

The Shoreline

A Publication of the Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association

June/July 2022

From the President...

Winter sure took a long time letting go, but open water has arrived and summertime fun is right around the corner. Speaking of fun, this edition of The Shoreline is chocked full of information about the fun events we have planned. We hope to see you at one of them!

I want to say a big thank you to Joy and Andy Larson. Not only are they members of PCLIA and serve on the board, they also open their home up to us for the Summer Picnic and the Family Fun Event. By the way, the Family Fun Event was their creation! Thanks Joy and Andy for all you do!

As I was waiting for the snow to melt and the ice to disappear this spring I started looking at old editions of The Shoreline. One topic really stood out and has been an ongoing issue for decades. It's boating safety! Yes, even back in the 1970's when the number of residences on the lakes was less than half of what exists today, the average speed boat had a 50-90 HP motor, and the typical fishing boat was pushed by a 10-25 HP motor.

In this edition of The Shoreline, Chuck Lund shares a nice summary of some of the very basic boating laws. It's a good reminder to all of us that we are responsible for our wake and the damage it can cause. Keep this in mind when you're on the water this summer. Just because you safely passed another boat doesn't mean your wake couldn't have tossed people around in that boat, or caused damage and injury. Let's also be especially careful around others in canoes, kayaks and other watercraft that are susceptible to being overturned or damaged by your wake.

Looking forward to seeing you on the water!

Scott Maghan



**Official Ice-Out Date
May 3, 2022!**

Second latest in recorded history
(5/11/13)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
2022**



Summer Picnic & Get Together

Saturday, June 18th

Larson Residence 14265 Maghan Lane

Details in this newsletter

Pontoon & Boat Parade

Sunday, July 3rd

Details in this newsletter

2nd Annual Family Fun Event

Monday, July 4th

Details in this newsletter

Fall Dinner & Business Meeting

Saturday, September 10th

Details in August newsletter

*Scheduled events are subject to change

TREASURER'S REPORT

	Beginning Balance 1/1/2022	Income	Expense	Ending Balance 4/30/2022
Healthy Lakes /AIS Fund*	\$9,809.48	\$1,525.00		\$11,334.48
Fish Stocking Fund*	\$1,076.30	\$680.00		\$1,756.30
General Fund*				
Donations and Interest		\$448.24		
Membership Dues		\$1,890.00		
Total General Fund	\$35,655.93	\$2,338.24	\$214.56	\$37,779.61
Total Fund Balances	\$46,541.71	\$4,543.24	\$214.56	\$50,870.39

*The **Healthy Lakes Fund** contains money specifically donated for monitoring and taking corrective steps to protect the quality of our lakes.

*The **Fish Stocking Fund** contains money specifically donated toward the stocking of fish according to DNR guidelines.

*The **General Fund** contains funds raised through membership dues, accrued interest and donations made without specific fund designation.

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to everyone who has submitted their 2022 membership forms and dues. We received an impressive number of responses this year, and we appreciate your commitment to the lake association.

If you haven't had a chance to renew your membership, you can access the *2022 PCLIA Membership Form* at www.pclia.com.

PCLIA Board of Directors

President

Scott Maghan

Vice President

Andy Larson

Treasurer

Diane Lund

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Past President

Kris Picken

Directors

Lynn Bremer

Julie Maghan

Kari Bunkers

Jill Mertes

Chuck Lund

Marjorie Safaia

Tom Kaufhold

Mike Stuber

MEETINGS

Held at Bay Lake Town Hall at 9:00 a.m.

April 2nd

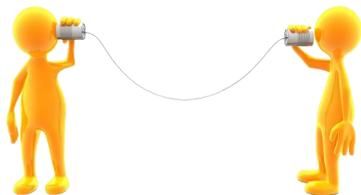
August 6th

May 7th

October 8th



* Scheduled meetings are open to members and are subject to change.



LAKE COMMUNICATION

Website

www.pclia.com continues to be updated. It provides a variety of lake association information as well as DNR resources.

