

NAMAKAGON

WINTER 2020-21



Breeze

NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Greetings, NLA members and supporters:

To say this year has been unusual is an understatement, COVID-19. Our first three meetings started over Zoom. We then held meetings at Namakagon Town Hall practicing social distancing and wearing masks and some Facetime for board members not able to attend. Poor ice on the lake last winter prevented our fish stick project from going in when originally scheduled midwinter. A late cold front firmed up the ice and 8 bundles of trees were placed in March. Hopefully we can place another 20 bundles this winter. Fish Sticks involve adding large diameter wood (whole trees) to natural shorelines of interested homeowners. Several trees are bundled together and chained to shore. They provide natural habitat for fish to lay or attach eggs and provide a safe place for many species to live.

With the Healthy Lakes Grant we hope to do more buffer zone shoreline projects next summer. One 70 foot buffer zone was completed this summer near Bear Point.

It was a tough start this spring with COVID-19 and our Walleye project. The harvesting of eggs got off to a rough start when the DNR halted all remote activities. Help from Red Cliff shocked spawning walleyes and we were able to get some spawn into rearing ponds. In September we were able to plant close to 5,000 6 inch walleyes and another 9-10,000 will be introduced to our lake late October. Donation jars for the Walleye Project have been placed at local business around the lake. Thanks in advance for your contributions.

Milfoil is here to stay and it is spreading. Namakagon Lake Association (NLA) board hired Matt Berg, Endangered Species Resources Services, LLC to complete a full lake survey of invasive milfoil. On September 4, 2020 his team searched 51.1 miles of the lake. Fortunately Garden and Jackson Lake remain free of Hybrid invasive water milfoil. (HWM) In Lake Namakagon, we found most areas that had been chemically treated showed reduced amount of HWM. Many other areas again showed significant expansion. 26 beds were mapped covering 9.87 acres. Outside of these beds Matt found another 63 plants. This is nearly 20% drop in acreage from 2019 when we found 18 areas that covered 12.3 acres. It was also a decline of nearly 52% relative to 2018 when we found 4 beds and 13 high density areas covering 20.37 acres.

Despite this improvement in total acreage, we again noted the HWM continued to expand in many parts of Lake Namakagon. 13 acres were chemically treated this past spring and we will continue to do so in the spring of 2021. The association will need volunteers next spring/summer to watch for HWM and yellow iris growing on shore and to do hand pulls of both.

You can check for the 2021 schedule of lake meetings and other updates on nlaonline.org.

I hope everyone enjoyed the beautiful fall colors. Have a great winter and stay safe.

Jim DeRoma
President, NLA
board@nlaonline.org



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

www.nlaonline.org

WALLEYE UPDATE 7/20/20

Hello All! Mid Summer and we are still making progress. If you haven't seen the 8 Fish sticks installed this last winter you should look at the North end of Paines Island, and on the Bays around Lakewoods, and a nice one south of Bucks Island. Should be something hiding under each of them now and they become better fish habitat with time. Nineteen or more are planned for this winter and hopefully more in the future. Each is either a three or five tree complex. They create great bio-mass, food for fish, and hiding spots for a variety of fish. Research shows that Walleyes do better with a healthy Yellow Perch population, and yellow perch hang their eggs on woody structure! Additionally, current understanding is Woody structure retains sight feeders in the shallows allowing young of year Walleyes time to develop and move to deeper weedlines. Fish Sticks create fish food, fish habitat, and hold sight feeders!

More Habitat news, the Peichel Family completed their 70ft shore line buffer. Less chemicals and run off in the lake, less mowing! Healthy Lakes Grants, and Bayfield County Land and Water Conservation supported this effort. Peichels are on the east side of Bear Point in the Bay. Honk, when you motor through! Lol.

If you are interested in Shoreline Buffers, or Fish Sticks on your shoreline give me a call I'll be more than happy to stop by and explain the program. The program is largely funded by Grants, and small Donations from the Town, and Namakagon Lake Association. Call me Mike D'Andrea at 715 794 2949.

On the Stocking front; We now have healthy fingerlings, our eggs came from mostly young Namakagon females at 14-15 inches, so we believe these fish were in their first or second year of spawning so the eggs were healthy, but small, and they produced smaller than normal fry. NADF from UWSP, and the Red Cliff Hatchery did the hatching. Now, our fry are 2" fingerlings, and it looks like we will stock 12-15,000 8" Extended length Fingerlings in the fall. That will equal 4-5 walleyes per acre! When the Fishery Initiative Began we had a population of only 2.3 Walleyes per acre.

