

Ten Mile Lake Association

Newsletter

Summer, 2004

Dedicated to the Preservation and Improvement of Ten Mile Lake and its Environment

TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

by Al Griggs, Vice-President TMLA

AT OUR 2004 ANNUAL MEETING, we are particularly pleased and honored to have as our featured speaker **Dr. Howard Mooers** from the University of Minnesota at Duluth.

HOWARD MOOERS CURRENTLY HOLDS the chair of R.L. Heller Professor of Geology in the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. Dr. Mooers received his Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, in 1988 with emphases in glacial geology and hydrogeology.

For the past 12 years much of Dr. Mooers' research has focused on the glacial sediments and landforms of the Itasca and St. Croix moraines which include the Mississippi Headwaters, Leech Lake, and the Boy River Watershed. Most recently Dr. Mooers and his associate **David Stark** (M.S. also with the University of Minnesota), utilizing funds from a Mississippi Headwaters Grant obtained for the Ten Mile Lake Association by John Alden, completed a study of the groundwater and surface water of the Ten Mile and Birch lake watersheds. In his presentation Dr. Mooers will review some of this recent work along with some of the area's glacial and hydrogeologic history.

DON'T FORGET!!
THE ANNUAL MEETING of the
TEN MILE LAKE ASSOCIATION
SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Exhibits
10:00 a.m. Business Meeting

THE MORNING WILL BEGIN as usual at 9:30 a.m. with an opportunity to have some coffee and view exhibits presented by the various committees of TMLA. You will be able to watch a wonderful video about lakescaping at the E & E table, pick up a book about building birdhouses, browse among the History Committee's books and artifacts, and find a number of useful brochures and informational handouts.

THE OFFICIAL MEETING WILL start at 10:00 a.m. with a quick business meeting and presentation of brief reports from the TMLA committees. Then the meeting will be turned over to Dr. Mooers, followed by what we expect to be a stimulating question-and-answer period.

THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING promises to be one of the best ever, given Dr. Mooers' presentation and all of the developmental activities going on in the Ten Mile Lake area. I urge each and every Ten Mile Laker to attend if at all possible!

Ten Mile Lake Association Officers

Tom Cox, President (Class of 2005) 1st Term	675-6844
Al Griggs, Vice-Pres. (Class of 2005) 1st Term	675-6312
Joyce McManus, Treasurer (Class of 2005) 1st Term	675-6266
Anne McGill, Secretary (Class of 2005) 1st Term	675-6652

Resident Directors

Elinor Chase (Class of 2004) 1st Term	547-3924
Jerry Mills (Class of 2004) 2nd Term	547-1164
Gail Becher (Class of 2005) 2nd Term	547-3214
Heidi Hoppe (Class of 2006) 2nd Term	675-6265
Bob Horn (Class of 2006) 2nd Term	675-5314
Lorraine Stromquist (Class of 2006) 1st Term	675-6813

Summer Resident Directors

Ray Black (Class of 2004) 2nd Term	675-6903
Don Harris (Class of 2004) 1st Term	675-6285
Sue Eikenberry (Class of 2005) 1st Term	675-6183
Dave Losby (Class of 2006) 2nd Term	675-6066
Ken Regner (Class of 2006) 1st Term	675-5464
Randy Vosbeck (Class of 2006) 2nd Term	547-3840

Watershed Coordinator

John Alden	547-3114
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Membership Coordinator

Phoebe Alden	547-3114
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Committees

Adopt-A-Highway - David Losby (South), Molly Bliska, Sandy Birkholz, Judy Bryngelson, Elaine Crabb, Cary & Janet George, Sally Helsman, Bob and Nancy Horn, Paul & Carolyn Krech, Homer Olsen, Erik & Lise Olsen-Dufour, Rod Owre, Sharon Peterson, Ken Regner, Don Willis, Robert Nelson (North), Jack Adams, Phoebe and John Alden, Jerry Mills, Don Patterson, Larry Urbanski

Advisory Committee - Don Willis, Jack Adams, Bob Crom, Al Hoover, Ross Melgaard, Jim Miller, Jim Schwartz, Stan Skaug

Directory - Gail Becher, Phoebe Alden, Sarah Cox

Environment & Ecology - Ken Regner, Jack Adams, Gail Becher, John Alden, Fred Brosius, Pat Carey, Bruce Carlson, Al Griggs, Carl Hertzman, Bob Iversen, Marty McCleery, Ross Melgaard, Tom Moore, Brad Putney, Bob Rydell, Dick Sampel, Jim Schwartz, Judy Seward, Lorraine Stromquist, Forrest Watson, Don Willis

Environ. Protection Fund - Al Hoover, Ray Black, Rod Owre, Stan Skaug

Finance - Al Hoover, Jack Adams, Tom Cox, Al Griggs, David Losby, Ross Melgaard, Ted Melby, Nick Melby, Jim Miller, Randy Vosbeck

Fisheries - Rod Owre, Al Griggs, Pat Carey, Adam Gislason, Bob Horn, Dick Horn, Chet Malek, Jim Schwartz

Healthy Lakes - Marty McCleery, John Alden, Gail Becher, Tom Cox, Bob Crom, Ken Regner, Don Willis

History - Lorraine Stromquist, Stan Benbrook, Don Buck, Tom Cox, Sue Eikenberry, Mariana Goodwin, Deb Hamilton, Chuck Hamsa, Anne McGill, Ross Melgaard, Kim Moe, Larry Urbanski

Lake Level - Walt Kane

Lake Level Mgmt. - Tom Cox, John Alden, Dan Eikenberry, Walt Kane, Marty McCleery, Ray Raetz, Jim Schwartz

Lake Safety - Don Harris, Pat Gjevre, John McManus, Jerry Mills, Bob Moe, Sharon Peterson, Brad Putney, Jerry Unger

Loons - Dick Horn, Bob Moe, Dave Byers, Bob Crom, Chet Malek, Lynn Martin, Kim Moe, Ken Regner, Murry Towler

Newsletter - Sarah Cox, Ed., Jim Schwartz

Zoning & Land Use - Randy Vosbeck, John Alden, Elinor Chase, Pat Golden, Ted Melby, Bob Nelson, Ellie Nelson, Don Patterson, Dick Roberts

Don't Burn Your Garbage!

