



The Sugar Lake News

October 2016

**Sugar Lake Association
Minnesota Waters' 2010 Lake Association of the Year
2009 Star Lake Recipient**

2016

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 19 SLA Meeting

April 15-SLA Meeting*

May 20-SLA Meeting*

May 27 Plant Exchange/Sale

June 17- SLA Meeting*

July 15-SLA Meeting*

August 5-SLA Picnic

August 19-Annual Meeting/
Board Election*

September 2-Diane's Lights Night

September 2 Sugar Lake 5K

September 16- SLA Meeting*

October 21-SLA Meeting*

November 18-SLA Meeting*

*SLA meetings are held at the Corinna
Township hall at
8:00 a.m.

September, October & November meetings
at 9 a.m.

Send Newsletter submissions to:

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**For membership,
address, e-mail, or property owner
changes**

contact :

E-mail membership@sugarlake.org

Lake Sylvia Starry Stonewort Treatment Plan

Lake Sylvia-Wright County has a plan for treating their starry stonewort infestation, which includes closing the public access. The expected date is October 19th and plans are that it will be a 3 week closure. The process of treating the public landing will be done by first installing a containment barrier around the area. Next will be hand pulling of the algae that looks like a plant by scuba divers who will then feed it into a suction hose for removal from the water. Using this approach will hopefully keep pieces of the algae and the "stars" (bulbils) produced by the plant from spreading and reproducing. This will be followed-up with a treatment of two chemical applications to try to kill any remaining algae. This combines two of the DNR approved treatment methods. The treatment (pre and post) will be monitored by the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center at the University of Minnesota.

The site involved is approximately 1/2 acre at the public landing. The DNR has done a complete survey of Lake Sylvia for starry stonewort, and this site is the only known location at this point in time. Funding for the treatment will include support from the DNR and the Wright County AIS Task Force has also recommended to use funds from the county AIS Rapid Response funds. The Sylvia lake association has spent countless hours managing the project and securing the necessary permits and vendors.

Reducing the boat traffic into and out of the landing until treatment starts will assist in keeping the algae from spreading. We cannot overemphasize how very serious of a problem this is for any lake that becomes infected and we encourage every boat leaving Lake Sylvia NOT travel to any other lake or to contact the DNR to request decontamination.

Here is a great 4 minute video on how to identify Starry Stonewort <https://youtu.be/te9iF5OTdtg>

Water Quality Report

By Dan Erdmann

The latest lake report. The physical condition was 3 on a scale of 1 (good) to 5 (poor).

Date	Clarity	Water Temp	Air Temp	Culvert	
				Inlet	Outlet
10-17-09	11'	57°	55°	18"	23"
10-14-10	10.5'	60°	55°	25"	31"
10-20-11	8.5'	54°	45°	19.25"	24.75"
10-19-12	10.5'	55°	53°	7.75"	13.5"
10-16-13	9.0'	56°	48°	10.25"	16.5"
10-16-14	13.0'	56°	64°	15.5"	20.0"
10-7-15	9.50'	65°	66°	16.75"	22.25"
10-10-16	9.00'	66°	68°	23.00"	28.00"

Membership

Paid membership to date this year is 237. 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: membership@sugarlake.org.

News Flash

The Sugar Lake Association maintains two email lists 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 newsflash@sugarlake.org requesting addition.

For Sale: This list is used to send information about items "for sale" by the membership. To subscribe to this list send an email to forsale@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

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.

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.

Rainfall

October rainfall was 2.66 inches. March through October rainfall was 33.26 inches. Thanks to Doug Beckman for providing monthly rainfall totals.

Newsletter

Help save postage and printing costs by subscribing to the electronic version of the Sugar Lake News. You will receive a PDF file by email that looks like this newsletter *but in color*. Contact newsletter@sugarlake.org with your email address if you are interested.

Septic systems & winter

Septic systems can freeze in the winter due to a lack of snow cover, soil problems, leaking plumbing fixtures, cold air entering the system, or a combination of these problems.

If your septic system freezes call a professional. Do not add antifreeze or additives, or run water constantly. Installers and pumpers have the equipment to thaw the system and help evaluate the source of the problem. Unless the underlying problem is solved the system can refreeze.

To prevent freezing:

- Place a layer of mulch over the pipes, tank, and drainfield for insulation.
- Leave the grass over the drainfield a little longer for extra insulation.
- Fix leaking plumbing fixtures.
- Keep all traffic off the drainfield.
- Make sure all septic system risers, inspection pipes, and manholes are securely covered.
- Use warm water. If freezing is a concern spread out water use, wash a warm/hot load of clothes each day, use the dishwasher or take a hot bath. Don't leave water running all the time because it will overload the system

Winter Reminder

If you are out on the lake this winter take the time to pick up any trash left behind. Anything we leave on the ice will be in the water this spring.

ALSO-

Don't forget to remove any buoys or equipment from the lake before ice-over.

Directories

A new directory will be printed in 2017. Information for the directory will be collected from your membership forms scheduled to mail this winter. Please confirm the accuracy of the information on your form. Directories will be distributed at the annual picnic in 2017.

Ice safety tips from the Minnesota DNR

Recommended minimum ice thickness

4" of new clear ice is the minimum thickness for travel on foot

5" is minimum for snowmobiles and ATVs

8"- 12" for cars or small trucks

(Remember that these thickness' are merely guidelines for new, clear, solid ice. Many factors other than thickness can cause ice to be unsafe.)

Check for known thin ice areas with a local resort or bait shop.

Test the thickness yourself using an ice chisel, ice auger or even a cordless 1/4 inch drill with a long bit.

Refrain from driving on ice whenever possible.

If you must drive a vehicle, be prepared to leave it in a hurry--keep windows down, unbuckle your seat belt and have a simple emergency plan of action you have discussed with your passengers.

Stay away from alcoholic beverages.

Even "just a couple of beers" are enough to cause a careless error in judgment that could cost you your life. And contrary to common belief, alcohol actually makes you colder rather than warming you up.

Don't "overdrive" your snowmobile's headlight.

At even 30 miles per hour, it can take a much longer distance to stop on ice than your headlight shines. Many fatal snowmobile through-the-ice accidents occur because the machine was travelling too fast for the operator to stop when the headlamp illuminated the hole in the ice.

Wear a life vest under your winter gear.

Or wear one of the new flotation snowmobile suits.

And it's a good idea to carry a pair of ice picks that may be home made or purchased from most well stocked sporting goods stores that cater to winter anglers. It's amazing how difficult it can be to pull yourself back onto the surface of unbroken but wet and slippery ice while wearing a snowmobile suit weighted down with 60 lbs of water. The ice picks really help pulling yourself back onto solid ice. **CAUTION: Do NOT wear a flotation device when travelling across the ice in an enclosed vehicle!**



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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