

# LAKE WAVES

Newsletter for the Hand/Hay Lakes Association

HandHayLakesAssoc.org

Fall 2016

## Pipeline Update



Enbridge's Sandpiper pipeline, designed to carry oil from the North Dakota Bakken oil fields across Minnesota's pristine lakes area to a terminal in Wisconsin appears to be dead or at least on hold for the time being. Protests and law suits from environmental groups, Native American communities, and numerous lake associations have delayed construction of the pipeline. Marathon Oil, a key partner in the Sandpiper and its intention to become one of its major customers, has pulled out of the partnership. That, along with low oil prices, low demand and low production of Bakken oil has made the Sandpiper less attractive. Low prices and low production is expected to continue for some years.

Instead, Enbridge has bought a stake in the Dakota Access pipeline. When built, that pipeline will carry oil through North Dakota, across South Dakota and Iowa to a tank farm in Illinois. Final permits have already been issued for that pipeline but construction has been delayed by protests from the Standing Rock Sioux community in Cannonball, ND. Evidently, no one wants their water polluted from leaking oil pipes. More than a thousand indigenous activists from dozens of different tribes across the country have traveled to the Sacred Stone Spirit Camp, which was launched on April 1 by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. They say the pipeline would threaten to contaminate the Missouri River which supplies the only water to the Indigenous community.

Minnesota is still not out of the danger of pipelines. Enbridge has not pulled the plug on the Sandpiper; it has merely put it on hold. In addition, Enbridge still wants to put their replacement line 3 along the same corridor as the Sandpiper. Line 3 currently runs along highway 2 and carries tar sands oil from Alberta Canada. It is an aging pipeline and Enbridge wants to just abandon it and build a new line through our lakes area. Plans for Line 3 are not affected by Enbridge's investment in the Dakota

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Access pipeline.

This old Line 3 is currently in an energy corridor that was established in the 1950's. The International Approval to cross from Canada to the US was done in 1963. At that time, there were no processes established for Environmental Reviews or Assessments on pipeline construction. *The Northern Water Alliance of is advocating for Federal Review of that border crossing, closing down the current Line 3 totally, and removal and remediation of the Line 3 site at the corporation's expense.*

The Department of Commerce just filed a letter with the MN Public Utilities Commission (8-26-2016) stating that it is putting its Line 3 Replacement and the Sandpiper Environmental Impact Statement scoping efforts on hold until Enbridge makes its intentions regarding these pipelines clear. Their schedule was to provide these documents in September and October this year. Until Enbridge responds to this letter or the Commission gives further direction to the Department of Commerce, we will not know next steps on these lines.

The Northern Water Alliance  
The Minneapolis Star Tribune  
Honor the Earth  
contributed to this report

Just as this newsletter was going to print, Enbridge announced it was abandoning the Sandpiper pipeline.

## Welcome to Our Hand and 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/>



### *From the Editor*

It is the end of August and I am sitting here in my little editor's sanctum getting ready to grind out another Lake Waves newsletter. My sanctum is a little corner of the basement

equipped with a laptop, a scanner, a printer, a hot cup of coffee and one comfortable chair.

In this edition I included a somewhat lengthy update of the oil pipeline controversy affecting our lakes region. I know many see the pipeline as a benign product of our economic growth. But oil pipelines have been degrading lakes, rivers, forests, farm fields, and ground waters for some time. The problems are rarely reported except in the localities where the problems occur. People are beginning to take notice, stand up and be critical and vocal as the world transitions away from fossil fuels.

Zebra mussels have infected additional dozen or so lakes. It's about the same number of new infestations as last year. In addition Starry Stonewort is on the move. I reported that information gained from DNR's news releases.

And, of course, I included a page on the results of the Fourth of July Boat Parade on Hand Lake. The results were posted on our website so this is somewhat old news. But it is here for those who can't get to the website.

A newly formed organization, The Northern Water Alliance of Minnesota, attempts to organize the many lake associations and environmental groups in to one water advocacy group. I have included in this issue an explanation of the organization. I believe the organization will become the premier water advocacy group in the region and I encourage our lake association to join.

I have not seen many monarch butterflies flitting around my yard this summer. They are usually quite abundant making use of all the milkweed growing my yard. For that matter I have not seen many butterflies of any type and not many dragonflies either. I did see some strange black winged dragonflies that I had not seen before. My daughter noticed them too, snapped a photo, and penned an article about the black winged creatures for this newsletter.

