



# 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:

2,032 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

## Lake Edward Annual Fall Pot Luck and Bingo

The fourth annual Lake Edward Potluck and Bingo event will be held at Cozy Bay Resort at 5:00 on Sunday, September 11. Come and join your fellow Lake Edward neighbors for a fun and social evening. Please bring a pot luck item to share, an item to use for a bingo prize and guests if you like. Kids and grandkids welcome.

## Membership Update

It's still not too late to renew or join the LECC for the 2016 season. Our membership totals are pretty consistent with last year's numbers but there still is room for you. Our goal is to increase membership each year. If you forgot to renew, fill out the form on the next page and send it in. If you are a member you can help us out by checking with your neighbors to see if they are members. There are many issues our lake faces and with more resources we are able to address those issues. There are many ways to support our lake community and being a member of the LECC is an important one.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We have email addresses for about 117 families on Lake Edward. We use the email list to share information on Ditch 13, as a lost-and-found for wind-blown items, and to share current lake events. If you'd like to be added to the list, text your email address to Lori Nelson at 651-246-7292 or email it to [LoriNelson@brainerd.net](mailto:LoriNelson@brainerd.net).

We'd like to treat 15 acres of curly leaf pondweed (CLP), an AIS, in Spring 2017. We have received a proposal for about \$6,800. To help with that cost, we can apply for a \$1,000 MDNR grant in 2017, but there is no guarantee we'll get it. We can probably afford to use a small amount of funding from our emergency reserve funds. So we need to ask you now for a donation to cover the remaining \$3,000 to \$4,000 cost. LECC is a non-profit organization, so your donation may be deductible on your income taxes. The address is LECC, PO Box 134, Merrifield, MN 56465.

In July, Ralph Morgan collected our sample to test for zebra mussel veligers. Our sample last year showed we had no zebra mussels in the lake. At the boat ramp, we continue to have a helper during busy times to help make sure boaters thoroughly drain, dry and clean AIS from boats & trailers. Jake Hradsky, Crow Wing County's AIS Coordinator, gave an excellent demonstration of the process at our June meeting. We'll remain vigilant on keeping Ditch 13 flowing, AIS management, cormorants and other issues. Thank you for your interest.

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.

## LECC Board of Directors

### Officers

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>President</b>      | Herb Nelson     |
| <b>Vice President</b> | Lynn Hansch     |
| <b>Secretary</b>      | Betty Arveson   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>      | Wayne Henquinet |

### Directors

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Ralph Morgan | Mabel Schultz     |
| Don Rother   |                   |
| Ron Czerepak | David Christensen |

### Committee Chairs

|                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Invasive Species</b>             | Herb Nelson |
| <b>Fisheries</b>                    | Open seat   |
| <b>Planning and Zoning</b>          | Open seat   |
| <b>Water Quality &amp; Quantity</b> | Don Rother  |

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| <b>Outlet</b>    | Ralph Morgan |
| <b>Webmaster</b> | Liz Hintze   |

**Newsletter Editor** Ron Czerepak

## 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.

# 2016 Aquatic Plant Survey



CURLY-LEAF PONDWEED

July 1 was very calm and bright, a perfect day to survey aquatic plants in Lake Edward. Lori and Herb Nelson found curly leaf pondweed (CLP) in many of the places that the DNR found it in 2004-05. They found some CLP still rooted to the bottom. They found most CLP floating just under the surface. The CLP they saw included turions (seeds) and long strands of CLP broken off from its roots. They understand this is how CLP spreads in the lake. This is the most evidence of CLP that Lori and Herb have seen in the lake. The elected board of the Lake Edward Conservation Club (LECC)

wants to chemically treat the known locations of CLP next spring. They are working with the DNR for the required permit and will find a contractor to help prepare a treatment plan and a firm cost estimate. They don't have a dedicated fund to pay for the treatment cost. They estimate might be between \$12,000 and \$23,000. So for 2017, they're requesting donations from you and will apply for a DNR grant of perhaps a couple thousand dollars. LECC has some funding reserves, but we have multiple issues and need to keep much of our reserves for emergencies. Your donations are appreciated, LECC is a non-profit entity for IRS purposes. For long-term funding, we've contacted the County regarding formation of a lake improvement district (LID.) A LID is a state-authorized property tax process that the County is authorized to approve to increase property taxes for lakeshore owners. We estimate the project cost might be \$100 to \$130 per year for each of the roughly 250 properties on the lake. LID costs include insurance, annual mapping of CLP, annual meeting and administration, all in addition to the actual chemical treatment.

