



2017 EVENTS

April 23, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
SLA Annual Meeting
The Wilds Golf Club
 Please join us for an evening of guest speakers, SLA Board updates and the opportunity to provide input on future activities. Sign-in and social from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., meeting to follow.

May 20
5th Annual Spring Lake/Prior Lake Carp Tournament
 Hosted by Knotty Oar Marina.

May 29, 1 p.m.
Memorial Day Flotilla
 A summer gathering for Spring Lake residents. Tie up and share food and fun!

July 1 - 7
Lighted Dock-Christmas In July
 Deck your docks! Prizes will be awarded to the most creative display.

July 4, 4 p.m.
Annual Boat Parade
 Sponsored by the Thomsens, mthomsen1978@yahoo.com. Begins on the west side of the lake.

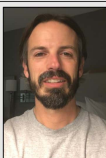
August 20, Noon
Spring Lake Association Picnic
 Held at the new park pavilion near the boat launch at the end of Vergus Avenue. Dunk tank, music, fun and games. Food will be provided. Please bring your own beverages.

September 4, 1 p.m.
Labor Day Flotilla

Are your lake neighbors Lake Association members?
 Everyone who lives on Spring Lake or who uses our valuable natural resource should be a dues-paying member, don't you think?

Encourage your neighbors and friends to join us for just \$30 per family, per year!

SPRING LAKE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT DAN KELLY



2016 was a great year on Spring Lake. The weather was great, we experienced water quality improvement and we had a nice long boating season. It was also a great year for the Spring Lake Association.

SLA experienced a 50% increase in members over last year giving us a membership record. We also experienced record attendance at both the annual meeting and annual picnic. Thanks to this increase, and our first annual raffie, we raised enough funds to donate \$1,000 to the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District to help fund programs directly impacting Spring Lake.

Based on this momentum the SLA is planning another great year on the lake which started with a winter social event this past January and continues with our usual agenda of summertime events ending with our annual picnic, attended last year by over 100 people who enjoyed food and games and our first bean bag tournament.

We hope to increase our club membership for the fourth straight year which will help fund more events as well as important causes improving Spring Lake.

The SLA would like to invite everyone to attend our Annual Meeting Sunday, April 23, 6 - 8 p.m. at the Wild's Clubhouse. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our lake organization, enjoy complimentary appetizers, meet other members and neighbors from around the lake and win some great prizes.

The Spring Lake Association hopes to see everyone at our events throughout the year. Here's to a great year on the lake in 2017!

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This is a whole of a tale!
 Commercial fisherman (above) removed more than 34,000 pounds of carp from Spring Lake this winter! (Wow...that could scare the carp out of a guy.) See front page.


Members and non-members encouraged to attend

SLA ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 23

Anyone interested in the environment of Spring Lake is encouraged to attend the Spring Lake Association's Annual Meeting slated for 6 p.m., Sunday, April 23 at the Wild's Clubhouse.

Mr. Will said the agenda will include presentations regarding lake activities and water quality, elections of any office or board openings and a prize drawing.

The SLA has monthly meetings at 6 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month at Charlie's. Check the website for meeting changes.



Spring Lake Association Membership Form

Please make your check payable to Spring Lake Association

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

- Dues: \$30 per household per year (Valid until April 2018)
 Additional donation I would like to help with _____

Please return to: Spring Lake Association, P.O. Box 631, Prior Lake, MN 55372



2017 lake calendar

- January 29 WINTER SOCIAL
- April 23 ANNUAL MEETING
- May 20 CARP TOURNAMENT
- May 29 MEMORIAL DAY FLOTILLA
- July 1 LIGHTED DOCKS CHRISTMAS IN JULY
- July 4 ANNUAL BOAT PARADE
- August 20 ANNUAL PICNIC
- September 4 LABOR DAY BOAT FLOTILLA

Spring Lake Association

Spring Lake Carp Re-locate to North Carolina! Watershed Project Nets 17 Tons

Not only does Spring Lake receive fertilizer runoff from residential lawns and farm fields, there are also nutrients stored on the bottom of the lake which have built up over time. When the lake bottom gets stirred up by bottom-feeding carp, these nutrients are released back into the water, contributing to algae blooms.

Beginning in 2015 the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District was awarded a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency grant for carp management on Spring Lake and Prior Lake through the Clean Water Partnership. The project's strategy is to track the movement and population of carp, identify spawning areas and installing carp barriers, in addition to targeted carp removals.