Facebook

The PCLIA has a Facebook page for members to join and receive information on the association and its activities. Search *PCLIA of MN* on your Facebook home page, and you should be directed to the page where you can join the group.

The Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association may contract to treat Eurasian Water Milfoil, an Aquatic Invasive Species in the Crooked, Sugar Bay, Hanks and Portage chain of lakes in 2022. This is dependent on an evaluation of the need.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has granted the Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association a waiver requiring that the association obtain the signatures for approval of lake-shore property owners. Instead, the Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association will notify property owners of the treatment through alternate forms. This newsletter notice is one form that the Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association is using to notify property owners. Other forms include, but not limited to, notification through the association's web page, member newsletter and annual meeting.

The proposed dates for treatment is June 1, 2022 through October 31, 2022.

Eurasian Water Milfoil is the target species for the treatment.

The method of control or product being used: EPA and MDA registered aquatic herbicides. Such as but not limited to Liquid 2,4-D, Granular 2,4-D, Granular Tri clopyr, Florpyrauxifen-Benzyl.

Landowners may request that control not occur adjacent to the landowner's property. If you desire that the treatment of Eurasian Water Milfoil not occur adjacent to your property, please notify the Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association immediately at the following address and email address below:

PO Box 564
Deerwood, MN 56444
info@pclia.com



SUMMER PICNIC & GET TOGETHER



The annual PCLIA picnic starts at noon, Saturday, June 18th at the Larson's on Sugar Bay. Their address is 14265 Maghan Lane, Deerwood.

We hope you can attend and ask you RSVP as soon as possible. An RSVP isn't essential, but it helps us with planning. Please email Andy Larson at andylarson1959@hotmail.com and let us know how many will attend. We will provide beverages, and be serving hotdogs, brats and all the trimmings. Please bring a lawn chair.

Last year 80 people attended and we hope to have even more this year!

Check the PCLIA website at www.pclia.com or search *PCLIA of MN* on your Facebook home page for any last-minute details or changes.



**HAPPY
4th OF
JULY**



PONTOON & BOAT PARADE



The annual Portage-Crooked Lake Boat Parade has been scheduled for Sunday, July 3 at 3 PM. Mark your calendars, and start thinking about your boat's theme now!

- Sunday, July 3, 2022
- Meet at the island by 2:45 PM
- Register, get your number
- Place your number on the starboard side of the bow so the judges can read it – if they can't see or read your number, it will be impossible to award your boat
- If you have your number from last year, bring it to the island when you register
- Lead boat will begin the parade at 3 PM.
- Parade route will be the same as last year – Main part of Crooked, Sugar Bay & Hanks Lake
- Three prizes of \$50 each, plus a traveling trophy
- Email blast will go out in the event of bad weather
- Cheer on your friends and neighbors

2ND ANNUAL FAMILY FUN EVENT

The 2nd Annual Family Fun event will be held on July 4th at the Larson's on Sugar Bay. Their address is 14265 Maghan Lane, Deerwood. Registration starts at 9:30 AM and the event begins at 10:00 AM.

The event consists of a short swim of about 25 yards (or walk along the beach), then a three-mile bike ride and a one-mile walk/run. The idea is for families to participate and have fun. Afterwards we have a short awards ceremony and treats.

We hope you can participate and request you RSVP as soon as possible. An RSVP isn't essential, but it helps us with planning. Please email (andy Larson1959@hotmail.com) and let us know how many will participate. Also, if you are interested in volunteering to help at the event, please let us know.

Check the PCLIA website at www.pclia.com or search *PCLIA of MN* on your Facebook home page for any last-minute details or changes.