*Reprinted From the Minnesota Lakes Association
Lake Bulletin, March-April, 2004*

Many people around Minnesota still use on-site disposal methods like "backyard burning" to dispose of their household wastes. From burning waste in fire pits and woodstoves to the traditional burn barrel, over two percent of Minnesota's municipal solid waste (MSW) is still managed in this way. For most Minnesotans, however, it is **AGAINST THE LAW** to burn or bury household wastes — it has been illegal since 1969. Burning garbage releases toxic air pollutants that can contaminate our waters. Dioxin is the key toxin of concern as a potent human carcinogen that is especially harmful for pregnant women, children, and the elderly. Just one burn barrel can produce as much or more than a full-scale municipal waste combustor burning 200 tons/day. For more information, see the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance web site at

www.moea.state.mn.us/reduce/burnbarrel.cfm

for information on backyard burning or the Environmental Protection Agency at

<http://www.epa.gov/msw/backyard/>

A TML HISTORY TIDBIT

provided by Sue Eikenberry, History Committee

(From Ella Rasmussen's memories of 1931)

The store at Camp Iowa was called "The Honor Store." The sales pads were on the counter, and there were no clerks. We went into the store, picked up our groceries, and wrote the items on the pad. Later Edith and Bob Jensen filled in the prices. When we were ready to leave [the lake], we went to the house and paid for our groceries for the seven, ten, or fourteen days we had been there.

SOLVING WASTEWATER DISPOSAL PROBLEMS WHEN INDIVIDUAL SEPTIC SYSTEMS NO LONGER SERVE

by John Alden, TMLA Watershed Coordinator

TEN MILE'S NORTH SHORE PROJECT: In 1999, after five years of intense planning, 22 property owners on the North Shore formed themselves into a Subordinate Service District under Shingobee Township in order to develop a common wastewater disposal system. They needed the District approach because many of their septic systems were failing and/or non-conforming and because most did not have enough land to address the problem individually. Their new system has been in operation for several years now, and while not problem free, it has addressed these lakeshore owners' need for an environmentally sound way to dispose of sewerage.

WHAT ARE SUBORDINATE SERVICE DISTRICTS? Subordinate Service Districts (SSDs) are authorized by Minnesota Statute 365A. Under the statute, Sanitary engineers design "environmental" SSDs for Townships to use as a long-term management tool to provide needed services to local neighborhoods. Like the North Shore SSD on Ten Mile Lake, formation and operation of SSDs often involves State agencies, County oversight, federal participation and Township agreement.

HOW IS AN SSD FORMED? The State suggests that the following process may be needed to get an SSD into operation:

STEP I:

- Neighbors organize informational meetings with Township and County officials
- Neighbors petition their Township Board, identifying the area of service and the extent of need
- Neighbors and Township contract with an engineering firm for preliminary research and design
- The engineering firm provides preliminary cost estimates for any construction projects
- Neighbors and Township work with the County to secure tentative right-of-way and easements

STEP II:

- Neighbors, Township and County hold public hearing on cost estimates, construction design, tentative financing, and research
- Neighbors, Township and County prepare a

resolution creating an Environmental Subordinate Service District, which identifies:

- District area boundaries
- Service provided
- Financing to be used
- Any amendments or changes
- Date for District project to begin

- Township publishes resolution in a qualified newspaper: District may begin in 60 days
- Record documents with:
 - County Auditor's Office, for tax-roll purposes
 - County Recorder's Office, for land purposes
- Neighbors, Township and County prepare the Ordinance governing the SSD

STEP III:

- Engineers complete construction design, with specifications
- Township lets bids for construction, including electrical construction (a bid bond, performance bond and payment bond are required)
- Township seeks and begins securing working capital and prepared certificates of indebtedness, bonding, etc.
- Township secures insurance for sanitary collection system
- Township purchases and/or secures easements and drain field site
- Township signs construction contract and construction begins

ESTABLISHING AN ENVIRONMENTAL SUBORDINATE SERVICE DISTRICT is not simple, quick, easy, or free, but in certain situations it may be the only solution to difficult wastewater problems. TML homeowners who are interested in learning more about the costs and benefits of ESSDs can gain more information from John Alden, TMLA's Watershed Coordinator, who is also a Licensed Septic System Designer and Evaluator (Tel.: 547-3114), and/or from John Sumption of the Cass County Environmental Services Department (Tel.: 547-7256).

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

by Tom Cox, TMLA President

AFTER ONE OF THE COOLEST JUNES on record, summery weather returned on Tuesday, June 29, when the sun shone and the temperature soared into the mid-eighties. At the sandy bottom in four feet of water at the end of our dock the thermometer read 65°, not as warm as in recent past years at this time, but warm enough for Sarah's first swim of the season. What a joy when the sunshine and warmth of summer return!

June's cool weather notwithstanding, in the final month of spring your Association was showing signs of its usual vitality:

- **OUR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, PHOEBE ALDEN**, reported that of our 663 members, 615 (93%) have paid their dues for this current year, 2003-04. Thirty members are new this year.
- **DAVE LOSBY AND BOB NELSON**, who coordinate the Adopt-A-Highway program on the south and north sides of the lake respectively, reported that already a number of volunteers have been out picking up trash from along the sides of Highway 50 and the Lower Ten Mile Lake Road. Perhaps the most intriguing finds were the dead porcupine in a bucket along the shoulder of Highway 50 (**Jerry Mills**), and the twelve wood ticks "found" by **Don Willis** along CSAH 6.
- **OUR ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE** is managing our lake water testing program which has been continuous since 1976, and with the advice of a special working group made up of **Al Griggs, Jim Schwartz, John Alden and Marty McCleery** is developing a plan for future testing with sound science as its foundation.
- **TREASURER JOYCE MCMANUS** reported that Association finances are in the black, with expenditures running within our budget.
- **SPECIAL THANKS TO ROD OWRE AND AL GRIGGS**, who have agreed to co-chair the Fisheries Committee, taking over from **Larry Urbanski** and co-chair **Don Brown**, who has asked to be relieved of committee responsibilities. Larry is making a steady recovery from the stroke he suffered last summer. He has again offered to provide a repository for fish heads, which may be dropped off at his house on the north shore where they will be frozen until they are delivered to the DNR Fisheries Office for counting throughout the summer.
- **LORRAINE STROMQUIST AND SUE EIKENBERRY** invested many hours early this spring in the sorting, reorganization and filing of the History Committee's many resources, including the multiple notebooks of historical records gathered by the History Committee during **Willa Shonkwiler Martin's** tenure as Chair. Meanwhile the Committee continues to solicit and collect family histories from Ten Mile families, with a view to publishing a book of Ten Mile history within the next two or three years.
- **AS USUAL, LOON COMMITTEE** members have been diligent this spring managing loon nesting platforms and monitoring Loon habits and hatches. **Bob and Kim Moe** provide a Loon Committee update on Page 12 of this Newsletter.
- **DON HARRIS, SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIR**, reports that the safety and no-wake buoys were in place timely this season. We are indebted to Committee member **John McManus** for a donation that made possible the purchase of two additional safety buoy solar lights. There are now three solar lighted safety buoys, one at the entrance to Long Bay, one at **Forseman (Hoppe's) Point** and one at the entrance to **Lundstrom's Bay**.
- **WALT KANE REPORTED** that on June 17th, Ten Mile's water level stood at 1378.87', which was 2.8" lower than on the same date last year, 5.5" higher than on November 1 last fall, and 1.1" higher than on May 16th this spring.
- **IN EARLY JUNE ZONING COMMITTEE CHAIR RANDY VOSBECK** drafted a letter which went over my signature to **Paul Fairbanks** of the Cass County Environmental Services Department outlining the TMLA Zoning Policy established last summer. Randy's letter spelled out the Association policy not to get involved with issues that may have an impact only on adjoining neighbors and do not have an impact on water quality or overall land use. Our Zoning Committee does attempt to monitor all planning and adjustment issues around the lake with a view to ensuring that the County has all the information that is pertinent to a given issue, but recommends TMLA Board action only on those matters that may have an impact on the lake and its surroundings as a whole. In such cases,

