

THE CEDAR LOG

The Cedar Log is published by the Cedar Lake Conservancy. The Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting, preserving and enhancing the quality of the environment and life experiences in and around Cedar Lake.

**SPRING
2019**



CHECK US OUT!

<http://minnesotawaters.org/cedarlakeconservancy>

ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, June 22

Postcards with details will be mailed out in May. Come meet new neighbors and learn what's happening on the lake!

TIME TO JOIN/RENEW FOR 2019!

Your membership is critical to the CLC's work. Together with your support the CLC is working with the MN DNR, Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District, State legislators, lake property owners and volunteers to preserve Cedar Lake's wetlands/shoreline. This includes protecting and monitoring against the increasing threat of aquatic invasive species such as Eurasian milfoil and zebra mussels. This effort is important to everyone, to our enjoyment of the lake and to the fortification of property values. Annual membership levels are:

Loon - \$25

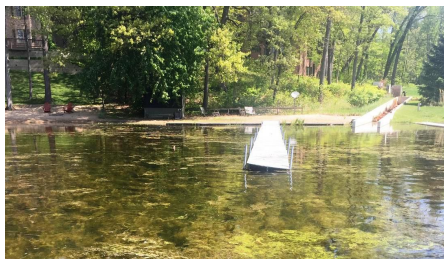
Heron - \$50 (\$25 dedicated to AIS Fund and tax deductible)

Eagle - \$100 (\$75 dedicated to AIS Fund and tax deductible)

All membership levels are appreciated! Contributions to the AIS Fund are accumulated and held in reserve so that, in the event invasive species are detected, we can respond quickly to attempt to eradicate them or prevent spreading. Please make your check payable to Cedar Lake Conservancy and mail to P. O. Box 152, Aitkin, MN 56431.



We want Cedar to look like this!



Not like this.....Eurasian milfoil



Or this.....zebra mussels

THE PRESIDENT’S PAGE

By Steve Haasl



“Springtime to me used to mean doing things - bicycling, fishing, canoeing. Now it seems more like the fulfillment of a divine promise.”

– Willem Lange

Tales from the Edge of the Woods

Ah, Spring.....or the promise thereof. Sitting here in late March, staring at the dwindling snow piles, it’s still a bit of a stretch to believe ice-out is in about a month. And yet, it will happen, right?

So, it’s time to gear up for the coming cabin season; To open the windows and air the place out, do a bit of spring cleaning, check my (mouse) trap lines for critters, see what the deer have left behind, charge up the boat batteries, stare at the dock and boat-lift parked in the front yard. Sadly, boats, bikes and kayaks are a ways out yet.

As the out-going president of CLC, this will be my final missive and is my chance to ruminate a bit on the past and look toward the future. I’ve had the great privilege to witness the sustained growth of CLC membership over the past several years, along with revitalized interest and concern for our marvelous resource. Our engaged group of volunteers has grown to encompass so many areas: water levels, water clarity, loon nesting, AIS prevention, boat launch monitoring, lakeshore management, County Road 28 clean up, involvement in state and local watershed organizations and possible acquisitions of undeveloped lakeshore--all for the betterment of Cedar Lake. Wow!

Socially, we’ve nurtured and grown events that have become much anticipated parts of summer: the annual Golf Outing, Paddle on the Mighty Mississippi, the 2nd Annual Fishing Contest, our Annual Picnic and our upcoming Annual Meeting in June. Something for everyone, and all made possible by and for our membership.

Speaking of membership, while we’re pleased to close out 2018 with almost 190 members, this represents less than half the property owners on the lake. Your personal outreach to your Cedar Lake friends and neighbors is a great way to grow our membership along with focus on continued outreach and growth by the Board.

And with that subtle segue, CLC has always had an engaged and active Board, and the current Board is no exception, giving their time, resources, ideas, efforts and voices for what they believe. I couldn’t be prouder of the group, what they’ve accomplished and have high expectations for the years ahead. I’ve been very fortunate to have served with them all. We’ve a few openings coming up in June; please consider joining this extraordinary group!

Normally, I would drone on at this point about AIS efforts and threats, but I’ll leave that to our experts.

Thank you all for your support of CLC. None of this would be possible without you. And thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving this association for the past few years. I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting in June. Don’t forget to send in your annual membership renewal and consider inviting a neighbor to the Annual Meeting.

See you on the lake!

