

Lake Minnewashta Preservation Association

2015 Annual Meeting

September 27, 2015

Steve Gunther
President, LMPA

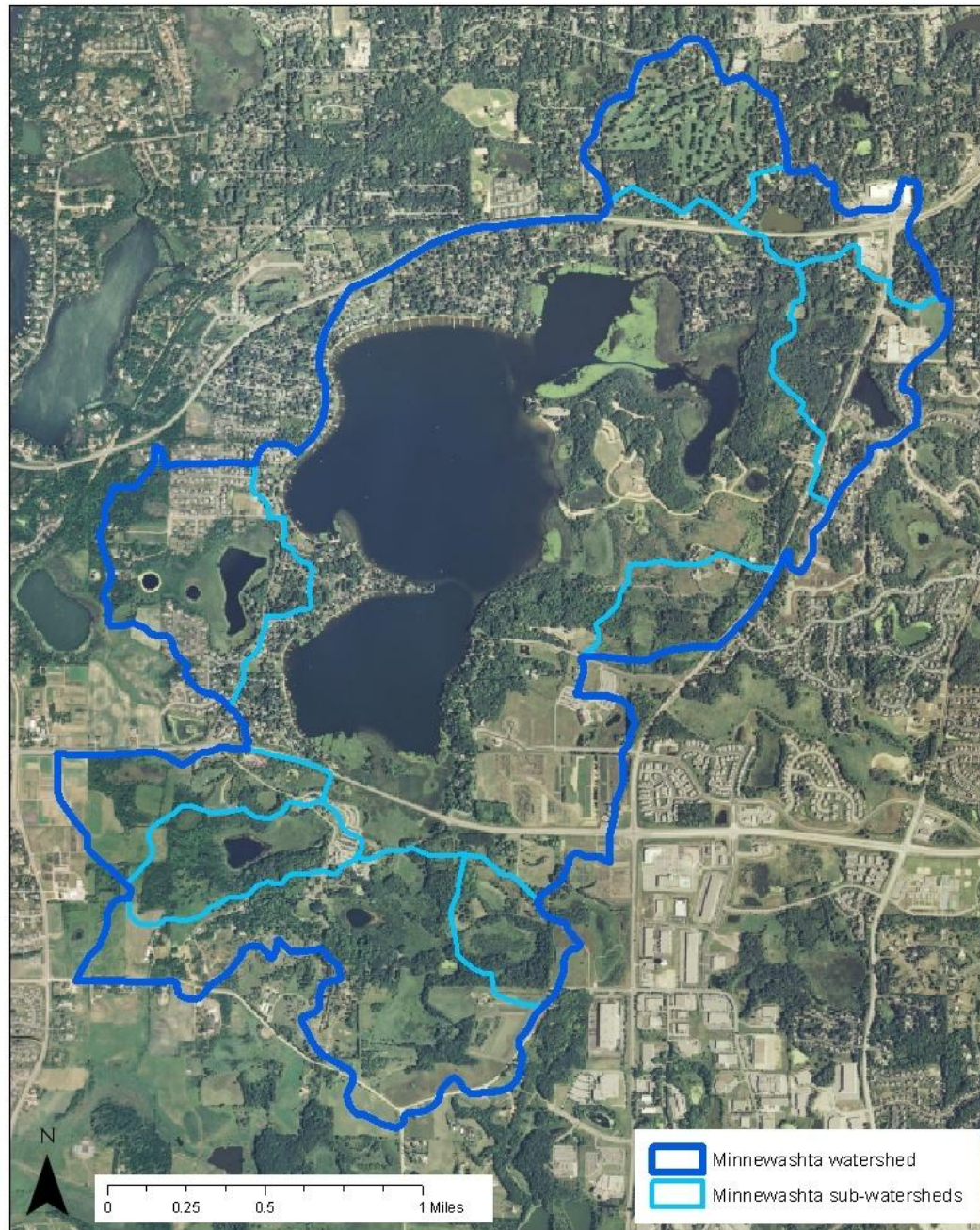
LMPA Annual Meeting - Agenda

- Welcome
- Guest Speaker – Joe Shneider,
president Christmas Lake Association
- 2015 in Review
- 2016 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

