



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

NEW LOCATION -----LECC Annual Meeting ----- NEW LOCATION

The Lake Edward Conservation Club annual meeting will be held at the Lake Edward Town Hall from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 18. The meeting is open to all. Anyone with agenda items contact Herb Nelson 651-239-4860. Our treasurer will be on site for those of you still waiting to renew your membership to the LECC. The Lake Edward Town Hall is located on County Road 3, and County Road 13. Annual dues for the LECC are \$20.00 per property owner. Dues are due January 1. The new updated 2016 LECC directory will be available for member pick up at the meeting. Not a member? The application to join is on page two of this newsletter. Thanks for your support.

NEW LOCATION Lake Edward Town Hall

NEW LOCATION
Lake Edward Town Hall

NEW LOCATION
Lake Edward Town Hall



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In 2016, we need to renew emphasis on an issue raised in the May 2014 newsletter. Lori and I have scary memories of curly leaf pondweed (CLP) problems. Before buying our Lake Edward home in 2006, we owned a cabin on Upper South Long Lake. On South Long, we experienced a massive surge of curly leaf pondweed (CLP) growth over a 3 year period. We learned that 3 winters of excess sun penetration through the ice had caused the CLP to grow in thick beds that interfere seriously with boating and fishing. The lake association's weed harvester became useless. We asked lakeshore owners to donate funds to chemically treat CLP, which clearly helped. But owners soon realized that expensive treatments likely would be ongoing. Some owners donated generously. Others unfairly gave nothing. So South Long organized a legal entity called a lake improvement district (LID) that has authority to request small property tax assessments through the county. So far, the CLP in Lake Edward has not surged. But we don't know for certain that a CLP surge will never be triggered. So we need to plan for how we might fund the control of CLP, if needed. Several experts, including the DNR, have already strongly recommended that we chemically treat CLP in Lake Edward ASAP. To implement that recommendation, the LECC Board needs to discuss whether to depend on donations from lakeshore owners' or consider a LID. What do you think?

July 4th parade starts at the Lake Edward Resort at 7:00

LECC Board of Directors

Officers

President Herb Nelson
Vice President Lynn Hansch
Secretary Betty Arveson
Treasurer Wayne Henquinet

Directors

Ralph Morgan Mabel Schultz
 Don Rother
 Ron Czerepak David Christensen

Committee Chairs

Invasive Species Herb Nelson
Fisheries Open seat
Planning and Zoning Open seat
Water Quality & Quantity
 Don Rother

Outlet Ralph Morgan
Webmaster Liz Hintze

Newsletter Editor Ron Czerepak

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 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.

Lions and Northerns and Minnows. Oh My!

Mike LaFlex is an avid fisherman and resident in the area. He noticed over the years that one of his favorite fish, the northern, was more plentiful but was getting increasingly smaller as the years past. He always thought if hammer handles weren't so abundant he might be able to capture some of the fun of battling larger northerns again.



About three years ago Mike joined the Brainerd Lions Club. The Lions are the largest service club in the world serving in 210 countries.

They might be most recognized as the organization that collects eye glasses and distributes them to those in need around the world, but in fact they tackle many health and infrastructure projects locally, as well as abroad. One of the local projects the Lions are involved in is a Shop For Youth Center in Brainerd. Teenage homelessness isn't confined to big cities; it exists in every community. The Shop for Youth Center deals with kids that might be homeless, having difficulty at home, need essential items to live or in need of training. The Lions train teenagers to refurbish discarded computers for resale. As often happens there is more need than funds. Adequate resources are always a huge challenge to maintain quality programs.



Mike took his thoughts about fishing and combined it with the need for funds to bolster the Shop for Youth Center and came up with a unique fundraiser, the "Hammering Hammer Handle" fishing contest. After approval by the Lions board and checking with the DNR the event became a reality this past February. The DNR suggested a choice of two lakes for the event, Bay Lake near Deerwood or Lake Edward.



