

JESSIE LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



JESSIE JABBER

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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 looking forward to the spring weather. Again, I am thinking about my favorite place for fishing and recreation, the cabin at Jessie Lake. As you may remember, I announced in the fall newsletter that I would be retiring as President of the Association. Some people have commented that perhaps I didn't really mean that and would continue next year; however, I still believe that is the right decision and look forward to working with the new president. In answer to another question – no, I am not going anywhere and plan to continue being an active member of the Association from a different perspective. Since this will be my last official letter from the President, I suppose I should go into a discussion of all we have accomplished over the past twelve years, but I think most of you already know those details. However, I would like to say that I am really proud of how our lake association has developed a neighborhood culture in our watershed. The neighborhood watch program will continue to strengthen that sense of community. When I think about how many people I now know that live or vacation on our four lakes it is unbelievable compared to my first twenty years of owning a cabin on Jessie Lake. And the best part is they are all good people who I feel comfortable in calling and asking for assistance on a project or support on an issue. A year ago we also hit a milestone when we went over 100 members. I wish I could say that I have met all of you, but I still hope that will happen in the future. For sure, I do know your name as I have placed that name label on many pieces of mail over the years, so I will sort of know you when we finally meet. However, we need to continue growing and I challenge you all to invite any neighbors that are not members since we would all agree that the Association has many benefits. The main thing is that we all share the common goal of maintaining the water quality of our lakes and making our watershed a great place to enjoy these natural resources. The support that each and everyone on the lake gives can really make the difference between whether our lakes continue to deteriorate or they benefit from a new dedicated preservation/conservation ethic. The extra support with contributions also continues to amaze me again this spring and I need to apologize to Mike Raymond and Valerie Conner for leaving their name off the list last fall, as they have been faithful contributors. However, just remember it is not about the money or the number of volunteer hours, we just want everyone to proudly say I am a member and I support **our** lake association. Finally, let us all agree that we will strive to make the next twelve years even better. Thanks for the memories. In the meantime, we all need to enjoy the present time and events that bring those lifetime memories. Being good stewards of the water and land can make these events happen and make one feel good about the legacy of our resources being left behind in the Jessie Lake Watershed.

At the start of this 2009 season we still plan on monitoring the spring walleye spawning, keeping Spring Creek free of debris, doing the roadside cleanup, water sampling for phosphorous, and taking Secchi disk readings for water clarity. The work at SWCD and with our contractor Wenck Associates, Inc to establish nutrient limits for a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is still in progress with a fall completion goal. We are also looking forward to our fifth year of the Share the Lake Day, involving a picnic day for seniors. Also, remember to save time for our sixth annual members potluck picnic on Thursday, July 30th. If you are willing to host the picnic please give me a call or send an email.

SPRING MEETING

Hope to see you all at the spring meeting starting at **9:00 a.m. on Saturday May 16th (not Memorial weekend)**. We will meet **at the Bowstring Township Hall** on Co Rd 133. The business meeting will be first and after the meeting stay and have coffee with your directors and neighbors or maybe meet someone new. Maybe you can share your fish stories and hot spots with a new member. Please note that this is a different format and a new time for the spring meeting. The speaker after the business meeting will be Cindy Tomcko, DNR Fisheries Research talking on the public acceptance of shoreland restoration and her research on fish population and restored shoreland, which included the use of light traps on Jessie Lake last summer.

JESSIE LAKE TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD STUDY

By Harold Goetzman

Jessie Lake has now been under study for ten years to develop a management plan that would improve or maintain the fishery and water quality. After completion of a Clean Water Partnership grant in 2002, the lake was placed on the impaired waters list by the MPCA in 2004 due to increased levels of nutrients (phosphorous). Last year a grant was awarded to the Itasca SWCD to start a project that would develop the allowable Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) of phosphorous. This project has been discussed previously and the last update can be found in your fall newsletter. A contract for \$75,000 was awarded to Wenck Associates, Inc of Maple Plain, MN to complete the TMDL by October of 2009. The contractor's experience with other TMDL projects and with lake modeling was a major factor in the selection. A public meeting with a formal presentation by the contractor will be part of this project. The state of Minnesota (MPCA) has budgeted state dollars to complete the TMDL.

