



PREVENTING VIRAL HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA (VHS)

ANGLERS AND BOATERS

The following new laws apply to all anglers and boaters in Wisconsin:

- You must drain all water from boats, containers and fishing equipment when leaving any state waters, banks or shores, or entering Wisconsin over land. This does not apply to any drinking water or up to 2 gallons of water being used to hold minnows that can be legally transported.
- You may not transport any live fish or live fish eggs away from any state waters. There is an exception for minnows obtained from a Wisconsin bait dealer. These minnows may be transported away live and used again:
 - On the same water, or
 - On any other waters if no lake or river water, or other fish were added to their container.
- You may not use dead fish, fish eggs, or fish parts as bait. There are three exceptions:
 - You may use dead fish, fish eggs, or fish parts as bait on any waters if they were preserved by a method that does not require freezing or refrigeration, or
 - You may use unpreserved or just frozen dead fish, fish eggs or fish parts as bait on the water from which they were collected or on Lake Michigan or Green Bay (and connecting waters upstream to the first barrier impassible to fish), or
 - Live minnows that die during a fishing trip may be used during that fishing trip (they may not be used on later trips unless you meet the two conditions above).
- You may not possess or use minnows for bait that are obtained outside of Wisconsin. This does not apply if the minnows were imported under a Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) permit, or if they were obtained from Iowa or Minnesota and are being used only "between the tracks" on the Mississippi River.

HELP FIGHT INVASIVE SPECIES – NEW CHECK-OFF FOR BOATERS/ANGLERS

When Wisconsin anglers buy their 2010 fishing license this spring or summer they'll be asked a new question at the start of the process: "Will you donate \$2 to help eliminate the invasive species that threaten Wisconsin waters?"

Those who answer "yes" will have \$2 added to the cost of the license and the donation will go directly into Wisconsin's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Control Grant Program, according to State Senator Jim Holperin (D-Eagle River).

Boaters will have the same opportunity to donate when they register their craft. Holperin, who added the new AIS donation question to the 2010 state budget, said he hoped the strictly voluntary donation would raise at least a half million dollars in new revenue to combat the spread of aquatic invasives in the state's inland lakes and rivers.

"Wisconsin has had a voluntary fishing license/boating registration 'check-off' for over 20 years," said the Northwoods legislator, "but the current \$1 donation goes to support 'lake research' and I'm not so sure anybody knows what that means." The current check-off generates about \$60,000 annually for lake research.

By increasing the donation to \$2, earmarking the proceeds for the AIS grant program, and allowing license vendors to keep 50 cents of every donation as an incentive to ask the donation question, Holperin said he hopes more anglers and boaters will consider parting with an extra \$2 when they buy their fishing license or boat registration.

SAVE THE DATES

- Just a reminder that the Fun on the Water/Youth Safety and Skills Day is planned for July 25, 2010.
- The Annual Meeting of the NLA is scheduled for August 21 at the Namakagon Town Hall.
- Clean Boat – Clean Water Training April 29th 1:00–4:00PM at the Namakagon Town Hall.
- Next Meeting – May 8th, 9:00 AM in Grand View
- Northwest Lake Conference – June 18, 2010 at Telemark Lodge, Cable, WI

PROTECTING OUR LOONS

Get the Lead Out! is a campaign in several U.S. states and Canada aimed at educating anglers about the impact of lead fishing tackle on loons and other wildlife. Each year loons and other waterbirds die from lead poisoning due to ingestion of lead fishing tackle especially sinkers and jigs.

Better for wildlife, better for you: Why should lead matter to you?

- Lead is a toxic metal that can poison people and animals such as loons, bald eagles, great blue herons, and snapping turtles.
- Loons and other waterbirds are poisoned by swallowing lead fishing tackle that is lost while fishing.
- Switching to non-lead tackle is an inexpensive and easy way to make a difference.

Tackling the problem: What else can you use?

- Sinkers and jigs are also made from non-poisonous materials such as: Steel, tin, tungsten, bismuth, pewter, ceramic, densified plastic, and glass.
- These alternatives are simple to find and order on the Internet, and can also be found in some bait and tackle shops.
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Recycled Fish have collaborated to create a S.A.F.E Fishing Kit, which is available for purchase at their website (scroll down to public education).

Money Matters: What will it cost you?

- Non-lead tackle is generally only pennies more than lead equivalents.
- Price comparisons show that steel tends to be even cheaper than lead.

Weighing it all out: What else can you do?

