

Lake Minnewashta Preservation Association

2014 Annual Meeting

September 21, 2014

Steve Gunther
President, LMPA

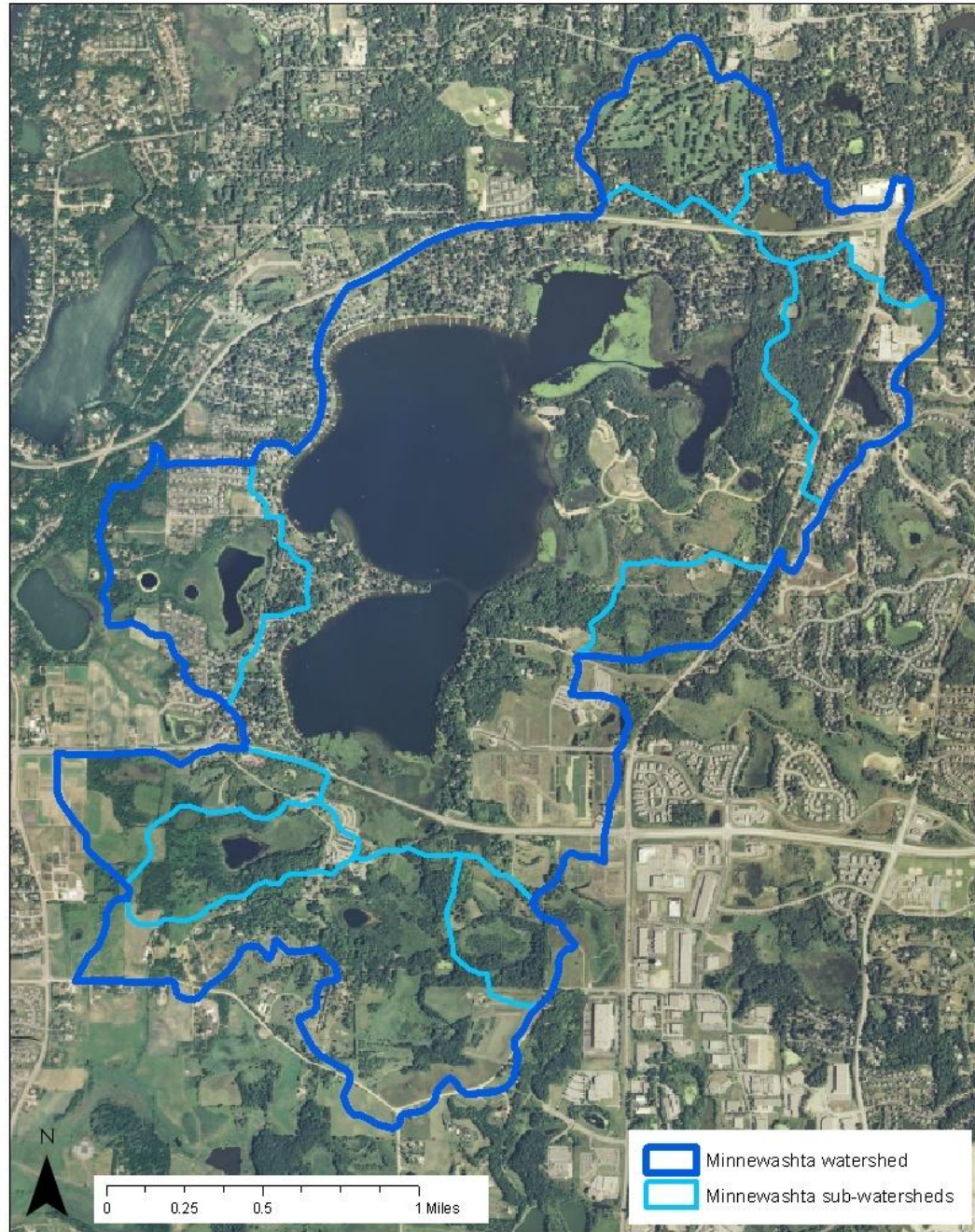
LMPA Annual Meeting - Agenda

- Welcome
- 2014 in Review
- 2015 Focus Items
- Questions and Answers

Lake Minnewashta Preservation Association Annual Meeting

- This meeting is intended to
 - Inform stakeholders
 - Lake shore residents and owners
 - Lake users
 - Watershed neighbors
 - Invite your involvement
 - Secure your input.

