

ILA News

The Official Newsletter of the Ida Lake Association

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

2021 Spring Meeting

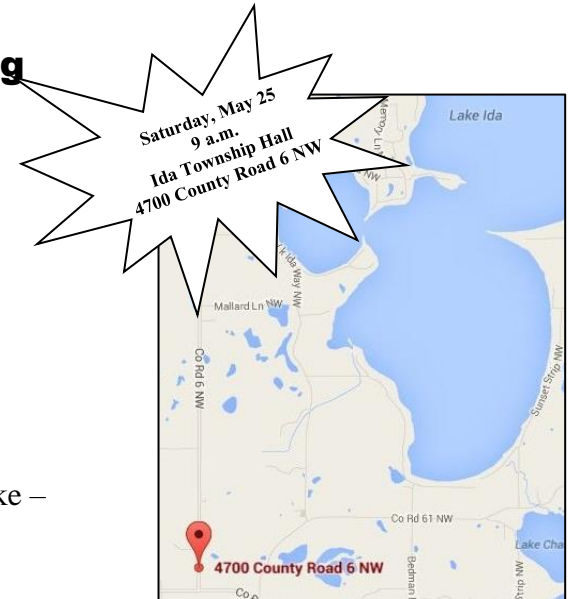
Mark your calendars now to attend the 2021 Spring Members Meeting. District Directors will meet at 8 a.m.

Saturday, May 22

9 a.m.

Ida Township Hall, 4700 County Road 6 NW

**We are limited to 50 in attendance indoors, so it will be first come, first serve. Masks and social distancing will be required. We will attempt to open windows and use speakers out to the parking lot if we get more than 50. We look forward to seeing you! Take stake in your lake – and help keep Lake Ida looking healthy, beautiful...and blue!



From the President



After a difficult winter dealing with Covid issues, we are drawn back to our beautiful lake with renewed hope of a more “normal” summer. Now is the time to pay your Ida Lake Association membership dues. This nominal amount of \$25.00 addresses important lake quality issues such as treating invasive species, additional watercraft inspection, Ditch 23, and boat landing lighting, as well as representation on Nelson Lake and Pilgrim Point Park/lake shore development projects. The officers, committee members, and directors in your district generously donate their time and talent on your behalf. They welcome your input on keeping our lake inviting and clean. Please extend your gratitude for their service on the association board. Have a healthy, safe and fun summer!

Elaine Greer, President

DOUGLAS COUNTY WATER QUALITY LEGACY FUND

At the ILA directors meeting on April 24th, 2021, the District Directors listened to a presentation by Steve Henry, President of the Douglas County Lakes Association, advocating for the ILA to support a recently formed Douglas County non-profit organization named the Douglas County Water Quality Legacy Fund (WQLF). Steve Henry has been a passionate advocate for keeping Douglas County Lakes clean, unpolluted and pristine for many years. The WQLF has acted in ILA interests in the recent past by providing the matching funds of nearly \$18,000 for the terracing erosion control project on the farmland north of Little Ida Bay to prevent runoff into the lake, without asking ILA to contribute any funds. As we listened to the presentation, and other Directors familiar with the organization provided additional information in the ensuing discussion, many Directors present were convinced that supporting this organization both cooperatively and financially was important. The Directors voted to support the WQLF and donate a breathtaking \$25,000.00 to the WQLF to preserve and protect the well-being of all our lakes in Douglas County and, of course, Lake Ida!

A significant factor in this decision is our understanding that our donation can and will be used to leverage local, regional and national grant monies by providing the 25% matching funding required by those grants to be used to improve and protect the water quality of Lake Ida and other county lakes. In addition, the Douglas County Soil and Water Commission (DCSWC), which has obtained the grant for the Ditch 23 project, has encouraged ILA to

contribute directly to WQLF. The DCSWC initiated the establishment of the WQLF with the intention of having matching funds for future water quality project grants come from the WQLF rather than from separate organizations.

As the WQLF is a relatively new non-profit, your Directors spent some time debating the positive and negative aspects of this significant financial commitment to the future wellbeing of Lake Ida. The Directors plan to provide additional clarity and information regarding the positive considerations at the upcoming ILA members meeting on Saturday, May 22nd, allowing time for questions. A positive takeaway for Jim Conn, Director District 14, was firmly establishing ILA in an undeniable leadership position – taking meaningful action and demonstrating to other lake associations and political entities in West Central Minnesota – that ILA, as an association, is irrevocably committed to and focused upon protecting our Lake Ida gem for future generations.

Thank You from DCWQLF

Elaine and Lake Ida residents,

Thank you for your support of the Douglas County Water Quality Legacy Fund. (DCWQLF). We have been in existence for more than 2 years. We have provided matching funds for several water quality projects in Douglas County. The Ditch 23 project grant has been awarded to Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation District. Contracts are being awarded and construction will start later this year. DCWQLF is committed to raising the \$170,000 needed for the matching funds.

