

LAKE WAVES

Newsletter for the Hand/Hay Lakes Association

www.HandHayLakesAssoc.org

Fall/ Winter 2018

Line 3 Pipeline Update



Line 3 pipeline! The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has rendered its final decision concerning the Line 3 pipeline permit. In spite of the fact the Department of Commerce (DOC) recommended there be no pipeline built

and the existing line 3 be shut down, in spite of the fact that over 75% of the participants speaking at the public hearings spoke out against the pipeline, and in spite of the fact that the administrative law judge, hearing from stake holders, recommended that if the pipeline be built, the old line 3 should be dug up and the new pipeline be laid in the same corridor as the old, in spite of all that, the PUC went ahead and granted a certificate of need and allowed the pipeline to be run through the Mississippi Headwaters and the Pine River Watershed, Enbridge's preferred route. It is not clear how the PUC arrived at its decision.

Enbridge, the pipeline company, still needs to get some 29 state and federal additional permits before it can start building. It hopes to have those in hand by early November and start the bulldozers in the first half of 2019. At this writing it is not clear how many of those permits it has already obtained

Law suits have been filed by two environmental groups, including Friends of the Headwaters and a group of four Native American tribes claiming the original Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was insufficient. The EIS does not address how a large spill would be contained, does not take into account future need for tar sands and does not consider the possibility that additional pipelines could eventually be built in the new corridor.

There are still actions Governor Dayton could take before he leaves office concerning the Line 3 Route process. He is being urged to ask the Corps of Engineers to consider the route in its entirety rather than the process that considers water crossings separately. If that was their approach it would trigger a better EIS. He is also being asked for an Executive Order in support of Water Protectors.

Both candidates for Minnesota governor, Democrat Tim Waltz and Republican Jeff Johnson say they support the massive northern Minnesota pipeline project.

In late September the Department of Commerce (DOC) urged the PUC to reverse its decision. The next governor's administration will have to decide whether to continue the state Commerce

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Department's current opposition.

At least two protest demonstrations have erupted since the PUC decision, one in Bemidji, organized by the Sierra Club/ MN350, and another in Duluth. There undoubtedly will be more demonstrations

Winona LaDuke, executive director of the indigenous environmental group Honor the Earth, said she and her allies are quiet for now. "But if construction begins," LaDuke said, "the next governor can expect environmental militancy, including during the freezing winter weather. We will act to protect our water and future generations. "We will see thousands of people come" to protest.

Zebra Mussels Continue to Invade MN Lakes

As of January 2018 Zebra Mussels have been confirmed in 150 lakes, infesting 155 bodies of water. This fall the mussels have been found in five more lakes across Otter Tail, Grant and Stevens counties. It is in the fall when many of the infestations are found as people remove docks and boat lifts. While the threat of infestation is significant, it should be noted that only 3% of Minnesota's lakes have been compromised. They are mostly the larger lakes with lots of boat traffic. Our association's lakes are surrounded by infested lakes. There is an interesting interactive map of infested lakes on the DNR website. You might find it interesting.

<http://www.eddmaps.org/midwest/tools/infestedwaters/>



From the Editor

As I begin assembling this newsletter, I note this is my eighth year publishing the newsletter. After that many years it might be time for new blood to begin to take control as I wish to reduce my involvement in publishing. I have tried to find my replacement but to no avail. As a result I am making some changes to the newsletter.

I have delayed the publication of the fall newsletter due out in September and I pushed it out to early November. It is labeled the fall/winter edition. The spring/summer edition will be published in early May. There will be only two newsletters per year instead of the usual four.

In the past I have tried to time the publications to announce coming events, road clean-up, general meeting, or boat parade etc. The new newsletters will focus more on what happened in the past few months. We will rely on our website to post dates, times, and general information about coming events. So you will want to keep a close eye on the website.

[\(http://www.handhaylakesassoc.org/\)](http://www.handhaylakesassoc.org/)

I don't feel too badly about moving towards two publications per year. I note that other lake associations have only two or three per year. Woman Lake Association, a large and active association, publishes a mere two newsletters per year. It is somewhat of overkill for our small lake association to be publishing four.

