served in several Pacific engagements including Guam, Palau, Leyte, Lingayen Gulf, and Okinawa. For those unfamiliar with these places, or perhaps even World War II . . . Google it . . . *please*. I was informed by his wife of 64 years, Joanne (Joni), that I could use Zeke's letter and name for the article. To Zeke, from one Navy veteran to another, thanks for your service during a very troubling time in our nation's history which saw such needless loss of life on both sides of the conflict.



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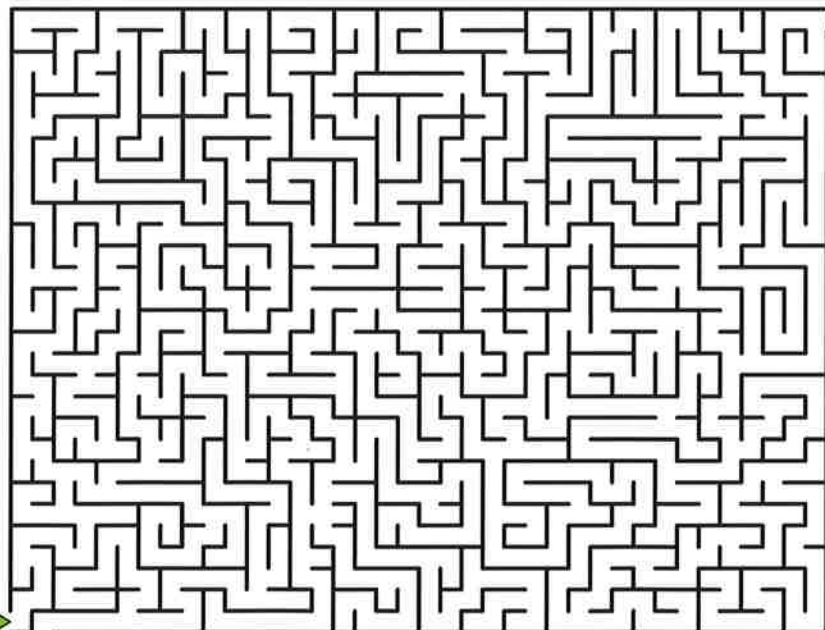
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## Reminder

find your way to the Sandbar July 4th Celebration



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Saturday, July 3





# Weed Control

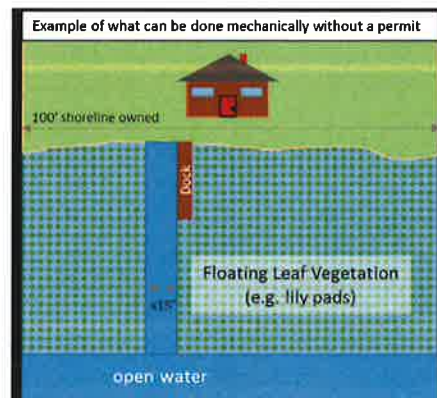
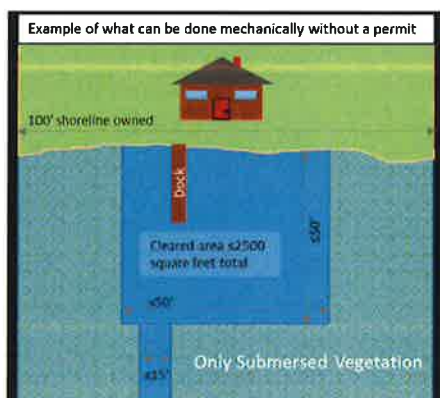
The wild rice is blocking me in – what can I do about it?

What can I do with the weeds in front of my house?

