



MLRA NEWS

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HAPPY EASTER

Spring has arrived in the Northwoods. March has been especially good to us with warm weather and the melting of the snow. There are only a few patches of ice being protected under the shade and insulated by old road dirt and leaves. Those remnants should also be gone within a week or so!

Word is that the loons are back! Judy and I have also seen beautiful wood ducks setting down on Moon Lake. All we need now is some good April showers to clean the winter grime and raise the level of the lake. With this in mind, our fire warning levels are **very high**, and fires (clean-up, etc) are not allowed!

Dues are Due:

We still have some outstanding membership dues outstanding for 2010. As you may remember, our fiscal year runs from January 1st to December 31st. Let this note serve as a reminder to pay the twenty dollar annual dues. Make your checks payable to: MLRA and mail to Jim Reiels, PO Box 683, Land O' Lakes, WI 545450. If you like, you may include a donation to our ANS fund as well.

Moon Lake Status:

March 2010 Weather and Moon Lake Water Conditions
by Dale Sharpee

The Marquette, Michigan National Weather Service office has reported that March 2010 will be the warmest, driest, and least snowy March since that office began keeping records in 1961.

Although Moon Lake is not in proximity to that Weather Service office, it appears that the conditions recorded at Marquette have parallels with what has been experienced during March 2010 at Moon Lake. Moon Lake was ice free as of **March 31st**. This is 3 weeks earlier than the time, April 22nd, that Moon Lake was ice free in 2009. Bob Turnquist and I took a reading of the water level on March 30th. We had to dig a trench from the current edge of the lake to get water to flow to the gauge! The reading was 1.16 feet. At ice over on November 22nd the reading was 1.38 feet. So, Moon Lake is now .22 of a foot (approximately 2 5/8th of an inch) lower than last fall.

Here is summary of the water level recorded at the time Moon Lake was ice free since 2005:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Level (ft.)</u>
2005	4.28
2006	4.24
2007	3.75
2008	2.56
2009	1.94
2010	1.16

The lake level at the time the lake was ice free is now 3.12 feet below the level recorded in 2005.

Note: The website for the Marquette National Weather Service, chr.noaa.gov/mgt/, is a source for an abundance of weather and climate information for the Upper Peninsula. The drought monitor is one that you may want to check out.

2010 Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program
by Dale Sharpee

The Moon Lake Riparian Association has enrolled in the Lakes Monitoring Program for 2010. This will be the 16th year that Moon Lake has participated in this Program. John Sick, Bob Turnquist, Tom Wheeler, and I will be involved in taking samples of lake water for the measurement of phosphorus and chlorophyll-a as well as recording water clarity.

Ladies of the Lake:

A big "Thank you" to Debbie Piel for hosting our rescheduled holiday party at her beautiful home in January. Great conversation, good food and drink were had by all.

On February 9th, we met at the Gateway Lodge and enjoyed dining, sharing and laughing time. Our March outing was cancelled due to so many ladies being absent from the Land O'Lakes area.

If you would like to enjoy an evening out (usually once a month) talking, sharing, laughing ... Please contact Sally Macket at moonglo@alphacomm.net to be added to our group. You may also contact me, Judy Chase, at 544-2415.

One of our Lake Ladies, Winnie Baeten, fell and broke her hip. She is in a lot of discomfort and will have to stay off her feet for at least 90 days. If you have a minute, please send her "thinking of you" card to her Florida address at 1667 Osprey Avenue, The Villages, FL 32162. I'm sure she would love to hear from you.

Wilderness Lakes Trails:

(Information from Alan and Debbie Piel)

As you may be aware, Watersmeet Township recently received a grant award from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund in the amount of \$230,000 to complete the enhancement of the Central Section of the Agonikak National Recreation Trail (Military Road to Allen Lake Road). The project tied for the highest score in the State out of 95 development grant applications. The Watersmeet town board has given approval for the Grant Staff to apply for another grant this year to enhance the Northern Section of the trail and link up to the Watersmeet School and Town Park where the old US 2 Bike route begins (please note the attachment within this email). The grant request for this section will be for the maximum allowed, \$500,000.

Personal

Remember This is your newsletter! We will post the news and events that are associated with our community. The newsletter will be sent out quarterly and also whenever special notices from the board require distribution. We welcome any articles, or any personal news items you would like to see published. Please send those items to Tom and Judy Chase (tnjchase@alphacomm.net) and we will get them in the following news letter.