

## Homeowners' Annual Meeting Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am at Clearwater Forest

**Note Earlier Date** - Please plan to attend to our homeowners' association meeting on Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> at Clearwater Forest in the Dining Hall from 9:30 - 11:00 am. Thank you to The Camp and Rich Swartworth for hosting!

### Meeting Agenda

- Welcome - introductions
- Treasurer's Report
- Clearwater Forest- update
- Milfoil – management strategy, results, funding
- Social Activities – ice cream, picnic, parade
- Governance – replacement Board members
- Other matters to cover – wildlife, river, etc.

We encourage everyone from the Lake to join our annual meeting. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and we are working through issues affecting our whole lake.

### SAVE THE DATE – more details to follow

- Saturday June 11 – Picnic - part of Camp Friend & Family Day
- Sunday July 3 – Boat parade
- August - ice cream social

## Treasurer's Report

Barb Schmitz summary Treasury's report –

	2015
Beginning Balance (5/23/15)	\$8,199.28
> Deposits	\$54,981.42
> Expenses	(\$30,006.45)
Current Balance (at 4/12/16)	\$33,174.25

Barb will provide her full report at our Annual Meeting.

**Annual Association Dues \$50 (tax deductible)** - Make checks payable to Clearwater Lake Homeowners' Association. Send to Treasurer: Barb Schmitz 2643 New Century Place E, Maplewood, MN 55119.

## Governance of Homeowner's

Clearwater Lake Association became an Incorporated Tax Exempt Non-Profit 501(c)(3) entity (tax id 30-0791105) in August 2014.

**Mission** – To preserve, protect and promote the general welfare of Clearwater Lake. To educate homeowners and others who use the lake to be fit stewards of the lake and surrounding areas, and to teach others about the effects of invasive species on the waters and wildlife.

Any donation (including annual dues) made to Clearwater Lake Association is tax deductible. Please consult with your tax advisor for your own treatment of donations.

Governance documents are available upon request, including Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, Certificate of Good Standing, and Board meeting minutes.

## Board Volunteers Needed

We need two volunteers for our Board, with one to Co-Chair with Dave Nord. Second is to lead social activities to take over the great work Ann Bros has done. Our current Board is:

- Dave Nord – Gary Perkins – Co-Chairs
- Barb Schmitz – Secretary and Treasurer
- Louis Seliski- At-Large
- Kathy Peterson – leading governance efforts
- Charlie Lick – leading Milfoil management
- Ann Bros (coming off Board this year) - leading social activities

Your Board has put in numerous volunteer hours on behalf of our Association. Be sure to take a moment to thank them for their efforts.



**From Rich Swartwood** - There is always something

going on at Clearwater Forest! Between groups of youth, families, and church retreats, we're busy planning for another great summer camp program.

Last year we served over 650 youth on-site and partnered with 18 congregations for camp in a van – a regional day camp with over 500 youth participating. An additional 5,000 people came to Clearwater Forest in a variety of retreats.

### Upcoming Activities

- Spring Work Weekend/Day - May 13-15 - Come help us prepare for our campers. This includes plans to plant 1,000 white spruce saplings.
- Friend & Family Day and Annual Bike Ride – June 11 - Plan to attend, where we share all our amazing activities, provide site tours, and more! Meet the camp staff; participate in their commission during an afternoon worship.
- Grand's Camp – 4 dates June/July – One our incredible programs for grandkids and grandparents to spend four days together. We do all the programming, YOU make the memories!
- Please contact me with questions and RSVP to attend any of these activities - [Rich@clearwaterforest.com](mailto:Rich@clearwaterforest.com) or at 612.678.2325.



### Support Our Ministry!

- Our ministry simply can't do what it does without support from individuals, congregations, and our Presbyterian ministry partners
- There are many ways to help Clearwater Forest; volunteer a day, give to our annual fund, scholarship fund, or sponsor a summer staff counselor, and most importantly pray for our ministry.

## Eurasian Milfoil Update

**From Charlie Lick** - Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) was first discovered on Clearwater Lake 6+ years ago. In 2014 we saw a marked increase in infestation of EWM on Clearwater Lake. We have used Central

Minnesota Aquatics – a commercial treatment contractor – since 2013. We have treated 37 acres in 2014 and 2105 at costs of \$28,000 and \$29,400 respectively. 2015 treatment dates were June 9-12. 2015 treatment was very successful! *Minimal EWM plants were noted by late summer – a marked decrease in EWM.* Early, effective treatment, natural life cycles of EWM and environmental factors have contributed to this success. Because of the success in 2015, only one treatment was done.



