

# JESSIE LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



# JESSIE JABBER

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VOL.17, NO. 1

SPRING 2014

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## **GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT HAROLD GOETZMAN:**

As we look forward to the new lake season, I hope this finds you all well and enjoying the not so spring weather. I feel very fortunate to be thinking about my favorite place for fishing and recreation, the cabin at Jessie Lake. Much like last year, this spring is delaying the normal ice out, which on average is April 25<sup>th</sup>. I was actually ice fishing on April 19<sup>th</sup> and there was still plenty of ice. However, I still think we will make it by the May 10<sup>th</sup> opener, but fishing success in the cold water is another matter. I am hoping when the ice goes out that there will be some benefit to the long winter and we will have a significantly higher lake level on Jessie than we had last fall.

On the forefront as the most important issue in the history of our lakes is the “Aquatic Invasive Species”(AIS) problem. These invasive species include zebra mussels, spiny waterflea, faucet snails, rusty crayfish, Eurasian milfoil, purple loosestrife and curly-leaf pondweed. Awareness and education on the aquatic invasive species issues is so important as we now have them in our backyard. Species such as zebra mussels (now found in Lake Winnie and Sand), purple loosestrife (in Turtle Lake) and curly-leaf pondweed (in Dixon) must not be transported to our lakes. Many people in the past have not taken this issue serious or say it is hopeless, but we have no choice now other than do everything we can to stop it. I always point out how Pike Lake in Duluth took 20 years to get infested with zebra mussels while they were just 10 miles away in Lake Superior. Just think of how much research can be done to find a treatment if we can delay our lakes from being infested. Remember the words of NY Yankee manager Yogi Berra “It ain’t over ‘til it’s over.”

On another front with AIS, we have been working to get legislative support for more money to be allocated from the sales tax legacy funds for use on the local level to fight AIS. Hopefully, the bill will pass this session to allocate about \$10 million for a new County Aid Program to fund AIS protection at public water access sites across the state. Aquatic Invasive Species threaten Minnesota’s \$4 billion tourist economy, depress property tax base on affected lakes and destroy water related equipment and infrastructure from watercraft to public utilities. A small AIS Inspection Grant was obtained by Itasca County for use immediately to hire 10-12 trained boat inspectors who will work at various lakes for 16 days this summer. I asked them to include Jessie Lake in this program. Hopefully, we will see an inspector at our public landing for a couple days this summer. Also, since the DNR is ramping up their boat inspection program, I asked to have Jessie Lake included if possible. No more warnings will be issued and the fine for leaving any infested water without pulling all drain plugs is now \$500.00!

As you all know, last spring the DNR proposed a slot regulation for Jessie, Sand and Bowstring Lakes and the DNR preferred they go together as one unit. The decision was made in December to not proceed with this regulation on all three lakes and the details are explained by Dave Weitzel in an article in this newsletter. Since we had about a 50/50 vote in the survey, I hope we all can live with this outcome. Without in-lake spawning in Jessie Lake, the benefits of a slot to increase bigger fish were uncertain. Hopefully, most people will still practice “Catch and Release” fishing.

Have a safe and enjoyable open water boating and cabin season whenever it arrives. Hope to see you at the spring meeting – remember we are trying a new time in June hoping to increase attendance.

**Remember These Dates – Mark Your Calendar:** May 13<sup>th</sup> – roadside cleaning    June 7<sup>th</sup> - meeting  
July 17<sup>th</sup> - Summer Association Picnic    July 23<sup>rd</sup> - Share the Lake Day    Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> - Fall meeting

**BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR DOCK AND LIFT FOR ZEBRA MUSSELS BEFORE INSTALLING IN OUR LAKES – ALSO CHECK YOUR BOAT AND TRAILER**

### **SPRING MEETING**

Hope to see you all at the spring meeting starting at **10:00 a.m. (coffee at 9:00 a.m.) on Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>**. Please note, this is a change from the usual meeting time in mid-May as decided by the membership last spring to improve attendance. The meeting place will be at the **Jesse Lutheran Church on Co. Rd 4**. The business meeting will follow the coffee hour with your directors and neighbors. Maybe you can share your fish stories and hot-spots with a new member. **Our speaker will be Harold Dziuk, IWLP Director, who will discuss what the Itasca Water Legacy Partnership organization is all about and it's work to protect our lakes.**