it is Association policy to notify the ESD in writing of Association thoughts, issues and concerns. In addition, when the Board votes to present its opinion to the Planning Commission or the Board of Adjustment at a public hearing, the opinion will be presented by our Zoning Committee chair, our Watershed Coordinator, or a Board member as an official representative of our Association. Individual property owners are of course free to comment on matters affecting their property, but they speak for themselves, and not as representatives of the Association.

- **WITH THANKS FOR THE COMPUTER EXPERTISE** and good offices of **Don Hoppe**, the Board has approved the publication, after two seasons in the making, of an enlarged, detailed and attractive Ten Mile Lake map showing the names of bays, coves, points and shorelines as well as the locations of buoys and other lake features together with a marginal array of street numbers to help residents pinpoint residential locations. Copies of the color map will be available at \$5.00 each at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 7th. Printed on quality 11"

by 17" stock, the maps may, at their owner's discretion, be punched and folded so as to fit conveniently into the current Ten Mile Property Owner's Handbook. A larger version of the map, suitable for wall mounting, will also be available for ordering.

- **YOU CAN FIND MUCH** of the latest news of the Ten Mile Lake Association, including an up-to-the-minute live web cam photo of the lake looking toward Long Bay from **Bob Iverson's** north shore front yard, on the TMLA website at www.tenmilelake.org.
- **WITH AN ACTIVE PROGRAM** such as we support, the TMLA always has room for more volunteers. Consider the work of our nine Association committees, and see whether there is an Association activity that you'd like to support with your involvement. You may find out more about the Association's work from any of the Committee chairs or Board members listed on Page 2 of this Newsletter. And, of course, Board meetings are always open. If you'd like to attend, please give me or any Board member a call.

LAKE SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

by Don Harris, Chair, Lake Safety Committee

1. **ALL THE BUOYS** were in place this spring for the 2004 Opening of fishing season.
 2. **THE 2004 WATERCRAFT OPERATOR'S TRAINING SESSION** had to be cancelled for lack of pre-registered students. The Committee believes that the lack of students was caused by several factors:
 - a. **Weather:** The unseasonably cold spell kept people away from the lake.
 - b. **Competition:** Courses are now offered on-line by the DNR; classes were also offered in Walker, Longville, and Pillager at approximately the same time.
 - c. **Publicity:** This may have been slow in developing and not offered with enough lead time.
 - d. **Timing:** Families, especially those from out-of-State, may not have arrived by June 25th when the course was scheduled.
 - e. **Candidates:** After three very successful years we may have exhausted the available supply of 12 to 17-year-old candidates for the course.
- UNDAUNTED, we will try again in 2005. Watch the Newsletter for dates.
3. **THE CASS COUNTY SHERIFF'S SAFETY PATROL BOAT** was on location and manned for the busy Fourth of July weekend.
 4. **THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF JOHN AND JOYCE McMANUS**, all of our lighted buoys have been converted to solar power, to reduce our maintenance costs (of replacing batteries). The buoy at Forseman Point was placed in memory of **Mary Ann Schmidt**.

PROTECTING AND RESTORING BUFFER ZONES... "IT'S THE RIGHT THING"

by Gail Becher, Lakescaping Subcommittee Chair

HERE IN MINNESOTA, there is a rich tradition drawing families to area lakes for an experience with nature and the rustic beauty of the Northwoods. Over the years, people have come not only to visit, but to build cabins, then houses, and make the lake their home. For the most part, in the early days of development, shorelines were left alone or mildly altered. As the years passed, however, the practice of clearing trees, native shrubs, grasses, wildflowers, and other plants, has become all too often a standard occurrence. And, as more and more people are attracted to the lakes, they often bring with them landscaping practices more associated with suburban settings. Within a relatively short time, some area lakes have become surrounded by expansive lawns down to the water's edge, thus replacing native vegetation with turf.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF BAD SHORELINE MANAGEMENT: What this means for wildlife is less suitable habitat and fewer corridors for travel. Deep rooted plants like the native shrubs, grasses, sedges, bullrushes, and others are no longer available to anchor and stabilize the soils. During years of high water, or times of high winds and wave action, rainstorms, and spring snow melt, shorelines become more vulnerable to erosion. The soils and sediments washing into the lake cover aquatic insects, fish eggs, and many plant and animals, cutting off their oxygen supply, and often suffocating them to death. In addition, along with the sediments and soils, the erosion carries nutrients and pollutants from upland activities into the lake.

As a result, many of the same people attracted to the natural beauty of lake life are now discovering a new set of problems as lakeshore property owners and with the health of the lake itself. More and more it becomes apparent that our actions truly do affect the health of the shoreland, the natural habitat, and lake water quality.

