



# The Sugar Lake News

April 2022

2022

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Planned 2022 Dates

April 21-SLA Meeting\*

May 19-SLA Meeting\*

June 16- SLA Meeting\*

July 21-SLA Meeting\*

August 18-Annual Meeting/  
Board Election\*

September 15- SLA Meeting\*

October 20-SLA Meeting\*

*Meeting Day & Time Changed*  
*SLA meetings have been changed to*  
*Thursday at 6:30 p.m.*

We are meeting in-person at the Corinna township hall. We will also have a zoom virtual option for those of you that cannot meet in-person. We will practice social distancing with masks per the state and township rules.

\*SLA meetings are held at the Corinna Township hall at 6:30 p.m.

Send Newsletter submissions to:  
Don Peterson

E-mail [don@sugarlake.org](mailto:don@sugarlake.org)

For membership,  
address, e-mail, or property owner  
changes contact :

E-mail [membership@sugarlake.org](mailto:membership@sugarlake.org)

## Planned Events For 2022

### Fishing Contest

Saturday, June 25 (8 am to noon)



The 2021 grand prize winner randomly selected was: Hudson Martin – pictured with a big bass next to his Dad. He received a \$50 gift card to Little Jim's.

### Boat Parade Saturday, July 9



2021 Creativity winner:

Boat #1 Tracy Walker: Bubble Bath Shower

### Scramble Golf Event Saturday, July 30

Southbrook Golf Course (1 pm Shotgun Start)



### Picnic Saturday, August 6

Rachel Property (Noon to 3)



### Light Up the Lake, Saturday, September 3



# The latest lake report

By Dan Erdmann

The latest lake report. The physical condition was **NA** on a scale of 1 (good) to 5 (poor).

Date	Ice Out	Clarity	Water Temp	Air Temp	Culvert	
					Inlet	Outlet
04-19-14	4/26	NA	NA	NA	17.75"	22.75"
04-23-15	4/5	10.0'	48°	50°	16.5"	13.5"
04-21-16	3/17	8.0'	51°	56°	22.0"	27.5"
04-8-17	3/8	13.0'	46°	50°	17.5"	23.0"
04-26-18	5/4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA"
04-29-19	4/21	9.0'	48°	55°	22.5"	27.5"
04-24-20	4/6	10.0'	48°	56°	18.0"	23.0"
04-15-21	3/30	19.0'	46°	45°	21.5"	27.0"
04-21-22	4/22	NA	40° *	42°	20.75"	26.75"

\* 2022 water temperature is the surface temperature

## Membership

If you know someone new in your area that might be interested in becoming a member of the SLA, notify Membership at the email listed below. Notify us of any changes to the directory information including address or phone changes. Contact membership by email at: [sugarlakemember@gmail.com](mailto:sugarlakemember@gmail.com)

We extend our sympathies to the family of Dick Choate. Dick was a long time Sugar Lake resident who grew up coming to his Grandmothers cabin on Sugar Lake. He passed away December 7, 2021

## Treasurer's Report

As of March 30, 2022

General Fund	\$66,936.49
Lake Improvement Fund	\$50,178.56
Milfoil and Invasive Species Fund	<u>\$175,637.79</u>
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>\$292,752.84</b>

## Township News

**Corinna Township** Town Board meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 7 p.m. The Corinna Town Hall is located on Ireland Ave, 1/3 mile north of County Road 39.

Clerk: Mary Barkley Brown 320-274-8049

- Visit the Corinna Township website at [www.corinnatownship.com](http://www.corinnatownship.com).

**Clearwater Township** Town Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. The Clearwater Town Hall is located on Highway 24, 3-1/2 miles south of Clearwater.

Clerk: Jean Just —Town Hall Phone: 320-558-6790

- Visit the Clearwater Township website at [www.clearwatertownshipmn.govoffice2.com](http://www.clearwatertownshipmn.govoffice2.com).

## SLA Board Actions

The SLA board unanimously approved the Bog policy as written. See a short description with a link to the policy on page 3.

## Vegetation Committee

You have probably seen or received ads for aquatic herbicides such as Aquacide, Hydrothol or Aquathol to treat weeds in your lakeshore area. Although you can buy it freely, it still requires a permit from the DNR. It must be properly applied or there may be unwanted side effects from over application. Consider hiring a licensed contractor.

# The SLA Board adopted a new Bog Policy

In the event a bog impacts your shoreline, and you want to remove it, the SLA has adopted a Sugar Lake Association (SLA) Bog Assistance Policy for reference. The Policy is on the website at: <https://sugarlake.org/bog-policy.html>

Important parts of the Policy include:

The SLA is obtaining a lake wide permit for the use of all property owners for removal of migrating bogs (those that have not permanently attached in front of your property.)

