



SPRING LAKE ASSOCIATION

Spring 2024

2024

SLA Events Calendar

We hope you will add our events to your calendar, save the dates & plan to join us!

SLA Annual Meeting

Date: Sunday, April 21, 2024

Location: Wilds Golf Club

Meeting Schedule

4:00 pm Registration / Social Hour

Appetizers / Cash Bar

5:00 pm Annual Meeting

6:30 pm Meeting Ends

May 27 | Pick Your Paddle Memorial Day

June 22 | Dive the Lake

July 4 | 4th of July Boat Parade & Boat Decorating contest

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, July 20

Summer Concert
Chad Edwards Band,
Food Trucks, & Lawn
Games



August 6 | Night to Unite

September 2 | Pick Your Paddle Labor Day

November 24 | 5k Turkey Trot

Visit us at

SpringLakeAssociation.org

For updated details on our events.



2023 Photo of the Year | by Greg Sauve

President's Message from Wesley Steffan



The 2023-2024 Winter Season is certainly one for the history books with warm weather and low snow totals. Spring Lake Ice Out on March 3, 2024 was also the earliest Ice Out recorded in the last 30 years. Spring Lake Association is hitting the ground running with this early start to the season!

Two Minnesota Legislative bills passed last Fall will affect Spring Lake:

Boat Ramp Improvements | In Spring 2023 the SLA was successful in working with the Prior Lake Association (PLA), House and State Legislatures and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to establish funds to improve boat ramp accessibility in Scott County and some of those funds will be allocated to Spring Lake. The DNR has determined that the location of the current boat dock located at Spring Lake Launch presents significant challenges due to the shallowness and fluctuating water levels. This Spring, the DNR will replace the current fixed dock with a floating dock. In addition, the DNR will work with the Sheriff's Department to mark an approach channel to the public water access site. This channel will funnel all boats into the same travel path to reach the concrete ramp and the channel should be kept clear with consistent propeller wash from boats. A similar approach was successfully implemented at White Bear Lake when that lake experienced low water levels. Later this summer the boat ramp will be closed for three to four days so the DNR can extend the concrete plank ramp into the lake to lessen the damage created by power loading of boats back onto trailers.

Watercraft Operator Training | Minnesota Watercraft Operators (MWO) Permits have always been a requirement for youth between the ages of 12-17. A revised provision will begin in 2025 mandating anyone born after 1987 be required to obtain a MWO Permit. The SLA along with the Scott County Sheriff's Office strongly encourage all boaters to take and pass the available on-line boating training. The Boat Certificate Training website is <https://www.boaterexam.com/usa/minnesota>. To further support this initiative, any paid 2024 SLA member who sends a copy of their permit to SLA by August 1 will be eligible for a drawing for one of ten \$50 gift cards.

Continued on page 2

2024 GOLD SPONSORS

Boat Doctor Marine | Boathouse Brothers Brewing Co. | Bricks Boat Works, Inc. | Carlson & Prior Lake Ace Hardware Stores | CammAir | Complete Family Eyecare | Edina Realty - Jim Gilbertson | Euroworx European Auto | Great Outdoors Dock & Lift | Knotty Oar Marina | Minnesota Inboard | NMS Mechanical | RE/MAX Preferred - Lauren Peters | Prior Lake/Savage Rental Centers | Sailer's Greenhouse | Solar Shield | The Buckingham Companies | Viking Liquor Barrel

2024 SILVER SPONSORS

Advantage Health Center | Canopy Insurance | Edwards Jones - Paul Youngs | Sheriff Luke Hennen

SLA continues to work with our lake partners on two new activities this Spring;

Control Curly Leaf Pondweed | SLA will work in cooperation with the Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District (PLSLWD) and the DNR to better assess the impact that the invasive plant Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) has on Spring Lake. The PLSLWD has always conducted surveys for CLP offshore (beyond 150 feet) and this year surveys will also be conducted near shore (within 150 feet). This survey will occur in April with possible treatment in early May. The near shore survey will be paid for using a portion of a new \$2,250 DNR Grant that was awarded to the SLA in 2024. If the survey identifies CLP within Spring Lake, treatment will be paid for by PLSLWD, remaining funds from the DNR Grant and your SLA Water Quality Donation Funds. CLP grows early in the season and should not be confused with the native plant, Claspingleaf Pondweed, which grows later in the summer. This treatment does not replace the treatment shore owners may use to control aquatic plants which may interfere with open water and recreation on your shoreline.