BUT THE GOOD NEWS is that much of Ten Mile Lake's shorelands have been left natural and we continue to be blessed with good water quality, abundant wildlife, suitable fish habitat, and aesthetically pleasing shorelines of native vegetation. And best of all, Ten Mile Lake enjoys an interested and informed association membership: people who want to do the "right thing" when it comes to best management practices along their lakeshore property for today and for the future.

The Buffer Zone — a Best Management Practice: One of the Best Management Practices for

Lakeshore protection and restoration is guided by the principle that we can seek a balance that satisfies our lakeshore lifestyle and recreation needs while providing for good habitat and water quality. The main concept in this practice is to protect or create a "Buffer Zone" of native vegetation along your shore. This buffer zone works best when it extends out into the water, as deep as plants will grow, and then upland from the water's edge extending 25 feet or so. Does this mean your entire shoreland needs to be planted with native vegetation? The answer is no. Instead, think of buffer zones and your desired use of your lakeshore property as being able to co-exist.

First of all, consider your use patterns and needs regarding the lakeshore. Do you want an area to swim, a place to store your docks or lifts, a path to the lake, a visual connection between your house and the lake, a quiet place to sit, a butterfly garden, more privacy, etc.? With this list in mind, reconsider your image of the ideal shoreline, and remember: removing all the native vegetation damages the shore and lake ecology.

CREATING A PROJECT BASEMAP: Next create a basemap as a reference for your protection or restoration buffer zone project. On this basemap locate your home, cabin, or other buildings, along with your lot lines and driveway. Include your shoreline property dimensions, location of existing trees and shrubs, beach or dock areas, and storage areas.

Now, think of your recreational needs and desires and develop a design plan for your lakeshore so you can incorporate your activities and needs while you still maintain areas for the native plant buffer zone. Experts suggest using 25percent of your shoreline to fulfill the recreational activities and needs while the other 75percent is used to preserve or restore your native plant buffer zone. Remember, the design plan should substantially reduce the turf lawn, while protecting or adding native trees, shrubs, grasses, wildflowers, and aquatic plants to your property.

HOW TO APPROACH YOUR PROJECT: At this point you'll want to determine the approach to your buffer zone project. Perhaps your shoreland is still naturalized with native vegetation. In this case your plan can be as simple as protecting the existing native plants and planning for and limiting the activities within the shoreland buffer zone. Or, if your shoreland has been previously disturbed and much of the area is covered with turf, maybe you will want to restore native vegetation via the labor saving method of preventing

disturbance, by reducing and controlling factors that disturb the buffer zone, such as mowing or raking. A third option is to restore your shoreland's buffer zone via **planting native species**, — reintroducing native plant materials by seeding, plugging, or planting. And of course buffer zones can be successfully created using a combination of the three approaches.

When determining your approach, don't forget to consider your budget, labor, the anticipated time commitment on your part, along with a project time line.

PLANTING NATIVE SPECIES: Should you choose to use the **Planting Native Species** approach, the next fun step is developing a plant list. Don't forget you want to use native vegetation. We have all come to learn of the terrible problems that develop when exotic species are introduced. When determining which plants to incorporate, one good idea is to look at existing native vegetation around Ten Mile Lake that you find desirable and would like to mimic. You'll want to remind yourself that most plants have specific conditions in which they thrive. Therefore, you need to consider your property's particular drainage, soil type, sun, and wind exposure when making plant selections.

Finally, don't forget the values of buffer zones are

phenomenal. They:

- ◆ stabilize shores and reduce erosion
- ◆ increase fish and wildlife habitat
- ◆ provide corridors for wildlife
- ◆ filter nutrients and pollutants
- ◆ enhance water infiltration and storage
- ◆ trap sediments
- ◆ reduce lawn maintenance
- ◆ naturalize property
- ◆ discourage nuisance wildlife (Canada Geese)
- ◆ create natural aesthetics
- ◆ control insects naturally
- ◆ reduce the impact of water damage from upland sources, and
- ◆ lessen the impact of wave action in causing erosion.

Wouldn't you say protecting and restoring buffer zones is truly **A Right Thing?**

WARNING! BIRD WATCHING CAN BE ADDICTIVE!

by Dick Sampel, Environment & Ecology Committee

Since we at Ten Mile Lake all live close to a national forest, there is a great variety of birds near by; these birds need only a little encouragement to share our lake-front property.

At the TMLA Annual Meeting two years ago, the Environment and Ecology Committee introduced a program to spur interest in building bird houses for our feathered friends. The Committee presented several models for display and made available simple plans for the construction of the different models.

Now Carroll Henderson of the Minnesota DNR has published a text, "Woodworking for Wildlife," with illustrations and specifications for building a variety of birdhouses. These books will be available at the next TMLA Annual Meeting on August 7 at a cost of \$8.00.

But there's more! We also plan to offer a workshop on Wednesday afternoon, August 11, 2004 to demonstrate how easy it is to build these houses. So bring your curiosity and join us at the home of **Bob and Jean Rydell**, 4868 Hiram Lake Road on the North Shore. (A map will be available at the Annual Meeting.)

Building any of these houses involves only a small amount of time and money, but the bird watching pleasure you will enjoy is endless!

Warning!

Birdwatching can be addictive!

MNDNR's "RESTORE YOUR SHORE" CD IS A MUST-HAVE!

by Gail Becher, E & E Committee

Recently I came across a tremendous asset to those wanting to protect or restore their shore, or simply to learn about this great Best Management Practice sweeping across the State. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR), Division of Ecological Services Ecosystems Education Program has published a CD titled "Restore Your Shore, A Guide to Protecting and Restoring The Natural Beauty of Your Shoreland." I found this CD to be a wealth of inspiring and educational material, excellent photography, soothing natural sounds and informative interviews.

In the Introduction, guiding principles of natural shoreland management are presented: the buffer zone concept, shoreland ecology, water quality, and our stewardship role. The Shore Lore section looks at a range of approaches to protecting and restoring natural shorelands, along with exploring the social aspects of natural landscaping with an exercise called "What will the neighbors think?" This section also offers solutions for twelve of the most common shoreland problems. The next section covers Steps and Techniques, and allows you to follow step by step processes including helpful worksheets and forms to read your shoreline, identify your project objectives, select a management approach, design a shoreline plan, estimate time and costs, and implement a shoreline project. In addition there is an exhaustive plant guide which represents twenty-nine MN plant communities, a database of 402 native plants featuring a full screen profile with text, photos, maps, and species descriptions. Personal plant lists can be generated, edited, saved, and printed to make it easier to select and purchase plants. And thirty-six non-native invasive plants are described in

words and photos with recommendations for native alternatives and for control methods. There are links with related themes and learning tools throughout the program for users with internet access routed through the MN-DNR's Web site.