Thanks to a very generous tax-deductible donations from a “Friend of Clearwater” and many of you, \$43,500 was donated to the environmental fund in 2015. We also received \$8,700 in grants from MN DNR and Crow Wing County.

Crow Wing County has increased their focus on aquatic invasive species – spread, control and treatment.  
<http://www.crowwing.us/1004/Aquatic-Invasive-Species-AIS>. County watercraft inspections at the public landing were done in 2015. Clearwater Lake was tested in 2015 for zebra mussels by the county – none found. Thanks to Jeff Zernov for doing the water sampling for this.

**Containment Strategy** – Our treatment strategy is prioritized containment. This strategy was developed after we met with Bay Lake associations’ milfoil volunteers. They have been using a containment strategy for 20+ yrs, which includes two treatments per year. We will adopt a similar twice yearly treatment strategy pending funds to do such and depending on success of first treatment.

**What’s Next for 2016?**

- **Assessment** - We will have a Spring survey to assess 2015 treatment effectiveness.
- **Funding** - We are asking for tax-deductible contributions to the Homeowner’s Environmental Fund at \$400/property (or whatever you can contribute). MN DNR treatment grant dollars were slashed for 2016 and we were NOT successful in receiving DNR grant money for 2016. We do expect to receive Crow Wing County grant dollars in 2016. Contact your state representative about this decrease in state money available for treatment grants. We have a small number of homeowners on our lake to support these efforts, making grant dollars even more important for Clearwater Lake.
- **Owner Treatment Notification** - Pending DNR waiver approval for 2016 the requirement for dated signature approval from landowners will not be sought for our milfoil treatment strategy (outlined above). If you DO NOT want milfoil treatment in front of your property please notify Charlie Lick ([charleslick@me.com](mailto:charleslick@me.com) or 612.508.3514).
- **Developing Lake Management Plan** – Concerns have been raised over the environmental impact of invasive species (EWM and spiny crawfish) and their treatment on Clearwater Lake. The Board is contracting with outside experts in the scoping study, completing testing, assessing results, and providing strategy recommendation.

## Loon Report

**From Jeff & Paulette Zernov** – For 2015 ice out was April 11, loons were back on April 7, we set 7 nests on April 18. We had nesting pairs use all 7 nests but a combination of storms and eagles severely reduced our chick

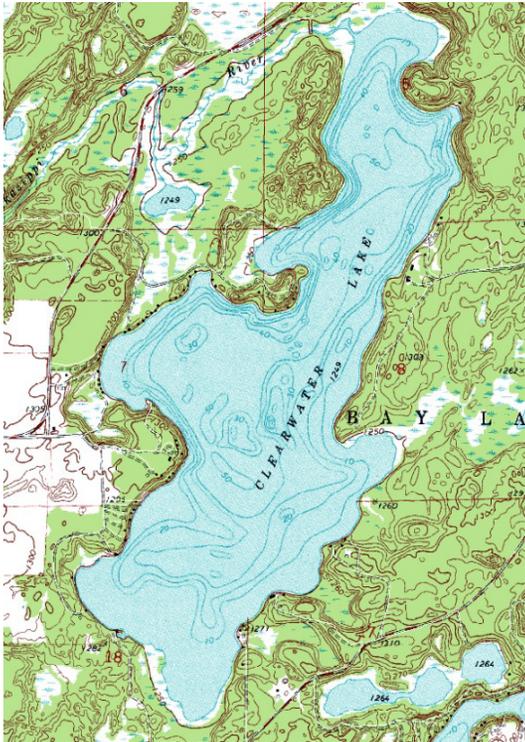


success. We had only 3 chicks survive to the fall migration. In early June we introduced 2 orphaned loon chicks to our nesting pair in the NW reeds. That pair had lost both their chicks a few days earlier. Initially the adults were receptive to the new chicks but they disappeared 2 days later, we suspect they fell prey to eagles.

For 2016 ice out was April 2 and loons were back on the 3rd. Seven nests were set on April 8. This year we have rebuilt all our nests and you may notice we are testing a new screen dome on 4 of them intended to deter the eagles from eating eggs and attacking nesting adults.

**Thanks to the yearly nesting preparation and monitoring efforts of Paulette and Jeff Zernov!!**

# Clearwater Lake Homeowners' Assn Spring 2016



**Annual Meeting – Earlier Date** - Please join us for the annual meeting of the Lake Association on **Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 beginning at 9:30 am** in the Dining Center of Presbyterian Clearwater Forest Camp on Crooked Lake Road. See inside for complete agenda

**Association's Volunteer Board** – Dave Nord and Gary Perkins, (Co-Chairs), Ann Bros, Charlie Lick, Kathy Peterson, Louise Seliski, Barb Schmitz.