

Lake Edward Lines

Newsletter of the Lake Edward Conservation Club



LECC WEBSITE ADDRESS

<http://edwardlake.wordpress.com>

Lake Edward DNR ID # 18030500

LECC Annual Meeting

Unfortunately, we haven't reached the "back to normal" yet. Locations we have used in the past have restrictions that present on site meetings a challenge. We are not yet certain about whether and when the Lake Edward Town Hall might be available for the annual meeting. Similarly, we are not certain about the Cozy Bay rec hall for the potluck and bingo. But as we navigate the end of the pandemic with all our neighbors, we will do the best we can to get together again, although we may need to be flexible about when and where. When we know we'll send out an email blast. If we don't have your email, please share it with LoriNelson@brainerd.net and then we can email notices to you.

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

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

Dues Update

Even with the obstacles presented in 2020 our membership numbers are holding up. We thank those of you that are members of the LECC. The window for becoming a member never closes so if you want to become part of this vibrant organization mail a check for \$20.00 to LECC PO Box 134 Merrifield, MN. 56465. One hundred percent of dues go for the enhancements of the lake. Thank you.

Oh, By The Way

You are reading this for all likelihood because you have a place on the lake. You follow the rules and don't put used equipment in the lake until the 21 day quarantine period is over. Your boat stays on this lake and you don't trailer to another and if you do, you check for AIS before dropping it back in. You are doing what you can to stop AIS advancing on our lake. There is one more step you can take to control the spread of AIS, don't dump excess minnows into the lake, dump them on shore, in a garbage can, in a compost heap but please not in the lake. Illegal bait release is a threat to every lake. Minnows can be and often are hosts to parasites, bacteria, and viruses that disrupt the balance in the lake. It is best to eliminate any threat to the lake and dump excess minnows on land. Some folks think nothing of piercing a minnow with a hook to use as bait and then are reluctant to dump remaining minnows on shore because they might suffer. Don't get personally attached to your bait, dump all unused minnows. It's the law.



Did you Know?

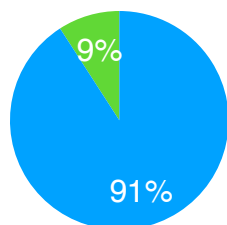
Crow Wing County AIS fast facts

- * Crow Wing County was awarded \$440,901 by the state for AIS prevention in 2020.
- * 42 landings in the county are monitored during the summer.
- * Inspectors spend 17,040 hours monitoring designated landings.
- * 5,000 additional hours were added by Lake Associations to combat AIS.
- * Lake Edward used funds to purchase eleven additional screening hours at the landing.
- * The best solution to the AIS problem is prevention. It is far cheaper to prevent AIS from entering a lake than treating it once it is established.
- * Since no new lakes were identified as having zebra mussels some conclude the current county plan is working.



President's Report April 2021

● email %
● USPS %



If you are receiving this newsletter by mail and have an email address consider sending your email address to Lori at lorinelson@brainerd.net. You will receive the newsletter days ahead of the mail copy, it often has more pages and it will save the LECC money in postage. We are gradually growing our email list.

The mail copy is limited to one ounce, one stamp, the electronic copy has no page limits.

The LECC has never sold or distributed an email addresses we have on file.

LECC Board of Directors

Officers

President	Herb Nelson
Vice President	Lynn Hansch
Secretary	Nancy Fischer
Treasurer	Wayne Henquinet

Directors

Don Rother	David Christensen
Ron Czerepak	Tom Schneck
Mike Chapman	

Committee Chairs

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

Outlet Lynn Hansch, David Christensen

Webmaster Liz Hintze

Newsletter Editor Ron Czerepak

Did You Know

In a normal winter it takes about one month for the ice to go out on all Minnesota lakes, first starting with lakes near the Iowa border and gradually moving north to the lakes by the Canadian border a month later.

