



Lake Edward Lines

Newsletter of the Lake Edward Conservation Club

Shore Soil Contents:

100% Sand

Weed Line:

14 to 17 feet

Maximum Depth:

75 feet

Elevation:

1,203 feet

Water Clarity:

12 feet

Public Landing:

Southwest shore

Width:

2 miles

Length:

3 miles

KEEP LAKE EDWARD HEALTHY



LECC WEBSITE ADDRESS

<http://edwardlake.wordpress.com>

Lake Edward DNR ID # 18030500

Size:

2,574 acres

Miles of Shoreline:

9.4 miles

% of water less than 15 feet:

59%

Acres less than 15 feet:

1,199 acres

Age:

8,000 years old

Boat Ramp:

Concrete

What can loons tell us about a lake ?

Loons are good indicators of water quality because they need clean, clear water to observe and catch food. They are sensitive to disturbance and lakeshore development and indicators of the effects of contaminants like mercury and lead in the environment. Plus they are enjoyable for Minnesotans to watch!

Email addresses

The numbers fluctuate a little but about 86% of the population in the US is on-line. Just slightly more than 90% of that group has an email address. Our population on Lake Edward approaches 287 property owners. We have email addresses for roughly 60% of the folks on the lake. If we accept the numbers, there are still a good chunk of us that have an email address but haven't provided them to the LECC. It would help our bottom line if we could include you on our email list and drop you from our more expensive U.S. mail list. Your email address is safe with our organization, we have never used the list for anything but communicating with our members.



President's Report

Communication with one another is key for our lake association to function well. We have about 170 email addresses to share occasional bits of information regarding Lake Edward. We will not sell or share your contact information en masse to direct marketers, etc.

This newsletter and directory are key components of our communication with the Lake Edward neighborhood. We use part of your dues to fund the newsletter, the directory and other activities. We plan to publish a revised directory next spring. If the contact information for you property has changed in the past few years, please share your current information (names, mailing address, lake address, email & phone numbers) with us now so Lori Nelson can begin work on revisions. Please email revised contact info to LoriNelson@brainerd.net or Nelson, 25389 Blue Bonnet Road, Merrifield, MN 56465.

Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) was discussed at the August 11 board meeting. Some important concepts were communicated because of the meeting. Tim Plude from the DNR and Ron Day of Central MN Aquatics, Inc discussed details of the proposed plan to treat CLP in spring 2019. In 2018, Ron Day found some of the CLP to be located somewhat deeper in Lake Edward than in other nearby lakes, perhaps owing to clearer water in Lake Edward. Because some CLP is located deeper, Tim Plude suggested that we might use a granular rather than the liquid form of the Aquathol-K chemical that Ron Duy normally applies. The granular form would drop down to the bottom closer to the CLP and take longer to dissolve and act on the CLP than would a surface-applied liquid form of Aquathol-K that is intended for shallower applications. Mr. Duy will need to revise his cost estimate for the granular form. We're just trying to get our money's worth for the maximum effective treatment.

Bingo and Pot Luck is Saturday, September 15th at 5 p.m. at Cozy Bay Resort. Meet some neighbors. Bring a dish to share and an unwrapped "white elephant" treasure for bingo prizes.

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Diary of our newest Lake Edward Resident

Finally, I'm out of that little egg. Was it ever cramped in there. Mom and Dad both kept me warm until I hatched. It seemed like I was in that egg forever but it was really only 28 to 30 days. I'm no fool, once I hatched I stayed close to the nest until I could swim. There's too many things out there that are looking for a cute little appetizer like me. I was ready for a swim in a few days of hatching. I'm a fast learner so I was swimming in less than two weeks, it wasn't pretty but I was able to bob around and pick up the task quickly. I preferred to hitch a ride on my parent's back to keep warm and avoid things that look to me as their menu for the day. Until I become a good swimmer, I'll let mom and dad take turns giving me rides on their back.

I have no brothers or sisters which is unusual because there most often are two eggs laid each spring. My parents didn't tell me but it's possible a turtle, skunk, raccoon, fox, snapping turtle, or northern pike got him or her.

