

CLC ANNUAL PICNIC**Saturday, August 13****Details On Page 7****JOIN THE CLC OR RENEW
YOUR
MEMBERSHIP HERE:****[https://
cedarlakeconservancy.org/
membership/](https://cedarlakeconservancy.org/membership/)****100 Years From Today and Beyond**

Is there a cause that you feel compelled to support not just for your sake, but for the benefit of future generations, a cause that will endure beyond your lifetime, say 100 years from today and beyond?

Each of us have benefitted from the thoughtfulness and generosity of those who went before us. Will there come a time when it's your turn, when you have the privilege and opportunity to pay it forward? If so, when is the right time; what are the right causes and how should you go about it? And, how might Cedar Lake and the Cedar Lake Conservancy fit in with your thoughts as you consider these questions? Are the waters and shores of Cedar Lake something that you'd like to help protect in the long run for those who will follow? Hmmmm . . .

If so, there are a myriad of financial vehicles available such as charitable remainder trusts, donor-advised funds, restricted and unrestricted endowment bequests, life insurance policies and community foundation charitable funds, among others. Any of these vehicles could be used either to sustain the Conservancy's overall mission on an ongoing basis or to specifically fund important projects such as shoreline protection, invasive species mitigation, land acquisition, wildlife protection, water quality, boating safety, conservation easements and so on.

All of this is simply food for thought. But if you and your family are interested in exploring ideas along these lines perhaps now is the time to start the conversation with your financial advisor. CLC Board members Dave Mackaman and Jon Campbell together have years of financial service experience and also stand ready to listen and assist if they can possibly help tailor a plan to fulfill the lasting impact you want to leave on our world or at least our small part of the world here on Cedar Lake. If you would like to explore ideas, please reach out to Jon (campbelljon807@gmail.com) or Dave (mackaman33@gmail.com), and we'll see where the conversation goes.

Who We Are

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

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THE PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

Jon Campbell

Greetings! Summer is here and things are busy on Cedar Lake and for the CLC as well. We held a great annual meeting on Saturday, June 11th. Your Board had planned a solid meeting including presentations from Jeff Forester of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers and our own Kelsey Klucas giving an update on the "Get the Lead Out" program along with reports from all our committee chairs. A number of members renewed their memberships pushing us up to over 130 members. Thanks to all who joined us at the meeting and the Board for their helpful engagement and preparation. After the annual meeting, we had a successful business meeting electing Dan Yentes, Kelsey Klucas, Bob Karls and Steve Haasl to continue serving on the Board of Directors.

Enough rain with the threat for more resulted in the cancellation of the July 3rd boat parade. We were sorry to call it off but wanted everyone to be safe. Fingers crossed Mother Nature is more cooperative next year.

I continue to be excited about our efforts partnering with the Minnesota DNR to become a "Loon Friendly Lake." It is an exciting and worthwhile program that requires everyone help protect and maintain our habitat to support our State bird, the loon. You can read more about this program elsewhere in this newsletter. "Get the Lead Out" is an important component in protecting our loons. We will be collecting lead fishing gear at our Annual Picnic on August 13th.

With summer here, boat safety is on the top of my mind. As the Minnesota DNR reminds us, "recreational boating has an etiquette—the customary code of accepted behaviors on and around the water. Boating is about safe behavior, as well as what is socially acceptable." The DNR website has a list of 10 basics to help all of us navigate our lake with ease while not creating a stir among fellow users. A few of my favorites from that list include "Own your Wake; Keep the tunes in check; Pack in. Pack out; Slow your role; Be polite-give a wave". Speaking of "Owning your wake", the CLC purchased "Slow-No Wake" signs, and they have been installed on the narrows between the big lake and Little Cedar. This applies to both PWCs and boats. Let's all be good role models with our personal boating etiquette this season.

Thanks to all who helped on the road cleanup in May and especially Mary Braton for organizing twice each year. It was the best turnout ever, and we had our section of County Road 28 cleaned up in less than an hour—wow—that was a record fast job. I also want to thank all those that donated food or money for the Aitkin Area Food Shelf at the annual meeting. Speaking of volunteering, we have plenty of opportunities: Kelly Klinepier needs some Shoreline Stewards to help look for aquatic invasive species and John Kohner will be building out the need for the "Loon Friendly Lake". You can reach out to Kelly at kklinepier@gmail.com and John at kohnerj@gmail.com to join their important effort.

I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Picnic on August 13th on Little Cedar. We hope many of you will join us; don't forget to bring your lead fishing gear to help protect our loons. Have a great and safe summer!