## Stocking

Two million fry were introduced to Lake Edward on Sunday, May 8th. In case you are wondering why the DNR chose Sunday to dump the fry, it is because timing is crucial the survival of the crop. Even under ideal circumstances only a small percentage of the 2016 crop will live long enough to be teased by your lure. 3.5 million pounds of walleye are harvested each year in Minnesota. That harvest is a part of the millions and millions of mosquito size fry the hatchery trucks dump each year. Each female walleye produces about 120,000 eggs. Most never survive long enough to nibble on your bait. Estimates are only four percent of the fry deposited in the lakes each year will be part of the 3.5 million pounds harvested in Minnesota lakes. Often the DNR uses an every other year schedule to dump fry in a particular lake so that the current year's population doesn't end up as an appetizer for the previous year's batch. Oh, by the way,

chances are the fry introduced in Lake Edward were trapped in a DNR trap placed in Pine River. To view the process check out the web site <http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=Pine+River+mn+walleye+harvesting+you+tube&view=detail&mid=261807CF59F23122BF47261807CF59F23122BF47&FORM=VIRE>

## Fourth of July Parade Review

The clouds in the sky didn't dampen the enthusiasm for the folks that took part in the 4th of July parade on the lake. The unofficial count was in the neighborhood of 25 boats, pontoons, and jet skis that joined in. The line of vessels stretched almost a quarter of a mile. In addition to the participants on the water there were many many folks viewing from their docks as the parade went by. Thanks to all who made the event such a success.



## Boat Ramp Monitoring



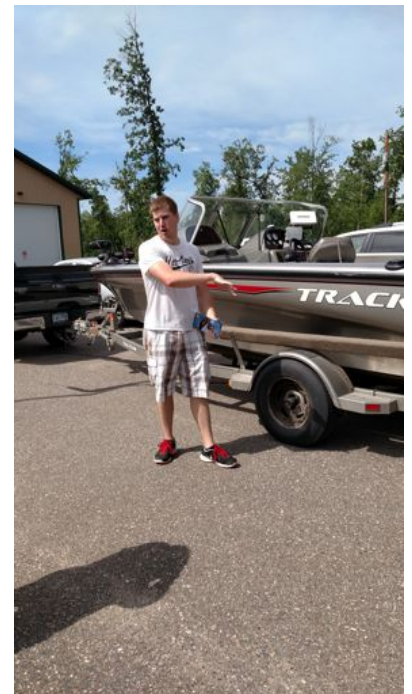
At the annual June membership meeting a supervisor from the ramp inspection team demonstrated an AIS visual inspection of a boat on site. Although ramp inspectors do look for evidence of plant matter that has not been removed from boats their main duty is to educate the public. Protecting Lake Edward from an invasion of non native species is more to do with education than policing. The inspection team's goal is to put themselves out of business. Not many years ago folks launching boats felt inconvenienced by boat inspections. Over time that view has changed markedly. Mainly due to education, boaters are

much more aware of the dangers invasive species have on natural habitats. It is well known that a beach invested by zebra muscle shells will eventually resemble broken glass. Eurasian millfoil will resemble a carpet of weeds that boats can't navigate through. Spiny fleas clog up lines on fishing reels requiring frequent maintenance. There is no cure for AIS. Preventing the introduction of any of these invasive species is the only way to control their spread. Crow Wing County is a heavy traffic area because of it's popularity. Zebra muscles are enemy number one. It may feel like a losing battle but this can be controlled. More lakes are not infested than are infested and the battle is not hopeless.

Boaters can help by dumping bait before going to another lake, or bringing water from home to transport their bait, inspecting their boats and trailers for plant material especially parts that don't get direct sunlight, pulling plugs at the ramp, and draining live wells. AIS species can't survive out of water for many days. They attach to vessels and equipment in the water that are stationary, boats moving from place to place on a lake are less of a threat to their spread. Being aware and vigilant is the key to curb this invasion.

Property owners on the lake can have a huge impact on the spread of AIS too, possibly more than casual users. Remember, any used structure that enters the lake should be quarantined for at least five days in direct sunlight. Each crack and crevice needs to be exposed. Any equipment that is know to harbor an invasive species needs to be out of the water for 21 days.

Boat inspectors are present at ramps during the busiest hours. You should expect to see them on weekends and holidays the days when most launching occurs. They can refer contaminated boats to the free county AIS decontamination station in Crosslake. The site is managed by the DNR. Hours are from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week and available to anyone wishing to clean their boat. Watercraft decontamination consists of a very hot water rinse used to kill zebra mussels and if needed a high pressure spray to remove material from boats, motors, trailers and personal gear.



## It All Adds Up

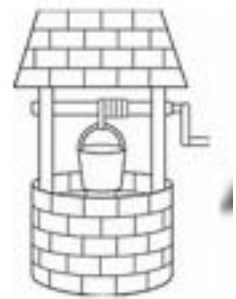
There are many more demands than resources when it comes to tackling all the issues lake associations face. A dollar can only be stretched so far. Many lake associations try to get creative when it comes to fundraising. Pancake breakfasts, pull tabs, raffles, garage sales are all attempts to fund essential projects. Raising dues is never a popular decision and usually a last resort.



