

TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN 1979

Highlights of 1979 Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Ten Mile Lake Association was held on August 4, 1979 and was attended by 185 members and guests. Many came early to tour the newly-built Interpretive Center of the Deep Portage Conservation Reserve east of Hackensack where the meeting was held.

Lake pollution and how to avoid it were the main topics. Jim Schwartz, Chairman of the Environment and Ecology Committee, reported on lake pollution caused by faulty septic systems. Warren Goss, also a member of this committee, discussed water clarity and purity as applied to Ten Mile Lake. He told about the operation of some new equipment known as a "septic snoopers," and members voted unanimously in favor of utilizing it to test the entire shoreline.

Duke Gray, Fish Committee Chairman, reported that there is a definite improvement in walleye fishing in Ten Mile Lake.

New 1979 Directories were handed out at the close of the meeting. Inasmuch as the directory was compiled considerably before the 1979 election of officers at the annual meeting, we are listing the present officers and directors here so you will know who they are.

Officers:

President - Joe Major
Vice President - Bill Macklin
Secretary - Lois Sandell
Treasurer - Verlee Cline

Directors:

Resident - Donald Babst
Jim Kelllogg
Eugene Wolter
Resident Incumbents - Wayne Weiser and Jack Garder
Non-resident - Joanne Roberts
Richard Witham
Non-resident Incumbents - Glenn Anderson and Jim Schwartz
Honorary Member of the Board - Warren Goss

Committee Chairmen:

Membership - Elizabeth Bair
Fish and Game - Darwin "Duke" Gray
Environment and Ecology - Jim Schwartz and Warren Goss
Zoning and Planning - Donald Babst

A note of thanks goes to Anne Knapp, who did a splendid job as membership chairman for 5 years, and to Rosemarie Garder who took good care of our money for 4 years. We also want to thank the board members who served us so well. All officers, directors and committee chairmen gave willingly of their time for the good of our Ten Mile Lake Association.

Application Made for Grants to Upgrade Septic Systems

Outdated and faulty septic systems are blamed as the principal contributors to eutrophication in Ten Mile Lake. If we can upgrade or replace all the non-conforming facilities, as now required by Minnesota law, we will avoid the astronomical expense of installing a peripheral collecting system and treating plant.

In our July newsletter and at the annual meeting on August 4 we discussed employing a so-called "septic snooper" to locate offending systems. Governmental funding can be obtained for this, but only if we can qualify for and participate in the complete Construction Grants Program which was established in accordance with federal legislation enacted in 1972 and 1977. The Program would require approximately three years and would comprise:

1. First grant (Phase 1) for an engineering firm to examine every septic system and develop recommendations for upgrading or replacing those that are sub-standard.
2. Second grant (Phase 2) covers the incorporation of the recommendations from Phase 1 into construction drawings and specifications.
3. Third grant (Phase 3) covers the actual construction and installation.

The funds would be provided 75% by the federal government and 15% by Minnesota. In some cases the federal share could amount to as much as 85%. These allocations can be made only to a unit of government such as a city, township, sanitation district, lake improvement district, etc. The Board of Directors of the Association has applied to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for enrollment in the Program and also has arranged with the Cass County Board of Commissioners that, if we obtain the grants,

the County will officiate as the responsible governmental organization during Phase 1, at the conclusion of which the Ten Mile Lake Association will establish an appropriate governmental entity, possibly a lake improvement district.

Enclosed is a three-page leaflet from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency which describes the Construction Grants Program in more detail. We don't yet know, of course, what the odds are of acquiring the priority necessary to obtain these grants, but if we do obtain them we think it will be a most important accomplishment in our continuing effort to protect Ten Mile Lake and its environs.

Standards Issued for Individual Sewage Treatment Systems

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has promulgated minimum standards and criteria for the design, location, installation, use and maintenance of individual sewage treatment systems (ISTS). Identified as 6MCAR:4 8040, also generally referred to as WPC40, this compliation contains the latest specifications that must be utilized by installers and regulatory personnel. To assist in its administration, an advisory committee of 16 members recently was established consisting of county administrators, contractors in the fields of sewage treatment and well drilling, a municipal building inspector and representatives of several concerned agencies such as the Agricultural Extension Service, the Department of Health, the Soil Conservation Service, etc. A member of our Association, Warren Goss, serves on this committee as Citizen at Large, representing the public.

A great deal of study and research on ISTS has been directed and conducted by Dr. Roger E. Machmeier, Extension Agricultural Engineer, who is chairman of the ISTS Committee and who has contributed many excellent publications in this field. We enclose one of them entitled "Get to Know Your Septic Tank" which we hope you will find both interesting and useful.

