



Deer Tales

Deer Lake Improvement Association Newsletter

Spring 2006

Upcoming Events:

Spring Party	June 17
Fireworks	July 2 (Storm - 3rd)
Boat Parade	July 4
Pontoon Party	July 7
DLIA & DLC Annual Meetings - at Trollhaugen	July 15 9:00 a.m.



President's Message

Membership in the DLIA is lagging behind previous years. Eighty percent of every membership dollar is used for water quality issues, algae and weed control, boat landing inspections, and weekly inspections for Eurasian water milfoil. The Deer Lake directories, Deer Tales newsletters, and the Fourth of July activities are additional expenses. The spring and winter social events are self-funded, as is the Fourth of July fireworks display. One-hundred percent of the Special Property Tax Assessment dollars are used for water quality issues also.



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PLEASE — WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

If you would like to serve on the DLIA Board, please contact me or any of the present Board members.

Bob Rawlings, President
Deer Lake Improvement Association

DLIA & DLC Annual Meetings

Mark your calendars — The DLIA and Deer Lake Conservancy meetings will be held concurrently at the Trollhaugen Ski Chalet on Saturday, July 15, at 9:00 a.m. Your attendance will be appreciated.

Conservancy Corner

We're Smokin!

The smoke rising from the western shores of Deer Lake about a month ago was not from Jim Miller's chain saw, but from a controlled burn conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on our Maple Cove conservation area. A persistent southerly breeze caused postponement of a similar burn on our Flagstad Farm property on the south western side of Deer Lake. Such burns control the growth of unwanted species on our prairie restorations and greatly increase the germination rate of the approximately fifty species of wildflowers planted in these areas. The Flagstad Farm burn will likely be delayed until this fall.

We're Rockin!

Figuratively speaking of course. Actually, the Conservancy has several projects going in our Flagstad Farm conservation area. One of which is covering the rocks, actually an abandoned gravel pit. The top soil to replant this area will be provided by a major reworking of several retention ponds on the property. In addition, an abandoned well has been capped and future hiking trails are being planned. Should you wonder why we bit-off such a large piece with this project, walking it on a fine spring day should convince even the most skeptical soul that we indeed did the right thing.

We're Lookin!

For members that is. Our spring membership letter will be in the mail soon. To refresh your memory, we have several levels of membership available, designed to fit virtually every Deer Lake resident. Please consider **joining or renewing your membership** at the **Founding Member level (\$1,000)**, or as a **Patron Member (\$500)**, **Sustaining Member (\$250)**, or **Annual Member (\$100)**. Regardless of the level you choose, we would love to have you join us in helping preserve Deer Lake as a truly special place for our families to enjoy for years to come! Your contributions are multiplied as matching funds from grants on many of the projects we have undertaken, including the acquisition of our Flagstad Farm property. And, as a 501(c)(3) organization, your contributions are tax deductible.

Be safe this summer, and thanks for your continuing support.

Rob Ilstrup, President
Deer Lake Conservancy

DNR Funds Sought for Lake Protection

Applications were recently submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for two projects to preserve Deer Lake water quality. The Deer Lake Improvement Association is cooperating with the Deer Lake Conservancy on both projects. Stay tuned for the results; formal grant notification will likely occur by September of this year.

The first grant application requests assistance with the purchase of the Back 20 acres of the Flagstad Farm property. This 70-acre parcel, purchased by the Deer Lake Conservancy on a land contract back in 2002, has been transformed from cornfields to prairie to reduce runoff of nutrients into Deer Lake. The Back 20 acres was excluded from a \$200,000 Lake Protection Grant last year because of uncertainty of the future Highway 8 location at the time. If successful, the grant would bring almost \$100,000 toward repayment of the property debt.

The second project addresses runoff and erosion from areas immediately surrounding the lake. As agricultural sources of runoff are addressed, reducing runoff from this direct drainage area becomes more important. The grant would provide technical assistance and funding for correcting erosion problems and reducing runoff from waterfront lots and back lots. The problems may range from small areas of erosion on a single lot to medium sized gullies created from runoff from roads and multiple lots.

