

In person at Zorbaz Online via YouTube

Saturday, June 10, 2023 8-8:30a.m. Registration 8:30a.m. Business Meeting

Thank you to our many Little Sand Lake photographers for the beautiful photos! All photos imported from LSLAA Facebook page posts.

NOTE: This meeting may be recorded.



Little Sand Lake Area Association Annual Meeting June 10, 2023

Welcome and Call to Order

Christine Hobrough, President Welcome to members

- In-person participants
- YouTube participants

Secretary's Report

Cindy Nollette, Secretary
Approval of June 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Jane Amble, Treasurer Annual financial update

Unfinished & On-going Business

Healthy Lake Report
Volunteer Appreciation
Annual Dues
Volunteer Appreciation
Upcoming Social Announcements
July 4th Boat Parade & Contest
Election of Board Members
Sponsor thank you & drawing!

MaJeana Hallstrom Christine Hobrough Christine Hobrough Christine Hobrough Social Committee Adam Goebel MaJeana Hallstrom Social Committee



Treasurer's Report Jane Amble

Redacted for website posting 6/19/23; contact Treasurer for questions

Year-end December 31, 2022

Treasurer's Report Jane Amble

Year-to-date May, 2023

Redacted for website posting 6/19/23; contact Treasurer for questions

Redacted for website posting 6/19/23; contact Treasurer for questions

2023 LSLAA
Budget
and
Actual
Expenses for
2022-2023

Here's how we spend your dues and donations!







Healthy Lake Report

MaJeana Hallstrom, COLA Rep & Past President

- Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)
- Water Quality Activities
- Eyes on the Water
- Decontamination Station
- COLA Grant Opportunities
- Lead and Loons: A Toxic Relationship
- Aquatic Vegetation Survey
 - Project
 - Results
- Restore the Shore
- Boat/Launch Inspections Update



Maintaining our Healthy Lake



Little Sand Lake Healthy Lake Monitoring Tasks and Volunteers

Original Date: 6/20/21 Updates: 6/30/21, 7/5/21, 7/7/21, 9/14/21; 1/16/22 Type of Monitoring Frequency of Monitoring Location of Report or send results to: VOLUNTEERS who Purpose of Monitoring monitoring* Boat Launch Inspections Inspectors check Each fall, the Little Sand Lake Funding Info: Public Boat Launch In the fall, Hubbard County Paid Inspectors hired by Hubbard County watercraft entering Little Association Board determines Environmental Services determines Sand Lake for aquatic the total number of inspection and managed by **Environmental Services** the total number of state/countyinvasive species (AIS) such hours for the lake for the Hubbard County Department funded inspection hours and shares as Eurasian Milfoil. Zebra following season—usually a Environmental Services that with the lake associations. Mussels, etc. total of 475 hours. The state/ perform these Emma Township sends a grant form Hubbard County, Emma inspections. to the lake's COLA rep. usually in Environmental Services Township, and LSLAA pay for the December, for the lake to request Dept_determines the

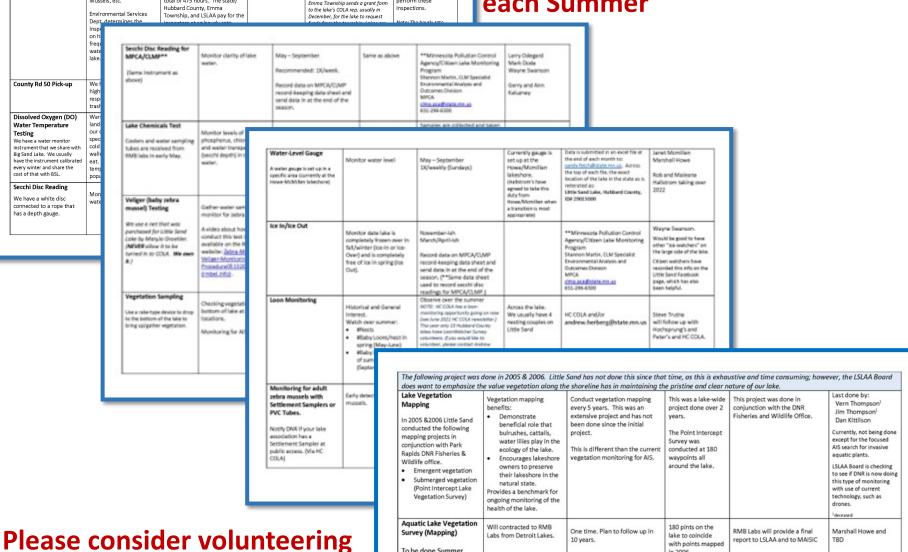
13 Water Quality & Environmental **Monitoring Activities are** conducted by Little Sand Volunteers each Summer

with points mapped

in 2006

Some monitoring to be done

each year by LSLAA volunteers.



