



Moon Lake Riparian Association Newsletter

#135

moonlake.org

June 2020

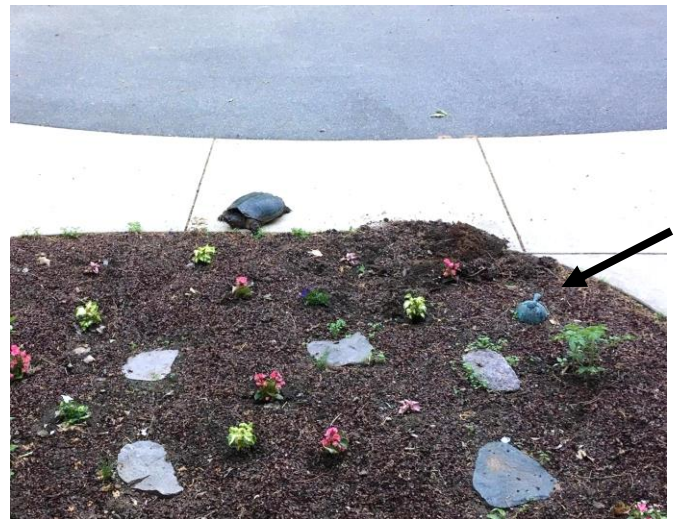
From the President

Bob Turnquist

We have more water again this year. Our lake level at ice out was 8.58 feet. After the 2.2 inches we received on June 9 the level increased to 8.90 feet. Last spring the lake level at ice out was 7.2 feet. As in the past couple of years the highwater level has produced a lot of debris in the lake. On June 8th I towed a log that was at least 14 feet long and 12 inches in diameter to the back bay where the loon nest is located. The next day I towed another log that was about 6 feet long and 8 inches in diameter to the back bay. I will secure them and they will help to provide fish habitat. There are a number of docks under water. If one of these is yours, please either raise it or mark it so it is not a hazard. And be cautious while boating. If you see floating debris that you cannot remove yourself please contact one of the MLRA board members (listed later in this newsletter)

An interesting visitor showed up at our house in the early morning of June 9. Its presence was announced by our dog at 5am. I looked out but did not really see anything until about 6am. A snapping turtle was on our sidewalk near the entry to our house. It had dug a hole and presumably buried its eggs in the flower garden. We did not dig down to see if there were eggs so we don't know if there are eggs or if a noisy dog disturbed the process. It is interesting that the hole was next to a small decorative copper turtle in the flower garden.

You can see the back of the decorative turtle on the right side of the photo. I have also included a picture of the decorative turtle taken looking at it from its front to help you identify it in the first photo.



Enjoy the summer,
Bob



Reminder: 2020 Moon Lake Riparian Association DUES

2020 Dues \$25.00 Payable to:
MLRA
c/o Eric Zorr, Treasurer
PO Box 664
Land O'Lakes, WI 54540

Thank you for continuing to support all efforts to keep Moon Lake healthy. Additional donations are always welcome for the Moon Lake Invasive Species Mitigation fund.

Edible Wild Food

Provided by Steve LaPalio

Oyster mushrooms are here! Get all the details at

<http://www.ediblewildfood.com/oyster-mushroom.aspx>

Easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Find them:



2. Cook them up



3. Enjoy!



Loon News

For those of you watching the lake cam, you know that the loons have not been successful in hatching an egg. An egg was laid however the loons did not nest. The camera will be moved back to the lake view next week.

2020 Moon Lake Ice-Out date was May 1. Thanks to Frank Kuchear for providing this data every year.

FUN FACT:
 Poppel is the Swedish word for Aspen.
 This term is used commonly in the
 Upper Mid-West (MI, MN, WI) to refer
 to Aspen trees.



Before doing your spring/fall leaf burning, be sure to give a head's up to any nearby neighbors who may be sensitive to the smoke

A Big Shout Out to Sue and Jim Tonyan for cleaning up South Moon Lake Road after quite a large load of trash was dumped just outside of town earlier this spring. We appreciate you!



Lake Report

Provided by Steve LaPalio

The 2019 Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) Lake Report shows that Moon Lake continues to be an Oligotrophic lake – that is a generally deep and clear lake with little aquatic plant or algae growth. These lakes maintain sufficient dissolved oxygen in the cool, deep-bottom waters during late summer to support cold water fish, such as trout and whitefish. The entire report is included in the email distribution as a separate PDF if you should wish to review.

To Stream or Not to Stream?

