



Clearwater Lake Property

Owners Association

2017 Spring Newsletter

A word from our president...

This past winter, the board has been very busy. Here's what they've been up to.

- The membership committee chaired by Mark Wilkins has been running a membership drive. Calling all lake owners to verify ownership, names, phone numbers and email addresses. If you have not been contacted, please email, call or send us your contact info so we can keep you updated. They are also encouraging all lake owners to join the CLPO. If you know of someone who may be new to the lake, please contact the Membership Committee.
- Communication chaired by Wendy Nelson has created and implemented a new website, and publication of a newsletter.

If you are concerned about aquatic invasive species in Clearwater Lake and the future of all MN Lake's, I encourage you to get involved. Reach out; call, write, email or visit your Minnesota Legislator and the DNR. We need to push them to do more in protecting our lakes.

Also, Join Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates! Get involved, be a partner.

The Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates Mission is to protect Minnesota's lake and river heritage for current and future generations by forging powerful links among lakes, lake advocates, and policy makers. Check it out, learn more about this organization.

<http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org/>

We are looking to form a social committee to handle the annual picnic and other social activities throughout the year. If you are interested, please contact me at irwinss@hotmail.com or call me at 320-428-3559.

Thank you!

Steve Irwin
President
CLPO

CLPO Annual Meeting:

Saturday, June 3rd at Camp Friendship in the DeGross Center (The far west building by the parking lot).
8 a.m. Coffee & Rolls; 9 a. m. Meeting

Meeting Agenda Items:

- Clearwater Lake Real Estate update courtesy of Joy Carlson
- Aquatic Invasive Species: Milfoil & Starry Stonewort
- Decontamination equipment at Anchor Dock & Lift
- Boat Ramp Inspections

See you there!

Non-Profit Status:

CLPO is now a 501(c)(3) Organization. All dues and donations are tax-deductible.

Annual Dues:

The CLPO is responsible for coordinating and financing the AIS treatment and boat ramp inspections, which are continuing to rise. So, looking to the future to protect our lake and control it of future AIS, dues will be increasing to \$50/year. Dues will also now be on a calendar year basis. This is due to changing to the non-profit status and their annual calendar year reporting requirements. We hope that you will support the CLPO to help protect Clearwater Lake now and in the future.

New Website:

CLPO now has a new website which will allow you to stay better connected with the lake and pay your dues online. If we have an email address for you, you should have already received an email to setup your account. If you haven't, please contact the Membership Committee at markclpo@comcast.net and they will update your information and give you your initial username and password. Once you have your profile setup, you will be notified of any important items pertaining to the lake. **Please also check out the business listings menu. We have many great businesses that are advertising on our website, which helps support the CLPO. Please patronize them and let them know that you are a CLPO member and appreciate their support!**

Aquatic Plant Survey:

We will be conducting an Aquatic Plant Survey this summer. This will be done prior to Lake Restoration treating for Milfoil. They will be testing 959 spots throughout Clearwater Lake and will give us an excel spreadsheet with their findings. The Watershed District requires this survey every three years as part of our Grant Funding Agreement.

Milfoil Update:

Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) was discovered in Clearwater Lake in 1989 and the Clearwater Lake Property Owners Association continues to work diligently to keep this invasive species in check and maintain our water quality.

For the 2016 season, the CLPO voted to move the application to an outside vendor (Lake Restoration). Based upon cost and last year's performance, we will have Lake Restoration treat the lake in 2017. Special thanks to Tim Isle for his continued leadership in coordinating this important issue.