Jim Miller

Water Quality & Ecology Committee Report

The Deer Lake Improvement Association has heard from a number of individuals and certainly concurs that water quality and water use issues are a priority. The DLIA Board has elected again to contract with Lake Management Incorporated, Wisconsin Operations, regarding aquatic nuisance management.

Filamentous algae control on areas up to 15 acres per treatment with approximately seven treatments throughout the summer of 2006 is planned. This is carried out with a DNR permit and generally the treatment days include Tuesdays or Wednesdays, at a cost of approximately \$9,000 to \$12,000 for the year.

An aquatic invasive species control grant application has been accepted and 50% match funded of \$40,000 in conjunction with Cheryl Clemens, a consultant, and the Town of St. Croix Falls. This grant will help us provide education and prevention. An aquatic plant management plan has been completed and submitted to the DNR. This includes an aquatic plant identification process throughout the year of 2006, an intern to help us with the study management considerations, and coordination of volunteers.

We continue to study curlyleaf pondweed and feel that we will be able to implement a curlyleaf pondweed management program and close monitoring to determine the effects of treatment. There will be inspections at the landings for any presence of Eurasian water milfoil along with a sign placed at the public landing to help promote education of appropriate and correct aquatic plant invasive species control

Mark L. Thayer, Co-Chair

Hall of Fame

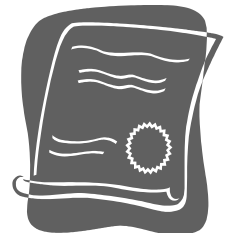
The DLIA Board of Directors is again soliciting recommendations for the Deer Lake Hall of Fame. Last year the recipients of the awards were Rob Ilstrup, Jim Miller, Bill & Pearl Patten and Hugo "Suki" Victor (dec). All of which were well deserved.

We are seeking individuals, couples or organizations who have made significant contributions to the quality of life on Deer Lake, which is consistent with the mission of the DLIA.

The established criteria is:

- Four new members will be selected and presented appropriate plaques at the annual summer meeting.
- Members do not have to be members of the DLIA and may be deceased.
- Members will be selected by a secret ballot at the Spring Board of Directors Meeting.

Please submit your recommendations prior to June 1, 2006, to Peter Boo, 150 Eaton Street, St. Paul, MN 55107.



DLIA Spring Fling

Join Us To Greet Friends Old And New

Dalles House French Room

Saturday, June 17th

Cocktails: 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.



• **Roasted Half Chicken** Qty _____ at \$17.00 = _____
w/ Garlic Mashed Potato, Salad & Dinner Roll

• **Pan Fried Walleye** Qty _____ at \$17.00 = _____
w/ Baked Potato, Salad & Dinner Roll

• **Filet Mignon** Qty _____ at \$23.00 = _____
w/ Baked Potato, Salad & Dinner Roll (cooked medium, unless specified differently to server)

TOTAL DUE (includes tax & tip) to: "Deer Lake Improvement Assoc." Total = _____

NAME:

MENU CHOICE:

Send this form with your dinner selections and money to:
Denise Sinclear Todd, 1873 Peer Ave, St. Croix Falls, WI 54024 (715-483-1442)

Maintaining Your Septic System

You flush the toilet, and it's gone, right? Maybe not. If your septic system is not maintained properly, waste products (including potentially harmful bacteria, viruses and nutrients) may be entering your drinking water supply and the lake. Properly maintaining your septic system will help to avoid these problems.

There are two main components to a septic system — the tank and the drain field. Wastewater flows first to the septic tank where solids settle out. The liquid is discharged to a soil absorption drain field where nutrients and contaminants are partially removed. Soil cannot remove solvents, drain cleaners or other strong household chemicals.