Streaming (Internet TV provider) has become more popular and this presentation was given at the LOL Library last fall by Harlan Leusink, NPSD Director of Technology. He nicely

explains what streaming is/does and may answer questions you've had. Thanks to Bob Turnquist for getting this link:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1-Nuflc8b4MFUCN2fVqt9OEoC-MiE5C2ADzHF4K3q8s/edit>

Summer Events Around Town

Here's what's going on (and not going on) during this summer of Covid-19:

Still On:

- ✓ 4th July Fireworks in Watersmeet, at dusk. Most people park close to the high school. (No parade)
- ✓ Land O' Lakes 2020 Community Wide Garage Sale- August 1st (8am-4pm)

Canceled:

- ✓ Land O'Lakes Fireworks and Parade
- ✓ Art Impressions-2020
- ✓ Annual Library Book Sale and Auction

Closed for Summer ☹️ - Dari Maid

New for Summer 😊 The Pine Cone Cafe is selling ice cream! Cones and Sundaes. They are open until 2pm M-F and 4pm Sat and Sun. (Reminder that ice-cream cones can also be found at Nordine's in Watersmeet and in Paulding at the General Store.)

New Watersmeet Police Chief

Ryan Leuzo (last name spelling not certain). He can be reached at the same number: 906-358-2048.

A Bit of Moon Lake History...

Thanks to Frank Kuchevar for sharing his Moon Lake archives with us!

Fish Report from 1975:

MOON LAKE NETTING RESULTS (6/30-7/1/1975)

<u>Species Caught</u>	<u>Number Caught</u>	<u>Average Size</u>
Suckers	24	16.3"
Perch	77	6.6"
Rock Bass	44	4.7"
Smallmouth	7	11.5"
Largemouth	9	9.0"
Panfish	8	5.9"
Bluegills	6	7.9"
Pike	1	17.9"
Walleye	1	20.5"
Rainbow	1	12.6"
Bullhead	2	9.2"
Shiners	34	6.0"

Today the talk is all about high water levels...What a different conversation 25 years ago:

MOON LAKE WATER LEVEL

In our last newsletter we reported that Mr. Don Winne, Executive Director of the Michigan Lakes and Streams Assoc., was doing some research to help us determine why the level of Moon Lake is approximately three feet below the historic high water mark.

Mr. Winne recently reported to us that the drop in water level can almost totally be explained by a change in the annual precipitating patterns over the past 55 years. Precipitation data was obtained from the US Forest Service (Watersmeet Water Station) for the period of 1940-1995.

For the 30 year period of 1940-1969 the average annual precipitation was 34.02 inches. The average for the 25 year period of 1970-1994 was only 30.79 inches.

Mr. Winne states "an average deficit of 3.23 inches per year for 25 years is significant". To make matters

worse, the total deficit for the last two full years alone is 15.73 inches (1993 - 25.19 inches/1994 - 27.12 inches).

Although we are concerned about our lake level, it is at least somewhat reassuring to know that Mother Nature is the cause of our lower water, rather than activities going on in our watershed area.

Incidentally, the watershed area for Moon Lake is 547 acres. (Moon Lake is 93 acres.) Interestingly, our watershed area does not include the Land O' Lakes golf course, Little Moon Lake or Twist Lake. It does include the large marsh area to the west of West Moon Lake Road (including Davis Lake) and east of Highway 45 on the north end of the lake. (see map below)

All we need to do now is to ask Mother Nature to "reign" upon us in the form of rain and snow, especially at times when we are not here! -- John Sick

FUN FACT:

Porcupines Mountains State Park is Michigan's largest State Park and is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year!

Read more at

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDNR/bulletins/29043be>



Moon Lake 4th of July Celebration

Since the parade and fireworks have been cancelled, let's have a boat parade! A perfect social distancing activity. Friday, July 3rd starting at 8pm. (Saturday rain date).

Due to Covid 19, the MLRA annual meeting and social has been cancelled 😞, but board activities will continue as usual to support Moon Lake

Scenes around Moon Lake

A visiting Trumpeter Swan – Eric Zorr



Before the leaves – Steve Sunderland



Bear Duo (taken in 2019) – Dave Pinkawa



Another Perfect Day – Steve Sunderland



Your 2020 MLRA Board:

- President: Bob Turnquist
- Vice President: Steve Sunderland

- Treasurer: Eric Zorr
- Secretary: Peggy Zorr
- Board Members:
Frank Kuchevar

Carol Youmans (Loon Ranger)

Steve LaPalio (Water Quality Assurance)

Have a great summer!

Respectfully Submitted,
Steve and Carleen Sunderland