To be done Summer

2022 funded by a HC

COLA grant and LSLAA



Eyes on the Water

- If you have a Zebra Mussel sampler (plastic type or cement block)
 - Let me know if you have one!
 - Hang from your dock ASAP if not already done
 - Fill out survey at the end of the summer

LSLAA has done a great job in the past



Examples of Zebra Mussel
Sediment Samplers

ALERT!!!

If you take your boat into a lake that has this sign at its launch, **DO NOT** bring your boat into Little Sand Lake (or any other lake) without properly decontaminating it!!



- Chinese Mystery Snails in Little Sand Lake
- Faucet Snails in Upper Bottle, 4th Crow Wing & Duck Lakes
- Curly Leaf in Big Mantrap
- Eurasian Milfoil in Big Mantrap (reported under control)
- Zebra Mussels in Long Lake
- Zebra Mussel scare





Chinese Mystery Snail discovered in Little Sand



Decontamination station open

call ahead 218-252-6738

Located at: 812 Henrietta Avenue S Park Rapids, MN 56470

There is also one located at the Bemidji Middle School





Lead and Loons -A toxic relationship.

Get the Lead Out!

Program sponsored by Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

Some 20% - 25% of loons die from lead poisoning by ingesting:

- Fish that have lead bait in their bodies.
- Lead that is mixed with gravel at the bottom of the lake.

Replace your lead tackle with lead-free tackle.

Lead-free tackle works! And it protects our state bird, the common loon **GET THE LEAD OUT**

What's the problem with lead?



Lead is toxic to wildlife. Even in small amounts, it is lethal to loons, eagles, and trumpeter swans. It is estimated that lead is responsible for up to 25% of loon deaths.



Loons pick up lost lead tackle while gathering pebbles for their gizzards. Loons are also exposed when eating fish that have ingested lead.



Lead is toxic to people, both when handling lead products and in the manufacturing process.

Teach your tadpoles!

Create a lead-free tackle box for your kids or grandkids.



Non-toxic alternatives

- Tungsten
- Bismuth
- Steel Tin
- Glass
- Stone
- · Metal composite



For a list of lead-free tackle manufacturers. visit our website!



Don't throw lead in the trash! Bring it to your local Household Hazardous Waste dropsite.