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### AIS Report

Zebra mussels continue to spread to additional Minnesota lakes. An August 18<sup>th</sup> DNR news release reports that the mussels have been found in three central Minnesota lakes: Detroit Lake in Becker County, Signalness Lake (popularly known as Mountain Lake) in Pope County, and Round Lake in Aitkin and Crown Wing counties. And, an August 25<sup>th</sup> release the mussels were reported in Lake Minnewashta, a popular recreational lake near Lake Minnetonka. That brings the total of new infestations to eleven lakes for this season. One gets the sense that, long term, the spread of the Zebra mussels is inevitable. But, the DNR points out that less than two percent of our lakes are infested. It is people that cause the spread and we can stop it.

Starry Stonewort, another invasive grass like species, is also on the move. Starry Stonewort, first found in Kronis and Mud lakes in Sterns County, was explained in the fall 2015 edition of the Lake Waves newsletter. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed Minnesota's third and fourth cases of the invasive algae, in Upper Red Lake in Beltrami County and Cass Lake, within the Leech Lake Reservation in Beltrami County. The second case of starry stonewort in Minnesota was confirmed earlier this month in Turtle Lake, also in Beltrami County. The DNR is currently attempting an aggressive eradication of the stonewort in Turtle Lake.

In the most recent news release on September 2, the MnDNR confirmed Stonewort in Lake Winnibigoshish, Moose Lake and Rice Lake. The spread and depth of starry stonewort in Lake Winnibigoshish indicate it has been there for several years. Starry Stonewort has never been successively eliminated in any lake.

For more information on aquatic invasive species prevention and how to report a suspected infestation, visit:

[www.mndnr.gov/ais](http://www.mndnr.gov/ais).

### Fall Road Cleanup

Let us not forget the fall road clean up. The more that show up for this easy work the faster it gets done. It can all be completed in 20 minutes.

Fall road cleanup will be Saturday, September 17, at 9AM.

Meet at the junction of Hwy 49 and Shadywood Shores NW Dress warm, wear good shoes (boots), gloves and bring a garbage bag.

Just for reference: Spring cleanup is Saturday, May 6, 2017.



## Hand Lake Boat Parade 2016

The annual Hand Lake Boat Parade took place July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 PM.

The first pontoon to approach the judges had a *Jaws* theme from the motion picture of the same name. The pontoon was complete with a hand made sign displaying “you’re going to need a bigger boat,” a blow up a shark, a severed leg, and a cut-out of a shark’s mouth. They were also playing music from the *Jaws* theme song.

Several other pontoons lined up to be judged. There was the pirate’s ship with a single sale and a large treasure chest. The players were all dressed in appropriate costumes.

Another pontoon was celebrating Gloria Taylor’s 85<sup>th</sup> birthday... “Our All American Gloria.” Gloria is one of Hand Lake’s earliest members. A very creative idea and well deserved honor!



A boatload of Hula Dancers came by advertising the Hand Lake Luau. Another creative theme!

The judges spent considerable time trying to decide a first place winner. It went back and forth a number of times. The more they studied the entries the more indecisive they became. Ultimately, they awarded first place to the Mueller family’s pirate ship theme and a first place boat entry to Kevin & Karen Post’s *Jaws* theme.

The second place pontoon entry went to Cindy Bussian’s Hawaiian Dancers, and “our All American Gloria” picked up the third place trophy. The second place boat entry went to the Narum Family’s patriotic Fourth of July theme.

The judges were Debra Samuelson, Zella Mirick, and Jean Schatz all from Hand Lake.





### Sightings

It was late July before the baby fawns began appearing in Paul and Barb Courneya's (Shadywood Shores) back yard. They usually come out of the woods a bit earlier. One deer had triplets...somewhat of a rarity. The triplets along with their mother have been spotted meandering around up and down Shadywood Shores Drive most of the summer.

It must be a good year for bears. The Courneya's had a bear hanging around their back yard earlier in the spring and a different bear was spotted over on highway 43.



### Just for fun facts

Mention the word "grass" and many will conjure up the vision of a dark green well-manicured lawn or, if you are of a certain generation, you might think of something that you smoke. But grass plays a much greater role than that. It is the plant that feeds the world's population. Without grass we likely would all starve. Here in the Midwest we grow a lot of corn and in the more arid regions a lot of wheat. Both of these plants are types of grass. Nearly all cereal grains, barley, corn, oats, wheat, rye, come from grass. White rice, brown rice, wild rice...they are all forms of grass. Do you like to take a little sugar with your coffee? All of our imported sugar comes from sugar cane and yup...sugar cane is just another grass.

Most of us love the aroma and taste of a standing rib roast or nicely grilled strip steak. The beef cattle that produced those proteins did so by grazing on grass. And, what about dairy products? It is cows grazing on grass that provide the dairy milk.

