



LAKE MINNEWAWA ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2011

PO Box 58
McGregor, MN 55760

Greetings from your Lake Association President:

Hello,
Finally, winter is starting to loosen its hold and we are looking forwards to spring. It will not be long before the ice is gone and another season begins on Lake Minnewawa. The LMA has a lot planned for the year and looks forward to working on providing a fun and enjoyable summer for everyone on the lake.

Membership Drives:

We once again are having our spring membership drive for the 2011 year. The membership donations are one of the main sources for dollars to cover the operating expenses for the LMA. This past fall, the LMA board had a long discussion and made the difficult decision to raise the membership donation to \$75.00. It has been a number of years since there has been an increase. The LMA yearly operating costs have continued to increase. Just as with your own family budget, the cost of gas, insurance, equipment and other items have gone up over the past few years. It was a hard decision for the board to make, but I hope everyone will see the need for the increase. There is a new option for sending in your membership donation. On the LMA web site, there is now a link to use either pay pal or your credit card to make the donation. Please take time now to send in your membership donation. Donations are tax deductible. We have a link on our web site, www.lakeminnewawa.org, for a membership application that you can print out and mail in. Curtis Pieske and Mark Pawelski are once again managing the individual membership and Larry Antonsen will be working on the business membership. In addition to you renewing or becoming an association member, please encourage those who live near by you to become members as well. *Send in your completed information today with your donation!*

Harvesting Information:

The 2010 harvesting season was a very busy one to say the least. An earlier than normal ice out in March allowed the weeds to get a jump on the crew. Thanks to Lyle Marsyla and his dedicated crew, the team worked hard and got things back under control. Having an unusually bad year for weeds shows the need for the harvesting operation to help maintain the weed growth within the lake. I think everyone will

agree that without the work of the harvesting crew, no one would have been able to enjoy last year's boating season. There were a total of 252 loads harvested last year in comparison to the 142 loads in the 2009 season. In the fall Lyle and John Montour spent a number of weeks repairing leaks in the barge, updating parts of the trailer and conveying system on the harvester, and conducting the needed general maintenance. The machine looks great and is ready for the start of the 2011 harvesting season. We have the permit from the DNR and per the permit, are able to start harvesting on June 1st.

Volunteers are needed for 2011:

The LMA board now has 12 board members. The LMA by-laws require us to have 15 board members. As in the past, I would like to ask you to please consider joining the LMA board. For me, it has been one of the best things I have ever experienced. You will meet so many wonderful people and share in the fun and feeling of accomplishment of volunteering. It actually takes very little time and is easy to do as a "weekend only" lake person. Board meetings are the second Saturday of the month at 9:00 AM starting in May and ending in October at the LMA garage on Co. Road 6. All the activities are done by volunteers only. Please volunteer and take part in the LMA.

Shamrock Township Clean Up Day:

The members of LMA will be once again helping out with the spring Shamrock Township clean up day event. It is scheduled for Saturday, April 24th, 2011 from 9am – 2pm. Sites will be at the LMA garage on Co. Road 6 and at the township hall by the ranger station / fire tower. Please visit the Shamrock Township web site, www.townofshamrock.org, for details on what will be accepted and those items that may require a small fee for disposal. The association is looking for some volunteers, men or women, to help at the LMA garage while this is occurring. Please consider donating a few hours to a good cause. Show up at the garage with some work gloves and a smile.



Garage Sale:

The LMA once again is planning and preparing for the annual garage sale. This year, we are in need of someone to head up the effort. The dates for the sale are September 2nd and 3rd. The past chairpersons have created a binder with all the information necessary for heading up the sale. Even if you are not on the board but have a strong interest in this leadership position, please contact one of the board members. All of the work is done by volunteers. We are also looking for volunteers to work the Saturday mornings once we begin to take in donations at the LMA garage. We are a non profit organization so all donations to the sale are tax deductible. The garage will open 6/11 for accepting donations. We accept donations from 9-11am on Saturday mornings. We do not accept clothing or items dirty and broken. PLEASE do not leave your donations at other times, as it costs us money to dispose of it.



County Road 6 Adopt a Highway:

This is one of my favorite events the LMA sponsors. LMA adopted a two-mile section of County Road 6. This section runs approximately from Sportsmen's Club to a little past Bann's and sponsors this area for clean in May and in October. It is one of those activities that do not take much time, but at the end, one can see the benefit by the number of bags of garbage that are collected. This spring, we are cleaning up the two-mile stretch on May 7th, starting at 10:30 at the LMA garage on Co. 6. WE NEED YOUR HELP. Please help the LMA continue to do this small part in keeping our environment clean. Safety vests and garbage bags are handed out to each individual. Once again, please consider this short time commitment to volunteer. Thanks in advance.

Funding Available for No-Mow Zones:

Are you interested in reducing time spent on lawn maintenance? Or protecting the quality of Lake Minnewawa? A No-Mow Zone can accomplish this! A No-Mow Zone is simply an area adjacent to the lake that is left un-mowed. In time, native plants will grow and create a buffer that can filter runoff, control soil erosion, create wildlife habitat and more. The Big Sandy Area Lakes Watershed Management Project is offering an incentive payment of \$ 5 per lineal foot to landowners willing to create a No-Mow Zone on their property. The zone must extend 25 ft. landward from the water, and must be in an area that is currently lawn.

To learn more about the No-Mow Zone program call the Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District at 218-927-6565.

A Few Last Notes:

- ❑ We would like to thank our Business Members for 2010. They are: **Bann's, Country Meadows Inn, Federated Propane, Fireside Inn, Freeman Electric, Horseshoe Lake Inn, Savanna Ridge Town home Association, Shamrock township, Sportsmen's Club, Tamarack Sno-Flyers, Willey's Sport Shop and Spirits and Willey's Marine.** These businesses have continued to be there for the LMA so please support them when you have the opportunity.
- ❑ Watch for more information on the DNR lake survey and the LMA's effort to get Lake Minnewawa back on the list of lakes to receive walleye stocking by the DNR. This will be a multi-year process but we look forward to seeing the results of the LMA and DNR working together to improve the quality of fishing on Lake Minnewawa.
- ❑ New flags and merchandise are available. Contact Linda Peterson at 763-434-9491 to purchase items. Items will also be available at all LMA functions.
- ❑ Please feel free to go to our new web site at www.lakeminnewawa.org. There are a number of local links and points of interest. Our Lake Management Plan is available to download along with the membership applications.

Respectfully, Greg Pfeifer

If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact one of our board members:

- Greg Pfeifer, President763-767-4842
- Ron Conzet, Vice President.....218-426-3420
- Patrick Rath, Treasurer763-422-8092
- Chuck Munson,Recording Secretary 612-926-2136
- Mary Ellen Anderson,651-688-9442
- Larry Antonsen,218-426-0271
- Steve Olson.....763-689-9680
- Mark Pawelski651-351-0268
- Linda Peterson763-434-9491
- Curtis Pieske763-428-5181
- Randy Sloan,952-937-2614
- Sue Westberg,651-587-2614