Dive the Lake - SLA has formed a committee to work with Prior PLA to help plan a Dive the Lake Event on Spring Lake. This event will utilize volunteer divers to explore and remove trash within the lakebed bottom. This will take place on June 22 and will help draw attention to the importance of keeping the lake clean. If you are a certified diver or are willing to work as a deck hand on one of the pontoons, email us at board.sla@gmail.com.

The SLA is not-for-profit organization managed by volunteers and entirely funded by members, sponsors and donations. Our membership and sponsor numbers continue to grow year after year. We always strive to connect with new Spring Lake neighbors and businesses by providing a "Welcome Gift" and a "New Member/Sponsor Gift". If you know of new or existing neighbors that aren't members or potential business sponsors, please let us know.

SLA Welcomes New Board Members

Welcome and Congratulations to our newest board members who will join the SLA board on May 1.



Treasurer
Larry Cox
Term 2024 - 2027



Board Member
Greg Tillotson
Term 2024 - 2026



Board Member
Aaron Van Beusekom
Term 2024 - 2026

The SLA did not hold an election for these new board members because we received the exact number of applications we had open positions. SLA requires a background check for the treasurer and this was conducted.

SLA Board voted and approved these new board members during the February 2024 Monthly Board Meeting.


The following board members, whose terms ended in 2024, will be leaving the board at the end of April 2024.

THANK YOU for your contribution to Spring Lake Association

- **Treasurer** | Lauren Peters
- **Board Member** | Monica Costello
- **Board Member** | Val Selle



**Trusted,
Knowledgeable,
and Committed to
You!**



**LAUREN
PETERS**
Realtor® LIC#40169486
612-751-9620

**RE/MAX
PREFERRED**

LaurenPetersRealtor.com
16180 Hastings Ave, Suite 301 | Prior Lake, MN 55372

**BOAT DOCTOR
MARINE**



Specializing in:

- ◆ Motor Repairs
- ◆ Winterizing and Storage
- ◆ On-site Repair Service
- ◆ New and Used Sales of Pontoons, Deck Boats and Fishing Boats

STARCRAFT MARINE **SYLVAN**

SwiftChaser **SYLVAN PONTON BOATS**

952.465.5628
www.boatdoctormarine.com
1109 4th St. SW, Montgomery, MN 56069

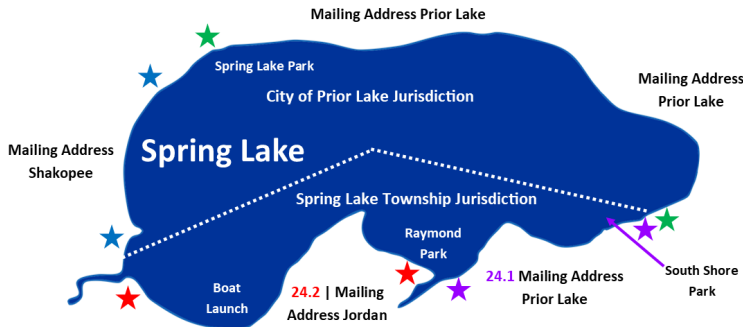



**BOAT SALES | PRO SHOPS | STORAGE
SERVICE | FIBERGLASS REPAIR
BOAT TRANSPORTATION | MOBILE SERVICE**



EXCELSIOR | BAXTER | DETROIT LAKES

Spring Lake Township New Orderly Annexation Agreement Update



In January 2024, the City of Prior Lake (City) and Spring Lake Township (Township) approved the framework for a new Orderly Annexation Agreement (OAA) and agreed to take the next step of drafting a formal agreement. Staff from the City and Township have prepared a draft OAA and are currently working on revisions.

