



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

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 16th. 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 2018 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. Thanks for your support. Guest speaker is Michael Knapp, DNR Assistant Area Fisheries Manager

Membership Update

In January a reminder note was sent out asking for your renewed support of the LECC. Many of you took that opportunity to keep your membership current. THANK YOU! THANK YOU!!!! For those of you that put that request in a drawer to get to later and forgot, take a few moments and send in your \$20.00 membership dues now. We have a vibrant organization and can continue to monitor and plan for the future health of the lake with your help.



DNR Speaker on Cormorant Control

Michael Knapp, DNR Assistant Area Fisheries Manager will speak at our annual meeting on June 16 at 10 a.m. at the Lake Edward Town Hall at CR 4 and CR 13. Michael agreed to address fisheries in Lake Edward and the control of cormorants.

Your elected lake board members moved to donate \$586.25 in 2018 to destroy 600 cormorants on their nesting island in Pelican Lake. The project is scheduled for May 22 and was originally proposed for 1,000 cormorants for which we originally intended a donation of \$1,000. But the late ice-out caused some of the birds to nest further south. In response, officials prorated the number of birds to be destroyed in 2018 in Pelican Lake to 600, which reduced the project cost from \$8,650 to \$4,885. For the reduced project, Horseshoe, Mission and Lake Edward will each donate \$586, Ossawinnamakee \$390 and Pelican Lake Conservation Club and Pelican Lake Association will each donate \$1,367. We've already seen rafts of the birds this spring in Lake Edward.

We also donated to a similar project in 2016. But a federal lawsuit apparently blocked the project in 2017. Officials explored all the legal authorities more carefully and discovered a provision in a different authority for this project for 2018. If enough cormorants return in 2019, authorities indicate a similar size project could occur again. We will consider another donation at that time.

The shooting project also prevents successful chick production by the destroyed birds. Officials speculate that it's possible that the project may need to be done annually until natural conditions might become less favorable for the cormorants, as in the past. Our dues of \$20 dues from 80-110 families will not sustain ongoing annual donations from the lake association for ongoing cormorant control. We will gladly accept your donations for cormorant control. Be sure to designate your donations if they are for a specific purpose. We believe that we can get important things done when we cooperate with officials and neighboring lakes.

LECC Board of Directors

Officers

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

Outlet Lynn Hansch, David Christensen and Brad Zimmerman
Webmaster Liz Hintze

Newsletter Editor Ron Czerepak

Still and Option!

Our organization benefited 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.



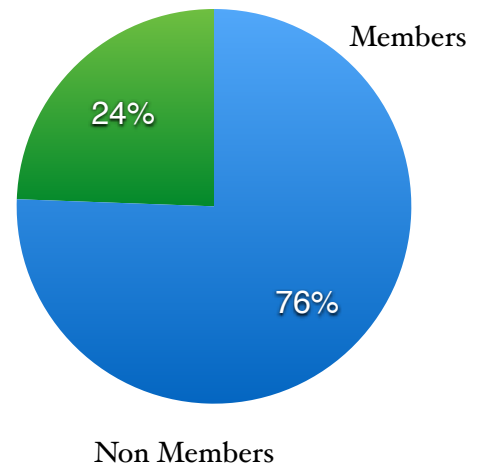
When you want to purchase an item on line go to the Amazon Smile site make your purchase and designate the LECC as the recipient. That's all there is to it. Whether you have been using the Amazon site or the Amazon Prime site it all works. By the way, donations to the organization for the past quarter were \$28.12 Thanks for your support.



Brrrrr!

