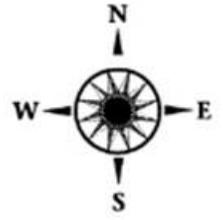


NORTH & SOUTH TWIN LAKES

RIPARIAN ASSOCIATION



SPRING/SUMMER 2018

WWW.NSTLRA.COM

P.O. BOX 163, PHELPS WI 54554

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ... from ... *Joe Fritzsche*



Being on North & South Twin to see Spring "arrive" is amazing. As the days got warmer we saw the wind shift the big sheets of ice on the lake. We watch muskrats dive through holes for crayfish and then sit on the ice and eat their catch. We heard the ice "crackle" as it warmed -sounded like my morning cereal! We heard the river otters "chuckle" as they played in the open water ... and then, we heard the first Loon.

Ice went off South Twin mid-day May 5 and North Twin on Wednesday May 7. The fishermen were back - including our own Jay Wittman. We are looking forward to a wonderful summer on the Twins.

We appreciate the nearly 130 Riparian's who responded to the Membership letter. We hope more of you will consider becoming members in support of this important transition year. The NSTLRA Board has been busy this winter planning and collaborating with the new Lake District as lake management responsibilities are assumed by the Lake District Commission.

Lake management is a big job. No one person can do it all. The Lake District will need all the volunteers - and more - that supported lake management activity for NSTLRA. Think about how you can help. There will be an opportunity at the Annual Meeting to "volunteer". Committees staffed by volunteer Riparian's will be an important part of the Lake District's structure. Your help will keep our lakes healthy.

Jay Wittman and I met recently with the DNR to discuss finalizing the Lake Management Plan (LMP). Read Jay's article in this newsletter for more information. Updating the LMP has been more than a two-year project. Special thanks to the LMP team lead by Jay Wittman and including Mike Wade, Peter Gloede, Roger Ganser, Robert Bailey for their work on this key initiative. Completion of this LMP is essential for eligibility to receive lake management grants from the DNR.

At our meeting with the DNR we also discussed the DNR's denial of our AIS Control Grant and treatment Permit. The specific reasons were 1) many of the native plant species had not recovered adequately from previous treatments, and 2) the measured EWM frequency rate of 14.3% in August 2017 did not warrant the whole-lake treatment action we presented.

Jay Wittman's article provides key details about NSTLRA's treatment plan thinking and actions. The matter of controlling AIS is in the "center of the radar" of the Lake District. The Commission will maintain regular communication with the DNR this summer to assure understanding of the EWM issue in South Twin.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Annual Meeting on July 7 and join the fun at the Poker Run on July 14. Thanks for your continued support.



Annual Meeting & Potluck Picnic, Wavering Park, Phelps Saturday, July 7, Starts at Noon

Potluck Assignments to Serve 8, If your last name begins with...

A-H Meat or Casserole, **I-P** Salad or Vegetable, **Q-Z** Dessert

Please contact Marcia Fritzsche with questions and if you are willing to help set-up, serve or clean-up.

Email mfritz479@gmail.com, Phone 715-340-4536



LAKE MANAGEMENT UPDATE, SPRING 2018

Our Lake Management Team has been very busy this past year. We have had multiple meetings with both our consultant Onterra as well as representatives of the WDNR in order to draft and finalize our updated Lake Management Plan (LMP). The LMP was last updated over 5 years ago and is a requirement as part of our AIS grant funding from the WDNR. We expect to have a final plan posted to the website in late June and available for review at our annual meeting.

Our fall survey of EWM indicated that S Twin had increased to approximately 14% of our littoral zone. In 2014, we had a 11% concentration which in 2015 increased to 38% before we treated the whole lake in 2016. Unfortunately, the treatment using the herbicide 2,4-D did not provide the long-term relief we desired. Our Board having concerns for the potential return to 2015 levels approaching 40% approved NSTLRA to apply for a permit as well as a grant in 2018 to treat the whole lake with a different herbicide called Fluridone. We have done a great deal of research on this product including discussions with scientists at SePro (herbicide lab) as well as studying other WI lake treatments using this herbicide. The WDNR denied both our grant and permit to treat in 2018. We will provide more details at our annual meeting as to why and what our plans are for S Twin in 2019.

Last summer we treated 25 acres on N Twin with 2,4-D and endothall. This summer we will be inspecting the success of these treatments as well as some follow up hand harvesting of EWM in selected areas. We have received an extension of our existing WDNR grant to provide approximately \$10,000 toward our budgeted expenses for treatment and lake surveys in 2018.

The summer of 2018 will be busy as we transition our lake management activities from NSTLRA to our newly formed Lake District.

Lastly, see our website for updates including information from the WDNR fisheries survey on our lakes.

Have a great summer and we hope to see you at the annual meeting.