Word Scramble

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



n o n m s w i

Rub a Dub Dub

Crow Wing County plans to continue operating the Crosslake AIS decontamination station in 2021. The decontamination process consists of a very hot water rinse to kill zebra mussels. If necessary, the rinse is followed by a high pressure spray to remove any other debris from boats, motors, and trailers. The decontamination station is located at the Highway Maintenance Facility off Highway 3 at 13870 Whipple Drive. The site will be staffed Thursday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is no charge to use the facility and the service is free.



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. No soaps, bleaches or chemicals are used during the process.

The county added a mobile decontamination station to be rotated among five public landings in the county. Edward is one of the five. The mobile unit will be open Friday through Sunday. Since the station rotates it is best to call the Crow Wing County Hot Line to check days and hours the unit will be at the Edward landing, 218-824-1055.

Less snow this past winter may mean the lake continues to go down slowly in 2021. Its fascinating that there were back-to-back strong La Nina events like the current one from 2005 to 2010 when the lake was quite low. Unless we get above average rainfalls, lake levels might be low this year.

While the entire world was under restrictions and businesses temporarily closed or shuttered one area of the economy was booming, on-line sales. To those of you making an on-line purchase and used Amazon Smile our organization benefited. Thank you for designating the Lake Edward Conservation Club Inc, as the recipient of your on-line purchases. Using Amazon Smile is a no cost way to help keep membership costs down. Go to Amazon Smile and make your purchase as you normally would and click on organizations, and pick LECC and your package will arrive on time and with no added costs to you.



ICE

Everyone is familiar with the term ice out. Actually, many of us anticipate that day as a signal summer and all that it contains is just around the corner. **Ice out** is especially eagerly awaited after a brutal winter. The winter this year may not have been classified as brutal, but coming off a whole year of pandemic restrictions this summer it is widely anticipated. The term for when the ice forms in early winter has never had a universal term so easily identified. In the last ten years the term now commonly referred to as the time ice prevents a boat from going from one point of the lake to another is called **ice in**. Not very creative, but effective. In 2020 the ice in date was November 30th, the ice out date was April 4th, 2021. Thanks to our Lake Edward official statistician, Don Rother, our official ice out date has been reported to the DNR. April 4th has been added to the DNR database for lakes. Past ice on or ice out dates for any lake can be found on the DNR lakefinder web site. Most of the information found on that site has been provided by lake volunteers like Don.

NOVEMBER 2020

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						

Ice in

Ice In
November
30



APRIL 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
	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 out

Ice Out
April
4



94 and Holding

As of March 1st, 94 lakes in Minnesota are now under new bag limits for sunfish. The program titled **Quality Sunfish Initiative** is intended to increase the size of sunfish and crappies. The theory is that if the larger males are fished out smaller males are left to mate. The smaller males devote all their energy to mating at the expense of growth. Other factors that enter in the decision has to do with predators. Panfish under 6 inches are prime targets for predators. Once a fish reaches the magical size of six inches they are less likely to become a meal for a predator. Reducing the bag limit is intended to leave larger bluegills in the lake and improve the breeding population. It would have been nice if all 94 lakes had the same daily limit but alas the number fluctuates depending on which of the 94 lakes one fishes. The DNR conducted on-line meetings and gathered information and initiated phase 1 of the new limits on panfish. Of the over 3,700 comments 85% of the comments were in favor of increasing the size of sunfish in a lake. Lake Edward is one of the 94 lakes included in the Quality Sunfish Initiative. The bag limit on Edward will be five sunfish and five crappies daily. Phase 2 takes affect for the 2022 fishing season and will include more lakes. Wonder which are in the list and which aren't? The DNR suggests checking signs at public landings or find limits by looking for Minnesota fishing regulations on the DNR web site to see specific lake panfish limits. The new sunfish regulations are found in the special regulations that begin on page 38 of the booklet found anywhere fishing licenses are sold or check it out on-line. Lakes in the initiative should be clearly marked as a QSI lake. A sunfish grows about 1 inch a year so a large sunfish maybe almost a decade old. DNR programs, such as this one, are usually evaluated after ten years.