In Memoriam

Mary Lynn
Wickman



CONSERVATION

Bob Karls
Kelsey Klucas

This spring we wrote to you to introduce the Minnesota Loon Restoration Project. We write to remind you of these programs and our related efforts, as protecting our loons and their habitat has long been a priority of the CLC and our membership. These programs and priorities will be largely informing our efforts over this summer and into the years to come.

Following the BP Deep Horizon Oil Spill in 2010 and the subsequent 2016 \$8.1 billion settlement, Minnesota was granted \$7.5 million to help protect and restore the common loons in Minnesota. Minnesota has granted MN DNR and MPCA \$4.8M and \$1.27M respectively to drive programs to protect loon habitat and enhance loon productivity. During the CLC Annual Meeting on June 11, we discussed the objectives of these programs.

MN DNR: Minnesota Loon Restoration Project

There are 4 objectives to the MN DNR's Minnesota Loon Restoration Project. Many of these align closely with activities that the CLC was already doing before the project began. This project helps provide CLC with the structure and support to continue these activities and expand our efforts to create long term strategies to help protect our loons. The objectives of the program are:

- Objective 1: Acquire loon habitat.
- Objective 2: Augment natural nesting with artificial nesting platforms (ANPs) in targeted locations.
- Objective 3: Promote stewardship of lakes with loons by engaging community members in the Loon-Friendly Lake Registry Program.
- Objective 4: Participate in joint monitoring of Project implementation and outcomes.

Get the Lead Out!

MPCA has had programs since the early 2000s to help reduce the lead tackle in our tackle boxes. This program was initially launched after a loon was found freezing in a lake and had failed to migrate. Upon inspection, this loon was suffering from lead poisoning, and later died. As a precious Minnesota resource, something had to be done. Some of the characteristics of the current project are:

- Educational program to protect and restore the population of loons by reducing their exposure to lead-based fishing tackle
- Outreach effort will run from 2020 to 2023
- Program holds tackle exchanges and distributes sample packets of lead-free tackle.

What We're Doing

As mentioned, the CLC and friends of Cedar Lake have long been working to protect our loons and their habitats. Here are some of the activities that are currently underway:

- Working with DNR to develop Loon-Friendly Lake Plan. Lake resident, and newly minted Loon Liaison, John Kohner is tackling the details and working with DNR to build out this plan. Thank you, John!
- We're working with MPCA to educate and collect lead fishing tackle. At our Annual Meeting on June 11th we had a successful lead tackle collection and gave out all of our lead-free replacements. There will be more lead-tackle exchange offers at upcoming events. Keep your eyes open for specifics on various competitions to help reduce the lead tackle being used on Cedar Lake.
- Watching our loons. We have been watching our loons since 1980. Efforts are underway to begin this year's count. Thank you to Frank Simon and his team! If you have interest in participating, please reach out to Frank at frank@optimum-ts.com
- Educating and protecting. It's up to each of us to help protect our loons. We do our greatest part in educating and demonstrating ways to keep our loons safe. Thank you to everyone for doing their part!

Conservation continued...

We hope each of you feels empowered to be a "loon protector" yourself. While these projects are underway, nothing makes as big of an impact as each of you do every day. We are lucky to have a robust loon population on Cedar Lake and we all have each other to thank. So, THANK YOU, and if you have any questions or other ideas for ways we can continue to protect our loons we would love to hear from you!

Did you know...

- Post mortem examinations in Minnesota and other northern states have determined that one-in-five loons die of lead poisoning from fishing tackle. This is a large percentage of deaths that are preventable.
- Loons have gizzards! They swallow fish whole and to help in their digestion, they have gizzards filled with pebbles that grind their food up into smaller pieces. Loons often mistake split-shots for pebbles. Just one split-shot is enough to fatally poison a loon.
- Juvenile loons can spend up to four years down in the Gulf of Mexico before returning to Minnesota as adults. This migration pattern is part of what made the BP oil spill so damaging to the Minnesota loon population and why our state received a portion of the settlement.
- Each male loon has their own special yodel. If you're lucky enough to have a loon reside in your bay, pay attention to their call next time you hear them. You may be able to recognize them as the summer carries on.



