

# NAMAKAGON

JULY 2010



# Breeze

NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## THE DAM STORY

While I was supervisor for the Town of Namakagon, I received many complaints about the lake level. "In the last several years we've had to move our boat hoists out farther in the lake and extend our piers". The public came up with the idea the new dam was lower than the old.

I looked up the plans for the new dam that are on file at the town hall and found the height of the new spillway was to be the same as the old as per Order WP-320 dated 1928. The height of the old dam was set at 1395.67 feet above Median Sea Level. The county Surveyors office supplied me with a survey map of the area. The big rock in the park next to the dam has a survey mark on it 1407.89 feet above MSL. By using a transom and stick I moved the base toward the dam by adding and subtracting measurement the spillway of the new dam measured 1395.71. My figures show that the new dam and the old are within .04 of an inch. Too close to argue. The Spillway on the new Dam is 18 feet which is 3 feet wider than the old letting more water out quicker.

Many factors contribute to the height of the lake such as rainfall, water table, run off and springs and streams running into the lake. According to the weather service we have been in a drought area for the last nine years as shown by the level of Lake Superior and the surrounding lakes. A family of beaver helped the level late last summer and fall by building a dam on top of the lake dam. This had to be removed by order of the D.N.R. or face a fine by a certain date.

In conclusion, the dam is the same height as the old one and Mother Nature regulates the level of Lake Namakagon.

Attached are two pages from the Lake Namakagon Dam Inspection, Operation, and Maintenance Plan Revised 2002 by Cooper Engineering Co. The full report, as well as the Emergency Action Plan, are on file at the Town Hall.



Respectfully Submitted,

Jim "Tiny" ANDERSON  
Lake Namakagon  
Property Owner

**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**August 21 @ 9 a.m.**  
**All are welcome!**

## LOON UPDATE 2010

Each year I look forward to April and the return of the Common Loon. Their mournful wails and laughing tremolos fill the air with "loon music". Once nesting begins, I start the count waiting for the loonlings to hatch. This year our "channel loons" successfully hatched 2 chicks and the Jackson Lake pair hatched 1. My travel by kayak and pontoon found another couple of nests, but they were abandoned at the end of May. It has been a tough year for nesting loons. I continually ask around but the pair that typically nest near the Hwy D landing and another along the river do not have chicks this year. A later nesting was successful a few years back with chicks hatching in mid-July so cross your fingers for more loonlings. On another sad note, the dangerous storms in June resulted in the loss of one of the two loonlings from the "channel loons". I've managed to snap a few photos this year, so enjoy more photos from me, the "loon-a-tic".

## UPDATE ON FUN ON THE WATER

This year the Annual NLA "Fun on the Water" family event will be held on July 25th at the National Forest Campground off of Hwy D. Sign-up and registration begins at 11:00, lunch will be at 1:00, followed by a water safety program and more fun. Join us rain or shine. This year the cost for an individual is \$5 and a family \$10. Please help us by signing up ahead of time. Send the registration form and money to Al Stawicki, so that we can ensure we have enough food and prizes.

This year sponsors are helping to offset the costs of this event. A special thanks to the following businesses and sponsors: Garmisch, Charlie Best B Team, Pioneer Bar, Lakewoods, Four Seasons, Steve Riley Triple Crown, Rick Yerhot Builder, Mike Best Recreational Rentals, Loon Saloon, and Cable Lumber.

### 2010 Namakagon Lake Assn Fun on the Water

When: July 25 11:00-3:00 (rain or shine)

Where: National Forest Campground

Cost: \$5/individual \$10/family

Number attending \_\_\_\_  
Please help us plan, sign up NOW

Mail to:  
Al Stawicki  
45020 Sugar Bay Dr.  
Cable, WI 54821

# FUN ON THE WATER – 2010

## SCHEDULED FOR JULY 25TH

Please make sure you have a parking permit visible on your dashboard!!!!

