

Volume XXIV, Issue V

Mark your calendar...

- Healthy Lakes— 6:30 06/01/2017
- Palmer Twp Board—7 PM 06/12/2017
- BLCA Board Mtg—8:30 AM 06/10/2017
- BLCA member Mtg: 10 am 06/10/2017
- Clear Lake Twp Board-7 PM 06/20/2017
- Board of Adjustment- 6 PM 06/08//2017

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Three Lake Improvement District [TLID] News

The TLID is approaching the second Annual Meeting, scheduled for August 19, 2017 at the Palmer Township Hall. The TLID directors have been quietly meeting over the winter months in preparation for 2017 projects: surveying and management of Aquatic Invasive Species [AIS]. In addition, property owners by now have paid the first half of their property taxes, which includes the first TLID assessment of \$90.49.

Surveying and management of our 2 resident AIS, curly leaf pondweed [CLP] and Eurasian water milfoil [EWM] come at different times of the year. CLP is addressed in the spring and EWM in August.

The surveying for CLP was done on May 5, 2017, and the herbicide application conducted on May 5. Check out the application maps on the TLID link on the BLCA website briggslake-chainassociation.com for locations of treatments for CLP. 2017 treatments, by lake:

Briggs 22.6 acres; Rush 10.6 acres; Julia 14.5 acres. Total treatment: 47.7 acres

Surveying for EWM will be done in the summer, followed by chemical treatment and hand pulling if necessary.

Prior to the TLID August annual meeting all property owners will receive by hard mail a notice of the annual meeting, including information regarding board of director nominations and absentee ballots. As you may recall, the first TLID board was appointed by the county commissioners. The nominations were for staggered terms: 3 appointed for 3 years, 2 for 2 years and 2 for 1 year. The county Order to Establish the TLID requires all vacancies thereafter to be filled by membership election, which brings us to the 2017 annual meeting when elections will take place.

This is how it looks for the election of board members at the 2017 annual meeting.

Current term	Current Director	Status of Term [following annual meeting]
3 year term	Walt Munsterman	2 years remaining No election
3 year term	Scott Ruiters	2 years remaining No election
3 year term	Unfilled	2 years remaining To be filled by member election in August for remaining 2 years of term
<i>(Rich Carothers, appointed by commissioners, is no longer qualified to hold office since he has sold his property and moved from Rush Lake. State statues require all directors to be property owners.)</i>		
2 year term	Harry Ernzer	1 year remaining No election
2 year term	Paul Hans	1 year remaining No election
1 year term	Jim Arbeiter	To be filled by member election in August for 3 year term
1 year term	Steve Demeules	To be filled by member election in August for 3 year term

Note: Three board positions will be open for election. Although desirable to have balanced representation from all three lakes, the TLID by-laws do not require it. There are no "slots" to fill for each lake. The board of directors hope to have another great turnout at the 2017 annual meeting. See you there!

Kenzie Phelps

Green Sheet Items*

20 gallon expansion tank and 1/2 horse shallow well pump for pumping water from the lake to water with, \$175 or best offer, call 320-743-4727

*Ads are free to BLCA members!

4th of July Activities

The boat parades and fireworks will take place on Monday July 3rd this year.

Go Jump In The Lake!

The rain has hit the lakes. Please secure your docks and stay alert for the no wake signs on your email and around the lake roads usually a day or two after the rain. Our watershed drains from the north and Briggs Lake Chain receives the water from farms, brooks and creeks in a slow motion rise. Please encourage everyone to abide by the rule so that our people and shoreline are not jeopardized.

On June 10, at 10:00 we will have the first of our two annual membership meetings. Please join us at Palmer Park for the meeting, a talk on boat and water safety and a chance to mingle with our membership young and old. Lunch will be served. Door prizes are included!

I am again calling on our membership to consider serving on the Briggs Lake Chain Association Board. We meet once a month on the second Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m. Coffee and snacks are provided and the issues facing our lakes are presented and discussed. We need members from all four lakes to make sure that you are represented and that our programs run smoothly. Meet your neighbors and participate in the stewardship of the Briggs Lake Chain and your real estate.

Our committee structure includes Communications, Events and Programs, Member Development, Budget and Fundraising, Healthy Lakes and Member and Community Education. Surely something of interest to each of you. There is also plenty of room for new suggestions.

Check us out. Take the Plunge!

Rosalie N. Musachio, BLCA President

Garage Sale Recap

Another successful BLCA community garage sale weekend was held over Mothers day/fishing opener. Ads were placed in 5 different newspapers, as well as on Facebook and 15 signs were placed at the major intersections. The weather was great, the sun was shining, and there was a lot of traffic!

On Thursday it was reported that 27 places had sales, Friday over 30 and Saturday just as many. Hopefully, everyone that participated had great sales and cleaned out a lot of their treasures.

In 2018 the BLCA sales will be held again the same weekend.