Navigation/Water Safety



The 2022 boating season is here and we thought it would be a good time to remind you of certain laws and regulations for operating boats and personal watercraft on our lakes. Listed are a just a few of the many items of interest that are found in the “Minnesota Boating Guide 2022” published by the MN DNR. For the complete guide refer to this link - <http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/regulations/boatwater/boatingguide.pdf>

Own Your Wake

Large wakes produced by some watercraft operated at certain speeds can cause a number of negative impacts, including:

- Shoreline erosion, which results in impaired water quality and property loss.
- Damage to others’ property, including docked boats.
- Hazards to public safety both on the water (swimmers, paddlers) and on shore.

Under Minnesota law, the damage your wake causes is treated the same as damage caused by an actual collision.

Personal watercraft (PWC) must stay at least 150 feet from shore. There is no required distance for boats, but by staying at least 200 feet from shore or other structures boaters can reduce the likelihood their wakes will cause damage. Boats that create an artificial wake may require more distance to lower the impact.

NOTE - There are four places in the Narrows that measure from 210 feet to 264 feet between the two shorelines. This means the furthest you could be from shore is between 105 and 132 feet at these four pinch points. Please be aware of the above law when traveling through these areas.

Personal Watercraft Laws (sometimes called PWC or by brand names such as Jet Ski, Wave Runner, Sea Doo, etc.)

In summary, the law requires that:

- Anyone operating or riding on a personal watercraft must wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved wearable life jacket that is compatible with that activity. Check the label on the life jacket.
- Personal watercraft must travel at slow no-wake speed (5 mph or less) within 150 feet of nonmotorized boats, shore (unless launching or landing skiers directly to or from open water), docks, swim rafts, swimmers, or any moored or anchored boat.
- Operation of personal watercraft is allowed only from 9:30 AM to 1 hour before sunset.
- You may not weave through congested watercraft traffic, or jump the wake of another watercraft within 150 feet of the other watercraft. This includes other personal watercraft.

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT OPERATOR AGE RESTRICTIONS

LESS THAN 13 YEARS • Cannot operate—even with an adult on board.

13 YEARS • must have either someone at least 21 years old on board, or • a watercraft operator’s permit and be in visual supervision by someone at least 21 years old.

14–17 YEARS • must have either a watercraft operator’s permit, or • someone at least 21 years old on board.



Five Top Reasons to Stop Feeding Waterfowl

1. **Environmental Degradation** – Feeding waterfowl attracts birds in unnatural numbers beyond what natural food and water supplies can support. Additionally, in many cases, the large number of waterfowl in the area is beyond what people will tolerate.
2. **Water Quality** – When waterfowl numbers increase at an unnatural feeding point they dramatically change water quality due to increased fecal matter in the surrounding water. This increase of waterfowl fecal matter is a contributing cause, among other causes, to an overgrowth of algae called “algae bloom” which blocks sunlight for fish and other organisms in the aquatic environment. Crooked Lake now suffers from algae bloom.
3. **Swimmers Itch** – According to a report from the Mayo Clinic, swimmers itch, also known as cercarial dermatitis, is an itchy rash caused by an allergic reaction to parasites that burrow into your skin while you’re swimming or wading in warm water. The parasites that cause swimmers itch normally live in waterfowl. The parasites are released into the water, again, through fecal matter. Parts of Sugar Bay are now affected with swimmers itch.
4. **Disease** – A Ducks Unlimited published report states that, “Over population of waterfowl at an artificial feeding site causes birds to be at higher risk of spreading disease more quickly. Potentially infecting thousands of birds with fatal diseases such as Avian Cholera, Duck Plaque, Avian influenza and Avian Botulism. Although these diseases have always existed in waterfowl populations, the risk of these diseases increases when populations become concentrated at feeding sites.” Also, in an article published on behalf of the Society for Applied Microbiology, the article summary states, “Mallard ducks may pose a so far underestimated risk to human and animal health by transmitting pathogenic Escherichia coli (Ecoli) via their fecal deposits to various environmental sources.”
5. **Delayed Migration** – Feeding waterfowl alters normal migration patterns by shortening or even eliminating them. Ducks, reluctant to leave in winter, may not survive sudden cold. In contrast, waterfowl can quickly adapt to finding natural foods when artificial feeding stops and will return to normal migration behavior.