2015 in Review

Steve Gunther

September 27, 2015

2015 Highlights

- No Zebra Mussel infestations occurred in our lake
- Carver County and the Watershed District continue to improve their AIS prevention support
- Lake resident monitors have been deployed to improve alert of a Zebra Mussel infestation
- State and local money is available and flowing to projects that will improve water quality
- Aquatic invasive weed levels continue to improve
- Good communication among our neighbors

2015 Concerns

- The threat of new and more devastating invasive species continues
- We have holes in our AIS prevention system
- Lake Quality Rating has degraded
- LMPA Donor numbers are shrinking
- **We are one careless or uneducated lake user away from changing our lake quality forever**

2015 in Review

- **Carver County continued AIS inspections at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park**
 - 100% watercraft inspection at LM Regional Park from Fishing Opener through 9/27 (5AM to 8PM)
 - Managed by Carver County Parks department
 - Carver County and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District shared the cost
 - ***6 boats with zebra mussels were detected and turned away***
 - Carver County purchased and operated high temp/pressure decontamination equipment at Lake Waconia

2015 in Review

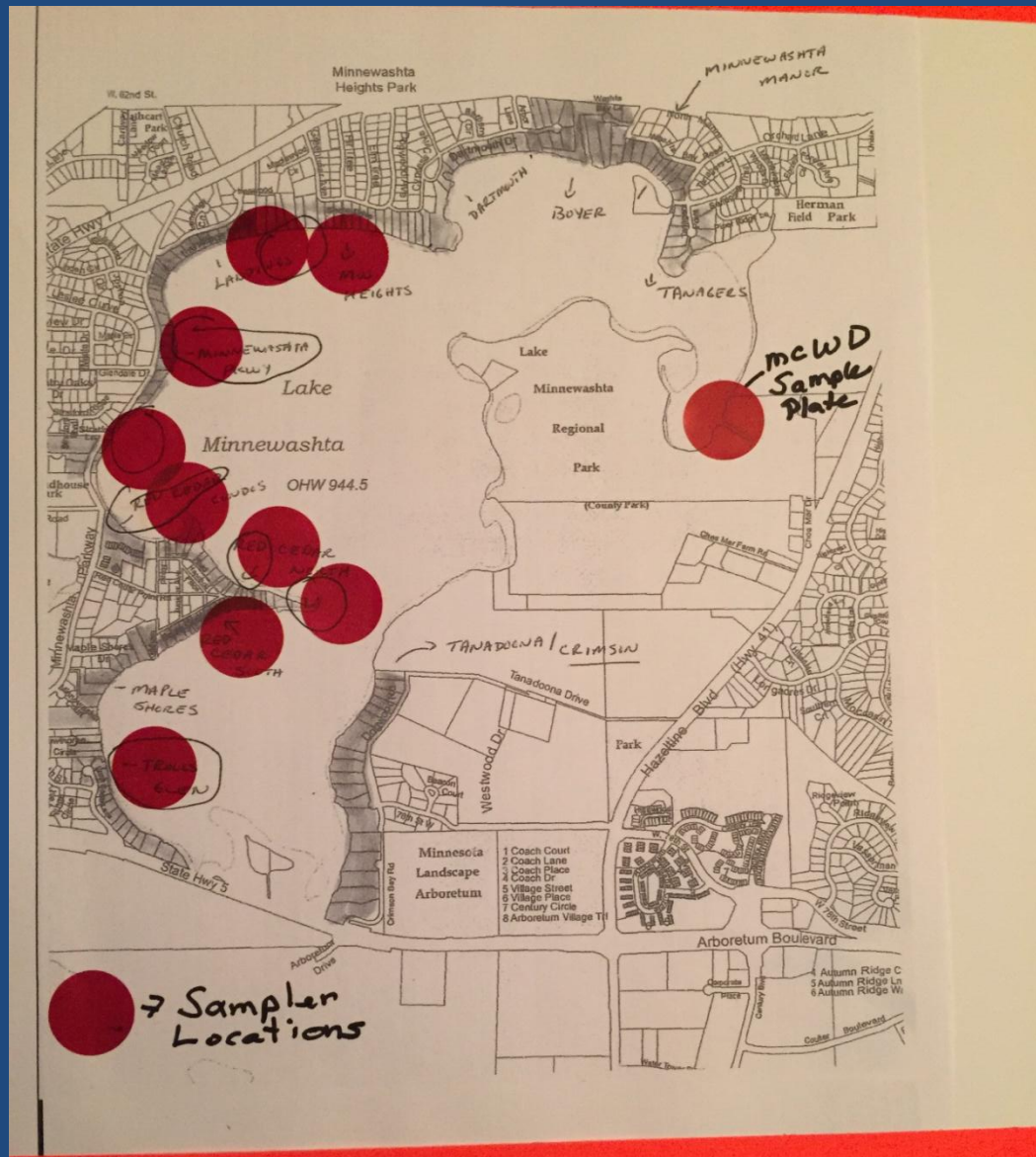
- **Special thanks to:**
 - Tom Workman – Carver County Commissioner
 - Commissioners Randy Maluchnik and Gayle Degler
 - Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
 - Our Carver Parks commissioners
 - Marty Walsh - Carver County Parks Director
 - Sam Pertz – Carver County Parks & Trail Supervisor
 - The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

