

ILA News

The Official Newsletter of the Ida Lake Association

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

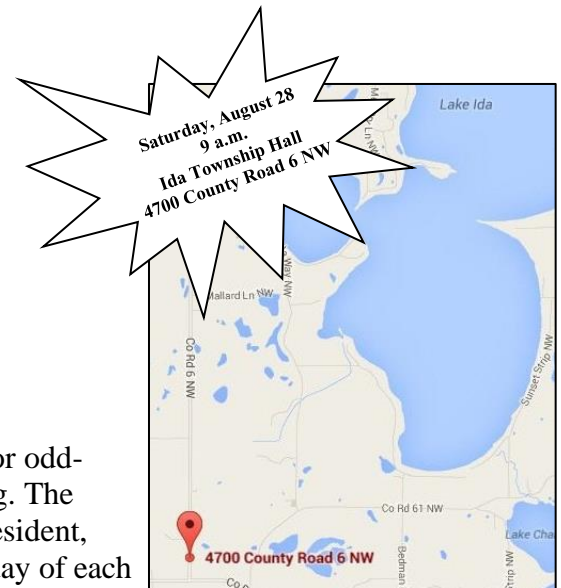
2021 Annual Membership Meeting

Mark your calendars now to attend the 2021 Annual Membership Meeting. Brad Bonk, Superintendent of Douglas County Parks, will speak about the development of the new Pilgrim Point County Park.

Saturday, August 28

9 a.m.

Ida Township Hall, 4700 County Road 6 NW



Election of Officers and Directors

The Officer positions of President and Secretary and District Directors for odd-numbered districts will be elected for 2-year terms at the Annual Meeting. The District Directors serve on the ILA Board of Directors along with the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Board meets the 4th Saturday of each month from April through September, so even if you are not a full-time resident, the time commitment is minimal. (Options for joining the meetings virtually are also available for those who are unable to attend in person.)

The Directors promote the care and improvement of Lake Ida and adjoining properties, disseminate information to the membership from the Board, encourage membership in the organization, serve as the voice of the membership in matters of concern, and promote the welfare of lake and watershed management interests. The Association carries liability and "misrepresentation" insurance for all members serving on the Board. The President prepares agendas, runs meetings, gets to know various agency staffs, stays on top of grant applications and payments, supports directors. The President should have a listening ear and be grateful for the great teamwork with directors. Newly elected Officers and District Directors will assume their responsibilities in April of 2022 for a 2-year term. Please consider volunteering to serve as an Officer or a Director for one of our vacant slots (Districts 3, 7, 15, and 17), or running against incumbents up for re-election. If you are interested in serving as an Officer or Director, please contact us at webmaster@lakeidamn.org. We will also take nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

From the President



The Lake Ida Association offers our sincere sympathy to the family of Clifford Drenttel, Jr. who passed away June 25th. Cliff volunteered as a director of District 16 for many faithful years. We are grateful for his service along with all the generous directors and officers offering their time and energy to "get things done!" We wouldn't have an association without dedication such as Cliff's.

This past year the board has accomplished much. We addressed such important issues as aquatic invasive species control, water quality, fish stocking, Ditch 23, boat inspection support, grants, Nelson Lake drainage, boating regulations, Pilgrim Point Park and Pilgrim Point Shores development. In order to continue such good work, we need a strong board. Please consider serving as a Director or as an Officer.

It has been an honor to serve as your President, but I am sad to say that I will be stepping down due to health issues. We need someone to step up to the plate. We need YOU to keep Lake Ida the desirable haven we all love!!
Gratefully, Elaine Greer, President

Heavy Aquatic Plant Growth

Several property owners have noted unusually heavy aquatic plant growth in 2020 and 2021, especially in shallow bays on the west side of the lake. Based on conversations with Mark Ranweiler at the DNR, several factors are contributing to heavy aquatic plant growth, particularly clearer water due to zebra mussels, warmer water due to global warming, and nutrients (phosphates and nitrates) infiltrating into the lake. Lower water levels make the plant growth both more visible and more annoying. Many of the plants are native and are not invasive species.

In general, the DNR allows property owners to remove up to 2,500 square feet of **submerged** aquatic plants without a permit. It is not permissible to remove emergent plants (seen above the water). Note that all plant material cut or raked from the lake **must** be removed from the lake. It is illegal to deposit the material back into the lake. Likewise, it is illegal to deposit leaves from a fall cleanup into the lake.

We have had complaints from some property owners in Schwab's Bay about large quantities of plant material washing up on their beaches. Please follow the law and be a good neighbor. If you remove aquatic plants, remove the material from the lake.

See <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/regulations.html> for more details.

