

# ***The Shoreline***

A Publication of the Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association

June/July 2025



## ***From the President...***

Ah yes, it's finally here, those three wonderful months called summer! This is a magical place to spend summer. Boating, swimming, tubing, skiing, fishing, cruising and just simply being on the water add to the joys of summer. Visits from friends and family, grilling out, and hopefully a fish fry, or two, make for great memories of 2025.

Unfortunately, one memory that will not be made this summer is of a pontoon parade. Our appeals for volunteers to organize this event have not been productive. As a result, the pontoon parade will not be held this year, unless some volunteers come forward very soon. Please let us know at [info@plcia.com](mailto:info@plcia.com) if you, or a group, are willing to take this on. But do so very soon, or there will not be pontoon parade memories this year!

To ensure all memories this summer are good memories, we have made boating safety one of our priorities. In this edition we take on the topic of "Own Your Wake". Please take the time to review this before heading out on the water. Just because you leave the wake behind you doesn't mean you are not responsible for it. Also, take a minute and review "Boating Safety Reminders" from the April/May edition. Let's have an incident free summer!

Let's make some wonderful, and safe, memories this summer!

Until next time, hope to see you on the water!

Scott Maghan

### ***Official Ice Out Date for Our Chain of Lakes***



**April 15, 2025**

### **MARK YOUR 2025 CALENDAR**



#### **Summer Picnic & Get Together**

*Saturday, June 14th 12:00 p.m.*  
Larson Residence 14265 Maghan Lane  
Details in this newsletter

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Family Fun Event**

*Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m.*  
Details in this newsletter

#### **Pontoon & Boat Parade**

*Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m.*  
Cancelled

#### **Fall Dinner & Business Meeting**

*Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m.*  
Details in August newsletter

\*All scheduled events are subject to change.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

	Beginning Balance 1/1/2025	Income	Expense	Ending Balance 4/29/2025	
Healthy Lakes/ AIS Fund*	\$11,523.49	\$3,208.03	\$283.20	\$14,448.32	<p>*The <b>Healthy Lakes/Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Fund</b> contains money specifically donated for monitoring and taking corrective steps to protect the quality of our lakes.</p> <p>*The <b>Fish Stocking Fund</b> contains money specifically donated toward the stocking of fish according to DNR guidelines.</p> <p>*The <b>General Fund</b> contains funds not specifically designated for Healthy Lakes, AIS, or Fish Stocking.</p>
Fish Stocking Fund*	\$5,861.44	\$370.88	\$0	\$6,232.32	
General Fund*	\$62,868.69	\$7,493.87	\$560.21	\$69,802.35	
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$80,253.62</b>	<b>\$11,072.78</b>	<b>\$843.41</b>	<b>\$90,482.99</b>	

## Livin' & Lovin' The Crooked Life

### Membership

Thank you to everyone who has submitted their 2025 membership form and dues.  
We appreciate your commitment to the lake association.

#### Some Updated Interesting Membership Stats

- Number of paid memberships in 2024: 190 or 60%
- Number of paid memberships in 2025 to date: 193 or 66%
- Number of people who are either new or have rejoined from 2023 or earlier: 19
- Number of members in 2024 who have not submitted their membership in 2025 to date: 20 or 11%

*\* Numbers at the time of this publication*

### Portage/Hanks Channel Update

We want to provide an update on the status of the proposed channel dredging between Portage and Hanks. At previous meetings this process was discussed at length and the steps include:

1. Secure approval from property owners on the Hanks and Portage side of the channel to allow their property to be used for heavy equipment access to the lake.
2. Once these permissions are obtained, we will obtain a quote from another dredging firm located in Deerwood.
3. Once the quote is obtained a meeting will be held and property owners can discuss whether to proceed with fundraising the project.
4. If the group agrees to proceed, a fundraising committee will be formed.
5. Fundraising commences.
6. Once fundraising is completed the project would commence.

That's the plan.

Here's where we stand. A Portage Lake property owner has agreed to allow his land to be used as an access point for the dredging equipment. We still need a property owner on the Hanks side to allow us lake access before we move to the next step. We will continue to keep you aware of the process as it continues.