I was having a hard time walking around the nest but dad said it's because I'm designed to be a swimmer with feet far back in my body so I can cut through the water. That's good for swimming but not for being on land so I have to be careful not to get myself into a predicament and be too far away from water. I can't take off from land, I can only take off from the water

I see Don Rother peeking in on me once in a while. I hear Don is the volunteer loon observer for the DNR on the lake. He thinks I'm the only youngster on the lake this year, at least I'm the only one he's spotted this year.

It's been about three weeks so I started making short dives. Mom and dad say when they winter in the Gulf of Mexico they can dive as deep as 250 feet. When I asked them how they can do that they told me the bones of a loon are different than other birds. Our bones are solid and most bird bones are hollow. I was wondering how we can see when diving so far down but mom says loon's have red in our eyes and it helps to see under water.

I was tired of eating the food mom and dad caught. Luckily, I'm on solids now since I'm just turned six weeks old. I'm almost good enough to dive to the deepest part of the lake and am starting to forage for food on my own. I can eat fish now, all kinds of fish. I don't have a favorite, but panfish, perch, ciscoes, suckers, trout, bullheads, smelt and minnows all work for me. I'll even eat frogs, leeches, crayfish, mollusks, salamanders, aphids, and insects if they come my way. I don't know how they taste because I swallow them whole.

I won't be able to fly until I'm two months old, which should put me in the air by the fourth of July. Mom and dad said I have to think ahead when I fly because for me to get off the ground I need a 100 to 600 foot runway. Rule of thumb, never land in a lake less than 10 acres. Lake Edwards' 2500 acres gives me plenty of room to practice my take offs and landings. If I get stuck in a small pond while touring the area I could be in big trouble and not ever get airborne. That would be the end of me. But once up in the wide blue yonder there is no speed limit and I can put the pedal to the metal - all the way up to 75 miles an hour. I will be able to travel up to 600 a miles a day come fall.

Mom and dad will leave me on my own after about 12 weeks when they start to plan their winter vacation in warmer climates. In late fall they will get together with their other snowbird friends and head south, most likely to the Gulf of Mexico or the Atlantic coast. Me and my other first year friends will hook up and follow them south a few weeks later.

Say hello to my mom and dad next spring. They will be flying back to the nest I was hatched in. They will continue to raise their young there each year as long as someone doesn't disturb the area that I've called home this summer. Don't look for me on Lake Edward for several years, I'm going to stay down for a while and will see you all in a few years when I am ready to become a parent. As a matter of fact when I get to be about six Don Rother may just be sighting my offspring on Lake Edward.

I'm a Lake Edward resident and proud of it. I plan to spend the next 30 summers here if I can establish a territory on Lake Edward. It would be a nice place to live. If I can't establish a territory on Lake Edward I'll check Zillow and find a lake close by that has a 30 year lease. Thirty years is about the extent of my time here. We loons like familiarity.

Busy as a Beaver

The county continues to pay for removal of beavers from Ditch 13. So far this year the trapper removed 6 beavers. They are very industrious rodents so beaver removal will continue to be an ongoing task.

When European colonists arrived in North America they found a land that had a beaver population of as many as 400 million beavers. Beginning in the 1600s, fur trappers scoured the land and shipped millions of pelts to Europe to be made into fashionable hats. These days, as many as 15 million beavers swim North America's waterways. That may seem like a huge drop from the 400 million in the 1600's to the 15 million currently, but the 15 million is a 150 fold increase from the low point in beaver population at the start of the 20th century.

Too Good of a Deal to Pass Up So I'll Say it One More Time

Our organization benefits because some of you took the opportunity to designate the LECC when making a purchase on the Amazon Smile web site. The opportunity continues to be available for anyone making a purchase through Amazon. Exact same item, exact same price, exact same delivery options, everything is exactly the same.