Many folks simply take matter into their own hands and clandestinely pull and/or chemically treat the weeds. Some do this because they think they'll get an automatic 'no' if they apply to the DNR for a permit. This cannot be further from the truth. In fact, some of the secretive work may not have required a permit in the first place. Here's what we know:

First of all, the MN DNR draws a distinction between three types of vegetation: submerged aquatic vegetation, emergent vegetation and floating-leaf vegetation. Emergent vegetation includes wild rice, cattails, bulrushes, purple loosestrife (an invasive), and flowering rush (also an invasive). Floating-leaf includes water lilies, duckweeds and other floating plants. You need a permit to remove emergent and floating-leaf plants.

Submerged vegetation includes anything under the water. You do not need a permit to remove these up to a limit in area and width. You may remove up to 2500 square feet of these plants but no wider than 50 feet of your shore and no further out than 50 feet from shore. Any larger area or wider width or greater distance from shore will require a permit. See the left-hand drawing from the DNR. The right hand drawing refers only to floating-leaf vegetation and not emergent vegetation. Note that you are allowed a 15 foot wide cut through the floating-leaf vegetation without a permit. If you need a wider space around your dock (e.g., for turning your 20+ foot pontoon) you need a permit.



Source: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/apm/aquatic-plant-types.html>

A number of residents, mostly on the western end of the lake, have a wild rice problem where they are blocked access to the lake. You can also address this access problem, but you need a permit. You do have the right to lake access and so permits are rarely denied in these cases. We urge you to work with the DNR, they're there to help. See <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/apm/index.html> for a summary of where you need a permit and where you don't.







## by Julius Caesar, Roman Emperor

Hail citizens . . . well . . . obviously this is not Julius Caesar, who died in 44 BC but, your editor. By this time in the newsletter, you're probably tiring of my trip down the rabbit hole but my reason for ruminating is to show what this space could look like should people want to write an opinion (opine) piece on a subject relevant to the CLPO and its members. Articles for consideration can be sent to me at [edits@clpo.org](mailto:edits@clpo.org) where I, as newsletter editor, can pick and choose for publication.

The ground rules are that the topic have some relevance for the "lake-folk" without castigating anyone by name . . . the DNR, even CLPO, are fair game. Sample topics could include lake noise, party noise, night fishing spot-lights at 2AM, north shore west basin issues, wild rice control, over-winter ice house garbage, boggs/bogg control and efforts to improve the anglers fishing experience. You get the idea.

Writers can write anonymously as did Alexander Hamilton, first Treasury Secretary under George Washington in 1789. Mr. Hamilton was the most prolific writer in our nations history often writing in defense of his policies to a hostile public and political enemies. Some of his enemies included Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, two future presidents. Yeah . . . they hated each other and to deflect criticism would write opinions in the newspapers of the day using assumed names of Greek or Roman origin. Some of Mr. Hamilton's greatest works include the Federalist Papers, a series of 85 articles written under the pseudonym "Publius" promoting ratification of the United States Constitution; "The Defense", 28 articles in defense of the unpopular Jay Treaty written under the pseudonym "Camillus"; and George Washington's farewell address as a ghost writer. Alexander Hamilton's temperament and defense of honor got the best of him when he was killed in a duel with Aaron Burr, the then vice-president of the United States under Thomas Jefferson's first term as president. Mr Hamilton was only 47 (or 49, depending on who you read) when he died in 1804.

. . . anyway, I'm looking for contributors to this segment and the one below *Did You Know?* which will explore & share knowledge, especially lake-knowledge, that in your opinion could benefit us all. I've listed something I found helpful to give an idea of what I'm looking for as a kickstart. Contact me at [edits@clpo.org](mailto:edits@clpo.org) with your knowledge no matter how trivial it may seem. Heck, the pandemic year has made trivia interesting.



## Did You Know?

Kids with swim goggles or dive mask are constantly battling either water leaks or lens fogging. If there is a grandparent present, they are sometimes quizzed about ways to make things better. After all, isn't that what grandparents do . . . make things better. Well, gramps, drawing on his infinite wisdom, primes his oral pump for a wad of, well, . . . Spitting into the mask, during COVID, or for that matter anytime, is not just unacceptable, it's gross.