Jay Wittman



CLEAN BOATS CLEAN WATERS PROGRAM EXPANDS FOR 2018

For 2018 NSTLRA has expanded its efforts by increasing the aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention education of boaters and the monitoring of boat launches on the Twins. Last September the Board of Directors authorized the seeking of additional grant funds from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. In early 2018 NSTLRA got word that our increased grant request was approved. Consequently, our Clean Boats monitoring efforts will be expanded by almost 50%. In addition, for the first time ever, a second landing has been added to our monitoring. While the primary monitoring efforts remain centered at the North Twin landing, off of Highway 17, behind Phelps Convenient Store, the additional hours have been allocated to the Lakota landing on the West shore of North Twin, off of Highway K. Interns from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will again be providing these services, 75% of the cost is covered by our DNR grant with the remainder being assumed by the lake association.

Peter Gloede

LAKE MERCHANDISE

As we transition from a Lake Association to a Lake District, the manner in which we raise funds is also transitioning. This will be the final season for Lake Merchandise sales. The remaining inventory will be available at the NSTLRA outings or by contacting me at (414)975-8147.

Thank you for the years of supporting this fundraiser, it's been great fun.

Laura Babe



Adopt-a-Highway Update from John & Rose Passer

County E has been picked up as has been County K from E to Twin Haven. We plan on getting the rest of K done soon.

Here is a photo of just some of the garbage collected.



Thank you to John and Rose for working so hard to keep our roads beautiful!

Greetings to all fellow loon watchers!

Tom Hickson reported first sighting on May 8 on North Twin. If anyone saw one on our lakes sooner than that, please let me know. Two years running, baby loons have been seen on the back of an adult on South Twin's east shore. but no one has seen any youngsters later in the season. I am hoping we can spot some that get to grow up this year instead of getting eaten. Please send an e-mail or text with any loon news!

Karen Moore

Text to 920-716-1026 or e-mail karemoore2883@gmail.com



***A wealth of information about loons can be found at northland.edu/loonwatch
Here are just a few fun facts, reprinted with Northland's permission.***

How much does a loon weigh?

The average weight of a common loon in the Great Lakes area is ten pounds.

How much does a loon eat?

Loons eat approximately two pounds of fish each day.

How fast can a loon fly?

In flight, loons flap their wings about two hundred times per minute and reach speeds of approximately seventy miles per hour.

How long do loons live?

The average age of a common loon at first nesting is six years. A loon can live for approximately twenty-five to thirty years.

What are the different loon calls?

Adult loons give four basic calls: wail, tremolo, yodel, and hoot.

The yodel is a territorial call given only by male loons. The call begins with three notes that rise slowly and are followed by several undulating phrases. It communicates to any loons in the area I am a male loon, I'm on my territory, and I'm prepared to defend it.

The wail resembles a wolf howl. Individuals use this call to locate other loons. If you listen closely, you will hear a wailing loon saying, where are you?

The tremolo sounds like a quavering laugh. It is typically used when loons are disturbed or excited. A variation of the tremolo is the flight call, which is often given over lakes and is a loon's way of requesting clearance for landing. If a loon on the lake responds with a yodel, the one in the air usually flies on to the next lake.

The hoot is a soft, one-note call loons use in close quarters to call to chicks, mates, or even other loons in a social flock. In social groups, the hoot can be thought of as the loon's way of saying hi.

“Happenings on Our Lake and in Our Communities”

4th of July Celebration!

The annual 4th of July festivities kick off on July 4th at 3 pm with a grand parade through downtown, right along the shore of North Twin Lake. Following the parade stick around for more fun including kid’s events, live music, food and MORE! The celebration culminates at dusk with the best fireworks show in the Northwoods over beautiful North Twin Lake!

Fourth Annual Twin Triathlon on Beautiful North Twin Lake!

Registration is now open for the 4th Annual Twin Triathlon. The “Twin Tri” will be held on August 25, 2018 in picturesque Phelps, Wisconsin. This fun event is unique in the Northwoods—an 8K paddle on North Twin Lake, followed by a 16K bike ride, then a 5K run through the beautiful Vista Lake Biking Trails.

Register as an individual, a family or a team. Do one leg, or all three! Beautiful route, healthy fun for the whole family! For more information or to register, visit www.phelpswi.us/event/twin-triathlon or call 715-545-3800.