But with Amazon Smile a donation is sent to the LECC. It's a simple process so consider using the Smile site when making a purchase and help out the LECC. When you want to purchase an item on-line go to the Amazon Smile site make your purchase and designate the LECC as

the recipient. That's all there is to it. Whether you have been using the Amazon site or the Amazon Prime site, it all works. Thanks for your support the Lake Edward Conservation Club.



What is it? Do You Know What This Is?

Hint: it is located at the boat ramp.

Answer found on a following page

The LECC is a 501c(3) nonprofit if anyone wants to donate to help support our projects. Donations would be appreciated and may be tax deductible.

Dues come to five cents a day, 38 cents a week, and just \$1.66 a month. Doesn't seem like much does it? It's not when you consider what a nickel can get you. Let's try to up our membership. Become a member and be part of the group. There is still plenty of room in the pie to join the LECC if you haven't done so yet. It would be nice to see the pie more evenly divided.

LECC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

To renew current memberships or to become a first time member please send a check for \$20.00 to: LECC P.O. Box 134 Merrifield MN 56465-0134. Your membership dues may be tax deductible as are any donations to the organization.

Name _____

Lake Edward Address _____

New member

Lake Edward Phone # _____

Renewal

Other address, if applicable _____

E-mail address _____

Above is a change in contact information.

I would be interested in a digital copy of the LECC news, sent by email, rather than a mailed copy.

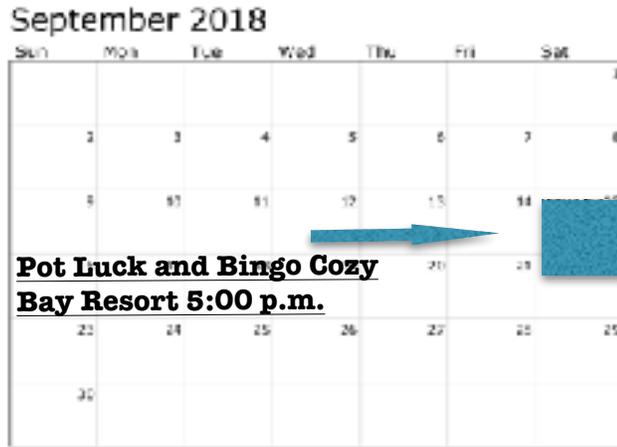
Thanks to all who support the LECC through dues, donations, and volunteering!



What Is It?

The picture on page 3 is of the gauge that we use to measure the weekly elevation of the lake. Read the number from the gauge nearest the shore. For example a recent reading was 1.24. To get the lake elevation, add 1.24 to 1206.12 to get a lake elevation of 1207.36. That example elevation is just above the ordinary high water (OHW) elevation of 1207.3. The OHW also happens to be the elevation of the top of the little concrete "wings" in the outflow area of the culvert under CR 4, just behind Andy's Restaurant. A less scientific method is to mark a leg of your dock and look again after a rainfall or after a dry week to see how much the water level went up or down..

September 15
LECC Pot Luck and Bingo at Cozy Bay Resort at 5:00



Everyone's a winner

Mark your calendars for the 2018 LECC Pot Luck and Bingo. Come one come all. Bring a friend or two and join the fun. Check your calendar and "X" off Saturday, September 15th. Bingo starts at 5:00 at Cozy Bay. Join us for bingo, food, conversation, and fun. Bring a food item to share and a white elephant gift to add to the prize table. This is a very kid friendly event. See you there.

Word Scramble

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to Lake Edward found in this newsletter



t p o



u k c l



d a n



o n b i g

June Meeting Recap

The weather was perfect for being inside on Saturday, June 16th, with a hard rain coming down. That worked in our favor since Jim Guidera was able to stop by and introduce himself to our members. Jim is the conservation officer in our area and since he couldn't be on the water patrolling because of the weather, he stopped since he saw all the signs in the area advertising our annual meeting. Another guest was Mike Knapp. Mike introduced himself as the one that doesn't require a gun in his job as opposed to Jim who does.