The minutes from the general meeting will be a standalone document and posted on the website. And, with only two publications per year, each issue will have the membership sign-up form on the last leaf of the newsletter.

Of course, if anyone wants to assist with the newsletter in any capacity, please contact me or any officer or director.

There were several submissions for this edition so I decided to add two extra pages and print all the pages. (In some cases only those getting the e-version would get the extra pages.)

The Peters family had a wedding on North Bay in September. What a wonderful place to have a wedding. Thank you for sending the pictures.

Interesting...a rare plant has been discovered in Hand Lake. Read about in Barbara Courneya's "Ground Water Seminar."

And finally, It was interesting to watch 50 lbs of walleye fingerlings be released into Hand Lake. In October.



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Neighborhood News

From Tim & Jane Peters (North Bay)

On September 8th my daughter Laura Peters and Micheal Abalos were married on our dock in the North Bay of Hand Lake. The day was a perfect September day with highs in the 70's with no wind and plenty of sunshine. One hundred twenty guests attended the afternoon ceremony. The reception was held on neighboring Lake Ada.

The Bride and Groom reside in Bend, Oregon and are moving to Bali, Indonesia in January, 2019
Parents are Tim and Jane Peters of Anoka, MN , and Genny Abalos of Toledo, Ohio.



Be Sure to Check Out Our Hand/Hay Lakes Website

Dedicated to preserving the health, safety, welfare and prosperity of the lakes and forest that surround Hand and Hay Lakes.

<http://handhaylakesassoc.org/>

Lake Association Tree & Shrub Program

Last year (2017) our lake association began a new program to distribute, at the association's expense, native trees, shrubs and perennials to association members. The objective was to encourage members to plant more native trees and shrubs along the shoreline and elsewhere to reduce runoff into the lake. Plants were distributed in the spring of 2018.

The program was sufficiently successful to generate interest in continuing the program for a second time. Authorization was given at the general meeting to fund the program again but to focus more on perennials and shrubs rather than trees. This year's selection includes trees mountain ash and red pine, shrubs elderberry and false indigo, and perennials purple lupines, and long headed cone flower. The selection is based on the results gained from a questionnaire gathered at the last general meeting.

Since shrubs and perennial are priced and packaged differently than trees there are some changes to the program. The plants are distributed through the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation Department. Our lake association will buy an assortment of plants and give three perennials or five trees, or five shrubs for free to each member who wants them. Members may buy additional perennials at an estimated price of \$2.50 each and trees and shrubs at \$1.50 each. Prices are subject to change and could be slightly higher or lower at the time the association places the order.

Fill out the form below indicating how many of each item you want. The **Orders must be received before December 30**. You will pay for additional plants when you pick up. Orders can be picked up the first or second weekend in May at the address below. You will get a reminder of when your order is ready for pick up.

Send your order to:

Paul Courneya
 1388 Shadywood Shores Dr NW
 Pine River, MN 56474
pcourneya@gmail.com



Elderberry



False Indigo

If there is inadequate participation in this program, no trees will be ordered.

Species	Height	Soil	#	Species	Height	Soil	#
Mountain Ash	30-40'	Dry/wet		False Indigo	6-9'	Sandy	
Red Pine	50-80'	Sandy well drained		Purple Lupines	1-1.5'	Sandy	
Elderberry	5-12'	Moist/wet		Long-Headed coneflower	2-4'	Medium/wet	

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____



Purple Lupines

Stocking Walleye In Hand Lake an Update



The first phase of the association's three part Hand Lake walleye stocking program has begun. On Sunday October 21st, a pickup truck loaded walleye fingerlings arrived at Duane Larson's (Shadywood Shores) home around 11:30am.

Debbie Jost of Minnesota Muskie Farms, Inc. backed her walleye-laden pickup down to the lake. With several on-lookers Debbie scooped fingerlings into a bucket and then carefully released them into the lake. This was done several times until 50 pounds of fingerlings were freely swimming in the lake. At an average of 15 fish per pound that's well over 700 fingerlings.