The draft agreement proposes the areas south of Spring Lake, identified as areas 24.1 and 24.2 in the 2003 OAA, would not be annexed and remain in Spring Lake Township; the remaining annexation areas in the 2003 agreement would remain in the new agreement.

Once a draft agreement is in place, the City and Township will schedule and hold a public open house to present the agreement and answer questions.

Treating Your Shoreline for Recreation Use

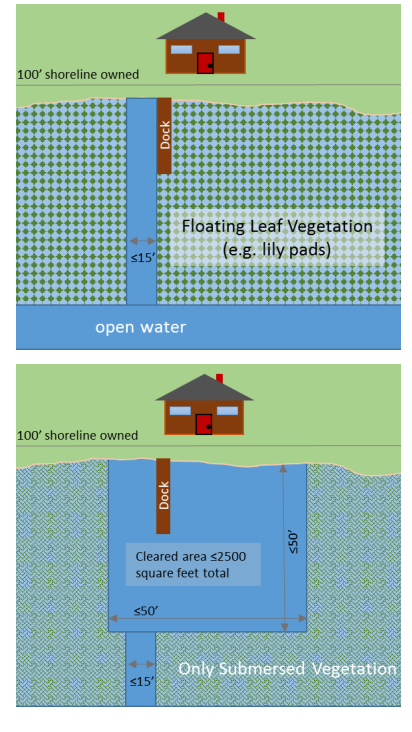
The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) does not encourage removal of aquatic vegetation from the lake. However, the DNR recognizes that aquatic plants may interfere with a homeowner's right to reasonable access to open water and recreation. The information below will assist with knowing what you can and can't do with or without a DNR permit.

Emergent | Removal of emergent vegetation (example Cattails) requires a DNR permit. **Floating** | Cutting or hand pulling of floating aquatic vegetation (example Water Lilies) to maintain a 15' channel to open water is allowed without a DNR permit. **Submerged** | Cutting or hand pulling submerged vegetation (example Claspingleaf Pondweed), up to the lesser of 50' or 50% of lakeshore up to 2500 square feet, is allowed without a DNR permit.

A DNR permit is always required if herbicide are used.

For more information visit the Aquatic Plant Management website <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/apm/index.htm> or contact the APM Specialist at 651-296-5816.

Below are examples of hand pulling that can be done without a permit.



SAILER'S
GREENHOUSE

1610 170th Street East
Shakopee (Prior Lake), MN 55379

Greenhouse 952.403.9957
Office 952.403.0630

www.sailersgreenhouse.com

COMPLETE FAMILY EYECARE™

14120 COMMERCE AVENUE NE, SUITE 100
PRIOR LAKE
952-562-8116
COMPLETEEYECAREMN.COM

ACE
Hardware

Carlson Ace Hardware
16820 Duluth Ave. SE
Prior Lake, MN 55372
952-447-2240

Prior Lake Ace Hardware
16281 Main Ave. SE
Prior Lake, MN 55372
952-226-6820

The **Helpful** place.

Spring Lake Regional Park Opening Spring 2024



Scott County and Three Rivers Park District are excited to announce that Spring Lake Regional Park (Park), located on the north side of Spring Lake, **Grand Opening** is set for the evening of **Friday, June 28**.

The Park will feature a 125 space parking lot, lakeside paved paths for walking and biking, picnic tables, observation platforms for lakeside viewing, drinking fountains that also has a spout for dogs and portable bathrooms.

Soft Opening Targeted for May 22

The primary construction is winding down and a soft opening of the Park is now within sight. Before we can welcome visitors to the Park, the following items will be completed by early to mid-May:

- Fabrication and installation of railings on the observation platforms
- Install all electrical components
- Build and install the site's picnic tables
- Install drinking fountains

Coming Soon

- The fishing pier and kayak/canoe launch have been delayed and most likely will be ready in the fall.
- Wetland and raingarden plantings should be ready by June.
- Shrub and tree planting should be ready this Fall.
- Storage shed will be built in the former parking lot.

We hope that the Spring Lake community and visitors alike enjoy this new park!