- Dispose of your lead tackle properly—do not throw it in a lake or trash can. Take it to your local household hazardous waste collection site or a scrap metal collector/recycler. In Wisconsin, there is a list of places that accept lead year round maintained on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources website.
- Spread the word—tell others about the hazards of lead to wildlife and people. Encourage the switch to non-lead sinkers and jigs.
- Ask your favorite bait/tackle shop to carry lead alternative fishing tackle.

AROUND THE LAKE

As a current resident of Minnesota, we often kid that there are two seasons, "winter and road construction." Well, road construction and landing work are likely to disrupt those traveling around Lake Namekagon this summer. Two projects, construction on the bridge near "The Chief," just north of County M on County D has begun. At this point it is unclear if water passage from Namekagon to Garden Lake will be affected.

The WDNR has notified the NLA that the landing off of County D will be upgraded this year. The upgrades are needed, but unfortunately the work will likely begin just after the July 4th holiday and likely impact access to the lake at this landing for a number of weeks.

WISCONSIN'S PIER REGULATIONS

Did you know that in the summer of 2008, new legislation regarding the placement of piers went into effect? While the DNR estimates that 85% of piers are "exempt" and do not require a permit, registration or fee, there are requirements for registration of those that don't meet the "exempt" criteria. These piers MUST be registered with the DNR by April 2, 2011.

For additional information and to determine if you need a permit for your pier or dock please see <http://dnr.wi.gov/waterways/>.

LAKE SURVEYS

Check your mail! Coming your way soon will be a survey about your lake property and lake use that completes the requirements for our grant. Please fill out the form and send back as soon as possible. The NLA Board thanks you for your participation.

PROPOSAL FOR CHANGES IN FISHING TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

The Bayfield County Lakes Forum (BCLF) has presented a proposal to change the rules surrounding multi-lake fishing tournaments. The following proposed resolution was provided by Mr. Jim Brakken, President BCLF.

RESOLUTION:

Multiple-Lake Fishing Tournaments and AIS Spread

April 12, 2010

THE PROBLEM:

1. Many lakes are now infested with Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and other AIS. Multiple-lake tournaments can result in transport of AIS from contaminated lakes.
2. Multiple-lake tournaments encourage boaters to travel from lake to lake, resulting in many lakes being visited by many boaters.
3. Success often requires quick transporting of boats, frequently resulting in fishermen not cleaning boats and trailers between launches.
4. AIS contamination can result in substantial loss in property values and tax base. It can eliminate recreational boating and devastate the fishery.
5. Paid, Clean Boats-Clean Waters (CBCW) staff are very effective in educating boaters, intercepting AIS, and preventing infestation.
6. The general public should not bear the monitoring expense because it is the tournament organizers and participants that benefit.
7. Protection of public waters far outweighs the entertainment and profits of tournament organizers and participants.

THE SOLUTION: BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Multiple-lake fishing tournaments must use the least possible number of boat landings to facilitate CBCW monitoring.
2. CBCW staff shall monitor all tournament landings throughout the event. Wages shall be paid by the tournament organizers.
3. Tournament rules shall state "All participants must have boats, trailers and boating equipment inspected by CBCW monitors and use only launches approved by event organizers or be subject to immediate disqualification and forfeiture of entry fees.
4. A list of AIS contaminated waters shall be provided to participants by the DNR prior to the event with instructions to carefully inspect boats, trailers and equipment when leaving these contaminated waters.
5. Be it further resolved that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress calls upon each county and the State to provide adequate law enforcement to enforce AIS transport and related AIS violations at all tournaments.



MORE I-LIDS COMING

Many of you may have wondered what those "big silver things" are at the Garden Lake of Funnys Bay landing sites. These are I-LIDS (Internet Landing Installed Device Sensor). Developed by Environmental Sentry Protection, LLC, (www.environmentalsentry.com) these devices are video cameras and motion detectors that allow remote monitoring of the launch sites. They are one more way to fight to keep invasive species out of our lakes.

- A wireless video camera captures high resolution images of launches and stores them on a Web accessible database. Launch statistics include date, time, location, vehicle id, users, and presence of weeds on boat.
- A recorded message can tell launch users the importance of cleaning aquatics from their boat/trailer prior to launch. Video evidence enables authorities to warn or cite violations.
- Wireless transmission over the Internet to a remote server enables real-time access and remote management of field devices.
- I-LIDS can capture, transmit, process, and make videos available to users within minutes of capture.

Do they work? Review of the videos taken at the two sites has not documented any introduction of weeds into the lake. What we have observed is that boaters do take the time to inspect their boats and read the information. The create curiosity and educate those who use our lake to help keep our waters clean.

In 2010, two new I-LIDS will be installed to continue our fight to keep our waters clean. Our AIS-Grant was funded by the WDNR and will cover 75% of the costs of these units. We thank the towns of Namakagon and Grand View for their contributions in support of our continued efforts to protect our lakes.