Nearly 50% of our calories come directly from consuming grass and when one includes the calories that come indirectly from grass such as beef and dairy it is more like 80%.

### Interesting Website

While the Internet has been called "The Information Super Highway," The amount of misinformation that is spread is staggering especially during an election year. Here is a list of websites that help to distinguish between truth and rumors.

<http://tinyurl.com/ngdaudg>



## The Northern Water Alliance



A new organization has formed that is crucial to our lake association's mission of protecting our lakes and their surrounding property. That organization is the Northern Water Alliance of Minnesota. The alliance was formed in late 2015 and formally launched in the spring of 2016.

Here in our lakes region we all have concerns about water issues. The concerns might be about the spread of aquatic invasive species, the threats from oil pipeline construction, mining operations, agricultural runoff or septic pollution, climate change, population growth, and a host of others. We tend to treat these concerns as individual persons or associations. The Northern Water Alliance endeavors to bring together all these independent entities under one leadership. The alliance can coordinate individual efforts and utilize unique resources that each might have. The result is a more efficient and more effective advocacy group.

The alliance mission statement: *We are an alliance of independent organizations and individuals focused on protecting our northern Minnesota water resources. The Alliance is formed to enhance and expand our individual and organizational efforts to empower, mobilize, educate, advocate, and take action around issues and threats to our water.*

The alliance has a website hosted by the Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation and functions as one of their initiatives. The website is just beginning to be populated but you are encouraged to visit. Several nearby associations have already joined including Ada Lake, Ingudona Lake, Ten Mile Lake, Wabedo, Little Boy, Cooper, Rice Lakes, Towline Lake, Pine River Watershed Association. Plus, there are a number of environmental groups that have joined. The Hand/Hay Lakes Association is encouraged to join. There are no dues but the alliance accepts donations.

You can reach the Northern Water Alliance website by going to the Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation website (<http://leechlakewatershed.org/>), hover over the NWA tab in upper right corner and click through to the page of your choice. Lake associations wishing to join should use the PDF sign-up form found here: [http://leechlakewatershed.org/media/Document\\_31.pdf](http://leechlakewatershed.org/media/Document_31.pdf).

## Forest Findings: Ebony Jewelwing Damselflies

By Marcella Clothier



Photo by Marcella Clothier

This summer, I was out walking in a park with my kids. The park was edged by a creek, and I noticed, as we came closer to the water, a number of what looked like dragonflies flitting about. I was used to large dragonflies from summers at the lake, but I had never seen ones quite like these – they were about inch and a half long, with neon blue bodies and heavy jet black wings. I watched them move about, flexing their wings. I noticed they seemed to be looking at me just as I was looking at them, sizing me up and determining if I was a threat. Finally, I snapped a shot and headed home to look them up.

According to the National Park Service of MN, these striking insects are called Ebony Jewelwing Damselflies. Usually damselflies are smaller than your run of the mill dragonfly, but ebony jewelwings can grow up to two inches long. They are found in or near streams and meadows surrounded or edged by woods. The Park Service also noted these “insects have the unnerving habit of turning their heads and watching their human observers.”

Submissions to be considered for publication in the Winter newsletter must reach the editor before December 15th. The winter newsletter is mailed near the end of December. Email photos, articles, and suggestions to:

[pcourneya@gmail.com](mailto:pcourneya@gmail.com)

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: Cheryl Lindberg, Treasurer, 1437 Shadywood Shores Drive NW, Pine River, MN 56474. 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 four times per year in March, June, September, and December. Material for the newsletter should be sent directly to the editor. Material must be received before the 15th of the month for consideration to be published in that month's newsletter. 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 Thiesen

### Officers

President	Jean Schatz	2018
Vice President	Zella Mirick	2018
Treasurer	Cheryl Lindberg	2017
Secretary	Barbara Courneya	2017

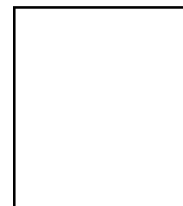
### Hand Lake Directors

Shadywood Shores	Clint Lindberg	2017
Haley's Haven	Mary Martin	2017
Indian Point	Ken Reinecke	2018
North Bay	Dustin Mirick	2018
Norway Shores	Lee Theisen	2017
At Large 1	Debra Samuelson	2018
At Large 2	Wayne Lee	2017

### Hay Lake Directors

Director 1	Scott Parr	2017
Director 2	Vacant	2018
Director 3	Vacant	2018
Director 4	Paul Anderson	2017

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**Fall 2016**

The Hand-Hay Lakes Association Newsletter  
[www.HandHayLakesAssoc.org](http://www.HandHayLakesAssoc.org)