www.pca.state.mn.us/leadout



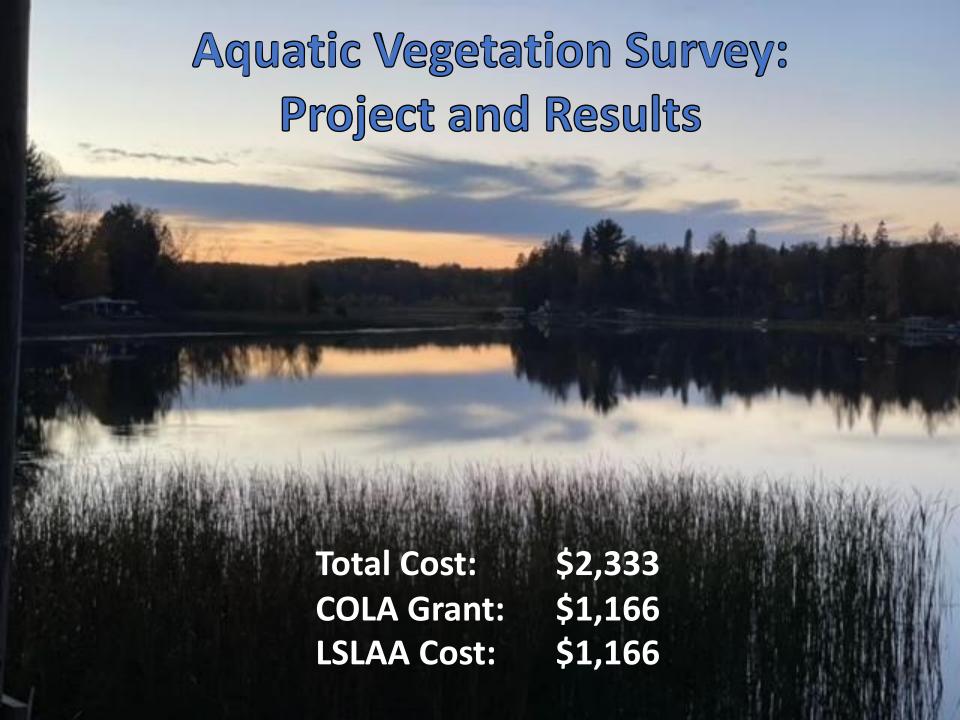




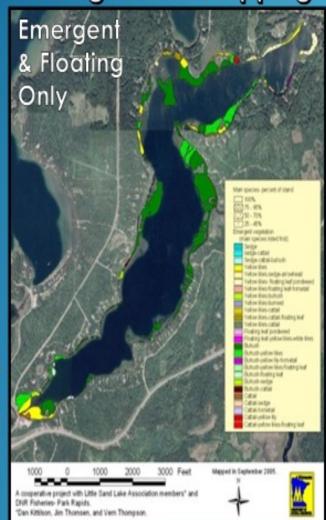
COLA Grant Opportunities

- Up to \$2,000 from COLA for things such as
 - Research, studies or projects on water quality, shoreland development and disseminating information thereof to member associations and the general public.
- Little Sand Lake was awarded a grant to do Vegetation
 Mapping in 2022
 - Follow-up to mapping done by Dan Kittilson and gang in 2006
- See Hubbard COLA website for details





Aquatic Vegetation Mapping and Monitoring -



an ongoing project



Near Right: 2005 — 2008

180 point

Little Sand Lake Aquatic Vegetation Mapping and Monitoring – an ongoing project

WHY MONITOR AQUATIC PLANTS?

- Awareness of the Importance of Aquatic Plants
- Encourage Lakeshore Owners to Preserve Shoreline in a Natural State
- Provide Benchmark for Ongoing Monitoring of the Health of the Lake
- Detect Exotic Species (AIS)
- Detect Excessive Plant Removal

Aquatic Vegetation Mapping and Monitoring – an ongoing project



PURPOSE

- Creates an AIS baseline
- Identifies sensitive areas
- Provides a historical record
- Service to other environmental monitoring agencies such as UofM and DNR:
 - Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC), University of Minnesota
 - DNR Fisheries

Aquatic Vegetation Mapping and Monitoring –

an ongoing project



PROPERTY VALUES

Property values are impacted by Water quality / Water clarity

Having a healthy variety and quantity of vegetation contributes to higher water quality

Charles Parson, geography professor at BSU, and Patrick Welle, a BSU professor of economics and environmental studies, co-authored a study titled "Lakeshore Property Values and Water Quality" and released the findings in June 2011. Their conclusion: The better the water clarity in a lake, the higher the value of the land around that lake.

Aquatic Vegetation Mapping and Monitoring – an ongoing project

HISTORY and BACKGROUND

2004: LSL leaders attend "visioning" session.

2005 & 2006: LSL leaders create a "Lake Management Plan," and volunteers conduct initial aquatic plant inventory.

2006: HC COLA creates a plan to conduct aquatic plant mapping on selected lakes to determine a more in-depth analysis of each lake's ecosystem.

Little Sand, Bottle, Big Sand, and Potato participate.

2008: Vegetation mapping conducted (180 points) and plans for ongoing monitoring developed.

2015: "Lake Management Plan" (2005) is updated to create the "Little Sand Lake Stewardship Action Planning Guide."

2022: As follow-up to 2006 & 2008 mappings, LSLAA contracts with RMB Labs to conduct an updated Vegetation Survey (198 points).

Ongoing: LSL volunteers monitor lake for aquatic vegetation & AIS.

Aquatic Vegetation Mapping and Monitoring –

an ongoing project

METHOD

2005

(From Dan Kittilson's presentation)

- "Circling the Bulrushes & Lily Pads"
- Three Old Codgers (Gone High Tech)
- Jim Thomsen, Vern Thompson & Dan Kittilson
- Throwing Rakes and Arguing about Plant ID While Sampling Submerged Vegetation
- Joint Partnership with DNR in 2005-06
- Joint Partnership with HC COLA & Other Area Lakes
- Utilizing GPS/GIS, Edie Evarts develops color-coded maps showing Emergent & Floating Leaf Vegetation