With the nice weather we currently are experiencing it's hard to imagine how cold it was this past winter. Those of you fortunate to spend the winter in a warmer climate probably smiled when you checked the forecast back home. Could there be a silver lining for those of us who spent the winter in Minnesota? How about it was so cold a good share of the woodtick population died out. Well, actually ticks can adapt pretty well to cold conditions. As long as ticks were smart enough to burrow under leaves and were buried under the snow they survived quite well. So, wood tick precautions remain the same this year as previous years, cover up when outside, keep some deet spray close at hand, and check yourself for ticks when outside. Deer ticks are the species that transmit Lyme disease and are half as large as wood ticks. Their preferred habitat is shaded grassy and brushy areas frequented by both small and large mammals, dogs, cats, and other warm-blooded hosts. As these hosts brush against the grass, deer ticks cling to the coat of the animal and begin to feed. Because the ticks usually bite a different host for their subsequent blood meals, infected ticks are capable of spreading Lyme disease quickly throughout a population. The small size of the deer tick is also a factor in the prevalence of Lyme disease. Their bites are not painful, and most victims do not notice them until they have become engorged from prolonged feeding and may have transmitted the Lyme disease organism. Just how big is a deer tick? You're well aware how big an apple seed is, well, a deer tick is much smaller than that. It's about as big as a sesame seed. Eight sesame seeds match the size of one apple seed. To remove a tick grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible with tweezers and pull backwards to gently remove. Small segments can remain but the key is to get the tick's stomach, where bacteria live. Finally, wash the area.

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!

Lake Associations are the stewards of the lake and are at the fore front guarding and protecting our beautiful lakes. Clean waters are unfortunately not a given and monitoring and protecting lakes is falling more and more on lake associations and less and less on local and state government agencies. Your dues are an integral factor in facing the increasing challenges to protect our lake. Please consider renewing your dues if you have not done so yet or consider becoming a member if you aren't. Twenty dollars is a reasonable amount and far less than lake associations dues surrounding us. We have the lowest dues structure in the area.

New Northern Pike Fishing Limits - any combination of 10

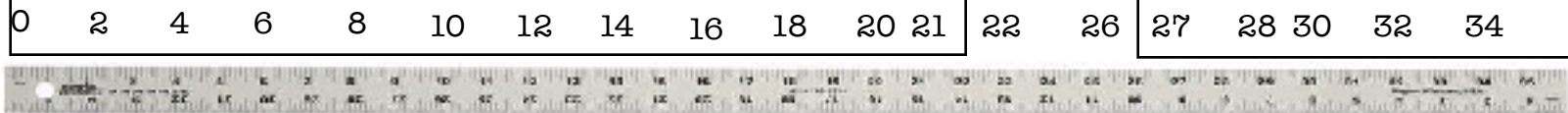


Catch and
release only



10 in possession if less than 22"

Two in possession
longer than 26 inches



The new northern regulation limits took effect this spring. Lake Edward is in the north-central zone, the largest of three zones in the state.

Overpopulation of small pike was the reason the DNR requested the change. Anglers will be able to keep 10 northern pike. All from 22 to 26 inches must be released. No more than two pike can be kept longer than 26 inches. The remaining limit must be less than 22 inches. Northern pike taken by spearing follow the same rules except one pike may be between 22 and 26 inches and one longer than 26 inches.

The last DNR fish survey conducted on Lake Edward was in 2014. The next scheduled fish survey is 2020. In 2014 3% of the northerns surveyed were 24" or larger. The average size trapped were 17.1" and 2.0 pounds.



Minnesota State Fish

The last few years 2 million walleye fry have been stocked in Lake Edward each spring. How much do 2 million fry weigh? Well, try 18 pounds. Fry are about the size of a mosquito or 1/3 of an inch. The fry stocked in 2018 will be about one pound in four years, that's if they survive that long. Many will be a tasty meal for the fry that survived from last years crop. The DNR has a formula for how many fry are stocked in a lake. A few factors are size of the lake, natural habitat, cost and lake bottom.

Fast Facts

The average Minnesota angler spends 15 days fishing each year.

Males account for 65 percent of fishing license holders. Females account for 35 percent.