### **JLWA Proposed 2014 Budget**

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Postage	\$450	\$350
Printing	\$350	\$300
Share the Lake	\$350	\$350
MN Waters [dues & hosting web]	\$250	\$250
Meeting rentals	\$100	\$100
Mileage/Education	\$200	\$200
ICOA [dues]	\$ 50	\$ 50
Lab water testing	\$300	\$300
Supplies [office/operating]	\$100	\$100
JLWA Picnic	<u>\$ 75</u>	<u>\$ 75</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$2225</u>	<u>\$2075</u>

### **AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES – ZEBRA MUSSELS FOUND IN SAND LAKE**

**By Harold Goetzman**

The DNR confirmed that zebra mussels have been found in Sand Lake in Itasca County. The adult mussels were first found attached to a dock last spring before it was put back in the lake. The DNR then checked the connected waters and found more zebra mussels in Little Sand Lake. Since then, the additional searches have resulted in other connected waters to be infested and put on the list of infested lakes by the DNR. Because the Sand Lake chain has been designated infested by the DNR, bait harvest and transport of water for any purpose is prohibited. If you fish in Sand Lake remember it is the law to remove all aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other invasive species from your boat and trailer. All water from bait containers, livewells, bilges and the boat hull (remove plug) must be drained before leaving the boat landing. This is very important for JLW lakes with the normal back and forth travel to our close-by neighboring lakes that a lot of fisherman use during when they are not biting on Jessie.

Zebra mussel larvae have also been found in Lake Winnibigoshish, one of the Northland's most popular fishing lakes as reported last year by the DNR. Currently, we have over 200 lakes infested with zebra mussels. A list of the MN infested waters for all AIS is given in the new 2014 Fishing Regulations booklet if you are fishing other lakes. Just this year there are 36 new lakes added to the list that are infested with zebra mussels. Many of them are in Crow Wing County our neighbors to the south. In addition, there are now over 800 lakes with curly-leaf pondweed, which are not even listed in the booklet. Dixon Lake near Winnie has a lot of it so if you go there be sure to clean your trailer.

Zebra mussels are native to eastern Europe and moved into the Great Lakes in the ballast of ships in the 1980's. They were first found in the Duluth harbor in 1989 and now have been confirmed in more than 200 lakes and rivers across Minnesota including Mille Lacs Lake. It is not clear how the mussels got into Winnie and Sand Lakes, except that people were involved since zebra mussels can't swim. **WE MUST ALL TAKE ACTION TO AVOID MOVING THESE INVASIVE SPECIES TO OUR LAKES. RULES THAT ARE IN PLACE REGARDING MOVING A BOAT FROM INFESTED WATERS NEED TO BE FOLLOWED.**

### **DNR: 1 IN 5 MN BOATERS BROKE THE INVASIVES SPECIES LAW IN 2013**

**Taken from Duluth News Tribune, 3/29/2014**

The number of MN boaters who violated state regulations on transporting invasive species dropped in 2013 compared with 2012, but one in five who were checked still violated state law. That was the report from the DNR, which is gearing up for another season of checking boaters.

The goal is to get people to stop inadvertently allowing aquatic invasive species such as zebra mussels, spiny waterfleas and Eurasian watermilfoil from infested lakes and rivers to reach uninfested waters. The 20 percent violation rate is down from 31 percent, nearly one in three boaters, checked and issued citations by conservation officers in 2012. "The decrease is good news, but we have a long way to go," said Rodmen Smith, DNR Enforcement Division assistant director. "We need to think zero."

State law prohibits transporting any invasive species and requires anglers to make sure they fully drain their boat of water before trailering a watercraft, not transport bait water between lakes and not allow weeds to hang on their trailers. The rules require boaters to remove the bilge plug from their boat on every overland trip. "Far too many people are still not following the law" Smith said.

DNR officials say they will increase inspection efforts during the 2014 open water season, when it finally arrives. According to the report released, the DNR watercraft inspectors conducted 123,000 inspections in 2013, up 62% since 2011. Among the most common violations last year where the DNR had inspectors on hand were: \*nearly 8,000 boats arrived at landings with drain plugs in, \*more than 1,200 had vegetation attached and **\*134 had actual zebra mussels attached**. The public is our first line of defense against AIS and it only takes a few minutes to make sure your boat and equipment are cleaned, all water is drained and drain plugs are removed before leaving the access.