CALL 952-226-6441 FOR
SPECIAL RATES ON GARBAGE
AND RECYCLING PICKUP

"SUPPORT LOCAL"

The Buckingham COMPANIES

www.buckinghamcompanies.com

The Buckingham Companies
5980 Credit River Rd SE
Prior Lake, MN 55372

Viking
Liquor Barrel
Corner of Hwy 13 & 21 • Prior Lake

Locally owned by
John and Wendy Parrish

We Deliver
952-447-2127
directly to your dock or home!

Open Monday-Saturday
9 am to 10 pm

See vikingliquor.com for
WINE TASTING EVENTS & SPECIALS

NMS
Mechanical
(952)-451-8923

**Hate To Call Us, But...
Love To See Us!**

**Proudly Serving the South Metro
For Furnace and A/C Repair**

Call for an Estimate | 952-451-8923

www.NMSMECHANICAL.com

Curly-Leaf Pondweed Could be a Problem on Spring Lake this Summer

One of the most common undesirable plants present in Spring Lake is Curly-Leaf Pondweed (CLP) which is non-native and invasive. With the lack of snow cover this winter and low water levels, Spring Lake could see an increase of the CLP this summer. CLP can grow during the winter in cold conditions, with the lack of snow cover, because light is able to reach the plant. This plant usually grows in early Spring and creates a dense mat on the water's surface. This mat interferes with recreation because it makes it hard to navigate through it with a motorized or non-motorized propellor.

CLP releases its seeds and then dies back during mid-summer. The decomposing plants contribute nutrients to the water which then fuels algae growth. The best time to treat invasive CLP is in the spring before the lake temperature surpasses 60°F and when plants are 1-2' tall because native plants start to grow once the lake temperature reaches 60°F. CLP is spread mainly by humans

moving boats from one lake to another. The DNR advises boaters to clean their watercraft of all plants and remove drain plugs before boating in another lake.



Is it an Invasive or Native Plant?

Curly-Leaf Pondweed

Claspingleaf Pondweed

Invasive Plant

Native Plant



SLA to Fund Bluegill Stocking

Carp continues to be a problem in Spring Lake, so the PLSLWD will again stock bluegills in Spring Lake in Spring 2024. Bluegills are stock because they eat carp eggs. Carp cause serious damage to native fish populations because they out-compete other fish for food and space. While searching for food, Carp reduce water clarity by uprooting aquatic vegetation and stirring up bottom phosphorus-containing sediments, which contributes to algae blooms.



Funded by: PLSLWD with help from Spring Lake Association

Jim knows the lakes.

Nobody has served more Prior Lake buyers and sellers than Edina Realty.



Jim Gilbertson

612-743-8787

jimgilbertson@edinarealty.com

Knotty Car
MARINA



MERCURY

CREST

- Sales & Service -
952-447-4300

BRICKS BOATWORKS

952-233-2191

BOAT & PONTOON SALES & SERVICE



MN DOCK & LIFT

DOCK & LIFT SALES & SERVICE
952-303-1090

PLSLWD: Native Plants of Spring Lake

You have likely noticed that the water quality of Spring Lake has improved immensely since 2013 due to a combination of alum treatments, carp management, and other projects within the PLSLWD. Have you noticed any other changes in the lake the last few years? If you said “plants” you would be correct, and PLSLWD would be pleased. If you said “weeds,” you would still be correct, and should read on.

Increased water quality and clearer water on Spring Lake means that light can reach deeper into the water, allowing plants to thrive at greater densities and depths. While dense plant growth can be a nuisance for recreation on the lake, plants do a lot of the heavy lifting in maintaining good water quality.

Some great things aquatic plants do include:

- Use the nutrients in the water, which means less for the algae.
- Hold sediment in place, keeping the water clear.
- Provide food and shelter for fish and other wildlife.
- Support a more robust ecosystem.

Learning to recognize plants in our lakes can be a fun way to connect with and appreciate the lakes in a new way. We have included a guide to some common plants in Spring Lake.

Water Celery (*Vallisneria americana*):

What it looks like: Ribbon-like leaves that reach from the lake bottom to the water surface. Small white-yellow flowers are attached to the end of a coiled stem.

