



# Briggs Lake Chain Association

## December 2024 Lake Report

The President's Report Shelly Alger- Peyton

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*Holiday Greetings*

*& Happy December!!!*

*Merry Christmas to all & to all a good night!!! What a beautiful mild Fall we've had this year. I don't know about you, but I am enjoying this mild weather. I enjoy the magical snowfalls, but not the cold and windy days. I hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends, and you were able to make some wonderful memories. Now we move right into Christmas season with partying planning, Christmas decorating, gift shopping, crafting days, putting up those Christmas lights before the weather gets too cold and preparing for ice fishing and snow sports. If you're like me, I must remind myself to enjoy every crazy day and remind myself that I am making memories for years to come. Our lake properties should all be winterized for the season and our feathered friends and snowbirds are all flying south for the winter.*

*Watch the BLCA Facebook page and Website for informative posts, podcasts & videos about water conservation suggestions during the winter months and what we may expect this winter season with temperatures and snowfall amounts. Ice Fishing Season is just around the corner along with colder temperatures. Make sure you follow the MN State Law passed July 1, 2023 when ice fishing on our chain of lakes and around the state. See the "Keep It Clean MN" website for details and legislation specifics. <https://keepitcleanmn.org/>*

<https://keepitcleanmn.org/>

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

*I look forward to volunteering  
alongside you to heal our  
waterways!!!!*

*- Shelly*



**NEWS from the Healthy Lake Committee.** This summer a survey of the upper three lakes was done to see if a treatment of alum would be beneficial for our lakes. The company who did the survey is Stantec. Thanks to Ruth Thom and the Healthy Lakes committee for managing this project.

## Notes from November Stantec presentation



rathom@frontier.com

Nov 15, 2024, 8:02 AM (7 days ago)

Hi all,

I am attaching a summary of the excellent presentation we heard from our Stantec contact last night. At our December meeting we will discuss the recommendations and assign people to start looking into funding options.

I will be receiving the draft of the final report this week and will meet with Dan Cibulka to review it and get his input on grant options.

I am also attaching a draft copy of our 2025 goals for your review. Please look them over and reply to all with your comments, so that we can have a quick vote of approval Dec. 5th and spend the majority of our time discussing Stantec's recommendations.

Thanks!

Stantec Summary

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OfVhe40N7TtmpviQZpWNRaG0pTghPDnqiY-UU5JAOS0/edit?usp=drive\\_link](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OfVhe40N7TtmpviQZpWNRaG0pTghPDnqiY-UU5JAOS0/edit?usp=drive_link)

### Key takeaways from Stantec presentation:

Tonight, the Healthy Lakes team heard a summary of the final Alum Feasibility Study report from Stantec. This has been a two-year grant to study the feasibility of using an alum treatment to control the phosphorus in our lakes. High levels of phosphorus in lakes lead to algae blooms and depletes oxygen (to the point of anoxia, where the lake is devoid of oxygen).

### Alum Feasibility

Briggs had the highest levels of phosphorus release and reported sediment cores with anoxia (no oxygen). This is in the deepest areas of the lake, as this is where sediments settle over time. Stantec recommends treating the 122 acres of the lake that are 20 feet or deeper with an alum treatment that would bind the phosphorus and make it unavailable to algae.

### Carp Study

Anything over 89 lbs. per acre is above the ecological threshold for Common Carp. Our lakes have 4-5 times that number, with Julia and Rush having the highest loads.

### Phosphorus Load percentages

Charts were shown with percentages of problems for each lake. In Julia, 64% of the phosphorus load is attributed to Carp and in Rush 40% is attributed to Carp. In Briggs, 50% come internally (from phosphorus in sediments), and that in turn impacts Julia and especially Rush.

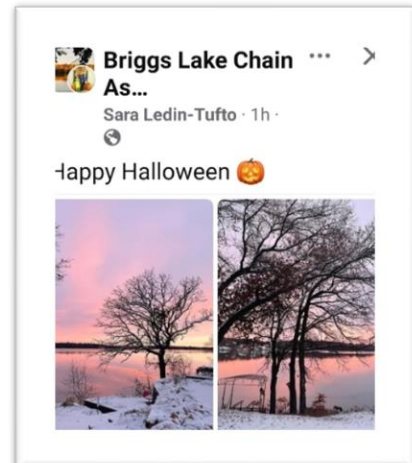
### Stantec recommendations:

