



MEMORIAL DAY FACTS



Memorial Day once went by another name. On May 5, 1868, three years after the Civil War ended, the head of an organization of Union veterans, established Decoration Day. It was meant as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers.



Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars.



For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, but in 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees; the change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.



In December 2000, Congress passed a law requiring Americans to pause at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day to remember and honor the fallen.



In 1915, Moina Michael wrote the following poem to honor Memorial Day:

*We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.*

It was from this reference that people wear poppies as a small honor to U.S. service men and women lost in battle.

CLEARWATER LAKE AREA ASSOCIATION

A message from the President – Eric Pearson

Greetings,

I'm sure everyone is glad spring has finally sprung, and now we can get around to doing all those outdoor activities we have been waiting for. It seemed like the flowers and plants arrived early this year and have been waiting at the nursery for us to come and get them. The garden and flowerbeds may not be ready until late into May.

There are a couple of things that have been on my radar lately.

The Clearwater County SWCD (<http://www.clearwaterswcd.org/cwf.lps.report.clearwater.pdf>) has made available the Clean Water Fund - Lake Protection Screening Reports for Lakes in our County. Clearwater Lake is a part of these reports and it shows quite an extensive history on the water quality for our lake. It appears to be good news overall, as our water quality remains stable. I know we have all seen many changes in weeds, algae or fishing, but when we look at the numbers we are holding our own. I think it's very important we continue monitoring Clearwater Lake and that we keep it a priority. We need to search out funding for laboratory analysis as I am sure our members will continue volunteering their time to collect the samples.

Another item I would like to address is the declining membership for the Lake Association. I know everyone is busy doing all the things it is we do and I understand that it's easy to let these little things pass on by, however I believe that we as an organization do a lot of good for our Lake. We clean up our roadway, take water samples, attend meetings, host gatherings and get information out to our members. I'm asking everyone to help out in this endeavor. Please talk with your neighbors, drop off a copy of the newsletter, invite them to attend a picnic or meeting. Your time and effort will go a long way to improve our numbers and in the end will be lots of fun.

Thanks for listening, see you on the water!

Eric



CLAA Fall 2012 Meeting Recap

The fall meeting, held September 1, 2012 at the home of John Cucci, was attended by many and everyone held a great sense of enthusiasm for being a part of a great summer on Clearwater Lake. Here are a few of the main items discussed at that meeting:

Loon Activity

2012 turned out to be a "not-so-good" year for the lake. We are all hoping for a better 2013!

Water Quality Testing

Three had been collected at the time of the meeting, with one more to be done for 2012.

Lady Slipper Project

The Association has taken on this project which consists of an approximate five to six mile stretch of ditches/land. If the Association fails to manage and/or maintain the weeds it will go back to the County for handling. One application of the spray should be effective for three years. A raise of hands for volunteers (approximately 10) and all those present approved to spend \$100 for the spray.

Board Members Re-elected

All current Board Members were approved for re-election for another term. The only exception was the position of Secretary. JoLynn Chadwick was nominated and approved for the position.

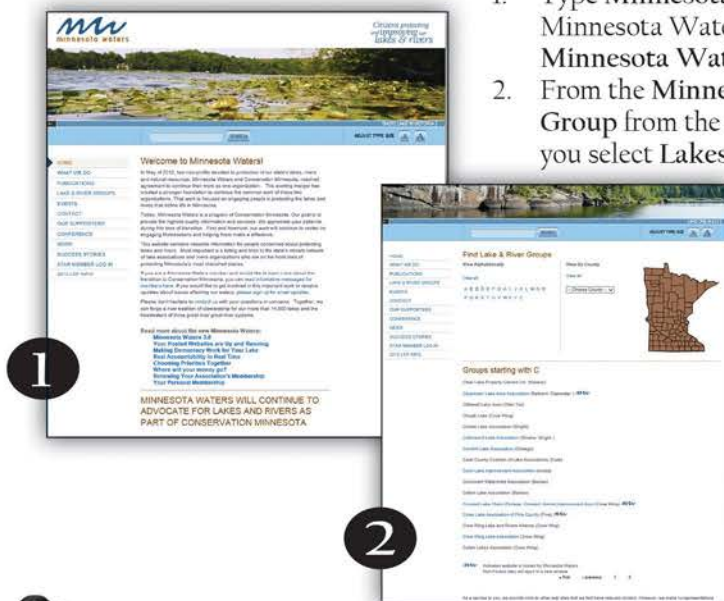
Membership

A new membership form to be created and is included in this newsletter. The form will also be posted on the website in the near future.



CLAA website Locating Your Association Home Page

If you are a new member or maybe you're an existing member and you can't remember how you arrived at the CLAA website home page, here are some screen shots and some helpful hints on finding your way back:



1. Type Minnesota Waters from the search area. Then select Minnesota Waters...once selected, you will be taken to the Minnesota Waters home page. (screen #1)
2. From the Minnesota Waters home page, select Lakes and Rivers Group from the menu items on the left side of the screen. Once you select Lakes and Rivers Group, you will be taken to another page. (screen #2) While on this screen, you can either select the Beltrami County area on the Minnesota map or you can select the letter "C" (for Clearwater Lake) and go to the second page of the lakes that begin with the letter "C". Then select Clearwater Lake Area Association. You will now be on the home page of CLAA.

CONSERVATION MINNESOTA is currently the host of the Minnesota Waters website which is the host to the CLAA website. Visit the Conservation Minnesota website! (conservationminnesota.org) It's filled with an abundance of resources!!



