



# Briggs Lake Chain Association

## October 2024 The Lake Report



**The President's Report**  
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*Greetings & Happy October!!!*

*Hello Fall!!! I don't know about you, but I am loving this beautiful warm Fall weather. Not super happy about what the next season brings, hahahaha, or starting to winterize lake stuff, but grateful we can get out and enjoy a few more lake days, nature walks and beautiful sunsets. Hoping everyone's back-to-school activities were a welcomed success and parents are getting their busy schedules figured out.*

*I want to send out a **HUGE THANK YOU** to all our amazing volunteers that helped with the Palmer Day Food Booth & BLCA Parade entry this year. Truly, if not for our volunteers our fundraising events would not be possible. Because of the generosity and some volunteers working double and triple shifts, the food booth sold out of all of our food by 8:30pm on Saturday making this year's fundraiser a **HUGE SUCCESS!!!***



*Mark your calendars for September 2025 Palmer Day to volunteer with us again!!! Also, watch the BLCA Facebook page for the Fall Hwy 25 ditch cleanup volunteer needs, Halloween Trick-or-Treating houses map submissions and monthly meeting reminders for the BLCA, Healthy Lakes and TLID (Three Lake Improvement District).*

*The BLCA had a vintage 1969 Cadillac in the Palmer Parade. Thanks*

*to Scott Ruiter and Brad Kipp for taking the car for a ride. A lot of smiles and happy kids catching the candy we tossed out.*



Reminder: Property owners & snowbirds that are working on winter storage of lake items, make sure they are stored away from spring flooding areas and tied down, so they don't float away from your property in the spring if highwater/flooding occurs before you return.

Be sure to watch the BLCA website and Facebook page for DNR boating/lake safety/rule reminders and ice fishing Do's & Don'ts!!!!

AS WELL AS - Fall happenings and fun events you can sign up to volunteer with the BLCA.

We need everyone helping to heal our lakes and surrounding watershed, we cannot do this alone.

Be safe & respectful while enjoying the lakes & nature this Fall season.

### Upcoming events & reminders 2024:

BLCA Adopt-a-Highway 25 Fall Cleanup – October 19<sup>th</sup> – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - See the BLCA Facebook page (featured tab) for DETAILS.



### BLCA Financials through August 30, 2024



Income to date: \$ 29,107.62

Expenses to date: \$ 50,242.46

Net Proceeds to date: -21,134.84\*\*

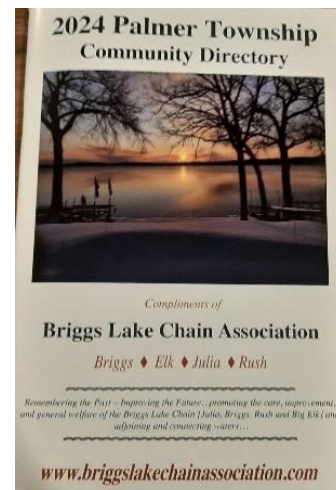
Operating checking \$11,208.08

Money Market/ rapid response fund:  
\$102,041.72

Outstanding deposits: None

\*\* Net proceeds will be closer to -\$5,000.00 after food booth, Palmer directory and some grant moneys are recorded. The 2025 budget was presented and approved at the August general membership meeting. You may request a detailed year to date 2024 or 2025 budget. Email your request to [blca@briggslakechainassociation.com](mailto:blca@briggslakechainassociation.com) Include your name, email address, lake address and phone.

\* **Did you get your 2024 Palmer Directory!!** If you do not have a newspaper mailbox for hand delivery, you can pick up your copy of the 2024 directory at Palmer Township Hall (on Tuesday's) or the Palmer General Store by the main entrance door.



# MEMBERSHIP

**Did you submit your 2024 annual BLCA Sponsorship form? SIGNUP TODAY!!!!**

**Sponsorship dollars are how the BLCA brings water conservation,**

**native plant giveaways, grant programs and fun events to our lake chain!**

You can now complete & submit your form AND payment online!!!! Mail-in is still an option  
<https://briggslakechainassociation.com/>

**Lake Steward Program** (new for the BLCA in 2024) - through MN Lakes & Rivers the BLCA provides the resources necessary to educate lakeshore homeowners on environmental sustainability through proper shoreline maintenance and facilitates shoreline restoration projects with materials personalized for each region. Watch the BLCA Facebook page and BLCA website for details on how to apply. See [www.mnlakesandrivers.org](http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org) for conservation information and for application details. <https://briggslakechainassociation.com/>