Starry Stonewort:

Starry stonewort is an algae looking weed; once established looks like straw bales stacked one on top of the other until it reaches the surface. This weed grows 1 inch high and 1 inch wide per day and up to a depth of 19 feet. It does not go dormant and continues to grow throughout the winter months as well. You can't swim, fish, or boat in it. It causes blue green algae and is poisonous to animals. To date, no lake has been able to eradicate it, which is why they call it a **lake killer**. Most likely spread by movement of boats between infected and non-infected lakes since in every case to date, it is first found at the boat landings. As of right now, it is in a few lakes in MN with two being very close to us: Lake Koronis & Lake Sylvia. This is by far, the most dangerous invasive aquatic weed in the country and every lake in Minnesota only needs the **tiniest** of fragments to become infected.

Below are pictures of how fast this has spread and taken over Lake Koronis since fall 2015.



Check out a video showing the devastation it can cause: AIS – Above & Below the Waterline. You will be quite amazed at how important it is that we protect Clearwater Lake from it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MS2fr00QWHI>

Also, check out the link below for more information on it.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/starrystonewort/index.html>

CLPO
P.O. Box 476
Annandale, MN 55302

Decontamination:

To help fight Aquatic Invasive Species

What **YOU** can do!

1. Inspect all watercraft, trailers, and water-related equipment; remove any visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species before leaving any water access.
2. Drain water from boat, live-well, bilge, impellor, bait containers and other equipment holding water before leaving any water access. If you want to keep your live bait after draining bait containers, you must replace water in bait containers with either tap or spring water.
3. Dispose of unwanted bait into the trash. It's illegal to release live bait into a water body or release aquatic animals from water body into another.
4. If you have been in any other lake, take your boat to the FREE aquatic invasive species decontamination washing station. (A collaboration between Wright County Soil & Water & Bishop AIS Services)

Where: Anchor Dock & Lift Storage Facility – 240 Poplar Ave, Annandale, MN 55302 (Behind Classic Hall)

When: 10 AM – 7 PM, 7 Days a week

Questions: Chip Purcell 952-212-9863 or Jefferson Bishop 320-274-6500

Cost: Free

** Boat Lifts/Docks must be out of the water for 21 Days before they are used in another lake unless they have been decontaminated. **

CLPO Board:

Officers:

Association President:	Steve Irwin	320-428-3559	irwinss@hotmail.com
Vice President:	Dean Flygare		deanflygare@gmail.com
Secretary:	Joy Carlson	320- 266-1086	joycarlson@remax.net
Treasurer:	Deb Flygare		debflygare@gmail.com

Board Members:

Kathy Irwin	Tim Isle	Bill Lovegren	John Holb	Keith Beckman
Myron Damberger	Jim Kutzner	Mark Bertelsen	Scott Dehmer	Mark Wilkins
Westin and Wendy Nelson	Joel Dehmer	Steve and Diane Maeyaert		

Membership Committee:

markclpo@comcast.net

Communication Committee:

clpomn@gmail.com

Visit us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/clearwaterlakepropertyowners>

Community Lawn Care: They offer 2 programs: Do It Yourself & Full Service. They will donate 5% of every dollar you spend to the CLPO. Just mention you're a member of the CLPO. See our website for more info on this program.
805 Hwy 55 E, Buffalo 763-307-3311
www.centrasota.com

Stearns County AIS Prevention Program: If you will be selling a dock, boat lift, raft or any other water-related equipment (excluding a boat, pontoon or trailer) and will leave it out of the water for **31 days**, they will reward you with **\$200.00**. This program will be discontinued when all the funds are expended. Visit their website or call them at:

<http://www.co.stearns.mn.us/Environment/WaterResources/AquaticInvasiveSpecies> or 320-656-3613

CLPO Member Form:

Please encourage your neighbors to do the same and join. We have made a big difference in the lake quality in the past 15 years and will be able to continue in the years to come if we get your support. Thank you!

Update my info () Annual Membership ()

2017 CLPO Annual Membership: \$50 Annual Fee

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Lake Address: _____

Email Address(s): _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Home Cell Work
Home Cell Work

Please pay online at www.clpo.org or mail this page along with your membership dues to:

Attn: Membership
CLPO
PO Box 476
Annandale, MN 55302