

Volume XX, Issue V

Mark your calendar...

- June 6 Healthy Lakes— 6:30 PM
Palmer Town Hall
- June 8 BLCA Board Mtg—8:30 AM
Palmer Town Hall
General Mtg—10 am
- June 10 Palmer Twp Board—7 PM
- June 18 Clear Lake Twp Board—
7 PM

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The pyrotechnic display will be underwritten by donations. Because it is necessary to sign a contract for the fireworks around June 10th, the dollar amount agreed to will be the sum of the donations in hand by that date. This means we are asking for donations early and need the checks mailed as soon as possible. The more the donations, the longer the show.

Donations received after the 10th can be used to purchase additional fireworks that can't be added to the formal show to make it longer, as there is considerable lead time in arranging the shells, wiring them and hooking up the firing mechanism. They will get shot off, but are added at the end or beginning.



- Fireworks, Saturday, July 6th ~ at dusk on Briggs (rain or shine)
- Checks should be made out to the Briggs Lake Chain Association or BLCA.
- Fireworks donation or 7/4 fireworks donation should be noted in the memo section of the check.

Please mail your payment to:

Briggs Lake Chain Association, Box B
4180 - 105th Ave.
Clear Lake, MN 55319

We need to receive donations by June 10th!

Sorry for such short notice but your contributions will again help highlight a fun Independence Day holiday weekend.!

President's Letter

It's starting to look like summer, fishing has opened, docks and boats are in the lakes, and lilacs and fruit trees are starting to bloom. Corn is sprouting in local farms and it has been over 90°!

Saturday, June 8th is our first General Meeting for this year followed by the BLCA Picnic. It's the BLCA Summer Opener! It will be held at Palmer Park and start at 10:00 AM. The plan is to make the meeting brief so we can focus on opportunities to socialize together. We can get to know each other better and Board Members will be available to answer your questions and for you to share ideas with. There will be informational booths on many subjects for you to visit during the day.

The Saint Cloud Civic Band will treat us to a concert under a tent in the ball field at about 11 AM. Bring something to sit on in the grass, because the band will be using the tent. A folding canvas camp chair would be perfect. Beverages will be available. If you feel you might need them, bring your own snacks and refreshments. The Palmer House will cater a meal for us after the concert, sometime around noon.

We got some good news about our curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) infestation. Right after ice out, both the DNR and Lake Management surveyed the upper three lakes for CLP. (This is a necessary step in the process to get a permit to spray CLP.) Both surveys found less than expected numbers of the weed. Apparently the long winter with ice and snow on the lakes inhibited the CLP due to the reduced light reaching the plants. This is good news because the DNR has stopped allowing variances to spray over 15% of the littoral area of the lakes. The expectation was we would only be able to control half the CLP in Rush and about 85% in Julia. Now the control potential is much nearer to what we would like it to be. There was a new infestation area discovered on Briggs that will be sprayed.

One of the surveys discovered an increase in native aquatic vegetation in Julia. This too is good news as it indicates good plants are replacing bad ones. Thank you for donating to our weed-spraying program that enables us to control this nasty invasive weed and try to restore our lakes to what they were before CLP arrived.

We will be having a turnover in Board Members this fall and will need new volunteers. A great way to test the waters is to attend the Healthy Lakes Committee meeting held at 6:30 PM at the Township Hall on the first Thursday of each month. (The July meeting falls on the 4th and will be rescheduled, check the website for updates.) The meetings are informal, any member is welcome, many board members attend and, as the title implies, this is where methods to make our lakes better are discussed, new ideas are introduced and efforts are evaluated for how well they work. It's an interesting and stimulating environment where you can get acquainted with BLCA leadership on a personal basis and decide what role in the BLCA would be fun and interesting for you and also put your talents to use.

Thank you for being a member of the BLCA and I look forward to enjoying your company at the June 8th Meeting and Picnic.