**\*\* WATCH FOR THESE SIGNS**

**on various properties around the chain that applied for this program and met the level of "Lake Steward" conservation for**

**their lakeshore/shoreline property maintenance and were awarded signs.**

**Congratulations to Adele and Walt Munsterman, our most recent lakeshore property to earn a LAKE STEWARD sign.**



**Gentle Footprint Program -**

is a grant-based program

that provides a percentage of reimbursement costs to homeowners for eligible shoreland projects, such as restorations, rain gardens, rain barrels and water

diversions. The BLCA has a long history of promoting the improvement of water quality and of supporting conservation efforts. In 2008 the BLCA initiated a Shoreland Education Restoration Program (SERP) to increase awareness of the benefits of restoring shoreland with natural plants and controlling rainwater runoff. These reduced the quantity of pollutants and nutrients in our lake waters. The SERP program, was originally funded by the DNR and administered by the BLCA, featured grants to individual property holders to pay for restoration projects. Eventually, the MN DNR stopped funding the grants and the BLCA decided to fund and administer shoreland restoration and runoff control programs under the BLCA and changed the name to "Gentle Footprint" grant program. Apply under the Healthy Lakes link on the BLCA website: <https://briggslakechainassociation.com/>

**NOW IS THE TIME APPLY FOR THE 2025 Gentle Footprint grants**



***A couple weeks ago the DNR did a survey of carp in our lakes. The final report is not out yet. We do know they found some big ones. Look for more info on the survey in upcoming newsletters.***

***Editor's note:***

A couple days ago I saw this on KARE 11. Very interesting video on future ways to find AIS (aquatic invasive species) in our lakes. You may have to watch an AD before you get to the video and story. Here is the link:

Aquatic robot holds promise for water quality The robot is a unique-looking device with three clear tubes that contain the electronic brains and guts.

<https://www.kare11.com/mobile/article/news/local/kare11-extras/aquatic-robot-water-quality/89-e7dfef16-35cf-44c6-96ce-c519e1cd29f1>

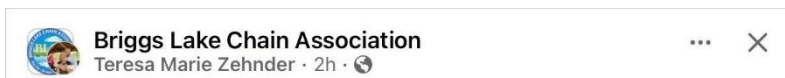
I sent this link to Dan Cibulka at Sherburne Soil & Water Conservation District. Here is his reply:

Thanks for sharing, Brad! There are some cool technologies that are coming along and soon could be fairly common to use. Drones and robotic submersibles may likely soon streamline monitoring work. The U of M AIS Research Center continues to make progress on environmental DNA monitoring too, someday we'll likely have a robot collect a DNA sample from a lake and it will tell us all the species (native or non-native) that are present.

Dan



Bees in the asters and monarchs on the zinnias, so happy 😊



An ode to summer ❤️



**\*\* If you or your someone you know in the area is not receiving our emailed "Lake Report" monthly newsletter, please contact [bradkipp1@gmail.com](mailto:bradkipp1@gmail.com) so we can keep everyone notified of volunteer opportunities, community events, new projects and high water/no wake emergencies.**

**This is a GREAT resource for updates & information!!!!**

**REMINDERS:**

We are still looking for additional BLCA committee members/Lake representatives for all 4 of our lakes.

We currently have: Briggs (4 of 6 reps), Elk (2 of 5 reps), Julia (1 of 5 reps) and Rush (3 of 4 reps).

We are always looking for enthusiastic volunteers, fresh ideas and solutions to continue our water conservation to heal our lakes and evolve with the ever-changing environment. Duties include approving proposed budgets/contracts/permits/events.

**Please plan on attending** your monthly BLCA meetings at the Palmer Townhall, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month at 8:30am. To learn about and assist with water conservation, enriching activities, food and fellowship.

***NEXT MEETING – MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Sat. October 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am***

See [www.briggslakechainassociation.com](http://www.briggslakechainassociation.com) for all meeting details for your BLCA & Healthy Lakes committee's and the TLID (Three Lake Improvement District). As well as, previous meeting minutes, water testing results/details, budget documents, upcoming events and tips and tricks for seasonal lake conservation.



***BLCA Mission statement: Remembering the Past - Improving the Future - Promoting the Care, Improvement, and General Welfare of the Briggs Lake Chain (Julia, Briggs, Rush and Big Elk) and adjoining and connecting watershed.***



**Matt Melichar**

22m · 🌐

Beautiful night on Briggs