A form is required to be submitted to SLA's "bog liaison" including a picture describing the removal plan. An approved plan is required to use the SLA permit. Proper disposal of the bog is required and locations for such disposal are identified in the Policy. (Please note: if you decide to proceed without following the Policy, you are required by law to obtain your own permit.)

Larger than 225 square feet bogs require an additional approval from the DNR. The SLA bog liaison will obtain that approval prior to approving your plan.

Vendors with experience in managing bogs have been identified by the SLA and those vendors have agreed to follow the SLA permit including proper disposal. It is the responsibility of the property owner to make their own arrangements if they desire such assistance with one of the identified vendors.

If you are a SLA member and incur vendor removal costs in excess of \$500, you may seek reimbursement of these excess costs from the SLA. There is no reimbursement available to non-members of the SLA.

PLEASE REVIEW THE FULL POLICY FOUND AT <https://sugarlake.org/bog-policy.html>

Bog assistance form will be sent to you after making contact with the bog liaison.

Bog liaison contact can be reached at [bog@sugarlake.org](mailto:bog@sugarlake.org)

## April 2022 Board Roster

Terms expiring 8/31/22	
	Rob Gusaas
	Mark Kraemer
Treasurer	Tom Nimmo
Communications/ Newsletter	Don Peterson
Terms expiring 8/31/23	
	Kim Hanson
Secretary/Bogs	Todd Jackson
Lake Improvement	Jim Printup
	Trudy Richter
	Lisa Salfer
	Kevin Welle
Terms expiring 8/31/24	
Chair/Water Quality	Dan Erdmann
Vice-Chair/ Membership	Mark Ertl
	Greta Fure
	Monica Raskob
Fisheries/Carp Trap	Jim Schimelpfenig
	Cindy Stevens
	Nichole Winter
(open seat)	



## Ice Out History

2022	April 22
2021	March 30
2020	April 6
2019	April 21
2018	May 4
2017	March 8
2016	March 17
2015	April 4
2014	April 26
2013	May 1
2012	March 19
2011	April 13
2010	April 1
2009	April 15
2008	April 24
2007	April 4
2006	April 7
2005	April 8
2004	April 4
2003	April 12
2002	April 16
2001	April 20
2000	March 24
1999	April 1
1998	April 20

Dates listed are from those published in the Sugar Lake News.

## Sugar Lake Association Meetings Resume

As a reminder, the monthly Sugar Lake Association meetings began in April and will continue each month through October on the third Thursday of the month. We are meeting in-person at the Corinna township hall. We will also have a zoom virtual option. We will practice social distancing with masks per the state and township rules. SLA meetings are held at the Corinna Township hall at 6:30 p.m.

Meetings are open to all. Issues you want addressed by the board at the next meeting should be given to your local board member one week prior to the meeting. Advance notice is requested so the issues can be included in the printed agenda. Issues not included in the agenda will be received at the meeting from the floor at the conclusion of the agenda items.

## Fishing News

Sugar Lake has special fishing regulations on Crappie and Northern Pike. There is a slight change in language regarding Crappie limits. See the italicized section of the paragraph below:

In addition to the 50 lakes where the DNR is proposing new special sunfish and crappie regulations, the DNR also is proposing minor changes to 63 lakes that already have special reduced possession limits. *Under these changes, the reduced possession limit will change to a reduced daily limit, which will allow an angler to take a daily limit from a lake multiple days in a row until reaching the statewide possession limit (20 sunfish, 10 crappie).* The change will create consistency with the newly implemented Quality Sunfish Initiative regulations and is not expected to have additional biological impacts.

**Here is the text from the MN DNR 2022 page on Sugar Lake**

[Click here for a link to this page.](#)

**Special Fishing Regulations:** This lake has special fishing regulations that differ from statewide or border water regulations for those species identified below and take precedence. Regulations listed below are currently in place.

- **Black and White Crappie:** Daily limit five.
- **Northern Pike:** All from 24-36" must be immediately released. Possession limit three, only one over 36".



## Give to the Sugar Lake Association

SLA Membership fees are collected annually and fund the operations of our organization, and support the social events that are sponsored by the SLA.

There are also two funds designated for specific needs:

- Invasive Species Fund
- Lake Improvement Fund

These funds are supported by additional gifts given by our members. The "buy an acre" fund was started several years ago when the cost of treating for invasive species was determined to be about \$300 per acre.

Over 50% of SLA members make extra donations each year.