This process will be repeated two more times over the next two years if funding is available. The association has sufficient funding for the next phase of the program but we will need to raise funds for the third phase. We will need at least \$600. You can use the form on the last leaf of this newsletter if you wish to contribute to the stocking program.



The DNR will be doing another test netting of Hand Lake this summer. If walleyes are found they might opt to release fry into the lake in addition to our association's efforts.



Fifty pounds of walleye fingerlings stocked in Hand Lake October 2018



Rob and Debbie own and operate Minnesota Muskie Farms, Inc. out of Alexandria. In addition, Debbie sells fishing bait via the Internet and mail order. Speedy Worm is the name. <http://www.speedyworm.com/> there you will find a variety of worms for sale along with leaches, crickets and other kinds of fishing bait. Even if you do not buy bait on-line it is an interesting read and worth taking a look.

Testing Private Water Wells A Necessity



More than 400,000 households in Minnesota rely on private wells as their source of drinking water. State health officials observe that most wells are rarely tested on a regular basis for things that can make consumers of the well water sick, such as bacteria, arsenic, or nitrate.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) estimates that at any given time, as many as 25 percent of private wells in Minnesota have detectable levels of total coliform bacteria, an indication that surface contamination has entered the well or water system. MDH recommends that private wells be tested once a year for total coliform bacteria. Testing for nitrate is recommended every two to three years while testing for arsenic is done at least once. Tests can also be done for lead, fluorides and other secondary minerals.

Two water testing labs near Pine River are A.W. Research Labs in Brainerd and RMB Environmental Laboratories in Detroit Lakes. Although RMB's actual lab is in Detroit Lakes, their water testing kits are available from the Cass County Soil & Water Conservation District in Walker (303 Minnesota Ave.). The kits contain instructions and vials for taking samples and the kits are generally free. The water samples are returned to Walker where they are couriered to the Detroit Lakes lab. The courier service runs Monday-Thursday 10:00 am. The cost for testing is around \$20.00 per test.

Groundwater Seminar

by Barbara Courneya

I recently attended a seminar on Groundwater in the Pine River Watershed which covered a variety of topics. We reviewed maps of the area which indicated that, due to the geological nature of the immediate area around Hand and Hay Lake, it is very susceptible to water pollutants. The sandy soil rapidly delivers rain, which can pick up pollutants, to the ground water and aquifers. This can impact local wells and, of course, our lake. Trees, bushes and other ground cover help to strain the water and remove pollutants like nitrogen and glyphosate from fertilizers and herbicides; but, not using those things near the lake is a far better way to keep our lakes and wells healthy. It is recommended that wells be tested annually to assure your water is safe. On average, 25% of tested wells are found to be unsafe. The lake should be tested, as well.



© W. S. Justice, Smithsonian Institution

A fun fact that I learned at the seminar is that Little and Big Hand Lake are home to a rare water plant that needs to be protected. The Minnesota DNR website describes the plant as follows: "*Utricularia purpurea* (purple-flowered bladderwort) went undiscovered in Minnesota until 1992, which in itself is a good indication of its rarity in the state. Based on this indication, and with the hope that additional plants would be found once surveys had been conducted, it was designated special concern in 1996. In following

years, targeted [botanical surveys](#) of over 2,000 lakes statewide found this species in only 12 lakes ([Laurentian Mixed Forest Province](#)). This is a very low frequency of occurrence and ranks *U. purpurea* as one of the rarest aquatic plant species in Minnesota. While the causes of its rarity are unknown, it is likely related to the particular biology of the species and its ability (or inability) to find and successfully compete in appropriate habitat. Regardless of cause, a key factor in the preservation of this species is maintaining high water quality."

"*Utricularia purpurea* is a submersed aquatic plant. It is rootless and free-floating. The stems can be up to 1 m (3.3 ft.) long, and they produce leaves in whorls of 5-7. The leaves are branched into numerous slender segments and appear lacy. The flowers are purple or lavender, about 1 cm (0.4 in.) long, and are on stalks that emerge several inches above the water. The bladders are small and roughly spherical and are attached at the tips of the leaf segments. *Utricularia purpurea* is found in small and medium size lakes, usually in 2-3 ft. of water, adjacent to a

boggy shoreline. Curiously, in two lakes it has been found growing along firm banked shorelines."

