

Briggs Lake Chain Association

The Lake Report

July 2016

Remembering the Past – Improving the Future...promoting the care, improvement, and general welfare of the Briggs Lake Chain [Julia, Briggs, Rush and Big Elk] and adjoining and connecting waters...

Volume XXIII, Issue V

Mark your calendar...

- 07.07.16 Healthy Lakes— 6:30
Palmer Town Hall
- 07.11.16 Palmer Twp Board—7 PM
- 07.09.16 BLCA Board Mtg—8:30 AM
- 07.19.16 Clear Lake Twp Board-7 PM

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EVENTS

July 4th Weekend Events

McDonalds Meats Brat & Pork Chop Sale:

Thurs: 6/30: 11—6 pm
Friday 7/1: 9—6 pm
Saturday 7/2: 9—2 pm



Saturday July 2nd:



Boat parade: noon—4:00 p.m. on Briggs
—to participate, meet in the channel between Rush and Briggs at 11:30 a.m. on the Rush lake side

Fireworks: At dusk / 10 p.m. on Briggs

I hear we are in for a great show!



Green Sheet Item:

Wood lateral filing cabinet.
2-drawers, oak color.
36" wide x 20" deep x 30"
high
\$10.00
Call Anderson's at: [320-743](tel:320-743)



President's Letter

'A bird does not sing because it has an answer. It sings because it has a song.'

Chinese Proverb

The biggest news of last month is that the LID was approved by the county. The commissioners had the open meeting and received feedback and then at their regular commissar meeting, they gave the 'go ahead' to the LID. Now the real work begins! The Healthy Lakes Committee has been a major source behind the effort so far. It would take more room than I have to name all the volunteers that worked on it. But, I do want to mention three of the major movers, Kenzie Phelps, Dan Merchant and Scott Ruiter. Thanks to all the volunteers that worked on getting us to this stage.

The Briggs Lake Chain Association has events planned for the July 4th weekend. We will be offering our Brat/Pork Chop sale at McDonalds Meats on June 30, and July 1st, & 2nd. Please stop by, we love to see you! July 2nd is THE big day for us with the boat parade from noon to 4:00 PM and fireworks starting at 10:00 pm, the set up crew has informed me that the show will be 18 minutes!

What you can do to protect our lakes; I haven't forgotten the AIS. Some BLCA members have received AIS training for what is involved in becoming an Ambassador or Volunteer for the DNR at the landings. In July some members are to receive training in how to make an early detection if there are Zebra Mussels in the lake. Early Detection, Early Response. That's it for this month, more later.

Wayne Smith, President BLCA

Miscellaneous news:

Big Elk Fish Stocking: We were not able to provide this service this year and are open to ideas from you regarding what you would like to see happen with the money instead.

In our efforts to 'Go Green' we are asking for your email addresses to cut down on mailing costs.

Board member renewal is coming up – submit candidate names now as nominations are being considered and voted for in August at the BLCA General Meeting.

Palmer Township

The Palmer Township Board meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Township Hall. Let **Kathy Miller** know of agenda items by email at: palmertwp@gmail.com by noon on Tuesday before the meeting or call her at 743-2100. Our website is: www.palmertownshipmn.org

Clear Lake Township

The Clear Lake Township Board meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Township Hall. Let **the Township clerk** know of agenda items by Thursday morning before the meeting. To contact Clear Lake Township, please call 320-743-2472 or email the Township Clerk at: clearlaketwp@hotmail.com
Our website is: www.clearlaketownship.org

Please attend your respective Township meeting and voice your concerns about matters relating to our lakes.

AIS Update

The BLCA treated offshore [farther than 150 feet from shore] Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLP) AIS April 22nd this year. This is the earliest ever with a DNR cutoff date of April 30th. When this year's date is compared to previous years one gets a little idea of how unusually mild this winter was. Previous treatments: 2013 - 5/23; 2014 - 5/23; 2015 - 5/11.

Lake Management treated personal shoreline for weeds within 150 feet from shore (near shore) June 7th. Late near shore applications and properties requiring DNR inspection prior to treatment were treated June 22nd.

Looking at the treated areas our 2016 application was effective. Unfortunately, cost and DNR guidelines prevent treatment of 100% of the CLP. Right now untreated CLP is blooming and forming mats on the lake surface. These plants will die off soon but have already formed reproductive pods that will form plants up to 7 years from now. By this fall, next year's crop will sprout and grow under the ice all winter. And so it goes.

Until this year's CLP has died off, we will encounter washed up debris from cutup and dying plants along our shoreline. This is already washing up onshore. Removing this waste prevents the nutrients in the plant matter from recharging the lakes and feeding the algae that will come along with warmer and more turbid water. Collected CLP debris can be dropped off at the Becker Compost Center. Jan's Tree Farm will also accept it, if contacted first.

I decided to repurpose the stuff I raked up along my shore. I pitchforked it into piles along shore. After it dried a couple of days, I transferred into a wheelbarrow.

During the transfer I did a weed inventory to check for Eurasian Water Milfoil and shore land plants that would grow out of the lake. (Sometimes my piles were on top of weeds like reed canary grass growing along the lake. Not a good idea to spread this around so I had to be careful I didn't transfer it into the wheelbarrow.) Trash and non-aquatic plants were separated, and then the rest was used as mulch in my garden for weed and water control.

Check out my before and after CLP to my garden photos. I smothered the weeds with what I hope is inert, biodegradable compost.

Dan Merchant



The Lake Report



Briggs Lake Chain Association

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The Lake Report is published for the benefit of BLCA members and lake residents. Please submit articles and feedback by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next issue. Email or snail mail copy to the Editor.



Gentle Footprints Workshop

Friday June 11, 2016



Our intrepid chefs:

Scott Ruiter (l) And Dayle Meyer (r)

This 'n That

Please send news about BLCA members to **Marilyn Humble** so that a card may be sent for such things as illness or a death in the family.

Call her at 743-2741 or email her at:

imhumble@midco.net

Questions about what shoreline practices and/or run off management you can apply to your land?

Contact the BLCA and Healthy Lakes Committee

Gentle Footprints Attendees enjoying their meal!



A BELATED THANK YOU

I wish to say 'Thank You' to the Briggs Lake Chain Association, its members, and others who expressed their condolences, sent cards, flowers and in other ways expressed their love and sorrow for Barb's passing. We will all miss her.

Thank You. George Kydd and Family