In my opinion, this CD is a must-have for your personal use, education, and enjoyment. The Environment and Ecology Committee will have some on hand to sell at the Annual Meeting, on a first come-first served basis. If the CD's run out, the Committee will take orders. In addition, the CD will be playing at the E & E Committee table before the business meeting starts, so plan to stop by and see it.

In addition, the CD is available through the Minnesota Bookstore, by telephone at 1-800-657-3757. In addition, you can contact them by fax at 651-215-5733, or find them online at <http://www.minnesotabookstore.com/>. The cost of the CD is \$29.95, plus shipping. However, bulk quantities to Lake Associations are available for \$17.97, plus shipping. Should you be interested in ordering at the bulk price and cannot attend the Annual meeting, please contact Gail Becher at 547-3214.

Also, the wonderful book entitled "Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality," which we previously made available at the bulk price of \$11.97, plus shipping (vs. \$19.95, plus shipping) can also be ordered by contacting Gail Becher. It too is a must-have for those wanting to protect and restore their shoreland property and protect and improve water quality and wildlife habitat.

YOU CAUGHT IT — NOW, CAN YOU EAT IT? ADVICE ABOUT SAFE CONSUMPTION OF FISH

The Minnesota Department of Health has produced an excellent brochure that describes why it is necessary to be careful eating fish, and offers some guidelines as to amounts and frequency of eating fish, particularly for women who are or may become pregnant, and for children.

The brochure points out that fish are an excellent food: they're a great source of protein, vitamins, and minerals, are low in saturated fat, and may help prevent heart disease. The problem is mercury. Even the most pristine Minnesota lakes receive mercury from air pollution (the result of coal combustion, mining, etc.).

Prolonged exposure to mercury can damage your kidneys and your nervous system, cause tingling, prickling, or numbness in hands and feet or changes in vision, and may increase the risk of cancer.

The Health Department suggests the following rules:

1. Eat smaller, younger fish.
2. Eat more panfish (sunfish, crappies) and fewer predator fish (walleyes, northern pike, lake trout).
3. Trim skin and fat, especially belly fat, and eat fewer fatty fish (carp, catfish, and lake trout.)

(Continued: Advice on Fish Consumption)

Then, more specifically, the Department offers guidelines for two groups of people.

A. Guidelines for Women Who are Pregnant or May Become Pregnant, and Children Under Age 15:

Kind of Fish You Eat	How Often Can You Eat It?
Fish Caught in Minnesota: Sunfish, Crappie, yellow perch, bullheads	1 meal per week
Walleyes, shorter than 20 inches, northern pike shorter than 30 inches, small- or large-mouth bass, channel catfish, flathead catfish, white sucker, drum burbot, sauger, carp, lake trout, white bass, rock bass, whitefish	1 meal per month
Walleyes longer than 20 inches, northern pike longer than 30 inches, muskellunge	DO NOT EAT.
Commercial Fish: Shark, swordfish, tile fish, king mackerel	DO NOT EAT.
Other commercial species, including canned tuna	See MDH Brochure, "An Expectant Mother's Guide to Eating Minnesota Fish"
Note: These guidelines apply even if eating fish just during a vacation or for just one season.	

B. Guidelines for Men, and for Women Not Planning to Become Pregnant.

Kind of Fish You Eat	How Often Can You Eat It?
Fish Caught in Minnesota: Sunfish, Crappie, yellow perch, bullheads	Unlimited Amount
Walleyes, northern pike, small- or large-mouth bass, channel catfish, flathead catfish, white sucker, drum, burbot, sauger, carp, lake trout, white bass, rock bass, whitefish, other	1 meal per week
Commercial Fish: Limit the following species: shark, swordfish, tile fish, king mackerel	1 meal per month
Note: In general, adults who eat fish just during vacation or one season can eat fish twice as often as recommended in these guidelines.	

We will try to have copies of the brochure available at the Annual Meeting on August 7.

THOUGHTS ON LOWER TEN MILE LAKE ROAD

by Tom Cox

FROM SOME PERSPECTIVES, with huge machines brushing out the ditches and cutting down trees along its right-of-way, Lower Ten Mile Lake Road in June had the appearance of an ugly gash through the forest. It was reassuring to know that the "time of tearing down" would give way to a "time of building," and that the ultimate promise of this temporary insult to the environment will be an attractive, stronger, safer, highway, with clearly demarcated hiking/biking lanes on each side. Still, it has been hard to watch the "Hydro-Ax" and other seeming-monstrous equipment despoil the roadside trees and shrubbery that have taken generations to develop and mature.

I REMEMBER MY OWN mixed feelings when, some forty-plus years ago, Cass County 6 was first leveled and paved, after having served for generations as a gravel road that was almost as much a roller coaster as it was a highway. As children riding in the back seat of our family Chevrolet, my sister and I eagerly anticipated those last four miles of the trip to the lake each summer, when our Dad would accelerate up the rises, and then, just as we crested a hill, take his foot off the pedal. Our upward momentum lifted us right off the seat of the car, our stomachs would do a flip, our heads might actually touch the ceiling, we would exclaim with delight and then holler, "do it again, Dad, do it again!" That roller coaster ride was only the first of the many thrills of arriving on the south shore of the lake in the '40s and '50s.

But as a youngster, little did I appreciate that dusty, washboard road's wear and tear on our car. Nor, in those pre-seat belt days, did I understand the risks to life and limb of driving at speed on a narrow, hilly, gravel road, where the visibility was minimum, shoulders soft and carelessness could easily result in catastrophe, as it did one day when before our very eyes a car came speeding over a rise and smashed into the car of our neighbor, who had only just stopped to pick up her mail from her roadside mailbox.

ITS DANGERS NOTWITHSTANDING, in the early sixties we and our neighbors mourned the loss of the "roller coaster" that was County 6, and gradually came to appreciate and enjoy its newly leveled and blacktopped upgrade. Its new name, Lower Ten Mile Lake Road, seemed like an upgrade, too. It was remarkable to have such an amenity in such a remote and, 'till then, still fairly rustic part of the world.