GRANT UP DATES

We were very pleased to be awarded a grant to improve and update signage at our launch sites. The Board would like to extend a big thank you to Lisa Holt for her efforts in getting this grant submitted and approved. Expect to see these new signs early this summer.

A big thank you to Steve Riley. While no longer an NLA Board member he continues to play an integral role in the implementation of our current grants. The NLA was awarded a grant to install 2 new ILID units. One will be installed at Lakewoods and the other at the County D Landing site.

Preserving Fish and Wildlife Habitat

Shorelands are a living bridge between the aquatic world of lakes, rivers, and wetlands, and the terrestrial world of woodlands and grasslands. As roads and houses creep into shoreland areas, the behavior, reproduction, and survival of animals can be affected as human activities and structures degrade the surrounding wildlife habitat.

A growing body of research documents these impacts -- but also that preserving and restoring shoreland plants and trees can lessen development's impacts.¹ Here are some examples:

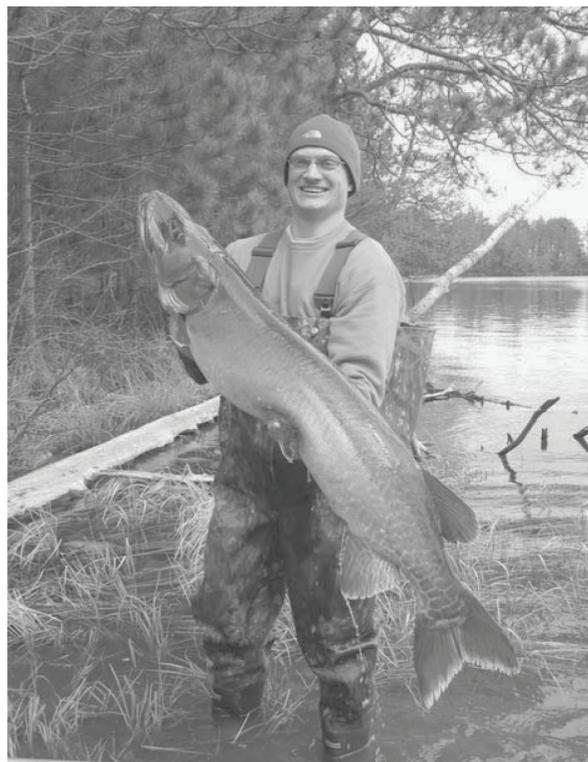
Fish communities

* Good naturally reproducing muskie populations have on average 20% of their shoreline developed while poor muskie populations have on average 40% of their shoreline developed.²

* Bluegill production is 2.5 times higher in lakes with no development versus developed lakes.³

* Trout populations were eliminated in watersheds with more than 11% hard surfaces like pavement, roofs, etc.⁴

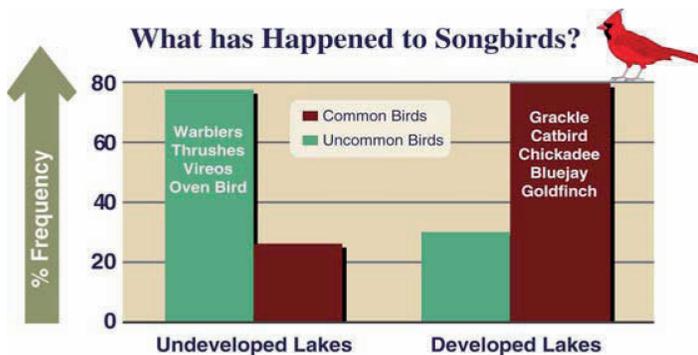
* The amount of woody cover, aquatic plants, and bank cover is 30-600% higher along natural shorelines versus riprapped shorelines, and 100-600% higher along natural shorelines versus seawalled shorelines¹⁰.



Songbirds and Amphibians

* Cowbirds, grackles and other common species became more numerous and songbirds less numerous along developed northern Wisconsin lakes, according to a 1990s study by DNR and Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute researchers comparing developed and undeveloped northern Wisconsin lakes.⁵

* Studies have shown that green frog populations decline with increasing density of shoreland development, and disappear altogether around approximately 30 homes per mile of shoreland.⁶ Current state standards allow over 50 homes per mile of shoreland in unsewered areas and over 80 per mile in sewerred areas.