Aquatic Vegetation Mapping and Monitoring – an ongoing project

METHOD

2022 - RMB Labs

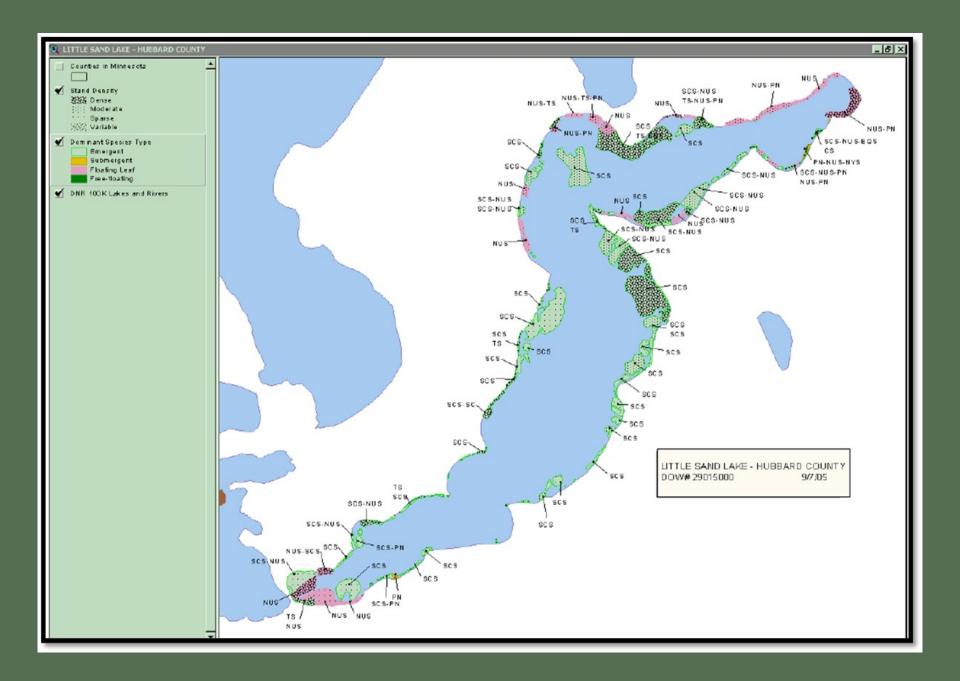
- Followed RMBEL and DNR Standard Operating Procedures for Point Intercept Surveys.
- Points surveyed previously were projected in the boat's GPS system.
- Double-headed, weighted garden rake attached to a rope was used to survey vegetation.
- Observations also made visually and with sonar.
- Vegetation found under the surface by use of the rake was categorized as follows:
 - 0 = absent,
 - 1 = rare (≤ 1/3 of the rake head covered),
 - 2 = scattered (>1/3 but ≤ 2/3 of the rake head covered),
 - 3 = common (>2/3 of the rake head covered), and
 - 4 = abundant (plants over top of rake head).
- Plant identification followed Blickenderfer (2007)



Same high-tech device as used in 2008.

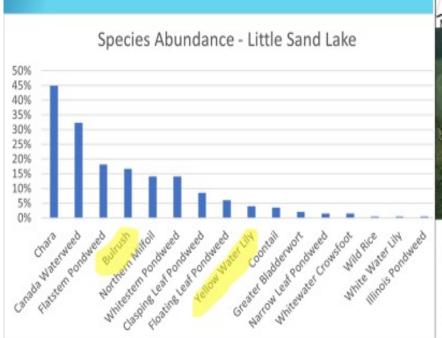
RESULTS/OBSERVATIONS – 2005-06

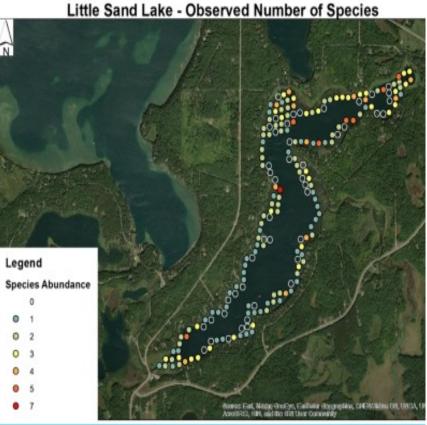
- With 409 acres, 74 are covered by emergent or floating leaf vegetation (18%)
- 79% of vegetation mapped was emergent and 21% was floating leaf types
- Bulrush was most common (79% was Bulrush)
- Yellow water lilies is next most common (21% of acreage)
- 70% of Little Sand's shoreline is vegetated with high quality vegetation that provides critical shoreline habitat for fish and wildlife.
- Bulrush, cattail, and water lilies dampen wave energy and help protect shorelines from erosion.
- Little Sand has 198 littoral acres from 0 to 20 ft. (where emergent vegetation or submerged vegetation can grow)