A mix of a small amount of Johnson's Baby Shampoo (won't irritate the eyes) in water, dispensed with a discarded spray bottle, is a great alternative to gramps helpful ways and works extremely well. Gramps retains his precious body fluids, kids are safe, and parents are spared the painful visual from a well intended, loving relative.

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by Ruth Londo

## Three Bean Baked Beans

- 1/2 lb bacon, cut into one inch pieces
- 1/2 lb lean ground beef
- 1 large onion (chopped)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1/4 cup barbecue sauce
- 2 tsp dry mustard
- 2 tsp molasses
- 1/2 tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp pepper
- 1 - 16 oz can butter beans (drained)
- 1 - 16 oz can kidney beans (drained)
- 1 - 31 oz can pork & beans

These highlighted items can be mixed up and refrigerated the night before an event

Cook the bacon & drain off the fat. Brown the ground beef. Add the chopped onions to the ground beef & simmer until the onions are cooked. Stir in the bacon pieces & all remaining ingredients. Cook on low heat for several hours.

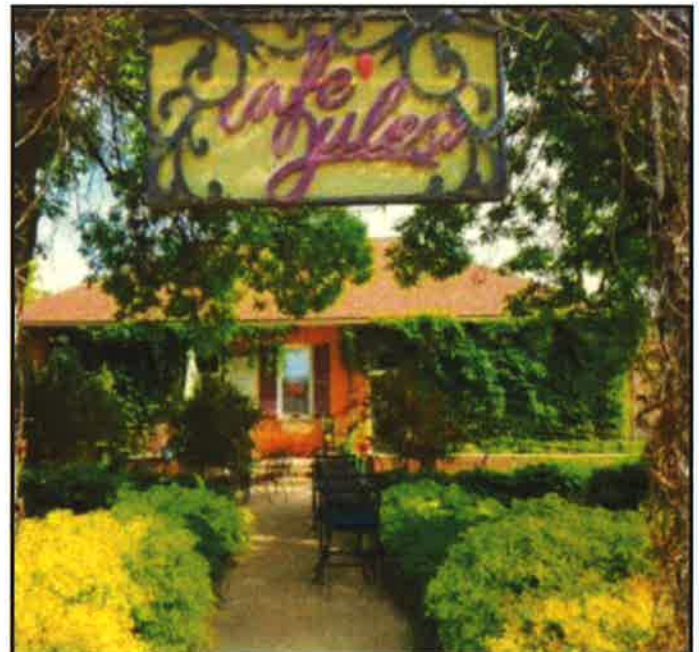
**Suggestions:** Our family usually doubles the recipe . . . it disappears fast! There is usually a block of bacon, or more commonly bacon fat, in with the can of pork & beans - remove this! Biting into this, if not removed, is not pleasant. It's only in the can for flavoring. When doubling or tripling the recipe, our family may add other varieties of bean including Navy and/or black beans making the recipe more correctly named "Four or Five Bean Baked Beans". Cooks well in a Crockpot. The CLPO Summer newsletter will have a design drawing with parts list for constructing your own adjustable cooking trapeze for those wanting to cook this, and other dishes, over an outdoor firepit. Oh yeah!!!



by Brian Tommerdahl,  
CLPO Board Member

Social media is a modern source of communication and education. The CLPO established accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram have been up and running for over a year. Once again, our goal for Clearwater Lake residents is to inform, educate and entertain. What do Invasive Cattails or China Mystery snails look like? How many Loon pairs are nesting? Where is Lenny and Lucy Loon on the lake today? When will the Tundra Swans return? How are membership dues spent? Answers are within our social media pages. It is our hope the more you know about the CLPO, our lake, nature activities, your neighbors and volunteers, the more likely we will preserve Clearwater Lake for future generations. Like our pages. There are direct links to these on the bottom of our homepage at [www.clpo.org](http://www.clpo.org)

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ClearwaterLakePropertyOwnersAssociation/>
- Twitter: [@lake\\_clearwater](https://twitter.com/@lake_clearwater)
- Instagram: [CLPOA](https://www.instagram.com/CLPOA)



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## Clearwater Lake Property Owners Association

# Call for Nominations to the Board of Directors

### **The lake needs your help! We need your help!**

The CLPO is an active lake association who constantly works to improve and protect this beautiful resource we all have the privilege to enjoy. We are seeking nominations for people to join our Board of Directors.

