



Lake Washington Improvement Association  
PO Box 68 Dassel, MN 55325  
[www.lakewashingtonassn.com](http://www.lakewashingtonassn.com)  
Email: [info@lakewashingtonassn.com](mailto:info@lakewashingtonassn.com)

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## Summer '12 Newsletter

### END OF THE DOCK

Ken Klehr, President

This year, the emphasis has been at State level on protecting lakes from Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and with that comes new laws and changes to existing laws and fines. To name a few:

- Beginning July 1, fines are doubling for transporting watercraft or equipment with attached aquatic plants from \$50 to \$100. For possessing or transporting a prohibited invasive species you are looking at \$500.
- Lake Service providers that repair, launch and store boats and install and remove buoys, docks and boat lifts are required to complete extra training, pass test and apply for a three year permit while employees must take an online training course and receive a certificate.
- Also Beginning July 1, boat lifts, docks, swim rafts and other water-related equipment (except boats and other watercraft) that are removed from any water body may not be placed in another water body for at least 21 days to kill invasive species that might be attached.
- You are to remove all aquatic plants and animals, drain all water and leave drain plugs out during transportation.
- Beginning July 1, 2015 boat owners will have to pass an online course on how to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species before they can trailer their boats. Those hauling docks or boat lifts also will have to pass the course. The highlight of this is those completing the course will get a trailer decal that allow them to legally transport their boat (another decal).
- These laws are intended to stop the spread of Eurasian water milfoil, Asian carp, zebra mussels and other invaders. Please do your part in keeping AIS out of our lake.

We did get relief from the requirement of placing an AIS rules sticker on watercrafts. This is being dropped and being replaced with an online education program. So you will no longer be required to place on your boat the silver and black decals outlining the states AIS laws. To keep current on the laws access the following website:

[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/index\\_aquatic.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/index_aquatic.html)

There are a number of you wondering what to do with your garbage and recyclables. Steve Grotbo put together an article in this newsletter to help you answer this question. Remember scheduled hours at these facilities keep changing. Best is to call to verify.

Now back to the fun things, and that is our annual **Pot Luck Dinner**. Mark your calendar **Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>** at the Dassel Rod and Gun Club. See the Social Committee section for details.

Thank you for your support over the years. Hope to see you at the Pot Luck Dinner

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

John Fink, Kim Winter

Pot Luck Dinner, Dassel Rod & Gun Club, Northeast side Lake Washington

Saturday August 4th, 2012 --- 5:00 pm Social, 6:00 pm Dinner, 6:45 pm Program & Prizes

LWIA will supply Pulled Pork & Buns, please bring a SALAD, SIDE DISH or a DESSERT to share.

Bring your own plates & silverware, and adult beverages. Coffee & lemonade will be provided.

Dassel Rod & Gun Club will sell pop.

## **FINANCE / FUND RAISING COMMITTEE**

Lyle Walker

The total cash position of LWIA as of June 30 is \$90,194. The decrease is the result of payment of \$31,850 for treatment of 70 acres of the lake at \$455 per acre. Revenue for 2012 memberships to date is \$10,000, representing 200 members. Invasive species donations from 2012 members total \$4,511 to date. There are no unpaid bills on hand as of June 30.

# ***DARWIN MUNICIPAL LIQUOR STORE***

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## **COOKBOOKS**

Cathy Klehr, Sandy Wosmek

Lake Washington cookbooks are available for \$10.00. To purchase a cookbook call Cathy @ 320-626-2056, Sandy @ 320-275-4662 or go to [info@lakewashingtonassn.com](mailto:info@lakewashingtonassn.com) and we can get a copy to you.

## **SHORELINE CAPTAINS/MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Cathy Klehr, Rick Johnson, Sandy Wosmek, Mike Wosmek

Membership is up. Thanks to all who have renewed their LWIA membership. Without your support of our Association we would not be able to maintain the quality and beauty of our lake. If you have not yet sent in your membership dues you, can still do so. Send your check for \$50 to LWIA, Box 68, Dassel, MN. 55325.

Special thank you to the Shoreline Captains for doing a great job of encouraging membership and for being a liaison to the board. Congratulations to Jim & Barb Wendling on 213 St for achieving 100% membership in their area! A complete listing of all Shoreline Captains and their area is listed on our Web site. We currently have openings on the south side of the lake, if you are interested in helping out, please contact any board member.

