

FALL 2025 ISSUE

UPPER HAY LAKE ASSOCIATION

Official Newsletter of the Upper Hay Lake Association

Greetings From Your President

BRAD SCHULTZ

We've had several days of spectacular weather on Upper Hay Lake. However, with the recent change in temperatures - Fall is here! With fall comes another UHLA newsletter. I want to update you on recent events and developments with our association.

The social gathering at Snarky Loon was a success. About 30 members attended the event. Chuck Hadley recommended taking a pontoon tour of loon habitat on Crosslake and visiting the Loon Center.

Suzy Hurin, our webmaster, has made significant updates to our website. These include new headings, new photos, a revised table of contents, and updated pages. Archived newsletters and annual meeting minutes are also available.

At the September board meeting, a motion was passed to have three new links posted on our website to help with shoreline restoration, with updated information regarding an available contractor list, native plant nurseries and information about the book *Restore Your Shore*. The board also passed two other measures. Starting with the Spring 2026 Newsletter, members must pay extra to receive newsletters by US Postal mail. All newsletters will be emailed to the address on file.

Second, this newsletter will provide the updated link to the map of owners on the lake; however, it will not be published on the UHLA website.

A lake etiquette article is also included in this newsletter because it has been witnessed that people have been boating right through the pencil reeds on the east side of the lake which is a concern of destroying natural fish environment on the lake. Please avoid these weeds when boating.

Greg Thomas has investigated our current "walleye stocking" status with the DNR. Currently the DNR releases 1.6 pounds of walleye fry which is roughly 184,000 microscopic walleyes with a high mortality rate. The board is interested in exploring what options there might be for increasing this number and stocking larger young walleye, either through the DNR or privately.

We have received a final report on the number of AIS inspection hours that have been completed at the Upper Hay Lake landing. It is from 40 hours to 48 hours. These developments will help us manage Upper Hay Lake. We aim to protect and enhance the lake and are dedicated to making a positive impact. Thank you for your continued support.

This issue:

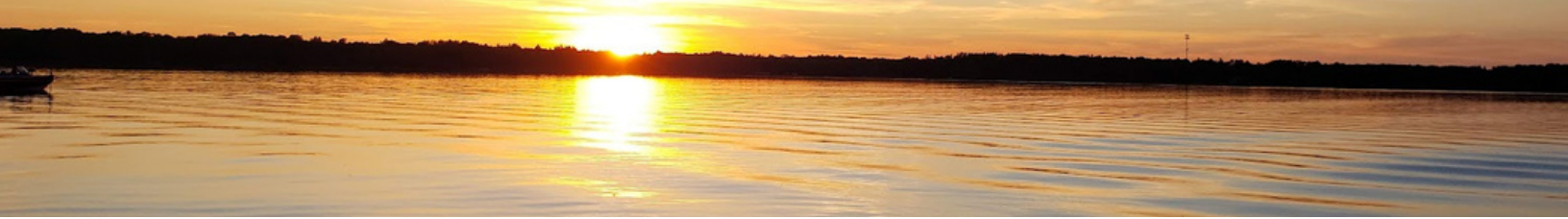
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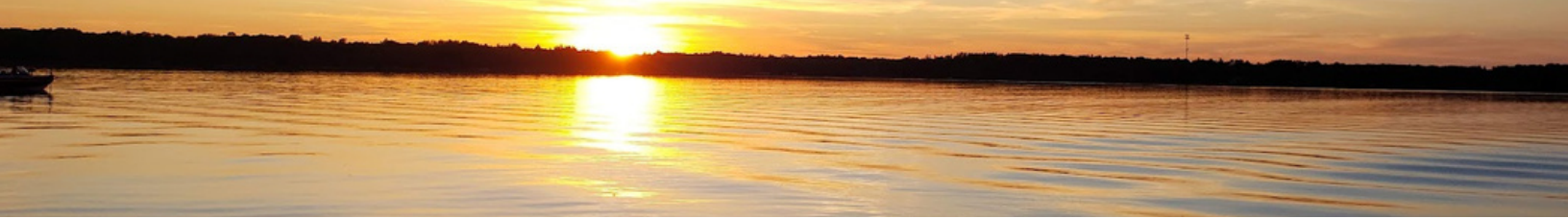


