

Granite Lake Watershed Association

2309 Kimball Ave NW

Annandale, MN 55302

Officers:

Tim Waldschmidt-Pres. Michelle Kessler-Secretary

Scott Quiggle-VP Bob White-Treasurer

Sheryl Hagstrom-Past Pres. Ray Rau-Lake Plan Coordinator

Shoreline Representatives

Marge Sundberg (Kimball Ave), Sharri Rau (Kimball Ave). Dave Hagstrom (Kimball Ave). Laura Jones (Knowles),

Paula Mackie (Lawrence, CR 5), Brad Kessler (Lawrence, CR 5), Bonnie Hammer (Kraft), Mary Holmgren (North of boat landing to Kraft)

Feb 2007 Newsletter.

Mark your calendar!

3/31 10 AM Board Meeting @ Waldschmidt's 2309 Kimball Ave NW. All are welcome to attend

4/14 10 AM Barley straw bagging/distribution (rain/shine) @ Waldschmidt's

4/28 10 AM Annual Meeting. Albion Township Hall. Guest from Minnesota Extension Service.

5/19 Albion Township Clean up Day.

?? Aquatic Vegetation Boat Tour.

Greetings everyone! It's a long newsletter, so grab your favorite beverage and enjoy!

April 28th Annual Meeting:

We are pleased to have Brenda Postels, Agriculture/Horticulture Extension Educator from the U of M Extension Service, as our guest speaker. You'll hear more about her topics in the next newsletter. _

Overall Lake Condition:

In 2006 the TSI averaged 60.2 vs 52.8 in 2005. We need to work together to keep below 60. If we have 12 consecutive reading above 60, Granite will be on the impaired waters list.

Date	Time	Sampler	Lab Code	TP ug/L	ChlA ug/L	Secchi Ft.	TSI Phos.	TSI ChlAL	TSI Secchi Ft.	TSI Avg.
5/14/2006	1420	Hagstrom/Rau	50729	38	30	6.5	57	64	50	57
6/18/2006	1410	Rau/ Waldschimdt	52300	40	46	3.5	57	68	59	61
7/16/2006	1415	Ray Rau	53474	33	17	3.5	55	58	59	57
8/20/2006	1420	Waldschmidt/Kessler	54723	43	29	3.5	58	64	59	60
9/17/2006	1415	Hagstrom/Rau	55828	112	42	3.5	72	67	59	66

Westside Project update:

The Initiative Foundation has issued the \$5,000 grant; however, the money is sitting with the Soil and Water Conservation District. There has been some turnover of engineers, so the project was pushed back to 2007. We are hoping for this Spring.

Barley Straw Project April 14th:

We have purchased 100 bales @ \$3.00 each. We can fill three bags with one bale, so our goal is to fill 300 bags on April 14th. Thanks to the efforts of Phyl Mattson, we are able to get 100 bags for \$1.25 each. We wanted more at that price, but this is all the fabric the vendor had. We are waiting for the company to give us some alternatives for the remaining 200 bags. Please bring/drop off bags from last year on/before the 14th of April. Please drop me a note or call if you can help. We need 20 volunteers. We'll be sure to have some refreshmentsOne hour and we'll be done.

Lake Monitoring Plan Grant \$1,500.

We have received the funds and deposited in the General Fund. The distributions of the funds were approved at last year's meeting and will be used this year. Our first purchase will be a GPS system that is compatible with the DNR for mapping aquatic vegetation. We should have this before ice-out.

Website update:

We have not done a good job keeping the site updated. Thanks to Gretchen Quiggle for stepping in to assist. Since we are paying dues to Minnesota Waters, we are going to use their format. We are waiting to get all the information from them, but it should be up and running before the meeting. Sorry it's taken so long!

Curly leaf Pondweed Grant Request:

We submitted a grant proposal to eradicate curly-leaf pondweed to the DNR in January. They received 30 applications and are looking at only two to three grants. We're not getting our hopes up, but we need to

keep this initiative on the front burner. There are a couple new methods to use. While chemicals are the most effective, we are also looking at harvesting. Both methods will be expensive and we'll need to ask for more funds from the general membership.

Ray Rau and Joe Jacobs (SWCD) had the University of Minnesota do an experiment on the relationship to the # lbs of wet curly leaf pondweed to phosphorous. It takes 4,500 lbs of pondweed to remove one pound of phosphorous. If all the landowners would rake out the □dead□ curly leaf we could remove 4-5 lbs of phosphorous. This may not sound like a lot but 1 pound of phosphorous produces 500 lbs of algae. THAT'S A LOT!

Gill-Net Survey:

See attachment on last page.

St Cloud University is doing a study on 25 bass taken from Granite and comparing to those found in the Mississippi River and St Croix River.

Lake Monitoring:

We will continue with the lake monitoring May-September as we have the past several years. I would like to thank Dave Hagstrom and Ray Rau who have been doing this a number of year, and to Brad Kessler, and Jean Peterson who joined the team last summer. Dave has some other commitments this summer so we'll need another volunteer to help. It takes about 30 minutes once a month. Please let me know if you're interested. If you like to take boat rides, get your hands wet, and enjoy getting out of the house on a sunny day, this may be for you! Let me know.