Sunfish and Crappie Limit on Lake Edward

5



5



Crowdfunding

The size, power and number of boats in Minnesota has risen dramatically over the last few years. The trend towards larger and more powerful boats is accelerating. Conflicts among various user groups are increasing.



Enhanced wake watercraft, or wakeboard/wake surfing boats, by design, can generate wakes up to six feet high and have significant prop thrust. Critics claim prop thrust and larger wakes are resuspending silt, disturbing waterfowl nesting sites, eroding shoreline and causing significant ecological damage to aquatic ecosystems.

Proponents claim that the impacts are minor and wave energy quickly dissipates. Wake sports represent one of the fastest growing sectors of lake recreation.

Well, what is it? Do large wakes do damage or not? There is no hard data to support conclusively either theory. Nobody knows safe operating depths and distances from shore to operate wake surfing boats and other watercraft.

Crowdfunding is a recent term that sprung up with the explosion of social media and describes a practice of funding a project or venture by raising many small amounts of money from a large number of people, typically via the internet. A number of organizations teamed up with the University of Minnesota to launch a crowdfunding effort to fund a research project by the St. Anthony Falls Hydraulics lab this summer to determine safe operating distances for watercraft. Many organizations donated and the goal of \$100,000 is in sight. \$20,000 has already been raised with contributions by Gull Chain of Lakes Association (\$10,000), MN COLA, Christmas Lake Homeowners Association, our LECC (\$300) and other stakeholders. Individual donations are tax-deductible. When completed, data should provide knowledge of safe operating depths and distances from shore as well as valuable information about wake surfing boats and other watercraft.

When completed, the study should provide clarity on how deep does the prop-wash of these boats go, how far must a wake travel to dissipate, and how to prevent AIS spread in residual water in ballast tanks.

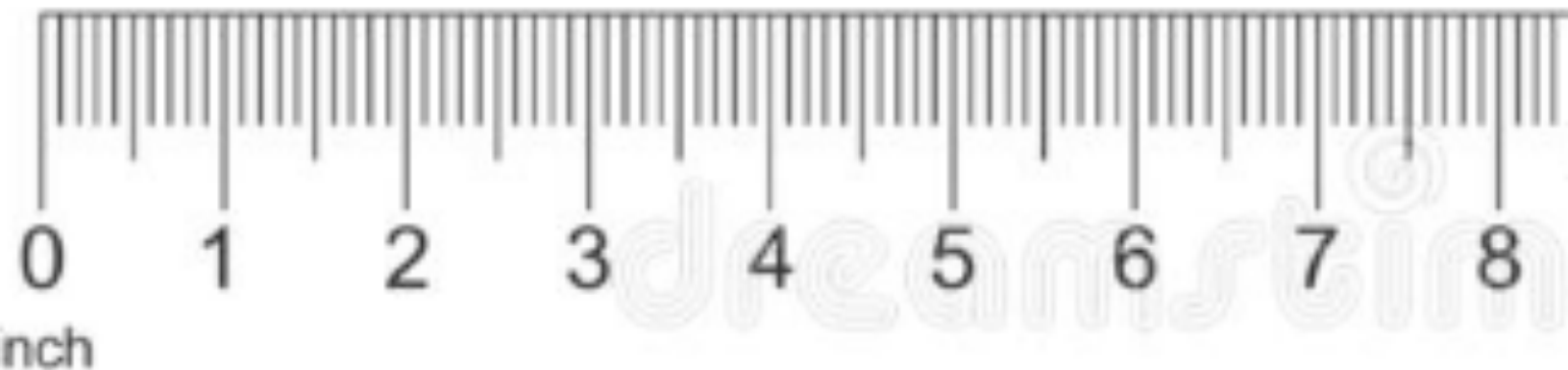
Batten Down the Hatches

Sometimes a storm pops up unexpectedly and a gust of wind blows away gear not secured. If you get surprised by a quick brewing storm and you don't know where the wind deposited one of your prized possessions there is a way of alerting lake residents to be on the lookout. After checking with neighbors and searching the immediate area and having no luck you could email Herb Nelson. Herb can send out an email and alert folks to keep an eye out. It doesn't guarantee you'll get your equipment back but if it's not in Davey Jones' locker you might be reunited with it. Let him know what is missing and include a picture if possible. Herb's email is herbnelson@brainerd.net



Guess how
old this
sunfish is.