RESULTS – 2022 Species Abundance

Emergent, Floating, and Submerged



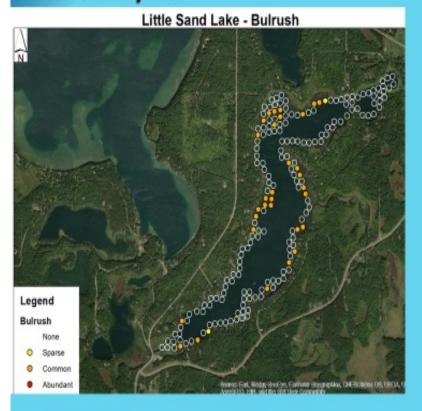


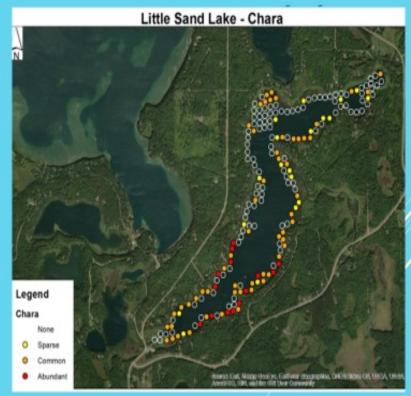
RESULTS – 2022 Species Abundance – Submerged, Floating, Emergent

ife Form	Common Name	Count		Frequency
SUBMERGED -	Chara	89		45%
ANCHORED - These	Canada Waterweed	64		32%
plants grow primarily	Flatstern Pondweed	36		18%
inder the water surface.	Northern Milfoil	28		14%
Jpper leaves may float	Whitestem Pondweed	28		14%
ear the surface and	Clasping Leaf Pondweed	17		9%
lowers may extend	Coontail	7		4%
bove the surface. Plants	Greater Bladderwort	4		2%
re often rooted or	Narrow Leaf Pondweed	3		2%
nchored to the lake	Whitewater Crowsfoot	3		2%
ottom.	Illinois Pondweed	1		1%
LOATING - LEAF -	Floating Leaf Pondweed	12		6%
hese plant leaves float	Trouting court offertoo			
on water and are				
nchored to the bottom				
of the lake.				
MERGENT - These	Bulrush	33		17%
lants extend above the	Yellow Water Lily	8		4%
vater surface and are	White Water Lily	1		1%
ound in shallow water.	Wild Rice	1	70.0	1%
Total number of plants (species diversity for the lake)			16	
Total number of plant occurrences			355	
Total number of sites			198	

RESULTS – 2022: Abundance by Species

Received maps by species that showed the density of the species at each point. A few examples:





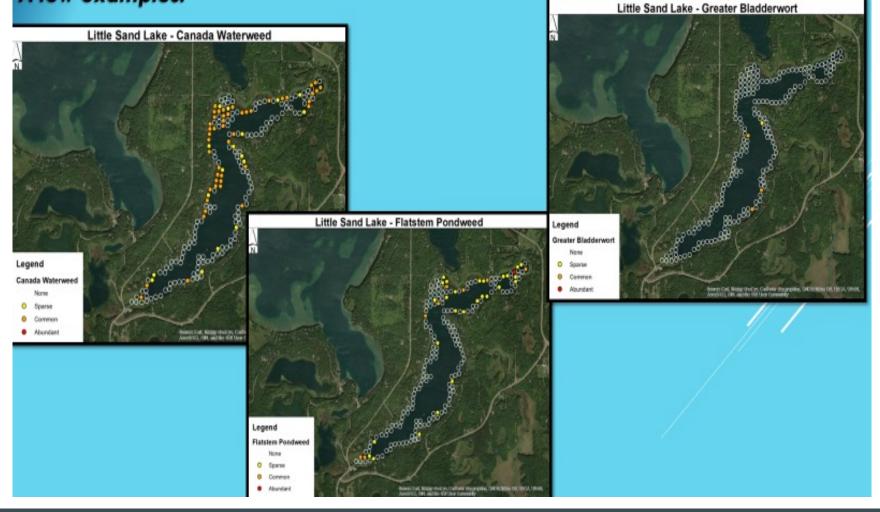
Bulrush is an emergent species

Chara is a submerged—or anchored—species

RESULTS – 2022: Abundance by Species

Received maps by species that showed the density of the species at each point.