To that end, ten carp were implanted with radio tags to track their locations in the lake. In the spring the district conducted a seine on the east bay of Spring Lake where several radio-tagged carp were congregated. That seine only netted 22 carp.

However, the District's patience paid off in January of this year when eight of the tagged carp were closely grouped, along with other carp, on the north side of the lake and WSB & Associates coordinated a seine with a commercial fisherman.

The result, according to Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Board Chair Fred Corrigan, was the removal of 2,575 carp totaling over 34,000 pounds (17 tons) from Spring Lake! Based on the preliminary population estimate, this seine may have captured nearly 50% of the carp in Spring Lake. Future tracking and seines are to be conducted as well.



Fred Corrigan



Meanwhile, more than half of the carp caught were sold to a buyer in North Carolina for consumption with the contractor hoping to find another buyer for the remainder of the Spring Lake catch.

To learn more about the project and where carp are located on Spring, interested persons can go to the District's website where the carp's locations are periodically updated.

Temporary carp barriers will be placed on Spring Lake connections to wetlands or waterbodies where carp, like those harvested this year (above), are suspected to be spawning. Carp elimination and alum treatments are just two of the efforts to improve the lake's quality.

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WEBSITE
 www.springlakeassociation.org

EMAIL
 board.sla@gmail.com

SLA BOARD MEETINGS
 Check website for meeting times and locations.



ANNUAL MEETING
 April 23, 6 p.m.
 The Wilds





Spring Lake Association

Alum improving water quality

Further Treatment Will Be Considered For 2018

The Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District treated Spring Lake with alum in 2013. Completed prior to the treatment, the sediment core analysis, alum dose determination and application plan called for two to three phases of alum treatment with half of the total dose delivered in the fall of 2013, and additional phases of alum treatment spaced by three or more years, depending upon the need for additional treatment.

In 2015, the District's Board of Managers hired Barr Engineering, who managed the treatment, to conduct an analysis to see if an alum treatment in 2016 was warranted. Given the favorable water quality monitoring results, Barr indicated that an alum treatment was not necessary this year.

In 2016 Barr conducted a sediment core sampling and analyzed water quality data to determine if an alum treatment was needed in 2017. Monitoring data between 2014 and 2016 indicated that total phosphorus, which is a key factor in algae growth, was lower than or at the new MPCA standard of 60 micrograms/liter.

According to Watershed District Administrator Diane Lynch, sediment core samples were collected in August of 2016

from nine locations in Spring Lake - the same locations sampled in 2012. The analysis of the sediment cores use phosphorous fractionation to help understand the longevity of the alum treatment.

"The District will continue to monitor the water quality of Spring Lake."

Diane Lynch



As a result of the favorable water quality results and analysis of the sediment core sampling, Barr drew the following conclusions:

* The first phase of alum application resulted in a significant drop in the releasable forms of phosphorous in the sediment.

* A flood event in 2014, followed by high flows in 2015 and 2016 have resulted in the delivery and sedimentation of more phosphorous in the lake.

* Surface water quality is much improved since the alum treatment.

There's A New Sheriff In Town

Longtime Scott County resident Spencer Autenrieth, a 10 year Scott County Sheriff's Department employee, recently assumed the water patrol enforcement position. He started as a corrections officer at the jail and then switched to the road last year. He can be reached at 952-496-8865.



A Chlorophyll-a filter is used to measure the amount of Chlorophyll-a in the lake.

Barr further stated that given this data and conclusions, the District could hold off on the next phase of alum treatment for another year or two and continue to monitor lake quality for deterioration.

The District will continue to monitor the status of Spring Lake and will determine later this year if an alum treatment should be scheduled in 2018.

Part of the plan to improve the water quality of Spring Lake, explained Lynch, includes participation from local residents.

"From rain gardens to lake restorations to rain barrels to turf management and lake irrigation pumps, there are many things individual residents can do to help," explained Ms. Lynch.

She encouraged residents to visit the District website for information about the different cost-share programs and incentives.

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Stormwater and Flood Study Completed

The Watershed District's flood study is now complete. The initial study was commissioned, as a result of the 2014 flood, by the City of Prior Lake and the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District in cooperation with Spring Lake Township. Barr Engineering was hired to complete the four project phases: 1. Update the Watershed's Model, 2. Identify Flood Reduction Options, 3. Evaluate Flood Reduction Options and 4. Develop an Implementation Plan.

