

# Bad Medicine Lake

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE BAD MEDICINE LAKE AREA

Fall 2014

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

June 20, 2015

9:00 -11:00 AM

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**Have a wonderful winter! See you next summer!**

### **From the President**

*Dear Bad Medicine Lake Residents and Friends,*

**The Bad Medicine Lake Association board elected new officers for 2015.**

**President : Steve Lindow**

**Vice-President: Jim Eisele**

**Secretary: Mary Follett**

**Treasurer: Monette Lundquist**

The single most important quality of Bad Medicine Lake is water clarity. Our secchi disc readings varied from 38 feet this spring to just under 16 feet later in the summer. To protect this pristine quality we would like you to continue the effort, started at the June annual meeting, of protecting shorelines from rainwater run-off. Soil erosion carries fertilizer and other contaminants straight into the lake. Erosion is the single most important factor that leads to a decrease in water quality. Take a hard look at your shoreline to see if you can make improvements that can reduce soil erosion. Ideas might be to:

1. Re-establish a 20 foot protective berm of plants next to the water so run-off can be stopped before it reaches the lake.
2. Never fertilize anything.
3. Divert water run-off into the woods by using tubing buried underground.
4. Create a water garden.
5. Collect water running off of your roof into barrels to be used later to water plants around the house.
6. Reduce the size of your lawn (it is too much work anyways!).

Water degradation starts under the water where changes are difficult to observe. By the time we see them it is often too late to fix the problem.

We are fortunate to live on a pristine lake and it is all of our responsibility to work towards the preservation of our water.

*Steve Lindow*

**President,**

**Bad Medicine Lake Area Association**

*The mission of the newsletter is to provide lake area residents with information to build community. The newsletter is intended to present current lake issues in a non-controversial and positive format.*



## Water Quality Report

*Jim Eisele*

Water samples have again been taken monthly this summer for testing. The samples are analyzed for chlorophyll and for phosphorus. The phosphorus level is a measure of the nutrients that are being washed into the lake. In addition to naturally occurring phosphorus, it comes from septic systems, from some fertilizers, and from grass clippings. Once in the lake, phosphorus feeds algae growth, and the chlorophyll is a measure of this algae growth.

A portion of the laboratory's report is shown below. It shows the good news that phosphorus is declining slightly, and that chlorophyll and water clarity are essentially unchanged since testing began in 2000.

## Fishing Report

*Steve Lindow*

This summer has been tough for walleye fishermen. Fish were few and far between - to the point where I just gave up. The lake gets stocked this fall with about 600 pounds of walleye fingerlings. The DNR will try to stock larger fingerlings to get by the large smallmouth bass population. Bad Medicine is one of many lakes with the problem of increased smallmouth populations and decreased walleye populations.

Smallmouth bass seemed to be everywhere. A jig and a leech fished 20-30 feet down did the trick most days. The good thing about bass fishing is you could fish them just about any time of the day; no need to get up early! Smallmouth bass in Bad Medicine taste good too. Smallmouth season closed September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Rainbow trout fishing this summer was great. As the water warmed, the trout moved deeper - to about 37-42 feet. Most people were using night crawlers or power bait under a slip bobber. Small rapalas pulled behind downriggers worked well for trollers. The lake will get about 4,000 pounds of trout fingerlings sometime before freeze-up.

Sunfish populations remain low. More vegetation is showing up along the shoreline, however, so as habitat improves, maybe the sunfish population will improve too.

### Long-term Trends

Primary site only. Recommend minimum of 8-10 years of data with 4+ readings per season. Minimum confidence accepted by MPCA is 90%

<b>Total Phosphorus:</b>	Decreasing, indicates improving water quality (95% confidence).
<b>Chlorophyll-a:</b>	No significant trend exists.
<b>Secchi Depth:</b>	No significant trend exists.
<b>Trophic State Index:</b>	No significant trend exists.

