

LAKE DETROITER'S ASSOCIATION, Inc.

September 1996

The annual meeting of the Lake Detroiters Association held at the City of Detroit Lakes Council Chambers on Saturday, August 10, 1996.

A presentation was given by Stephen Mikkelsen-MPCA on good shoreline practices. He highlighted the importance of vegetative cover along the shoreline to trap nutrient runoff and to reduce shoreline erosion. Naturalized landscapes were also endorsed by Dick Hecock, Administrator of the Pelican River Watershed District.

Discussions included the use of our lake by WE FESTers for bathing and hair washing, the increase in the amount of aquatic plants in the lake, the nutrients entering the lake from the Pelican River and distribution of the COLA newsletter to all lake residents.

1996 Friend of the Lake Awards were presented to Tom Rogstad and Morrie Estenson.

Tom Rogstad is retiring from the Lake Detroiters Board after many years of service. Tom has been active on numerous other boards including the Pelican River Watershed District and continues as a member of the City of Detroit Lakes Planning Commission.

Morrie Estenson has been the Pelican River Watershed District Aquatic Plant Specialist for several years. Morrie led the research on Flowering Rush control. He has now retired to Arkansas.

As special thanks to both of these gentlemen !

Judy Stowman and Gary Ask were elected as new board members.

Sally Hausken and Nancy Henke were both elected to second terms.

A recent survey of Lake Detroiters turned up an interesting question. Are we teaching our fishing guests the how-tos of Catch and Release ?

This valuable resource needs our help to prevent overfishing of our popular lake.

Boyscout Philip Imholte and Rotary Troop 646 has been busy this summer landscaping around the retaining pond on the corner of East and South Shore. This Eagle Scout project has been funded by Lutheran Brotherhood and the Becker County Highway Department.

Ginny Imholte, President

LAKE DETROITERS

Assoc

PO Box 149

August 1996

The Lake Detroiters Association was founded in 1948 with the overall goal to protect the water quality of Big and Little Detroit Lakes. Membership is open to any resident or property owner within 1000 feet of the lake.

Lake Detroiters is a supporting member of the Becker County Coalition of Lakeshore Associations. \$ 3.00 of your dues pass-through to COLA. As the newsletter editor, Sally Hauskins produces an informative newspaper. Be sure to share your copy with new neighbors after reading.

The Becker County COLA is sponsoring a _____ on August _____. Mark your calendar for a great meeting.

The Minnesota Lake Association also hosts an Annual Meeting. It was in Duluth this past in May.

The National Association of Lakes Management will be in the Cities this November. Lake Detroit Representatives will attend.

Detroit Lake is part of the Pelican River Watershed District. Shoreland Ordinances as well as Watershed Rules apply to protect Detroit Lake.

Aquatic weeds are picked up from the roadside each Monday by the PRWD. These piles need to be kept off the road edge for safety, but need to be accessible for pickup by a bobcat. Raking the washed-up weeds from your shoreline removes excess vegetative matter and nutrients from your beach.

The harvesters cut excess aquatic vegetation and Flowering Rush in Big Detroit, Little Detroit, and Deadshot Bay. The cutters need four feet of water to operate and cannot cut Carra.

The 1995 survey showed that the # 1 concern with Lake Detroit is lake water quality. The # 2 concern is aquatic plant growth and control. The # 3 concern is watercraft speed and regulation of jet skis and boats.

The water quality of Detroit Lake is a reflection of its watershed. With extensive shoreline development, the lake collects much run-off from residential lawns and from the construction of homes and roads. A primary source of Phosphorous is assumed to be from residential fertilizer runoff.

A continued rise in phosphorous results in decreased water quality, increased weed growth and increased algae blooms. Check out the landscape of your lawn. Does the lawn slope into the lake or can it be protected by an ice ridge or buffer strip? A zone of unmowed grass or vegetation can stop run-off at the lawn. Phosphate-free lawn fertilizer is available or lakewater lawn sprinkling is nutrient rich.

Any changes in your shoreland area, especially soil/sand moving or tree removal need to be discussed with the City of Detroit Lakes Building Inspector and /or the DNR. Permits may be required. Weed Rollers require permits.