**Treat Briggs with Alum.**  
**Remove/manage carp in all three lakes, but especially Julia and Rush.**  
**Continue watershed reduction actions for all three lakes.**  
**Seek grant funding to cover costs.**

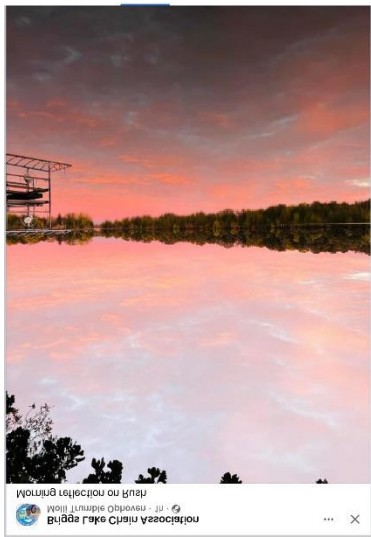
A recording of this presentation will be available soon. When it has been finalized, it will be made available to all. The Healthy Lakes team will be discussing the recommendations and exploring grant options at our meeting on Dec. 5th.

HERE IS THE LINK FOR THE VIDEO PRESENTATION.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RAE8hqNgfX4GU8Wv6yDq9HNwu637Y50v/view?usp=sharing>



The next Healthy Lakes meeting is Thursday December 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30 at the town hall.



### **“I Have a Question...” “This I Remember” December 2024**

**by Chuck Heinemann and Kenzie Phelps** Kenzie and Chuck are taking a sabbatical from writing during the winter months. We will be back again in the April issue of **The Lake Report**. Have a great winter!

**Speaking of the WINTER MONTHS, the lakes will soon be frozen over.** It is not too early to remind everyone to use common courtesy and best practices to keep our lakes healthy all year round.

***Ice is no place for your garbage and waste. Legally contain and dispose of it. To help stop litter and human waste from spoiling our lakes, rivers and shorelines:***

**Make a plan for trash and waste removal before you hit the ice.**

Whether you access the ice from a public or private entrance, plan to take off of the ice what you take on to it. Many access points and resorts offer garbage collection services. If your site doesn't, make a plan to transport it home for disposal.

**Use colored garbage bags.**

In snowy conditions, white trash bags can be difficult to see. Brightly colored bags or black bags are easier to spot making it less likely trash will inadvertently be left behind.

**Do not place garbage and waste on or under the ice. It's the law.**  
**Make sure your garbage is secure before departing.**

This will help prevent it from blowing out of truck beds and off trailers and sleds.

**Remove all materials when moving a fish house.**

This includes wood blocking, insulation and other items.

It takes all of us working together to Keep It Clean! Thank you for doing your part to ensure the health of our lakes, rivers, fisheries and watershed areas.

**REMEMBER TO: Cleanup after Yourself, Your Friends and Your Pets before leaving the ice!**

**Upcoming events & reminders 2024/2025:**

**\*\* Lighted Train on the Chain 2024 –**

**Saturday, December 7th 2024, at 6:00pm**

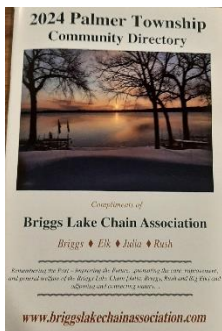
**\*\* 8th Annual Ice Day on the Chain –**

**Saturday, February 8, 2025**

**\* 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.

➤ **Please plan on attending your monthly BLCA meetings at the Palmer Townhall, on 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. December 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am**



**Watch your mail in January  
for your 2025 BLCA  
Sponsorship packet**

**Sponsorship dollars are how the  
BLCA brings water conservation, native plant giveaways, grant programs and  
fun events to our lake chain!**

**PLM Lake and Land Management Corp is the Company the BLCA and TLID (Three Lake Improvement District) which both organizations use for weed control of invasive species.**

The TLID manages and pays for weed control in the Upper Three Lakes. Funds are generated from the TLID portion lake shore property owners pay on their Sherburne County tax statements. The BLCA manages weed control for shoreline properties in all four lakes. The individual property owners pay for weed spraying on their shorelines.

