

ILA News

TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE SERENITY, QUALITY, AND NATURAL BEAUTY OF LAKE IDA

2016 Fall Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars now to attend the 2016 Annual Meeting **Saturday, August 27 at 9 a.m.** at the Ida Township Hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Directors plan to meet at 8 a.m. At this meeting Jerry Hagenmiller and Danica Mazurek from the Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation District will be speaking on the new buffer law, lake shore buffers, etc.

With this being an even-numbered year, the Districts that are even-numbered will be electing District Directors. A special *Thank You* to those who have served so thoughtfully.

We look forward to seeing you at the **Ida Township Hall, located at 4700 County Road 6 NW**. Take stake in your lake – and help keep Lake Ida looking healthy, beautiful...and blue!



Annual Due\$

It is time to remind you to send in your annual Ida Lake Association dues of \$25. Your support helps the ILA preserve and protect the serenity, quality, and natural beauty of Lake Ida. ILA uses the money for various projects. Check the mailing label under your name; it will remind you when you are paid through.

The 2015 membership reached 463, which we are under of that number, as we are currently at 358! This is still short of the **768 property owners** along our shores – please bring to the Annual Meeting August 27th and receive your ILA Directory or remit with the form included in this newsletter.

From The President

Wonderful summer yes! The lake is up, warm and clear. Albeit partly due to the Zebra mussels.

Our Annual membership meeting will be August 27 at the Ida Township Hall. Please plan on coming to learn about the association and meet fellow lake people. There may be some progress on the Ditch 23 issue as a grant is being applied for to do a feasibility and engineering study. The manure management project is progressing nicely and we should have a report at the annual meeting.

Our paid membership is growing, but if you have not done so, please consider paying your dues at our next meeting. Your dues have gone to support the manure management project which will benefit the lake by limiting nutrient runoff. Also every year we receive donations for fish stocking. We have accumulated a significant balance which we are hoping to have an opportunity to spend on future projects to benefit the lake.



With regard to invasive species we continue to believe that they must be fought. While the zebra mussels are here, there are many other species lurking out there. A number of these are plants and algae which boat inspection and drainage have a much better chance to stop. The lake association has

funded these efforts and will continue to do so. We don't want to be covered with Eurasian milfoil like Lake Minnetonka. We have supported the treatment of patches of curly leaf pond weed in our lake. While our water quality is fairly good right now, it is under constant threat from shoreline runoff and drainage ditch in flow. The two nutrients that support plant and other aquatic life are phosphorus and nitrogen. Phosphorus level determines the growth of algae. If a lake is very low in phosphorus it is clear with little plant life. This type lake supports lake trout and is found in northern Minnesota. Our lake with moderate amounts of phosphorus supports plant life that walleyes and pan fish need. Lakes with high phosphorus and sediment are overgrown with algae and murky with bullheads and other rough fish - We want to prevent this on Lake Ida.

Our lake association volunteers have been collecting water samples for a number of years for testing of phosphorus and chlorophyll levels along with clarity using Secchi Discs. These data are of great value in understanding the lake health. At the meeting some of this data will be presented.

Yours truly, Dick Sudmeier
president@lakeida.org

Got the Blues 'Cause Your Lake is Green?

There are no simple solutions to complex lake problems, but YOU can help! Your daily use of the lake and its surrounding landscape contributes greatly to the lake water quality. Any action you take to improve the lake will likely trigger others to join the effort.

Whether the property is on the water or not, there are many simple practices homeowners can do to reduce pollution to their watershed. • Minimize the amount of turf. Leave or plant more of the yard in native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees. • Minimize the use of fertilizer, herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals, which can harm the lake. • Use a broom to sweep up the driveway rather than hosing it down to the storm sewers. •



Sweep up leaves and grass clippings out of the street to prevent them from being carried into the lake where they decompose and use oxygen. • Cut turf grass at a height of 2 1/2 - 3". Aerate the lawn to promote infiltration. • Do not dispose of leaves or grass clippings in or near your lake, and certainly not the creek or stream. • Do not dispose of pet or animal/fish waste in or near your lake/creek.