What are you Catching?

We’re very interested in knowing if we’re catching any walleyes. We hope you will share any success you have with us. We’re not looking for information about your secret fishing hole or bait! But we’d really like to know if any are being caught, and what size they are.

If you’d like to help us out, please send the number, size and lake where they were caught to pclia.fishing@gmail.com.

New Lake Directory

This directory is currently in the production stage.

The information you provided on your 2022 membership form will help us create this updated version.

Distribution will take place this summer. One copy will be made available to each paid 2022 membership.

DID YOU KNOW?

The channel between Hanks and Portage existed in maps dating back to 1859.

CRITTER

O R N E R



Hungry, Large Bear on Maghan Lane

A large bear (or at least a bear with big feet) was busy on Maghan Lane recently. First the bruin feasted on the contents of numerous garbage cans and was so rude as not to clean up after itself. Next the beast commenced to bend sturdy birdfeeders to the ground and finish off the seeds for dessert. Apparently satisfied it ambled off to parts unknown. The Critter Corner is a new feature of the Shoreline Newsletter updating our membership on critter sightings and encounters. If you have a sighting or encounter, please let us know at info@pcli.com.

-submitted by Andy Larson

When Black Bears Become Un-Bearable!

Seeing the iconic black bear in the wild is a rare, wonderful, and unforgettable experience - unless it's rummaging through your garbage or ransacking your bird feeders! With roughly 12,000-15,000 black bears in Minnesota a visit to your cabin from a bear could happen and recently has happened to some of our Lake Association neighbors.

Black bears, the only bear species in Minnesota, usually sleep by day and forage for food by night. They're fearful of humans and usually avoid contact unless their nose leads them into populated areas with the promise of food.

Cabin owners can take a few cautionary steps to prevent this Minnesota mammal from becoming a nuisance. Just hoping that a bear won't stop by your yard isn't enough. You, and your neighbors, must address the possibility of a bear encounter before it becomes a problem. Here are few common-sense reminders from the Minnesota DNR to help you avoid the chance of a bear visit by reducing the availability of bear attractants.

- 1) Bear proof your garbage container. This can be done in a variety of in-expensive ways.
 - Rig a bungee cord to hold down your container cover.
 - Wash your containers occasionally to decrease lingering scents.
 - Double bag your garbage to contain smells.
 - Put your garbage out as close to the pickup time as possible.
- 2) A black bear's nose is about 100 times more sensitive than a human's. Pouring a small amount of ammonia on your garbage is a great deterrent. If you find ammonia fumes unpleasant you can imagine what they smell like to a bear.
- 3) Many people only feed birds while the black bears are hibernating from December to March, but if you like to feed birds year round place your bird feeder ten feet up in a tree and four feet out on a branch to keep bears at bay. Also, make sure to clean up the seeds under the feeder regularly.
- 4) Fruit trees can also attract bears to your home. Harvest ripe fruit in a timely manner, and don't forget to rake up any fruit that falls to the ground.
- 5) Clean and store barbecue grills after every use. Burn off any remaining food particles or grease on the grill. Scrape the grill down with a grill brush.

A black bear's preferred foods are: nuts, acorns, fruit, insects, succulent vegetation. Open compost piles especially those that include food and kitchen scraps are irresistible to bears. Compost responsibly.

If a bothersome bear continues to persist try some of these other bear prevention techniques like: motion-activated lights, motionactivated sprinklers, a radio tuned to a talk station, or commercial repellants.

If all else fails, or if the bear poses a risk to people, it's best to contact wildlife professionals that specialize in trapping and relocating black bears. Contact your local wildlife manager with the DNR at 651-296-6157 for further information.

-submitted by Tom Weber

PCLIA

Portage-Crooked Lakes
Improvement Association
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Deerwood, MN 56444

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

www.pclia.com
info@pclia.com