Enforcement and inspection together represent the largest segment, 43% of the DNR's AIS program's annual budget of about \$8.5 million.

### **SWCD FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR 2014 JESSIE WATERSHED PROJECTS**

**By Harold Goetzman**

An earlier issue of the Jabber had an article by Jim Gustafson of SWCD explaining the need for shoreline owners in our watershed to contact SWCD regarding an interest in hosting a project. We still have funds available and would like anyone with a potential project to contact Harold Goetzman (326 3908) or Andy Aerns (326-0017) to discuss the potential for a project on your land. The type of projects that will be considered for implementation and funding include the installation of native plant buffers along the lakeshore, willow bundle installation to decrease erosion and aid the establishment of native plants, installation of water diversions to reduce erosion and the creation of rain gardens. All of these practices help reduce the nutrient (phosphorus) inputs associated with erosion and sediment transport, which promote the growth of green algae blooms that inhibit recreation in the summer. The reduction of one pound of phosphorus will decrease the algae growth by 500 pounds. Any concerns about your shoreline erosion or storm water management can be explored for solutions. The main thing is to get everyone thinking of how they could help to reduce the phosphorus input into Jessie Lake.

The Resource Advisory Council (RAC) funds approved in 2012 from the USFS Chippewa Forest have finally been allocated this year in the amount of \$9,489 so projects using these funds can now be

scheduled for 2014. Let's get involved and make good use of these funds. Several people have expressed interest, but there are still sufficient funds for more projects, so give Andy a call. Other funds may also be available, so take advantage of this opportunity.

## **RISING EAGLE RESORT SHORELINE RESTORATION PROJECT**

**By Harold Goetzman**

I want to mention that Rising Eagle Resort on the north end of Jessie Lake is already moving forward on a shoreline project. The restoration project at the resort will start whenever spring arrives. They have had erosion problems on their shore during high water periods and should be commended for their efforts to correct the problem. Their project includes two components along 200 feet of shoreline that will be installed this spring. The entire 200 feet, six feet back from the shoreline(1200 square feet) will be restored from the currently mowed lawn back to a "no mow" native wildflower and grass riparian buffer. Chemical site preparation to kill the existing grass will be the first step followed by planting both seed and actively growing plants. The seed mix will include native grasses and wildflowers with a cover crop for protection the first growing season. A straw erosion blanket will be applied over the seed and the plugs of wildflowers will be planted through the blanket. In addition, scattered native shrubs will also be incorporated. The seeding and planting will be done in June.

The second component of the project involves 140 feet of shoreline that will have native willow and/or red osier dogwood waddles (bundles) installed against the bank to absorb wave energy (where rock rip-rap isn't already in place). The bundles are expected to sprout and provide a long-lasting native protection against erosion. SWCD is cost sharing and providing over-sight on the project, while Prairie Restorations-Boreal Natives from Cloquet have been hired to do the design and installation.

Steve and Patsy Bowers of Rising Eagle Resort have invited anyone interested in the project to stop in and look at the progress this summer. This is a great example of stewardship for protecting our lake resources into the future so stop by and say thanks personally. In the meantime, thanks Steve and Patsy from all of us in JLWA.

## **FISHERIES UPDATE--JESSIE LAKE SLOT LIMIT**

**Dave Weitzel, DNR Area Fisheries**

Protected slot limits requiring the release of all walleye from 17 to 26 inches were proposed for Jessie, Sand, and Bowstring Lakes in the spring of 2013. These lakes support popular walleye fisheries, but past assessments have resulted in low abundance of adult walleye in Sand and Bowstring, while the Jessie Lake population has been inconsistent, with highly variable catch rates due to variations in year class production. While all of these lakes are expected to maintain walleye fisheries without additional regulation, a protected slot limit would likely improve size quality and help to provide more consistent population structures from year to year.