Fun fact: Great for wildlife and especially enjoyed by waterfowl. It often washes ashore in lake summer at the end of its growing season.



Claspingleaf Pondweed (*Potamogeton richardsonii*):

What it looks like: Leaves are wavy and somewhat arrow shaped, with a wide base that wraps around the stem. Leaves have smooth edges.

Fun fact: Beware of the invasive look-alike, Curly-Leaf Pondweed (CLP). CLP also has wavy leaves, although the waves are often more defined. The leaves are also of even width and have tiny “teeth” along the edges.



Coontail (*Ceratophyllum demersum*):

What it looks like: The plant ends often have the bushy appearance of its namesake “coontail.” Leaves are pointed and stiff. Leaves wrap all the way around the stem at a single point, referred to as “whorled.” Can be confused with watermilfoil, which has feather-like leaves.

Fun-fact: Because it does not take root in the ground, coontail takes up more nutrients from the water column, keeping the water clear. It is also sometimes called Hornwort.



Water Star-grass (*Heteranthera dubia*):

What it looks like: “Grass-like” leaves with no distinct mid-vein. The leaves are attached to the stem “alternately,” in other words, not across from each other. In late summer, you might see the namesake small yellow star-shaped flowers above the water.

Fun fact: Water Star-grass can also grow on land when water is low. When this happens, the leaves are smaller and can be leathery.



Luxury Auto Repair Specialists

We specialize in Personalized services by a certified technician skilled in repair and maintenance of your luxury vehicle, including BMW, Volvo, Mercedes, Audi, Volkswagon and More

1658 3rd Ave SW, New Prague, MN 56071
952-758-5926 | www.euroworxmn.com
serviceteam@euroworxmn.com

PRIOR LAKE / SAVAGE

RENTAL CENTER
& SPECIAL EVENTS

“WE RENT MOST EVERYTHING”

952-447-7000

www.priorlakerentals.com

Hours of Operation

Mon-Fri: 7:00 AM-6:00 PM

Sat: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

Sun: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

CLOSED IN THE WINTER ON SUNDAYS



IT'S SUNSCREEN FOR YOUR VALUABLES

VISTA Window Film protects the interior of your house from 99.9% of the UV Rays*. Apply and help keep your family's skin and your belongings safe from the damage of the sun. Like all good sunscreens, once it's on, you won't even notice it's there.

Solar Shield

Solar Shield, Inc.
6161 Egan Dr.
Savage, MN 55378
952-226-2000
sales@Solarshieldmn.com
Solarshieldmn.com

Stay Safe on the Water: A Message from Scott County Sheriff's Luke Hennen



As we eagerly anticipate the warmer months ahead and return to enjoying Spring Lake's waters, the Scott County Sheriff's Office urges all boaters to prioritize safety on the water. With this in mind, we'd like to share some important information regarding boat and water safety education.

We cannot stress the importance of education and preparedness enough when it comes to boating. Whether you're a seasoned sailor or new to navigating the waves,

understanding the rules of the water and having the necessary skills can make all the difference in ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

One crucial step in enhancing boating safety is obtaining your Watercraft Operator's Permit/Certificate. This certification not only equips you with the knowledge needed to navigate Minnesota's waterways responsibly but also demonstrates your commitment to safe boating practices. You can acquire this permit by successfully completing the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' boating safety course, available online at <https://www.boaterexam.com/usa/minnesota>.

We strongly encourage adults to take advantage of the Minnesota boating course to enhance their understanding of boating regulations, navigation techniques, and safety protocols. Many boat insurance companies offer reduced rates to boat owners who have completed an approved boating safety course, making it a smart investment in both your safety and your wallet.



By prioritizing boating safety education and obtaining your Watercraft Operator's Permit/Certificate, you're not only protecting yourself and your passengers but also contributing to the overall safety and enjoyment of Spring Lake for all who visit.

As always, the Scott County Sheriff's Office is here to support and educate boaters in our community. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding boating safety or regulations, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. Let's work together to ensure a safe and memorable boating season on Spring Lake.