Hints to properly maintain your system:

Things to do:

- Limit the water entering your tank — use water saving fixtures, and wash clothes one load at a time.
- Pump the septic tank regularly — this means every two or three years (or annually if you use a sink garbage disposal). A septic system pumper can provide additional guidance on when to pump.
- Learn where your tank and drain field are located — divert surface water flow away from the drain field.

Things to avoid:

- Do not divert clean water such as from a basement sump pump to the septic tank.
- Avoid putting materials down the drain that might clog the septic tank outflow (fats, grease, coffee grounds, disposable paper products).
- Do not put toxic substances down the drain.

Your efforts to maintain your septic system will help to keep your family's drinking water safe and Deer Lake clean!

Information from Wisconsin Lakes Partnership PUB-WR-165.

This section left blank for return reservation.

Fireworks:

The annual Deer Lake fireworks display has been scheduled for Sunday, July 2nd, with a storm date of Monday, July 3rd. In the event of light rain, the show will go on as scheduled. Only high winds or lightning will force the show to be held on the alternate date. I would like to remind everyone that the fireworks show must be self funding. We are running quite short of the budgeted amount of \$6,000. If contributions to the fund do not reach the budgeted amount by the show date, we will be forced to cut back on next year's display. Many people put in a great deal of time and effort to carry on this great Deer Lake tradition, and it would be very disappointing to all if we were forced to scale back on the event. If you have not made a contribution to the fireworks fund, please consider doing so, and if you already have, please think about an additional donation. If every cabin on the lake were to donate just \$25, we would have over \$8,000 in the budget and the show would be that much more spectacular.

John Wright, Fireworks Committee Chair

Boat Parade:

The annual Boat Parade will take place on Tuesday, July 4th. The parade will start at 1:00 pm from the Lagoon and proceed counterclockwise around the lake. The Boat Parade offers you and your family an opportunity to display the creativity which you knew always existed. Whether it's one red, white and blue flag or 100, join the fun and be a part of the great Deer Lake and American tradition.

Entry qualifications are easy:

- Register and secure a boat number at 11:00 am on the 4th at the Phil Foussard's dock; south side of the lake.
- Parade will start promptly at 1:00 pm from the Lagoon.
- Appropriate prizes, based on creativity and spirit, will be awarded following the parade.

Because of the intensity of friendly competition, impartial judges will be brought in from out-of-state.

If you are unable to participate in the parade, join the crowds on the docks to show your support for the efforts and enthusiasm of the participants. See you at the Parade!

Peter Boo

Personal Watercraft (Jet Ski) Law: (Synopsis)

- Persons within the ages of 12-15 must be in possession of a valid boating student certificate.
- No person may operate a Personal Watercraft (PWC) from sunset to sunrise.
- PWC's are restricted to a slow-no-wake speed within 200 feet of shore on any lake in Wisconsin.
- It is illegal to operate a PWC within 100 feet of:
 - another boat
 - a water skier
 - an occupied anchored boat



(Prepared and distributed by The Deer Lake Improvement Association)

Deer Lake Events:

Spring Party

Saturday, June 17th

Boat Parade

Tuesday, July 4th



Fireworks

Sunday, July 2nd (storm - 3rd)

Pontoon Party

Friday, July 7th

DLIA & DLC Annual Meetings

Saturday, July 15th

9:00 a.m., Trollhaugen Chalet

DLIA Board 2006

President

Bob Rawlings

Secretary/Treasurer

Bucky Jandric

Members

Steven Johnson
Bob Spinner
Sharry Ehlers
Kris McCormack
Peter Boo
Mollie Keys
Denise Sinclear Todd
Mary Coyte
Steve Schletty
Bob Fedderly

Membership Committee

Sharry Ehlers
Kris McCormack
Mollie Keys
Denise Sinclear Todd
Bob Fedderly

Marketing Committee

Peter Boo
Mollie Keys
Steve Johnson

Environmental Committee

Steve Schletty
Bob Spinner

Events Committee

Denise Sinclear Todd
Kris McCormack
Peter Boo
Bob Fedderly

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