



Little Birch Lake Association

Summer 06

Presidents Letter

Schedule of Events

Road clean-up
Sept. 2 1:00pm

Fishing Tourney
Sept. 9 6:30am

Dinner Dance
Sept. 9 5:30pm

Annual Meeting
June 3 9:30am

The summer season is just about to come to a close. The weather has been perfect for the prevention of mosquitoes and it worked well. The lack of rain has put some burden on lake residents in their efforts to get the boat off of the lift. I have seen a couple of residents moving their lifts into deeper water. The good side of this is that it will a lot easier getting the lifts out of the water this fall.

The Board of Directors has been very busy with the battle of water quality. The fight with Eurasian Milfoil and Currlyleaf Pondweed has been high on our list. We are doing our best to control this problem. Please read the articles in this newsletter on this problem as we are in need of your help.

By now most of you should have your lake management plan. I hope that you have had time to read through it. There is a lot of information that has to do with our lake in the plan. A lot of work was put into this plan by Jerry Kluempke. The plan will be a working plan meaning that the Board of Directors will be handing out as much information as we can that will help both the lake and you as a resident of the lake.

The Board of Directors will continue to work hard to keep our lake in as good of shape as we can. We do need your help though. If you want to donate even a little time please contact us and we will see what we can find for you to do.

Thank you for becoming a lake association member. The money from the dues and from your donations is what keeps the lake association going. I hope to see many of you at the road clean-up and then again on the 9th at the fishing tournament and the dinner dance. Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Daniel J Goihl President Little Birch Lake Association

Board of Directors

Dan Goihl President

Dennis Wessel Treasurer

Tom Jacobson

Gene Sullivan

Pete Linsner Vice President

Randy Killan

Anthony Wessel

Jon Brophy

Mike Schlicht

Don Haller

Sam Schnell

Steve Gudgell

Dinner Dance

It is that time of the year again for the Little Birch Lake Dinner Dance. This year the theme is "Back to the 50's". It will once again be held at the Hub Supper Club.

Social hour starts at 5:30 pm. This is also when the silent auction starts. Dinner will be served at 7:00 and the music will begin at 9:00. Make sure you mark the 9th of September on your calendar now as not only is the food pretty good, the music pretty good, there are many great items on the auction block.

The best part of the night is that all the proceeds go to the Lake Association. This is our major fundraiser for the year and it is a good time to boot. Bring your friends and neighbors and help our lake.

If you have a donation for the silent auction please contact a committee member or a Board Member. This is a good time to show off your talents.

Tickets can be picked up from all the committee members or contact a Board Member and they will hook you up. Thank you.

Fishing Tournament

Pete is once again running the annual Little Birch Lake Fishing Tournament. The fun will begin on Saturday morning the 9th of September at 6:30 am. Registration begins then as does time to have a roll and some coffee and/or juice. Come early enough to hear some good fish stories.

The tourney will run from 7-10 in the morning. After the weigh in and handing out of prizes, there will be a fish fry {we hope}. Please bring a small dish to share with the rest of the participants. See you on the water!

If you have any questions give Pete a call at 256-5046.

Secchi Disc

As of August 12th we have taken 32 readings on Little Birch. It has not been a good year for water clarity. The readings have been averaging about 6 ft. In looking back at past readings, dating back to the early eighties, this is by far the poorest readings the lake has had. We will continue monitoring thru fall and should see some improvement as the weather cools and we get some much needed moisture

Loon Update

Good news, Bad news. Our Little Birch Loons had a successful hatch. With three nesting pair producing 6 chicks. We also had one lone adult living on the lake this summer. Bad News. For the second consecutive year we lost a chick around the 1st of August. With the increase in watercraft activity on the lake, we're probably fortunate we lost only one chick. We hope you all enjoyed watching and hearing them this past summer. The adults will probably be leaving in mid October and the young will stay around for about another three weeks.

Again if anyone is interested in adopting the nesting platform on the north side, you can give us a call 285-7372 It would involve covering the raft with nesting material and putting it out on the lake.

A thank you to Ben Petermeier, Tom Blais, and Dan Praska for their help this year.

Little Birch Loonatics Bud and Pat Moening

Work With SCSU

Pete Linser and Jodi Frenelius (SCSU student) have photographed the entire lakes shoreline. We will archive those pictures for reference in the future. Jodi has been working to compile all of the water samplings that have been taken on Little Birch Lake for easy reference and study. Water sample testing of the inflows has been deferred due to the drought. Work with Professor Bender will resume as fall classes begin at St. Cloud State University.
Steven F. Gudgell

Weed Update

EXOTIC UPDATE

We requested from the DNR, a permit to treat one acre of Curly Leaf Pondweed and 3.83 acres of Eurasian Watermilfoil. We received the permit and Professional Lake Management treated the areas.

CURLY LEAF PONDWEED

After several telephone calls from Property Owners during late June we did another check for additional areas that may need to be treated next year. We have two additional areas that equals about two acres that will have to be treated next year for a minimum of three acres. (Was too late to treat this year)

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL

We did another check for Eurasian Watermilfoil. We found several clusters along the north and east shorelines. From the inlet Prairie Creek to the inlet from Big Birch Lake. We had to apply for a full lake permit at a cost of \$750.00. Before the DNR would issue the permit, Audrey Kuchinski, Aquatic Plant Management Specialist had to make a physical inspection. Which she did and found the same as we did and made an amendment to our original permit for additional 2 acres. During the end of July we went along the shoreline and treated every plant we could find. This will have to be inspected again the end of August to make sure we got everything. Next year we will have to apply for another full lake permit and at least 6 acres.

This is going to be an ongoing maintenance plan and we need to get Team Captains along the different shorelines to help identify and harvest the smaller plants. This is very time consuming, expensive and WE NEED HELP. Thank you and enjoy the balance for the summer.
Don Haller

Help

As we all know, we are working hard on the milfoil and curlyleaf pondweed problem. The Board of Directors is in need of your help. We need more eyes on the lake. What would be ideal is if you got together with your neighbors and watch the water out from your shoreline.

It will work best if you choose one in your group to be the contact person. This way if one in your group finds milfoil or curlyleaf pondweed in your area you can let him or her know and they can contact the Board of Directors and we will look in to it.

The one thing that has come into question is the responsibility of the lake. According to the DNR you as a property owner, you are responsible from the shoreline out 150 feet. From there on the DNR is responsible for the lakes welfare.

If your shoreline is contaminated with these problem weeds the lake association maybe able to help but the first thing is that we need to know about the weeds.

It would great if in the next couple of weeks, while you are on the lake you just talk to your neighbors and take a look at the lake. This is easy and you can do it while having your favorite beverage and talking about your golf game.

If we all start looking now, we will be able to work on the problem as soon as we can. The season for spraying is almost over so again we are asking for your help right now. Thank you and we will see you on the water.