If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Andy Larson at [andylarson1959@hotmail.com](mailto:andylarson1959@hotmail.com)

## Board of Directors

Sue Weber



## Board Meetings

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

August 2<sup>nd</sup>

September 27<sup>th</sup>

\* Scheduled meetings are subject to change.  
Meetings are open to the public.

## LAKE COMMUNICATION



## PCLIA WEBSITE

This is a great resource for accessing information about our chain of lakes. It provides a wide range of topics including: facts about our lakes, water quality, AIS education, boating tips, photos, video lake cruises, social events and much more. You can find us at [pclia.com](http://pclia.com). Check it out!

**PCLIA 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.

## PCLIA EMAIL

Our board of directors welcomes all of your suggestions, comments and questions. Please contact us at [info@pclia.com](mailto:info@pclia.com)



***Fall Dinner – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Silent Auction!***  
***Seeking Donations***

As part of the efforts to fund our fight against aquatic invasive species and strengthen our reserve funds, we are once again planning a silent auction to be held at the PCLIA Fall Dinner on **September 6<sup>th</sup>**. We are in the process of contacting local businesses for contributions.

We also have some donations from PCLIA members and are **looking for more!** If you, or a business you are associated with, would consider donating please contact us at [info@pclia.com](mailto:info@pclia.com). Donations could include merchandise or services. Suggestions include: gift baskets, hosting a dinner and/or cruise, sporting or other event tickets, or any other creative idea you may have. We are looking for items with a value of at least \$50. Your generosity is appreciated. Donations could be tax deductible as a business expense or a personal charitable contribution. Look for more information in the August Shoreline newsletter.

Thanks to Tom Kaufhold for chairing this event the last two years. We welcome Sue Weber as the new chair of the silent auction this year.



# Shoreline Restoration in Action

## Preserving Our Lake Shore - Protecting Our Lake

PCLIA is partnering with Crow Wing Soil & Water in a shoreline restoration project. Last fall an email was sent to all PCLIA members. The purpose was to get 20 properties to participate in the program. We successfully identified 19 properties interested in this project that is being funded by a grant.



A crew of lake homeowners cutting down and hauling willow.

One recommendation for several of the properties was to install willow **wattle** on the shoreline. This is a great way to prevent erosion and regain shoreline. No DNR permit is required.



On Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> each of the participants picked up approximately 100 native plants that will be planted along their property. The purpose is to help stabilize the shoreline, capture and filter runoff, and offer habitat for wildlife and pollinators.



A hands-on seminar was also held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> instructing how to make and install willow wattle.



A huge thank you to Shelley Larson, Kari Bunkers, and Kris Picken for heading this project.



More to come on this lake restoration project in our next newsletter!





## Summer Picnic & Get Together



The summer picnic is **Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at 12 noon. It will be held at the Larson's home on Sugar Bay (14265 Maghan Lane). We will provide beverages and be serving brats and hotdogs with all the trimmings. Please bring a lawn chair.

We hope you and your families can attend and ask that you RSVP to [andylarson1959@hotmail.com](mailto:andylarson1959@hotmail.com) as soon as possible and let us know how many will be attending. An RSVP isn't essential, but it does help us with planning. Last year we had a great turnout; we look forward to seeing you there.

*Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July*



*Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July*

## 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FAMILY FUN EVENT



The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Fun event will be held on **Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>** at the Larson's home on Sugar Bay. Their address is 14265 Maghan Lane, Deerwood. The event begins at 10:00 a.m.

The "Triathlon of Fun!" consists of 3 stages. Stage one is a fun 25-yard swim or walk along the beach. Stage 2 is a fun 3-mile bike ride. The final stage involves a fun 1 mile walk or run. As the Triathletes approach the finish line, at the end of the last 2 stages, they are all greeted by throngs of cheering spectators (a.k.a. family, friends and neighbors) that line Maghan "Victory" Lane.

We will conclude the Family Fun Event with an awards ceremony and treats.

We hope you can join us and request you RSVP by emailing to [andylarson1959@hotmail.com](mailto:andylarson1959@hotmail.com) as soon as possible to let us know how many will participate. Again, an RSVP isn't essential, but it helps us with planning. We are also looking for volunteers to help at this event.

