



Moon Lake Riparian Association Newsletter

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Moonlake.org

October 2018

From the President's desk:

Bob Turnquist

After a great summer weather-wise it has been a gloomy start to fall the past few weeks. As I write this on October 3, many of the hardwoods are still green but we have been treated to brilliant colored leaves on the trees that have turned. Hopefully the colors will hang on for a while even though there is rain and wind in the forecast.

Starting on Labor Day Weekend many of our residents' docks have been taken out. I would encourage everyone to take their docks out this fall as we could very well have even higher water levels next spring than we had this year. There were a number of dock sections floating on the lake this spring and early summer and this is very dangerous for boaters. Be good neighbors and get your docks safely on shore.

The MLRA board was very pleased with the attendance at the annual meeting this summer. Not only were the attendance numbers good but the participation of the residents was excellent. Please consider attending next year's annual meeting on the Saturday two weeks before Labor Day.

Fall is a great time to hike in the Northwoods. There is great hiking close to Moon Lake on the

Land O Lakes Ski Trail and in the Sylvania Wilderness. Give it a try.

I hope everyone has a great fall and winter.

Bob



Fun Fall Color Facts!

Have you ever wondered why the fall colors are never the same year after year? Check out these explanations:

- ✓ **Warm, dry weather with extended droughts or moisture deficits** yields color that is not as vibrant and is short lived
- ✓ **Adequate moisture** yields a longer period of leaf color
- ✓ **Sunny days vs. overcast days.** Leaf color is less vibrant (duller) with several rainy or overcast days in a row when leaves are turning color. Sunny days create more vibrant leaf color
- ✓ **Cool nights and warm days.** Cool nights with temperatures in the 40s and low 50s (but not freezing) with daytime highs in the 60s and 70s tend to retain leaf color longer, and the colors are more pronounced, especially if the days are sunny
- ✓ **Freezing overnight temperatures and early frost.** Show's over. Leaves will turn brown and die

Annual Moon Lake Riparian Association Meeting and Social Report:

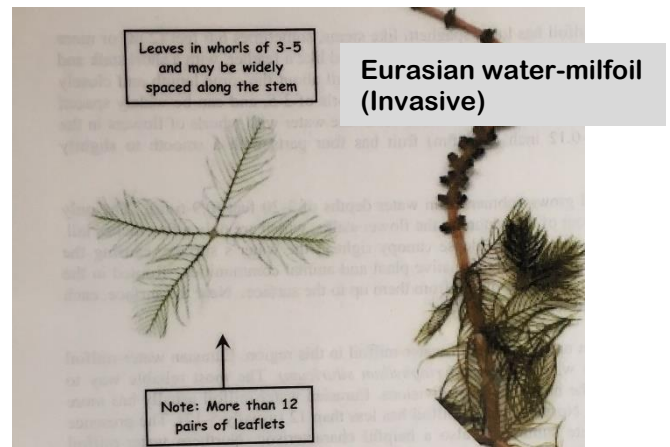
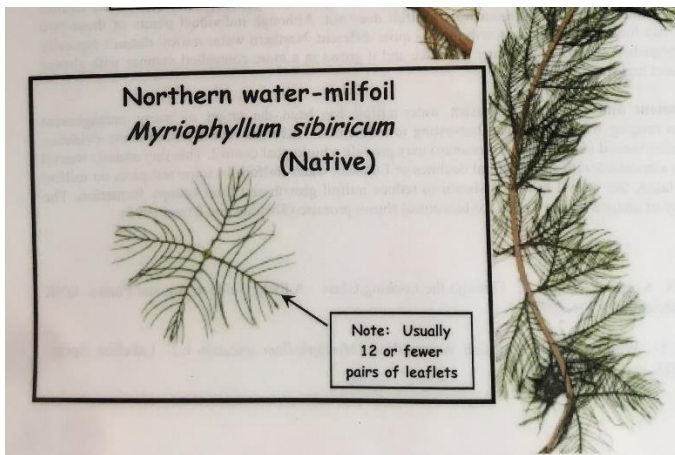
What a great time (and great weather!) at the annual meeting and social held Aug 18th. Thanks to all Moon Lake neighbors for coming out to contribute to the health and well-being of our lake. If you missed the meeting (or as a refresher if you were there), please find the meeting minutes on the MLRA website, or click here: [Annual MLRA Meeting Minutes 2018](#) for important information on lake news and board member changes. Mark your 2019 calendars now so you don't miss next year's meeting, tentatively set for Sat Aug 17th 2019 at the LOL Pavilion.