"As more and more Minnesota lakes are officially listed as "impaired", and as money for cleaning up these "impaired" lakes is slow to materialize, the future of this species in Minnesota looks less and less assured. For these reasons, the status of *U. purpurea* was upgraded to endangered in 2013."

Pine River Water Alliance

by Barbara Courneya



I was very proud last year when our lake association voted to become a member of the Pine River Watershed Alliance (PRWA). PRWA is a citizen-led volunteer organization that works with local units of government and other agencies to

preserve and protect the local environment while meeting resident needs for economic development and a healthy community. It works with lake associations like ours to identify issues that threaten the health of our lakes and streams and to find solutions. It then assists those associations by providing or finding grant opportunities to pay for the implementation of those solutions.

PRWA also works with local organizations and individuals to improve and protect water quality through Watershed Restoration and Protection Plans (WRAPS) in the Pine River watershed area. Projects are ongoing along Willow and Arvig Creek, Upper and Lower Hay Lakes as well as Bertha and Clamshell Lakes. The Willow Creek project included the restoration of the stream bank and fencing to keep cattle out of the stream bed. Arvig Creek is a similar ongoing project. Ranchers have learned that crop and pasture rotation improve soil health which increases yields and is beneficial to groundwater. In addition, PRWA works with the Crow Wing Basin Advisory council to provide sustainable farming education with semi-annual sustainable farming and ranching seminars. Agriculture has a significant impact on watersheds that can be positive when soil health and water quality are included in the equation.

PRWA also supported the efforts of the Crow Wing Soil & Water Conservation District and the Whitefish Area Property Owners Association to complete a storm water runoff project that reduced flooding in the area and improved the water quality of Trout Lake. More information about these projects and others can be found on the PRWA website at the following link: <http://www.prwa.us/projects>.

[Continued on page 7]

The 2018 annual Hand Lake Boat Parade



"Three Men in a Tub" Dols Family Haley Point

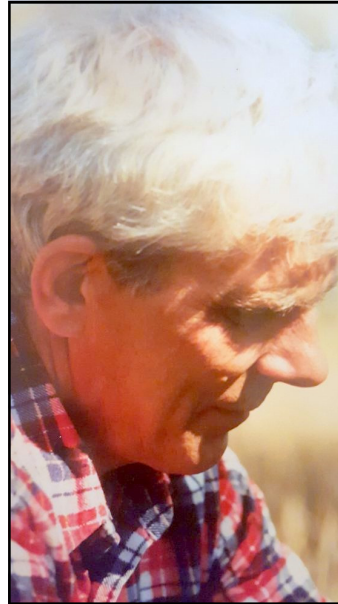


"Support the Troops" Reineck Family Indian Point



"Indian Point 100 Years" Theisen Family Indian Point

In Memory of



Carl "Skip" Marion (Shadywood Shores), age 79, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on September 27, 2018. He was a humble, peaceful man who enjoyed the simple things in life. He proudly served in the US Navy and ultimately moved to Northern Minnesota and worked as an electrician until his retirement. In his retirement he stayed busy working around his house and lending a hand to anyone who needed it. He enjoyed sitting on his front porch, watching the wildlife with his first cup of coffee. He was greatly loved by many and will be missed by all.



David Palmquist (Shadywood Shores), age 73, of Pine River (formerly of Monticello) passed at home on October 15, 2018, from pancreatic cancer. Dave worked as a commercial Electrician for 38 years and was a proud member of IBEW Local 292. In retirement, he reveled in collecting and restoring classic cars and fishing on area lakes. Dave was a big man with a big heart. He loved his family, his friends and the life he and Mary enjoyed together.

