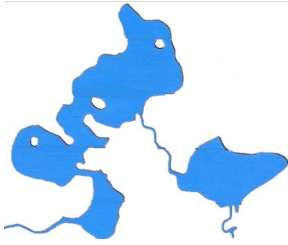


Island Mud Lake Property Owners Association

Fall 2023



2024 OFFICERS

Chuck Pettipiece
President
Jim Luttrell
Vice President
Jerry Finnerty
Treasurer
Linda Berglund
Secretary

Directors:
Leo Offerman
Pam Nordahl
Patrice Bogart
Tom Stremski
Linda Ferdelman

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We're online at
islandmudlake.com



GREETINGS !

The temperatures have begun to lower to the normal of 30' after a very warm fall. Cabins have long been winterized and the docks are all on shore. The last boat came off the lake on October 24th! The hard-water season is not far behind. Another summer went way too fast on the lakes.

THOUGHTS FROM OUR DOCK-

Membership –Thank You! In 2023 we achieved an all time high in membership participation with a total of 104 members in our Association, that's **90%** of all eligible properties on the lakes. When we visit with other associations they are surprised at our level of participation. Your membership and participation in the association's events helps strengthen our lake community and keep everyone aware of the issues facing our lakes. **THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION !**

Loon Nesting For the second year in a row, this was not a successful year for our resident Loons. Extreme heat, dry weather are only two of the many challenges thrown at our resident Loons by Mother Nature.

IMLPOA Calendars (2024 version) .

The IMLPOA calendars received favorable reviews and we have had inquiries about a future version. The Board is looking into the design and future layout for such a calendar and we will likely have an 18 month calendar beginning with July 2024 potentially an every-other year publication. So sort through your pictures for use in the next version! As you sort or take more pictures , Remember:

- High resolution images...so 300 DPI at 8.5" x 11" are best,
- JPG or PDF format,
- Landscape alignment is better.

You can send your pictures to:
imlpoawebmaster@gmail.com or
merffot@gmail.com

Pictures are due before May 15, 2024.

Walleye reporting update. Members suggested we attempt to identify the walleye fishing success in order to build data to support the DNR's stocking every three years. You have responded favorably and we have passed on this "non-scientific" but

interesting data and we have received favorable feedback from the DNR. Here are some of the interesting reports received over the last 18 months:

- A total of 37 walleyes were reported and total catch length of 402 inches,
- Average length was 14.3"
- Largest reported was 21"
- 59% were released

You can continue to self report by going to our website (under Association Activities) and report your success.

Pontoon Trailer A special thanks to Mark Caspers for once again coordinating the pontoon trailer reservations! We continue to have good use of the trailer with an average of 30 members using the trailer in both the spring and fall heavy use times. Please remember that when you use the trailer:

- Review the information sheet on usage prior to using,
- Report any issues when returned,
- Weekends are very busy so return in the timeline you made your reservation,
- Your membership dues provide you free use of the trailer,
- The trailer is but one way we are working to prevent Aquatic Invasive Species from entering our lakes!

Mud Brook Cleanup.

The navigation and safety obstructions on Mud Brook were removed over Memorial weekend with the help of 12 volunteers. With permission of the adjoining property owner we were able to access the area where several trees were blocking the channel, and they were then used to stabilize the stream bank in the area. A BIG thank you to the 12 volunteers!

Labor Day Music Concert—Thank You

Donna Hastings and Jonathan Geiger hosted their Second Labor Day concert with a late afternoon of great music at their 'end of the road' cabin. The program included a variety of music written for solo piano, piano duet, and cello-piano duets. This 'lake casual' event is a great idea. Could this become an annual event? Thank You Donna & Jonathan!

Ross Lake Township Happenings.

You can keep up to date on the happenings with the Ross Lake Town Board on their Facebook page : "Ross Lake Township Board".

ICE IN DATES	2020—Nov 30
2022—Nov 23	2019— Nov 18
2021—Nov 23	2008—Nov 27

Crow Wing County Comprehensive Plan

Crow Wing County is updating its Comprehensive Plan, now through Fall 2024. The county last prepared a comprehensive plan in 2003, and since has experienced steady population growth and economic development that has brought opportunities such as more jobs and better services. This has also resulted in challenges such as housing shortages and increased traffic. The updated comprehensive plan will ensure Crow Wing County has a clear direction for making future decisions related to land use and developments that reflect the communities' needs. A comprehensive plan defines the vision, goals and aspirations for the long-term development of the community.