* answer below



At an inch a year this sunny would be about five years old.

More Bang for the Buck

AIS Inspection coverage

June 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	25 26	
27 28 29 30		7	8	9		
		14	15	16		
		21	22	23		
					2	3

July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15		
	19	20	21	22		
	26	27	28	29		



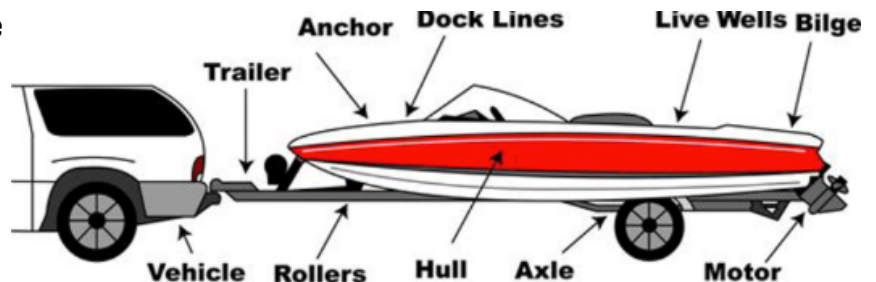
County coverage



Supplemental Coverage



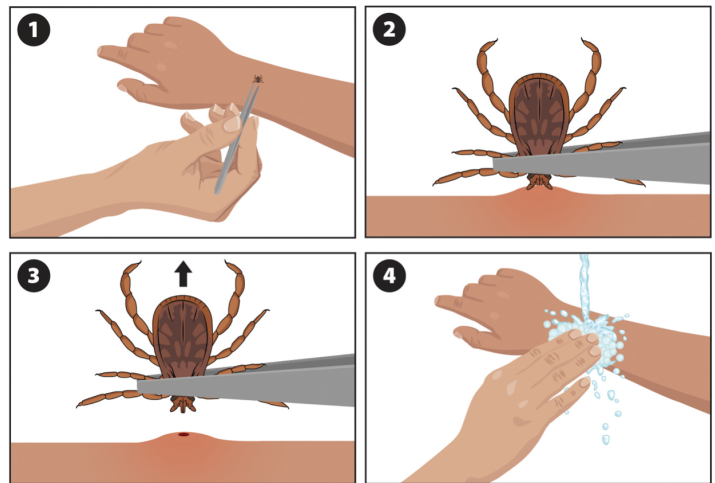
The two weeks around the 4th of July are often the busiest of the year on the lake. July 4th this year is a Sunday; probably meaning folks will take a vacation day or two to extend the weekend. Barring bad weather that certainly means higher than normal boat counts on the lake. The county provides coverage on the weekends monitoring for invasive species lurking on boats and trailers ready to invade the lake. County budgets don't allow for anticipated heavy traffic on non-weekend days. We have in the past partnered with the county to provide coverage on weekdays. Partnering doesn't come without some expense. Your LECC board voted to provide \$950.40 for an additional six days of coverage. That means we would have continual inspection for seventeen days from June 25 to July 11th covering one of the busiest times of the year. Last year we entered into the same partnership with the county for additional coverage.



