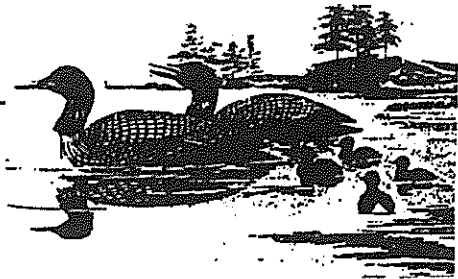


COLA update

Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations PO Box 746 Park Rapids MN 56470

SPRING 2003



FISHING WITH LEAD SINKERS - ARE YOU STILL USING THEM?

THERE'S A GOOD ARTICLE IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE DNR PUBLICATION, "MINNESOTA CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER"*

IT BASICALLY STATES THAT SMALL SPLIT SHOT LEAD SINKERS (THAT WE ALL USE FOR PANFISH!) ARE KILLING OUR LOONS.

THE LOONS FIND BROKEN LINES WITH SPLIT SHOT SINKERS AND MINNOWS ATTACHED TO A HOOK. SOMETIMES LOONS SWALLOW FISH THAT HAVE SWALLOWED LEAD SINKERS. THE ARTICLE SAYS, "LEAD POISONING IS AN UNPLEASANT WAY TO DIE" AND THAT, "A 1/16TH OZ. LEAD SPLIT SHOT SINKER CAN KILL A LOON IN A MATTER OF WEEKS.

SO, WHAT IS THE ALTERNATIVE? HOW DOES ONE KEEP THEIR BAIT DOWN IN THE WATER WITHOUT A LEAD SINKER?

UNLEADED SINKERS - TIN! BUT, THEY CAN BE DIFFICULT TO FIND. FEW SPORTING GOODS STORES HAVE THEM - AND THEY COST A LITTLE MORE! BUT MAYBE THEY ARE WORTH IT TO HELP PROTECT THE LOONS.

A SHOP WHERE I FOUND THEM (56 FOR \$2) WAS IN PARK RAPIDS. TWO OTHER STORES DID NOT STOCK THE 'ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY' TIN SINKERS. PEOPLE DISAGREE ON THE EFFECTS OF THE LEAD BAIT/SINKERS.

BUT, I AM GOING TO CHECK MY TACKLE BOX AND TEACH MY GRANDKIDS NOT TO USE LEAD.

AND, PLEASE DON'T THROW YOUR OLD LEAD SPLIT SHOT SINKERS IN THE LAKE! HUBBARD COUNTY SOLID WASTE SAYS IT IS O.K. TO PUT THEM IN YOUR TRASH.

*IF YOU DON'T RECEIVE THE 'VOLUNTEER MAGAZINE' - YOU CAN SUBSCRIBE BY CALLING 888-646-6367 (TOLL FREE). GREAT ARTICLES AND WILDLIFE PICTURES.

'CHILDREN'S FRESH WATER FESTIVAL' - A HIT AGAIN

BY JERRY LAMP

THE 8TH ANNUAL CHILDREN'S WATER FESTIVAL WAS HELD MAY 7TH AT CAMP WILDERNESS BOY SCOUT CAMP ON BAD AXE LAKE NORTH OF PARK RAPIDS. THIS IS AN ANNUAL EVENT SPONSORED BY HUBBARD COUNTY COLA, THE SOIL, WATER & CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND THE HUBBARD COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES OFFICE. SEVERAL LAKE ASSOCIATIONS CONTRIBUTED AND SEVERAL BUSINESSES, 'LAMB WESTON FROZEN, RD OFFUTT. SERVICE CLUBS- AKELEY VFW, AMERICAN LEGION AND THE NEVIS FIRE DEPT.

?MERCHANTS IN THE AREA DONATED TO FUND THE PROJECT IN A TIGHT BUDGET YEAR.

ALL 6TH GRADERS IN HUBBARD COUNTY WERE BUSED IN FOR THE ALL DAY ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING EVENT (LAPORTE SCHOOLS, NEVIS & PARK RAPIDS & AKELEY?). - OVER 300 STUDENTS.

STUDENTS ROTATED THROUGH FIVE PRESENTATIONS RANGING FROM 20 MINUTES TO AN HOUR.

THOSE PRESENTING INCLUDED STAFF PERSONNEL FROM DNR FISHERIES OFFICE/ EDIE EVARTS; DNR WILDLIFE/ERIC THORSON; MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY/TIM JAMES, DNR FORESTRY/RON NORENBURG, THE MINNESOTA HEALTH DEPARTMENT/PAUL FELLING, ED ALETO, & MARK MALMINGER, THE MINNESOTA SCIENCE MUSEUM/NINA SABINO, TOM GIBSON A CONSERVATION EDUCATOR; JESSE FLINK OF THE MN CONSERVATION CORPS. AND LISA PERSING & JULIE KINGSLEY.

