

ILA News



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

2015 Spring Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars now to attend the 2015 Spring Annual Meeting **Saturday, May 23 at 9 a.m.** at the Ida Township Hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Directors plan to meet at 8 a.m. Topics for discussion to include Walleye Stocking, Ditch 22 and Aquatic Invasive Species.

Pat Sherman from RMB Laboratories in Detroit Lakes will discuss the Lake Ida Assessment Report and how our lake is doing as it pertains to our water quality and how we can help our lake going into the future.

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!

2015 Fourth of July Boat Parade

Get out your Red, White and Blue! It's time for the Seventh Annual Lake Ida Fourth of July Boat Parade. This year it will take place **Saturday, July 4** (more information to come). Decorate your boat and join the fun. We are



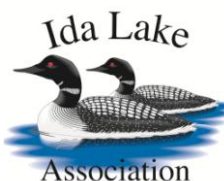
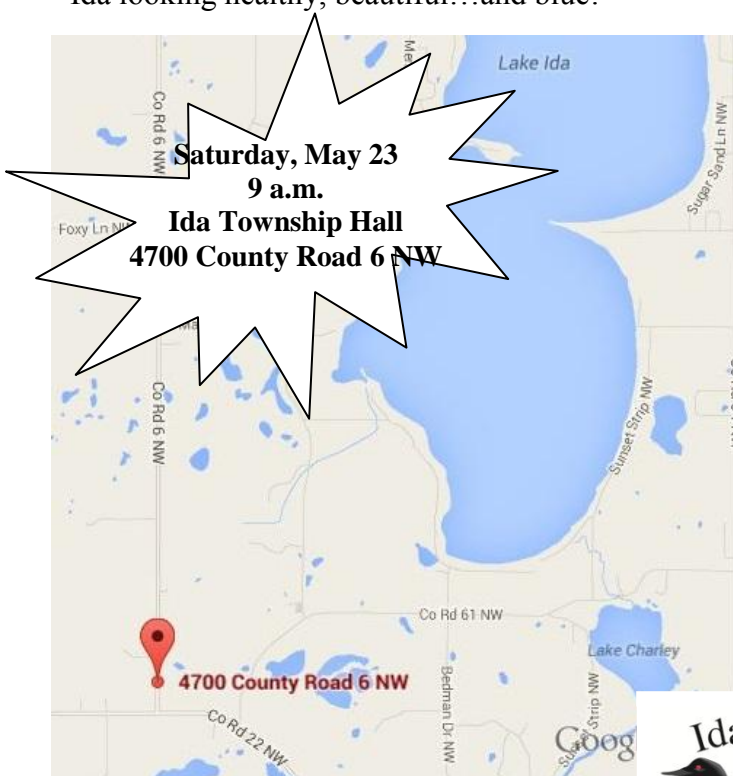
sure to get some parade watchers along the shore! ~ Make sure you are a part of the tradition and fun celebrating at the lake!

Protect Our Waters

Everyone has heard of aquatic invasive species (AIS), but not everyone remembers what they can – and must – do to follow the law. We need everyone who enjoys Minnesota's vast water resources to get on board and help stop the spread of AIS. Prevent the transport of zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil and other aquatic invasive species (AIS). Invasive species are species that are not native to Minnesota and cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Minnesota waters are threatened by aquatic invasive species. It is illegal to transport any aquatic plants, zebra mussels, New Zealand mudsnails or other prohibited invasive species, or to launch a boat or trailer with these species attached.



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!



Studies have shown that the lakes being effected are a long a path, following the major thoroughfares through Minnesota, in other words, we as humans are the cause of the spread of AIS. We bring it with us as we drive from lake to lake!

Boaters are required to complete three main actions before leaving the access. **1** - Clean off the boat by removing all plants, mud, debris and organisms from the exterior and interior of the boat (including angling equipment and the anchor). **2** - Drain all water from the boat and other water related equipment, including bait water. **3** - Pull the plug (it must remain out during transport).



Ida Township received a grant of \$4,000 for monitoring the Lake Ida boat accesses for the 2015 season. There will be four trained people providing 400 hours of lake access monitoring.

From Your President

A normal ice out date and crappies are biting, awesome! The beginning of another great Lake Ida summer! I sincerely hope many memories for us all to cherish. Over the past year I have been totally amazed by the willingness of people in the association to give of themselves.

Lower water levels will make it possible to repair the dam. And it has! Dean Beck from the DNR was pleased to report that the new aluminum stop logs are now in place in the Lake Ida dam. Turned out a bad plank on the west side was made of concrete. The swinging finger barriers are also back in place. The lower water level will allow us to hold the July 4th Boat Parade this year and I look forward to seeing you.

We, the association need to get creative in fundraising for walleye stocking. The great walleye fishing in the 1980's was a direct result of massive stocking. There were 3,000 pounds per year for 3-years stocked. If the association were to attempt this we would need to raise \$ 30,000.00 per year. I would rather be discussing fund raising

opportunities than reduced walleye limits and slot sizes.

The lake can support a relatively fixed number of pounds of predator fish. The question is; do we want Northern and Bass or more Walleyes? We must be smart, we fishermen have more impact than we realize. Remove the unwanted species and practice selective harvest on the walleyes. The Small Mouth Bass and Northern Pike played a key role and had a negative impact on Mille Lacs Lake. The Minnesota DNR will be proposing special regulations on Northern Pike that will allow you to keep 10 fish smaller than 21". The small northern are tasty pickled. I am including the recipe that I like in the newsletter.