Dan Merchant, BLCA *President*

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.palmer-townshipmn.org

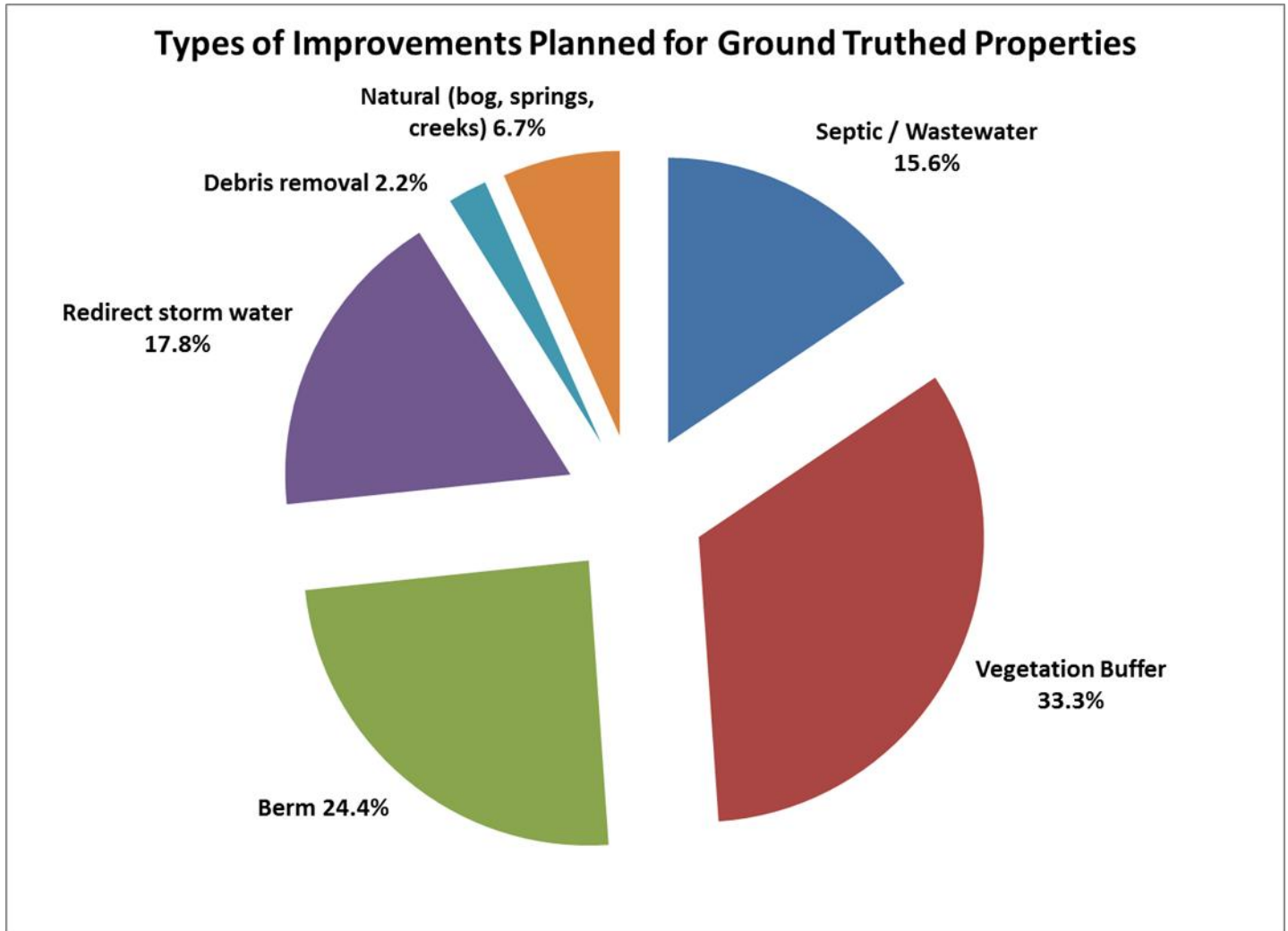
Clear Lake Township

The Clear Lake Township Board meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Township Hall. Let **Mary Mathison** 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: clearlaketownship@gmail.com Our website is www.clearlaketownship.org

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

The Healthy Lakes Committee of the BLCA

The fly over report helps identify what actions can be taken to improve our lakes / Over 60% of the properties that have been ground truthed to date have identified what actions can be taken on their property to improve our lakes.



To have your Property Visited in 2013:

Email, John Schnell at the BLCA website — john.schnell@briggslakechainassociation.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thank you, John Schnell
Ground Truth Team Leader

- June 1: Ground Truth Training
- June 8: General Mtg/Picnic



The Lake Report

Briggs Lake Chain Association

See us on the Web at

<https://www.briggslakechainassociation.com>

Email us at blca@briggslakechainassociation.com

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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.

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

Becker Compost Site Update

Last month information was included to inform you of the necessity for and availability of access cards for the Becker and other county compost sites. They are free and can be picked up at the clerk's office in Becker City Hall. City Hall Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 - 4:30. Phone: 763 - 261- 4302. Address: 12060 Sherburne Avenue (Hwy 23). **NOTE:** *If the property you own on the lakes isn't the residence that is printed on your driver's license, you will need to present a property tax statement for your lake property along with your driver's license at the Becker City Hall to get an access card. The procedure is the same for Minnesota and out-of-state residents.*

I visited the Becker compost site recently, drove up to the scanner, stuck my arm out the window and swiped my card near the flat face. The gate immediately went up then closed behind me. When I left, I drove close to the gate, it sensed my car and went up. After I drove through, it closed behind me. I didn't notice any compost available at the site, although someone had dug into the big mound and it looked like ripe material was available if you have the right equipment to get at it!

Farmer's/Flea/Vendor Market

May 24th was the first Farmer's/Flea/Vendor Market. The market will be held Friday mornings from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Township Hall parking lot with the booths set up on the lawn adjacent to the asphalt. Parking shouldn't be an issue.

There is a \$10 fee for a 10-foot area. Proceeds will go to the Township Hall or Palmer Park for playground equipment.

For information on signing up for a booth call:

Township Hall (open on Tuesdays)	320-743-2100
Kathy Miller	320-743-3541
Karen Pilarski	320-743-3084

(All phone numbers have voice mail, so leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.)

Palmer Library Hours:

Tuesdays	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Fridays/Market times	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Kelly McCann from the Briggs Lake General Store has started a program using money from recycled, new and used printer cartridges, old cell phones and Apple devices, to purchase sporting equipment to be used at Palmer Park, beginning this summer.

What a great Idea! How often do you suppose people see the park on a nice day and think; "If I only had a tennis racquet or basketball, etc."? Well, this summer, they can borrow one from the store and so can your company, if you don't have the equipment on hand.

Check out the program on the store website: briggslakestore.com. Open the bulletin board tab and you will access the program details. You will notice Kelly is looking for certain items that you might keep in mind when you do spring-cleaning or visit garage sales.

Thanks Kelly for starting this worthwhile program!!

PRINT FOR THE PARK

Heading to the park for a day of fun?
Need a tennis racket? How about a basketball? Forget your baseball?

Beginning this summer you can come to the store and pick up sporting equipment to use for the day. Simply leave a 5 dollar bill with the cashier, use the equipment all day, return it before the doors close and you will receive your 5 dollars back. A whole day of fun for free.

ALL RECYCLING REVENUE WILL BE PUT TOWARD PURCHASING SPORTING EQUIPMENT FOR OUR PALMER RESIDENTS