You do not need to be an expert on the lake or on water. We have experts around the state that we can rely on for those matters. You only need to have an interest in helping to preserve the lake and serve the community. On the Board we currently have people from all walks of life, some retired and some still working: a homemaker, a lawyer, a doctor, an engineer, a used car salesman, an IT professional, a realtor, a teacher, and so on.

### **Overall Responsibility:**

Board members of the CLPO manage the affairs and budgets of the association.

### **Operational:**

Board members are elected to three-year terms and may at their option serve up to a maximum of two consecutive terms. Board members attend quarterly board meetings and any special meetings held throughout the year. Board members represent the organization in dealings with CLPO members and the public.

The specific duties of each Board member depend on where their interest lies. Some focus on AIS prevention, some focus on contracting for boat inspections at the ramps, some focus on communications such as putting the newsletter together, some focus on our annual picnic. It really depends on what you like to do and what needs to be done.

Management of the affairs of the association includes but is not limited to the following tasks and activities:

- Management and oversight of the association's budget and expenditures
- Leading and/or participation in aquatic invasive species management in the lake
- Leading or participation in your selected area of interest
- Participate in activities or committees of the association
- Attendance and participation in periodic and other board meetings
- Elect officers of the organization

### **Contact us!**

If you have interest in becoming a Board Member or if you know of someone who is willing to serve, please email or write to the CLPO by May 15, 2021 and the nominating committee will contact you.

Email: [clpomn@gmail.com](mailto:clpomn@gmail.com)

Address: Clearwater Lake Property Owners Association  
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Here are the reference pages for sponsor ads within the newsletter. Consider engaging their businesses in support of their own entrepreneurial commitment to local services and environmental stewardship.

<b>Anchor Dock &amp; Lift</b>	<b>page 14</b>	<b>Norgren Tree Service Inc</b>	<b>page 23</b>
<b>Backyard Reflections Inc</b>	<b>page 13</b>	<b>Oak Realty</b>	<b>page 3</b>
<b>Billy D's/Southbrook Grille</b>	<b>page 11</b>	<b>Petty Brothers</b>	<b>page 16</b>
<b>BK's Dock Installation &amp; Removal</b>	<b>page 15</b>	<b>Pleasant Vista Senior Living</b>	<b>page 8</b>
<b>Café Jules</b>	<b>page 20</b>	<b>The Red Goat</b>	<b>page 19</b>
<b>Community Law Care</b>	<b>page 8</b>	<b>Re/Max Advantage Plus Realty</b>	<b>page 7</b>
<b>Dingman Marine</b>	<b>page 17</b>	<b>Stadium Bar &amp; Grill</b>	<b>page 8</b>
<b>Flygare Excavating, Inc</b>	<b>page 23</b>	<b>Star Bank</b>	<b>page 8</b>
<b>Homestyle Country Cafe</b>	<b>page 4</b>	<b>Southbrook Golf Course</b>	<b>page 4</b>
<b>Howards Plumbing</b>	<b>page 15</b>	<b>Waterfront Lakeside Grille</b>	<b>page 2</b>
<b>J &amp; J Marine Inc</b>	<b>page 10</b>	<b>Whispering Pines Golf Course</b>	<b>page 16</b>
<b>Lake Central Bank</b>	<b>page 2</b>	<b>Young &amp; Brown, LLC</b>	<b>page 5</b>
<b>Miller's Jewelry</b>	<b>page 11</b>	<b>Z-Marine</b>	<b>page 5</b>

## Membership

We encourage everyone on Clearwater Lake to become a CLPO member and, in so doing, a steward for the protection, preservation and improvement of our lake waters. The \$50 tax deductible membership fee is payable by check using the enclosed 2021 CLPO Member Form, or credit card by accessing the CLPO website at [www.clpo.org](http://www.clpo.org). If paying online, it will be necessary to complete the online membership form before being transferred to Paypal or being able to enter credit card information.