**For changes of address, phone, e-mail or any other information we should be aware of, please contact us at [info@lakewashingtonassn.com](mailto:info@lakewashingtonassn.com).**

## **INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ron Bubony, Tom Hauer, Ken Klehr, Milt Lueneburg, Bill Ooley

If you have been out on the lake Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) and other aquatic vegetation is alive and doing well. Especially if you live on the north and south side of the lake you are being challenged with EWM drifting into your beach area. The majority of this EWM and other vegetation is piling up on the shore is a result of high winds and boat traffic going thru areas infested with EWM and native vegetation. There is not much that can be done with the winds but please avoid, with your watercraft, matted areas that have infestation of EWM or any other aquatic vegetation. This helps reduce the amount of vegetation on shorelines and reducing the spread of EWM to other parts of the lake. Also the native vegetation is good habitat for fish. Last but not least, this will be appreciated by your neighbors on the south and north sides of the lake that ends up hauling it away.

Per our Lake Vegetation Management Plan on **rotational bases** we will continue to treat each year 70 acres of EWM with focus on recreational activities such as boating, fishing, swimming, sailing, and tubing while protecting habitat for fish. Keep in mind that the cost for this treatment is over \$30,000. This year's treatment of 70 acres was completed on 6/7/2012. If you are interested in seeing the areas treated go to <http://www.lakewashingtonassn.com/images/milfoil.jpg>

Our next effort will be to assess the effectiveness of this year's treatment and the areas treated in 2011. We will analysis this data to help develop next year's, 2013, treatment locations and strategy.

We appreciate your donations to the Eurasian water milfoil fund. Keep in mind, @ \$455/Acre and 70 acres at \$31,850; it is expensive to chemically treat for EWM. In addition to your donations we have been aggressively pursuing grant money at both state and county levels resulting in \$10,500 from the State and from Meeker County \$3500. So when you see your state or county representative say thanks and ask them to continue their support funding to combat AIS.

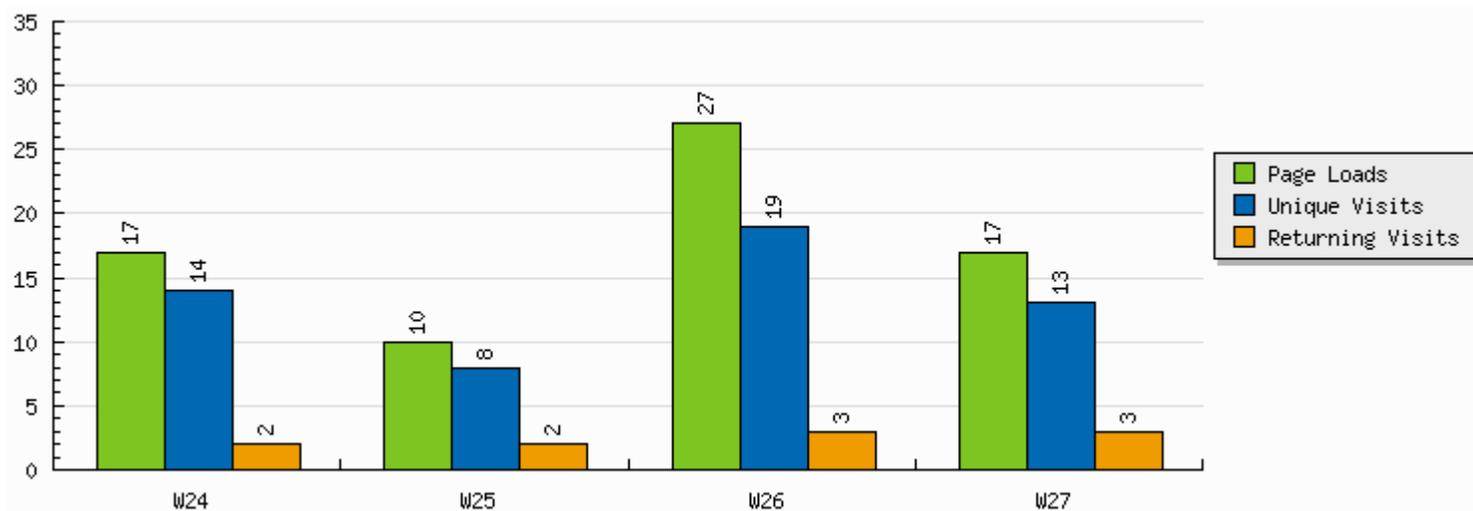
## COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Rick Fernstrom, Steve Ullom, Steve Grotbo

This time of year brings out many people driving various water craft on Lake Washington. We ask that people take a moment and refresh with those in your household who may be operating water craft the rules and regulations. Safe operation should be our primary focus, especially with the increase traffic on our lake. We want to remind everyone about the 150 foot no wake zone and personal responsibility we all have to be good neighbors. The DNR has a handy summary of the rules in their Minnesota Personal Watercraft Laws brochure. Have a safe and fun filled summer of boating on Lake Washington.

