

Moose Lake News

Moose Lake is at full pool. Everything looks great. I spent most of the afternoon on Sunday fishing Moose and I did not see any dead heads floating or any other hazards to be concerned about. It was a little chilly with the wind blowing but we just dressed for the weather. I took my stepdaughter Cindy out fishing for the first time. We did catch some walleyes but nothing to brag about. It was a little slow after the cooler temperatures moved in.

I talked with several people who fished Moose. They all had some luck catching walleyes, crappies and a few perch. A friend of mine who I work with on Sawyer County Ambulance, Jake Coleson & his wife Ashley just bought a cabin at the old Sportsman Lodge. They live in Hayward but wanted a cabin on Moose Lake. Jake was fishing by the Pine Point bridge where he caught a few nice walleyes and two muskies by accident.

Jake told me he was using a spinner with a fathead minnow when he caught his three walleyes and the two muskies. What fun that must have been on light tackle. We all know that Muskies do not officially open until Saturday May 30th. We are in the Northern Zone, so our musky opener is later than the rest of the state. If you accidentally catch a fish that is out of season, unhook it and get it back in the water as quickly as possible.

For the fishing opener on Saturday May 2nd it was a beautiful day even though the wind blew, steady all day. The temperature was about 15 degrees warmer than on Sunday. Sunday we had a slight cold front come through. I fished both days. Saturday I went to the Chippewa Flowage. I drove down from my home which is only 2 miles away, to the CC North boat landing at about 10AM. I could not find and parking at all, in fact vehicles were parked all the way out to Hwy CC.

I went back home and came back about 3 PM in the afternoon. At that time, I found a parking space within 100 feet of the boat ramp. This worked out great. I was out mostly just riding around checking on people to see what they were fishing for. There was a lot of boat traffic Saturday on the Flowage. People seemed not be catching a lot of fish, or maybe they were just impatient. They were doing a lot of moving around. Sometimes on a nice sunny day it is fun to just go for a boat ride and enjoy nature.

I did take some time to fish for bluegills but with the water temperature at 52 degrees it may have still been a little too cold. I went to some of my favorite spots where I have always caught fish at this time of year. For what ever reason, they just were not there yet.

Moose Lake Buoy Committee Chairperson Doc Grayson advised us on Friday evening that he and Joel Miller of Mystic Moose Resort successfully deployed all 20 Hazard & No Wake Buoys that afternoon and that Moose Lake was fully prepared for the fishing opener. Thanks Doc and Joel for all your hard work.

Road Cleanup Committee Chairperson Don Rossiter let us know last week, that he personally had completed the annual road clean up. By himself he picked trash along Moose Lake Road from Y-pines to County Road A. He also cleaned County Road S from Highway 77 south to County Road B. That was a lot of work. Thank you Don.

Last week I informed you that I would talk this week about how Wildfire Smoke Worsens COVID-19 Risk which can put Firefighters in Extra Danger. It seems that it also can put you in danger by just doing outside burning. Breathing smoke from a burning brush pile can also affect you. You want to be careful,

or if anything, currently avoid doing any outside burning, at this time. There still is a burning ban on in the State of Wisconsin and with the strong threat of COVID-19 not going away sometime soon. We must be extra cautious at this time.

Luke Montrose of Boise State University had an excellent article on how smoke from outside burning or wildland fires can worsen COVID-19 risk. This was in last week's Wildland Firefighter News.

Luke says that new research suggests that the smoke firefighters breathe on the front lines of wildfires is putting them at greater risk from the new coronavirus, with potentially lethal effects. At the same time, firefighting conditions make precautions such as social distancing and hand-washing difficult, increasing the chance that, once the virus enters a fire camp, it could quickly spread.

Luke is an Environmental Toxicologist He has spent the last decade expanding our understanding of how wood smoke exposure impacts human health. Much of his current research is focused on protecting the long-term health of wildland firefighters and the communities they serve.

Please refer to the entire article that he wrote at <https://theconversation.com/wildfire-smoke-worsens-coronavirus-risk-putting-firefighters-in-extra-danger-136016>

Birthday greetings this week go out to, Tom Thara on the 8th, Alesandria Sanders on the 10th, Denise Johansen Melhus and Julie Ann Richter both on the 13th of May. There are no anniversaries this week.

Well that is all we have for this week. Remember if you have any news items please give me a call at 715-462-4448 or send it to me by e-mail at jonarheim@centurytel.net so I can include it in the column. Have a great week enjoy our beautiful spring like weather. Remember, Stay at Home and Don't Roam. Stay safe! Accordingly, to the State of Wisconsin we only have until the 26th of May and things should start to get better.