Special regulations depend greatly on strong public support. Biological data may indicate that population dynamics would shift in response to a regulation, but such shifts typically require significant reductions in harvest and this must be socially acceptable. In others, tools exist to produce different types of populations. It is important that fisheries managers utilize appropriate tools to produce populations that are valued by anglers. In the case of Sand, Bowstring, and Jessie lakes, public input was collected during the summer and fall of 2013. Support for the regulation change was documented on each lake, but overwhelming support was not documented on any lake. As such, it appears that anglers on these lakes generally value harvesting numbers of walleye and are less concerned with size quality. **The statewide limit of 6 walleye with no more than one over 20 inches will remain in effect on these waters and the special regulations will not be implemented.**

A total of 66 comments were received for Jessie Lake with only 53% indicating support. This result was similar to the survey for a protected slot limit proposed in 2004. Given the lack of overwhelming

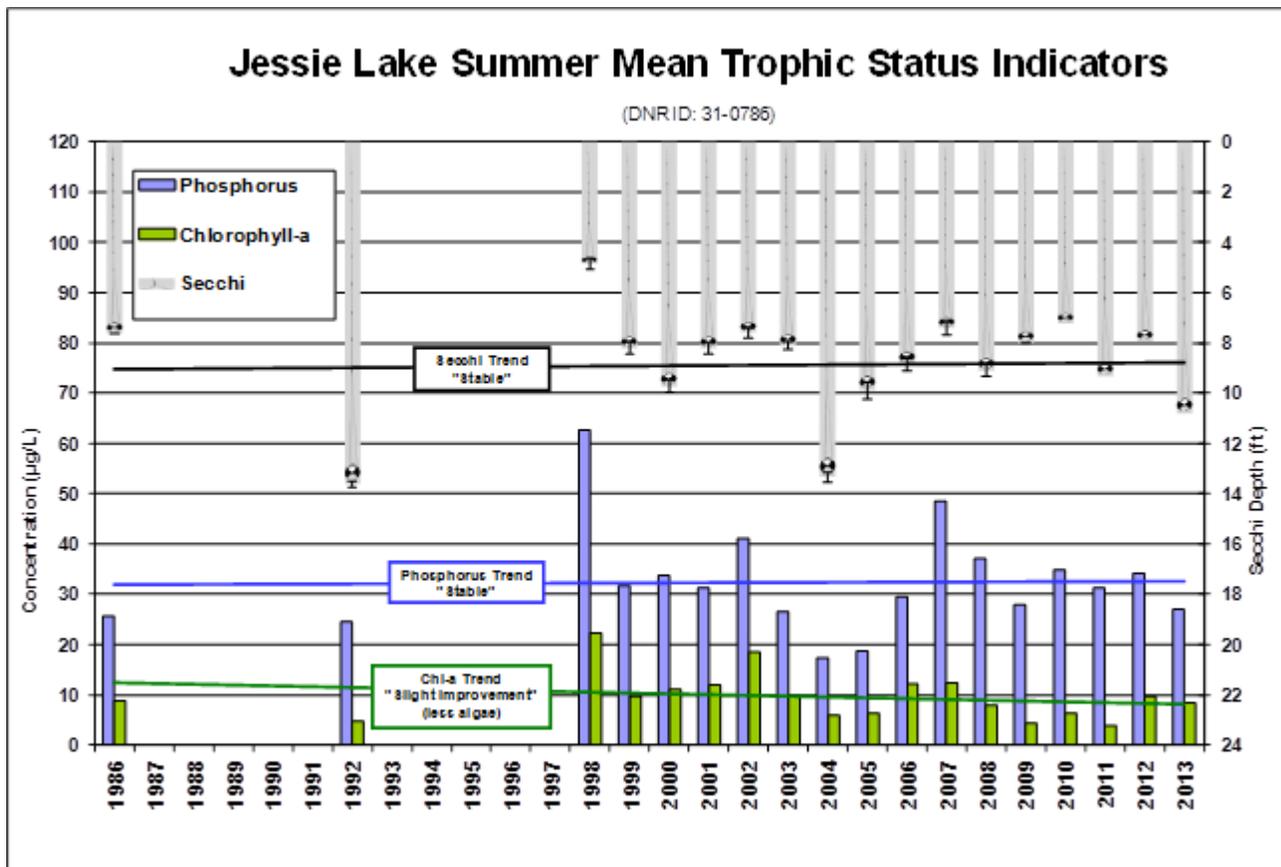
support for a protected slot limit in two attempts, Jessie Lake walleye should be managed to produce higher yields of harvestable fish for anglers, with less emphasis on quality management.