The study had several stakeholder components and the Spring Lake Association was represented on the Advisory Group providing input on flood mitigation alternatives and the final recommendations. There was also a Technical Advisory Committee of staff from the District, City of Prior Lake and Spring Lake Township as well as strategic meetings with local farmers and policymakers from the three entities.

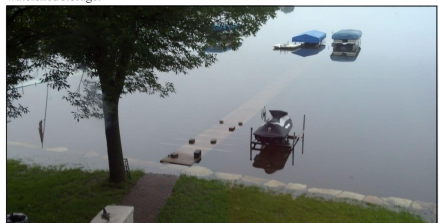
Out of 20 alternatives, the policymakers selected three that met the following goals: protect public safety and maintain emergency access; protect public utility infrastructure; maintain traffic flow through the County Road 21 corridor and maintain access to private properties. The three alternatives selected were: actively manage the Prior Lake Outlet; enhanced protection and secure upper watershed storage.

Actively managing the Prior Lake Outlet is a short-term goal and the responsibility of the District. The District will create a process to analyze weather forecasts, storage capacity of existing wetlands and lakes and flooding potential and will update its procedure to allow the Outlet Structure's low flow gate to be opened more often. Currently, the District is only authorized by the Department of Natural Resources to open the low flow gate in response to spring snowmelt.

Enhanced protection is also a short-term goal. The City of Prior Lake will lead efforts to coordinate temporary enhanced protection measures, such as sandbagging, during flood events. The City will develop a written policy which will be reviewed and adopted by the City Council.

Securing upper watershed storage is a long-term goal. This goal will identify potential storage areas that could provide flood damage reduction in addition to providing water quality improvement benefits. The storage areas will be carefully considered and landowner willingness will be a key factor.

The complete Stormwater Management and Flood Mitigation Study can be viewed at www.plslwd.org/flood-study. The website also has more information about the entire project.



High water was a common occurrence during the summer of 2014 on Spring Lake

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SPRING LAKE DUCKS ARE SAFE

At the November 2015 Spring Lake Township meeting, a group of concerned lake home residents proposed, for safety reasons, that hunting, primarily duck hunting, be restricted on Spring Lake. Two local sportsmen groups and Spring Lake duck hunters provided opposing viewpoints at that time but the motion was delayed until the December Spring Lake Township meeting so the Sheriff's Department and the DNR could attend and provide input.

At the December meeting, various lake home residents provided examples of unsafe or unethical hunting practices on Spring Lake. In addition, factual commentary on the legality of duck hunting laws and future potential enforcement in regards to Spring Lake was offered by both the Sheriff's Department and the DNR. After consulting with the township attorney, the board approved the following ordinance 16-001. Any firearms discharge violating this ordinance will be handled by the Scott County Sheriff.

The following is Ordinance No. 16-001 as approved by the Board of Supervisors for Spring Lake Township on the 11th day of February, 2016: The ordinance prohibits the discharge of a firearm on or within the boundaries of Spring Lake and within 300 feet inland of the ordinary high water elevation thereof. Further, no firearm shall be discharged so that the projectile or shot falls within the boundary of Spring Lake or within 300 feet inland of the ordinary high water elevation thereof. Violation of the ordinance is a misdemeanor.

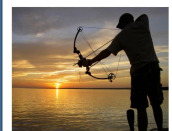
A printed copy of the ordinance is available for inspection by any person during regular office hours at the office of the Town Clerk at the Spring Lake Township Town Hall at 20381 Fairlawn Avenue. This ordinance will take effect upon its passage and publication.



How can you help improve the lake?

- 1) Stop fertilizing your lawn or only use fertilizers that are non-phosphorous-based.
- 2) Leave as much aquatic vegetation in the lake as possible. Plants help increase water clarity.
- 3) Clean up leaves in the street where storm sewers drain directly into the lake.
- 4) Install shoreline buffers, rain gardens or rain barrels.
- 5) Participate in the Carp Fishing Contest and other lake clean-up events.

Learn more about the above suggestions at the watershed's website: www.plslwd.org.



Prizes Awarded To Carp Hunters

The Fifth Annual Prior Lake/Spring Lake Carp Tournament has been tentatively scheduled for the evening of Saturday, May 20, 2017 according to organizer and sponsor Thane Tande of the Knotty Oar Marina.

Prizes will again be awarded for the yearly harvest of the damaging carp which may be done by bowfishing, spearing or netting.

Participants may register and gain more information by contacting the Knotty Oar Marina.

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