CLC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Haasl, President

stevenhaasl1@gmail.com

612-386-4352

Rachel Barta, Director

Barta.rachel@yahoo.com

320-232-3177

Debbie Campbell, Treasurer

jackpine@aol.com

952-240-3772

Bob Karls, Director

bkarls58@yahoo.com

612-850-3811

David Mackaman, Director

mackaman33@gmail.com

515-314-8059

Mary Braton, Director

marybraton@yahoo.com

218-670-0497

Jon Campbell, Director

campbelljon807@gmail.com

612-849-3232

Katie Kraft, Secretary

kdgofish@aol.com

651-490-0854

Mark Miller, Director

markm.hirsh@gmail.com

763-486-7985



WATER QUALITY

By Bob Karls

We believe we have had success in preventing aquatic invasive species to date on Cedar Lake, and our efforts and vigilance will continue in 2019. We have done testing/monitoring and do not believe we have any AIS at this time. We have requested boat launch monitors on all Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holiday periods through Aitkin County again this year. This is approximately 660 hours. We pay for 10% of the cost up to 420 hours. We must pay for 50% of the cost for the additional 240 hours. In past years, and we anticipate this year again, we have been able to pay for a substantial amount of our match through in-kind services and costs that our Conservancy has committed and donated. The Board really appreciates all of our volunteers' commitment of time. We must keep up our efforts that have been successful to date.

With all of the snow and flooding down south we will likely have typical high water levels again this spring on the lake. Shoreline erosion has been a challenge for many over the past years. The variable water levels, which last year stayed right up to the ice ridge on our property last year, continued to nibble away on shoreline all around the lake. There are various alternatives to stabilizing shorelines. For some that has been riprap with rock, others have used buffer strips, and in my case wrangling some of the deadfalls found floating in the lake up along the shoreline.

One of the interesting techniques that is becoming more popular is the use of "willow wattle" and Coir logs. Coir logs are 12"-16" diameter logs or rolls made of densely packed coconut fiber within Coir fiber netting. They come in lengths of 15' to 25'. When staked against the shoreline, these logs provide protection from the waves. They will biodegrade over a period of about five to eight years. Plants can be installed within the log, in front of the log and behind it. By the time it biodegrades, these plants have stabilized the shoreline. Several different vendors carry Coir logs and erosion control fabrics. These are natural materials that form a buffer and stabilize the shoreline against wave erosion. Our neighbors on Clearwater Lake just west of Bay Lake have coordinated workshops in the last year or so on some of these efforts and the Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District is also a resource on these methods of shoreline stabilization and restoration. More information can be found online at these sites and others: <http://www.clearwaterlakemn.org/willow-wattle---diy.html>; and a MN DNR YouTube on the topic here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=71q6eH0WtkQ>

I will be trying to determine the interest in "willow wattle" or Coir logs for shoreline stabilization with our members at the Annual Meeting this June. If there is enough interest, we can discuss organizing a seminar on this with a hands-on installation later in the summer.

As you may recall from last fall's newsletter, we sampled for zebra mussel larvae which are called "veligers" during their anticipated peak period when they would be present in the water column in late June early July. None were found in the samples - which is great! This year we will be sampling again at multiple locations in Cedar and Little Cedar and depending upon water temperatures we may take samples two or three times to bracket the likely peak when they would be expected.



Reprinted from *Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates* March Newsletter. Read the entire newsletter on the CLC's website under the "Links" tab.

The best plants to protect your shore – A Case Study

A guide to the tried and true workhorse native plants for shoreline restoration and protection.

Examples from Big Sandy Lake and Crow Wing County.

<http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org/plants-to-protect-your-shore>

COMMITTEE NEWS

Communications

The 2019 Fishing Challenge started February 1. Check out the website to see what was caught later in that month – keep those pictures coming through Labor Day.

Thanks to those who have joined our email roster list! As everyone knows, postage rates increased earlier this year and by receiving all communications electronically, you help keep our expenses down.

Still lots of properties for sale around the lake. If a neighbor’s place changes hands, please let me know ASAP so the new owners can be informed on what’s happening!

Debbie Campbell
jackpine@aol.com
 952-240-3772

County Road 28 Semi-Annual Cleanup

Cedar Lake Conservancy members and friends will meet on Saturday, May 4 at 9 am for our semi-annual roadside cleanup along the edges of County Road 28. Everyone is invited to join in this effort. The staging point is Braton's "farm" at 33476 County Road 28. Any questions, call me otherwise we'll see you there!

Mary Braton
marybraton@yahoo.com
 218-670-0497

Shore Land

Finally! We get to be at the lake...something we dreamed of all winter. Your Cedar Lake depends on 25 couples searching once each year for aquatic invasive species. Thank you for your tireless search every year. Names and sections follow. If you are unable to search this year (about the first of August), please notify me ASAP.