Mike was familiar with Lake Edward and that's how the first annual contest site was picked. The rules the DNR established were that the contest be limited to 150 contestants and current Minnesota fishing rules be adhered to. No fish entered could be more than 22 inches and fish larger than that had to be catch and release. The DNR was supportive of the concept.

With the site picked and the DNR rules established it was up to Mike to determine the contest rules. They were fairly basic. The contest started at nine in the morning and final weigh, at headquarters by the public landing, was two in the afternoon. Fishing was not limited to any one area of the lake. Each fisherperson was allowed to weigh in up to three northerns. The total weight of the fish would determine the winner. First place and a prize of \$250.00 went to someone who's three fish totaled 6.26 pounds. Second place of \$175.00 went to the winning total of 6.22 pound and third place of \$125.00 went to a total catch of 5.85 pounds. The largest fish caught was over six pounds and returned to the lake and the smallest entered was .64 pounds. Eighty-eight folks payed the \$20.00 entry fee and purchased tickets, eighty four of those participated and as a result the lake has 86 less hammer handles than it did before the contest. All fish under 22 inches were either kept by the person who caught them or given to the Lions to pickle and distribute. Other than northerns, a few perch were caught but nothing else. Fishing was hit or miss on what turned out to be a glorious February day.

Besides first, second and third place, each purchased ticket was entered in a drawing and many prizes were given out. Someone won a guided walleye trip with Walleye Dan, others won gift cards, gas cards, fishing items or other donated items. Most entrants went home with something. February 27th, was a beautiful day, clear, sunny and 59 degrees, perfect weather and what made it even better was that \$1700.00 was raised for the Shop Youth Center in Brainerd.

continued on next page

The 2016 event was such a success plans are already in place for next years' contest. The date has been set, February 25th, 2017, the last fishing weekend of the season. Pre sale of tickets will begin in December and sales to the public begin January 1st of 2017. Next year's entry fee is expected to remain the same, \$20.00. A Facebook page just for the contest is under construction and should be up and running in the next month or so. Donations are already being collected for the second annual "Hammering Hammer Handle" contest. Clow Stamping has donated \$100.00, Cozy Bay Resort has donated a two night stay in a lakefront cabin in the fall. A property owner on the lake contributed \$100.00. Anyone else wanting to support this worthwhile cause can do so by contacting Mike LaFlex at 218-838-1756 or email him at mlaflex@hotmail.com. There were a lot of winners besides the folks participating in the contest, some of the biggest winners were the youth of Brainerd. With the funds the contest collected the Brainerd Lions can continue to support the the youth of this community.

This just might be an appropriate time to review one of the questions the DNR addressed on their website in the column titled "Question of the Week". This one dated 8/31/15

Q: What are some tips for successfully releasing fish?

A: The most important thing to remember about how to release fish without injuring them is to be prepared. Have the necessary equipment readily available: needle-nose pliers, forceps, line clipper, a soft mesh or coated landing net - and oh yes, your camera.

It is critically important to minimize the time the fish is out of the water. If possible, unhook the fish while it is in the water. If taking a picture, hold larger fish horizontally with the head and body supported. Do not hold large fish vertically or by the gills or eyes.

Play and land the fish as quickly as possible and moisten your hands with water to protect the fish's slime layer and prevent post-release infections. If the fish is deeply hooked, cut the line inside the fish's mouth. If it is deeply hooked and bleeding, consider keeping the fish to eat as long as it is of legal size in the open angling season for that species.



Henry Drewes, DNR regional fisheries manager

Fourth of July Parade

Want to be part of the celebration on the fourth? Plan on meeting at the Lake Edward Resort on the east side of the lake at 7:00 pm on the fourth of July. The boat parade starts at the Lake Edward Resort dock and circles the lake. If you want to watch the parade and still participate just jump in when the parade passes your dock and peel off when you've made the full circle. Feel free to decorate your boat.