AIS Inspection points

Tick Season

It's tick season and I could spend quite a bit of time and text trying to describe all the types of ticks, life stages, which ticks are most likely to spread Lyme disease, the size of ticks and how to prevent them from getting on you, which is almost impossible, but I'd be exhausted and you'd drop off along the way. I'll skip to the chase. Ticks are around us and certain types can spread disease so we best try to minimize the threat. You are probably going to get a tick at some point, so it's probably best to know how to find them if they attach themselves to you and how best to remove them. These two panels from the CDC and the MDH might be



Sunday July 4th Parade

Decorate your boat, or not.
Meet at Cozy Bay at 11:00.
Jump in line and circle the
lake clockwise with your
neighbors and celebrate the
fourth.





Dock Talk

History lesson from Viv Forsberg on the Forsberg Cabin

My husband John grew up in Brainerd. His father Harold loved to hunt and fish and came frequently to Lake Edward. When it opened up for purchase back in the early 1940's he jumped at the chance for his prime location on the NE side of Lake Edward! Father-in-law "Pop" worked for the railroad so bought a train car to bring out to the lake as his cabin. It still exists within our cabin walls today! This was the first cabin on the small road they lovingly called Forsberg Lane.

I met John at the cabin on Beautiful Lake Edward during the summer of 1951. His sister Jean and I taught school together. The property was a vast meadow with tall grass all around the area. The guys cut a path down to the lake. They used a wooden fishing boat with oars to fish, or just off the dock. There was a nice, long weed bed in front the cabin and there were plenty of sunnies, walleye, crappies & northern to fish. There are many photos and we usually caught the limit. Fish Fries at the lake were excellent!

I knew the area since I worked at Breezy Point every Summer during college. I grew up in St. Cloud and it is a quick drive up. We had a great crew and staff every year there.

We were married in 1955 and soon afterward bought the woods across the road stretching over to Perch lake which was only a small pond at the time. I think it fed into Edward at some point. It is yet undeveloped woods which we like.

When the original Brainerd Mall opened it was a huge deal. We could finally get groceries easier than carrying them all up every weekend. We could have the car serviced at Montgomery Wards if needed.

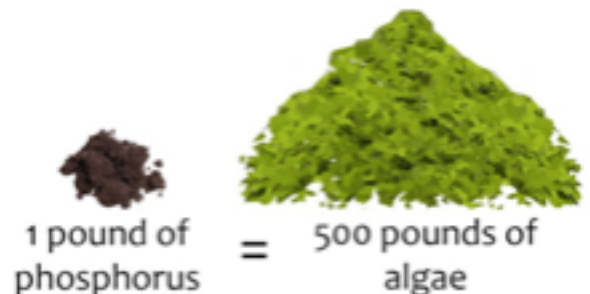
We never thought about a telephone or a TV at the lake, it was outdoor time. Badminton and croquet games were played, along with horseshoes. We finally had a riding lawn mover to cut the meadow where games were played down by the lakeshore. In the mid 70's we brought up a small tv - which needed the "bunny ears" and aluminum foil to bring in the signal! The telephone was needed in the early 1980's when we were up more often with our kids growing up and John soon to retire.

We have had four generations of family at the lake. We look forward to our family and future generations enjoying this beautiful area.

Fire Pits and Algae

The end of the perfect summer day often involves sitting around the campfire at the cabin. But did you know that having your fire pit too close to the lake can have negative effects on the lake's water quality? When the mosquitoes come out and the fire is reduced to ashes wind or rain could wash nutrients into the lake that encourage algae growth.

Ashes contain nitrogen and phosphorus among other things that promote algae growth which contributes to lower water clarity. To put it into perspective, the amount of wood you burn over summer is probably equal to a full-grown tree or two, maybe more. Burning the wood leaves a majority of the naturally occurring Nitrogen and Phosphorus behind in what we see as ash. Having a tree or two's worth of nutrients within a standard three-foot fire pit is much more concentrated than you would find naturally occurring. When we get rain events, these nutrients leach down through the soil, making their way into the lake, stream, or the water table that typically feeds lakes and streams. Having fire pits located too close to the lake does not allow for the proper treatment of the excess nutrients. Typically, the fringe of a lake is within 12 inches or so of the water table. For nutrients to be filtered properly, it needs a minimum of three feet of separation between the fire pit and the water table. Some preventative measures that can be taken are moving a fire pit further upland and keeping it as high as possible if it is an in-ground pit. If you are looking for a place to put your fire pit a rule of thumb is the further from the lake the better. *



* Phosphorus is the nutrient found in manure, leaves, soil and lake sediment that fertilizes plant and algae growth in lakes.