Jim patrols 650 square miles and has been in law enforcement for 20 years. He feels his main task is education. However, if the situation calls for it he will issue a ticket to folks for non compliance of laws. Giving a ticket isn't pleasant part of his job but at times necessary if the situation warrants it. He views giving a ticket as a lesson.

Life jackets simply save lives and he faithfully monitors life jacket usage. Interrupting boaters on the water while recreating to check how many life jackets and if life jackets are accessible is inconvenient for the boater, but far more pleasant than notifying next of kin of a fatality that occurred on the water. The condition of a life jacket is something he focuses on. Rips, tears, fading all are conditions where the jacket may need replacing. Rescue is far more pleasant than a recovery operation. More often than not, collisions and accidents involve the use of alcohol. If you are wondering if he has ticketed anyone on Edward, the answer is yes. Driving while impaired comes to mind. The bulk of his day is responding to calls and monitoring the lakes in the region.

Mike Knapp has been assigned to the Brainerd office of the DNR since 2001. His title is Assistant Fisheries Supervisor. He is a biologist by trade and unlike Jim, works behind the scenes and rarely has contact with the public. He described his job as the one who deals with fins, not fur or feathers.

Mike reviewed the cormorant situation on the island in Pelican Lake. A cormorant is an opportunistic bird. A control project began two years ago and a permit to reduce the number of the birds was granted on the basis of the threat cormorants pose to the vegetation on the island. This year 454 nesting birds were removed, less than the number removed last year. The late Spring may have had something to do with fewer nesting birds this year. The future of the program is unsure since it is up to the owner of Breezy Point who

owns the island, M Spizzos, if he wants to continue. The out of pocket for Spizzos is significant, but lake associations on Edward, Mission and Pelican did contribute to the cost of hiring sharpshooter to remove the birds. This may be a future expense for surrounding lake associations if the program continues.

Other comments Mike made:

Lake Edward continues to be stocked by the DNR with 2 million fry annually. The bass population on Lake Edward is excellent. There are more bass in the lake than other lakes of similar size. The next fish survey on Lake Edward will be in 2020. The DNR folks that conduct the survey do not mind if anyone on the lake wants to watch the procedure.

Egg collection was also a topic Mike reviewed. The collection site is on the Pine River. Eggs are collected for a week, usually in mid April, and then stocked within a day of hatching. The day begins about 9:30 and visitors are welcome. It is a labor intensive project and was even more harried this year with the late Spring. The fry stocked in Edward came from Pine River hatchery located on Driftwood Lane. Visitors are welcome. An ideal place to dump the fry is in deep water. The reason being more plankton, a food source, is present in deep water and fewer predators that like to eat fry, like panfish, hang out in the shallower waters of the lake.

Crappies are very cyclical in size. Each year's size is pretty uniform and progresses uniformly as they age.

One interesting observation Mike made about the fisheries on Lake Edward concerned bass. Mike commented a lake the size of Edward would be considered a good bass lake if the annual fish survey results indicated a bass rate of 100 bass an hour. The survey on Lake Edward resulted in 200 bass an hour indicating the lake should be a good bass lake for a number of years.

Both Jim and Mike made the point if you see something that looks illegal, it probably is and you should call the TIP line to report it.

Turn in Poachers (TIP*)

Both Mike Knapp and Jim Guida urged anyone to call the TIP line if they see anything that looks illegal. Their comment, "If it looks illegal it probably is". To report a violation, call 800-652-9093, 24 hours a day, or key in #TIP on your cell phone. If the violation is not time sensitive, use the online form found on the Minnesota DNR web site. To remain anonymous, you must contact TIP by phone. Reward amounts of up to \$1,000 that lead to an arrest is determined by the seriousness of the crime reported.