Check the PCLIA website at [pclia.com](http://pclia.com) or search *PCLIA of MN* on your Facebook home page for any last-minute details or changes.

## ***Welcome Back to the Lakes – A Great Success***

Free handmade pizza, cash bar & socializing with friends old and new! What a fun way for more than 65 members of our lake association to spend a late afternoon in early May! Annie Knight, Executive Director of Northern Waters Land Trust delivered the keynote presentation, focusing on watershed-based conservation as a critical strategy for protecting our lakes.

A huge thank you to the Deerwood American Legion for providing a great place for us to gather. In addition to their handmade pizza, the American Legion offers many other delicious food options. So, if you are looking for a place to eat, check out their weekly menu. They support us, so let's support them.



### ***Corporate Sponsorship***

We are excited to introduce our corporate sponsorship program and proud to have Jim Christensen and the Kurilla Realty group as our first sponsor.

We would be happy to entertain other sponsorship opportunities. If interested, please reach out to us at [info@pclia.com](mailto:info@pclia.com) with your interest and contact information.

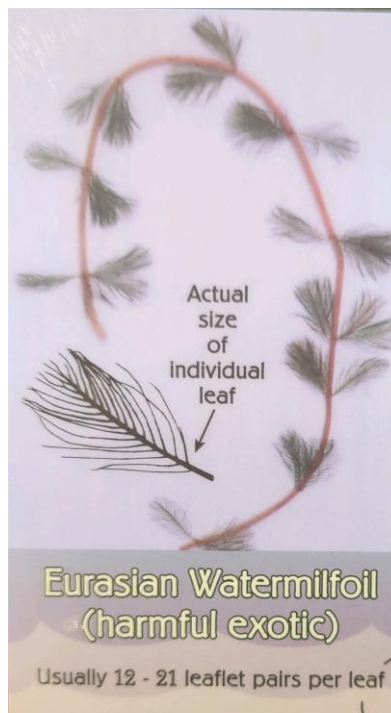
**JIM CHRISTENSEN**  
LAKESHORE MARKETING GROUP

**LakeshoreBroker.com**  
**218-820-2147**



**CALL FOR A COMPLIMENTARY  
MARKET APPRASIAL OF YOUR PROPERTY**





## Eurasian Milfoil Update

We have been extremely pleased with the results we've achieved in keeping this invasive species in check. Our treatment area, and related cost, was the lowest we've had since we began addressing this issue.

Our use of ProcellaCOR has played a key role in making this possible. As we go into summer, we do it with a watchful eye. Other lakes have reported rebounds in Eurasian Milfoil 4 years after using ProcellaCOR. For our chain of lakes, that is this year, and mostly in Sugar Bay. We plan to be out early and often to determine if we are facing this issue, and to plan accordingly to deal with it.

You can help in this endeavor. Take some time to familiarize yourself with what Eurasian Milfoil looks like. Once you know what you're looking for, it will jump out at you if you drive by it. Should you see something that looks like Eurasian Milfoil, try to get coordinates using GPS, or even a pin on a mapping app, like Google Maps. Then let us know where it is with an email to [info@pclia.com](mailto:info@pclia.com).

## The Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Portage-Crooked Lakes Improvement Association (PCLIA) may contract to treat Eurasian Water Milfoil, an Aquatic Invasive Species in the Crooked, Sugar Bay, Hanks and Portage chain of lakes in 2025. This is dependent on an evaluation of the need.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has granted the PCLIA a waiver requiring that the association obtain the signatures for approval of lake-shore property owners. Instead, the PCLIA will notify property owners of the treatment through alternate forms. This newsletter notice is one form that the PCLIA 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 are June 1, 2025 through October 31, 2025. 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](mailto:info@pclia.com)

### LAKE APPAREL/MERCHANDISE

Sota Clothing has given us an ongoing opportunity to purchase Crooked Lake merchandise. They have added some new pieces which include children's clothing. Check it out at this updated site:

[sotaclothing.com/collections/lake-collection/Lake Collection](https://sotaclothing.com/collections/lake-collection/Lake%20Collection)

or at Shop in the menu on our lake association website: [pclia.com](https://pclia.com)

We are grateful to Sota Clothing for providing our membership this opportunity. A portion of these proceeds go directly to the PCLIA. Thank you for your support.



