

ILA News

The Official Newsletter of the Ida Lake Association

TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE SERENITY, QUALITY, AND NATURAL BEAUTY OF LAKE IDA

2018 Fall Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars now to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting **Saturday, August 25 at 9 a.m.** at the Ida Township Hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend. District Directors plan to meet at 8 a.m.

With this being an even-numbered year, the offices of Vice President and Treasurer are up for election and the Districts that are even-numbered will be electing District Directors. A special *Thank You* to those who have served so thoughtfully.

We look forward to seeing you at the **Ida Township Hall, located at 4700 County Road 6 NW.**

Annual Due\$

It is time to remind you to send in your annual Ida Lake Association dues of \$25. Your support helps the ILA preserve and protect the serenity, quality, and natural beauty of Lake Ida. ILA uses the money for various projects. Check the mailing label under your name; it will remind you when you are paid through.

The 2016 membership reached an all-time high of 469, which we are below that number, as we are currently at 382! This is still short of the **761 property owners** along our shores – please bring to the Meeting August 25th or remit with the form included in this newsletter.



Be An Active Member

Be an active member,
The kind that would be missed;
Don't be just contented
That your name is on the list.
Do you attend the meetings
And mingle with the crowd;
Don't stay at home
And crab both long and loud.
Do you take an active part
To help the ILA along.
Don't leave the work for just a few
And gripe about the clique.

There is quite a program schedule
That mean success, if done,
And it can be accomplished
With the help of everyone.
So attend the meetings regularly
And help with hand and heart,
Be an active member
And take an active part.
Think this over, Member
Are we right or are we wrong?
Be an active member,
Don't just belong.

About Us ~ ILA

Ida Lake Association is comprised of 17 districts, consisting of two District Directors for each district, representing and serving the property owners of Lake Ida.

It is important to get to know your neighbors and your District Directors – together we can keep our lake healthy and enjoyable for generations to come. Visit our website www.lakeidamn.org to find your Board Members and your District Directors – or better yet, see you at the meeting August 25th!



Looking for a resource to learn more about ILA? Visit our new website. Many THANKS and hats off to Andy Lopez for his dedicated work on maintaining our website for so many years! And a shout-out to Pam Phillips for all of her work on this new site. *“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.”*
~Elizabeth Andrew

From The President

Many members have worked this year to carry out our mission to preserve and protect the serenity, quality and natural beauty of Lake Ida. Our enjoyment of this special environment depends on all of us, so thank you again.

I am especially gratified that we have had members step forward to fill important posts. Please welcome our new Treasurer, Mike Kleve, and new webmaster, Pam Phillips. We look forward to introducing them at our annual meeting, August 25th. There will also be election of Vice President, along with directors from the even-numbered districts.

Other agenda items include the Curly Leaf Pondweed lake survey, fish stocking plans, water quality, and a presentation by the Environmental Coordinator from Pope/Douglas Recycling Center on composting and recycling. And much more! Please plan to attend.

Dick Sudmeier • President Ida Lake Association

Organics Recycling Program

Want to recycle your food waste and/or other products for organic recycling? You now can. A new **Organics Recycling Program** is available through Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management.



Join us at the Fall Meeting for a presentation by Nathan Reinbold, Environmental Coordinator at Pope/Douglas. He will introduce us to this new service of **Organics Recycling**. About 38% of our garbage is of the ‘wet’ variety of food waste. Examples that can be recycled our food scraps, fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, bones, eggs, dairy, peels, pits...and more! Currently, this food waste is put into a gas fired incinerator to dry this material out, so that it can be burned. Composting on the other hand becomes soil for farmers, and eliminates the CO₂ from burning. How many of us and our fish cleaning into our garbage?

The recycling center provides many other services including the proper disposal used paint cans pesticides, chemicals, as well as recycling appliances which do not contain Freon. Reinbold will explain the services which are provided and how we can all use them.

One added benefit of this Organics Recycling program will it be the reduction of material being sent down our sewer via the garbage disposal. Phosphorus sent down the sewer is the most expensive process to remove from the sewer system. Although 98% is removed, the remainder is sent into our lake system. Any reduction is a positive step.