Lake Minnewashta Watershed



Our Founding Principles

We want:

A cohesive group that is representative of the whole lake community.

Our Mission:

To organize and focus the efforts of our residents to develop an ongoing, long term community spirit, with planning and action to keep Lake Minnewashta beautiful and to preserve its water quality.

Our Objectives

1. **Lake Stewardship**
2. **Communication**
3. **Social connections within the community**
4. **Education**
5. **Legislative contacts**
6. **Securing Financial Resources**

Our Objectives

Lake Stewardship

- A commitment to the entire lake ecosystem
- Including water quality monitoring and aquatic invasive species control
- Using the best practices developed by the experts

Communication

- Among residents, associations from other lakes, nonprofit and government entities
- Website to allow easy access to important information of common interest
- Newsletter and emails to inform and educate

Our Objectives

Social connections within the community

- Organize and integrate events
- Including events like National Night Out, boat parades, clean up days, garage sales, fireworks, etc.

Education

- For residents and surrounding neighbors within the watershed
- Including lake quality preservation, best practices, lawn maintenance, shoreline erosion, safety, etc
- Including uncovering & maintaining the history of the lake

Our Objectives

Legislative contacts

- Representing our interests to our government representatives at all levels
- Leveraging our association with that from other lakes.

Securing Financial Resources

- From residents, watershed neighbors, lake users, the city, county, state and federal agencies,
- To be used in a fashion where the benefits outweigh the costs.

The Lake Minnewashta Preservation Association

2014 in Review

Steve Gunther

September 21, 2014

2014 in Review

- **Carver County continued AIS inspections at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park**
 - 100% watercraft inspection at LM Regional Park from May 15 through September 15
 - Managed by Carver County Parks department
 - Carver County and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District shared the cost
 - *Two boats with zebra mussels were detected and turned away*

2014 in Review

- **Special thanks to:**
 - Tom Workman – Carver County Commissioner
 - Commissioners Randy Maluchnik and Gayle Degler
 - Eric Evenson and the MCWD Board
 - Our Carver Parks commissioners
 - Marty Walsh - Carver County Parks Director
 - The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

2014 in Review

- **The LMPA delivered on a broad education and awareness outreach in 2014**
 - Quarterly LMPA Newsletters and email blasts
 - Website and social media campaigns
 - Traditional media outreach

2014 in Review

- **Invasive Weed Treatments Performed**
 - Late spring and heavy rains led to record water levels so weeds emerged late this year and were less prevalent than normal
 - Scot Lacek and Pete Plucinak continued their diligent permit/grant and execution management
 - Low dosage weed treatment strategy enacted for the last years appears to be reducing the levels of milfoil → Much smaller weed treatment performed
 - Weed levels were very acceptable as a result

2014 in Review

- **Water Quality/Clarity level has degraded**
 - Lake grade was at B+ in 2014
 - Enhanced effort is needed to address the causes of this drop
 - Many elements may be contributing to this drop and we have to understand them before we can address them

2014 in Review

- **Minnesota Statewide Legacy funding has begun to flow to our Counties for Natural Resource improvement**
 - Carver County will receive >\$50,000 in 2014 and more in 2015
 - Purchase of Watercraft Decontamination System (high temperature power washer) has been requested by Carver County

2014 in Review

- **The LMPA Continues its active support of the Coalition of Minnehaha Creek Waters (CMCW)**
 - The Coalition's purpose
 - Support and conduct non-partisan research, education, and informational activities to increase public awareness and support for the health and usage of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed and surrounding area waters
 - Share best practices (e.g. Lake management plans)
 - Collaborate for a louder voice to policy makers
 - Primary focus is on AIS and storm water run off
 - Steve Aldritt is serving as the secretary

2014 in Review

- **Improved communication within the LMPA**
 - Continuing the use of Neighborhood Captains
 - Surrounding area broken into neighborhoods
 - Identified leaders to serve as Captains to enhance communication with moderate success
 - Continue the use of Constant Contact, Facebook, and our website to flow information
 - Adding “NextDoor” Neighborhoods to expand inter-resident communication