The National Loon Center Sponsors Loon Pontoon Tours on Cross Lake

The National Loon Center located in Crosslake, Minnesota sponsors loon tours. Whitey and Kathy Larson, Greg and Judy Murphy, and Brad Schultz and Vicki Halliday-Schultz took a ride on the “Loon Pontoon” tour in late August FREE OF CHARGE. It was a perfect day. Our guide had been hosting trips for over ten years. He was knowledgeable and humorous. He showed us various loon hangouts and provided us with interesting information regarding loons and their habitat on Crosslake. The National Loon Center posts this information on their website:

Our Loon Pontoon, “The StewardShip,” provides a fun and informative tour of Cross Lake that includes respectful (and exhilarating) observation of loons as well as lessons about the actions we can take to conserve loons and freshwater ecosystems. Reserve your ticket today for one of our summer programs. Scroll down below for more information and to book a spot! We highly recommend checking this out for yourselves next season!





Lake Etiquette

According to the Minnesota DNR, to avoid damaging reeds while boating on lakes, follow these etiquette guidelines:

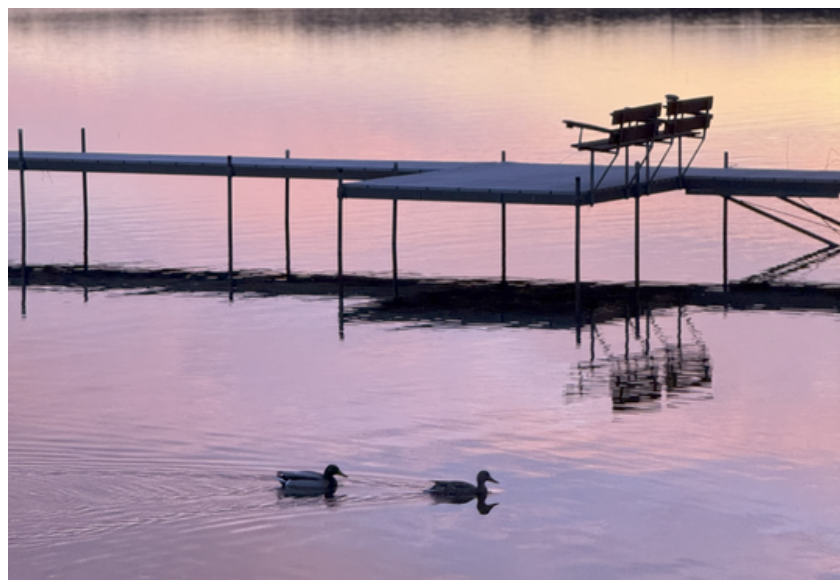
- “Stay in designated boating channels to minimize disturbance to aquatic plants.
- Maintain a safe distance from reed beds to prevent propeller damage.
- Reduce speed when near shorelines to avoid creating waves that can erode habitats.
- Avoid cutting through dense reed areas; choose open water routes instead.
- Be mindful of wildlife; keep noise levels down to avoid disturbing nesting birds.
- Educate fellow boaters about the importance of protecting aquatic vegetation.”

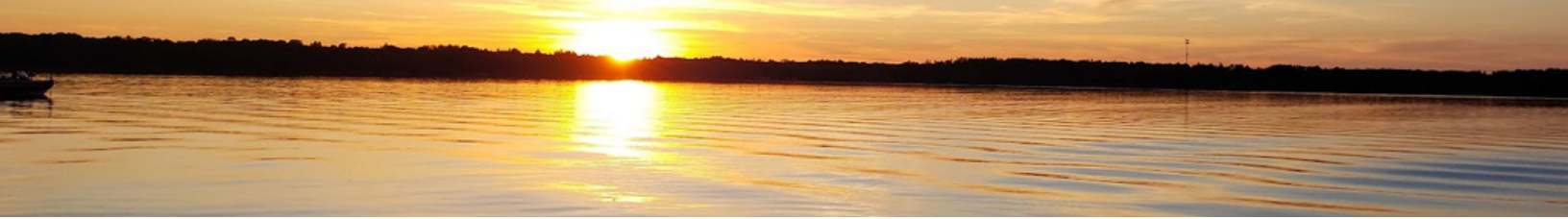
We as a board thank you for doing your best to uphold the proper boating etiquette to preserve our lake, vegetation and wildlife. Your fellow residents thank you too!