November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5			6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Ice on in 2017 Nov. 24

May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Ice out 2018 May 4

June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**LECC Annual Meeting
Lake Edward Town
Hall at 10:00 a.m. All
Invited**

July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**July 4th Boat Parade
Meet at the Cozy Bay
Resort at 11:00 a.m.**

August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**LECC Meeting
Lake Edward
Town Hall at 10:00 a.m.**

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

**Pot Luck and Bingo Cozy
Bay Resort 5:00 p.m.**

November 24, 2017

Ice covers lake

May 4th

Ice out

June 16th

**Annual Membership Meeting 10:00 am - noon
Lake Edward Town Hall. Another
opportunity to pay your 2018 LECC dues.**

July 4th

**Lake Edward parade. Meet Wednesday,
July 4th at 11:00 at the Cozy Bay Resort**

August 11th

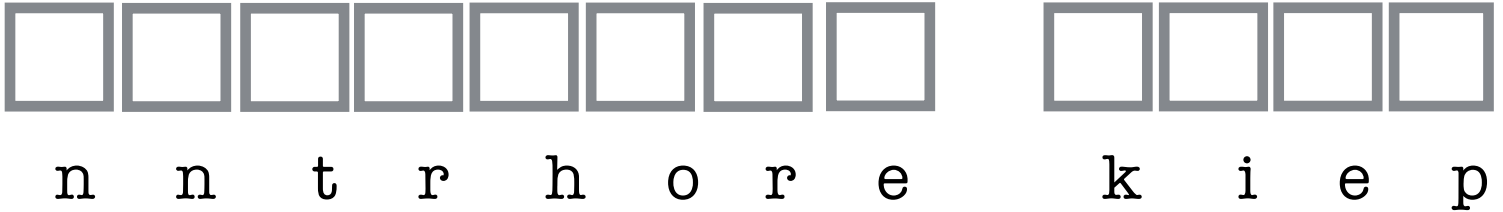
**Open Board Meeting 10:00 Lake Edward
Town Hall**

September 15

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

Word Scramble

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



Communication and the Exchange of Information

The Pony Express, the telegraph wire and Morse Code were cutting edge at the time. It connected the country from one end to the other, but it's time came and went. For many years U.S. Mail was cutting edge. Being able to communicate with someone thousands of miles away for pennies was a huge factor in making the world smaller. Communication is critical to the running of any organization. The traditional method of communication, U.S. mail, is now referred to as snail mail, very effective but slow and comes with a postage cost. The world has put traditional print on paper in the rear view mirror. The LECC has made the transition a few years ago to communicate electronically with it's members. However, we only have about half of our members emails. We do not ever sell or share any email address in our database, we only use email addresses to communicate with members about issues that affect our lake. If we don't have an email address for you, please provide one. We don't think 100% is doable but we sure think more than 50% is possible. Not only will it save us money on postage, but our communication to you will be immediate. Issues come up that impact our lake and instead of being left out of the loop you'll have correct information in a timely manner. If you are not in our data base you missed out on the reminder of the Hammer Handle Contest in February, you didn't know about the cormorant situation reported in January, you didn't get the member renewal notice, you didn't get updated on the ditch 13 clearing nor the zebra mussel update or curly leaf pondweed situation. Take a few minutes now to email Lori Nelson and get on our email list. Lori's email address is: lorinelson@brainerd.net

News Flash

It's not too late to pay your 2018 dues. Use the form on page 4 in this newsletter to renew or become a member. Save the postage and pay at our annual membership meeting on June 16th.



Saturday, February 24th started out cold with the temperature hovering around zero . By the time the snow came later that day the temperature reached 25 degrees. Fluctuating temperatures, snow on the way, barometer moving.... is that good or bad for fishing conditions? Those were the conditions for the 2018 third annual Lions Hammer Handle Contest conditions. This year one hundred contestants took a chance on the 67 prizes available. Fish were caught but only those under 22 inches qualified for a prize, so all fish over 27" were released because they were too big to qualify as a hammer handle. Action was pretty good but slot size elusive. Many fish were caught but they were over the size limit so they didn't

qualify. Each of the three years the contest has been held, fewer northerns in the desired category were caught. Why so few fish in the select range? Some could say the weather played a factor the last two years. Others might say there are fewer northerns to be caught in that desired size because more folks have been catching and keeping hammer handles in the last few years. Without research on the topic no one can know for sure why fewer small fish have been caught each year, but from 86 fish the first year to 19 last year and 21 in 2018, numbers are done down from the first year.