### EcoRegion Comparisons

(Primary site only. Comparisons are based on interquartile range, 25th - 75th percentile, for ecoregion reference lakes)

<b>Total Phosphorus:</b>	Below Expected Range
<b>Chlorophyll-a:</b>	Within Expected Range
<b>Secchi Depth:</b>	Above Expected Range

## AIS NEWS

*Steve Lindow*

This year we were once again able to hire an AIS Educator to monitor the access Friday afternoon through Sunday afternoon. Inspections ended on September 7<sup>th</sup>. Most boaters were compliant with the regulations. Violation rates, however, still ran about 10%, which was similar to last year. I will figure out the actual rates of violations and report them in the spring newsletter.

Next year, access inspections will be done by Inspector level (I) DNR trained personnel. As an inspector, they will be able to check all water related compartments of the boat and deny access to boaters with violations. Decontamination units are being purchased by the county with the funding provided by lottery funds. Next year a large part of the Inspector level (I) salary will also be paid by the same funding.

This fall, check the posts of your boat docks and lifts for small, striped clams (Zebra mussels). Hopefully, you won't find any of them. If you purchase used docks or boat lifts, remember they must be out of the water for at least 21 days before placing them in a different lake.



**STOP**

**THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES**



Zebra Mussel  
1/2 inch



Variable Milfoil



Water Chestnut



Eurasian Milfoil



Fanwort



Carp



Asian Clam  
1/2 inch

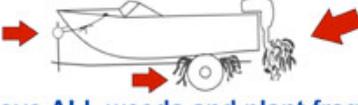


Goldfish



Koi

**BOATERS: INSPECT VESSEL CAREFULLY BEFORE & AFTER USE!**



- Remove ALL weeds and plant fragments from watercraft & trailer before & after use
- Drain boat & motor far from water; allow to dry before next use
- Clean off all waders, boots and gear after use in any waterbody
- Do not release bait or aquarium fish, shellfish or plants



For more information contact:  
RI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
(401) 789-0281 or (401) 789-7481  
www.dem.ri.gov



**GET INVOLVED!**

**Why should I become a member of the BMLAA?** The answer is simple: to be involved and have a voice in matters concerning Bad Medicine Lake and the surrounding area. Here are a few other reasons as well: to pay your share of what you receive such as the newsletter, the directory, invasive species matching grants, water testing and monitoring, COLA membership, updates on the North Country Trail, access to the website, periodic mailings concerning lake information and responsibilities, etc. Please become a member and become active in our Bad Medicine Lake Area Association.

**NEW BMLAA Website**

The BMLAA has a new website. It can be reached at [www.badmedicinelake.org](http://www.badmedicinelake.org). The website has information about BMLAA activities, fishing reports, water quality reports, invasive species activities, ice on and off records going back to 1973, and links to other lake related sites. Check it out and send any suggestions for additional content to Jim Eisele at [jfe@arvig.net](mailto:jfe@arvig.net).

**Check us out on Facebook!**

The Bad Medicine Lake Area Association has its own Facebook page! Become a follower by visiting it at .... You can reconnect and keep in touch with all of your friends and family on the lake, learn how to become involved in the BMLAA, and view and post pictures of scenery and activity on the lake!



If you would like to contribute to "Another Good Dose of Bad Medicine," email me at [rseder@live.com](mailto:rseder@live.com). Whether it is a feature article, a calendar event that you would like the community to be aware of, or a simple news item pertaining to the lake and its residents, your input is greatly encouraged and appreciated. Articles for the spring newsletter should be sent in no later than May 20th, 2015.

- Ryan Sederquist, Editor

**Lynn Lindow**  
**Forest Township Supervisor**

**Forest Township News**



We are quickly coming to an end of another summer at the lake. The leaves are rapidly changing color, contributing to a gorgeous display around the lake.

