



**LAKE MINNIE BELLE
IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION**
PO BOX 34
LITCHFIELD, MN 55355

LAKE MINNIE BELLE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please contact any Board Member listed above. They can take your concerns to our Board Meeting. Board meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except December) at the Bonfire Bar & Grill. An annual general meeting is held the 3rd Saturday in July at the Beckville Church picnic grounds on the southwest shore of Lake Minnie Belle. Coffee and rolls at 9:30 a.m. with meeting at 10 a.m.

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LAKE MINNIE BELLE MESSENGER

Spring/Summer 2016 Board Highlights

By Larry Rewerts

Welcome to the Spring / Summer Season. We all wait in anticipation for 6 months for the opportunity to enjoy the open water. Spring came early this year with ice out at least 2 weeks ahead of average. Warm weather has been replaced by more seasonal cool days with periods of rain. Docks and lifts are becoming more frequent along the shorelines. This is a great time of the year.

Clarke Companies has been hired once again to treat our lake for AIS. Representatives have been on the lake in early April to determine the need to treat Curly Leaf Pondweed. After the analysis was complete, a decision was made by Clarke and the Lake Association Board of Directors to only treat the lake for Eurasian Milfoil this year. There was evidence of Curly Leaf but the acreage was very small. We are limited in terms of the total acreage of any treatment to approximately 26 acres. Clarke found evidence already of existing and new stands of Eurasian Milfoil growing this year. We will devote our total acreage of treatment to

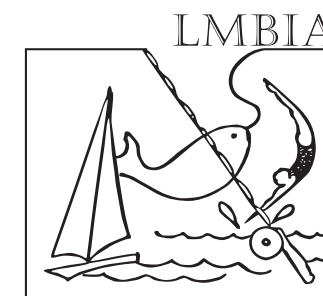
Eurasian Milfoil. We hope to treat at least 21 days prior to the 4th of July this year. In the event this is not possible, we will more than likely treat after the 4th. Last year we treated 3 acres of curly leaf and 19.2 acres of milfoil.

Aquatic Invasive Species require a lot of time and money in order to attempt to control the spread of these plants and animals. Last year the association spent approximately \$10,000 in treatment. Consider donating to the milfoil fund.

We finally have the MB2 ditch project ready for completion. Bids have been received and a contractor has been hired to begin work on the project. Funding has also been secured so we move forward. Hopefully by mid-summer the project will be completed. MB2 is the inlet on the southwest shore of our lake next to the weather alert siren and county boat landing. The goal is to limit the runoff from

surrounding farm fields and keep the water that is entering the lake clean. The cost of this phase is approximately \$26,000. Money has already been spent to remove trees in and near the ditch.

DNR representative Jeremy Losinski attended the April meeting of the LMBIA Board of Directors. He was seeking feedback from our group concerning the movement of the DNR fishing peer from its current location on the Northwest side of the lake to a location by the public landing on the north end of the lake. Since this fishing peer remains in the lake year around, it has experienced significant damage from the ice out period in the spring. At its current location it is not possible to remove the peer from the water over the winter months due to elevation issues and the number of trees that would need to be removed to create a spot to keep it. The trail leading to the fishing peer is also not handicapped accessible. Mr. Losinski feels with a limited budget it is not



cost effective to have to continue to repair the peer on a yearly basis. If the peer was moved it would be floated to its new location and a path from the public landing could be made with minimal cost. The elevation at the new location is flat with few trees. This would allow the peer to be removed in the winter and stored on shore and as well would be relatively easy to make it handicapped accessible. Discussion on this issue focused on the positive and negative aspects of this move. Mr. Losinski stated that essentially there are 3 options: 1. Keep the peer at its present location 2. Move the peer by the public landing 3. Remove the fishing peer completely. If you have thoughts or comments you can contact Mr. Losinski at the DNR office in Hutchinson or contact a LMBIA Board member. See you on the water.

2016 Lake Minnie Belle Membership Form

Please complete and return with your check payable to
 LMBIA (Lake Minnie Belle Improvement Association)
 PO Box 34
 Litchfield, MN 55355

Last Name _____
 First Name _____ Spouse _____
 Lake Address _____, Litchfield, MN 55355
 Permanent Mailing Address _____
 City _____, State _____ ZIP _____
 Primary Phone Number _____
 E-mail Address _____

E-mail addresses are only used for specific notifications to lake residents and are not given out to any outside sources.

*If you are a first time member or member who purchased additional lot(s); who were the previous owners of your new lake property?

Lake Minnie Belle dues (\$1 of your Membership dues will go into the Milfoil fund) **\$25.00**

Would you like to make a contribution to the LMBIA Milfoil fund? \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

HAVE YOUR DUES PAID BY APRIL 20, 2016
 AND YOU WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE EARLY BIRD DRAWING!
 WE WILL BE GIVING AWAY 1-\$50 CASH AWARD!

Another New AIS discovered

Starry Stonewort was discovered in Lake Koronis in 2015. This invasive was probably brought in by a boat trailer from another state (Wisconsin and Michigan for example). Starry stonewort appears like a native grass but is characterized by star-shaped bulbils. As it grows, extensive mats are created that can displace aquatic plants and inhibit recreational activities. Comparatively, starry stonewort is worse than Eurasian milfoil. No effective treatment has been used at this time.

Little Red Schoolhouse Events

Elementary Field trips in May.

July 23rd Annual Meeting/Picnic- Meeting at 11:30 a.m.
 Picnic to follow. Public invited.

August 16- Ice Cream Social 6:00-7:30 p.m.

LMBIA Annual Meeting Date

The 2016 annual meeting will take place on Saturday, July 16th at the Beckville Church picnic grounds on the south side of the lake. Coffee, juice and rolls will be served at 9:30 a.m. Meeting begins at 10 a.m. and concludes at 11 a.m. with door prizes.

Vacancies on the Lake Minnie Belle Board of Directors

Please consider being a board member. Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month excluding December and last 1 hour. Election of board members takes place at the annual meeting in July.

Membership

The 2016 membership form is included in the newsletter. Dues will remain at \$25 for this year. Please consider an extra donation to the milfoil fund. All donations to LMBIA are tax deductible.

Check Us Out

LMBIA website is <https://sites.google.com/site/lmbiaorg/>

LMBIA facebook www.facebook.com/lmbia

DNR website is www.dnr.state.mn.us

AIS check

Please check your lakeshore for evidence of Aquatic Invasive Species. Zebra mussels, curly leaf pondweed, Eurasian milfoil, starry stonewort, are either in the lake or in the neighborhood. Contact the DNR or a board member if you find evidence or have questions.

Politics of Clean Water

In the upcoming political election it is very important that we have representation that understands and reflects with their vote the philosophy that clean water is important now and in the future. Please consider this issue as you vote for candidates at the local, state and federal level.

A special thank you to Mark & Ann Schmidtbauer's Creative Graphics for publishing the LMBIA Messenger. This service is done at no cost to our organization. Thanks a lot.