The Wenck staff has been working on evaluating the existing data, developing the lake model, quantifying the phosphorous load and developing load reduction scenarios as required in Task 1 of the project. Rebecca Kluckhohn, Project Engineer, reported the results of this phase to the Jessie Lake Technical Advisory Committee (JLTAC) and others in early December. Rebecca requested other data such as the MPCA continuous flow data, continuous temp data collected by USFS and the U of M's data for the P-Flux study it completed during the Clean Water Partnership study.

Rebecca discussed the model selection and strategy as she reviewed the BATHTUB Model and rationale for selecting it to model Jessie Lake. Rebecca stated that BATHTUB is a widely accepted model that is used almost exclusively in Minnesota and that many other models use a variation of BATHTUB. Based on the level of data, Rebecca felt BATHTUB is the most appropriate model for Jessie Lake. Noel brought forward a question from Bill Nelson (Watershed Assoc-not present): "If BATHTUB was already run for Jessie Lake for the CWP Study why are we running it again?" Rebecca responded that BATHTUB is an umbrella for a number of different model inputs and can be run very simplistic or more robustly. Additional data has been collected on Jessie Lake since the CWP and Wenck will be using additional tools (watershed model, internal load model & data, etc) when it runs BATHTUB for the TMDL. I asked whether or not we would have a better understanding of the groundwater inputs. Rebecca assured the group that a groundwater expert at Wenck will be looking at the data from multiple angles and because of the additional stream data and known variables there should be a lot better handle on groundwater influences on Jessie Lake.

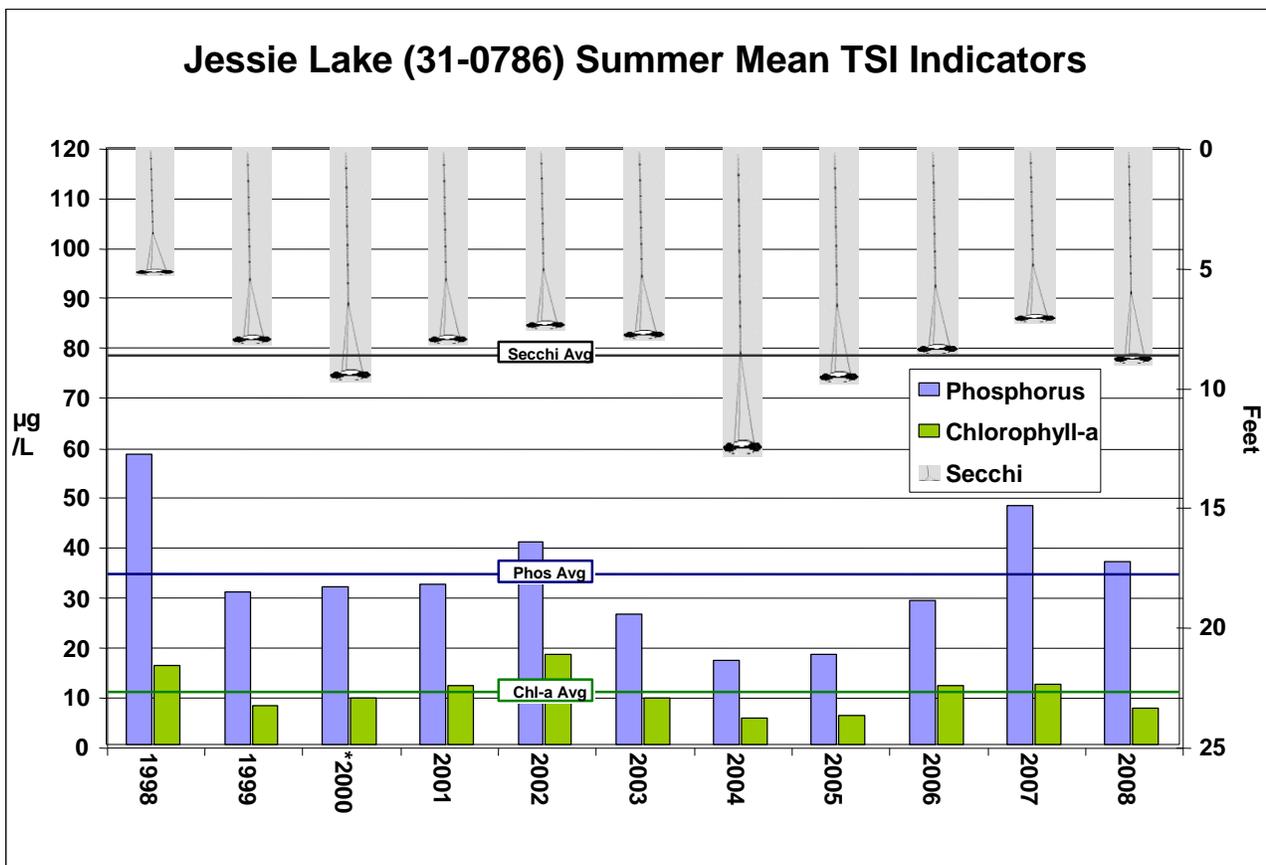
The Phase I part of this study should be completed and a report given by Wenck to the committee in early May. This meeting will give us an opportunity for input in the reduction scenarios to be evaluated for the implementation plan.