Many of you that buy on the internet might be able to help out the LECC without any extra effort on your part. The LECC is in the process of registering with Amazon in a program called Amazon Smile. Folks that are Amazon Prime members can go to Amazon Smile to complete their purchase. A small percentage of the sale is then donated to a non profit organization, like the LECC. The only step different from purchasing on Amazon Prime from Amazon Smile is to pick a non profit to receive your donation. Just one small extra step for Amazon Prime members when completing their purchase could add dividends to the LECC. As soon as we are able to register the LECC with Amazon, we will notify you by email and you can start to help fund our Lake Edward projects. We know this isn't going to increase our bank account by leaps and bounds but it is an effortless cost effective way to help our organization. It all adds up.

## Water well testing

With all the concerns and challenges the weather has presented this summer there is one more area some folks need to address because of the high water, private well contamination. The Crow Wing County Public Health encourages residents to test their private wells if "flood waters" have come in contact or are within 50 feet of their private well.



The Department of Health has identified Crow Wing County as one of a handful of counties that have been impacted by flood waters and thus qualify for free water testing. Most wells get their water from rain and melting snow. Rain and snow filtered by the soil to eliminate any ground contamination. If you have a well that are is old, in a low area, has an unusual slope, is in standing water or is subject to water running over it you should have your well tested. If you have a concern, be on the safe side and get the free testing kit. The bacteria on the surface can leak into your well without being first filtered by the soil when any of the above conditions apply. Those who should be most concerned are pregnant women, folks with an immune system disorders, or infants and small children.

If you decide to test your well contact Crow Wing County Public Health to pick up the free kit. You can reach them at 218-824-1089. All testing is done in St. Paul at the Department of Public Health. All samples must be tested within 30 hours for the results to be valid. Seasonal folks that come up on a Friday and take a water sample when they arrive and then bring it back with them on Sunday most likely have a skewed sample. Instead they should take the sample just before they leave, drop it off in St. Paul the next morning or send the sample by U.S. mail. The department does not pay for postage, each well owner is responsible for the cost of postage. If using U.S. mail, full time and seasonal residents should put their sample in the packet provided and mail it so the sample doesn't sit over the weekend at the post office waiting to be delivered when the office is open on Monday. The suggestion by the hydrologist at the Department of Health is to check with the post office to insure correct timing of the delivery. His other suggestion if dropping off in St. Paul is to have two people in the car so one can run in and the other can drive around the block. Apparently, parking is at a premium and finding a parking spot could test one's patience.

The life of a private well is between 25 and 50 years. The general recommendation is to have your well tested every few years.



## Social Media



Communication is almost instantaneous in this day and age. Instant communication has come in very handy this summer. The storms rolling through provided a perfect opportunity to inform everyone, who provided us, with an email about water levels, missing boats, lost equipment, ditch 13 updates and no wake zones. If you are not on the LECC email list, about 150 of you are not, send your email address to Lori Nelson and you too can find out critical information as it happens on the lake. The LECC has never and will never sell your email address nor pass it on to anyone without your permission. Contact Lori at [LoriNelson@brainerd.net](mailto:LoriNelson@brainerd.net) to get on the list.

## Hammer Handles

Just a reminder, the second annual Brainerd Lions Hammering Hammer Handle fishing contest will take place on Lake Edward Saturday, February 25th 2017. Entry fees remains the same as last year, \$20. Pre-sale tickets will go on sale in December and tickets to the public on January 1st. First prize is \$250, second prize \$175 and third prize \$125. In addition many raffle prizes will be drawn. For tickets, donations or more information contact Mike LaFlex at 218-838-1756 or email him at [mlaflex@hotmail.com](mailto:mlaflex@hotmail.com). Last year's event was sold out. The Lions are also raffling off a \$13,000 dollar Ice Castle Fish House. Tickets are \$10.00 and are sold at the Holiday gas station near the Potlatch plant on Highway 25. Proceeds go to fund Vanafek Youth Camp in Baxter. The drawing is December 5th and ticket holders need not be present to win. Both events support worthwhile causes. Thanks in advance for your help.

## Calendar

**August 13 Open Board Meeting 10:00 am - noon Lake Edward Town Hall.**

**Lake Edward Fall Pot luck and bingo. Sunday, September 11th 5:00 at Cozy Bay Resort. Please bring a Bingo prize and a pot luck item to share.**

**Hammering Hammer Handle Contest Saturday, February 25th. Contest headquarters at the Lake Edward boat ramp.**



**Lake Edward Conservation Club  
P.O. Box 134  
Merrifield MN 56465-0134**