The intent of the contest has been to reduce the number of hammer handles and raise money for the youth of Brainerd. Mike LaFlex, tournament organizer, will confer with the DNR and try to determine if Lake Edward should continue to be the contest site or another lake chosen that may have a higher number of hammer handles. Mike said locals fishing Edward told him there were less hammer handles caught last summer than years past. Even though less fish were caught more money was raised for the Brainerd Youth \$2000 dollars was raised, \$250 more than last year. Prizes ranged from \$20 gift certificates to a first prize of a kayak. For those of you with a scientific background this might be of interest and have some meaning. In the first year of the tournament Mike LaFlex filleted 43 northern and 31 were female, 72%. Last year he filleted 19 northerns and 16 were female 84%. This year 15 were filleted and 11 were female, 73%



Lions Club Hammering Hammer Handle Fishing Contest 2018



More pictures from the contest.



Lake Friendly

One of our neighbors on the lake has had connections to Lake Edward for over 50 years. Pat Townsend has seen many changes over the years, some good and some questionable. Her family has albums that show the history of the lake. She would like to remind folks our lake needs TLC to retain it's health and habitat for the creatures that live in and around the lake. What we do to change the environment on our property has an effect on the quality of the lake. Like a nice swimming beach? Remember the larger the area set aside for a beach, the more nutrients can leach into the water from runoff. Like a clear view of the lake? Remember trees along the shore provide shade for aquatic life. Like a well maintained yard? Remember a well maintained yard allows runoff to enter the lake more easily. Have a path to the lake? Curvy paths allow water to soak in and increase soil stability as opposed to a straight path to the lake. Like to tour the lake in a boat? 30% of all gas and oil used in these engines ends up in the water, replacing two stroke with a four stroke engine helps. Newer personal water craft engines have improved over the years and replacing older PWC results in a remarkable improvement in release of fuel. One big area that effects the quality of a lake is a properly maintained septic system that will not leach contaminants into the lake. We all want our property to look nice and be conducive to our recreation, but by limiting what and how we maintain our property can improve the quality of the lake we love.

Fish Survey

Each lake with a public access is on a schedule to conduct a fish survey by the DNR. I pulled the line items from the last few surveys that zeroed in on northern pike. The grid below covers the years from 1982 to 2014. Two type of traps are used to survey the fish, gill and trap. Each serves a different purpose. A gill net is most effective for getting a count on northern, walleye, perch and bullhead. Trap nets are most effective for blue gill, crappie and other species. A gill net is lethal, the fish caught with the trap net allows the DNR to return the fish to the lake. By looking at the last column in the grid below, the count column, the numbers fluctuate widely from year to year. One observation that can be based on viewing, the count column, is the higher the count - the smaller the northerns in a lake. If the new northern regulations do what they are expected, in the next few survey cycles one would expect the number in the last column to gradually go down, meaning northerns are getting bigger. Releasing larger pike and keeping those under 22 inches should be a difference maker in reducing the hammer handle population.