A few examples:



SUMMARY - 2022



- The presence of plants and the depth at which one finds them is related to the water clarity.
- The Minnesota DNR lists the littoral area of Little Sand Lake to be approximately 36% of the total surface area, and the findings of this plant survey support these findings.
- In general, the littoral area is approximated as the area of the lake that is 15 feet deep or less; in this plant survey, no plants were found deeper than 16 feet.
- While sampling was focused in the littoral area, actual depths encountered ranged up to 20 feet.

FULL REPORT FROM RMB LABS WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE.

Go there for more detail.

Aquatic Vegetation Mapping and Monitoring –

an ongoing project

GOING FORWARD

 Continue vegetation and AIS monitoring of six sites on Little Sand that Marshall Howe and his team do each year. This team has a focus on monitoring for AIS. Marshall plans to do that 4X in 2023 and usually does it 3X each year.



- Develop a Volunteer Shoreline Monitoring Program to detect AIS as early as
 possible. Plan to monitor aquatic vegetation around the lake two times per year.
 Little Sand will model this program after Belle Taine's program to the extent
 possible.
- Contract to have a professional Aquatic Vegetation Survey done in 2033.

Little Sand Lake Aquatic Vegetation Mapping and Monitoring – an ongoing project

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to...

- Our dedicated lake volunteers—Dan Kittilson, Jim Thomsen, Vern Thompson—who
 initiated vegetation mapping starting in 2005 and worked with the DNR and HC COLA
 through 2008 to refine the process.
- Hubbard County COLA for providing a grant that helped support Little Sand Lake's contract with RMB Labs to conduct a professional aquatic vegetation survey in June 2022.
- Marshall Howe for years of leading Little Sand Lake's healthy lake initiatives, especially those pertaining to monitoring lake vegetation for AIS.
- Sharon Natzel, HC COLA President, and Marshall Howe for providing suggestions and guidance regarding ongoing monitoring of Little Sand Lake's aquatic vegetation.

Restore the Shore

Restore The Shore (RTS) is a partnership of HC COLA and Hubbard SWCD. The RTS program allows HC COLA members to place small-quantity orders for high quality, lowcost tree, berry, and shrub plants.

- Order trees in October; pick them up in early May.
- Little Sand Lake residents typically purchase about \$500 in trees/shrubs each year.

Glenn Gapp has been our RTS Coordinator. We need a new volunteer.





Public launch inspection hours

MaJeana Hallstrom,

COLA Representative for Little Sand Lake

Boat/Launch Inspections

How are Launch Inspection Hours Funded??

State (County), Township Grant, LSLAA



LSLAA has been paying for a total of 475 hours of inspections each year

2022: LSLAA paid \$2620 for launch inspections (118 hours @ \$22/hour)

2023: LSLAA paid \$5,575 for launch inspections (more than 2X 2022)

What happened??!!!

- Inspection hourly rate raised to \$25/hour in 2023
- State/County funding reduced
- Township grant reduced

•	200 hours paid by county/state	\$5,000
•	52 hours paid by Lake Emma Township	\$1,300
•	223 hours paid by LSLAA	\$5,575

Cost of Launch Inspections

How Will We Pay LSLAA's Supplemental Funding To Get 475 Hours?

Cost for 223 hours for Launch Inspections in future: \$5,575+ + (?)

Little Sand Overall Budget Total:

In 2022, LSLAA had Total Budget of about \$6300;

\$3700 of that was for Launch Inspections

(This was already about \$1,000 more than we budgeted for 2021.)

Presume Budget Will Increase Even More:

(Launch inspection cost goes from \$3700 to \$5700.)

Little Sand Overall Budget for 2024 will have to be about \$8300.

(\$6300 plus additional \$2000 for increased cost of launch inspections.)

How Will We Pay LSLAA's Supplemental Funding To Get 475 Hours?

Little Sand Overall Budget for 2024 will have to be about \$8300.

(\$6300 plus additional \$2000 for launch inspections.)

Cost/member for Budget of \$8300: \$83/member (Dues do not cover budget.)

Cost/member for Launch Inspections alone: \$56+/member (Dues do not cover cost of launch inspections.)

AIS Emergency/Contingency Fund:

In addition to Annual Launch Inspections, we are also trying to build an Emergency/Contingency Fund in case we do get AIS.

Donations! Donations!!

Covering our Total Annual Budget with increasing costs for Launch Inspections requires donations above dues amounts.