The Jessie TMDL website has been setup by Noel Griese (SWCD), which contains a brief background section and reports with additional information being added regularly. You can visit this site by going to www.itascaswcd.org/Jessie_Lake_TMDL.htm.

JESSIE LAKE 2008 WATER QUALITY YEAR END REVIEW

By Noel Griese

Eleven consecutive years of data have been collected on Jessie Lake since 1998 through the continued efforts and partnership between the Jessie Lake Watershed Association and Itasca County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Based on monitoring data, 2008 was an average year in terms of water quality conditions. Phosphorus and chlorophyll-a (measurement of algae) concentrations averaged 37 ug/l and 7.8 ug/l respectively. Phosphorus levels were slightly higher than the eleven-year average of 34 ug/l, while chlorophyll-a was below the lake's average of 10.9 ug/l. From May - July phosphorus and chlorophyll concentrations remained stable until August when levels increased substantially. Phosphorus increased from 22 ug/l to 72 ug/l and chlorophyll-a increased from 2.6 ug/l to 14.4 ug/l. These increases suggest that the lake was stratified and then turned over in August. Nutrients from the bottom of the lake were mixed to the surface and produced a significant algae bloom, which likely caused the lake to turn green/brown during the latter half of the summer. Water clarity readings also correlated with average conditions, as the mean secchi reading for 2008 was 9.1 ft, which is close to the eleven-year average of 8.6 ft.



Since 1998, trends would suggest reduced phosphorus concentrations and algae production along with improved water clarity, but the data is highly biased by the poor water quality year of 1998. When focusing on the last ten years (1999-2008) there is no significant trend in water quality for Jessie Lake, meaning amidst the yearly ups and downs the lake appears to be remaining stable, which is encouraging to see. As many residents are aware, a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study will be completed by November of 2009 and will begin directing management strategies for Jessie Lake. A report and opportunity to comment will be provided to the public.

JESSIE LAKE SEDIMENT STUDY

By Harold Goetzman

A \$12,000 grant was approved in 2008 by the MPCA for SWCD to conduct additional Jessie Lake sediment sampling. This will provide data on the organic/inorganic forms of phosphorous present and a characterization of the sediment at various places in the lake. This sediment information will be used in the new TMDL study being conducted by Wenck since an important component of the lake nutrient modeling will be an understanding of the internal phosphorus cycling within Jessie Lake.