- 11:00 – Sign-in, parent waivers, t-shirts.
- 11:30 – Casting Practice  
Frisbee Golf  
Diving for Treasure
- 12:00 – Casting Contest  
Sand Sculptures and Judging  
Kayak Practice and Racing  
Three-point, free-throw contest
- 1:00 – Lunch
- 1:30 – Safety Presentation: Warden Schartner and Deputy Loch
- 1:50 – Water Balloon Toss
- 2:00 – Fun Soccer Kick  
Putting for Prizes  
Ladder Golf
- 2:45 – Awards (Event Judges)

**FUN ON THE WATER**  
**YOUTH SAFETY AND SKILLS DAY**  
*Bring the whole family!*  
**SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2010 – 11AM-3PM**  
**NATIONAL FOREST CAMPGROUND (HWY. D)**

Lake Skills and Water Safety • Casting Contest  
Kayak Races • Diving For Treasure • Frisbee Golf  
Sand Sculptures • Water Balloon Toss  
plus a Soccer Skills Contest!

**PRESENTATION GIVEN BY THE**  
Bayfield County Deputy Sheriff & Wisconsin DNR

**NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION APPRECIATION**  
**LUNCH, GAMES, T-SHIRTS, AND AWARDS!**  
**\$10 PER FAMILY or \$5 PER PERSON**

Checks payable to Namakagon Lake Association c/o:  
Al Stawicki, 45020 Sugar Bay Drive, Cable, WI 54821

*This event is under permit with the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.  
The Namakagon Lake Association is an equal opportunity provider.*

## OPEN LETTER TO MEMBERS OF THE NAMAKAGON LAKE ASS'N

(Adapted from letter to Town of Namakagon)

From: Jim Brakken

Re: MUD/CS Loophole and why we need to close it now.

Bayfield County offers developers the opportunity to build up to three times as many dwellings on a waterfront property as regular shoreland owners are allowed through a "Multi-Unit (MUD) and/or Conservation Subdivision (CSD) Development" loophole. This can put extreme pressure on our lakes and nearby watersheds.

Bayfield County offers this to developers to promote "economic development" at the risk of the long-term health of the lakes. These Multi-Unit (MUD) and/or Conservation Subdivision (CSD) Developments, can double or triple the dwelling densities within our shoreland areas. They do exactly the opposite of what our town and county comprehensive land use plans call for. Because this is absolutely the wrong thing to do for our waters, more protective ordinance language should be approved as soon as possible.

Folks in the Town of Barnes recognized this problem and took steps to remedy it. They asked for an exemption from this give-away program for developers. Their proposal, known as the Barnes Overlay, was unanimously approved by the Town, the County Zoning Committee and the County Board because it just made good sense.

There is no such incentive provided on inland tracts of land. Providing such incentives for developers to create "high-density developments" on our remaining lakeshore areas makes no sense at all. If one truly cares about protecting the highly-prized natural resources that we enjoy in Bayfield County, this high-density loophole must be closed.

Taxpayers in the Town of Namakagon deserve the same protection as is now being afforded to the Town of Barnes. If we don't get it, Namakagon's lakeshore areas will be targeted by developers for such high-density development. Some of them will seek out the cheapest waterfront, use imported labor to build as many dwellings as they can squeeze in, sell it off and then take the money and run. They will leave behind the many problems that come with too many people in too small a space.

Namakagon is a special place with special natural resources. But, as we all know, when it's gone, it's gone for good. We have a right to the same protection that was granted to the people in Barnes. We want this Overlay for our Town and we want it soon . . . before the developers secure their MUD/CS permits.

# NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

May 8, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by President Phil Rasmussen.

Board Members Present: Tom Nelson, Tim Browne, Linda Fischer, Denise Dupras, Lisa Holt, Julia Campbell

NLA Member Attendees: 7

## Minutes of February 6 and March 20, 2010 Meetings

Reviewed by Board and membership in attendance. Corrections were made. A motion to approve was made by Lisa Holt and Tim Browne and seconded by Linda Fischer and Tom Nelson respectively. The minutes were approved.

## Treasures Report:

Submitted by Tim Browne. The General Accounting balance as of 5/8/2010 was reported as \$24,687.53 A motion to approve was made by Denise Dupras and seconded by Lisa Holt. The report was approved. Mr. Steve Riley asked about providing a more thorough report including the budgetary considerations at the meetings.

