

Waseca Lakes Association

NEWSLETTER

Web Site: wasecalakes.org



Spring 2012

Waseca Lakes Assn Membership/Renewal Due

Please note the enclosed renewal for the 2012-2013 season. Your \$25 membership helps to fund membership projects such as the cleanup day, kids fishing events, County fair booth, Lakefest activities, lakeshore restoration, and projects such as those mentioned on the back of this newsletter. Thanks for your support.

2012 Calendar of Events

- Saturday, April 28rd: 12th annual lakeshore and parks cleanup at Maplewood Park
- Saturday, June 9th: Take a Kid Fishing event at Maplewood Park
- Wednesday, July 4th: 9th Annual Lakefest Freedom Run at Clear Lake Park
- Wed – Sun, July 11-15th: WLA booth at the Waseca County Fair
- Sunday, July 29th: 4rd Annual Waseca Triathlon at Clear Lake Park
- Sept – Nov: Monthly meetings TBD held last Monday of the month

Ice Heaving Heavy at Clear Lake

One result of the impressive ice heaving may be higher water levels on Clear Lake. When the new outlet structure was installed, some said lake levels were lower, but this less efficient outlet is more similar to the way it was before the area was cleared to install the new outlet.



Remembering Mike Connors

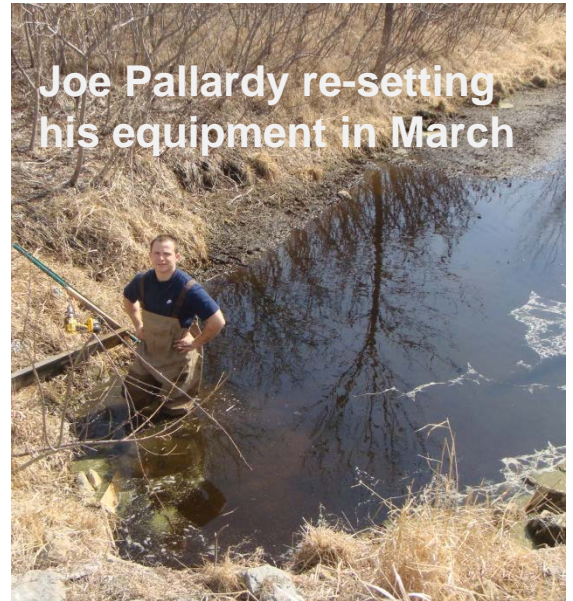
It was approved at the February meeting to purchase a park bench in memory of long time WLA member Mike Connors that will be placed at North Shore park on Clear Lake. Donations were also accepted at the recent fish fry.



Thanks to All Who Helped Make the March 23rd Fish Fry a Success!
Proceeds will be used to support the Loon Lake Aeration Project.

Water Projects Update

1. MSU Water Resources Project: Data collection will be completed by Joe Pallardy by late summer 2012 with the final lake management plan for both lakes expected to be completed in December, 2012. The goals and objectives identified by an advisory group will then be included into the draft lake management plan for Clear Lake/Loon Lake. This plan would need to go out for a 30-day review period to all stakeholders, as well as water planning staff at the county, city, and state agencies. This is meant to serve as an official long term plan so it can be pointed to as a foundation on which to request future funding to accomplish lake management goals and as a guidance document for future decision making.



2. Loon Lake Reclamation: Loon Lake suffered a heavy fish kill during the winter of 2010-2011 and surveys showed only bullheads remaining in the Spring of 2011. The current timeline is reclamation in fall 2012 with rotenone, fish stocking in Spring 2013, and new aeration equipment in place and operating winter 2013-2014. The DNR will continue to work with WLA to do an upgrade to the aeration system before the start of the winter following fish stocking. The WLA will use the proceeds of the 2011 and 2012 Fish Fry to help pay for the aeration upgrade.

3. Curlyleaf pondweed management in Clear Lake: The Waseca Lakes Association has applied for a grant in an effort to treat 30 acres in 2012. If we are approved for a DNR grant to help fund the effort, the WLA has approved an expenditure of over \$2000 along with additional cost share from Kieslers Campground and The Boathouse to complete the project. We should know about the grant application outcome soon. Curlyleaf Pondweed has gotten worse over the past 5 years to a point of causing undesirable algae blooms and poor water clarity when it completes its life cycle and dies off in late June. An early Spring and low water levels could make it even worse in 2012.

4. Shoreline Improvement and rain garden projects approved: It was approved at the February meeting to complete a rain garden and shoreline restoration at Clear Lake Park, as well as a shoreline restoration on private property on Clear Lake in 2012. We hope to use a combination of WLA, available grant funds, and property owner in kind contributions to fund the projects.

Early Ice Outs Recorded

No surprise after the mild Winter that Clear Lake saw an early ice out ranking the 4th earliest on record. Ice out records for Clear Lake have been pieced together going back to 1874 and can be found on the WLA website at the water monitoring tab.