CURIOUS ABOUT THE CURRENT WORK on CSAH (County State Aid Highway) 6, I recently called the County Engineer, David Enblom, for an update. Some of what he told me I already knew, but good deal of his

information was new, at least to me.

I learned, for example, that CSAH 6 in its current state is a little over 40 years old. Since it was upgraded to its present state in about 1960, the population around the lake and in north central Minnesota has grown significantly, and with it, of course, the traffic. More and more Ten Milers are using the road, and more each year are finding it a pleasurable road to walk and bike. More than that, the road has become a thoroughfare for heavier traffic; witness the freight and other commercial vehicles that ply the road from dawn to dusk most weekdays.

MR. ENBLOM TOLD ME THAT Minnesota considers CSAH 6 a "major collector," providing access between two "trunk highways," MN 371 and MN 64. Having become a major east-west connector through the County, the road is called upon to bear heavier vehicles, and is thus in need of greater strength. Serving wider as well as local interests, it also needs to be made safer. Almost everyone who walks or bikes on the road has shuddered whenever one of those huge gravel trucks, a semi or even a pickup pulling a boat trailer goes whizzing by, seemingly within inches of the white sideline. Someone may suggest that the County limit such traffic on the road. But because it is a State aid highway, a public road and a "major collector," it must serve the wider public as well as Ten Milers. State law does not allow more limits than are now in place.

WHEN THE ROAD WAS UPGRADED to its present state over forty years ago, the County acquired a right-of-way according to State standards. In rural areas, through which most of the highway runs, the standard is 50 feet from the center line on each side of the highway. One thing I didn't know was that the State classifies the area along the southeast side of the lake – the familiar "30-mile-an-hour zone" – "suburban," as opposed to "rural". The right-of-way standard in this area is 33 feet from the center line. Within the right of way, whether rural or suburban, there must also be a perfectly clear (*i.e.*, no trees, shrubbery, signs, power poles, telephone pedestals) "recovery zone," which in the rural area is 37 feet, and in the suburban area 22 feet from the center line.

SOMETHING ELSE I DIDN'T KNOW: In some places the power poles and lines were within the 37 Ft. recovery area, and in some places the telephone lines were right beneath the shoulder, and would have been buried beneath the pavement once the hiking/biking lanes were added. In these instances the power poles and lines, and the phone lines are being moved. In general, they are being placed within the outside five

feet of the right-of-way, *i.e.*, outside the recovery area, but still within the cleared right-of-way so that the utility companies can readily maintain them.

ADDING THE HIKING/BIKING LANES along the shoulders requires recontouring the drainage ditches and replacing of all of the culverts (some of which had collapsed or become plugged), which reestablishes drainage patterns in order to maintain the integrity of the road.

I MENTIONED TO MR. ENBLOM that in the cases of Highway 71 and Highway 50, the County had consulted with the local community at length about proposed roadway changes and potential environmental damage. I asked why this procedure had not been followed in the case of CSAH 6. Mr. Enblom said that in both of the other cases, improvements required some roadway realignments, and thus the acquisition of new rights-of-way, which involved, of course, the County's purchase from or swaps of land with local property owners. Some of the realignments would also require wetland filling and restoration. Thus, in those cases, the County established citizens' advisory groups to ensure sensitivity and accommodation, insofar as possible, to the preferences of property owners and the local community as well as to safety and environmental requirements. In contrast, for the CSAH 6 project the County already owned the right-of-way, and with one small exception, where a property owner was amenable to selling the County 17 feet of land to enable widening of the right-of-way, did not need to realign the road or to acquire new land. Hence there were no major environmental or property taking issues requiring an advisory group.



Two of five sentinel pines saved June 29

Mr. Enblom said that some property owners, soon after they saw the surveyors' stakes marking the right-of-way, called or came to him with their concerns about the potential loss of desirable trees and other landscaping. In most cases, the county was able to accommodate property owners' concerns. Some local residents took a different approach. Enlisting the support of County Commissioner Rusty Lilyquist, on the morning of Tuesday, June 29, Molly Bliska and Nina Burke spearheaded a demonstration to protest the removal of five sentinel pine trees currently standing in the right-of-way across the road from Molly's house in the suburban zone. Nina and Arlen Damlo were deeply disappointed that they did not receive more support from the TMLA in this effort. But

with determination, the small group that demonstrated that morning won dispensation from the County, which has agreed to preserve the trees and to reconfigure the recovery area and drainage ditch around and behind the trees.

Incidentally, for those who have lost their mailbox posts due to construction, the County will provide and install, at its expense, new "swing-away" mailbox supports.

Finally, the project's total contract cost is \$1,060,000, plus about \$200,000 in design and inspection fees. Minnesota's State Highway User Fund, which comes from gas taxes and license plate fees, will cover the entire cost.

I HAD MIXED FEELINGS when gravel County 6 became a blacktopped highway in 1960. (No doubt there were those before who had mixed feelings when, sometime in the twenties, the road changed from being not much more than a rutted trail to being a gravel thoroughfare. That would have been a generation or two before my time.) I have mixed feelings now as I watch the Ten Mile area become more densely populated and highly developed. Current Lower Ten Mile Lake Road improvements are a sign of the larger changes taking place all around us. But I must confess, I contribute to those changes, both in population and development. From a family of five in 1950, we've doubled to a family of ten in 2004, still using the same property, and driving the same number of roads. And I do take pleasure in the company of my sons, their wives and my grandchildren at the lake, and in the cabin that we enlarged in 1998 to accommodate us in our retirement.

THE SHOCK OF CHANGE

NOTWITHSTANDING, I don't doubt that I'll soon enjoy driving and biking on a newly paved, strengthened and safer Lower Ten Mile Lake Road. Now, having given it some thought, I find I appreciate being a property owner in a State and County that had the wisdom a half a century ago and more to acquire the right of way that now allows for a road which, while it inevitably represents a change to the environment, still respects it, and furnishes me, so many Ten Milers and the general public safe, convenient and still attractive travel by foot, bike, car, motorcycle, pickup, SUV, ambulance, fire truck and, yes, even eighteen wheeler, to and from all the many places we want and need to go.

THE LOON JOURNAL

by Bob and Kim Moe, Loon Committee

The best time to determine the number of loon chicks hatched is the last week of June and first week of July. During this time the loon chicks are still small and will stay with their parents. It is easy to count family groups and numbers of chicks. When the chicks are very small the family will tend to stay in an area called the "nursery". This is usually near the nest in protected areas of the lake. The parents can be noted catching small fish to feed to their hungry chicks. The chicks will, at times, ride on the backs of the parents for the first week of life —this is for protection, rest, and warmth.