Samples of sediment from the two deepest spots in the lake were taken last fall before the lake froze. These core-samples were analyzed for the different types of phosphorus compounds to determine the potential solubility under anoxic conditions during the summer. Release rate experiments were also conducted with these sediment samples to estimate the internal phosphorus loading. The results of those tests showed that 53 to 61 percent of the total sediment phosphorus was biological or loosely bound phosphorus that is subject to recycling under low oxygen conditions.

This spring an additional 26 sediment samples were taken through the ice to characterize the sediment regarding the organic content. A transect line along the length of the lake from north to south was drawn and eleven sediment grab samples were taken along this line. An additional 15 samples were taken along six transects across the width of the lake, which provided a grid of samples that would be represent the total area of Jessie Lake. The organic content of these samples will help to determine the uniformity of the lake sediment and provide an estimate of the phosphorus release rate for the entire basin. The characterization of these 26 sediment samples from the lake transects is now in progress and this will determine if further chemical analyses or release studies are warranted.

INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT!!!

Information taken from MN Waters and Duluth Tribune

Zebra Mussels. The discovery of Zebra Mussels in Mille Lacs Lake brings a concern regarding boats that use Mille Lacs and then travel to Itasca County. An article in Minnesota Waters Confluence on the subject emphasizes that we should do our best to insure only clean boats and those with empty live wells enter our lakes.

Zebra mussels were discovered in Mille Lacs Lake in 2005. The population of zebra mussels has been low until last year, when their numbers exploded. According to the DNR's annual invasive species report, the number of adults sampled in 2007 totaled 140, but increased in 2008 to 24,000. Similarly, zebra mussel villagers, the immature form, were found in every water sample throughout the lake in 2008. To put this into perspective, adult zebra mussels were found in densities of about 1 per square foot of lake bottom sampled in 2008 and that is expected to increase to hundreds per square foot this summer. Populations are expected to continue increasing at these rapid rates until they reach some kind of environmental limit.

The DNR and others are very concerned about the spread of zebra mussels out of Mille Lacs Lake. Almost certainly, zebra mussel will spread down the Rum River to the Mississippi (which is already infested). In addition, recreational boaters are being targeted for increased inspections, enforcement and educational efforts. Despite these efforts, Mille Lacs Lake is likely to be a ground zero for zebra mussel migrations. According to DNR studies, Mille Lacs Lake has about 400,000 angling trips per year, so the volume of recreational boat traffic is huge.

It is unfortunate that Mille Lacs Lake is infested with zebra mussels because it is one of the most heavily used lakes in Minnesota and many of those boaters also visit other lakes. It is also unfortunate that Mille Lacs Lake is the state's premier walleye lake and the possibility of permanent and severe impacts to the fishery is real. Lakes with high AIS densities and high boat traffic are referred to as 'super spreaders.' It is recommended that other lake and river groups step up their volunteer and community protection and education efforts.

Emerald Ash Borer Hits State Border. The small, tree-killing insect from China has jumped across the state of Wisconsin in a single bound. Wisconsin officials announced recently that the EAB had been discovered in Victory, a small Mississippi River town 20 miles south of La Crosse on the Minnesota border. It is the first confirmed outbreak of the insect anywhere near Minnesota (one mile away) or outside the Milwaukee area, which has now been declared too big to stop.

Officials in Minnesota said the march North is inevitable, but that the state is working to slow that spread to give foresters and pest expert's time to find more control options. While the adult beetle can fly short distances, it is believed that most of the beetle movement is by people transporting infested firewood. In a truck the beetle can move 60 mph. **PLEASE DO NOT MOVE ANY FIREWOOD OR LIVE ASH TREES FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE STATE OR WISCONSIN.**

Emerald ash borers were first discovered in The Detroit area in 2002 after arriving in shipping crates from China. In just seven years, the bugs have spread and killed 80 million ash trees in Canada and nine USA states. No species of ash has been able to withstand the bugs. This is sad if you are like me, because the ash tree is mostly what is left after the elm, birch, and oak infestations in our area.