Mmm, mmm, good

Four Ingredient Sure Fire Shore Snack

One jar Jalapena jelly (green label) - can be found in jelly aisle.
Two cups shredded cheddar cheese.
One bunch green onions finely chopped.
Two cups chopped pecans.

Combine all four ingredients and chill. Serve with crackers.





Test your knowledge.

1. What is crowdfunding?
 - a) Raising money on the internet
 - b) Large groups looking for lost items
 - c) A group of people in a tight space

2. What is the bluegill limit on Lake Edward?

- a) Same as last year.
- b) 5
- c) 7

3. When the mobile decontamination station will be at the Lake Edward landing?

- a) The second Friday of odd months
- b) Need to check county website
- c) Never

4. How much do sunfish grow a year?

- a) 5 inches
- b) 1 inch
- c) An ounce.

5. Does it cost more to order on Amazon Smile?

- a) No
- b) Yes
- c) On big ticket items

6 What minnows are safe to dump in the lake?

- a) Shiners
- b) Crappie minnows
- c) All minnows are dangerous and not safe.

7. What is the crappie limit on Lake Edward?

- a) 5
- b) 15
- c) 10

8. What is the harm in dumping minnows in a lake?

- a) Possible AIS threat.
- b) Too much bait for fish
- c) Overpopulation

9 How many landings in Crow Wing County are monitored each summer?

- a) Not enough
- b) 42
- c) All public landings

10 Does the LECC still offer rebates for purchase of a new water heater?

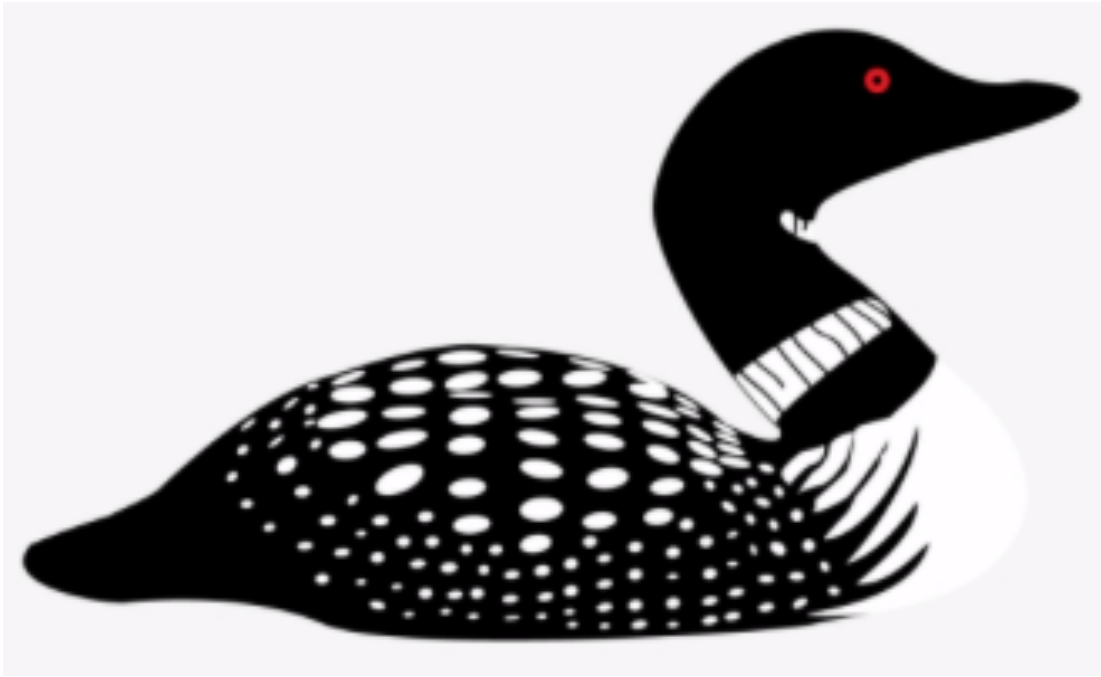
- a) Yes
- b) No, money is all used up
- c) Only in odd number months