		CPEU	Normal Range	Average Weight	Normal Range	Count	
1982	trap	0.25	N/A	1.3	N/A	3	
1987	trap	0.75		2.08		9	
1992	trap	0.08		3		1	
1997	trap	0.33		0.5		4	
2002	trap	0.73		1.77		11	
2008	trap	0.29		1.65		4	
2014	trap	0.67		2.29		10	
		CPEU	Normal Range	Average Weight	Normal Range	Count	
1982	gill	5.17	3.0 - 7.9	2.4	1.7-2.8	62	
1987	gill	7.5	3.0-7.9	1.93	1.7-2.8	90	
1992	gill	2.17	3.0-7.9	3.43	1.7-2.8	26	
1997	gill	12	3.0-7.9	1.8	1.7-2.8	144	
2002	gill	9.6	3.0-7.9	1.31	1.7-2.8	144	
2008	gill	15.47	3.0-7.9	1.34	1.7-2.8	232	
2014	gill	5.8	3.0-7.9	1.95	1.7-2.8	87	

Power loading boats causes damage to launch ramps!



"Power loading", can cause damage to launch ramps that may not be visible from the surface of the water. "Power loading" is a term used to describe using the motor to load and unload the boat onto and off the trailer. Many of the state's 3,000 public launch ramps were

not designed to sustain the forces generated by today's larger and more powerful boats or the practice of power loading. Propeller wash creates a significant force that can erode the lakebed and create a large hole at the end of the ramp. Eroded material is often deposited beyond the ramp to create a mound, which can result in a barrier for launching and loading. Boats and equipment can incur damage if the boat or lower unit runs aground on the mound or if the trailer becomes stuck in the hole. In the worse cases, the end of the ramp could collapse, resulting in an unusable launch ramp. In low water conditions the mound created from propeller wash can obstruct launching and loading.

DNR crews have been busy rehabilitating damaged launch ramps statewide. Staff are repairing the holes and extending the ramps by adding additional concrete planks. When possible the mounds are leveled with excavation equipment. These launch ramp repairs are time consuming and expensive.

The DNR recognizes that some boaters are accustomed to power loading. However, it is preferable that boaters do not race their engines while on the boat ramp. Slightly more than idle speed should be all that is necessary to load and/or unload the boat. The best practice is for boaters to refrain from power loading and use the winch to load and unload their boat.

Spring Cleaning

While cleaning up the beach this spring there seemed to be much more trash than usual. Cans, plastic bottles, plastic bags, plastic sheets, styrofoam, and fabric all floated in. Seems like some folks let the wind take care of their garbage before they could drop it in a proper receptacle. Let's hope folks try to do a better job of keeping track of their garbage so it doesn't show up uninvited on someone else's property.

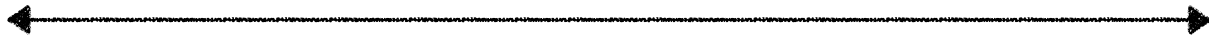
What a Mess

You may have heard about the 4 acre bog that broke free on our neighboring lake, North Long, and what a challenge it was to relocate. The situation grabbed headlines on all the TV channels. While it was noteworthy it was only reported because it was rare. How rare is it? Has it happened in other lakes? North Long is not unique in having a floating bog relocate itself. In 1995, a huge mass of vegetation floated around Lake Edward and decided to land on the south side of the lake to the dismay of folks there. It wasn't four acres but it was challenging to remove. The DNR granted a permit for the residents affected and allowed them to hire someone to remove it. Heavy equipment was brought in to make it disappear. The bog was so dense people could walk on it in places. This type of operation doesn't come free and the cost was divided by the lake owners affected. The bog on North Long was noteworthy but it was not a first for this area, check out pictures of the "Lake Edward bog".



Child Life Jacket Wear Law

A legal measure that went into effect in 2005, requires children under the age of ten to wear a life jacket while boating in Minnesota. All children under ten when aboard watercraft in Minnesota when the craft is under way (not tied up at a dock or permanent mooring) must wear a life jacket.



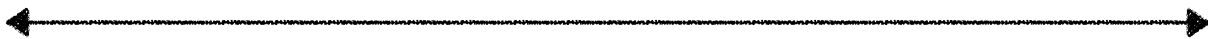
Wear a life jacket, get a free DQ treat

Minnesota kids wearing life jackets while boating this each summer will not only be staying safe, but also could be rewarded with an ice cream treat.