So there you are, hopefully fall stocking goes well, and everyone enjoys the lake this summer!

Mike D'Andrea
Walleye/Fish Sticks Coordinator



MEMBERSHIP AND ELECTION 2020 UPDATE

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The paid membership for 2020 at the time of this newsletter is 314 voting members from 176 households. Keep in mind that effective after our Annual Meeting in 2019 we introduced another non-voting membership category, which will hopefully enhance the membership numbers in the future.

ELECTION UPDATE

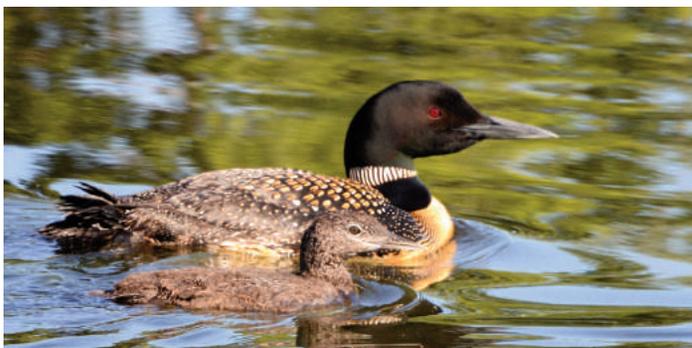
COVID-19 prevented us from holding the annual meeting in August, but at our meeting in September your ballots were counted and the results reviewed. Two members Kathy Johnson and Terry Cramer were elected to fill the spots of Jim Krueger and Karen Musser. Please check www.nlaonline.org for the current list of Board members and their responsibilities.



LOON UPDATE

2020 has been challenging in so many ways. The loons too have felt this. Emily Stone from the Cable Natural History Museum reported early this year that the black flies drove many loons off their nests. At least two typically successful nesting areas failed to produce loon chicks despite two tries. There were two nests that produced chicks this year. Nests somewhere between the dam and the bridge on the way to the Four Seasons Resort and at the northern end of Jackson Lake were both successful with single chicks. My last boat ride in September confirmed that both chicks were healthy and likely to make the migration to the south this fall.

Denise Dupras
Loon Ranger



THANK YOU AND RECOGNITION

The Board would like to thank all of those who contributed to the mission of the NLA. We would also like to recognize and than outgoing Board members Jim Krueger and Karen Musser for their contributions to the Board.

- a. Buoy placement – Four Seasons Brandon Pessina and Amanda Staudemeyer
- b. Landing monitors – Lonna Haas, Craig Forneris, Bruce Goff, Dave Hanks, Brenda Cramer, Steve Reed, Don Ulmer
- c. ILIDs review – Ed Hilz, Diane Grage, Denise Dupras
- d. Walleye harvest/clipping – Jim DeRoma, Hans Rasmussen, Mike D'Andrea



2021 MEETING DATES

**ALL MEETINGS EXCEPT ANNUAL MEETING
ARE AT 9:00 AM AT NAMAKAGON TOWN HALL.**

- **APRIL 10** NLA MEETING
- **MAY 22** NLA MEETING
- **JUNE 19** NLA MEETING
- **JULY 17** NLA MEETING
- **AUGUST 22** NLA ANNUAL MEETING
@ Staudemeyer's Four Seasons Resort
- **SEPTEMBER 18** NLA MEETING



The NLA is committed to keeping all of you safe. We continue to have NLA meetings, but due to COVID restrictions, face to face meetings were not possible and we anticipate future meetings will likely be virtual. Please send any questions or concerns to any Board member. (see www.NLAonline.org for Board Information).



NLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Jim DeRoma	(715) 794-2403
Vice President:	Larry Pribyl	(715) 798-5835
Treasurer:	Steven Musser	(715) 794-2286
Co-Secretary:	Denise Dupras	(715) 798-5087
Co-Secretary:	Linda Fischer	(715) 794-2166
Members at Large:	Kathy Johnson	
Members at Large:	Terry Cramer	

Email board members: board@nlaonline.org

Visit our website: 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 improving walleye density to over **5 adults per acre!**

Stocking will begin this Fall!

FUNdraiser! • FUN Deductible! • FUN Producer!

Name: _____

Contribution \$ _____

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