11 If I lose some equipment in a storm is there a way of alerting folks I've lost some equipment?

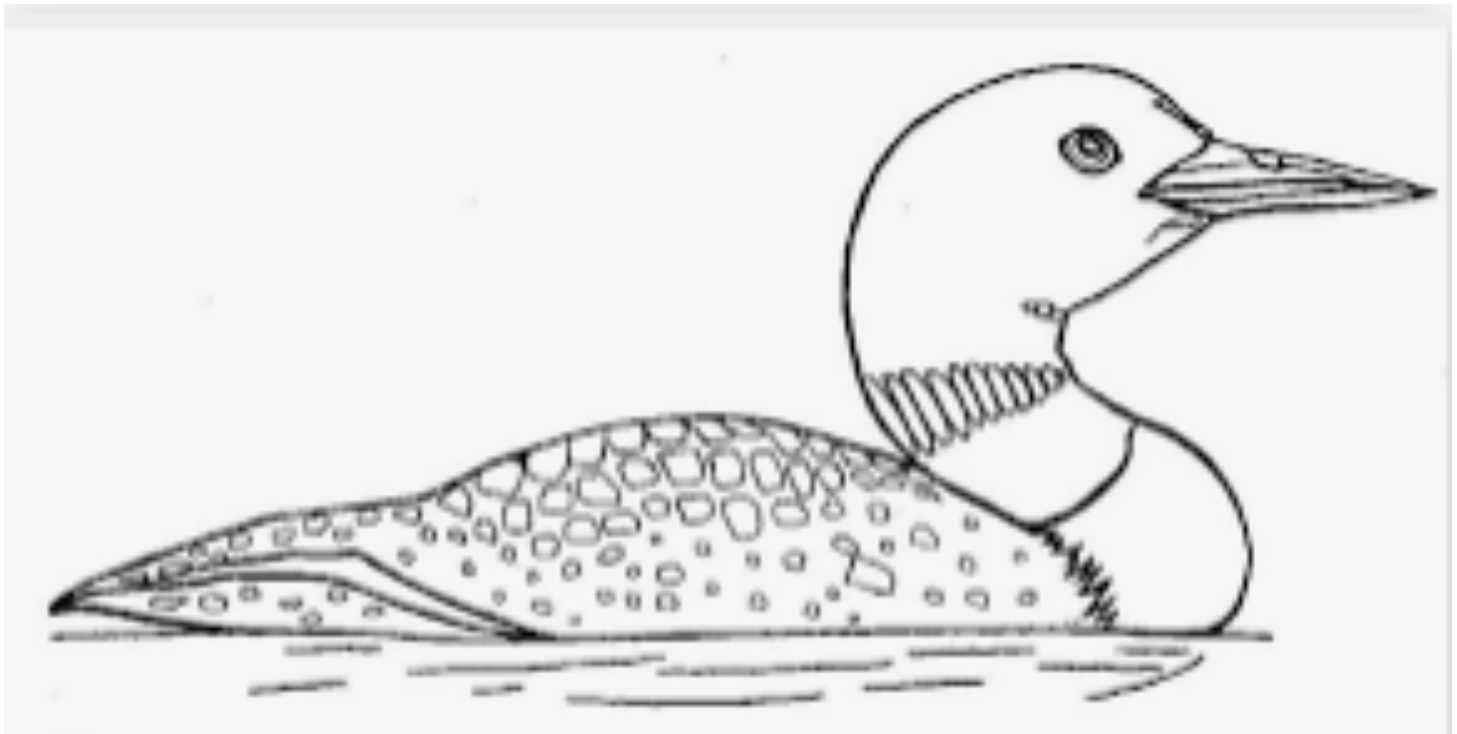
- a) Yes, email herbnelson@brainerd.net
- b) You are out of luck
- c) Go door knocking

12 Will there be any meetings of the LECC this year?

- a) Yes
- b) Only held in even number years
- c) None scheduled at this time



Color the loon.