Data collected on Jessie Lake last summer indicates above average walleye numbers. Walleye fry were stocked in 2 of 4 years from 1981 through 2007. Non-stocked years were used to evaluate natural reproduction. This method showed that natural reproduction is limited on Jessie Lake. Walleye were stocked at a rate of 500 fry per surface acre annually beginning in 2010 in an attempt to stabilize the fishery by increasing year class consistency. Early indications suggest that this stocking strategy is working. The presence of walleye from the 2010, 2011, and 2012 year classes in the 2013 special assessment suggest good survival of stocked fry in recent years. A review of the assessment was reported in the fall Jabber. The 2013 special assessment final report was recently completed and the fisheries lake management plan was also updated with the new data. These documents are available upon request by contacting the Grand Rapids Area Fisheries Office at 218-327-4430.

### JESSIE LAKE 2013 MONITORING YEAR END REVIEW

By Noel Griese

Sixteen consecutive years of data have been collected on Jessie Lake since 1998 which is an amazing accomplishment that provides us with greater understanding of the health of Jessie Lake. Water quality was good overall for the summer of 2013 with above average readings for phosphorus, chlorophyll-a (algae), and secchi (water clarity). The phosphorus average of 27 ug/l was significantly



lower than the long term average of 33 ug/l, which was probably due to the colder water temperatures and lower water levels in 2013. This correspondingly gave lower chlorophyll-a values resulting in better clarity as seen by the secchi disk average of 10.8 ft, which is 2 ft. better than average.

When reviewing data since 1986 and looking for trends in the more recent continuous data set, it is encouraging that the data shows Jessie Lake's condition is stable with no negative trend in water quality, meaning amidst the yearly ups and downs the lake appears to be remaining stable. As always, Itasca SWCD would like to commend the lake association and volunteer commitment to protect and preserve the health of Jessie Lake for future generations to come.

### **LYME DISEASE IS HERE**

**By Harold Goetzman**

Lyme disease is definitely in our Jessie Lake area. This area is listed among the top in the country for tick related incidents so be on the alert for these pests and the danger of tick-borne diseases. The deer tick carries the agents of several diseases; including Lyme disease, human anaplasmosis, babesiosis, Powassan disease and a new form of human ehrlichiosis. The cases of these other diseases have been increasing in recent years and now the non-Lyme diseases make up 27% of the total. However, the number of cases of Lyme disease has been increasing dramatically since the 1990's as the cases of Lyme disease have doubled, according to the CDC, and more than 21,000 cases are now reported each year. One person even died from Powassan disease last year.

You can't always rely on the red bulls-eye for Lymes. Just last summer my wife Diane was diagnosed with Lymes when a red blotchy rash developed over her body with no bulls-eye. Also, she had flu-like symptoms for several days before the rash. Her tick apparently was acquired while picking blueberries and actually was never found. Fortunately, a good antibiotic treatment seems to have taken care of the problem. Since then we talked to two other JLWA members who also had contacted the Lyme disease in the past year plus one person's dog died from Lymes.

The Lyme disease is spread through the bite of infected deer ticks by attaching to any part of the body, but are usually found in hard-to-see areas such as the groin, armpits and scalp. In most cases the tick must be attached for 36-48 hours to transmit the disease bacterium. Most humans are infected through the bites of immature ticks called nymphs. The nymphs, which are tiny and difficult to see usually are found in spring and summer. The adult ticks are more active in the cooler months and also transmit the disease, but being larger are more likely to be found before transmitting the disease. In general, adult ticks are the size of a sesame seed and the nymph ticks are the size of a poppy seed (1/16<sup>th</sup> inch). There is no evidence of the disease being transmitted from person-to-person.

The main message is to be vigilant about checking for both wood and deer ticks even though not all ticks carry the disease. I have even had a deer tick just being in the yard at the cabin. Remember that wherever deer go you can have ticks.

### **DEER FEEDING NEAR JESSIE**

**By Harold Goetzman**

This winter the MN Deer Hunters Association coordinated the deer-feeding effort, buying the specially formulated feed and arranging for its distribution. A total of \$260,000 was allocated for the feeding, which was generated by a 50-cent DNR surcharge on deer hunting licenses. About 1000 volunteers signed up to distribute the food and the estimated number of deer that were fed was around 15,000. In our area one of our Association members, Gary Lees, was feeding about 16 deer during the five-week program. Gary drove to Grand Rapids every week to pick up the special pelletized deer feed and then put it out daily so each deer got about 2 pounds of food per day. This was quite a commitment by Gary and a lot of hard work with all the snow and cold weather. Hopefully, having a few healthy deer in the area will keep our numbers up in the future. The severe winter has taken a toll on the MN deer herd and some areas may see a bucks-only season, which hasn't happened since 1996.

