

NAMAKAGON

SPRING 2019



Breeze

NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Greetings NLA Members:

Before we know it, ice will be breaking up and spring will be on the way. Below I am summarizing a recent lake study done by research biologist Matt Berg (October 2018).

In June of 2016, during a bird study on the lake, Hybrid Eurasian water-milfoil (HWM) was discovered in Lakewood's Resort Marina boat landing. In August of 2016 a team of professionals from the Wisconsin DNR and Bayfield County Land and Water Management Department and volunteers from our lake association conducted an initial shoreline survey of the lake. A couple areas of concern were discovered. At that time the lake association hired Matt to develop an initial Aquatic Plant Management Plan. A full warm-water survey was completed August 23-24, 2016. During 2017 and 2018 plants were manually pulled and chemically treated in the Lakewood's marina. This follow-up survey to see if the HWM had spread was conducted October 6-7, 2018.

Very disappointing results were discovered during this survey last fall. HWM had undergone a significant expansion since 2016. As often is the case with new infestations, they found the majority of the HWM plants were near highly developed and/or disturbed shorelines; especially near resort docks and boat landings. These areas have high volume watercraft traffic which tends to disturb the bottom making it easy for HWM to establish. Once canopied, these plants also frequently suffer prop-clipping which accelerates their natural spread from fragmentation.

Yellow Iris, the lovely, is another invasive species that is troubling Lake Namakagon. In June look for bright yellow fleur-de-lis on shore. There is currently no biological control agent for this species. The survey STRONGLY encourages residents to look for and eliminate plants on their property for a minor problem becomes a significant one. Iris plants and pods should be dug out with a shovel, bagged to prevent seed dispersal, and then disposed of well away from the lake or any other wetland (we took our neighbors to the town dump last summer).

The Study suggests that the HWM is spreading rapidly, and it will likely continue to do so without sustained active management. This 21 page report is available to view on the association website.

It contains pictures of both HWM and yellow Iris. Educating as many residents as possible to be on the lookout for new plants/beds is strongly encouraged as a way to assist in early detection. If volunteers find suspicious weeds/plants email saintcroixdfly@gmail.com with a picture, description, and location so it can be added to the map for management consideration.

We have had two recent meetings with the DNR to discuss how our lake association will proceed. We will be following procedures of our lake management plan we put together last year. Our lake association is looking for volunteers for weed pulling during the summer. Watch for our emails if you are interested. Mark your calendars for our next meeting April 27, 2019.

Jim DeRoma
President

Namakagon Lake Association

2019 MEETING DATES

- **APRIL 27TH** NLA MEETING
- **MAY 18TH** NLA MEETING
- **JUNE 16TH** NLA MEETING
- **JULY 20TH** NLA MEETING
- **AUGUST 18TH** NLA ANNUAL MEETING
@ Staudemeyer's Four Seasons Resort
- **SEPTEMBER 21ST** NLA MEETING

**ALL MEETINGS WILL BE AT 9:00AM
AT THE NAMAKAGON TOWN HALL**

NLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Jim DeRoma	(715) 794-2403
Vice President:	Jim Krueger (Grants)	(715) 798-2365
Treasurer:	Steve Musser	(715) 794-2286
Co-Secretary:	Denise Dupras	(715) 798-5087
Co-Secretary:	Linda Fischer	(715) 794-2166
Members at Large:	Karen Musser	(715) 794-2286
Members at Large:	Amanda Staudemeyer	(715) 798-2366

Email board members: board@nlaonline.org

Visit our website: www.nlaonline.org

Thank You... The NLA Board would like to extend thanks to the many volunteers who have helped throughout the year.

MILFOIL UPDATE

Last fall as part of the Namakagon Lake Management Plan, the NLA had a complete evaluation done of the weeds in the Namakagon Chain of Lakes. The results of this evaluation were completed and sent to the NLA in February. This evaluation is posted on our website. Overall the results are very good but one area stood out as an issue. The bay between Bear Point and the Birch Lane bridge has a heavy infestation of hybrid Milfoil in the northeast corner of the bay.

The NLA had 2 meetings in February, one as a board meeting and one with the DNR. A joint decision has been made to do a treatment of the milfoil most likely in early June. This time of the year was chosen because it is after the spring sparring season and before the heavy traffic of the summer season. The treatment will be the same as what was done very successfully in Lakewood's Marina last year. This treatment will not affect or limit any uses of the lake, including swimming and fishing. The treatment will be completed in one day.

The report also shows a couple of small areas of hybrid Milfoil that the NLA will do hand pulling to control. Again, if you look at the report that is posted on our website, the maps show where these areas are.