The township board has been busy addressing the needs of Forest Township. These consist of road maintenance, the garbage, and weed control. The roads have been maintained well throughout the summer through grading. Plans are to bring in gravel where needed. That will occur sometime this fall. This past spring, East Bad Medicine Lake Road was brushed along the right-of-way for better visibility. New road signage was also put in place along the township roads.

The dump area has been well maintained this summer with mowing and clean up taking place on a regular basis. Two new dumpsters were purchased this summer. They are larger and have lighter lids for easier access. This addition has really helped with keeping the area clean. I want to thank all the patrons using the dumpsters for their part in keeping the town hall clean. I also want to thank all of you for recycling your waste. It seems like there has been much more recycling that has taken place over the summer months. That is revenue for the township and it helps make additional space in the dumpsters for household waste.

The township road right-of-ways were mowed in late July. No weed spraying

occurred this summer as the mowing seemed to control many of the noxious weeds. The goal will be to spray ever other year but we will continually monitor the weeds to determine if this is the right strategy. We are also working with Becker County Soil and Water to have them address the weeds that are taking over on some of the logging sites and roadways.

This is a reminder that the town board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. If you have a need to contact any of the supervisors, our contact information is on the Forest Township website <http://www.foresttownshipmn.net/>

Need questions answered or concerns expressed? Perhaps this is the place for you. Forest Township meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. The meetings take place at the Forest Township Hall. The main responsibilities of the township are roads, weed control, trash/recycle, zoning permits and information.

This year the township has 2 positions to be filled: Supervisor C and Clerk. Douglas Trendera and Donald Tschudi are running for the Supervisor C position and the Clerk position candidates are Susan Trendera and Helen Holmer. General election ballots are mailed to all households who claim Forest Township as their residence. The ballots are to be filled out and returned by mail.

Please see the Forest Township website for general information and agendas/minutes of the meetings: <http://www.foresttownshipmn.net>

**BMLAA ANNUAL DUES & MEMBERSHIP FORM-CALENDAR YEAR 2013 (Jan.1 - Dec. 31)**

Member Names \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Enclosed (\$15 per person). Send Membership Dues to BMLAA 39124 Horseshoe Rd, Ponsford, MN 56575 **Please circle preferred mailing address.**

My **Additional** Donation for Invasive Species Monitoring is enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**BAD MEDICINE LAKE AREA ASSOCIATION**

Monette Lundquist  
37617 Red Top Road  
Ponsford, MN 56575



**Bad Medicine Lake Association Board Members**

Board Members	Officers	Phone	Term	Email
Steve Lindow	President	612-581-4137	6/14-6/17	<a href="mailto:steve.lindow@yahoo.com">steve.lindow@yahoo.com</a>
James Eisele	Vice President	218-573-2213	6/12-6/15	<a href="mailto:jfe@arvig.net">jfe@arvig.net</a>
Mary Follett	Secretary	218-573-3186	6/12-6/15	<a href="mailto:gmfollett@gmail.com">gmfollett@gmail.com</a>
Monette Lundquist	Treasurer	218-573-3943	6/13-6/16	<a href="mailto:molundquist@gmail.com">molundquist@gmail.com</a>
Andy Skatvold		701-261-3687	6/12-6/15	<a href="mailto:andy@fmrental.com">andy@fmrental.com</a>
Paul Lundquist		218-573-3943	6/14-6/17	<a href="mailto:plundquist68@gmail.com">plundquist68@gmail.com</a>
John Lafond		218-573-3793	6/14-6/17	<a href="mailto:lafondjk@uwalumni.com">lafondjk@uwalumni.com</a>
Ryan Sederquist		701-388-8290	6/14-6/17	<a href="mailto:rseder@live.com">rseder@live.com</a>
Mary Lindstrom		218-233-9418	6/14-6/17	<a href="mailto:marylindstrom@hotmail.com">marylindstrom@hotmail.com</a>
Roger Olsen		218-233-7995	6/13-6/16	<a href="mailto:cjolsen@cableone.net">cjolsen@cableone.net</a>