Charlene Langowski, Chairperson

Palmer Township

The Palmer Township Board meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Township Hall. Let **Kelly McCann** know of agenda items by email at: palmertwp@gmail.com by noon on Tuesday before the meeting or call her at 743-2100. Our website is: www.palmertownshipmn.org

Clear Lake Township

The Clear Lake Township Board meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Township Hall. Let **the Township clerk** know of agenda items by Thursday morning before the meeting. To contact Clear Lake Township, please call 320-743-2472 or email the Township Clerk at: clearlaketwp@hotmail.com
Our website is: www.clearlaketownship.org

Please attend your respective Township meeting and voice your concerns about matters relating to our lakes.

Boat Motors, Boating and Water Quality

As Minnesotans, we love cruising along the lakes in our watercraft. Whether we are heading to our favorite fishing spot, waterskiing, or taking a sunset cruise, not much can top the feeling of taking in the fresh lake air.

Yet as the number of motorized boats and size of motors on Minnesota's lakes continues to increase, questions arise about the potential effects these boats have on the lake environment. In the last 20 years, there has been a 36% increase in the number of registered boats of all types in Minnesota. Moreover, the number of motorboats between 16 ft and 26 ft in length increased 118%, while the number of motorboats less than 16 feet decreased by 27%. Average horsepower went from 46.1 to 74.5 from 1987-2001 in a DNR survey of west central Minnesota. Our boats are becoming larger and faster, which increases the potential to effect water quality.

So how do boats affect water quality? The Wisconsin DNR did a study on the effects of motorized watercraft on aquatic ecosystems. Boats can affect water quality in a few different aspects. First, they can add metals and chemicals to the water column. A certain amount of the fuel that enters into a motor is discharged unburned and ends up in the water. Two stroke motors can emit 25-30% of their unburned gas and oil mixture into the water. In contrast, four-stroke motors emit 97% less air and water pollution than old two-stroke motors. This pollution can affect the pH and dissolved oxygen in the lake, which can influence the type and abundance of fish and wildlife.

Another main impact by motors is churning up the lake bottom in shallow areas. This action stirs up the lake sediment, re-suspending nutrients (phosphorus) that are at the lake's bottom. When these nutrients reach the surface of the water where the algae are, they can feed algae and cause an algal bloom. This stirring can also decrease the water clarity because of additional particles suspended in the water column.

To reduce your impact while boating, there are other easy changes in behavior we can all practice.

1) Keep your boat properly trimmed – an engine in the water makes much less noise and creates less wake; 2) keep your engine well-tuned so that it runs more efficiently, pollutes less and is quieter; 3) be respectful to wildlife and loons, keeping a distance of at least 200 feet away at all times; 4) consider the size of your boat and motor when choosing a lake for recreation – smaller lakes are not appropriate for large boats or engines; 5) remember that swimmers, canoeists, kayakers, sailboats and other non-motorized users always have the right-of-way.

Effective Mixing Depth

Effective mixing depth is the maximum depth at which the engine stirs up the water and, in turn, the lake bottom sediment. The importance of these findings is that power boating in shallow areas on lakes is likely to stir up bottom sediments, decreasing water clarity and releasing nutrients from the lake bottom, which can feed algae blooms.

Horsepower	Mixing Depth
10	6 feet
28	10 feet
50	15 feet
100	18 feet

To read more about the Wisconsin DNR boating impact study visit: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/fhp/papers/lakes.pdf>.

Enjoy the lakes! This article was written and shared by Moriya Rufer at RMB Environmental Laboratories as part of continuing education for their Lakes Monitoring Program (218-846-1465, lakes@rmbel.info). To learn more, visit www.rmbel.info

The Lake Report



Briggs Lake Chain Association

See us on the Web at:

<https://www.briggslakechainassociation.com>

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The Lake Report is published for the benefit of BLCA members and lake residents. Please submit articles and feedback by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next issue.

Email or snail mail copy to the Editor.

Palmer Directory & Corrections

The 2017 Palmer Community Directory has been printed and distributed to residents' media boxes. If you haven't been around, peek into your media box for your copy. If you don't have a media box or yours is missing, Briggs Lake General Store and the Township Hall Office have extra copies to hand out.

Unfortunately, I omitted Yellow Page Index entries for two businesses and cannot now correct my error. This article is my way of trying to make up for my error. Both their ads are at the top of page 29 in the Directory Yellow Pages. Ironically, I have done business with both and was extremely pleased with the results.

Dan Merchant

This 'n That

Please send news about BLCA members to **Adele Munsterman** so that a card may be sent for such things as anniversaries, illness or a death in the family.

Please email her at: wmunst1007@aol.com

Please note for your directory:

For Flooring: contact Lenny at **Hansen Flooring Gallery — 320-253-1771**

For Painting (interior/exterior, ceiling texturing & drywall repair): contact Randy at **B & J Painting — 763-274-8584.**

Our wonderful Clean-Up Crew!



The Highway 25 spring clean-up was done on Saturday April 29. It went really fast as not much garbage was on the Highway. We collected only eight bags. It was a nice sunny day so it made the picking fun and easy, although no 'treasures' were found this time!

Thanks to Doug and Susie Brown, Jason Brown, Crystal Yang, Sue Chmielewski, Brad Kipp, Gary Anderson, Jason Rothmeyer and Juice Langowski. We will tackle the clean up again in the fall.

Thank you to all these wonderful volunteers! without your help the highway would not be so clean.

Charlene Langowski, Chairperson