## LIVING WITH FOREST TENT CATERPILLARS

Julie Miedtke, U of MN, Extension Educator

Brace yourself for another round of Forest Tent Caterpillar (commonly called army worms) because the experts are predicting a robust population for portions of northern Minnesota. Forest tent caterpillar (FTC) is a native defoliator of a wide variety of hardwood trees and shrubs and can be found throughout the range of all hardwood forests in North America. In fact, FTC has played a critical role in forest ecosystems for thousands of years---and we are sure they have survived the “polar vortex” just fine! Forest Tent Caterpillars prefer aspen, birch, basswood and oak trees. They may grow up to two and one-half inches long and they do not build tents.

Living with FTC can be challenging for homeowners. Here are some tips from MN DNR Forest Health Specialists to help alleviate some of the headaches for cabin owners:

- Remove egg masses NOW—Remove and destroy overwintering egg masses from branches of small trees or shrubs before eggs start to hatch in the spring. FTC egg masses have a tough, bronzed colored casing that produce approximately 200 larvae in the spring. It might take a little time to train your eye, because they really blend in. But it might be worth it---and you'll get some good fresh air and a little exercise!
- Brush off or spray with water—Caterpillars and cocoons can be brushed off houses, picnic tables, or decks with a stiff broom or brush or knocked down with a forceful spray of water. A little dish soap in a spray bottle also helps them drop off. Be careful not to crush too many caterpillars; they can smear and leave marks on some paints.
- Turn off exterior lights—Moths of forest tent caterpillars are attracted to lights. When moths are abundant, turn off exterior lights. This may reduce the number of egg masses laid on nearby trees.
- Insecticide use—FTC rarely causes severe damage to trees and the forest does not normally need the protection of pesticides. Insecticide treatments only reduce FTC numbers and defoliation during May and June the year of treatment. There is no effect on next year's FTC population, because moths from outside the sprayed area enter and lay eggs. The use of insecticide treatments is usually limited to shade trees. Several insecticides are registered for controlling FTCs, including a biological insecticide, *Bacillus thuringiensis* var *Kurstaki* (Btk). The DNR strongly recommends the use of Btk because of its environmental safety. Btk is a naturally occurring bacterium effective against caterpillars that eat treated leaves. Btk has virtually no effect on birds, people, aquatic arthropods, other animals and most insects.
- Keep your sense of humor—remember it's fun living in the woods!

Sources: [http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/forest\\_health/ftc/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/forest_health/ftc/index.html)

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/insects/find/forest-tent-caterpillars>

## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

**Roadside Clean Up.** On May 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. we will meet at Jessie View Resort to pick up litter on the 3 miles of County Road 35 between Highway 6 and County Road 133. The County provides garbage bags and vests so it is a good JLWA public service event if it fits your schedule. Call Harley Steinbrenner if you plan to help at 832-3918. The backup day in case of rain will be the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Lake Shoreline Clean Up.** This year we are planning to carry out the third annual shoreline clean up on an informal basis. The past two years we have cleaned Jessie Lake with 7 or 8 people canoeing or kayaking around the lake and collecting visible trash in the shallow water or on shore. This year I would like to suggest that we all consider the shoreline cleaning to be a Stewardship Challenge during the last week in May and the first week in June. Let's make all our Association lakes the cleanest in the county. We assume that people will pick up trash in the water or on shore along their private land, but

this year the Stewardship Challenge is to also cover all of the public shoreline during this time. Maybe those that can not take to the water could look at cleaning the public access roads and landings on the three lakes. Our mission statement is to improve the quality of the environment in our watershed and this event will follow that purpose. As the kids always say “Just Do It”.

**Summer Picnic.** The JLWA annual picnic will be held on Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup> and will be at Rhonda Nichols home on Tillys Road. Since Rhonda has indoor space the pot-luck picnic will be held rain or shine so put it on your calendar now and let’s make it a big success again.

**2014 DNR Fishing Regulations. REQUIRED ACTIONS—CLEAN** visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited invasive species off watercraft, trailers and other equipment before leaving any water access. It is illegal to transport them once you leave the water access.