TREASURER REPORT

Brad Kaus, Treasurer, presented this report at the September 19, 2025 Board Meeting. A detailed year-end report will be prepared shortly after 12/31/2025.

Checking - \$6,289.85
Savings - \$5,313.65
CDs - \$39,882.09
Total - \$51,485.59





New Mailing Policy and Membership Cost

With the continued movement to using digital content in our newsletter and the reduced cost of delivering the 3 newsletters annually by email, we are changing our policy on newsletters delivered by US Mail. It currently costs about \$5.00 per newsletter to print and mail paper copies. We currently have 25 people requesting a US Mail copy of the newsletter. To receive the Upper Hay Lake Association newsletter in 2026, we will require that you pay an increased membership fee of \$40.00. This is to cover the cost of printing and mailing paper copies along with the \$25.00 annual membership. If we have not received your \$40.00, we will not be mailing the newsletter by US Mail. If we have your email address, we will be sending you a copy by email. If you have questions on this, please email us at UHLAMNOrg@gmail.com or call 612-309-3584.

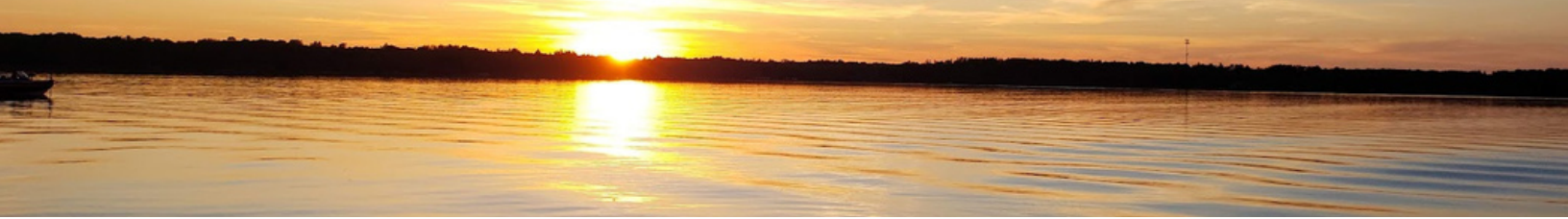


Significant Updates and Changes to Website

Suzy Hurin, our webmaster, has updated our website with new headings, photos, an improved table of contents, and refreshed pages. Archived newsletters and annual meeting minutes are now available. There are also changes to the shoreline restoration and grant process pages. Check out the revised website

**UHLA
WEBSITE**

[CLICK HERE](#)



Upper Hay Lake Resident Map

Rather than printing and handing out large paper maps with small print to label the residents on Upper Hay Lake, we are taking advantage of technology and using Google Maps to supply residents with this information. This will allow people with the link below and access the map to quickly navigate around the lake and find the owner. This will work on your smartphone and will provide more information on your PC. The last name of the owner along with the first names and the address are provided for each location where we have the information. This link, and access to the map, is only being provided to members of the Upper Hay Lake Association. If you find information that needs to be corrected or changed, please send an email the UHLAMNorg@gmail.com



Water Testing

I've been asked by our President, Brad Schultz, to write an article describing the water testing that I do on our lake. Since 2017 I have been testing our lake as part of a broader program initiated by WAPOA (Whitefish Area Property Owners Association) as well as testing for the MPCA (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency). I no longer test for veligers (the larval stage of zebra mussels) as we are now fully invested for these invasive mollusks.

Testing for WAPOA involves monthly gathering of samples from two areas of the lake, the inlet and a 27-30 ft. deep area west of the outlet. Samples are collected utilizing a two-meter tube and a grab bucket at the inlet. Samples are preserved with sulfuric acid and kept under refrigeration. In addition, Secchi disc readings are taken in both locations to measure water clarity. This process is done one weekend each month from May through September and samples are delivered to Crosslake on the Monday following testing weekend. The samples measure Phosphorus and Chlorophyll and together with water clarity they give us a picture of the Trophic state of our lake. This data has been collected since 2003 and indicates that we have had a minor improvement in both Phosphorus and Chlorophyll over time. Water clarity has improved significantly in the last year. This corresponds with the explosion of the zebra mussel population. This year I had Secchi readings of 12 to 17 feet compared to previous readings in the 7 to 9 foot range. As mentioned above I also do testing for the MPCA. This involves taking weekly Secchi reading and making a visual observation of water conditions throughout the season.

submitted by Greg Murphy