Please feel free to contact Scott County Sheriff Luke Hennen by email at LHennen@co.scott.mn.us, by phone at (952) 496-8625 and/or Deputy Max Kes at MKes@co.scott.mn.us or (952) 496-8330, or visit our website at www.scottcountymn.gov.

SLA Photo of the Week Contest

Spring Lake Association will again have a photo of the week contest on Facebook from June to October. If you have are not on facebook and want a photo entered, please email photos to Board.SLA@gmail.com and we will post your photo. Note, photo should be in landscape format. Winning photos of the week will be automatically entered into our Photo of the Year contest that will take place late October and may be included in the Year In Review SLA Video.



BOATHOUSE BROTHERS BREWING CO.



CHEERS TO LAKE LIFE!



THOUGHTFULLY CRAFTED BEER
MADE WITH MINNESOTA IN MIND

CammAir www.CammAir.com

Excellence in Aviation Maintenance

Brian & Beth Bright | 712-262-0070
1975 330th Street Spencer, IA 51301



CammAir is focused on providing exceptional maintenance services to corporate aircraft owners and operators.



Great Outdoors Dock & Lift

**DOCK & BOAT LIFT SALES
REMOVAL and INSTALL
BARGE SERVICES
BOAT STORAGE
BOAT WINTERIZING & SERVICE**

SHOREMASTER



612-470-DOCK

2024 MEMBERSHIP / DONATION / SPONSOR FORM

The **2024 SLA Membership & Donation Drive!** Please use the form below and pay via check or visit our website and pay via paypal

Name: _____

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

Email: _____ Phone: _____

1-Year Membership | \$30 Annual Yearly Dues (January 2024 - December 2024)

Donation | Please consider adding a donation to help with Spring Lake Water Quality & Education Initiatives.

If your donation is \$50 or higher and you are a paid 2024 member, you will receive a SLA Tumbler.

Payment Options |

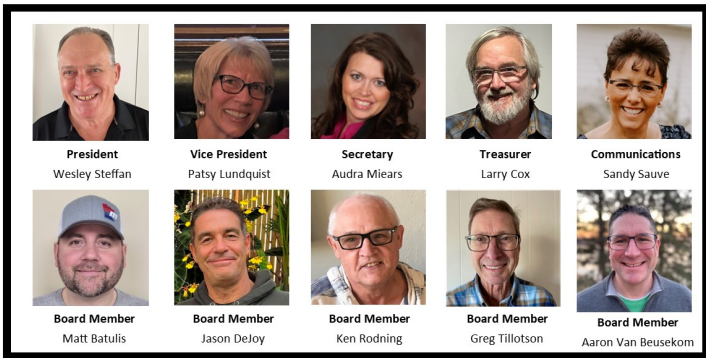
- **Pay with Check by Mail** | Complete this form and send check made out to Spring Lake Association with payment to P.O. Box 631, Prior Lake, MN 55372.
- **Pay via PayPal** | Visit our website to pay online via Paypal at www.springlakeassociation.org/Membership.

* **Note:** \$3 fee for membership payment applies if paying via paypal.

Business Sponsorship | If you would like us to contact you regarding a sponsorship, please check the box or send an email to Board.SLA@gmail.com.



2024 Spring Lake Association Board Members



Attention Boaters | Before leaving Spring Lake Landing:



Officers | 3-Year Terms

Wesley Steffan | President | 2021- 2027
Patsy Lundquist | Vice President | 2021- 2027
New Larry Cox | Treasurer | 2024 - 2027
Audra Miears | Secretary | 2021 - 2027
Sandy Sauve | Communications | 2020 - 2026

Board Members | 2-Year Terms

Matt Batulis | 2022 - 2026
Jason DeJoy | 2023 - 2025
Ken Rodning | 2021 - 2025
New Greg Tillitson | 2024 - 2026
New Aaron Van Beusekom | 2024 - 2026

Spring Lake Association

P.O. Box 631, Prior Lake, MN 55372

Connect With Us

Email | Board.SLA@gmail.com

Facebook | <https://www.facebook.com/SpringLakeAssociation>

Website | www.SpringLakeAssociation.org