One pound of phosphorus can grow up to 500 lbs. of plants or algae.

Take stake in your lake – and help keep our Lake Ida looking beautiful, healthy...and blue!

Do Not Burn near the Lake

Did you know that burning leaves or wood near the lake destroys the organic matter releasing the phosphorus, which could be washed into the lake? Phosphorus entering lakes and rivers feed the growth of algae, bacteria, and other tiny organisms. Water bodies require some nutrients to be healthy, but too much can be harmful. When lakes receive an overabundance of nutrients, they can become polluted by excessive amounts of algae. Die-off and decomposition of algae blooms can reduce dissolved oxygen and suffocate fish and other aquatic life. Some forms of algae (blue-green) may produce toxins that can be harmful if ingested by humans and animals.

Please do NOT burn your leaves near the lakeshore. **Douglas County Ordinance prohibits burning within 100 feet from the lakeshore.** The only exception is a recreational wood-burning campfire. Make sure you locate your fire pit at least 50 feet away from the lakeshore



and remove ashes from the fire pit to prevent the ashes from being blown or washed into the lake.

Dispose of Waste Properly

Not sure what to do with your recycling or hazardous waste? Don't want to transport it in your vehicle going home? Visit the Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management website and dispose of unwanted items safely. www.popedouglasrecycle.com

Summer Fun!

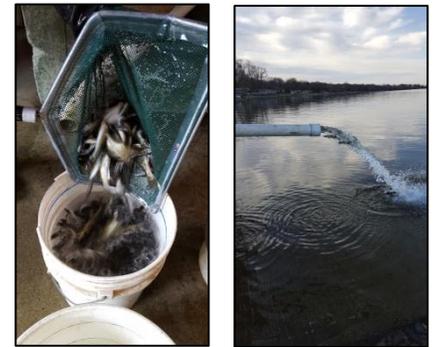
We hope you enjoyed the **8th Annual Lake Ida Fourth of July Boat Parade!** We had many fans watching from shore, as nearly 60 decorated boats made their way along the north shore. Make sure you are a part of the tradition and fun celebrating at the lake!

Stocking ~ Donate to the Cause

When done well, stocking can work wonders. Hundreds of Minnesota walleye lakes would today offer little or no walleye fishing were it not for regular stocking.

We have a committee that takes pride in stocking our lake. With the generous donations of many lake association members, along with organizations that want to see our lake thrive. Over 1,000 pounds of walleye fingerlings were added to Lake Ida on four separate occasions over the last year. These four locations were: North landing, South landing, Betsy Ross Point and Big Horn Bay.

Let's help Lake Ida benefit from our donations!



A Little History

This 1886 plat map close-up of Ida Township shows Lake Charley and the south end of Lake Ida. The original outlet of Lake Ida into Lake Charley is shown by an arrow pointing to a meandering creek, which flowed through a low swampy area.



In 1869, Enoch H. Alden (1819-1893) and his sons dug the straight outlet that is today's Lake Ida creek, and created a millpond between the two lakes. They built a mill, shown on the map with a star. The Aldens had a least one mishap, mentioned in an old Alexandria newspaper article, that angered their neighbors at Ida...the former creek outlet opened up and flooded farmland.

Today's Co. Rd. 61 cuts through the old millpond area.



Photo courtesy of: Harry Bedman - the Alden Mill by Lake Ida and Lake Charley

Become a 2016 dues paying member!

Ida Lake Association Annual Dues and Fees Statement

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

First Name(s): _____ Last Name(s): _____

Lake Address: _____ Lake Phone: _____

Preferred Mailing Address (if different): _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Other Phone: _____

E-mail (list any and all e-mail addresses you wish to be used for ILA business only): _____

Annual Dues: \$25.00

Memorial: \$ _____ for: _____

Walleye Stocking: \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Comments:

Remit payment to:
Ida Lake Association
P.O. Box 175
Garfield, MN 56332-0175

Return Postage Guaranteed

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