2015 in Review

- **LMPA Efforts for AIS Monitoring**

- Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and LMPA have partnered to monitor Lake Minnewashta for early detection of zebra mussels.
- The monitoring devices are four plastic shelves attached to a rope that hang from a resident's dock. Residents check twice a month & report to the MCWD.
- We plan to contain and treat the area quickly if zebra mussels are found.

- Lake Minnewashta Zebra Mussel Monitoring Locations



2015 in Review

- **Invasive Weed Treatments Performed**
 - Scot Lacek and Pete Plucinak continued their diligent permit/grant and execution management
 - In 2015 we treated early growing Curly Leaf Pondweed in addition to Eurasian Milfoil
 - 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

2015 in Review

- **Water Quality and Clarity Levels Degrading**
 - Due to increasing algae abundance
 - More attention needed

Lake	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
North Bay	A-	B+	B+	A-	B+	B+	B+	B+	B	B-
South Bay						B+	A	B-	B	A-
Lake St Joe	A	B	A	A-	B+	N/A	B	B+	B-	B-

Source: Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

Improving Lake Water Quality

- Improving water quality requires extra work and everyone plays a role. You can:
- Reduce Runoff
 - Storm drains provide a direct, untreated route to the lake.
 - Prevent pet waste, leaves, home and auto chemicals, and house gutters runoff from entering storm drains.
 - Five bags of leaves creates 100 pounds of algae
 - City of Chanhassen working to increase frequency and effectiveness of street sweeping
- Plant a shoreline buffer strip
 - Reduces runoff and Canadian geese “contamination”
 - Grant money is available from the Watershed District

2015 in Review

- **Minnesota Statewide Legacy funding has begun to flow to our Counties for Natural Resource improvement**
 - Carver County received >\$132,000 in 2015 and will receive the same in 2016
 - Funded an expanded watercraft inspection program at Lake Minnewashta and other lakes
 - Carver County Parks purchased and operated a Watercraft Decontamination System (high temperature power washer) stationed at Lake Waconia

2015 in Review

- **The LMPA delivered on a broad education and awareness outreach in 2015**
 - Quarterly LMPA Newsletters and email blasts
 - Website and Facebook campaigns
 - Next Door website new in 2015 and expanding

2015 in Review

- **The LMPA Continues its support of the Coalition of Minnehaha Creek Waters (CMCW) and the Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA)**
 - The Coalitions' purpose
 - Support and conduct non-partisan research, education, and informational activities to increase public awareness and support for the health and usage of the area waters
 - Share best practices (e.g. Lake management plans)
 - Collaborate for a louder voice to policy makers

2015 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
 - New captains needed in some areas!
 - Continue the use of Mail Chimp, Facebook, and our website to flow information
 - Added “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
- Reserves
 - For rapid response in the event of an AIS infestation