## Fun Days:

Linda provided an update on the planning for the event. She has been in contact with Al Stawicki. Denise will put together a collage of images from prior events for an update of the poster. A discussion ensued regarding getting sponsorship for the t-shirts. Phil Rasmussen indicated that Lakewoods would provide \$1 per shirt and encouraged contact with other businesses for the sponsorship of the shirts. He also indicated he had contacted "tackle companies" for donations for the event. Board members will contact Slumberland and Walmart for additional donations for the event. As a not-for profit organization, donations will also be tax deductible. Linda will continue to coordinate with Al regarding the specifics of the event.

## Fishing Tourney Regulation Update:

BCLF has the resolution under review, but there are no laws on the book to enforce the recommendations. Denise offered to contact the organizers of the 2 multi-lake Muskie events for 2010 and ask them to adhere to the regulations. This includes limiting landings and also paying for the landing monitors. The Board supported this.

## Lake Clean-up:

Tom Nelson has contacted members and organized the lake clean-up. All members will be recognized in the upcoming newsletter.

## New Signage:

Lisa Holt, on behalf of the NLA, successfully competed for an educational grant allowing for new signage on the lake at the 9 current landings. She has gotten a picture from Amanda for 4 Seasons and will get an image for Lakewoods from Denise. She is working with Glenwood signs and will have the signs done in a 3x4 foot size.

## Old Business:

Buoys: New buoys were requested but are not in yet. Most of the buoys have been placed this year.

Hwy D Renovation: Denise updated the Board on the progress. The timing of the renovation cannot be earlier than planned by the WDNR. Eric Lindberg at ESP has been in contact with the WDNR and is coordinating installation of the new ILID.

Update on Environmental Services: FOTH will be sending out the survey now that they have all if the addresses from the towns of Grand View and Namakagon. Mr. Steve Riley indicated that Brian Hinrichs and FOTH had been good to work with and that many of the issues related to delays were a result of issues with the WDNR.

Membership: Members who have not paid NLA since 2008 will be sent a mailing asking them to pay dues for 2010. Those who do not pay will be dropped from the member list.

Newsletters: The NLA Breeze will be in 4-color on the web version (available from the NLA website), mailings will still be black and white. A minority of members have indicated they want to be contacted via e-mail, so sending the newsletter electronically is not practical.

Not-for Profit Status: The Board recommended that the "not for profit" designation be included on the membership renewal form. Also, mailings should be able to go out through the Chamber of Commerce at the discounted bulk mailing rate. Newsletters will need to be picked up from Advance Printing and then mailed from Cable.

Board Members: We need to identify individuals who would be willing to serve on the NLA Board. The Board and membership suggested individuals who will be approached regarding running for the Board.

Boat Landing Volunteers: There was discussion about the budget and whether there is money for paying the landing volunteers. Mr. Steve Riley suggested contacting the WDNR to determine if there are monies in the grant for payment of the landing supervisors. The campground supervisor has been paid yearly for his/her time spent monitoring the landing at the campground.

## New Business:

The Northwest WI Lakes meeting that is usually held at Telemark will be on June 18th. At this time the place of the meeting is not decided. Linda Fischer and Julia Campbell indicated that they would like to attend and the NLA will pay for their attendance. For any NLA member, the Board will pay 1/2 of the registration fee.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner: The concept of a dinner for all of the NLA volunteers was discussed and endorsed by the Board and membership. Additional information to develop a budget and a plan for holding this in the fall will be pursued.

Next Meeting Date: June 5, 2010, 9AM, Namakagon Town Hall

**Other Business:**

Lake District Update: At this time, the NLA is not pursuing forming a Lake District, this has deferred to the town comprehensive planning groups.

Pier Regulations: Information on the regulations that go into place 4/1/2011 was contained in the newsletter.

Dam Height: Jim "Tiny" Anderson updated the Board on the issues related to the dam height. This information can be found in this newsletter.

Correspondence: Denise Dupras read the email correspondence. Mr. Jim Krueger should be recognized for all of his work this year pulling dead trees from the lake this year.