The Department of Natural Resources partners with Dairy Queen each year to provide a fee DQ treat coupon to anyone under 18 seen by a conservation officer (CO) wearing a life jacket while boating. The coupon entitles the child to a free cone from participation Dairy Queen restaurants.

The free treat coupon was created by the DNR after a CO suggested there be a reward for children he saw wearing their life jacket. Minnesota county sheriff's water patrol deputies also distribute the DNR's free DQ treat coupon to children.

The program runs from May 1st through October 31st every year.



White Elephant Gifts

The LECC Pot Luck and Bingo has been a fun time since it began. Some property on the lake turns over every year and this event lets new property owners get a chance to meet their neighbors, find out what's going on, where the fish are biting and have some fun. If you are new to the lake stop by with a dish to share, socialize and play bingo. Not necessary, but if you care to, bring a white elephant gift to the event on September 15th at 5:00 p.m. to put on the prize table.

Early Season Fishing Reports on the Lake

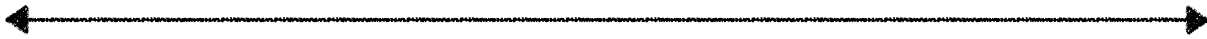


One Opening Day report from from a full time resident on the lake was that the action on opening day was very slow. He didn't have any shore lunch that day. Checking with a conservation officer confirmed his suspicions. Fishing was slow on the lakes in this area opening weekend.

Things changed in a few days. A week later, a fisherman caught a 26 1/2 inch walleye. He was trolling in 10 feet of water using a crank bait. Want to know the location? It's a secret. He was up for the week and couldn't locate the crappies he was after, but did get plenty of action pulling in bass and plenty of hammer handles.

Another fisherman up at the end of May located panfish in the shallows and had his limit in no time. After getting his limit of panfish he focused on bass and got plenty of action.

One last report, a 27 inch northern was caught near the end of the month.



The DNR normally places a temporary northern spawning barrier at the outlet on the south side of the lake. This year that did not happen because they were busy stripping walleye fry in a shorter timeframe due to a late spring. .



RED WHITE AND BLUE and FUN

Mark your calendars for 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday the fourth of July. Come and join the July 4th parade on Lake Edward. Decorate your vessel or just come on out. A few changes this year. The time and location are different but we're still parading on the 4th. We are going to start at the Cozy Bay Resort at 11:00 for a once around the lake. Join the group to circle the lake and join the fun, it takes about on hour. Each year the parade gets bigger. See you on July 4th, at 11:00 at Cozy Bay Resort.



In the past you may have been able to view fireworks on the 4th right from your dock depending which way your property faces. Those displays you see are expensive. Numbers provided by the American Pyrotechnics Association lists a fifteen minute display can cost \$20,000 and the cost per minute could reach \$2,000 with music and other add ons. There are roughly 14,000 displays in this country on the 4th. By the way another fact about the 4th is that 150 million hot dogs will be consumed.

It's the Law

A readily accessible and wearable life jacket is required for each person onboard a boat, this includes canoes, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, paddleboats, and waterfowl boats.

Speakers

Cormorants have been an issue for the last few years. Fishing is always a major interest for lake owners. Hard to keep up with all of the information out there. Michael Knapp will be the featured speaker at our June meeting to fill in the gaps. Michael is the Assistant Fisheries Manager at the Brainerd DNR. If he doesn't know the answer, nobody does. Come to the June meeting find out about the fisheries industry on Lake Edward, the cormorant dilemma, and bring any questions you have. You'll never have a better opportunity to get your questions answered.

At our August meeting Tim Plude AIS specialist from the Brainerd DNR will be there to talk about invasive species. Tim is the expert and has provided the LECC with valuable information about how zebra mussels and Curly Leaf Pond Weed will impact us. Come to the meeting on August 11th and hear how the DNR is combating these threats to our lake.



Lake Edward Conservation Club

P.O. Box 134

Merrifield MN 56465-0134