Xray shows a lead jig head lodged in a loon's gizzard



Lead jig head



Lead sinkers

HOOK, LINE & SINKER

Bet everyone's caught one of these off the dock! Pumpkinseeds favor clear water 3-6' in areas with lots of vegetation. They share their habitats almost always with bluegill, rock bass, largemouth bass and many species of minnows. It is a medium-sized fish similar to a bluegill and much smaller than a largemouth bass. They typically grow to 6-8" long and weight 6-10 ounces. A whopper can reach 9" and gets near one pound. The state angling record is 1.6 lbs. They live for five to six years. Rarely do they make it to eight years.



Pumpkinseed feed on a small amount of vegetation, aquatic (water) insect larvae, terrestrial (land) insect adults, young snails and clams, leeches and larval fishes. What eats them? Humans, of course, as it is one of Minnesota's favorite panfish. Predatory fish that share their habitat also favor young and small adult pumpkinseeds. These include walleye, largemouth bass, yellow perch, northern pike, muskies and even other sunfish.

Pumpkinseed start to spawn early to mid June in the north when the water temp rises to about 68 degrees and continue spawning into August. The male builds a nest (situated in the shallower, weedy bays of the lake) by clearing a depression in the lake to expose gravel and aggressively defends it and the territory around it against all other male pumpkinseeds. The female lays all her ripe eggs and may produce 4,000-7,000 eggs during the season depending on her size. The female then leaves the nest and the caretaking is done by the male! The embryos hatch quickly in two to three days and spend another five days or so in the nest as "wrigglers". When they swim up to feed, they have fully developed mouths and partially developed fins.

SHORE LAND

Kelly Klinepier

Mosquito season has officially arrived, a sure sign that summer is here at last! With temperatures warming we will all take pleasure in our beautiful lake... splashing in the water, fishing in our boats or enjoying the view from our docks. Wherever and however you enjoy Cedar Lake, be on the lookout for aquatic invasive species (AIS). A good website to help identify AIS is: www.maisrc.umn.edu

No one knows your lakeshore as well as you do so please keep a watchful eye over it this summer. Some of the AIS we are watching for include eurasian milfoil, starry stonewort, zebra mussels, purple loosestrife, curly pondweed and spring water flea. In addition to the shore, don't forget to check your boat lifts, trailers and swim platforms as well. If you do spot anything suspicious, take pictures out of the water, in good lighting, note the location and keep a sample in a zip lock bag. Call, text or email pictures to Tim Plude: 218-203-4354 or timothy.plude@state.mn.us

Finally, a special thank you to our 30 shore land searchers. The work you do is important! Remember to contact me if you are unable to do your search this August. Plus, we need new AIS searchers. If you're interested in volunteering an hour this summer, please call or email me: 763-350-3149, kklinepier@gmail.com

LOON WATCH

Frank Simon

We saw the first loon on Little Cedar on April 24. There was just enough open water where the creek from Ringhand Lake enters Cedar to keep him happy. Ice out on Little Cedar was April 29. On May 4 our bay was visited by a group of 23 loons waiting for lakes further north to open up. It was truly a magnificent site.

The first loon count was done on June 4. We surveyed about half the lake before our boat quit on us. We did see 15 loons and found one occupied nest. At the CLC's annual meeting members reported locations of several more nests.

If you find a dead loon (not too decayed), bag it, freeze it and notify either the DNR or me.



Happy Independence Day!

TenEyck grandchildren:
Henry, Ella, Charlie and Willow

SOCIAL

**Steve Haasl
Mark Miller**

Finally, summer! After a couple of quiet Covid years, we're delighted to be back in person with events for all.

The Annual Fishing Contest continues through Labor Day. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Bass, Crappie, Dogfish, Muskie, Northern, Sun Fish and Walleye.

The Spring County Road 28 Roadside Cleanup had a big turnout and mercifully not much trash. September 24th will be the Fall Cleanup. Many hands make light work. Watch for more information.

We held the Annual Meeting on June 11th, with nearly 60 members in attendance. Speakers covered a range of issues pertinent to the lake and owners. Thank you to all who attended and contributed. It appeared a good time was had by all.

Finally, the annual CLC Picnic returns on Saturday, August 13th. Our hosts this year are Sue and Pete Rowland. It will be your chance to visit Little Cedar! We're delighted to be able to hold the picnic in person again. Please check the CLC's Facebook pages in the event of questionable weather conditions.

Of course, there are a plethora of events occurring around the area. Check out <https://cedarlakeconservancy.org/calendar/> for other opportunities.

See you on the lake!