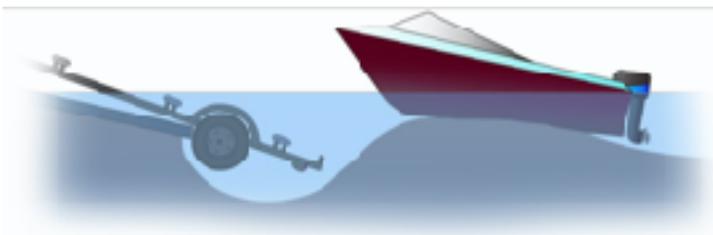
* Turn in Poachers, TIP Inc. is a private, non-profit organization of conservations concerned about poaching problems. TIP Inc, provides all reward monies for the program. DNR enforcement cooperates with the TIP program, which was started to encourage the Public to report natural resources violations. Since it's inception in 1981, this program has been a deterrent to the senseless waste of wildlife.



Pass on the Gas Instead Winch by the Inch

The ramp at the boat landing was replaced this year due to the damage done by folks power loading their boat. We were very fortunate a replacement could be accomplished so quickly. In the future if a repair or replacement needs to be made we may not be so lucky to be early in the schedule. The DNR had a busy year repairing ramps damaged by power loading. We lucked out, we could have been last on the schedule. Let's be proactive and use the trailer winch, not the engine to load the boat. Power loading creates a hole which damages the ramp, which leads to more repair, which puts us on a repair schedule, which takes time,

which restricts our use of the ramp, which prevents us from access to activities, which disrupts our regular routine, which is a hassle for all. Pass on the gas instead winch by the inch.



AIS Boat Ramp Inspectors

Lake Edward has been allocated 520 hours of monitoring at the boat ramp this year. The hours are up from last year. Inspection is critical to the spread of invasive species. According to Tim Plude, water craft inspection is just as much about finding AIS on boats as it is in educating and changing behavior. We are at a 90% compliance rate as of this Spring. Private lakeshore owners maybe responsible for spreading zebra mussels more than boat transportation. Contaminated equipment entering the lake is the number one culprit.

We hear a lot about zebra mussels, curly leaf pond weed, Starry Stonewort, and Eurasian Milfoil but there are hundreds more non-native species on the AIS list in the United States. Inspectors monitoring boat ramps are helping prevent more non native plants from getting a foot hold in our lake. We are our own worst enemy when it comes to spreading AIS to lakes. The spread of AIS by anything other than man is statistically very small and hardly a factor. The biggest deterrent to the spread of AIS is to quarantine any used equipment before it enters the lake and then scrape off any foreign substance you see on the piece of equipment before putting it in the lake.

Invasive species respond differently to lakes. The make up of the lake can be a huge factor in how much damage particular species can do to a lake so it is impossible to predict how the recent identification of some AIS plants will ultimately affect Lake Edward. A healthy lake maybe the best weapon against the AIS battle. There are 32 native species of plants in our lake. With a healthy lake and robust crop of native plants competing for space, the native plants may crowd out some invasive plants.

Research is trying to find solutions to eliminate or control these plants but the best option is be vigilant and don't transport segments of plants and report suspicious plants. Any solution to this problem is many years down the road. Don't hold your breath.

Parade on the 4th



The staging area was near the Cozy Bay Resort.



The clouds parted and the sun peeked out and our leader Jerry set off at 11:00.



A line of 30 boats trailed off into the distance.



Spectators watched from boats, docks and decks.



The boats were elaborately decorated for the occasion.



The line of boats stretched as far as the eye could see.



Late comers sped up to join the group.



By noon the parade was over and the lake back to normal



The Enemy

Some kids found this zebra mussel near the south side of the lake. As you can see it hardly is more than an inch long. Exhaustive research is being done to find ways to combat this creature. Some lakes are more suitable than others. Clues to their survival being studied are P.H. in the water, calcium, and chlorine. Until another theory gets thrown in the mix research will focus on these three factors. The zebra mussel has no known predators in this country. Bluegill and drum, sheepshead, or fish with bony plates have been know to eat them but in such small numbers they don't make a dent in the population.

Identification

If you happen to see a plant that you are not sure is native to our lake, Tim Plude encourages you to take a picture of it and send it to him to identify. His email is timothy.plude@state.mn.us. Again, Tim is the Invasive Species Specialist for the DNR.



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