Ray also does other monitoring weekly during the open water times and monitors lake activity during the winter months.

DVDs□..Minnesota Lakes at Risk:

The Association purchased 75 DVD's as part of our education initiative for lakeshore owners to see what is happening to our lakes and what we can do to improve our surface water. This is a must-see for everyone. We'll have at the meeting, but you can have yours at any time. Just give me a call or stop over.

Ice-Out Contest \$25: Deadline 3-15-07

This will be our third year of the contest. Pick the date (one date per household) and email or send to me at the address above. In case of a tie, the date of the 1st entry will be declared the winner. Last year Jerry and Laura Jones won. The year before their neighbor, Tom Ogden won, with both picking the same date. My suggestion would be for you to contact one of these guys and get the date before they have a chance to email in. They apparently know something we don't.

Dues \$40:

Sorry, but I need to mention again. We sure need everyone's help. I'm not going to list those who have paid for 2006 in this newsletter, but I'll have the complete list in the next one. If you can't remember if you've paid or not, please contact Bob White. If you simply forgot, please **make your check payable to Granite Lake Watershed Association and mail to Bob White 2345 Kimball Ave NW, Annandale, MN 55302. Only 65% of lakeshore owners have paid.**

Albion Township Cleanup Day May 19th.

Please contact Sharri Rau, the Project Lead, if you can help. Since this has gone to an every-other year event, the junk is probably piling up. Let's give Sharri a helping hand.

Bylaw change proposal:

Amendments of these bylaws: These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the Association, provided that written notice is given to the general membership at least fifteen (15) days in advance of the meeting.

Bylaws (con't).

Proposal: The President and Vice-President will be elected to a two-year term.

Proposal: Shoreline Representative Role: "The role of the Shoreline Representative is to disseminate and obtain information from watershed and lakeshore owners. They inform members of what's going on in the Association, increase awareness, build enthusiasm, get feedback, and notify the Secretary of any contact information as property changes hands."

How to Monitor Lakes and Rivers for Road Salt;

Ray Rau and I will be attending a half-day workshop on the subject on April 3rd in Hamel. Ray has got to be the best salesman on the lake. All I read was Free registration and Free lunch for the 1st 20 to register. I jumped on this before I realized I'm taking a day off for this. I'm sure it will be great□□□□. You'll hear all about it.

Initiatives for 2007:

Complete Westside Project.

Start Proposal for Eastside (Kimball) Project.

Begin 'modeling project□ on Lakeshore Restoration.

Plan to eradicate Curly Leafy Pondweed.

Web site updated before April 28th meeting.

Johnson planting-buffer strip and living snow fence.

Update Management Plan

Complete Lake Vegetation Management Plan.

Benchmark how our Association compares to others.

As always, feel free to contact me or any of the Board members with comments or questions.

Tim Waldschmidt

President, Granite Lake Watershed Association

Home 320-963-6651

Office 952-934-5636

Cell 612-325-8042

Please! If you are spending time on the lake this winter, make sure you pick up any trash you see ☐☐☐..We have a mess around some of the ice houses.
Thanks for your cooperation!

(There is more on the next page)

Gill Net Survey Results

2006

Dates Net Were Set: July 26th and 27th.

Granite Lake is a DNR study lake with focus on walleyes and their survival rate. It studies which method of stocking, fry or fingerlings has the best survival rate as determined by DNR surveys.

The results have been added to the table that also contains historical data for previous surveys. The table indicates the number of a particular species that were present in a gill net that was pulled up. Taking walleyes as an example: 1.8 walleyes were present in net lift, since six net lifts occurred, one could expect 10 to 11 walleyes were taken as part of the survey. The survey also indicates that the abundance of walleyes may have declined. The DNR tends to set the nets in the same locations for each survey, but the fish concentrations may not always be in the same locations, so one can expect some variation.

Granite Lake: Historical net catches of some important species (1st-3rd quartile catches are for lake class 24). **That is the range that one can expect for a Class 24 lake.**

Species	1958	1980	1986	1991	1999	2004	2006	1 st - 3 rd Quartiles
Northern Pike	2.2	2.0	6.8	1.2	3.7	4.5	3.7	2.96 - 10.2
Bluegill	0.7	2.5	117.3	134.1	29.3	*	*	4.39 - 48.97
Black Crappie	10.3	10.8	2.3	9.4	2.8	*	*	1.45 - 17.2
Yellow Perch	129.8	79.0	11.7	5.7	23.3	3.0	10.5	1.50 - 27.0
Walleye	-----	2.3	3.7	6.7	1.3	4.5	1.8	1.0 - 5.75

*No trap nets were set. The gill nets are not a valid method of surveying bullheads, bluegills, or crappies. Their catch numbers per gill net lift are included below.

Yellow Bullhead: 39.1

Black Crappies: 8.0

Bluegill: 24.7

Black Bullhead: 3.7

The result of the survey continues to indicate that the majority of the fish in the nets are bullheads at over 40 per lift. As the DNR previously has indicated, the bullhead

catch may be high due to their attraction to the net by the other fish that are already tangled in the net.