Spring Roadside Cleanup Crew

LtoR Back: Jerry Braton, Steve Haasl, Jim Campbell, Rob Jameson, Joan Autry, Bob Karls, Mark Miller, Jon Campbell, Paul TenEyck, Don Carlisle
LtoR Front: Kim Tillmann, Mary Braton, Cathy TenEyck, Karn Jameson, Linda Carlisle
Not Pictured: Debbie Campbell, John McIntosh

MEMBERSHIP

Dave Mackaman

"May you recall the transformative power of wilderness and remember that it survives now only through vigilance."

- Terry Tempest Williams

The time is now to renew your Cedar Lake Conservancy membership for 2022. Your membership support is essential to our mission of protecting, preserving, and enhancing the quality and the environment in and around Cedar Lake. Additionally, our membership totals help amplify our voice when we ask for the vital service or support from county and state agencies. Every membership counts! If you've already renewed, thank you! If you haven't yet renewed, now is the time! If you're not sure, contact Dan Yentes, Treasurer at dyentes@gmail.com Annual dues are \$25, and the membership level options are found on the last page of the newsletter. You can join or renew by mailing a check to Cedar Lake Conservancy, P.O. Box 152, Aitkin, MN 56431. Or, easier yet, renew online with a few clicks at <https://cedarlakeconservancy.org/membership/>



- August 02-06 Crow Wing County Fair
- August 06 Aitkin Annual Run to the Dump
- August 06 Aitkin Riverboat Days
- August 13 CLC Annual Picnic
- August 12-13 Deerwood Summerfest
- August 25 -
- September 05 MN State Fair
- September 05 CLC Fishing Challenge Ends
- September 10 ACLARA Meeting
- September 24 County Road 28 Cleanup
- October 08 ACLARA Meeting

IN APPRECIATION

DEAR CEDAR LAKE CONSERVANCY MEMBERS,
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY. THIS IS A TOUGH TIME FOR A LOT OF PEOPLE, AND IT REALLY HELPS WHEN GOOD PEOPLE OPEN THEIR HEARTS (AND WALLETS)!

YOUR UNSELFISH GIFTS OF FRESH FOOD AND MONEY REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE. AGAIN, THANKS SO MUCH!

AITKIN AREA FOOD SHELF VOLUNTEERS



Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to qualified charities. Join the AmazonSmile Community and select Cedar Lake Conservancy. Create a bookmark in your browser: smile.amazon.com

CLC
ANNUAL PICNIC ON LITTLE CEDAR
SATURDAY, AUGUST 13
2-5 pm

YOUR HOSTS:

Pete and Sue Rowland
22631 Cedar Shores Drive



DIRECTIONS BY CAR

Take Highway 210 towards Deerwood. Turn south (left) on Crow Wing County Road 111. Go approximately two miles to Cedar Shores Drive (dirt road), turn left and follow signs.

OR

Crow Wing County Road 10 towards Deerwood. Turn right on Crow Wing County Road 111. Go approximately two miles to Cedar Shores Drive (dirt road), continue straight and follow signs.

DIRECTIONS BY BOAT

Located on the southwest end of Little Cedar. Once through the narrows, continue northwest then southwest. Limited dockage.

QUESTIONABLE WEATHER

Please check the CLC's Facebook pages for any updates.

RSVP
BY AUGUST 1

Steve Haasl
stevenhaas1@gmail.com

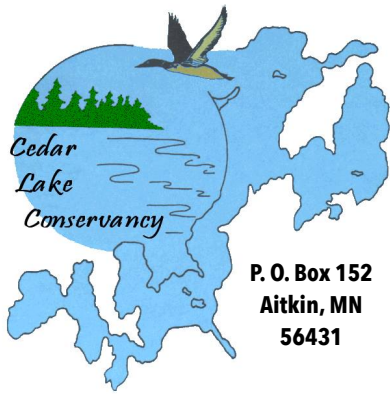
Mark Miller
markm.hirsh@gmail.com

FUN, FUN, FUN!

FOOD, SODA AND WATER
PROVIDED BY THE CLC!

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE!

SEE YOU THERE!



P. O. Box 152
Aitkin, MN
56431

**BE A GOOD
STEWARD**
Clean. Drain. Dry.

JOIN/RENEW TODAY!

Basic	\$ 25	\$25 dues
Loon	\$ 50	\$25 dues plus \$25 tax-deductible donation to AIS Fund
Heron	\$ 75	\$25 dues plus \$50 tax-deductible donation to AIS Fund
Eagle	\$100	\$25 dues plus \$75 tax-deductible donation to AIS Fund

Your check and this form should be mailed to Cedar Lake Conservancy, P. O. Box 152, Aitkin, MN 56431.

Name(s)

Mailing Address

Lake Address

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.