A motion to adjourn was made by Denise Dupras at 10:37 and seconded by Tom Nelson. The meeting was adjourned.

## NLA SURVEY UPDATE

By now you should have received the survey sent by the NLA as a requirement of our WDNR grant. We appreciate you taking the time to fill out the survey. The cover letter mistakenly stated that the enclosed envelope was stamped. FOTH our environmental engineers will be analyzing the data which will be shared with the membership when it becomes available. A very special thanks goes to Tom Nelson, Tim Browne, and Evan Lindberg who painstakingly folded and stuffed the envelopes. Also, big thanks to the post-mistress, Gail Simons, at the Cable post office.



## FURTHER INFORMATION ON MUD AND CS DEVELOPMENTS

The Bayfield County Zoning Ordinance allows waterfront parcels meeting certain area and frontage requirements to be developed as Multiple Unit Developments (hotel, motel, apartment, time share, condo, resort) or as Conservation Subdivisions (clustered single dwelling units). MUD and CS developments are allowed much greater unit density relative to shoreline frontage than single dwelling units and duplexes.

<u>Lake Class</u>	<u>Single/Duplex Frontage (min)</u>	<u>MUD/CS Frontage (min)</u>
1 Most developed, least sensitive	150 feet per unit	50 feet per unit
2 Moderately developed and sensitive	200 feet per unit	100 feet per unit
3 Least developed, most sensitive	300 feet per unit	200 feet per unit

**MUD/CS's developed with increased frontage density cause many problems which are not offset by greater setbacks from the water body. Such developments do not meet the stated purposes and intent of the town comprehensive plan.**

1. The MUD/CS density creates a situation essentially the same as "keyhole" development which is prohibited by the zoning ordinance. This inconsistency must be eliminated.
2. Shoreline facilities and activities are concentrated at levels up to three times that for single units on the same lake or stream. Docks, moorings and boats disrupt near shore and shoreline habitats essential to many species.
3. Visual appearance of a dense MUD/ CS waterfront is very similar to a resort or marina and not in character for most lakes which have mostly single unit lots and no commercial development.
4. Increased and concentrated boating and other activity impacts water quality and clarity not only near the MUD/CS but in adjacent areas.
5. Increased unit density proportionally increases the amount of septic effluent seeping into the water table. The nutrients carried by groundwater to surface waters cause algae blooms, excessive aquatic plant growth and degrade water quality and clarity.
6. The value of properties on a lake is reduced by the presence of dense MUD/CS's and by declines in water quality and clarity. The loss in tax base may be significant.
7. MUD/CS developers, who are usually not local businesses, do everything possible to maximize their profits with no regard for the impact of their actions on the resource and other property owners and public users of the lake.

**To prevent these problems, the town should adopt an "overlay district" which establishes EQUAL FRONTAGE PER UNIT for ALL types of waterfront development.** The Town of Barnes, after experiencing the problems, did this in September, 2009. An overlay district becomes part of the county ordinance and is administered and enforced by the county zoning department. Existing MUD/CS's, of all types, are "grandfathered". No revision of the town comprehensive plan is required if it is consistent with the overlay.

## VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME TO KEEP THE LAKE CLEAN

Your time on the water can help the NLA, reporting any AIS sightings. Complete the form to get credit for your time. Please mail the completed form to the NLA or give to any of the Board members.

### Volunteer Lake Inspection Report

Lake: \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Inspector(s)	Hours	Total
_____	_____ x \$12/hr = \$_____	
_____	_____ x \$12/hr = \$_____	

**Total value of volunteer time** (line A) \$\_\_\_\_\_

#### Equipment used:

Pontoon Boat  ½ day@ \$90  Full day@ \$160 \$\_\_\_\_\_

Boat  ½ day@ \$40  Full day@ \$75 \$\_\_\_\_\_

Canoe/Kayak  ½ day@ \$30  Full day@ \$50 \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Sub-total Equipment used** (line B) \$\_\_\_\_\_