**DRAIN** water from boat, livewell, bilge, motor and other boating equipment before leaving any water access. Drain plugs must be removed from bilges and livewells at the water access. Drain plugs and all other water draining devices must remain open while trailering or transporting boats. Portable bait containers must be drained when leaving all waters. If you want to keep your live bait when leaving a lake or river, you must replace water in the bait containers with tap or bottled water. Dispose of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches and worms in the trash. It is illegal to release bait into a waterbody, release worms on the ground and to release aquatic animals from one waterbody into another. The drain plug must be pulled when on a public road (\$200 fine) or a \$500 fine for leaving a designated infested water (Winnie or Sand) with drain plugs in the boat.

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS** – Spray, rinse or dry boats and recreational equipment before transporting to another water body, especially after leaving zebra mussel and spiny waterflea infested waters. Do one or more of these actions: 1) rinse with very hot tap water, 2) spray with high-pressure water or 3) dry for 5 days.

**Let’s Go Fishing.** This year we will again have the Let’s Go Fishing handicap accessible pontoon at our Share the Lake Day event on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. The LGO program has been very successful now for six years offering the program to our seniors and youth in Itasca County. Last year they took 362 people on 58 fishing trips and 766 people on 61 cruise trips, which included 33 trips with 264 youth. This is a total of 1128 people served with 1190 volunteer hours. This was in spite of 20 youth trips that were cancelled due to the cold spring. This is a great success story of an organization in our county.

**Youth Water Summit.** On May 22<sup>nd</sup> the third annual Youth Water Summit will be held at the Itasca County Fairgrounds. This event will be for about 330 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Grand Rapids, Bigfork and St. Joe’s schools. In addition, this year’s event will again include the Deer River 5<sup>th</sup> graders. This will be a day-long event with many hands-on water science activities. It is hosted by Itasca Water Legacy Partnership (IWLP) and staffed by environmentalists and volunteer teachers. Harold Goetzman and Marn Flicker will represent JLWA. The keynote speaker will be Justin Liles, meteorologist from WDIO TV in Duluth. The goal is to teach youth how important it is to maintain our clean water resources, as these are our future decision makers.

**Earth Day.** April 22<sup>nd</sup> was Earth Day this year and was the 44<sup>th</sup> year that we have celebrated that day with special events. Although the day was rather low key this year we can still be good to the environment by planting a tree, recycling, cleaning up outside, reducing energy use with CFL bulbs and exploring nature with grandkids.

**Quotable.** –“The ultimate test of man’s conscience may be his willingness to sacrifice something today for future generations whose words of thanks will not be heard.” –Gaylord Nelson, Former Governor of Wisconsin and Founder of Earth Day.

## DID YOU KNOW?

By Harold Goetzman

- There is a MN Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center at the University's St. Paul campus.
- Last spring in 2013 was the first time in 60 years that our area lakes still had ice cover on the MN fishing opener.
- MN was second in USA for fishing participation with 32%, which is 1.5 million anglers.
- The key is that we each try to do something small to make the world a better place!! Starting now!!
- A significant number of Bald Eagles admitted to the Raptor Center died as a result of lead poisoning. One source of lead comes from eating deer gut piles and wounded deer from hunting.
- There are 14 ethanol plants in MN, which produce 400,000 gallons of ethanol for adding to gasoline. This is one fifth of the nation's use.
- A full third of America's bird species are listed as endangered, threatened or in significant decline.
- In 1880 there were no farms in Itasca Co. and 10 years later there were 18. By 1920 (30yrs later) there were 1500 farms with potatoes the most valuable crop.
- It takes 10 seconds with 140 degree water to kill zebra mussels .
- The ice on Jessie Lake has not gone out yet as of May 5<sup>th</sup>. This may be one of the later ice out dates. The latest date recorded in our 70 years of data was May 19<sup>th</sup> in 1950 and the second latest was May 14<sup>th</sup> in 2013, which most of you remember. The average ice out date is April 25<sup>th</sup>
- Our website ([www.minnesotawaters.org/Jessie](http://www.minnesotawaters.org/Jessie)) is updated regularly by our Webmaster Jim Anderson with meeting notices and the latest issue of the Jabber.

## MEMBERSHIP

The JLWA presently has 125 paid members (with Little Jessie). If you have not paid your 2014 dues, please send your \$10 to Tina Jorgenson, 20756 Field Crest Rd, Grand Rapids, MN 55744.

## CLIP AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Our JLWA website is ---[www.minnesotawaters.org/Jessie](http://www.minnesotawaters.org/Jessie)

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