Donations of any amount can also be made in honor or memory of a loved one.

See more information below about all of these options.

The SLA is thankful for your donations and appreciates your support to help us to continue to preserve this great place for our community.

[Click here to go to the sugarlake.org membership and donations page](#)

### SLA Membership Fee

The annual membership fee is \$50. The fiscal year/membership year is September 1-August 31. Membership fees support the operating expenses of the SLA and the social events which the SLA sponsor.

### Additional donations can be made to:

#### Invasive Species Fund

The "buy an acre" program was started several years ago, when the cost of treating Sugar Lake for invasive species was about \$300 per acre. Many people over the years have contributed to this fund so that we have funds available to treat invasive species when needed.

#### Lake Improvement Fund

The lake improvement fund was established to support projects that will improve the health and beauty of Sugar Lake. Water filtration strips and shoreline restoration are examples of water preservation projects supported by this fund.

#### Give to the SLA in Honor/Memory of Someone

Honor our many lake residents, family members and friends, past and present, by making a donation to preserve the beauty of Sugar Lake.

These individuals will be honored in our upcoming newsletters. You may also send a note and picture to honor these individuals for an article the SLA newsletters.

## Water Connects Us All | State News Items

The following three summaries are from Kathy Jonsrud, Cedar Lake. Thanks for sharing Kathy.

### U of M Wake Boat Study

A new study by researchers at the University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering found that popular wakesurf boats require a greater distance from the shoreline, as well as from other watercraft, compared to more typical recreational boats. This distance is needed to reduce the impact of their larger waves.

The study shows between 400 to 500 feet from shoreline and other watercraft is needed for wakesurf boats.

The results provide key insights into differences between specialized wakesurfing boats and more typical recreational boats operating on lakes and rivers. It also provides baseline data that can be used for future decision-making. The second phase of the study will focus on the propeller wash interaction with the lake bottom and the impact to aquatic vegetation and shorelines.

Here's the research brief and links to more information <https://twin-cities.umn.edu/news-events/university-minnesota-researchers-study-waves-created-recreational-boats>

### MN DNR Boater's Survey by Sue Nash

In 2020 the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) hired the Great Lakes Marketing Research (GLM) to conduct a statewide survey. 2,893 recreational boaters responded. The research objectives were:

- To measure boating activities on Minnesota waterways,
- To measure satisfaction levels with Minnesota boating services, and
- To understand opinions about boating management and boat and water safety topics.

Most recreational boaters engage in boating for rest and relaxation (89%), social times (62%), or fishing/ harvesting (48%). The most common activities among boater owners are boat riding (77%), fishing (76%), and swimming off the boat (47%). Half of the recreational boaters used non-motorized boats in 2020.

The satisfaction survey reveals that recreational boaters are generally satisfied with the Minnesota boating system (87%) and enforcement of current boating regulations / boating safety (70%) including availability of information and area maps. Not surprisingly, lakeshore property owners and metro area recreational boaters perceive some problems associated with lake management and safety. Lakeshore property owners feel high wakes (39%), boats going too fast (35%), careless operation (32%), wake-surfing (29%), and jet skis (29%) are the biggest problem areas.

Almost all respondents say some wakeboard boat restrictions are needed (about 94%). Two-to-one prefer restrictions on a lake-by-lake basis rather than on a statewide basis. More than half (54%) of the waterfront owners and 44% of those who don't own waterfront property oppose expanding hours to operate personal watercrafts.

Key takeaways from this survey are:

Most SUPPORT wake boat regulations.

Most do NOT support expanding the jet ski hours of operation.

Full results of the 2020 Minnesota Recreational Boating Study are available online [2020 MN Boating Study-Key Statistics.pdf](#). For more information, contact the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources at 888-MINNDNR (646-6367) or [info.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:info.dnr@state.mn.us).

### Proposed MN Watercraft Operator's Permit [SF 3392](#) and [HF 3787](#)

Many states require a permit to operate a watercraft, like the permit that Minnesota requires for hunting safety and other recreational vehicles. The Minnesota Legislature and DNR have been evaluating a watercraft operator's permit for several sessions, and this session there is support for the legislation from a wide variety of stakeholders.

The proposed MN Watercraft Operator's Permit legislation would:

- Require the successful completion of an online course, leveraging the current MN DNR course for youth boaters. Stakeholders would be involved in the development of the course material, expected to include education on decreasing aquatic invasive species spread; improving boating safety; lowering user conflicts; protecting shorelines, lake sediments and lake ecology.
- Allow those visiting in Minnesota for less than 60 days to follow the boating operating requirements from their home state.
- Use a phased-in implementation, based on birthdate.