Filamentous algae (FA) is another nuisance that has been noted the past couple of years. FA consists of a mass of long, stringy, hairlike strands, usually green in color but may become yellow grayish or brown. Individual filaments are a series of cells joined end to end, which give them a thread-like appearance. FA wraps around submerged plants. When gas bubbles develop in FA masses, the FA may detach and float to the surface. Two major causes of FA are rich nutrient levels (phosphates and nitrates in particular) from farm runoff and yard fertilizer runoff, and warmer lake waters due to global warming. This FA is not harmful but can be a nuisance for boating, fishing, and swimming.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Management

Help prevent the spread of AIS. Remember that humans are the primary factor in spreading AIS. If you take your boat to another lake, or a guest from another lake comes to visit, follow the DNR's Clean, Drain, Dry protocol (<https://stopaquaticinvasives.org>). We have boat inspectors and cleaning stations to help.

Curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) has been present in Minnesota for over 100 years, is present in over 100 lakes, has been present in Lake Ida since at least 1966. CLP treatment continued in 2021. Total costs were \$16,708. Douglas County granted \$11,667, and the DNR granted \$3,600. The association covered the remaining \$1,540. Bob Reed and David Geddes, our AIS Detectors, are working on a 2022 survey and treatment plan that will expand treatment into additional areas of Little Ida and Big Horn Bay. Reports on CLP delineation surveys and treatments and maps are available on the association website.



Zebra mussels were first identified in Lake Ida about ten years ago. These are voracious filter feeders (and also super-reproducers), and as a result, the lake's secchi disk clarity has increased to about 18 to 20 feet today from 10 to 12 feet a few years ago. While clear water is nice, increased water clarity means that plants can grow in deeper water. More light reaches submerged plants, resulting in more vigorous plant growth, which can be an annoyance. In addition, zebra mussels change the food web in lakes by removing plankton, thereby reducing food for native plankton-feeding species, and in turn smaller fish and larger fish such as walleye.

Starry stonewort is a major threat and has been found in lakes in Stearns County. Starry stonewort is a bushy, bright green macro-algae. It produces a characteristic star-shaped bulbil. Starry stonewort always first appears around public landings, as it is spread by contaminated boats. Like CLP, starry stonewort produces thick mats, and pushes away native species.

If you see anything suspicious, especially curly-leaf pondweed, please fill out a contact form on the ILA website. Please include some location information, such as a street address, GPS coordinates, or landmarks on the water.

Fish Stocking

Because the Walleye Stocking Fund was depleted in 2020, ILA has put a pause on stocking in 2021. The Fishing Committee has a meeting set in the Spring 2022 with our Walleye Supplier regarding pricing, dates and feasibility of a new contract starting in the Fall of 2022. Thank you for your generous donations to the Walleye Stocking Fund – as of July the fund was up to \$6,700. Additional donations will help to build a base for future stocking.

Ten Commandments for Lake Living

1. Thou shalt have reverence for our lake, above all wants of play.
2. Thou shalt respect your neighbor's peace.
3. Thou shalt not make unnecessary and excessive sound without regard for neighbors.
4. Thou shalt honor Mother Nature, rules and regulations.
5. Thou shalt not kill the lake.
6. Thou shalt not commit relieving of oneself on the shore or in the water.
7. Thou shalt not disrupt shoreline or habitat.
8. Thou shalt own one's own wake, respecting distance from swimmers, boaters and shore.
9. Thou shalt not rake or dump in the lake (leaves, clippings weeds, ashes, poop, paint, etc.)
10. Thou shalt care for the lake for future generations.

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. Get to know your neighbors and your Directors – together we can keep our lake healthy and enjoyable for generations to come. **Visit our website www.lakeidamn.org** (a great resource).

Burning

Unfortunately, because of the drought, Douglas County continues to be under burn restrictions – no burning of anything other than contained wood-burning recreational campfires. 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.

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 annual membership meeting on August 28th, remit with the form included in this newsletter, or pay with a credit card online through the website (<https://www.lakeidamn.org/join-or-donate.html>). This is YOUR Lake Ida!

Memorials

ILA received several memorial donations since December 2020, primarily for loved ones who have departed.

Thank you for your generous donations!

Steven & Jennie Wall for Donald Wall
Debra & Steven Baumann for Floyd Montgomery
Jim & Pat Peterson for Dr. Robert L. Peterson
Leon & Shelia Bresley for Rex & Goldie Bresley
Janet & Tom Vandendriessche for Laura Carlson

Mark & Mary Jo Heieren for Bob Peterson
James & Shirley Brakken for Sheryl Brakken Feely
Richard & Suzanne Sudmeier for Richard & Dorothy Sudmeier
Amy Burdeau for Louis Mau
Jim and Pamela (Norris) Phillips for Jane Norris

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

Ida Lake Association
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Garfield, MN 56332-0175



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