Annual Dues

- Annual dues have been \$35 for more than 10 years; \$15 going to future AIS needs and \$4 to COLA
- Board is recommending raising annual dues to \$50 per household with \$30 dedicated to ensure we continue to build our reserves for AIS; \$4 to COLA and the remainder to the General Fund for normal uses like the Fresh Water Festival Fund, MLR Dues and other reserves (increase going to AIS fund)
- Effective 9/1/23 with new fiscal year
- Board will continue to encourage donations as a Minnesota not-for-profit organization

Membership vote: Yea, Nay or Abstain Update 6/10/23:
Motion passed at annual meeting with additional motion to change dues' year to match fiscal year of January to December effective January 1, 2024, for all members.

Please pay your current dues as soon as possible.

New Dues of \$50 per member will be due January 1, 2024.

Thank you members!

Committees & Appreciation

Communication and Education:

Newsletter

Website

Directory

E-mail Coordinator

Facebook

County 50 Road Pick-up

Lake Launch Kiosk & Fishing Contest

4th of July Boat Parade Contest

Luanne O'Neill

Jacob Nollette

Karen Netland

Christine Hobrough

Randi Herda

Larry & Renee Bexell

Nancy & Mark Doda

Adam Goebel





Thank you Luanne O'Neill for sharing your talents in designing and publishing our annual newsletter.

We appreciate the **many hours you** have spent for many years sharing your creativity to give us a newsletter we are so proud of!



Special thanks to the Social Committee for their thoughtful work in connecting all of us:

Phyllis Trutna, Chair

Dar Swanson, Karen Odegard and Vicki Johnson





DICK PETERS & ROGER HOCHSPRUNG FOR THE PLATFORMS

AND STEVE & PHYLLIS TRUTNA FOR REGULAR MONITORING

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR YOUR WORK TO HELP ALL OF US CARE

FOR

THE FUTURE OF LOONS ON OUR LAKE.

LSLAA Board Members

We are truly grateful for our all-volunteer board of directors including:

Christine Hobrough President—completed second year of first term

MaJeana Hallstrom Past President, COLA Representative

Karen Netland Vice President – completed first year of first term

Cindy Nollette Secretary—completed second year of second term; position open

Jane Amble Treasurer – completed first year in role, no term limits

Glenn Gapp Director at Large—completed second year of second term;

position open and is leaving the board

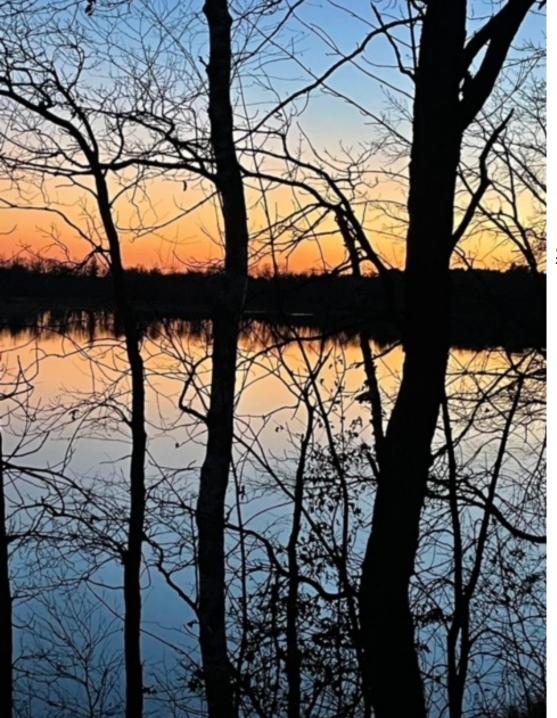
Greg Dravis Director at Large – completed first year of first term

Gerry Kaluzny Director at Large – completed first year of first term

Sandy Younger Director at Large – completed first year of first term, leaving the

board due to other commitments

The Board thanks Glenn Gapp for his many contributions and years of volunteer service to the lake association and our community!

