

SUMMER 2025 ISSUE

# UPPER HAY LAKE ASSOCIATION

Official Newsletter of the Upper Hay Lake Association

## Greetings From Your President

BRAD SCHULTZ

Recently, I had a “Top Ten Weather Day” in my book. I took my grandson fishing off the dock, visited with friends at the campfire ring, grilled burgers, and went for a coffee cruise after supper. I'm sure many of our members had similar outings. Upper Hay Lake is the BEST!

The boat parade on July 5<sup>th</sup> was a success with about 30 watercraft circling the lake. It is a patriotic tradition. The fireworks display by Chuck Hadley and Dean Helgeson was awesome. They appreciated all the donations from area residents.

We will have a social gathering at Snarky Loon on Thursday, August 7, 2025, starting at 5:00 P.M. Food and beverages are at everyone's own expense. I am looking forward to the event. Neil Beaverson has researched weed abatement. He recommends shoreline improvement over chemical treatment or mechanical means for weed reduction. Our lake association has the book Shoreland Guide to Lake Stewardship published by the Minnesota Lakes and Rivers organization. Our lake association also reimburses the site inspection fee for shoreline improvements. We will continue to discuss possible options for weed reduction on our lake in the upcoming months.

Dennis Feltman has accepted his position on the UHLA Board of Directors. Congratulations, Dennis! We appreciate your willingness to serve us all. The board will meet following the social gathering at Snarky Loon on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

These are the latest highlights since our June 2025 meeting. Make the most of your summer on Upper Hay Lake!

## This issue:

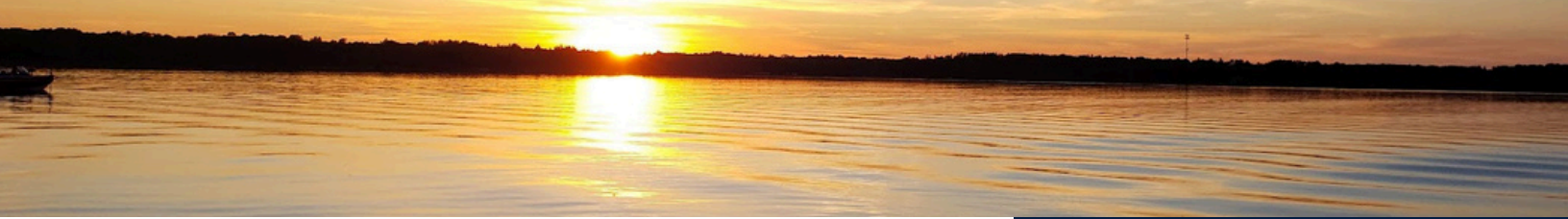
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## We Are Looking For New Members

First and foremost, we want all property owners to be members so that we can effectively communicate with everyone concerning matters that affect all of us. In addition, we want to hear from folks like you who have ideas for other projects. The more members we have, the more ideas we can consider. The lake association conducts projects that benefit all lake property owners.

Why join? The association is the best form of contact with the Department of Natural Resources and the Pollution Control Agency. We monitor walleye fry stocking on Upper Hay to ensure the program continuation. We put out a loon nesting platform in early spring. We offer reimbursement for on site shoreline inspection fees and offer \$600 to members who engage in a shoreline restoration project.

If you have a friend or neighbor who would like to join, please have them contact us or fill out our membership application!



## Upcoming Events

Please join us for the social gathering on August 7th at the Snarky Loon in Jenkins at 5:00pm to meet your neighbors and enjoy a night out with other Upper Hay Lake residents. Food and beverages available for purchase.

## NEIL BEAVERSON FINDS THAT WEED TREATMENT IS LIMITED AND EXPENSIVE

Neil Beverson has done some research on weed abatement. Here is what he found:

1. The DNR will only allow chemical treatments on invasive species and personal swimming areas, verified by Central Minnesota Aquatics and DNR.
2. As Neil checked, he found that lakes working through LIDs are treating invasive plants through their efforts
3. Upper Hay Lake only has Zebra mussels (there is no current treatment) and no known invasive plants.
4. Neil couldn't get a price on chemical treatment because it can't be done without violating DNR regulations. One option is to treat everyone's swimming area (feasible?? or desirable??).

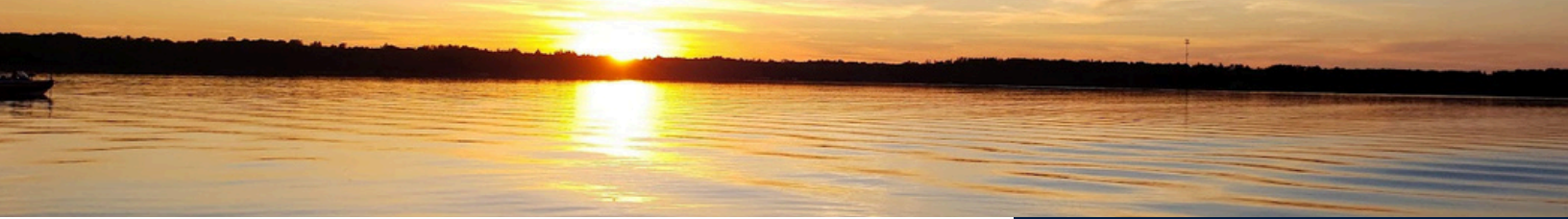
He wrote, "If we want less weeds and algae, we must decrease the runoff from private land." He went on to report: "Brad, to clarify, I found a half dozen Lakes with LIDs that chemically treat their Lake I then looked up those lakes on the list of lakes with invasive aquatic plants. They were all listed as having Eurasian Milfoil. I have been on lakes with Eurasian Milfoil and it is bad. As a side note I calculated the area of the six shallow locations away from shore on the lake with a depth under 10 ft( 4ft -10ft ) If we were to purchase the chemical (Aquacide Pellets) to treat those areas it would cost \$20,000 for a single treatment at the normal online price, we could probably get it for half that price in large quantities. This excludes the cost of a licensed professional. Remember that the areas that people want to treat are spawning beds for pan fish which the DNR has a particular problem with. In my mind it is total insanity that people want to spend lots of money for toxic chemicals to treat a problem for eternity that can be solved by proper shoreline restoration and management that would be a lot less expensive and once it's done it just has to be maintained."