The legislation is supported by a wide variety of organizations, including the Minnesota Coalition for Lakes Associations, Minnesota Lakes and Rivers, Marine Retailers Association, National Marine Retailers Association, and Tonka Bay Marina.

As of mid-April 2022, the legislation has progressed through committee, and is currently in review by Environment and Natural Resources Finance. Companion bills taken up by the Senate and House this session would increase the age requirement to anyone born on or after July 1, 1987.



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## Chair's Corner Chairs Corner

Welcome to a somewhat spring/summer season of Sugar Lake.  
Complete ice out was April 22.

We unfortunately did not get any grants from the state program for invasive species control but did get some from Wright County Soil and Water. There were requests for \$130,000 and only \$57,500 in funds. We received \$500 for Curly treatments and \$2000 for Eurasian Milfoil.

We are still looking for additional volunteers to help with committees. Contact us thru the following e-mail addresses: [membership@sugarlake.org](mailto:membership@sugarlake.org), [vegetation@sugarlake.org](mailto:vegetation@sugarlake.org) or [don@sugarlake.org](mailto:don@sugarlake.org) and we will put you in touch with the right people.

We still have the threat of Starry Stonewort coming to Sugar Lake so please be vigilant in keeping your watercraft clean when entering or leaving Sugar Lake. Nobody wants our Zebra Mussels, Eurasian Milfoil or Curly Leaf Pondweed in their lakes.  
Dan Erdmann



# BACKYARD REFLECTIONS

320-274-6336 [www.BackyardMN.com](http://www.BackyardMN.com) ANNANDALE/NISSWA

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find us on   

## Connect with the Sugar Lake Association

### Sugar Lake Rummage Sale Group

To support our informal buying and selling of items around the lake and to have this activity be self-supporting, we established a closed group on Facebook called the Sugar Lake Rummage Sale. This is a closed group so only those that request access will be admitted and only see posts once access is gained.

Here is what you need to know:

If you don't have a Facebook account, you will need to get one or use a family member's account.

Log into Facebook

- In the search bar at the top of your Facebook page type Sugar Lake Rummage Sale
- A white banner menu bar will appear at the top, under the Facebook search bar, click on \*Groups\*
- You should see the Sugar Lake Rummage Sale
- Click "Join"
- Your request will be sent to the Admin and you will be added to the group.

### Sugar Lake website

For the latest news on Sugar Lake visit our website:

[www.sugarlake.org](http://www.sugarlake.org)

### News Flash

The Sugar Lake Association maintains an email list for communication with membership:

**News Flash:** This list is used to send information about invasive species treatment, event announcements, member information, government information, etc. To subscribe to this list send an e-mail to [membership@sugarlake.org](mailto:membership@sugarlake.org) requesting addition.

If you wish to unsubscribe follow the instructions in the email you receive from the list or send an email requesting removal to the addresses listed above.

For the latest news on Sugar Lake visit our website:

[www.sugarlake.org](http://www.sugarlake.org)

### Facebook

Visit our Sugar Lake Facebook Group

#### Sugar Lake Spirit change on Facebook

A new Facebook Group Page with the same name we used before, Sugar Lake Spirit, has been set up.

There is a new Facebook Group for those who live on, enjoy and care about Sugar Lake in Annandale MN. Please like this group and share with others who would like to post photos, news, and events about Sugar lake. We are moving from a Facebook Community page to a new Group page! Any questions contact Jan Tift at [jantift@gmail.com](mailto:jantift@gmail.com).

### Nextdoor

Sign in or sign up for the Sugar Lake neighborhood on Nextdoor:

[https://nextdoor.com/events/3647049?init\\_source=copy\\_link\\_share](https://nextdoor.com/events/3647049?init_source=copy_link_share)

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# New Sugar Lake History Project

## Share Your Story

One of the newest members of the Sugar Lake Association Board, Greta Fure, has a passion for history and love of Sugar Lake. Over the years, the Association has gathered stories from residents and Greta hopes to not only add to that collection, but also digitize and share with everyone. Every one of us has a story to share and Greta wants to hear it! She has created an online form to help gather information. Please click this link to open the form: "[Share Your Story.](#)" Or visit <http://sugarlake.org/lake-history.html> and click on "Share Your Story." Greta is also very interested in any pictures you may have from growing up on Sugar Lake or from previous generations. She is also willing to gather oral histories this summer. If you have any specific questions, please reach out to her at [glfure@gmail.com](mailto:glfure@gmail.com).



Matthew Brown



Sheldon Brown

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