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The Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR) was tasked through legislation with adopting methods to allow comprehensive plans, local water management plans, or watershed management plans to be replaced with one comprehensive watershed management plan that can cross counties and organizations, named the One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P). Five Minnesota watersheds have already had their plans approved and received sizable implementation grants from BWSR in the hundreds of thousands of dollars: Lake Superior North, Red River, Yellow Medicine River, North Fork Crow River and Root River. In 2017 the Pine River Watershed received a grant to begin the 1W1P planning process. In recognition of the work that PRWA has already done to protect the Pine River Watershed, it has been awarded a seat on the Pine River One Watershed, One Plan advisory committee. The advisory committee is tasked with assisting and providing technical support and making recommendations to the Policy Committee on the develop-

ment and content of the IWIP plan for the Pine River Watershed.

The Pine River Watershed Alliance is supported by grants, memberships, and contributions from residents and friends of the watershed, not tax money. Our continued membership as a lake association and your individual memberships and gifts will help protect area land, lakes, rivers and streams for future generations. Clean water also protects your property values! You can become a member or donate online at the following link: <http://www.prwa.us/shop>.

Pine River Watershed Alliance (PRWA) is a citizen-led volunteer organization that works with local units of government and other agencies to preserve and protect the local environment.

**Hand/Hay Lakes Property Owners Association
Membership Form**

Yearly dues for membership in the Hand/Hay Lakes Association are collected in the spring of each year. Fill out this form and mail it along with dues of \$15.00 or more to **Gary Gabe, 10610 48th Ave N, Plymouth, MN 55442** or bring it to the annual meeting in May. If you wish to contribute to any of the association's special projects you can indicate your choices below. You can also use this form to update any portion of your address or Phone #, or to provide us with your email address at any time.

Your Permanent address. This is where your newsletter will be sent

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State, Zip _____
Home Phone _____
Cell Phone _____
Email _____

Lake Address _____
Lake Phone _____

Dues for the year of

Sunfish Level: \$15.00..... _____
Bass Level: \$25.00..... _____
Walleye Level: \$50.00..... _____

Donation for lake association special projects:

Fish Stocking Hay Lake _ \$ _____
Fish Stocking Hand Lake _ \$ _____
Other (specify) _____ \$ _____

The Hand/Hay Lakes Property Owners Association was formed in the spring of 1987. Its primary function is to preserve the health, safety, welfare, and prosperity of Hand and Hay Lakes and the adjoining properties. The association has one general meeting on Saturday at 9:00 am during the Memorial Day weekend at the Ponto Lake Town Hall. All are welcome. Yearly membership dues are \$15.00 per household and payable at the general meeting. Or, send your check to the office of the treasurer with your name, address, phone number, and email. The Treasurer's address is: Gary Gabe, 10610 48th Av N, Plymouth, MN 55442. Make check payable to Hand Hay Lake Association

All Hand/Hay Lakes property owners are entitled to receive the Lake Waves, the official organ of the association. The Lake Waves is also available on the association's website, <http://HandHayLakesAssoc.org>. The Lake Waves is published Two times per year in May and November. Material for the newsletter should be sent directly to the editor. Editor's address is: Paul Courneya, 1388 Shadywood Shores Drive NW, Pine River, MN 56474

Past Presidents

Duane Larson, *Dennis Haley*, *John Waters*, Dale Johnson, Dustin Mirick, Dick Stensrud, *Pete Kampa*, Wayne Lee, Andy Droen, Scott Parr, Arlan Hagen, Sandi Theisen, Jean Theisen Schatz

Officers

President	Zella Mirick	2020
Vice President	Caryl Allan	2020
Treasurer	Gary Gabe	2019
Secretary	Barbara Courneya	2019

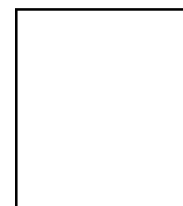
Hand Lake Directors

Shadywood Shores	Loren Hanson	2019
Haley's Haven	Mary Martin	2019
Indian Point	Ken Reinecke	2020
North Bay	Mary Gabe	2020
Norway Shores	Lee Theisen	2019
At Large 1	Scott Samuelson	2020
At Large 2	Wayne Lee	2019

Hay Lake Directors

Director 1	Scott Parr	2019
Director 2	Mark Nordstrom	2020
Director 3	Vacant	2020
Director 4	Paul Anderson	2019

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