## 2025 FIREWORKS

An amazing fireworks display was put on by Chuck Hadley, Dean Helgeson, and others at dusk on July 5th as part of the Independence Day celebration on Upper Hay Lake. Chuck and others have been organizing the display for over 20 years. According to Hadley the event gets better every year due to increasing contributions.



Dean Helgeson appealed to members to donate to the cause at our UHLA meeting in June. This year over \$200 was donated by individuals outside of Chickadee Trail and \$1,100 was contributed by people on this road. Chuck gets the fireworks at Elsworth, Wisconsin. He sets up the show along the lakeshore. He positions 36-120 shots in a manner that can be coordinated by 3 lighters. The finale consists of 4 cases of fireworks. Chuck commented, "Everybody loves it—sitting back and watching things go boom." He went on to say, "I really enjoy seeing people [in their boats] on the lake watching too."



## LOON NESTS ARE PLACED AND MAINTAINED BY UPPER HAY LAKE HOMEOWNERS

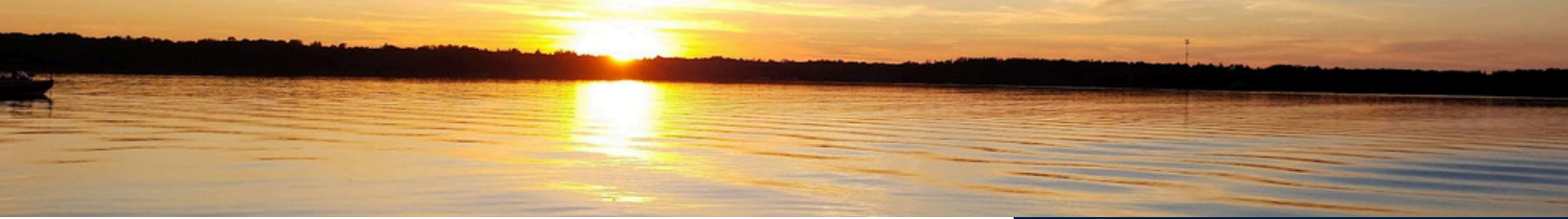
Two loon nesting platforms are placed on Upper Hay Lake annually. Chuck Hadley has overseen platform maintenance, installation, removal, and storage for about five years. This spring, Jack Woodruff, Greg Marolt, and Brad Schultz rebuilt another platform, placed it in the lake's northeast corner, then Jack removed it and Greg stored it at Upper Hay Lake Lodge. Chuck anchored his platform in the lake's southeast corner near the reeds, within binocular view of his living room, shortly after the ice melted and before the loons arrived. Soon loons nested on it. After a period of 27 days this year, one chick and its parents departed from the nest. Dean named the chick "Shorty" as a tribute to his father-in-law, who passed away in May of the previous year. The platform was subsequently removed, as loons do not return to their nests after leaving them for the season.

A California official affiliated with the Crosslake Loon Center recently met with Chuck at his property. He informed Chuck that the parent loons were banded this Spring. They came out to the platform site at night. Using lights they captured the loons, banded them, and released them. The loons are part of loon research. These two groups intend to continue placement and maintenance of the platforms for years to come. Two years ago, Chuck Hadley recovered a loose loon platform and found two eggs in its nest. Once he anchored it back the parents quickly went back on the nest.

## Helpful Links

[Toxic Algae Bloom](#)  
[Informational Video](#)





## Q&A With New Board Member Dennis Feltgen

Q: When did you purchase property on the lake?

A: We bought our home in Oct 2021, followed by a massive renovation a year later.

Q: Are you retired?

A: Yes, I am retired, three years and counting. I graduated from Florida State University with a BS in Meteorology, and was a broadcast meteorologist from 1974 to 2001, including more than eight years as the Chief Meteorologist at KSTP-TV5 in the Twin Cities. After TV, I spent 20 years with NOAA where I was the Communications and Public Affairs Officer at the National Hurricane Center in Miami before retiring in 2022.

Q: Please tell a little bit about your family?

A: Ann and I have been married for more than 17 years. Our blended family includes 7 children and 9 grandchildren.

Q: Tell us about your main interests or hobbies.

A: I've been a U.S. stamp collector for more than 60 years, when a stamp was just four cents, compared to 78 cents today. Other hobbies include gardening, boating and travel. I am also an avid reader, as is Ann. And of course, I have my pulse on the weather.

Q: What do you like best about Upper Hay Lake?

A: There is a definite sense of pride by those living around the lake. It is very family-oriented, and folks are friendly and helpful.



# Hope you had a wonderful 2025 season at the lake

BRAD SHULTZ - PRESIDENT

NEIL BEAVERSON - VP

BRAD KAUS - TREASURER

MADDIE NELSON -

SECRETARY

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LARSON

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DENNIS FELTGEN