We celebrated Sheila McConaghy's retirement as Sec/Treas of MLRA. This is one in a line of retirements for Sheila as through the years she has held many positions with MLRA, including president. Thank you so much Sheila for all your years of involvement and work to make our lake the best it can be!

Of special interest to share is the invasive species presentation given by guest speaker Denise Fontleroy of ISCCW (Invasive Species Control Coalition of Watersmeet). She had an educational display of water milfoil and other aquatic invasive species. It is rather difficult, at first glance, to distinguish between the native

Northern water-milfoil and the invasive Eurasian water-milfoil. Denise had actual plants from both species available to get an up-close look at the differences, as well as handouts. Here's an excerpt of one of the fliers that shows how to distinguish between the two:



– To help remember, here's a verbal memory aid:

FEWER (than 12 leaflets) is our FRIEND (the native)
MORE (than 12 leaflets) is the MONSTER (invasive)!

(This will be reprinted in next spring's newsletter, along with other invasive info, as a refresher)

Moon Lake – 2018 Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program



By Dale Sharpee

2018 is the 24th year that the Moon Lake Riparian Association has participated in this program. A portion of the membership dues have enabled your Association to participate in this program. This program has enabled us to monitor the long-term trends in the nutrient enrichment levels – the trophic status of Moon Lake.

Here is what has been done in order to establish the data that has been compiled to establish these trends. Each year samples are collected to measure the amount of phosphorus and chlorophyll-a in Moon Lake as well as measure the water clarity using the Secchi disk. These samples and data are provided to the DEQ where they are analyzed. The results are then used to classify the level of nutrient enrichment in our lake based on the Trophic Status Index. A report of these findings is provided each year.

A report containing the data for 2017 as well as previous years' reports can be accessed by clicking on the "Other Water Quality Data" sub tab of the Water Quality tab on the Moon Lake website, or click here: [2017 Water Quality Report](#)

Additional information was added to the 2017 Report. This information found on page 3 of the report explains how the Trophic Status Index ("TSI") was created. The index is a numerical scale that is used to indicate the level of nutrient enrichment in lakes. This page also includes information on how the TSI values for the 3 individual trophic state parameters (summer phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and secchi depth) for Moon Lake rank on this numerical index.

24 years ago, John Sick encouraged the MLRA board to participate in the CLMP in order to observe the long-term trends in the water quality of Moon Lake based on changes in nutrient enrichment. Now we have 24 years of data that is plotted on pages 4-7 of the Report for each of the 3 individual trophic indicators. Here is what is reported in the summary section of the 2107 Report:

"Long term trends indicate that the trophic status indicators have not changed beyond minor year-to-year variations since monitoring began."

So... Moon Lake Riparians - lets renew our efforts to preserve the health of Moon Lake so in 2042 the summary of trophic status indicators that appeared in 2017 will be repeated.



Photos by Carol Youmans



Photo by Steve Sunderland



Another Installment

Of Moon Lake Memories...

By Steve Sunderland

Life on Beautiful Moon Lake

Many thanks to Prudy Caudill for writing this wonderful story! We're always looking for more stories to publish; send to Steve at sssloon13@gmail.com

Here is a summer story...

On Sunday, September 16, the temperature was 80 degrees and the water temperature of Moon Lake was 74 degrees.

As I often do, I swam across the lake to the Kellys' pier where along with Mary Pat and our friend Barb Grubel, we enjoyed the sunshine, delicious snacks, AND the Packer Game on the radio.

Every time the Packers made a touchdown, Barb did the "**Lambeau Leap**" into the lake and we all yelled "TOUCHDOWN"! Perhaps you even heard us down the lake! We felt we were living like royalty - sunshine, food, Packers, and the clean, clear water of Moon Lake on September 16 - What a gift!