Clearwater

Soil and Water Conservation District

New Grant Funds Incentives to Install Vegetative Buffers

Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) recently received over \$119,000 to help landowners protect local natural resources through generous cost sharing and additional financial incentives. We received this Clean Water Fund grant from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. These funds boost local efforts to protect county water quality and reduce harmful erosion. This grant targets the Clearwater River Watershed which includes the Silver Creek, Ruffy Brook and Lost River sub watersheds.

One element of this grant funds protection of the Lost river, specifically the JD 72 ditch system, northwest of Gonvick. The SWCD is partnering with the Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) to work with landowners to install vegetated buffers along this drainage. These plant buffers will improve water quality by reducing the sediment entering the ditch. Less sediment entering the ditch will also save the RLWD time and money to maintain the ditch. A good buffer will also help stabilize the ditch bank and provide a good work area for ditch maintenance by the RLWD.

Another component of the grant serves agricultural producers in the Clearwater River Watershed. The grant provides assistance to install plant, shrub and tree buffers on sensitive sites adjacent to waterways, streams, and lakes. In these tight economic times it can be challenging to make important

investments in water quality protection. The grant provides participating landowners with increased financial assistance and additional incentives to install these beneficial practices on their land.

Clearwater SWCD encourages interested producers and landowners to call the office if interested in these volunteer conservation opportunities. Best Management Practices (BMPs), such as the buffers mentioned above benefit everyone. Producers save money by keeping more soil and nutrients on the land and the community benefits by having clean lakes and streams with greater recreational opportunities for everyone. Clearwater SWCD encourages local residents to reach office staff at 218-694-6845 with questions about conservation problems and programs. Clean Water Fund grants come from the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment approved by Minnesota voters in 2008.

Source: Kathy Rasch, District Manager, Clearwater SWCD;
The Clearwater SWCD Conservator, Spring 2013 issue

See the entire newsletter online: www.clearwaterswcd.org



"Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature -- the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter."



-Rachel Carson, Silent Spring

Sunday May 26, 2013



CLAA Meeting and Potluck
 1:00 p.m. Board Meeting
 2:30 p.m. General Meeting
 Potluck Meal to Follow
 The Moore's residence - 8 houses east of public access

Do you have a new neighbor on the lake?

-Invite them to our May 26 gathering.



Are you a past CLAA member?

-COME BACK...we miss you!



Do you have ideas on growth for our membership?

-Share your ideas...we'd love to hear them!



REASONS to LOOK UP Cloud Watching 101



Clouds and cloudscape are the greatest free show on earth. It cost not a penny to look up and feast your eyes on the view, or, if you are confined indoors, to look out and up and see.

Clouds are never exactly the same.

There are four basic cloud types (cumulus, stratus, cirrus, and nimbus). Based on these, nature composes endless symphonies of the skies which are mixtures and elaborations of the basic types.

Many skies are simply beautiful to behold.

The combination of form, position, gradations of light and shadow, and even color in the late evening and early morning hours is pleasing to the eye.

Clouds are a "billboard of coming attractions".

It's only natural to wonder what tomorrow's weather will be like. The occupation of weather forecaster exists because of this curiosity.

Particular clouds arise from causative factors.

These factors produce tomorrow's weather.

Establishing a habit of observing the sky when you first get up and before you retire and many times in between, gives one a sense of connectedness with nature.

This is important in an increasingly high-tech society. We need to remember that our roots are in nature, and we overlook this fact to our own disservice.

Cloud observing nourishes a global consciousness.

The advent of weather satellites – provides information about our current weather events that is utterly amazing, yet this information is taken for granted as we look at the weather section the evening news.

Cloud watching is an antidote to boredom.

Reduce boredom by becoming acquainted with the day sky. Make observations at regular times and at times in between. Write them down in a journal or on the tablet of your memory.

Clouds are a magic show of the sky.

Water substance is continually appearing and disappearing. Where does a cloud come from and where does it go? We can all look upon the process with awe and wonder.

Did you know...that Clearwater County rivers flow both North and South out of the county, but hardly a drop flows in?

To learn more about our county's unique headwaters, check out "Living on the Edge" and article by Clearwater SWCD Program Technician, Nathan Nordlund, in the Spring issue of The Clearwater SWCD Conservator newsletter. (www.clearwaterswcd.org/news.html)

WANT TO BUY

Good used paddle boat.
Prefer 4 seater but will consider all.
Call 218-776-3657 and leave a message
or email: clrwtr34@aol.com

CLAA CONTACTS

Eric Pearson (President)
2218 Highland Court
Grand Forks, ND 58201
epearson1313@gmail.com

Jean Chadwick (Vice President)
427 Dart Avenue
Owatonna, MN 55060
jeanchadwick@q.com

Ann Bardwell (Treasurer)
9353 Pony Lake Road NW
Bemidji, MN 56601
abard@paulbunyan.net

JoLynn Chadwick (Secretary/Web)
626 South Elm Avenue
Owatonna, MN 55060
jjchadwick@q.com

Skip Anderson (Loons)
1016 63rd Avenue North
Moorhead, MN 56560
clrwtr34@aol.com

Roz Johnson (Lady Slipper Project)
9184 Vincent Circle South
Bloomington, MN 55431
rjohnson2122@comcast.net

– Our Mission –

The Clearwater Lake Area Association shall improve and maintain the environment and quality of life through education, awareness, and responsibility of our community, for ours and future generations.