On Ten Mile we have several loon chicks this summer:

- ▶ on 6/6/04 one chick was hatched on flower pot bay (nest platform)
- ▶ a late hatch (after 6/20) with 1 chick at the Boy River area (nest platform)
- ▶ a late hatch of 2 chicks at the mouth of Long Bay (natural nest)
- ▶ another late hatch of 1 along the south side of the causeway(nest platform)

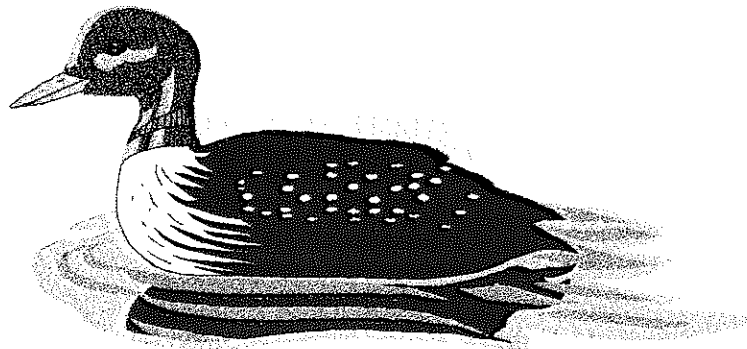
- ▶ possibly 1 or 2 chicks hatched along the north side of the causeway (nest platform)

Both parents feed the chick for the first three weeks. Chicks begin diving within 10 to 13 days of life. By the third week the parents will drop an injured fish in front of the chick so it can catch it and learn to feed on its own. By the eighth week the chick is fully feathered and the feet and legs are almost adult size. By the eleventh week the chick will still try to get food from the parents — even though they can fish independently. Young loons are able to take their first flight when they are 70 to 77 days old.

Predators of loon chicks include:

- ▶ eagles
- ▶ gulls
- ▶ snapping turtles
- ▶ large fish
- ▶ rogue loons

Studies reveal that about one loon chick in four survives its first three months of life — let's hope that the survival rate on Ten Mile is better!



ATTEND A WORKSHOP ON WETLAND PLANT IDENTIFICATION

by Gail Becher, E & E Committee

Are you interested in learning more about the fascinating plants which make wetlands their home? Then why not attend the workshop sponsored by the University of Minnesota Extension Service on Wetland Plant Identification:

August 5-6, 2004

Nisswa Community Center

Cost: \$35

To register, or to learn more about the workshop, check the UMN web site at

www.extension.umn.edu/water/shore

or call Eleanor Burkett at 888-241-1720.

BOUQUETS TO UNSUNG VOLUNTEERS

by Tom Cox, TMLA President

OUR ASSOCIATION'S DEBT TO ITS VOLUNTEERS is deep. Without the hours and energy invested in caring for its natural environment, its historical records, and its administration, the TMLA would be but a lifeless shell. In reality, since the 1950s, hundreds of thoughtful, far-sighted Ten Milers have provided the leadership, the practical support and the wherewithal to make the TMLA one of the outstanding lake associations in Minnesota. The Board and Committee member list that appears in each issue of the Newsletter offers only a single year's snapshot of those who have furnished the inspiration and energy to make the TMLA's vision a reality over the past half-century and more.

SOME VOLUNTEERS' NAMES, however, don't appear on that list, and their contributions thus remain unsung even to the extent of having their names appear regularly in the *Newsletter*. At the moment I have in mind the names of Jim Miller and Jim Hickman and of the late Dan Pederson.

HERE'S WHY. Since 1986, when the TMLA acquired its tax exempt status under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, we have been required to file Federal Tax Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, in each year our gross receipts were more than \$25,000. In our very early years, our receipts were not that high, but in 1987 from the Josten family the Association received a special, major gift which brought our income over the \$25,000 mark. Since then, especially when we have been receiving special gifts designated for the purchase of the Anderson property in Kenfield Bay, and now when we receive other, special contributions over and above regular dues

payments (as, for example, memorial contributions, last year's donation to enable us to purchase a hoist for the sheriff's safety patrol boat, and this year's donation for the purchase of solar buoy lights), our total receipts have often exceeded the \$25,000 threshold. Thus for about the past 16 years we have filed Form 990.

As are many tax forms, Form 990 is complicated and requires detailed reporting of Association information. Over the years we have been especially fortunate to have accounting professionals who have volunteered to gather, with the aid of our Treasurer, the required data and to file Form 990 in timely fashion. As a corollary task, these volunteers have also filed our annual organization registration with Minnesota's Secretary of State.

SOME HISTORICAL DETAILS are lost in the mists of time. But it may be that in earlier years Dan Pederson, now deceased, a one-time principal in the Walker firm, Pederson, Smith, Roehl & Co, CPA and son of the late Bernie and Rita Pederson, one-time owners of the Ten Mile Lake Inn (now Arthur's) provided this service for us. But the recent service of north shore member Jim Miller, of the accounting firm of LarsonAllen, and, just this past year, of south shore member Jim Hickman, CPA, is fresh in my memory. On behalf of the Association, my hat is off to these volunteers, whose expertise and heretofore unheralded generosity and dedication in this regard go a long way toward helping us to operate smoothly and effectively as a not-for-profit organization under Federal and State law.

Tennis On Ten Mile *by Stan Kramer*

DID YOU KNOW a robust tennis community exists on Ten Mile Lake? While the primary focus of most of us here at Ten Mile Lake is associated with lake living, many enjoy the game of tennis along with our water activities. There are several private courts available and even more enthusiastic players.

TO FACILITATE THIS ACTIVITY, we are assembling a roster of tennis players and playing preferences. I will compile this information into a list and email (or mail) it to everyone on the list as well as keep it up to date and use it to try to schedule a few tennis events during the summer months. If you would like to be included on the list, please submit the following information to me at skramer02@aol.com or mail to 3879 60th Avenue, NW, Hackensack, 56452.

Tennis Player Info:

- Name
- Contact info (lake telephone number, email address)
- USTA rating (if available) or estimated playing level
- Game preference (singles, doubles, mixed doubles, any)
- Time of day or day of week preference

THEN, THE NEXT TIME you're looking for a game of tennis at TML, you will have a list of players to work with.