MANY VOLUNTEERS FROM THE LAKE ASSOCIATIONS WERE PRESENT TO HELP THE CHILDREN GET MOVED FROM ONE 'CLASS' TO ANOTHER. THESE PEOPLE ALWAYS ENJOY THEIR EXPERIENCE AND SPEAK HIGHLY OF THE EVENT'S WORTH - AND HOW WELL BEHAVED AND INTERESTED THE KIDS ARE!

AN INFORMAL POLL OF VOLUNTEERS, TEACHERS AND STUDENTS INDICATED THAT - ONCE AGAIN - THIS IS A VERY POSITIVE AND WORTH WHILE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY (NOT ONLY FOR THE STUDENTS BUT THE VOLUNTEERS!)

WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR LAKE'S 'TSI' & HAVE FEWER WEEDS?

THIS IS ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE OF YOU ON LAKES
THAT HAVE A TROPHIC STATUS INDEX OF 40 PLUS!
WE WROTE OF THE WATER CLARITY IN THE FALL
2002 ISSUE OF COLA UPDATE. RESULTS FROM OUR
2002 WATER TESTING WERE PRINTED SHOWING
EACH OF THE 26 LAKES TESTED 'TSI'.

IT SEEMS THAT LAKES WITH A VALUE OF MORE
THAN 40 TEND TO BE SOMEWHAT WEEDY
(WHAT DO OUR DNR FISHERY FRIENDS CALL IT?
OH YES - 'VEGETATION'!)

I'M TALKING - 1ST CROW WING TSI 65, 5TH
CROW WING 47, 6TH CROW WING 47, BIG
MANTRAP 42, EAGLE 49, STOCKING 45,
POTATO 41, STONY 42, UPPER & LOWER
TWIN LAKES. 53 & 52, FISHHOOK 42!,
GILMORE 41!

WELL, YES, VEGETATION IS GOOD FOR SOME FISH
BUT SOMETIMES THERE GETS TO BE TOO MUCH OF
THOSE WEEDS!

THIS ISN'T GOING TO SOLVE ALL OUR PROBLEMS
AND GET THESE LAKES INTO THE BELOW 40
CATEGORY - BUT-

**"PHOSPHORUS IS TURNING OUR BLUE LAKES
GREEN!"** SAYS AN ARTICLE IN THE "MN
ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK"

WE ARE PINPOINTING DISHWASHER DETERGENT AS
A PROBLEM AREA THAT MAY BE AFFECTING OUR
LAKES WEED GROWTH! THE ARTICLE STATES THAT
SEVERAL OF THE BEST SELLING DISHWASHER
DETERGENTS HAVE A PHOSPHORUS CONTENT ABOUT
THE SAME AS 'MIRACLE -GRO' (6 TO 8% - AND THAT
ISN'T GOOD FOR OUR LAKES!).

THE NEXT TIME YOU SHOP FOR DISHWASHER
DETERGENT - TRY TO FIND ONE LOW IN
PHOSPHORUS - YOU'LL STILL SEE SOME MURKY
WATER IN YOUR LAKE - AND WEEDS - BUT MAYBE IN
THE FUTURE YOU'LL SEE LESS OF IT. WE HOPE SO.

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL!

WHATTAYA GOT! OUT IN THE SHED,
GARAGE, WORKSHOP? UNDER THE CABIN?
UP IN THE ATTIC? OLD PAINT? OIL?
FERTILIZER? BUG KILLER? INSECTICIDE?
DDT? NOT SURE?

BRING IT TO THE HUBBARD COUNTY SOUTH
TRANSFER STATION ON JUNE 19TH FROM 9AM
TO 3 PM FOR DISPOSAL-
GET RID OF IT!

COLA PRESIDENTS

THEY GAVE OF THEIR TIME, TALENT AND EXPERTISE
TO CREATE AND PRESERVE A COALITION OF LAKE
ASSOCIATIONS IN HUBBARD COUNTY.

OUR THANKS TO THEM!

#1- PAT ALBERG - LITTLE SAND LAKE,
WAS A SPARKPLUG IN GETTING COLA CREATED IN
1988. SHE LEFT TO BECOME A HUBBARD COUNTY
COMMISSIONER IN 1990.