Please make sure all your contact information is correct on the 2021 CLPO Member Form when renewing by mail, when making entries on the website at [www.clpo.org](http://www.clpo.org), or making your e-mail contact information available at [clpomn@gmail.com](mailto:clpomn@gmail.com). An up to date e-mail address is an important way for us to keep you informed on lake developments saving both time and postage expense. Thank you!





Clearwater Lake is a place of recreation, sport and yes, labor. With each year, and changing season, the lake serves up a different look or feel. The lake's physical presentation can play on our mood, even sense of wellness. Lake-ice and winter sunsets play differently than the waters of July and call of the loons; not necessarily good or bad . . . just different.

Many of us, whose mood can be captivated by the lake, will take measure or notice of its presentation shaped by things like sun or rain, wind or clouds, ice or open water.

Lake water levels may forewarn any number of things, including, but not limited to, adjusting docks and lifts (the *labor* I mentioned earlier), weed growth and shoreline erosion. Anyway, here are some lake measures that serve witness to the lake's dynamic nature, as watchful we are, in trying to anticipate its next turn.



Ice-in date for 2020 was on Dec-24 giving us 262 days of open water; *that was a record for late ice-in.*



The previous late ice-in date was Dec-21, 1998 with 261 days of open water.



The ice-out date last year was on Apr-6.



Even with 2020's late ice-in date, it wasn't the longest season of open water. That happened in 1987 when there were 275 days of open water; ice-out was on Mar-16 and ice-in on Dec-16.



The record for the shortest season of open water was a tie between 1995 and 2012 at 207 days.



Ice-out in 2021 was on April 1, April Fools Day, for 98 days of ice cover in 2020-21. The record for the least number of ice cover days, going back 40 years, was 88 days in 2016.

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*Water levels were low on the lake in 2020.*



Lake level readings were taken daily from Apr-8 thru Oct-18.



The water level reading on Apr-8 was 990.30 feet above sea level.



On Oct-18, the last day to measure, the water level was at 988.70 feet.



Doing the math, that's a *whopping drop of 1.6"*.



As a result, there were *zero "no-wake" days last year.*



A "no-wake" declaration is made when the lake level is greater than 992.0 feet above sea level protecting shoreline or property from the damaging effects of watercraft waves.



By comparison, *there were 58 "no-wake" days in 2019.*

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*Thank you!*

CLPO  
P.O. Box 476  
Annandale, MN 55302

2021 Dues Paid:



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*"See you on the lake"*

"Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome".  
-- Samuel Johnson





# Clearwater Lake Property Owners Association

PO Box 476  
Annandale, MN 55302

## 2021 CLPO Member Form

Please encourage your neighbors to do the same and join. We have made a big difference in the lake quality in the past 16 years and will be able to continue in the years to come if we get your support. Thank you!

**2021 CLPO Annual Membership Dues Payment:**      **\$50.00**

**Yes, I'd like to give an additional donation:**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total:**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Check the box if you'd like to have the additional donation kept anonymous:**

**Check the box if your information has changed and needs to be updated:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Lake Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Email Addresses:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

Please include this form if paying by check and make checks payable to: CLPO  
Online dues payment is available at [www.clpo.org](http://www.clpo.org)

**Cut below, send this top portion with your payment and keep the bottom portion for your records**

✂-----

**2021 CLPO Dues Payment:**      **\$50.00**

**Additional Donation:**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total:**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* CLPO is a 501(c)(3) Organization. All dues and donations are tax-deductible. \*\*