As a Lake Association we hope to monitor the activities of the new plan since the plan will include policies to:

- Guide land use and private development patterns
 - Protect and manage natural resources.
- Public Input is Critical. If you wish to monitor the progress visit <https://arcg.is/1eWjjb> or scan the QR code below to learn more.



Coming Soon— The IMLPOA “Classifieds”

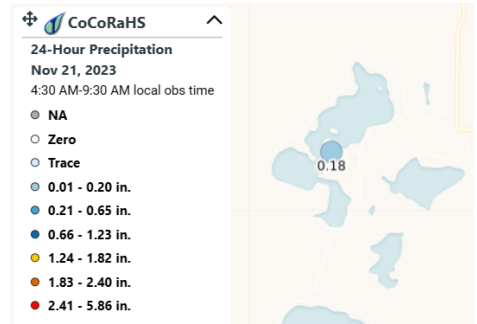
Ever found yourself with something around the cabin that is still useful but no longer needed— maybe you want to sell it or offer it free to a lake member? How about needing a lake service but no idea where to go for service? Well we have received several inquiries of this nature and wondered “Maybe we can do a ‘Classified Ads’ section on our website. We are exploring the idea and hope to have it ready for the 2024 season. Your ad would be free to any paid member and run for a defined timeline. Also under consideration would be a ‘Business Services’ section where interested businesses could place an ad for the year at a nominal fee. Watch for more details in our Spring Newsletter!

Looking for a way to share your ‘talents’ with the Association?

We are blessed to have residents that have unique talents or interests. Are you looking for an activity to share those talents with the association without becoming a Board member? We are always looking for new ideas to enhance our members knowledge on the lakes and participation in activities. Maybe you are interested in helping on a Committee? Whatever your interest may be, your input is welcome: Fisheries, Communications, Newsletters, Graphics, Water Quality, Picnic / Games, Fishing Contest. Your talents can help benefit our association and residents. If interested let us know, just contact any Board member or send us an email! We occasionally have openings for new Board members if you are interested.

How Much Rain (or snow) Did the Lake get?

We get storms and rainfall at the lake of which you may not be aware. Have you ever wondered- “How much rain did we get at the lake yesterday, or even last week?” Good News! Beginning in the fall of 2023, one of our lake residents will be reporting daily rainfall and we will have a rainfall reporting station on Island Lake! You can access nationwide rainfall data at the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS). Each time a rain, hail or snow storm crosses our area, volunteers take measurements of precipitation from as many locations as possible. These precipitation reports are then recorded on the Web site www.cocorahs.org. The data are then displayed and organized for end users to analyze and apply to daily situations ranging from water resource analysis and severe storm warnings to neighbors simply comparing how much rain fell in their backyards. So, the next time you are wondering about “How Much Rain (or snow) Did The Lake Get?” check out the CoCoRaHS



mapping website <https://maps.cocorahs.org> and zoom in on Crow Wing County to Island Lake!

Signs Posted for Safety and AIS Prevention

Prevention of Aquatic Invasive Species and property safety were highlighted as concerns at the annual meeting in July. Instances of illegal road hunting were reported along Island Lake Road and Walworth. For a small Public Access, our Island Lake access receives a fair amount of use. Over a 2 month period there were an average of 1.7 boat launches per day. While small, it does show that we get frequent boating visits. These visits also increase the chance of an invasive species being introduced to the lakes. Our effort is to educate boaters to help protect the waters. Our annual meeting presenter illustrated the cost and impacts of controlling invasive species. It is more cost effective to prevent the introduction of an AIS than it is to remove it. Our new sign is part of our ongoing effort to prevent the introduction of AIS into our lakes.



SUMMER EVENTS 2023

JULY 4th BOAT PARADE

The 2023 IMLPOA Boat Parade was a HUGE success. It was the highest-ever participation with 17 pontoon boats, 2 runabouts, and one large tube. The weather was glorious and enthusiastic boaters tooted horns, clapped, and yelled to those watching from shore. Thanks to all who came out and celebrated with us!



FISHING CONTEST

The 2023 Fishing Contest Participants included , 44 adults and 15 kids. Adult and youth awards were given for: bass, Northern, sunfish and walleyes. No crappies this year!



Fishing Contest Winners (L to R) Tyler Luttrell, Jeff Kline, Matt Kline, Delaney E, Davin Shokes, Margot W, and Otto B . Congratulations!