#2 - EVERETT MILLER - SPIDER LAKE

#3 - HERM BAILEY - KABEKONA LAKE

#4 - FRANK SMITH - GILMORE LAKE

#5 - LARRY BATTEY - STONEY LAKE

#6 - JIM NABER - EAGLE LAKE

#7 - JERRY LAMP - BELLE TAINE LAKE

& JUDY NOVAK - 8TH CROW WING
LAKE (CURRENT PRESIDENT)

OUR THANKS!

FOR YOUR SUMMER BUGS!

(THIS ADVICE WAS ON THE INTERNET)

OK, mosquitos...prepare to be repelled!!!!

Use Bounce Fabric Softener Sheets...just wipe on & go...Great
for Babies

Bob, a fisherman, takes one vitamin B-1 tablet a day April
through October. He said it works. He was right. - Hasn't had
a mosquito bite in 33 years. Try it.

Every one he has talked into trying it works on them. Vitamin
B-1 (Thiamine Hydrochloride 100 mg.)

If you eat bananas, the mosquitoes like you, - something about
the banana oil as your body processes it. Stop eating bananas
for the summer and the mosquitos will be much less interested.

This is going to floor you, but one of the best
insect repellents someone found (who is in the woods
every day), is Vick's Vaporub. (OH! YOU SMELL SO
GOOD!)

Plant marigolds around the yard, the flowers give off a smell
that bugs (and deer) do not like so plant some in that garden
also to help ward off bugs without using insecticides.

"Tough guy" Marines who spend a great deal of time
"camping out" say that the very best mosquito
repellant you can use is Avon Skin-So-Soft bath oil mixed
about half and half with alcohol. (WHAT KIND OF
ALCOHOL?).

WILL SOMEONE LET US KNOW HOW THIS WORKED?

THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS:

Hello!

It's been a busy Spring for COLA so far! COLA has certainly played an important part in providing opportunities for education in the community. We are involved in many projects, but I think the Children's Water Festival is by far one of the most valuable endeavors that COLA has participated in. This is a great opportunity to enlighten children on good environmental practices. What a glorious place to hold the festival! The Boy Scout Wilderness Camp is a wonderful example of what the North Country is all about! We had a beautiful day, and we all had such a good time! The kids learn while they are having fun, and we learn by sharing their excitement at each presentation! It is surprising how much they already know. If you haven't volunteered for the festival, you should try it. You'll come away very tired, but you will feel so good about the whole experience, you will never forget it! The festival couldn't happen without the support from all the lake associations! Darrin Moe of the SWCD works so hard to get things organized and to find the monies. Especially with all the budget cuts this year! He was out drumming up support from organizations from all over the county. Thanks also to the DNR, Hubbard County Environmental Services., the Mantrap Conservation club for the wonderful lunch for the volunteers, and of course the great presenters!

COLA also shared with the Minnesota Extension Office in getting the word out on the "Shoreland Volunteer Workshop". This is an ongoing training that enables people contribute to their community. We are taught to be an informed resource for our lake, and to volunteer at least 20 hours a year in local projects or programs.

COLA assisted the Minnesota Extension Office and Portage Lake alert lakes on Curly Leaf Pond Weed and other invasive aquatic plants. If you had gone out on a pontoon ride with us, and viewed the extent of the Curly Leaf Pond Weed in Portage Lake, you would be out on your boat the next day checking out the plants on your lake! It is amazing the devastation that can occur so quickly on a lake! Some people can't even get their docks out, or get through with their boats. Portage lakeshore owners are having to spend a tremendous amount of money to chemically eradicate this plant, and it may not be successful! It is better to be vigilant and stop any invasive plant from getting a start on your lake!

These are just one week's worth of projects that COLA is involved in. Please support COLA, and your lake association. Without you, we cannot continue to provide the services that are so important to our lake communities. I hope that you all have a wonderful summer with your families and friends!

Till" next time!

Judy Novak

President, COLA

ATTENTION! BY KARI TOMPERI

An opportunity for 3 (possibly 4) Lake Associations, exists to partner with Wadena County in an Initiative Foundation Healthy Lakes and Rivers Partnership Program. The program is set up so that lake groups in the program are able to earn grants for their organization. The end result is a workable Lake Management Plan specific to your organization's water body.