LMPA Income and Spending

- Income
 - Donations from residents
 - LMPA Dues
 - Grants from government sources
- Spending
 - Invasive Aquatic Species mitigation
 - Communications
 - Annual Meeting and Picnic

2014 in Review

- **LMPA Income**

- LMPA Member donations

- 50+ Households donated nearly \$9,000

- Grants

- MN DNR Invasive Weed Treatment \$3,000

\$12,000

- **LMPA Expenditures**

- Weed treatment \$6,000

- Postage/office/newsletter \$ 250

\$6,250

The Lake Minnewashta Preservation Association

2015 Focus Items

Steve Gunther

September 21, 2014

2015 Focus Items

- Our focus for 2015 will be on
 - Our Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan
 - Aggressive weed treatment
 - Enhanced focus on water quality/clarity
 - Lake Stewardship Education and awareness
 - Enhanced LMPA Membership benefits and involvement

2015 Focus Items

- **Invasive Weed Treatment**

- Our low dosage weed treatment plan seems to be working by reducing the acreage of the lake needing treatment each year
- In 2015 we hope to address the Curly Leaf Pondweed early growth separately and earlier
- Contributions will dictate whether we can do it
 - We need to raise \$11,000 (minimum)
 - We hope to secure a grant from the DNR for \$4000
- We will schedule a treatment of frequently used common areas as soon as possible

2015 Focus Items

- **Zebra Mussel/AIS Prevention Plans**

ONGOING PLAN

- Secure resources for watercraft inspection beyond 2015
- Support purchasing a Carver County Decontamination Unit
- Help drive action from the Watershed, County & State

PUBLIC AWARENESS:

- Deploy a broad education and awareness campaign for Invasive Species in the community again
 - Primary Audience – Lake residents and current lake users
 - Secondary – Media, future users/young adults, lake service professionals
 - Tertiary – Key local decision makers and elected officials.
- DNR Funding requested for Gas Station advertising

2015 Focus Items

- **Water quality/clarity Improvement**
 - Aggressive push planned on improving our Lake Quality Rating from B+ to A
 - Fall Leaf disposal strategy to be developed
 - Increased effort on landscaping and buffering
 - Runoff reduction
 - Carp population
 - We need a volunteer coordinator to focus on this

2015 Focus Items

- **Grow the Collective Voice of Lake Association Coalitions Around the state**
 - Continue the further growth of the CMCW
 - Identify common issues that are of most importance to lake users and residents
 - Share best practices (e.g. Lake management plans)
 - Leverage Statewide via MNCOLA
 - Collaborate for a louder voice to policy makers

2015 Summary

- The LMPA board is proud of the progress made in the past 12 months
- We're making great connections within the region's lake associations, technical and political arenas
- We're well staged to take on the future challenges
- We need your help to further broaden the support of the Lake Minnewashta Watershed Residents

What we'd like from you

- Do your part to help us meet our mission to keep Lake Minnewashta beautiful and to preserve its water quality.
- PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES
 - Use a Permitted Lake Service Provider
 - Don't move a mussel
 - Clean Drain and Dry your boat
- Register your email address on our website
<http://lakeminnewashta.org>
- Volunteer for a committee, be a neighborhood captain or join the LMPA board
- Make a tax-deductible donation tonight

Acknowledgements

- Our hosts
 - The Camp Tanadoona staff
- Our Sponsors
 - Jake O'Connor's
 - Whitefish Gallery and Studio

Craig Norby
Tom Knauer
- Our event planner
 - Helen Gunther
- Your neighborhood captains
- Our board of directors

Acknowledgements

- LMPA Board of Directors

Steve Gunther - president

Scot Lacek - vice president

Jim Ginther - treasurer

Steve Aldritt - secretary

Helen Gunther - annual meeting

Judy Berland - neighborhood captains

Keith Paap - website

Pete Plucinak - weed treatment

Questions?

Steve Gunther

3628 Hickory Road

Excelsior, MN 55331

stgunther@gmail.com

952-949-6610 (Home)

612-859-3729 (Cell)