

Healthy Lakes Meeting March 6, 2025

BLCA Update

Membership meeting speakers and events

April 12, Carp Solutions

May 10, Bre Bauerly plant education and plant giveaway, will confirm with Bre

June 13 BLCA membership BBQ in the park, speaker Dan Cibulka regarding grant funding for carp management and alum treatment for deep water in Briggs Lake

July 12 Saturday midsummer get together for loon and eagle restoration

August 9 Annual meeting

HELP NEEDED

Sherburne County COLA is looking for a treasurer

BLCA is in need of a part time secretary, shared position

COLA

Keep it Clean geo fencing project 137,526 pings with 164 opened ads. People fishing on the lakes would get Keep it Clean ads and BLCA sponsored ads when they would use their search engine. This was considered successful to get the word out to educate people on responsible and respectful use of the lakes. Shelly has access to complete data.

Big Elk received a grant for AIS survey from MN DNR. Shelly will monitor more closely to utilize funds as all the funds weren't utilized from the last grant and money had to be refunded to the state.

Ice Day PINK BAGS were highly successful! Shelly reported little to no garbage was left behind making clean up very easy compared to other years. This will be repeated at next year's Ice Day event.

TLID

Surveys for AIS are in process and 2025 permits issued. It's been decided that since the surveys are so close to weed treatment that this year's survey will determine treatment strategies for the next year. Survey data can be used for up to 3 years.

Notification for application/weed treatment has been published in the last issue of the Patriot with residents given opt out instructions.

This will be the last year that the EWM survey will be conducted and switch to a point intercept September survey since there's been 5 years of no EWM.

Alum grant application will be submitted for this summer. August TLID annual meeting will include resident voting on assessment of \$232 per property. The benefit is a 9 to 1 return of grant money to fund the alum treatment. It will be necessary to educate all property owners on

the FACTS of the treatment and its potential benefits. If the TLID misses this opportunity, it will likely not be presented again as budget cuts will decrease funding.

Carp

The remediation program will get underway with netting and tagging for size/age and migration patterns of fish. Fish will not be removed the first year. The process to remove fish will start the second year, 2026.

In the meantime there are options to start teaching people how to catch carp and/or a bow hunt tournament. Logan Meyer, local fishing guide, is a potential resource to chair an event and/or present information to residents.

Carp/Alum

It was previously thought that the alum treatment couldn't continue until the carp population was reduced, but the plan is that the two strategies will occur concurrently.

Shoreland Guides and Lake Steward signs

It was discussed that they are currently on sale for \$5 each. Shelly and Bre will determine if more are needed and how long the sale continues. The committee is still determining how many Lake Steward signs to purchase for 2025.

Water Guards

TLID has committed to 200 hours at the landings, BLCA 100 hours in addition to those paid by the DNR. Data collected by the water guards is compiled and available.

Water sampling

Walt is continuing this year and volunteer sampling collectors are being finalized.

Dredging muck/dead weeds from lake

John Schnell raised this as an option. On a large scale, it isn't allowed. Shelly has a resource that she will share with John and other residents to see if there would be a price break if multiple owners have it done. This is a business that will mechanically remove muck at the shoreline. This information will be shared with residents.