### **LWIA Internet Activity**

Here is the <http://www.lakewashingtonassn.com/> stats from June 10<sup>th</sup> on a week by week basis. We are averaging 2 visits to the website per day. The Facebook treatment area map had 70 people view it.



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## Recycling, Composting, and Waste By Steve Grotbo

A number of us like me are just here on the weekend to enjoy the lake. At the end of the weekend we load up our garbage in the trunk of the car and haul it home. Because we are only weekenders, it is not practical to have regular garbage pickup at the lake. For those times when we have exceeded the trunk capacity you have ways to reduce the load.

The [Meeker County Transfer Station](#) is located just north of Litchfield at 63645 293rd Street. The hours are M-F 9 AM-4:30 PM and Saturday 8 AM-noon. The cost is only \$6 for up to 200 lbs. of almost anything. They have rates specific items like TVs and appliances. You can also drop off your recycling at no charge, just be sure to do this part before driving on the scale.

In Dassel they have a self-serve recycle drop off that accepts glass, plastic, paper, cardboard, and cans. It seems to vary whether you have to separate glass by color or not. The location is the first right as you enter Dassel on Public Street just a block south of Hwy 12.

Next to the Cenex in Litchfield a self-serve station exists for getting rid of used motor oil and such.

Getting rid of yard waste is a bit trickier. If you can do your own composting, that is best. The Dassel compost site only allows city residents to drop off items, so folks on the lake are out of luck. You can however get compost from this site if you need to fill in areas. The Litchfield compost site is open to all and is located just south of Lake Ripley. The hours are M-F 11 AM-7 PM and Saturday 8 AM-4 PM. For those heading south, Hutchinson (<http://www.ci.hutchinson.mn.us/composting.html>) also has a compost site that is open to all.



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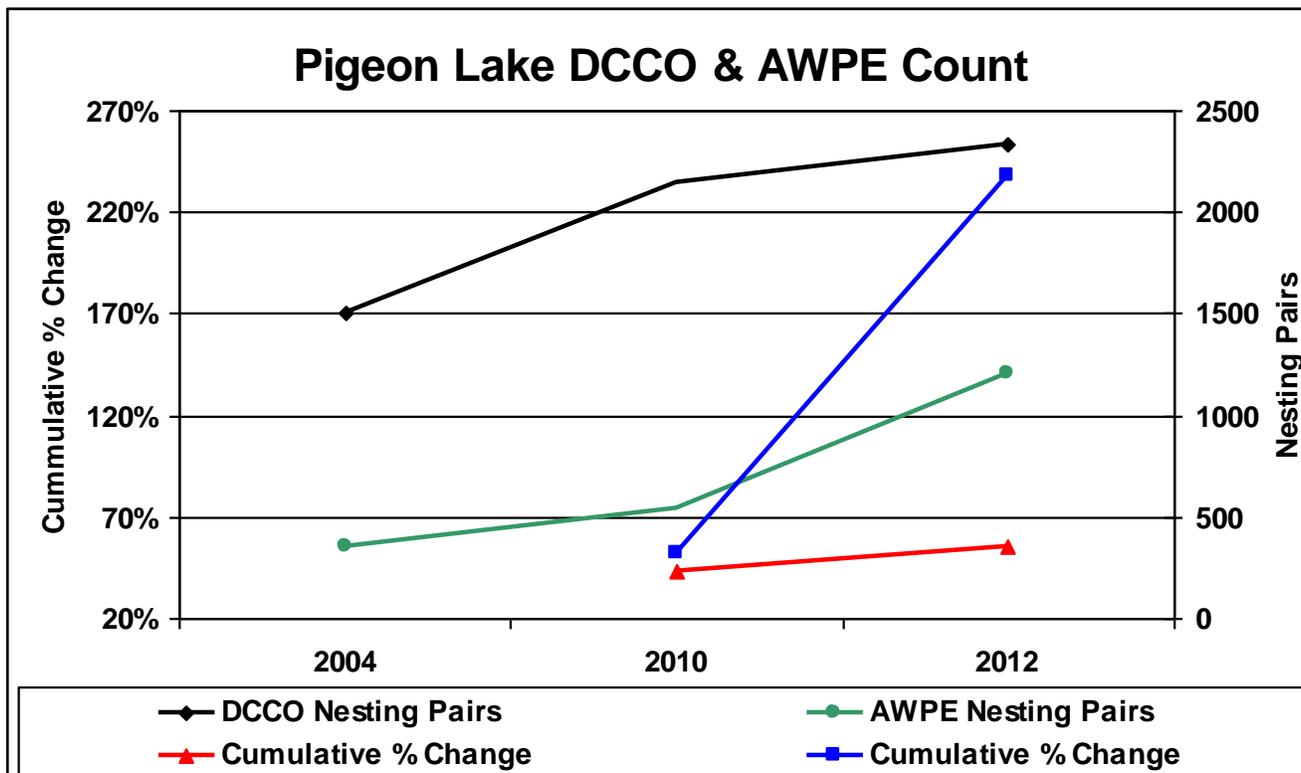
<b>Hours of operation:</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>closed</b>
	<b>Tuesday - Saturday</b>	<b>9am – 6pm</b>
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1pm – 5pm</b>