2015 in Review

- **LMPA Income**

- LMPA Member donations
 - 40+ Households donated \$7,550
 - Grants
 - MN DNR Invasive Weed Treatment \$2,250
- \$9,800

- **LMPA Expenditures**

- Weed treatment \$5,000
 - Annual Pot Luck dinner/meeting \$ 250
 - Postage/office/newsletter \$ 500
- \$5,750

2015 in Review

- **Financial Reserve – New for 2015**

- Christmas Lake infested with Zebra Mussels in 2014
- While outside funding was marshaled, Christmas Lake Homeowners Association spent over \$25k on unreimbursed containment/treatment expenses
- The LMPA Board has authorized the funding of a \$25K Reserve for emergency use of this nature
- Past donation levels and lower expenses for weed treatment enable us to fund the reserve in 2015

The Lake Minnewashta Preservation Association

2016 Focus Items

Steve Gunther

September 27, 2015

2016 Focus Items

- Our focus for 2016 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

2016 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 2016 we will continue to address the Curly Leaf Pondweed growth separately and earlier
- Contributions will dictate whether we can do it
 - We hope to secure a grant from the DNR for \$4000
- We will always schedule a treatment of frequently used common areas as soon as possible

2016 Focus Items

- **Zebra Mussel/AIS Prevention Plans**

ONGOING PLAN

- Secure resources for watercraft inspection beyond 2016
- Help drive action from the Watershed, County & State
- Tighten monitoring and controls with help from residents

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.

2016 Focus Items

- **Water quality/clarity Improvement**
 - Continued push on improving our Lake Quality Rating from B+ to A
 - Fall Leaf disposal strategy with the City of Chanhassen
 - Increased effort on shoreline landscaping and buffering
 - Runoff reduction
 - Carp population reduction
 - Development of a Master Water Steward

2016 Focus Items

- **Grow the Collective Voice of Lake Association Coalitions Around the state**
 - Continue the further growth of the CMCW and MNCOLA
 - 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
- IMPROVE WATER QUALITY AND PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES
 - Use a Permitted Lake Service Provider when working on your shore
 - Don't move a mussel from infested lakes via watercraft, toys or lifts
 - Clean Drain and Dry your boat before and after launching
 - Plant a shoreline buffer strip and use available grant money to help
 - Keep debris out of the storm drains, especially leaves
- Register your email address on our website <http://lakeminnewashta.org>
- Volunteer for a committee, neighborhood captain or the board
- Make a tax-deductible donation tonight

Acknowledgements

- Our hosts....The Camp Tanadoona staff
- Our Sponsors
- Our event planner...Helen Gunther
- Our donors
- Your neighborhood captains
- Our board of directors

Thanks to our 2015 Sponsors

Maynards

The 318

Excelsior Nails and Day Spa

Olive's

Vinaigrette

Lake Restoration

Camp Tanadoona

Kowalski's, Excelsior

Dunn Bros., Excelsior

Licks Unlimited

Excelsior Brewery

Whitefish Gallery

Vintage Wines

Please patronize these generous businesses!

Thanks to our 2015 Donors

Aldritt, Steve
Anding, Diane
Barinsky, Doug & Carolyn
Boraas, Kirk & Renee
Cook, Bill & Betsie
Ginther, Jim & Beth
Hoel, Jim
Knoll, Pete & Mary
Lacek, Scot
Lundell, Richard
Nelson, Tim & Dana
Paap, Keith & Frances
Proshek, Susan
Scimeca
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Train, Michael & Jean
Weinzetl, Jodi & Tony
Anding, Ric & Marianne

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Plucinak, Pete & Karri
Schockley, Brett & Melissa
Sternard, Bill & Eileen
Thayer, Michael & Jean
Wedes, Chris & Chris
Zweig, Rick & Anne

Acknowledgements

- LMPA Board of Directors

Steve Gunther

- president

Scot Lacek

- vice president

Jim Ginther

- treasurer

Steve Aldritt

- secretary

Helen Gunther

- annual meeting

Judy Berland

- lake-wide AIS monitoring

Rick Berland

- organic runoff reduction

Keith Paap

- website

Pete Plucinak

- weed treatment