We longed for a Packer victory, but had to settle for a tie.

After the game, we STRONG WOMEN of Moon Lake helped Dave take down two sections of his pier. Two more remain with hopes for more sunny days this fall. LIFE IS GOOD!

Prudy



Childhood summers at Moon Lake were full of adventure for sure...even in something seemingly mundane as going into town! Land O' Lakes in the late 1960's-early 1970's was like today, a bustling town, but as it is with every town over the course of almost 50 years was also very different.

While my parents were shopping in one of two (*two!*) grocery stores, I would head, with my brothers, to the drug store (located just west of The Trading Post). Our allowance was just enough for the purchase of the latest comic book. We'd scour the rotating comic book stand searching for the latest edition of our favorite superhero (Superman and Ironman being my favorites). If none were found I'd move to the paperback stand hoping another Agatha Christie mystery novel might have arrived. (Even now, I still love a good mystery novel!)

Once done with the drug store we'd head just a little further west to Eberly's Fishing Gear store. Like most of the tackle shops of that era there was, out front of the shop, a cooler, with a glass top, which was used to display the latest lunker fish caught in an area lake. My brothers and I would run up to the cooler with great anticipation to see what prize fish had been caught. On occasion, it would hold a huge, monster musky. We were at the same time both amazed and a little afraid to look at it! Those coolers were probably the best advertisement for fishing possible, especially to three impressionable boys.

Our last stop, when my folks were done grocery shopping, was usually to the bakery, which was located in the building next to the Pine Cone. I loved this stop. I can still remember that

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incredible fresh pastry smell and seeing the very nice elderly lady in her white apron as we walked in. This was my first introduction to those iconic doughnuts: Bismarck, Long John and my all-time favorite, Apple Fritter. I was quite sad many years later when that bakery closed.

There were other stops on occasion like the Post Office, the Airport, or the Dairy Maid if it was later in the day... but I'll save those stops for a future article. There is always fun to be found in the Northwoods and sometimes the lasting memories are from the simplest of activities, like visiting town.

Steve

Check out this article from the Chicago Tribune:

Click here:

[A Smaller Closer Paradise](#)

A great report on the experience of camping in Sylvania Wilderness and Recreation Area, comparing and contrasting to Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Includes an interview with Bob Zelinski of Sylvania Outfitters.

Fun Fact:

The Pileated Woodpecker is North America's largest woodpecker. They are permanent residents as they do not migrate. They can often be seen around Moon Lake.

Your New MLRA Board:

- President: Bob Turnquist
turnquist.bob@gmail.com
- Vice President: Steve Sunderland
Sssloon13@gmail.com
- Treasurer: Eric Zorr
ezorr0@mac.com
- Secretary: Peggy Zorr
pzorr@mac.com
- Board Members:

Dale Sharpee

rhodale@alphacomm.net

Carol Youmans

pawsandme@yahoo.com

Frank Kuchevar

kathfrank@alphacomm.net





Moon Lake Family Recipe Corner:

Cousin Nancy saved the day with this perfect lunch for a big crowd. I've since used it several times and it always delivers. Easily available ingredients (plus guests can help chop!)

Enjoy, Carleen Sunderland

Nancy's Taco Salad:

- 1.5 lb. ground beef or turkey
- 2 pkg taco seasoning (will have ½ pkg left over)
- 1 16oz bottle 1000 Island dressing
- 1 lb. shredded Mexican or co-jack cheese
- 1 large head iceberg lettuce, chopped
- 1 lg bag Fritos chips, slightly crushed
- 2 tomatoes, chopped
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 yellow pepper, chopped
- 1 orange pepper, chopped

Brown meat with ½ package of taco seasoning. Combine 1 pkg of taco seasoning with the salad dressing. Layer lettuce, tomato, peppers, onion, cheese, and ground meat. Before serving, add crushed chips and dressing. Toss well. (The layered salad can stay in fridge overnight before adding chips & dressing.)

Serves 8+

*Enjoy the Fall and a Joyous and Peaceful
Holiday Season to All!*

Respectfully submitted,
Steve and Carleen Sunderland