PLM mailed the 2025 Aquatic Plant Management cover letter and form to everyone who used their services in 2024. Every year several properties change hands. **At the end of this newsletter is the cover letter and form if you didn't get one in the mail.**

**Editor's note /** I was curious how many properties use PLM for shoreline spraying so I reached out to Kristy. Here is her email reply:

Hi Brad,

We've observed an increase in the number of properties treated since the initiation of the project in 2022 through the current treatment year (2024). Below is the breakdown of properties treated across the four lakes:

Lake	2022	2024
Briggs	40	43
Julia	20	27
Rush	7	9
Big Elk	6	0

The numbers are accurate, reflecting a net increase in treated properties. Winter and spring conditions contributed to excess weed growth across the state, which created additional challenges this year. We worked diligently to manage the growth, but unfortunately, we didn't receive any feedback from BLCA homeowners regarding concerns about the effectiveness of the treatment. Please let me know if you have any questions or need further clarification.

Best,

Kristy Hoge email: [mnadmin@plmcorp.net](mailto:mnadmin@plmcorp.net)

PLM Lake and Land Management

Minnesota - Brainerd Region

(218) 270-3338 Ext. 3003

**Editor's note #2:** Kristy is our contact. Reach out to her any time you have questions. The forms and letters at the end of the newsletter have been reduced in size to fit our newsletter format. If you want full size pages let Kristy know. She can email them to you.



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



PLM Lake and Land Management Corp.  
Midwest Region  
Tel. 1-866-687-5253  
Office. 1-218-270-3338



**SUBJECT:** BLCA 2025 Individual Aquatic Plant Management

Dear BLCA Property Owner,

We at PLM Lake and Land Management Corp. hope this message finds you well, that you had an enjoyable season at the lake in 2024, and are starting to prepare for the 2025 season.

The BLCA is pleased to announce that they will again be using PLM for shoreline aquatic plant control in 2025. PLM is offering a one or two treatment program for individual shoreline management during the summer. The first treatment is expected to occur in early June and the second follows approximately four to six weeks after.

PLM Lake and Land Management Corp. is offering a reduced price to BLCA property owners. PLM will also pay for your \$35.00 MN DNR permit in 2025 for new customers.

• **Pricing Information:**

- BLCA Price - **\$5.60** Per Foot along shore, Per Treatment
- You may request to treat half of your shoreline owned up to 100', whichever is less, and up to 100' lakeward.
- All customers will be assessed a **\$5.00** fuel surcharge
- **Pricing Example:** You own 100' of shoreline, so you request to treat 50' along shore, 100' lakeward, and you chose to have two treatments:
  - $50' \times \$5.60 = \$280.00 \times 2 \text{ treatments} = \$560.00$
  - add \$5.00 fuel surcharge = **\$565.00 Season Total**

• **Provided Documents:**

- 2025 New Customer Form and Map
  - Please review the requested fields on the blank form and complete in its entirety.
  - Please remember to draw a general sketch of where you prefer treatment at your lakefront property.

• **Other Notes:**

- Final approved area will be determined by the DNR and an issued permit.
- Upon receiving your New Customer Form, **PLM will send you a One Year Service Agreement**, which we will need signed and returned with payment by our due date of April 15th to help ensure a timely and valid MN DNR permit.
- For any special treatment requests, or questions about sizing/locations/weeds treated, please call our office.

We at PLM Lake and Land Management Corp. look forward to the opportunity to work with you and please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

PLM Lake and Land Management Corp.  
Midwest Region  
218-270-3338  
mnadmin@plmcorp.net

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**PLM Lake and Land Management Corp**  
**2025 Aquatic Plant Management**  
**BLCA New Customer Form**

Mailing and Billing Information	
First Name	Last Name
Street Address	City, State, Zip
Phone	Email Address

Lake Front Property Information	
Lake Name (and bay if applicable)	County
Lake Address Street (if different from billing)	City, State, Zip
Lake Address Phone	Frontage Owned
Lake Home Color	Frontage to be treated (shore x lakeward distance)
Identifying features from the lake (dock features, decor, flags, etc.)	
# of Treatments	Permit Fee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$35 permit fee waived for first year
Program Cost (Quote) Leave Blank	
Treatment Type (if known) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submersed Vegetation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Filamentous Algae <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Snails(swimmers Itch) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chara <input type="checkbox"/> Floating Leaf <input type="checkbox"/> Emergent	
Please fill form completely and return to PLM to receive One Year Service Agreement and Invoice. Contact us if you have any questions.	