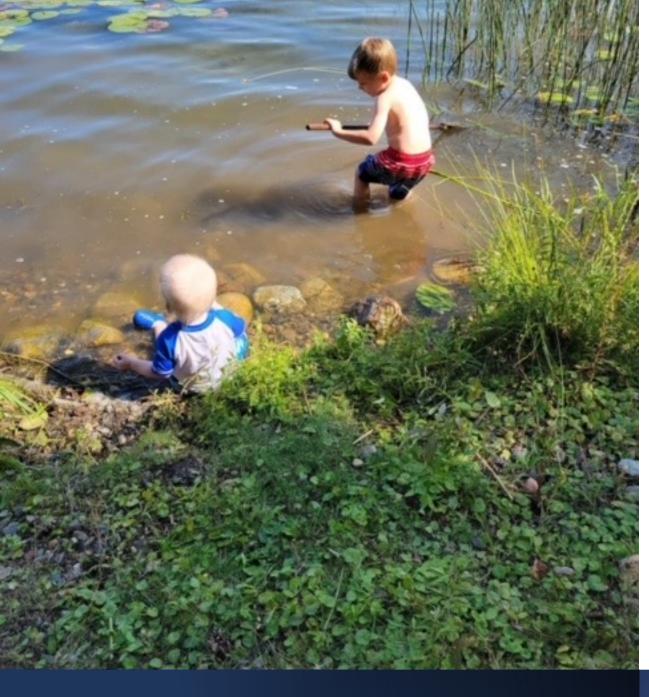


Nomination and Election Bord Members

MaJeana Hallstrom, Past President

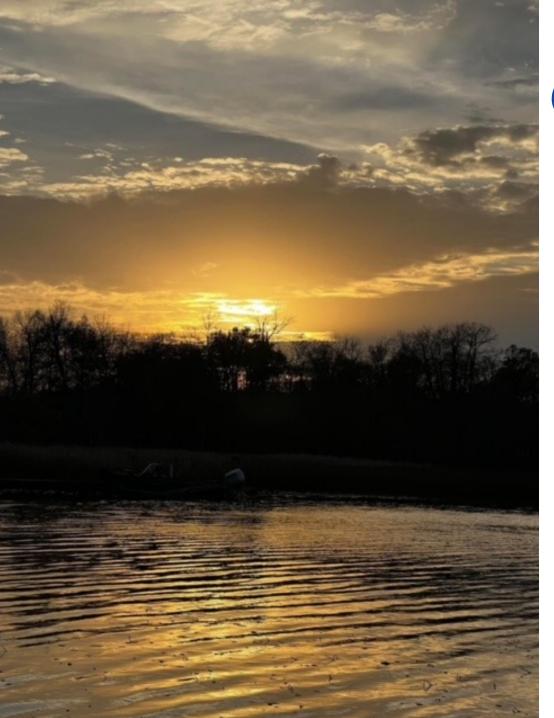
Slate of Candidates:

- Christine Hobrough, second term for President
- Mary Bradley, to fill remaining year in first term for Sandy Younger, Directorat-Large
- Karen Netland moving from Vice President to Secretary
- Cindy Nollette, for Vice President and will step in as COLA Representative
- Thom Johnson, for director -at-large
- Ben Doda, for director-at-large



Election Vote

- ☐ Yea
- □ Nay
- ☐ Abstain



Other Business

Directory

Available anytime online password protected on Little Sand Website: contact our Email Coordinator for password: <u>LittleSandLakeAA@outlook.com</u>

Volunteers

We always need more volunteers including the health lake team: contact our Email Coordinator for contact: <u>LittleSandLakeAA@outlook.com</u>



Annual Fishing Contest: August 5th







Motion to Adjourn

Business Meeting is adjourned, but don't go anywhere!

We have a couple of announcements & PR-QZES!

Little Sand Lake logo merchandise and apparel for sale by our members!





Dock signs by Larry Odegard



Apparel & Merchandise by Angela Albee

2023 Prize Donations

Thank you to our generous local businesses and our members for their donations of gifts and gift certificates that will be used for today's annual meeting, the Fishing Contest & our Annual Picnic!

- Dorset Pizza & Ice Cream
- Tippy Canoe
- Beyond Juice
- 3 Old Guys
- Chris & Amy Sorensen
- WalMart
- Coborn's
- Simonson's
- Dorset Mini Golf

Plus more!

Thank you to our prize sponsors!













Minnesota Made Products









Thank you to our prize sponsors!













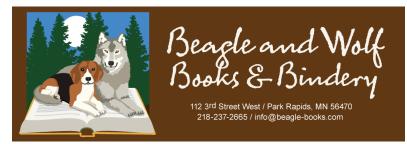


Thank you to our prize sponsors!



















Thank you to Little Sand Lake Board Members who donated gift cards and other items as well as gathered donations from these fine businesses!





Thank you Robb Swanson and team at Zorbaz in Park Rapidz!



Have a great summer!!