The program has been offered successfully through the Central Minnesota Initiative Foundation in their 14 county area and the hope is to extend it as a pilot program in partnership with the Northwest Initiative Foundation. This is an opportunity for both Wadena and Hubbard County. The thought is that as the required eight lake or river organizations attend training together and build a communication network, they can be a resource for each other. There are four "milestones" at which your Lake Association team will earn grant dollars;

- When five (of the same) people representing your association attend two one-day training sessions you will automatically earn \$400;

- When you host a professionally facilitated "visioning session" with your community you will earn another \$400;

- When you submit a Draft Lake Management Plan you will earn \$800;

- Once you have begun implementation on one of the primary goals and action steps identified in your plan you are eligible for another \$800

In summation, if you complete each of these milestones you will earn \$2,400 in grants. In addition to these grants, a limited number of implementation grants of up to \$5,000 are available directly from the Initiative Foundation to support actions that are proactive (rather than remedial), or – in cases where restoration is necessary – that treat "causes - not symptoms."

To facilitate the presence of seasonal residents, an aggressive time schedule is being developed with the hope that the first training meeting occur at the end of July or early August with the second to follow yet in August. It is important especially in the "visioning" session that all your lake residents are represented. Applications will be available at SWCD offices in Park Rapids and Wadena and will be considered on a 'first come-first served' basis as they are postmarked at Wadena.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Kari Tomperi Wadena SWCD at 218-631-3195 or Darrin Moe Hubbard SWCD at 218-732-0121.

COLA MEMBER LAKE ASSNS

BELLE TAINE LAKE	BIG MANTRAP LAKE
BIG SAND LAKE	EAST CROOKED LAKE
EAGLE LAKE	EMMA/STOCKING/BOTTLE LAKES
FISH HOOK LAKE	GILMORE LAKE
HINDS LAKE	ISLAND LAKE SO.
KABEKONA LAKE	LITTLE SAND LAKE
LONG LAKE	LOWER CROW WINGS (1-2-3-4)
PALMER LAKE	PORTAGE LAKE
POTATO LAKE	SPIDER LAKE
STONY LAKE	5/6 CROW WING LAKES
8 TH CROW WING LAKE	TWIN LAKES
PLANTAGENET LAKE	HAM LAKE

"MNDOT THANKS ----" =>

HAVE YOU SEEN THOSE BLUE HIGHWAY SIGNS DENOTING WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING LITTER IN THE DITCHES ALONG STATE HIGHWAYS? THEY KEEP THE HIGHWAYS PRETTY CLEAN DON'T THEY?

OUT OF 26 OR SO LAKE ASSOCIATIONS IN HUBBARD COUNTY - ONLY FOUR ARE NOTED TO BE DOING THIS: HAM LAKE ASSN. CLEANS A STRETCH OF HIGHWAY 64

5TH & 6TH CROW WING LAKE ASSN CLEANS A TWO MILE STRETCH OF HIGHWAY 34 -

AS DOES BELLE TAINE LAKE ASSN

PALMER LAKE ASSN. CLEANS A STRETCH OF HIGHWAY 87.

COLA OFFICERS

JUDY NOVAK - PRESIDENT, 8TH

CROW WING LAKE

JERRY LAMP - PAST PRESIDENT -

BELLE TAINE LAKE

JOHN WEBER - TREAS. - SPIDER LAKE

TED SPENCER - SECRETARY &

EDITOR OF COLA UPDATE - 5TH CROW WING

SOMEONE FROM EACH LAKE ASSN ACTS AS A 'COORDINATOR' AND RECEIVES ORANGE SAFETY VESTS FOR VOLUNTEERS TO WEAR AND PLASTIC BAGS - ALL FREE FROM MNDOT IN BEMIDJI.

THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE, THEN FOR PICKING UP LITTER ON USUALLY A TWO MILE STRETCH OF HIGHWAY - ONCE IN THE SPRING AND AGAIN IN THE FALL.. THEY GET THEIR LAKE ASSN. NOTED ON ONE OF THOSE BLUE SIGNS.

EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT IF AT LEAST 15 -20 VOLUNTEERS GET OUT THERE, THE JOB CAN BE DONE IN ABOUT AN HOUR OR SO.

IT IS TRADITION WITH THE 5/6 LAKE ASSN. TO GATHER THE BUNCH AFTER AND HAVE BREAKFAST/LUNCH AT A NEVIS RESTAURANT AND SOCIALIZE. (WASH YOUR HANDS!) THEY USUALLY DISCUSS WHAT UNUSUAL THINGS THEY FOUND AND CONDEMN THE LITTERERS!

CONTACT BEMIDJI MNDOT AT 218-755-4086 IF YOUR ASSN. IS INTERESTED.

KEN & LYNN GROB
15972 GARNET DR
PARK RAPIDS MN 56470-6280

*****AUTO**5-DIGIT 56401

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"YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE -
BUT, IF YOU WORK IT RIGHT-
ONCE IS ENOUGH!"
JOE E. BROWN, COMEDIAN

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