## Be Respectful...



The April/May Shoreline highlighted a full page of boating safety reminders for all of us to review and share with our lake visitors. **Own Your Own Wake** was one of the reminders. In this article we dig a little deeper to understand what that actually means for us as we strive to be a respectful boater.

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

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

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 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.

Refer to the MN Boating Guide 2025 published by the MN DNR for the complete guide at <https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/regulations/boatwater/boatingguide.pdf>



## Historical Loss on Lake

Tragedy has already struck this year. On April 16<sup>th</sup>, a fire occurred at the north end of the narrows. The Fetzer family lost their iconic boat house and docks to a fire of unknown origin. The good news is that no person or animal was harmed. My understanding is that they hope to rebuild in the future and return the boat house to its original design. We wish them the best and look forward to seeing our shores graced with it once again.

Fortunately, a neighbor across the lake had the PCLIA directory and was able to alert them to the fire. Another benefit to being a PCLIA member.



## ***Gone But Not Forgotten – Thanks to the Shoreline!***

Recent issues of the “Shoreline” have contained articles about our Crooked Lake Chain’s history dating as far back as the early 1900’s. Our predecessors may be gone, the cabins may be gone, the resorts may be gone, but the memories can remain as an important part of our lake’s history. Our goal here at the “Shoreline” is to gather and record as many of these memories as possible so future generations may appreciate them before they become lost in time.



This current issue’s article and photograph will add to our knowledge of our lake’s history thanks to the help of Bob Olsen.

You too can become a lake historian as have a number of our residents on the lake. Just share your memories or photos from campfires, swimming, boating, and times together at a lake we all love. We in turn would share them with our readers. The older the better.

We would be glad to print them in future “Shoreline” issues for our readers and future generations to enjoy. Contact us at [info@pclia.com](mailto:info@pclia.com)

Floyd Warren purchased the land that would become Glen Echo Haven Resort on November 20, 1917. Floyd was the tenth owner of the property, the first being William Waldrop, who homesteaded the property on October 13, 1898. Curiously, Cuyler Adams laid claim to the property's mineral rights in 1905: Adams was the surveyor who located iron using a dipping needle on what would become the Cuyuna Range.

Mom and Dad bought Cabin #1 of the old Glen Echo resort 51 years later, on November 7, 1968. I was nearly 16, and spent hours out in our Lund fishing boat zooming up and down the shoreline in the summer. One of my lake pals was Rick Forsgren, who introduced me to Floyd Warren, the bachelor-hermit that lived down the road. Floyd’s place was at the end of a driveway that was marked by a war plane fuel tank that was stuck in the ground and looked like a big ear of corn.

On one of my visits to his critter-filled house, Floyd learned that I was a musician, a French horn player to be exact. “I used to play horn,” Floyd quipped with a big smile that revealed several missing front teeth. “I used to play in the house dance band at the resort up the channel,” as he pointed at a small black and white photo that hung on the center wooden beam that ran down through his house. “One night, this drunk fella came up to me while I was playing my horn and punched in the bell, knocking out my front teeth. That put an end to my musical career.”

Another favorite memory is the time when I asked Floyd where all the big fish were in the lake. “Across from Blueberry Hill,” he remarked. Floyd then gave me explicit directions on how to catch the big ones. “First, you have to collect a whole lot of tin cans. Then you need to gun your motor and drive back and forth across the west shore several times, throwing cans out as you go. The sound of the boat and the flickering light of the cans will scare the fish to the bottom. Then, you need to row back and forth across that side of the lake using a spoon with night crawlers on the hooks. You can’t go wrong.”

To this day I regret that I was a source of some of the rusty old cans on the bottom of Crooked Lake. Thanks for the memories, Floyd Warren! (Olsen, 2024)

# PCLIA

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Improvement Association  
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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

[www.pclia.com](http://www.pclia.com)  
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