Total value of volunteer time + value of eqpmt used: (lines A+B) \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name of person completing this report \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*List all suspected AIS sightings. Report the exact location of any suspected AIS on this form and return to your AIS Coordinator for credit to your AIS program. Thank you for helping keep aquatic invasive species out of our lakes!*

### NLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Phil Rasmussen	(715) 794-2561
1st Vice President:	Lisa Holt	(715) 794-2384
Secretary:	Denise Dupras	(715) 798-5087
Treasurer:	Tim Browne	(715) 794-2405
Director:	Tom Nelson	(715) 794-2405
Director:	Linda Fischer	(715) 794-2166
Director:	Julia Campbell	(715) 798-2446

**Email board members:** [board@nlaonline.org](mailto:board@nlaonline.org)

**Visit our website:** [www.nlaonline.org](http://www.nlaonline.org)

## RECOGNITION OF LANDING VOLUNTEERS

The renovation at the Hwy D landing has not begun and will likely be delayed from the anticipated start date right after the 4th of July. In the meantime, we continue to rely on the efforts of volunteers to monitor the landing and keep our lake free of AIS. Julia Campbell and Linda Fischer are doing a great job of coordinating this effort. The NLA would like to thank and recognize those who have volunteered so far this year. This list includes: Glen and Diane Grage, Bill and Jan Porter, Clyde and Joan Wishart, Toni White, Jeanne Baxter, DoDo Dumanche, Angelo Bolero, Greg Dehring, and Jim Krueger.

### BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

The NLA is still seeking 2 individuals willing to run for the Board for the August election. Please contact any Board member for more information and to indicate your interest. The NLA needs you!

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

#### STOP Help Stop... the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

- **Non-native, exotic species, such as Eurasian Water Milfoil, Purple Loosestrife, and Zebra Mussels threaten to harm the quality of our Wisconsin lakes.**
- **Before you launch your boat, please inspect and clean it, including the motor and trailer, to prevent the spread of exotic species into our Wisconsin lakes.**
- **Never Empty Your Bait Bucket or Release Live Bait into the Lake**
- **Please immediately report any exotic species to your local lake association, The Wisconsin Wetlands Association, or the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.**
- **Visit the Wisconsin DNR website, [www.dnr.wi.gov/invasives](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/invasives) or contact the DNR at 608.266.9270 for more information or to answer questions about aquatic exotic species.**

**BE AWARE of your ACTIONS and HELP PRESERVE the ENVIRONMENT!**

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Namakagon Lake Association, Inc. was formed in 1995 for the purpose of preserving and protecting Lake Namakagon and its environs. The Namakagon Lake Association, Inc. (NLA) is a not for profit organization that relies on the contributions and membership fees of land owners and other concerned citizens for its funding. It is our goal to preserve and protect Lake Namakagon as an environmentally healthy watershed, by sponsoring educational programs, adopting a proactive role in the formulation of water and shore land regulations, and responsible use of this unique and irreplaceable resource for all citizens.

# The Namakagon Lake Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 536  
Cable, WI 54821



*Pictures courtesy of Denise Dupras*

## ALERT: IT IS TIME TO PAY OUR ANNUAL DUES!!!

**YOUR DUES ARE PAID THROUGH THE YEAR PRINTED NEXT TO YOUR NAME ON THE ADDRESS LABEL**

To be eligible to vote, all members must be 18 years of age and a paid member 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

### NAMAKAGON LAKE ASSOCIATION RENEWAL OR NEW MEMBER REQUEST FORM

MEMBERSHIP DUE ANNUALLY ON CALENDAR YEAR BASIS – 2010

- Check here if NEW address or e-mail
- Individual Membership Per Person. . . # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Wildlife Watcher . . . . . # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25.00 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Loon Lover . . . . . # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$50.00 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Lake Steward . . . . . # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$100.00 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Keeper of the Lake. . . . . # \_\_\_\_\_ X \$200.00 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: . . . . . # \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF EACH VOTING MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS:

Namakagon Lake Association, Inc.  
PO Box 536 • Cable, WI 54821

**TOTAL ENCLOSED.** . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate preferred contact method:  US Mail - Home     US Mail - Lake     E-mail

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_