We could use YOU as a substitute. After some brief training, stewards look for Eurasian milfoil, starry stonewort, zebra mussels, purple loosestrife and curly pondweed. Contact me, if interested.

Property owners, please inspect your own shore, boat lifts, trailers and swim platforms. We want to find these AIS in the early stage.

Susan Nielsen
cedarlakesunset@gmail.com
 612-247-4174

2019 Cedar Lake Shore Land Stewards

1. *Nelson, Pat and Ron (Spring and Grape Islands North)
2. Klinepier, Kelly and Ron
3. Priadka, Judy and Nick
4. Wickman, Marylynn and Terry
5. *Giesler, LeRoy (East Bay)
6. Braton, Mary
7. Priadka, Judy and Nick
8. Hippen, Allison and Denny
9. *Martin, Marty (Goat Island)
10. Mackaman, Dan
11. *Strand, David (Isle of View)
12. Martin, Les
13. Bogema, Rebecca and Bruce
14. Dahleen, Thea and Bob
15. Schoon, Barb and Herb
16. Jones, Barb and Stan
17. Moga, Marly and Bill
18. Seberg, Steve
19. Gurr, Tim
20. Kraft, Katie and Dar Heino
21. Patterson, Mike
22. Docken, Kathy and Warren
23. Rykhus, Heather and Bob
24. *Woods, Mindy (Hauges Island)
25. Jameson, Karn and Rob
26. Newton, Brian

Subs

Frank Pairisi

*Also searches the island after their name

TIDBITS

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| May 4 | County Road 28 Semi-annual Cleanup |
| May 11 | ACLARA Meeting |
| June 8 | ACLARA Meeting |
| June 22 | CLC Annual Meeting |
| June 22 – July 6 | CLC Online Store Open |
| June 15 | Aitkin County Lakes & Rivers Fair |
| June 29 | Battle of the Sexes Golf Tournament |
| July 10 – 13 | Aitkin County Fair |
| July 13 | ACLARA Meeting |
| July 27 | Paddle the Mississippi |
| July 30 – August 3 | Crow Wing County Fair |

**BUILDING OR REMODELING?
 KNOW THE CODE!**

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Aitkin County | 218-927-7342 |
| www.aitkinpz@co.aitkin.mn.us | |
| Crow Wing County | 218-824-1125 |
| www.crowwing.us | |

PADDLE THE MISSISSIPPI

Saturday
 July 27

Details later!

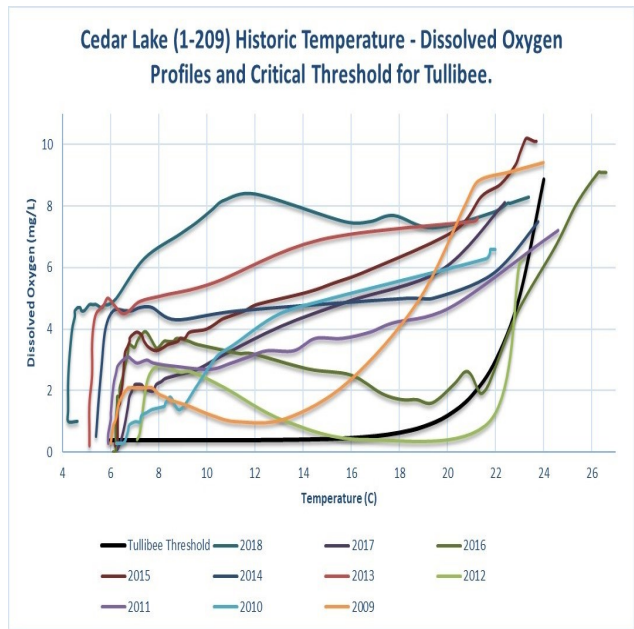
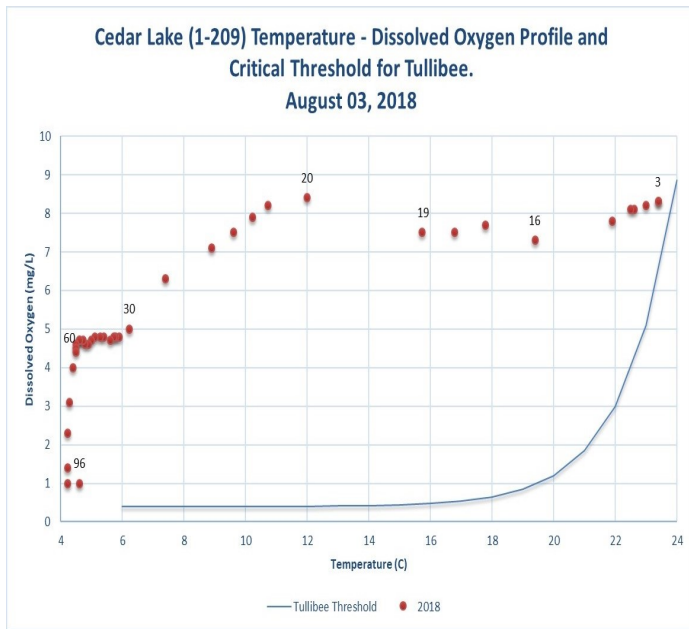
AITKIN AREA FISHERIES