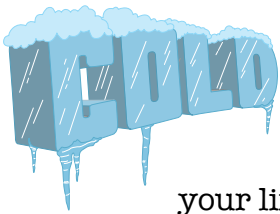


The LECC 2016 directory is included with your LECC membership renewal. Maintaining a data base is a huge chore and very time consuming. Thanks Lori Nelson for taking the time to research and update the changes.

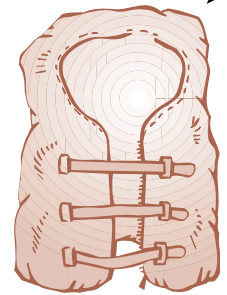


Be Alert, Be Prepared, Be Safe

With Spring comes the start of all the recreational activities we wait all winter to enjoy. One not so enjoyable occurrence just around the corner is tick season. Lyme disease-carrying deer ticks are most active during Mid-May through Mid-July. Extra caution during this time of the year could prevent one of these tiny hitchhikers catching a ride and biting us. They are hard to spot since they are so tiny, about the size of a sesame seed. High risk tick areas include hardwood forests, woody/brushy areas and long grass. A repellent containing DEET has been shown to be effective. If you find a tick remove it carefully with tweezers, then wash the area and apply antiseptic to the bite. It is important to see a doctor if you experience a rash, fever, headache, fatigue or other signs of illness. The DNR website has more information, check them out at www.mndr.gov/insects/deerticks.



When air temperatures turn balmy, it's easy to forget that water temperatures may remain in the mid-40s well into early summer. Falling into cold water is a shock to the system. Whether you are paddling, fishing or just taking a spin around the lake, it is vital to wear your life jacket any time you're on cold water. Cold water kills. Wearing your life jacket remains the simplest and most effective measure you can take to stay safe on the water should the unexpected happen.



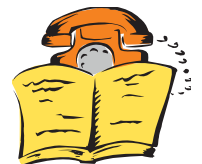
2016 LECC Directory Available!

The Lake Edwards Conservation Club directory is being updated and we intend to have copies printed for the June 18 meeting. Members with dues paid get one free copy. Extra copies are \$3 each.

Please help us keep our directory as current as possible!! If you know of a neighbor that has moved, new owner information, new contact information, including emails, PLEASE forward that information to Lori Nelson, email below, no later than May 15th 2015

We'd like to assemble a list of residents' emails so we can share news as it occurs between newsletters. For example, we could have notified everyone about the Lions Club's ice fishing contest that had to be rescheduled to February 2016.

Please indicate your email address by printing it on your membership renewal form or contacting Lori Nelson at the email below.



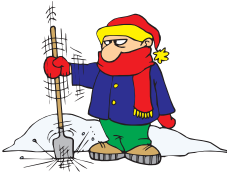
You can email any additions / corrections to herbnelson@brainerd.net. NO LATER THAN MAY 15th.

LECC - WILL NOT sell or give contact information to any third party for solicitation.



Now You See It, Now You Don't

You might have thought you were seeing things last fall when the ice was on, and then it wasn't. Your eyes weren't playing tricks on you, it was Mother Nature. The unusual weather in the fall provided two freeze overs. The lake actually first froze on Sat. Nov 28th then over one half of the lake reopened, it refroze on Friday Dec. 18th.



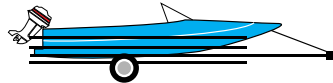
Ice Out !!!

The ice was off the lake on April 1st this year.



Demonstration

There is going to be a demonstration at the LECC annual meeting this year. No, not the kind that involves some kind of protest or sit in. We have scheduled a different kind of demonstration for our June 18th 2016 membership meeting. Our annual June meeting this year will include a demonstration by an AIS certified ramp inspector. The trained ramp inspector will be on hand to show the boat inspection monitoring program. A boat will be on site to view the procedure and paperwork involved in the inspection of boats entering or exiting the lake at the public access.



Calendar

Annual membership meeting at the Lake Edward Town Hall Saturday, June 18 10:00 am to noon.

Fourth of July parade beginning at 7:00 pm from the Lake Edward Resort. Come join the fun.

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



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