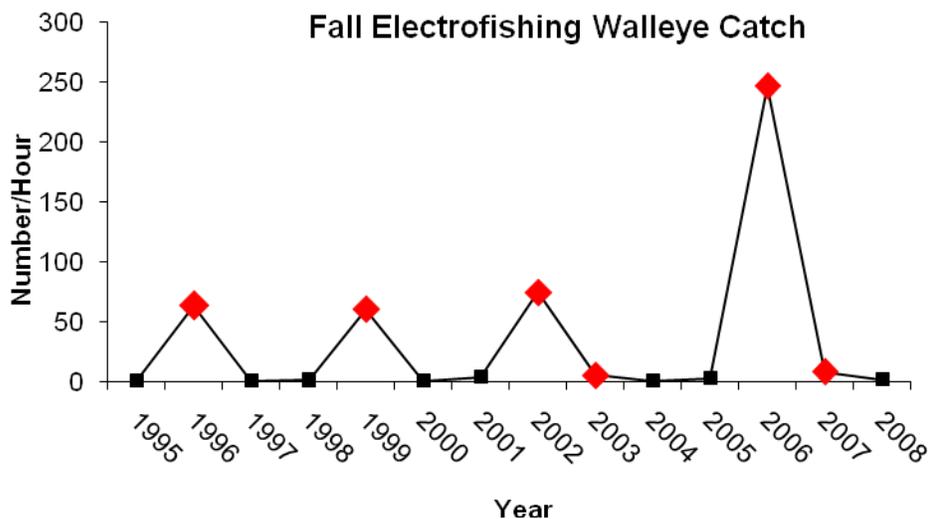
FISHERIES UPDATE

By David L. Weitzel, DNR Assistant Area Fisheries Supervisor

The Grand Rapids Area Fisheries Office is planning to conduct a lake population assessment on Jessie Lake in late August of 2009. This assessment is part of the DNR's lake survey program, which regularly collects information on fishing lakes throughout Minnesota. The population assessment will also be used as part of an on-going evaluation of natural reproduction of walleye in Jessie Lake.

In order to determine if natural reproduction occurs, the DNR often stocks fish for a year or two and then skips stocking for a year or two. These "blank" years allow researchers to evaluate if natural reproduction had occurred. If young of the year walleye are present, and the lake was not stocked, natural reproduction can be documented. The DNR currently stocks walleye fry in Jessie Lake two consecutive years followed by two blank years. Walleye fry were last stocked in 2007 and will again be stocked as scheduled in 2010.

The DNR has conducted annual fall electrofishing for young of the year walleye since 1995 using an electroshocking boat. Electricity stuns the fish and allows researchers to collect, measure and then release them unharmed. In the thirteen years since fall electrofishing began, high catches of young of the year walleye have generally corresponded to years in which walleye fry were stocked.



**Diamonds indicate stocked years.

The last population assessment (by netting for a week) was conducted in 2004 and the lake management plan was revised in 2005. At that time, the plan called for the next population assessment to be conducted in 2010. Given the poor walleye catches in the last two fall assessments, the DNR has decided to conduct the population assessment in 2009. Electrofishing is a useful tool in determining the presence of young walleye, but it is often subject to conditions at the time of sampling. Things that may affect the catch include weather, water levels and water temperature. A population assessment in 2009 will provide a much clearer picture of the status of the walleye population. Information from the population assessment will be incorporated into a revised lake management plan, which will be written next winter. This plan will take the current status of the walleye population into account and revise the management strategies accordingly.

Editors Note- In December, four members of JLWA met with three of the DNR fisheries staff to discuss changes in our fish management plan. The major question was should we return to an every other year stocking plan with OTC (a special chemical) marked fry. After some discussion the DNR agreed to revisit the current plan and make recommendations to JLWA. Note the above graph shows few fish were found in the fall of 2001, while the netting assessment in 2004 showed this to be a significant year class. The fish were probably a result of spawning on our rock beds in Spring Creek.