This summer we are going to do at least three hand pulls in these areas, one in June, one in July and one in August. We have trained many of you on how to identify this milfoil and how to properly pull the weed. We will need volunteer help again this summer for this project. If you are interested, we will train you. Do not attempt to pull these weeds without proper training. In the near future, I will be sending out more information about these hand pulls. If you have questions, please contact me at 715-798-2365.

On another topic, please consider being an NLA board member. Elections are in August and we would welcome some new fresh ideas to cover all the various projects the NLA board has going on, this would be a great way to move forward.

Have a great spring, hopefully by the time you read this, the snow will be gone from our area and things are turning green.

Jim Krueger, Vice President

NAMAKAGON WALLEYE PROJECT UPDATE:

With the temperature low this morning, at -23 below, it's hard to think of spring, but it's coming soon. We hope.

Plans are in place this spring to harvest eggs and milk from Namakagon Walleyes, hatch them, raise fry, to fingerlings, and then to extended length (6-8") Walleyes for stocking. The Goal will be to stock 30,000 extended length Walleyes late September 2019. The fish will be raised at the UWSP, Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility, in Red Cliff.

I will be organizing with the facility director 1 to 2 tours to visit the facility, and our fish this summer. It's a fascinating facility, and hopefully many will be interested in seeing this place, and the fish.

We do have an opportunity to construct some fish stick complexes yet this winter in a few locations on the shorelines of a few of our property owners. With success this next year of seeking grants, our environmental efforts to improve habitat will expand. The goals are to build shoreline buffers and add fish stick

complexes where welcomed. These actions keep our lake cleaner, and add more yellow perch and biomass for fish.

Keep in mind, grants can help on our environmental efforts, but our fish stocking comes from you! NLA is a 501c3, and we still need donations for our stocking efforts in 2019. Thank you all for your contributions. Finally, we hope to have a Walleye Banquet this spring. Stay tuned for details. This will be a fun fundraising event. Any questions please call.

Walleye Project Chair
Mike D'Andrea
(715) 794-2949



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Postcards will be mailed twice a year in January and in June to members who have NOT paid dues for the year. If you are paid up you will NOT be getting a postcard. Dues must be paid by August 1 in order to be eligible to vote at the annual meeting.

Paypal will be coming soon to make payment of dues easier.

WHO TO CONTACT TO VOLUNTEER FOR NLA PROJECTS:

Invasive Species Project

Board contact person/coordinator: Jim Krueger

Grant Writer: Craig Forneris

Duties:

- Schedule milfoil and yellow iris hand pulls
- Send out emails, etc. for volunteers to help with hand pulls
- Obtain permits and schedule treatment of milfoil
- Write grants to fund control of invasives.

Landing Supervision

Board Contact Person: TBA

Landing Coordinator: Deb Forneris

Duties:

- Develop a work schedule for our landing supervisors for all three landings
- Schedules are for Friday 1PM-sundown and Saturday sunup to sundown from the weekend of fishing opener through approximately October 20th
- Schedule training for new supervisors.

Landing Supervision (SWIMS) Data Input

Board Contact Person: Jim DeRoma

Data Input Person: Larry Pribyl

Duties:

- Input all data obtained from landing supervisors onto the DNR website.

Landing Camera Monitors

Board Contact Person: TBA

Coordinator: TBA

Duties:

- Monitor video from the three cameras at the three landing on the Namakagon chain and report any issues or violations.

Buoy Repair and Placement

Board Contact Person: Amanda Staudemeyer

Duties:

- Repair buoys
- Install buoys in lake after the ice is out
- Check on placement of buoys periodically.

Walleye Project

Board Contact Person: Jim DeRoma

Project Coordinator: Mike D'Andrea

Duties:

- Assist coordinator on various projects such as fish stocking, shoreland buffers, and the fish sticks project,

If you are interested in any of these volunteer positions, please contact the NLA board member listed as the contact person or if the contact person is TBA, contact any NLA board member.

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!

**Check our website for current information,
updates, and board minutes.**

www.nlaonline.org

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



**CONTRIBUTE
TODAY!**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Namakagon Lake Association
Walleye Project
PO Box 536
Cable, Wisconsin 54821

**WALLEYES FOR
NAMAKAGON!**

The Namakagon Walleye Project is requesting contributions to finance the stocking of walleyes for Lake Namakagon, with a goal of

FUNdraiser! • FUN Deductible! • FUN Producer!

Name: _____

Contribution \$ _____

MAILING ADDRESS: Namakagon Lake Association Walleye Project • PO Box 536, Cable, Wisconsin 54821