FREE KITS will be available at the fall annual meeting! This includes a collection bucket and an initial supply of compostable bags and instructions on how to use. Pick up your kit at the meeting and get started on your own organics recycling!

Please Be Courteous

We all share the lake – with residents and visitors alike...please be courteous! Many boaters enjoy stopping for a swim at several areas around the lake. They have a right to use the water, but not to set foot on the land.

Douglas County has established no wake zones, 300 feet from shore for eight area lakes, including Lake Ida. Litter! Goes without saying, please pick up after yourselves and keep garbage from flying out of your boats.

Do Not Burn Near the Lake

Did you know that burning leaves or wood near the lake destroys the organic matter releasing the phosphorus, which could be washed into the lake? Phosphorus entering lakes and rivers feed the growth of algae, bacteria, and other tiny organisms. Water bodies require some nutrients to be healthy, but too much can be harmful. When lakes receive an overabundance of nutrients, they can become polluted by excessive amounts of algae. Die-off and decomposition of algae blooms can reduce dissolved oxygen and suffocate fish and other aquatic life. Some forms of algae (blue-green) may produce toxins that can be harmful if ingested by humans and animals.



Please do NOT burn your leaves near the lakeshore. **Douglas County Ordinance prohibits burning within 100 feet from the lakeshore.** The only exception is a recreational wood-burning campfire. Make sure you locate your fire pit at least 50 feet away from the lakeshore and remove ashes from the fire pit to prevent the ashes from being blown or washed into the lake.

Take Stake In Your Lake

A statewide Minnesota law, prohibiting the use of phosphorous lawn fertilizers, went into effect January 1, 2005. Minnesota law bans the use of phosphorus fertilizer, because phosphorous is the nutrient that turns Minnesota's lakes and streams green with algae.

When shopping for your lawn and landscaping supplies, purchase fertilizers that contain **zero phosphorous**, and only buy brands that have clearly indicated a middle number of zero (#-0-#) on the packaging. This simple action will help protect Minnesota's lakes and streams from increasing algae blooms, excessive weed growth and deteriorating water quality.

The Minnesota Lakes Association, a statewide nonprofit dedicated to the protection and preservation of Minnesota's lakes, reminds Minnesota citizens that aside from using phosphorous-free lawn fertilizers homeowners can take a variety of additional measures, in order to reduce the storm water runoff reaching Minnesota's lakes and streams. If we all do our part Minnesota lakes and streams will have cleaner and clearer waters this summer!



- **Lawn Clippings.** Rake and sweep all lawn clippings, leaves and other yard debris into an enclosed yard compost bin or dispose of them at city composting piles. These are all sources of phosphorous and can quickly make their way to nearby water bodies if left in yards, on curbs, or in ditches.

- **Pet Waste.** Pick up and properly dispose of all pet waste, because this can be a harmful source of bacteria in lakes and streams.

- **Exposed Soil.** Cover or protect any exposed soil in your yard, because spring rains quickly wash away any loose soil, resulting in cloudy sediment-filled waters.

Take stake in your lake – and help keep Lake Ida looking healthy, beautiful...and blue!

ILA Loons

Many loons make Lake Ida their home! Did you know:

- The bones of most birds are hollow and light, but loons have solid bones.
- The extra weight helps them dive as deep as 250 feet to search for food and can stay underwater for five minutes.
- Because their bodies are heavy relative to their wing size, loons need a 100-600 foot "runway" in order to take off from a lake.
- Loons can fly more than 75 miles per hour.
- The red in the loon's eye helps it to see under water.
- Scientists think loons can live for 30 years or more.



Become a 2018 dues paying member!

Ida Lake Association Annual Dues and Fees Statement

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

First Name(s): _____ Last Name(s): _____

Lake Address: _____ Lake Phone: _____

Preferred Mailing Address (if different): _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Other Phone: _____

E-mail (list any and all e-mail addresses you wish to be used for ILA business only): _____

Annual Dues: \$25.00
Memorial: \$ _____ for: _____
Walleye Stocking: \$ _____
TOTAL: \$ _____

Comments:

Remit payment to:
Ida Lake Association
P.O. Box 175
Garfield, MN 56332-0175

Return Service Requested

Ida Lake Association
P.O. Box 175
Garfield, MN 56332-0175