CLEAN WATER, LAND AND LEGACY AMENDMENT

Compiled from Articles By Sam Cook, Duluth News Tribune

Minnesota voters approved in November a constitutional amendment called the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. The proceeds will be allocated to four areas: the Clean Water Fund – 33%, the Outdoors Fund – 33%, the Arts Fund – 19.75% and the Parks and Trails Fund – 14.25%. The Clean Water Fund will invest in projects to protect, enhance and restore water quality in lakes, rivers and streams and to protect groundwater from degradation that will protect drinking water sources. The Outdoors Fund will provide funds for the purchase and protection of fish and wildlife habitat and natural areas, enhance or restore prairies and wetlands, forest conservation and other measures important to the state's outdoor legacy. The final third of the money will be used to support the Arts Fund and a Parks and Trails Fund

The newly convened 12-member citizen led Lessard Outdoors Heritage Council (LOHC) approved a final list of 13 projects that will be funded with Minnesota sales tax money for the first year. The projects, funded with an estimated \$68.6 million from the Outdoor Heritage Fund, will protect and enhance 232,000 acres of habitat. That includes 129,000 acres of forests, 71,000 acres of wetlands, 24,000 acres of prairies and 343 miles of shoreline. The money will pay for easements on 202,000 acres and outright purchases of 8,749 acres of land. The projects will be distributed to 77 of Minnesota's 87 counties. The LOHC makes recommendations to the Legislature on one-third of the money raised by the three-eighths of 1 percent sales tax increase that begins July 1. Next up the LOHC projects will have to be approved by the Legislature, which also is considering projects for the other funds from the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. The following are the habitat projects affecting our area that were recommended for early 2010 start-up:

- Forests for the Future-Upper Mississippi River Project (DNR) - This project protects 187,000 acres of Minnesota forests on Blandin Paper land around Grand Rapids from development by purchasing an easement that keeps the land open forever to public use. An additional 1,344 acres would be outright purchased -- \$42.7 million (\$20 million this year and remainder in fiscal year 2011).
- Reinvest in Minnesota, Wetlands Reserve Program (Board of Soil and Water Resources) -- \$9,058,000.
- Aquatic Management Area acquisitions (DNR) --\$5,748,000
- Conservation Partners Program for local conservation group projects -- \$4,000,000

- Wildlife Management Area acquisition (DNR Wildlife) -- \$2,900,000

The purchase of the Blandin easements would be the largest conservation easement project in the history of the state. The easements would forever allow public access for deer hunters and others, prevent the property from being developed for homes or cabins and allow continued access to loggers. Recently, it was announced that the Blandin Foundation would give \$7 million and the Mellon Foundation will donate \$2 million toward the purchase of these easements. This will provide the private funds desired by the legislature to match the amendment money.

Many people are still wondering, what about the Clean Water Fund? Who are the “water people?” How the remainder of the Legacy Amendment money is divided will apparently be decided by the Legislature. The Clean Water Council was created through the 2006 Clean Water Legacy Act to protect, restore, and preserve the quality of Minnesota’s surface waters. As of today, there still is no statutory link between the Clean Water Council and the Clean Water Fund. While many believe the legislature may provide this link in the future, the details are yet unclear and will need to be developed through the legislative process.

BLACK AND WHITE

By Harold Goetzman

Every Minnesotan sooner or later gets a whiff of the striped skunk's calling card. The skunk is only the size of a house cat, but few wild animals are willing to tangle with the skunk and its obnoxious odor. Only the great horned owl is unruffled by the skunk's chemical warfare. The striped skunk lives throughout the state of Minnesota. They are also found in Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

Skunks are intelligent and usually good-natured, but are best known for their smell. They also have a certain beauty about them -- their hair is long and glistening, and the big white stripes that run down each side of the animal brilliantly accent the ink-black hair. Skunks sport that big white stripe down their backs for a good reason. It is a classic example of aposematic coloring – distinctive coloration or patterns that signal to a potential predator “watch out”. Unfortunately, dogs aren’t born with an understanding of warning coloration, so it often takes at least one nasty encounter to learn a lesson. Skunks can spray up to 15 feet and the odor is made up of two groups of chemical compounds: sulfur and hydrogen bonds that produce the odor and an acetyl group (vinegary smell) that enhances the pungent odor when it reacts with water (as in a wet dog, long after you thought you got rid of the skunk smell). The odor will stay on the sprayed dog or thing for days