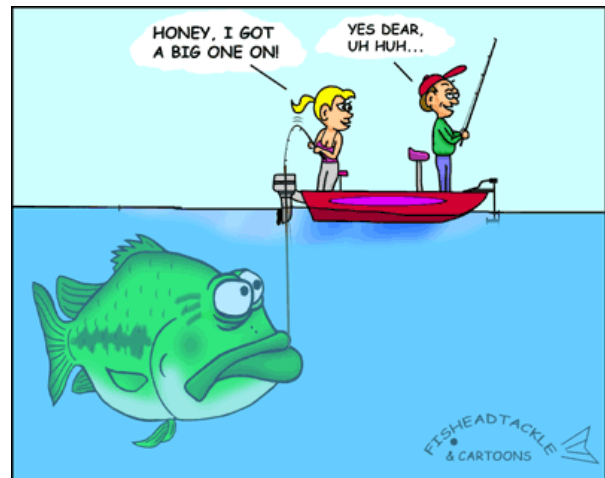
We need all the folks that CAN to be members of the association. Yearly dues are an important piece but we also need your input, time and talent. We want everyone's input. We are stewards of the lake; it is all of our responsibility to leave it better than we found it! I personally look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our May meeting.

Take care everyone; enjoy your summer!

~ Jeff Johnson, ILA President

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. Let's help Lake Ida benefit from our donations!



Recipe from the President

Who would have thought? I guess every great fisherman knows how he/she likes to prepare their catch!

Fish fillets, smaller Northern Pike and smaller Largemouth bass are ideal.

Do not debone the fish, the vinegar will dissolve them. I never debone them.

Salt brine, enough to float an egg

White vinegar

Sliced onions

4 c. white vinegar

3 c. sugar

1 c. white sweet silver satin wine

1/4 c. pickling spice

Cut fillets into herring size pieces and put in salt brine for 48 hours. Drain and rinse with cold water. Cover fish with white vinegar for 24 hours in refrigerator. Gallon plastic zip lock bags work. Drain and throw vinegar away. Put layer of fish then a layer of sliced onion in containers until full. I use quart canning jars. Heat together 4 cups white vinegar and sugar until sugar is dissolved. Cool. Add wine and pickling spice. Pour over fish and cover jars. Fish must be covered at all times and kept refrigerated. Yields 3 quarts.

Questions? Come to the Annual Meeting and ask Jeff in person!

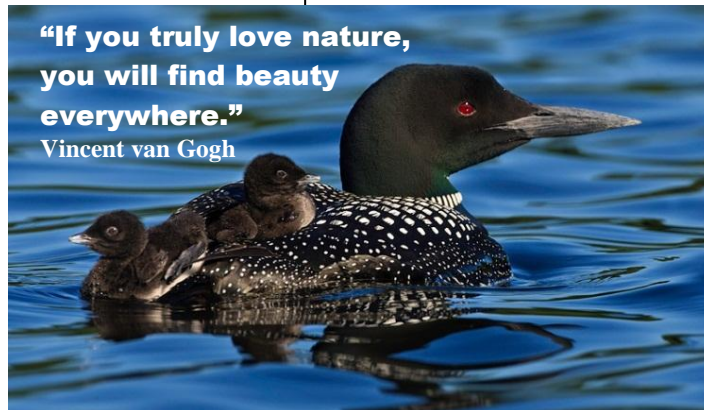
Invasive Weeds Go Away

We still have some curly leaf pondweed in Lake Ida so we are treating it again this year. This will be the third year which is typical for treating this type invasive weed. Hopefully this will finally eliminate this problem. The curly leaf is only in the bay in District 1 (near Betsy Ross). It is treated with chemicals. The Ida Lake Association did not get a grant this year to help the cause.

Got the Blues! And that's Good!

An extensive report on the health of our beautiful lake was completed in 2011. This report is available on our website for members to review. We have had volunteers taking water samples and

reading the clarity of the water for 17 years and have enough data to create a definitive trend line showing how our lake is doing. We continue to do the water sampling so that trends can be monitored into the future. Lake Ida is maintaining water quality (i.e. not improving or declining), but it is important that we ALL take pride in our lake!



**"If you truly love nature,
you will find beauty
everywhere."
Vincent van Gogh**

As we all get ready to enjoy the outdoors this summer, 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. **Douglas County Ordinance prohibits burning within 100 feet from the lakeshore.**

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, including this newsletter.

The 2014 membership reached 442 after the post cards were sent out last fall, which was the largest amount since 2005, but we are still short of the **757 property owners** along our shores – please bring to the Annual Meeting May 23rd or remit with the form included in this newsletter.

Memorials

In addition to the annual dues members contributed last year, we receive several memorial donations primarily for loved ones who have departed.

Memory of Norm Gillette JR from Don & Norma Vinger

Memory of Reed Vinger for walleye stocking from Sam & Naomi Gargaro

Memory of Marilyn McDonnell from Lauren Davis

Memory of Patty Lorsung from Lauren Davis

Become a 2015 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

**Ida Lake Association
P.O. Box 175
Garfield, MN 56332-0175**

