



Upper Hay Lake Association

P.O. Box 769
Pequot Lakes, Minnesota 56472

Fall Newsletter

October 2022

Page 1

Greetings from your President

What an amazing fall it has been! I have managed to get some last kayaking in to enjoy the crystal-like water and beautiful colors. It is a bittersweet time of the year as everyone is bringing in their boats and docks. We had a beautiful summer to create many memories tubing, fishing and skiing on Upper Hay Lake. I am always a little sad to see it come to an end but am thankful I can share the lake with you.

A special “thank you” goes out to those UHLA members who attended the Burger Night at the Pequot Lakes Legion on August 5th. We had a great turnout and lots of conversation with people who hadn’t seen each other for a while. As a result of the successful turnout, the Upper Hay Lake Association Board decided to continue this night in August 2023.

The bad news this fall is that residents on the lake have been finding zebra mussels on their docks while taking them out. I called Tim Plude, an Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist at the DNR and he told me that he thought the infestation was later than expected since they were first present in the Whitefish Chain in 2012. Tim recommends lifting boat motors out of the water. If you have a pump for watering, be sure to clean it off. Presently, there is not a good control method. They can be found years after treatment and the pesticide used is quite toxic and will kill all fish food and the fish as well. Be sure that you use a dock service that is on the preferred list since they have taken the AIS classes. If you have further questions, you are welcome to call Tim at 218-203-4354.

Please mark two dates on your 2023 calendar. We will have our annual meeting on Thursday, June 15th at 5:00 PM. After considerable discussion, the board thought we would try an evening meeting and move the date from the May weekend. It seems that many Upper Hay Lake residents are busy working on their properties in the spring. There are also lots of graduation parties and family celebrations at that time of the year. I have scheduled a speaker from the National Loon Center at 5:00 PM followed by burgers at 6:00 PM. The other important date is Thursday, August 3, 2023 for a Burger Night. Can’t wait to see you for both dates!

A friendly reminder that the Upper Hay Lake Association will only be successful if we have a strong and interested membership. Thank you for your commitment to keeping our lake clean and beautiful. Enjoy the fall colors and the change of seasons!

–Claire Steen

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ZEBRA MUSSELS FOUND IN UPPER HAY LAKE

Claire Steen has received a couple emails regarding zebra mussels. In a recent email she stated, “I am so disappointed! It sounds like there are quite a few on the dock sections that are coming out.”



These two “not so little” zebra mussels were found on a boat motor coming out of Upper Hay Lake this fall.

Last week Claire talked with the AIS person at the DNR. He said they were first detected in the Whitefish chain in 2012, so he thought Upper Hay would have had a much greater infestation years ago. She asked him to speak at our spring meeting, but he is not willing to commit at this time.

–Brad Schultz

BURGER NIGHT HELD AT THE AMERICAN LEGION IN PEQUOT LAKES

UHLA hosted the second annual Burger Night on August 4, 2022. This time at The American Legion in Pequot Lakes at 5:30 P.M. This event replaced the picnic again. People seemed to like it. There were at least 41 in attendance, possibly more. People enjoyed the opportunity to visit. The association will keep this in August and try to do something similar for the annual meeting.

–Brad Schultz

Environmental Stewardship Today, for Tomorrow

Help protect Minnesota waters from aquatic invasive species

Minnesota law requires docks and boat lifts to be out of the water for at least 21 days before putting them in another body of water.

When removing boats, docks, lifts, or other water-related equipment from lakes and rivers, carefully inspect everything to make sure there are no aquatic invasive species (AIS) such as zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, or New Zealand mud-snails attached.

Look on the posts, wheels, and underwater support bars of docks and lifts, as well as any parts of boats, pontoons, and rafts that may have been submerged in water for an extended period. In newly infested waters, adult zebra mussels may not be abundant and you might notice only a few mussels on your equipment.

If you think you have discovered an invasive species that has not already been confirmed in your lake, contact your area DNR aquatic invasive species specialist. Early detection for zebra mussels is important in protecting your property and Minnesota’s water resources. Learn how you can become a volunteer zebra mussel monitor. Many different invasive plants and animals harm Minnesota waters. Learn to identify aquatic invasive species.



Illustration of a Zebra Mussel and Zebra mussels found on a boat lift.



A hard-to-spot zebra mussel on a trailer and a water intake screen on Upper Hay Lake.

Reporting aquatic invasive species

Responding quickly to new AIS infestations is critical to help curb the spread into other water bodies. If you find something you suspect is a zebra mussel, faucet snail, or other aquatic invasive species, note the exact location, take a photo, keep the specimen, and contact a local Minnesota DNR [AIS Specialist](#) or [fisheries office](#).

Storing lifts and docks for winter

You may remove water-related equipment from a water body – even if it has zebra mussels or other prohibited invasive species attached – and place it on the **adjacent** shoreline property without a permit.

However, if you want to transport a dock or lift to another location for storage or repair, you may need a [permit to authorize transport of prohibited invasive species and aquatic plants](#).

–Brad Schultz

BOAT LANDING INSPECTIONS

There have been no reports as there is no one inspecting this year. The board would like to request regular inspections next year. There may be a need for volunteers to man the landing. After discussion at the September meeting it was decided that, if possible, it would be nice to have it manned from 6- 10 AM and 4-6 or 7 PM. There is really no need any other time.

–Brad Schultz

STARRY STONEWORT INSPECTIONS

July, August, and September 2022 starry stonewort lake sampling has been completed. No invasive plants were found. Areas sampled were both sides of the dock at the public landing and frontage by the dock at Hideaway Resort. All vegetation pulled from lake was identified as native.

–Neil Beaverson

ANNUAL UHLA MEETING DATE AND FORMAT TO BE CHANGED FOR 2023

Does there need to be an annual meeting in the spring? The board discussed this question about what the bylaws require at their September 2022 meeting. The By-laws read that it is to be held the Saturday prior to Memorial Day Weekend. Since we haven’t had a good attendance lately, we thought more people would come if the meeting were to be moved to June– perhaps June 15th. It was voted to try a temporary change before amending the By-laws. Burger night was a success; so it was decided to hold the annual meeting as a Burger night with meeting first. The meeting will be held from 5-6 PM and then burgers will be served. Members would need to be at the meeting at 5:00 to get a ticket to the burger portion of the night.

–Brad Schultz