Using that knowledge, the best way to counteract skunk perfume is to scrub your dog with a combination of hydrogen peroxide, baking soda and dish soap, which reduces the odor by oxidizing the hydrogen/sulfur compounds. A recipe to have on hand that works very well is 1 pint of hydrogen peroxide, 2/3-cup baking soda and 1 tablespoon of dish soap. Mix in a plastic bucket and wet the pet (or person) thoroughly with the foaming liquid. Leave on for about five minutes and then rinse, but you may need to repeat. However, if you are out in cabin country and desperate, a concoction of 2/3-cup of water with 1/3-cup vinegar or tomato juice works well enough to get you through the night.

Skunks do not have the same fear of humans that other wild animals have and can make good pets. They are sold as a domestic variety for pets with the scent glands removed. Despite their gentle manner, skunks can be deadly simply because they are often carriers of rabies. In fact, rabies is more common in striped skunks than in any other Minnesota mammal. I had a friend who kept a pet skunk for 16 years and it was very much like a pet cat.

Skunks are for the most part nocturnal. Striped skunks mate anytime between February and March. The female is pregnant for 2-3 months and gives birth to 2-8 naked, blind, and helpless young. The babies are born with a small amount of black and white hair. They always follow in a line behind their mothers and leave her when they are about eight months old. During the summer, the male skunk usually stays by himself.

Skunks are omnivorous, but seem to prefer insects and their larvae, mice, carrion, berries, fruit, bird food and garbage. They love eggs and grubs! Grubs are beetle larva that live underneath of your lawn. Skunks are known for digging small holes in yards as they hunt for them. Luckily, beneficial nematodes also love to eat grubs, and are easily deployed in your lawn and garden to eliminate this attractant. Never leave unprotected animal food outside at night; it's akin to setting a place at your dinner table for Pepé le Pew. I had a neighbor once who would leave table scraps and cat food out for neighborhood stray cats. She ended up with a family of skunks living on her property.

When fall comes, skunks fatten up a little for their winter nap. Scientists agree that skunks go into “torpor” [like bears] instead of true hibernation. The body temperature and heartbeats go down, but not as low as in hibernation. Even though some skunks seem to stay in a deeper hibernation for about one hundred days, this changes depending on the skunk and where it lives. Mostly, the skunk will go into torpor for shorter times, wake up when it gets a little warmer, and even go outside to eat.

The torpor is one thing to remember when exterminating a trapped skunk. They need to be under water for more than an hour to be sure they are not just sleeping. Also, when trapping them from under your cabin remember that there is often more than one; so don't plug the hole until you are sure you have them all. Marn Flicker can give you advice on the live trapping. However, I think Bill Baird had the best solution to a skunk problem as he watched the mom cross his creek bridge with 8 little ones in tow. Just close the gate behind them and end of problem. I find the word aposematic to be interesting – *being conspicuous and serving to warn*. I'm wondering if that is how we came up with the black and white striped design for prison uniforms? Or perhaps it is prisoners and skunks are synonymous?

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

JLWA Logo Shirts. For those interested in ordering this year, we will take orders at the spring meeting and then place an order. Marn and Marie Flicker will coordinate the ordering and distribution. If you want to order or have questions about colors please call Marie at 218-326-0811(home) or 218-832-3154 (lake). Colored order forms can be sent out to new members who have not seen the original form. Also, I do have 6 hats available if you are interested.

Roadside Clean Up. On May 5th at 10:00 we will meet at Jessie View Resort to pick up litter on 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 (coffee at Nelson's). Think about helping out.

Wood Tick Removal. Spring is here and the ticks will soon be showing their heads. Here is a good way to get them off you, your children or your pets. It is recommended by a nurse so give it a try.