Summer/Autumn Fun

- | | |
|------|--|
| 5/28 | Phelps Museum Open House |
| 6/20 | Phelps Women’s Club Chicken Dinner |
| 6/17 | Conover Lion’s Club Take-A-Kid Fishing |
| 6/24 | Taste of Conover |
| 6/30 | Gateway Lodge 80 th Anniversary Celebration |
| 7/3 | Land O’ Lakes Fireworks |
| 7/4 | Conover 4 th of July Parade & Lions Club Picnic |
| 7/4 | Phelps 4 th of July Celebration & Fireworks |
| 7/7 | 5 th Annual 5K Moonlight Walk/Run
www.npsk.k12.wi.us/wellnesscenter/moonlight.run |
| 7/10 | 21 st Annual Phelps Picnic in the Park |
| 7/18 | 22 nd Annual Phelps Lion’s Club Steak in the Park |
| 7/21 | Don Gillum Memorial Bike/Hike – Bike or hike on the new Conover/Phelps Trail. www.ghtrails.org |
| 8/4 | 62 nd Annual Phelps Fireman’s Picnic and Pig Roast |
| 9/8 | North & South Twin Lakes Musky Tournament |
| 9/8 | 4 th Annual SepTimber Ride – www.ghtrails.org |
| 9/15 | Phelps Women’s Club Scarecrow Fest |
| 10/5 | Midwest Musky Classic |

For more information about individual events and other happenings check out:

www.conover.org

www.phelpswi.us/events

www.landolakes-wi.org

Thank you Joyce Wade for compiling and sharing the “Happenings” information.

Swimmer's /Duck Itch

Swimmer's itch, also called cercarial dermatitis, appears as a skin rash caused by an allergic reaction to certain microscopic parasites that infect some birds and mammals. These parasites are released from infected snails into the lake water. If the parasite comes into contact with a swimmer, it burrows into the skin causing an allergic reaction and rash, these larvae cannot develop inside a human and soon die.

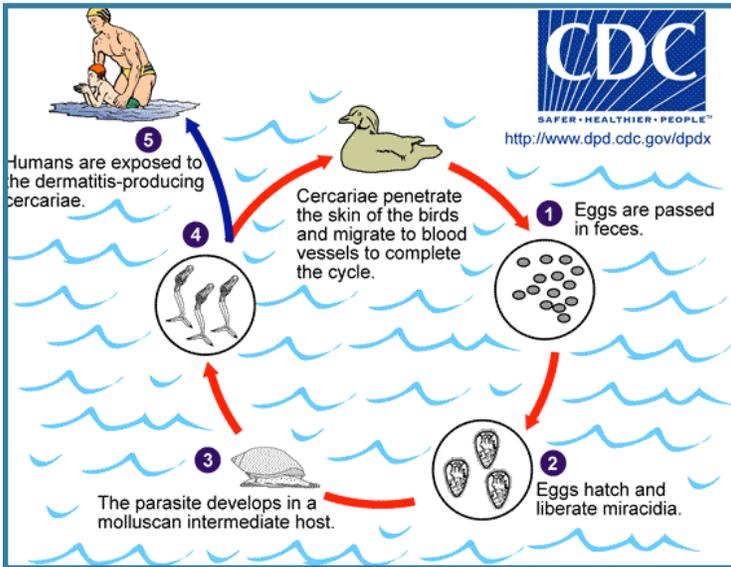
To reduce the likelihood of developing swimmer's itch

Before entering the water, apply a heavy coat of oily sunscreen to clog pores.

Do not swim near or wade in shallow or marshy areas where snails are commonly found.

Towel dry or shower immediately after leaving the water.

Do not attract birds by feeding them.



Swimmer's itch remains a nuisance and concern for everyone enjoying the lake. The NSTLRA acknowledges how frustrating this can be. While there is currently no feasible solution to the problem, the following are resources we can all access to stay informed

- Lake Tides, Vol.42, No. 3 Summer/Fall 2017, p. 13, www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/resources/newsletter/Newsletter-search.aspx
- Lake Tides, Vol.24, No. 3 Summer 1991, pp. 1-3

DID YOU KNOW THAT BURN PERMITS ARE REQUIRED IN VILAS COUNTY?

To check local burning regulations, restrictions or obtain a free burning permit call **1888-WIS-Burn** or visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestFire/>

What can I burn with my permit?

Brush, leaves, needles, grass, clean wood, un-recyclable paper and cardboard.

What is prohibited to burn?

Garbage, plastics, shingles, foam, structures, furniture, wire, metal, electronics, vinyl, rubber and oil-based products, painted, stained or treated wood.

We've burned for years. What has changed?

- Garbage has changed. Today's garbage contains plastics, dyes and other chemicals that release hazardous toxins when burned. Many of these materials were not around several decades ago.
- Pollutants from burning today's garbage cause many health problems, and we understand them better than in the past.
- We know more about the harmful smoke from burning garbage, especially for kids and anyone with asthma or trouble breathing.

Above information excerpted from Wisc. DNR publication, PUB WA 1373 2017

“Bet” you want to join us for the annual

POKER RUN



Date: Saturday, July 14th

Start Time: 1:00 – 2:30

Starting Dock: Peplow Pier (near Lakota) marked with a red flag. \$10/Person, pick up map and tally sheet there.

Collect your poker hand as you boat around to the designated piers.

Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at Dublin’s at 5:00.

Questions?? Call Amy Peplow at (630)-217-2102



Ice Going Out and Trumpeter Swan on North Twin, Spring 2018



North Twin Rainbow, Spring 2018



Poker Run, Summer 2017