Steve Henry and Gene Rose

Annual Due\$

As a property owner on Lake Ida (760 of you!) you have a major interest in the well-being of your lake, as water quality directly affects property values and your enjoyment of lake activities! The Ida Lake Association has a vested interest in keeping our lake clean and healthy. As residents on Lake Ida, we appreciate your financial commitment to support the mission of the Ida Lake Association to preserve our lake. It takes effort and dollars, and your dues help to fund treatment for Aquatic Invasive Species, as well as provide leverage for grant monies for runoff and water quality improvement projects. **The 2021 annual membership remains \$25!** You may pay in person at the spring membership meeting on May 22nd, remit with the form included in this newsletter, pay with a credit card online through the website (<https://www.lakeidamn.org/join-or-donate.html>). This is YOUR Lake Ida!

Fish Stocking

Thanks to generous donations from our Homeowners and outside Sportsman Clubs, ILA's Walleye Stocking Fund was able to purchase \$48,000 of walleye fingerlings over the last three years. Many ice fishermen have said that they caught many 12" walleyes last season. We discussed this with our Walleye Supplier, who indicated that these are probably the fingerlings stocked in 2019. If conditions are right, they could grow to 15" in two years. This is not a scientific survey, but it raises our hope that we are seeing results. The Walleye Stocking Fund is currently depleted, and ILA has put a pause on stocking in 2021 to allow the Fishing Committee to look into other funding sources and/or until additional donations permit.

About Us ~ ILA

Ida Lake Association is comprised of 18 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** (a great resource) to find your Board Members and your District Directors – or better yet, see you at the meeting May 22nd!

Summer Fun

Join in some fun! The **13th Annual Lake Ida Fourth of July Boat Parade** will take place **Sunday, July 4th** (rain date July 5th). Boats will gather on the north side of Pilgrim Point at 10:00 a.m. Jim Conn will lead the parade in his vintage Chris Craft, and will cover the North end of the lake (both bays if winds allow). Watch from shore or decorate your boat and fall in line. Be a part of the tradition and fun celebrating at the lake!

Please Be Courteous

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

Litter! Please pick up after yourselves and keep garbage from flying out of your boats.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds boaters to “Own Your Wake.” A 200-foot setback distance is sensible because it addresses concerns over environmental impacts on shorelines and safety of those swimming near the shoreline. Please also respect channel markers when traveling between bays.

Burning

Currently, Douglas County is under burn restrictions – no burning of anything other than contained wood-burning recreational campfires. Douglas County Ordinance prohibits burning within 100 feet from the lakeshore. The only exception is a recreational wood-burning campfire. Make sure to locate fire pits at least 50 feet away from the lakeshore and remove ashes from the fire pit to prevent them from being blown or washed into the lake, releasing phosphorus. Be sure all recreational fires are fully extinguished.

Aquatic Invasive Species Management

The ILA will continue its Curly-leaf Pondweed (CLP) management program. ILA received an up to \$16,753 grant from Douglas County to cover 75% of the total treatment cost, and a \$3,600 grant from the DNR will cover part of the 25% required matching funds. Dick Sudmeier and Elaine Greer prepared and submitted the grant applications. ILA will continue using a two-part CLP management strategy. AIS Consulting will survey all areas treated in the past and enlarge the survey area to cover all of Little Ida. The survey will also cover areas in Big Horn Bay and on a shallow bar outside Christopherson’s Bay. The survey will be conducted in mid- to late-May when CLP is beginning to grow. Based on the delineation survey results, PLM, the treatment company, will treat in late May after CLP appears but before desirable native plants emerge. Depending on survey results, both shallower water and deeper water may be treated.

ILA’s AIS Detectors, Bob Reed and David Geddes, have been active over the winter and spring. This summer, they will investigate vigorous aquatic plant growth in the shallow bays to determine if it is related to CLP or is vigorous growth of native plants due to increased water clarity or other causes. Issues they’ve been involved with include:

- Worked with AIS and PLM on the 2021 CLP management plan.
- Spoke with regional DNR expert Mark Ranweiler to arrange a DNR specialist visit this summer, particularly to look at vigorous plant growth in Schwab’s Bay and Little Ida.
- Participated in monthly AIS ZOOM meetings with experts at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Research Center (MAISRC) and AIS detectors on lakes around the state. They get new information and share activities and questions with lake representatives around the state. If you have AIS questions, please contact Bob (drrr45@aol.com) or David (david.geddes.611@gmail.com).
- Bob and David would like to train lake property owners how to conduct plant samples from your docks. If you are interested, please contact Bob and/or David.

Memorials

ILA received several memorial donations since those posted last May, primarily for loved ones who have departed. Thank you for your generous donations!

Naomi Gargaro for Sam Gargaro
David & Angeline Bratrud for Elaine Kuehl
Darrell Lorsung for Harry Bedman
Margaret Mattson for Don Mattson
Doug Kinney for Laura Wood
Bernie & Becky Shea for Malcom McLean
Don Vinger for Norma Vinger
John, JoAnn & Jason Dahl for Norma Vinger
Edward & Eileen Kohn for Denny & Sam Triple & Barb Russel
Keith & Lynn Slone Family and Nick Goblirsch for Albert William “Bill” Goblirsch
Pat & Sherry Daniels for Earle & Margaret “Grenson”

Lynn Sanders for Gary L. Sanders
Mike & Terri Steidl for Arlia Johnson
Jean Challeen for Jane Norris
Greg & Wendy Schultz for Josh Schultz
Artie & Barbara Peterson Malesci for Hugo, Xia Bastie
Dewayne & Dorothy Bisek for Warren Donley
Joann Raach for Norma Vinger

Become a 2021 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

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