A School Nurse has written the info below—good enough to share—and it really works!!

I had a pediatrician tell me what she believes is the best way to remove a tick. This is great, because it works in those places where it's some times difficult to get to with tweezers: between toes, in the middle of a head full of dark hair, etc. Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball and swab it for a few seconds (15-20), the tick will come out on its own and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift it away. This technique has worked every time I've used it (and that was frequently), and it's much less traumatic for the patient and easier for me. Unless someone is allergic to soap, I can't see that this would be damaging in any way. I even had my doctor's wife call me for advice because she had one stuck to her back and she couldn't reach it with a tweezers. She used this method and immediately called me back to say, “It really works.”

Creel Survey. Last year, Jim Anderson conducted a partial creel census on Jessie Lake. Interested fisherman kept track of the length of each walleye they caught (kept or released) during the summer. Jim collected this data and used it to estimate the walleye year-class strength, which will help us with future planning and evaluation of the rock spawning beds. This information will not be made public, but Jim will report the results to members at the spring meeting and have this years form available. Anyone interested in participating should contact Jim for details at 832-3175.

Quotable. “Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day; teach him to fish and you can get rid of him for the entire weekend.” Zenna Schaffer

DID YOU KNOW?

By Harold Goetzman

- After two years of stocking, Walleye fry were not stocked in Jessie Lake during 2008 and will not be stocked in 2009 as the second year of non-stocking per our lake management plan.
- The Emerald Ash Boar (EAB) has been responsible for the death of 80 million ash trees in IL, IN, MA, MI, NY, OH, PA and WI.
- The Superior and Chippewa national forests have made it officially illegal to bring out-of-state firewood into federal forestland, a move intended to keep emerald ash borers out of Minnesota.
- Nearly 35,000 people donated services to the DNR in 2008 that were valued at \$9.6 million. This is equivalent to an extra 285 full-time employees and many projects would not be possible without the volunteers.
- The DNR Fish and Game budget gets only about \$42 million of its \$65 million from the states general fund, Most of the revenue comes from license sales to those of us that hunt and fish.
- Minnesota is first nationally in the sales of fishing licenses per capita.
- The DNR has 12 cool and warm water fish hatcheries and uses 325 walleye rearing ponds annually to produce most of the fry and fingerlings for stocking.
- Every home or cabin has vampire appliances that suck energy even when you're not using them. Coffee makers, TV, clock radios and battery chargers are known offenders that can be unplugged when you are away or they are not in use.
- Americans would save \$4.3 billion in energy costs and avoid 32 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually by turning off office computers and lights.
- Vaxjo, Sweden has been named the Greenest City in Europe. Residents there produce just 3.5 tons of global warming-causing carbon dioxide each year, compared to the 5-ton average for Sweden and the 20-tons per capita for Americans.
- Americans receive about 105 billion pieces of junk mail every year. This takes 6.5 million tons of paper made from 100 million trees to produce. Unfortunately, the direct-marketing business spurs 9 million jobs nationally.
- Anyone fishing in Upper Red Lake in 2009 will be able to keep 4 walleye. One more than last year.
- With the Minnesota fishing opener fast approaching, the MPCA is encouraging anglers to switch to lead-free tackle. The toxic metal can poison wildlife such as loons, swans and eagles that inadvertently swallow lead fishing tackle.
- There is a great recipe for northern pike from guide Jeff Sundin – cover fish with onion, tomato and a half-cup of mayo. Bake until brown.
- The Wisconsin DNR has spent over 27 million on chronic wasting disease (CWD) since the disease was found in their deer herd in 2002.
- Carbon dioxide gases from MN sources have increased 37% from 1985 to 2005.
- The ice was not out on Jessie Lake yet and will be a few days later than the average of April 23rd.
- Our website (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 90 paid members (99 fall 2008). If you have not paid your 2009 dues, please send your \$10 to Dale Hertle, 47104 Bellamy Road, Talmoon, MN 56637