By Greg Berg, Assistant Fisheries Supervisor

As you know, we monitor Dissolved Oxygen levels annually to measure the abundance of suitable habitat for Tullibee survival. Again, conditions were favorable (see chart below on left). Readings inside of the blue line (Critical Threshold for Tullibee) are good. The chart on the right shows all of the curves we've generated over the years. Most of the time conditions are pretty good with the exception of 2012 and 2016.

In terms of the fishery our next scheduled survey is in the summer of 2020. Each survey we evaluate the size structure and relative abundance of all species present in the lake. We also evaluate growth rates and continually evaluate stocking strategies for walleye and muskellunge, both of which are stocked on an annual basis. Every other survey (next 2023) we evaluate the muskellunge fishery.

To date we still have not heard of anyone catching channel catfish in the lake nor have we sampled them in any of our nets. We have not had any reports of any invasive species either; hopefully that continues.



2019 FISHING OPENERS

- May 11 Walleye, Sauger and Northern Pike
- May 25 Smallmouth and Largemouth Bass
- June 01 Muskie

SHARE TALL TALES WITH OTHER LAKE ASSOCIATIONS' MEMBERS

Rutgers is looking for golfers interested in participating in either senior (55+) men's or women's informal golf groups during the 2019 season. Rutgers' membership and regular attendance is not required. Men play Tuesday/Thursday mornings and women play on Tuesday mornings. Focus is more on the one that got away than competition!

For more information email: Golfatrutgers@gmail.com for men or vidaleklungness@hotmail.com for women.

2019 MEMBERSHIP DUES NOW PAYABLE

The annual membership levels are: \$25 Loon, \$50 Heron (\$25 to AIS Fund and tax deductible) and \$100 Eagle (\$75 to AIS Fund and tax deductible). Pay at, or mail in before, the June 22 annual meeting and your name will be entered into a drawing. Winners need not be present to win. Checks should be mailed to:

Cedar Lake Conservancy
P. O. Box 152
Aitkin, MN 56431

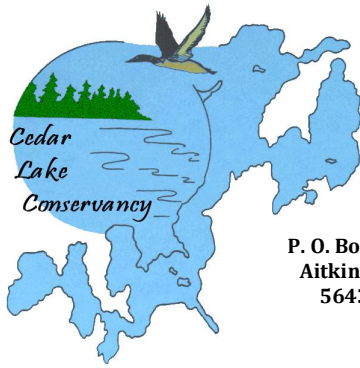
BATTLE OF THE SEXES GOLF TOURNAMENT

REMATCH!

Saturday, June 29 @ Cuyuna Rolling Hills
More details to come!

To sign up contact:

Mary Braton (marybraton@yahoo.com) or
Debbie Campbell (debraazmn@aol.com)



P. O. Box 152
Aitkin, MN
56431

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™

Find Us At:

<http://minnesotawaters.org/cedarlakeconservancy>
<facebook.com/cedarlakeconservancy>

JOIN/RENEW TODAY!

Preserving the quality of Cedar Lake is paramount to future generations enjoying the lake as we do now. Annual membership levels are \$25 Loon, \$50 Heron (\$25 to AIS Fund and tax deductible) and \$100 Eagle (\$75 to AIS Fund and tax deductible). Your check should be mailed with this application to:

Cedar Lake Conservancy
P. O. Box 152
Aitkin, MN 56431

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address (street, city, state, zip) _____

Lake Address (street, city, state, zip) _____

Location of Property on Lake (Name of Bay, Island, Point or Subdivision) _____

Preferred Telephone Number to Reach You _____ I/We are the property owners ___ Yes ___ No

I/We prefer to receive any information via email ___ Yes ___ No

Email Address - please print clearly _____

I/We are making an additional, tax-deductible donation of \$ _____ to the CLC Aquatic Invasive Species Fund.