Monitoring of Ten Mile Lake Continues

Analyses for the content of phosphorus and nitrogen in the water from Ten Mile Lake again were conducted for us by the FMC Corporation before the ice went out. During the summer and autumn these services were provided by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Secchi disk readings to monitor the clarity of the water are being continued on a regular basis, as also are measurements of the profiles of dissolved oxygen, temperature and conductivity. Not all the data have been reported thus far, so the information will be summarized in our next newsletter.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources again monitored the netting of whitefish in Ten Mile Lake during November, and scientists from the University of Minnesota continued their studies of the unique dwarf tullibees that live in Ten Mile Lake and spawn in late October. We will report on these operations more fully in a subsequent newsletter.

The ice went out last spring on May 9-10, at which time the spring turnover had already taken place. The fall turnover was completed November 2.

Jake's Pond Still Producing

Our program for stocking walleye fingerlings in Ten Mile Lake seems to have fared better in recent years than those in other nearby lakes, thanks to the people in the Department of Natural Resources and the Chippewa National Forest. The following data summarize the operation of Jake's Pond since we began using it:

Year	Number of Fry Planted in Pond	Fingerlings Harvested in Fall		
		Pounds	Number	No./lb.
1972	180,000	143	18,600	130
1973	160,000	196	26,500	135
1974	80,000	184	13,800	75
1975	60,000	272	21,800	80
1976	60,000	415	14,525	35
1977	60,000	32	544	17
1978	60,000	192	5,750	30
1979	80,000	120	8,400	70

In some of these years a preliminary trapping of a few hundred fingerlings was conducted in mid-summer to obtain an initial indication of how the crop was doing, and these are not included in this tabulation.

There are many possible explanations for the variations observed from year to year, such as the amount of sunshine and the temperatures during the summer. It is necessary to experiment in each pond to determine the number of fry to introduce in order to obtain the optimum number and size of fingerlings. When there are too many fry there isn't enough food to produce the larger sizes of fingerlings that can survive after being transplanted into Ten Mile Lake. We have obtained excellent results when the number of fry was around 60,000 to 80,000.

Rearing ponds tend to deteriorate when used year after year. It often happens that production eventually drops to zero because of predators or for other reasons. The DNR is considering whether we should give Jake's Pond a rest next year. No decision has been made yet.

Successful Sailing Season in '79

Five boats captured the seven trophies in the 1979 summer racing season at Ten Mile Lake.

Jo Roberts and Family won first in the summer series and third in the final regatta.

Chris Brandt was first in the Fourth of July Regatta and second in the final Regatta.

Kion Hoffman won the final Regatta.

Sally Helzman was second in the summer series.

Rick and Mary Brandt were second in the Fourth of July Regatta.

"Generally, we had a successful season even though several races were cancelled for lack of wind," said Chris Brandt, Commodore of the Ten Mile Lake Yacht & Tennis Club. "However, the weather was great in summer '79 and I'd take that first and wind second."

Brandt was reelected Commodore; Byron Hoffman, Vice Commodore and Rick Brandt, Rear Commodore.

Anyone wishing to be included in the club mailing list should write to Chris Brandt, 2979 Long Lake Road, St. Paul, MN 55113.

Timber to be Sold Near Ten Mile Lake

Mature aspen and jack pine trees will be harvested off an acreage on the northwest side of Ten Mile Lake in the Chippewa National Forest between 1980 and 1983. The area surrounds Muskrat Lake, being west and north of Cass County #71 and the Batcheller Road.

Dean Hickey, District Forest Ranger in the Walker office of the Chippewa National Forest, stated that approximately 85 acres will be cleared and planted to red or jack pine and 25 acres to regenerating aspen. "In addition," Hickey stated in a letter to nearby Ten Mile Lake residents, "approximately 17 acres of permanent wildlife openings are planned to enhance wildlife habitat by creating additional diversity."

Sale of the trees in five parcels ranging from six to 43 acres was to be conducted in December following advertising. The successful bidder will have 3½ years to remove the trees.

Most of the cutover area will be open to firewood permits after the logger has completed harvesting, said Hickey.

Objective of the sale is to harvest the trees before additional mortality and losses of growth occur, said the ranger.

Interest Grows Locally in Outdoor Winter Sports

Our area is making an effort to add another winter sport for the hardy who go outside in the cold for cross country skiing, snowmobiling and ice fishing. Through November 1, about \$5,500 had been contributed to help reopen the Shingobee downhill ski slope, 5 miles southwest of Walker on Highway 34.

A CETA worker, Rick Rundquist, was hired to work at the hill. Brush has been cleared and ropes for the tows installed. It is expected to operate on weekends and holidays with a modest fee of \$2.50 per day for adults -- less for students and beginners.

More than a year of work has been put in by the Shingobee Winter Playground Inc., a non-profit organization, to secure a permit from the U.S. Forest Service to use the site. It operated as a ski slope in the 1950s and 1960s before closing due to the popularity of snowmobiling.

For snowmobilers, especially our year-around residents, "Back to Hackensack Days" will provide fun and excitement during the week end of February 16. The events being planned are somewhat different from those in years past and include an ice fishing contest and a snow rodeo.