CREATING HABITAT

Spring is here and with it often a tree or two will fall into the water. What to do about it? NOTHING Fallen trees provide important habitat for fish. The WDNR has numerous resources for property owners to guide in the restoration and perseveration of habitat for fish and wildlife. What about "felling" your own trees? I asked Pamela J. Toshner, WDNR for an answer. "Since most of the waters up here are ASNRI (Areas of Natural Resource Interest), including Namakagon, so they would need an individual permit." So bottom line --- Mother Nature can create habitat at anytime, but property owners should get more information and apply for the appropriate permit BEFORE dropping any trees into the water.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Now that the "ice is out", it is time to start enjoying our lake activities. The NLA needs your help. Please consider volunteering.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Buoy Placement – End of April | Contact (s)
Tom Nelson |
| • Lake Clean Up – Early May | Tom Nelson |
| • Landing Monitors – May | Julia Campbell/Linda Fischer |
| • Fun Day – July | Linda Fischer/Al Stawicki |

TOP 10 THINGS TO DO AT THE LAKE

1. Join the NLA
2. Take a walk
3. Watch the sunrise
4. Listen to the loons calling
5. Paddle your canoe or kayak
6. Wet a line in the water (AKA fishing)
7. Ride your bike
8. Preserve and create shoreline habitat
9. Watch the sunset
10. Run for the Board of the NLA

NLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Phil Rasmussen	(715) 794-2561
1st Vice President:	Lisa Holt	(715) 794-2384
Secretary:	Denise Dupras	(715) 798-5087
Treasurer:	Tim Browne	(715) 794-2405
Director:	Tom Nelson	(715) 794-2405
Director:	Linda Fischer	(715) 794-2166
Director:	Julia Campbell	(715) 798-2446

Email board members: board@nlaonline.org

Visit our website: www.nlaonline.org

A BIG NLA "THANK YOU"

The NLA Board would like to thank all of those who have renewed their membership, but in particular those who have given above and beyond the \$20 membership fee to support our organization. Even in this economic downturn, many of you have opened your wallets to support our organization. Thank you. As a reminder, we are a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization.

BOARD ELECTIONS COMING UP

NLA Board – Elections will be held at the August Annual meeting of the Namakagon Lake Association. Please consider running for the Board. This year 3 positions will be open for election. Contact any of the current Board members for further information and to let us know that you are interested in giving back to "our lake."

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

STOP

**Help Stop...
the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species**

- Non-native, exotic species, such as Eurasian Water Milfoil, Purple Loosestrife, and Zebra Mussels threaten to harm the quality of our Wisconsin lakes.
- Before you launch your boat, please inspect and clean it, including the motor and trailer, to prevent the spread of exotic species into our Wisconsin lakes.
- *Never Empty Your Bait Bucket or Release Live Bait into the Lake*
- Please *immediately report* any exotic species to your local lake association, The Wisconsin Wetlands Association, or the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- Visit the Wisconsin DNR website, www.dnr.wi.gov/invasives or contact the DNR at 608.266.9270 for more information or to answer questions about aquatic exotic species.

BE AWARE of your ACTIONS and HELP PRESERVE the ENVIRONMENT!

MISSION STATEMENT

The Namakagon Lake Association, Inc. was formed in 1995 for the purpose of preserving and protecting Lake Namakagon and its environs. The Namakagon Lake Association, Inc. (NLA) is a not for profit organization that relies on the contributions and membership fees of land owners and other concerned citizens for its funding. It is our goal to preserve and protect Lake Namakagon as an environmentally healthy watershed, by sponsoring educational programs, adopting a proactive role in the formulation of water and shore land regulations, and responsible use of this unique and irreplaceable resource for all citizens.

The Namakagon Lake Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 536
Cable, WI 54821



ALERT: IT IS TIME TO PAY OUR ANNUAL DUES!!!

YOUR DUES ARE PAID THROUGH THE YEAR PRINTED NEXT TO YOUR NAME ON THE ADDRESS LABEL

To be eligible to vote, all members must be 18 years of age and a paid member 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION RENEWAL OR NEW MEMBER REQUEST FORM

MEMBERSHIP DUE ANNUALLY ON CALENDAR YEAR BASIS

- Check here if NEW address or e-mail
- Individual Membership Per Person. . . # _____ X \$20.00 = _____
- Wildlife Watcher # _____ X \$25.00 = _____
- Loon Lover # _____ X \$50.00 = _____
- Lake Steward # _____ X \$100.00 = _____
- Keeper of the Lake. # _____ X \$200.00 = _____
- Other: # _____ X _____ = _____

NAME OF EACH VOTING MEMBER

MAILING ADDRESS:

Namakagon Lake Association, Inc.
PO Box 536 • Cable, WI 54821

TOTAL ENCLOSED. _____

Indicate preferred contact method: US Mail - Home US Mail - Lake E-mail

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ E-mail address: _____