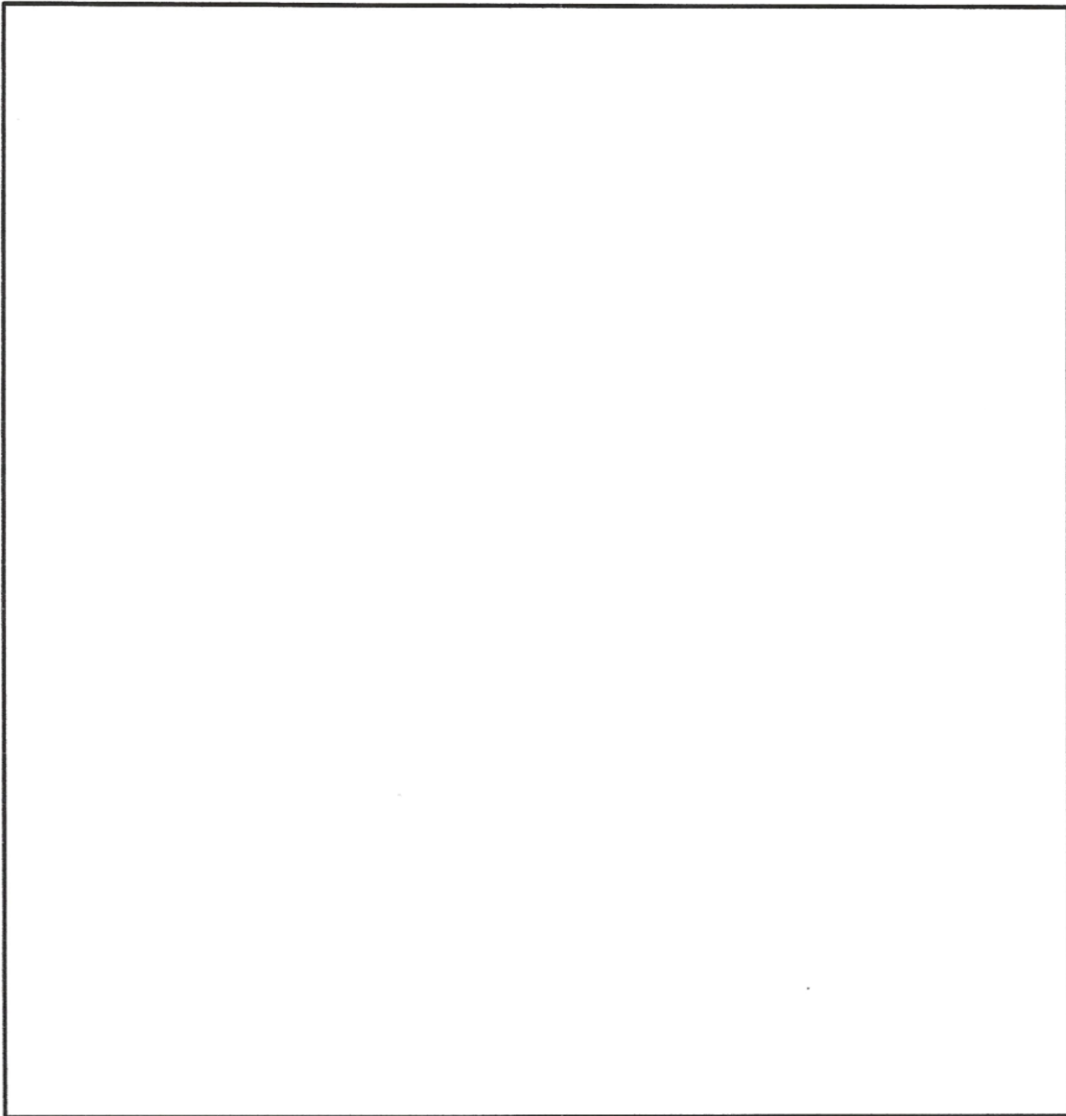


▪ PO Box 328, Brainerd, MN 56401 ▪ (218) 316-6050 voice ▪ (866) 527-6399 fax ▪

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**PLM Lake and Land Management Corp.**  
**Aquatic Plant Management New Customer Form Property Sketch**

Please include: North arrow, treatment area location, dock, and any notable landmarks

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a property sketch. It occupies the central portion of the page below the instructions and above the contact information.

*Home-owners may also send photos of their lakefront property to [servicemw@plmcorp.net](mailto:servicemw@plmcorp.net)*

▪ PO Box 328, Brainerd, MN 56401 ▪ (218) 316-6050 voice ▪ (866) 527-6399 fax ▪