# CORMORANT/PELICAN IMPACT COMMITTEE

Milt Lueneburg, Arlan Lovald, Rick Fernstrom

During April and May, the DNR Nongame Wildlife Program conducted surveys of nesting colonial water birds on Pigeon Lake. The survey showed a 9% increase in cormorant nests (pairs) and 122% increase in pelican nests (pairs) since the last survey in 2010. In bird numbers, that means 189 more cormorants and 662 pelicans. Since 2004, cormorant nests have increased by 55% and pelican nests have increased by 238%. These increases are staggering as more birds means higher fish consumption. In aggregate, the cormorant and pelican population has almost doubled since 2004 and there is no information reported that bird populations won't continue to grow.

	Double Crested Cormorants			America White Pelicans			Total		
Year	DCCO Nesting Pairs	% Change	Cumulative % Change	AWPE Nesting Pairs	% Change	Cumulative % Change	Nesting Pairs	% Change	Cumulative % Change
2004	1503			357			1860		
2010	2145	43%	43%	543	52%	52%	2688	45%	45%
2012	2334	9%	55%	1205	122%	238%	3539	32%	90%
Pounds of Fish Consumed/Day	4,668			9,640			14,308		
Pounds of Fish Consumed/Month	140,040			289,200			429,240		
# of equivalent 2 lb fish/month	70,020			144,600			214,620		
# of equivalent anglers taking 4 fish/week	4,040			8,342			12,382		



In July, the DNR Fish and Wildlife Division will conduct a fish survey on Lake Washington. The results from this survey will be compared to the increasing bird population on Pigeon Lake and used to support the need for reducing the bird population on Pigeon Lake.

**Lake Washington Fish Stocking Activity by the DNR (is this for recreational fishing or for the birds?)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Pounds</b>
2011	Walleye	Fry	2,463,000	19
2009	Walleye	Fry	2,449,898	24
2007	Walleye	Fry	2,450,028	26.6
2005	Walleye	Fry	2,449,000	22.3
2003	Walleye	Fry	2,449,000	18

As you know by now, Governor Mark Dayton signed a bill on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012 to increase the cost of a 2013 resident fishing license from \$17 to \$22. That’s an increase of 29%! The fishing license fee covers the expense of DNR stocking programs so indirectly, your license dollars support the increased food supply required by the rising bird population on Pigeon Lake. And if that doesn’t make you angry, consider this. The weight of the total walleye fry stocked every other year by the DNR will feed a single cormorant nesting pair for only ~10 days or a single pelican nesting pair for only ~2 days. The DNR would not agree with this comparison. Conversely, during the DNR meetings over the past year to discuss the cormorant concern, the Hutchinson DNR attempted to downplay the concerns and produced a report stating fish consumption by other fish within a lake far exceeds the consumption by predatory birds. So there is no problem. But fish eating fish make bigger fish that produce more fish. Birds eating fish make bigger birds that produce more birds while reducing fish population. If we could only find a way to beat the cormorants at their own game, the concerns of over population would be reduced. Predators of cormorant eggs and chicks include gulls, crows, blue jay, common grackle, raccoon, red fox, and coyote. Adult cormorants are preyed on by bald eagle and great horned owl. To promote increased cormorant and pelican natural predation in the Pigeon Lake area, we need to 1) refrain from ground mammal trapping and hunting to allow populations to increase proportionately, and 2) develop a process whereby predatory ground mammals can naturally reach the two islands to control the cormorant and pelican population through natural predation. Keep it cheap, natural, and legal.

What has your fishing experience been this year?

Are you catching the number of fish you expect?

How does this year compare to past years?

What are your expectations of the DNR to respond to our concerns?

Please let us know via email [info@lakewashingtonassn.com](mailto:info@lakewashingtonassn.com) or facebook.

www.dasselcovenant.org 320.275.3315

# Evangelical Covenant Church

301 Lake St. Dassel MN

(From Hwy 12 Turn at Mushroom Bldg & Go North on Hwy 4)

## A Chance to find...

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In response to the call of God and in unity with the whole Church, the purpose of the Evangelical Covenant Church is to make known the good news of saving faith in Jesus Christ, to encourage a Christ like life among its congregations and their members, and to carry out Christ's redeeming work of love, mercy, and justice in the world.



9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship  
after Memorial Day Summer Service 10 am