ANNUAL PICNIC / MEETING

Our annual meeting was held on Saturday, July 15, 2023, at Levi's Field on Walworth Road. It gave us a chance to visit with our neighbors around the lakes. Dan Brennan, president of the Ruth Lake LID (Lake Improvement District), spoke to us about invasive species and what the Ruth Lake Association does to address this issue.

IMLPOA provided water, hot dogs, and sloppy joes. Many delicious dishes were shared! We also raised \$473 for the Emily Food Shelf



Scotlyn Kline helping Jerry & Chuck draw the Door Prize winners

"FLOATING ICE CREAM SOCIAL" EVENT

We celebrated summer with an IMLPOA-sponsored ice cream social on Saturday, August 12th. A HUGE thank you to all the visitors who received free treats and supported this new event. People came by boat, pontoon, paddleboard, kayak, and canoe to The Ice Cream Pontoon, anchored near the sandbar on Island Lake! All in all, IMLPOA handed out over 75 treats with chocolate-covered ice cream being the clear favorite. We ran out of everything but popsicles. Fingers crossed that this will become an annual event.



End of the Summer Floating Ice Cream Social

A DOG FISH "TALE"

At our Annual picnic residents raised questions regarding "dogfish" (bowfin). Seems there are more of these rough fish being caught. The regulations state " If you catch a fish (including rough fish) and you don't intend to use it for anything, you must return it immediately into the water alive...". We wondered "if we were to properly dispose of a rough fish (bury it in a garden), would this be acceptable"? So the question was posed to the DNR Fisheries Supervisor and our local Conservation Officer. We received some interesting replies!

From Mike Knapp, DNR Area Fisheries Supervisor

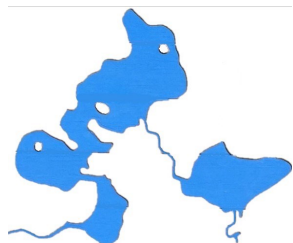
Regarding dogfish (aka bowfin), there is a broader push to more properly value these "rough fish" species. From an ecological perspective, they are effective predators in dense vegetation and function to help bluegill populations

from becoming stunted. There's also interest in implementing some sort of bag limit on them as apparently bowfin roe is becoming popular for human consumption as caviar. Probably not a direction you thought my response would go, right? At any rate, rough fish use as fertilizer is generally considered OK and is often the method of choice for bowfishing. That said, I would suggest confirming this with the local CO.

From : Tony Flerlage our Local Conservation Officer

I encourage you to find a way to utilize the fish. You read the regulations correctly in that you can't just kill it and leave it in the water or on the shoreline. However, keeping a fish does not mean that it must be eaten. Your example of using fish as garden fertilizer is an acceptable use. Good Luck,

Island & Mud Lakes Property Owners Association
24069 Kelly Pt.
Emily, Mn 56447



Forwarding Service Requested

The mission of the Island Mud Lake Property Owners Association is to protect and preserve the quality of the lakes, surrounding wildlife and fish habitat, and related natural resources for future generations. The Association provides channels for members to share information and resources that impact residents on the lakes. IMLPOA actively encourages members to be involved in the Association's activities.

HOW TO CONTACT IMLPOA:

Linda Berglund, Secretary
763-607-0188 • lbergcma@yahoo.com
Chuck Pettipiece, President
507-327-8627 • mrdawgfish@gmail.com

General email: islandmudlake@gmail.com
Web Site: www.islandmudlake.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/islandmudlake

Welcome New Property Owners. If you are one of the new owners on the lakes WELCOME! Please contact any Board member and we will see that you get a name sign. The Association provides a name sign free of charge with your 2024 paid membership dues. You can also find out lots of useful information on our website.

Final Thoughts Before We Head Into Winter

In Minnesota our lakes are heirlooms. We inherited these waters, and our memories of time "at the lake," from our parents and grandparents. We will bequeath these iconic waters to our children and grandchildren.
(from Mn Lakes and Rivers)



Outdoor recreation in Minnesota provides \$9.9 billion to the state's economy, 91,336 jobs and \$4.7 billion in compensation. Of all the various categories of outdoor recreation, Boating/ Fishing is the largest, providing almost twice the benefit as the next category, hunting/shooting/trapping. Additionally,

lakeshore property makes up more than half the property tax assessment in six counties in Minnesota.

According to the [Minnesota Outdoor Recreation Task Force](#) and the [U.S. Outdoor Recreation Roundtable](#) lake associations protect and manage Minnesota's most precious resource, our waters. Minnesota's lake associations are critical partners and indispensable organizations that protect the public good for all.

SEE YOU IN THE SPRING!