Kids and grandkids rainy day pages.
Print out and save for a rainy day activity.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	g	e	r	o	n
2	p	z	f	l	a
3	t	k		c	u
4	m	q	j	s	y
5	b	v	i	h	d
6	x	w	.	?	!

[illegible]

C2 C5 D4 D5 B1 E2 A3 B6 D1 C1 A4 D4

A3 D5 E1 D4 E3 E1 C5 D4 D5 D1 A3

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Guess the Fish

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

16	5	18	3	8

19	21	14	6	9	19	8

23	1	12	12	5	25	5

14	15	18	20	8	5	18	14

13	9	14	14	15	23

Kids and grandkids rainy day pages. Print out and save for a rainy day activity.

Table 1-1

turtle	flower	drill	doll	car	plane
red	cup	plate	ball	brown	pink
legos	saw	horse	corn	bike	truck
fish	swim	tomato	in	schools	gray
shovel	yellow	bowl	trailer	scooter	black
squirrel	saucer	mug	tree	blue	pliers
green	wagon	snake	vise	carrot	white

Follow the clues below to find a message.

Color in all the boxes that have an animal.

Color in all the boxes with something that has wheels.

Color in all the boxes that have a tool.

Color in all the boxes that have a color.

Color in all the boxes that have dishes.

Color in all the boxes that grow from seeds.

Color in all the boxes that have toys.

Lake Edward Bingo

Find something that starts with the letter t	Look for a bug	Hold your breath and count to ten	Play catch	Look for something that rhymes with reach.
Put out some bread for the birds	Listen for a loon at night	Find ten shells in the water	Look in the water for something that swims	Name five things that float
Eat a snack	Go for a boat ride	Free Space	Draw a fish	Pull a weed from the lake.
Count the steps from the start of the dock to the end.	Throw a rock in the lake	Count the geese when they swim by your dock	Jump off the dock	Collect three things you found in the water
Find something on the beach that doesn't belong there and throw it away	Play on the beach	Hop on one foot and count to ten	Find something in the water that doesn't belong there and throw it away	Close your eyes what do you hear?

Kids and grandkids rainy day pages. Print out and save for a rainy day activity.

There is Still Time Left

The Lake Edward Conservation Club (LECC) continues to offer a \$50 rebate to any lake owner installing a new water softener in your Lake Edward home or cabin. Not all funds designated for the rebate have been expended. There is still time to take advantage of this offer.



To redeem this offer, text or email a clear picture of the receipt or invoice for the water softener installation, plus the Lake Edward address where it was installed to Herb Nelson's cell 651-239-4860 or email herbnelson@brainerd.net. Or mail hard copies to LECC, PO Box 134, Merrifield, MN 56465. Also please text your name and your picture standing next to the installed new water softener. Remember to include the name and address for your rebate check. Time is running out you must install the new softener by August 1, 2021 and the offer is limited to the first 20 lakeshore households responding, one water softener per household.

1. a
2. b
3. b
4. b
5. a
6. c
7. a
8. a
9. b
10. a
11. a
12. c

Answers to the Test Your Knowledge Quiz.

Calendar

November 30 2020 Ice On

April 5 2021 Ice Free

May 15 Fishing Opener

June 2021 Annual Meeting

All meeting of the LECC are on hold at this time.

July 4 parade 11:00 Meet at Cozy Bay circle the lake clockwise.

August 2021 Open Meeting

Waiting on an "all clear" to proceed. Will send out details if and when the meeting can be scheduled.