THE HISTORY PAGE

MEMORIES OF A RURAL SCHOOL TEACHER — *Submitted by Mariana E. Goodwin*
(Mary Norton was interviewed at her rural home by Ross Melgaard in 1987. She now lives at May Creek Lodge in Walker.)

Mary's family moved to this area near Cyphers in 1912 when Mary was 3 years old. Because of the lack of roads, most children attended small rural schools. Mary started school in Cyphers with other children from Turtle Lake township and some from the Walker school district. There were about 10 students, enough to hire a teacher. (Seven was the minimum.) At one time Cass County had 200 schools in the unorganized school district. The school board consisted of the elected school superintendent, the county treasurer and the chairman of the county board. They were required by law to visit each school twice a year.

When Mary finished eighth grade she went to high school at St. Benedicts near St. Cloud as a boarder. She finished high school in 1927 and then went to Walker for one year of normal training. She boarded with a lady in Walker during the winter months and in the spring and fall drove a Model T. At that time grade school teachers were required to have four years of high school and one year of normal training, which was provided in Walker and in Pine River. With that they received a teaching certificate good for seven years. They could renew the certificate by going back to school for six weeks.

Mary's first job was in a school near Boy River. The custom for boarding of teachers was to look around the community for the poorest family who most needed the extra money. The community also set up rules for the teachers who had to be single and couldn't smoke, drink or dance. Teachers also had extra duties including

building a fire in a wood-burning stove each morning before the students arrived. Cass County schools all had "Smith System" stoves, with a cast iron center and a jacket for circulating heat.

At one time Mary taught at the Onigum School which had two teachers, one for the lower grades and one for the upper grades. Mary taught 47 children in the lower grades, plus doing the janitor work and preparing lunch for the children.

Teachers in rural schools were expected to teach as much to all the eight grades in eight months as teachers in town did to one grade in nine months. At the end of eighth grade, students took a state test which determined whether or not they were eligible to go on to high school. The teachers visited families quite often to urge the parents to support their children's learning. Many parents did not have an eighth grade education themselves. In those days most teachers did not stay in one school more than two years. This was so they got to meet different people and didn't get bored.

At one time there was a school on the southwest corner of Ten Mile Lake. The teacher was Helene Montgomery. That school had a small teacherage where she lived during the week. One day near Christmas Mary's oldest brother took Helene home to Portage Lake. After visiting for a while, he headed home, skating across the lake. There was still some open water and he fell in and drowned. His cap was found on the ice. He was 23 years old.

A TMLA HISTORY TIDBIT

by Sue Eikenberry, History Committee

— *From an account on the Mullendore property written by Cyril Grand Hedderly, who lived there from 1906 to 1923:*

Cyril reports catching Northerns at that time of 20 to 22 pounds. They called these fish "Sand Trout," and they sliced them like steak.

REMEMBERING OUR TEN MILE LAKE FRIENDS

Judith L. Mason

Judith L. Mason was a bright and caring lawyer with a great sense of humor and a strong commitment to her family. She was born Judith Flahaven, on November 18, 1944 in Parkston, SD, the oldest of six children. A math major at south Dakota State University, she was a member of the debate team and graduated in three years. She worked for nine years as a computer programmer at Control Data, where she met her husband, Don Mason.

The couple had three children: Tom, Mike, and Katie. Judy was an outstanding wife and mother who put her family first. "She always had her priorities in the right place," says her husband, Don. Judy taught Great Books for three years as a volunteer in the Osseo School District, and faithfully attended her kids' school activities and sports meets.

While her children were still young, she attended the University of Minnesota Law School, graduating in 1982. Despite the rigors of law school, she always had time for her family. She was sole practitioner throughout most of her legal career in Brooklyn Center and Rogers. Judy practiced family law, criminal defense, and mediation. She shared an office with Bette Nelson and Charlotte Jensen, who remember her fondly.

Judy was quick to spot legal issues and enjoyed legal research. She worked hard on behalf of her clients and was tenacious when she thought something wasn't right. She frequently took on pro bono and reduced-rate work for clients. After Judy's funeral, Don

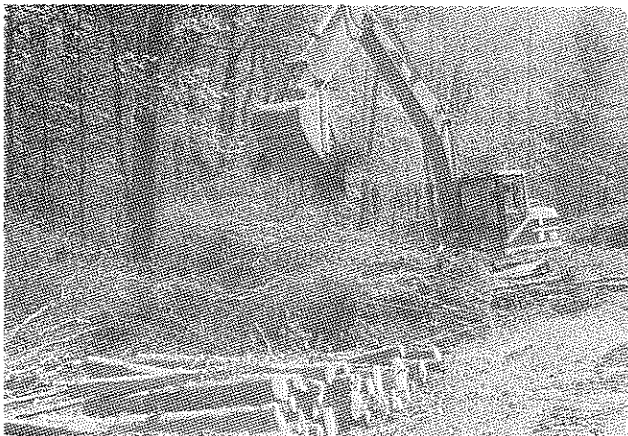
received letters from former clients who recalled how much difference Judy had made in their lives. Both as an attorney and in her personal life, Judy was courteous and promoted civility and respect. Family law practice can be contentious, but she was always respectful and never promoted a fight.

Judy passionately believed in mediation as a way to resolve conflicts. She was a volunteer mediator, board member, and president of the North Hennepin Mediation Program. She was chosen as Mediator of the Year in 2002. She also mediated family law cases in her law practice. The words of the Bible, "Blessed are the peacemakers," apply to Judy.

Judy loved to exchange recipes with friends and to try the newest restaurants. She loved all things Irish, including her trips to the Emerald Isle. A voracious reader, she would finish three to five books a week. For the last 20 years, she enjoyed spending time with her family at their cabin on Ten Mile Lake.

Judy is survived by her husband, Don; children Tom, Mike (Deanna), and Katie; granddaughter, Michaela; grandson, Aidan; sisters, Jean Loso and Patty Wilsey; brothers, Jerry, Thomas, and Michael Flahaven; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

(This material was put together by Phil Carruthers, former Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives, for a memorial hosted by the Minnesota State Bar Association for nineteen attorneys. It was provided to the Newsletter by Don Mason.)



Piling brush, Lower Ten Mile Lake Road near Meadow Road,
May 28, 2004



Removing Cut Tree Trunks Along Lower Ten Mile Lake Road Near
Hillaway Lane May 28, 2004

**This Newsletter is a Publication
of the
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