

BURN BARRELS

Members of the Minnesota Pollution Control Authority were at a recent Douglas County Lakes Association meeting to remind us that the use of burn barrels for anything other than leaves and sticks is illegal and has been illegal for many years. Burning garbage and paper in these barrels releases dioxins into the air, which find their way into our food sources and can be the cause of several illnesses. The MPCA intends to start enforcing this law and indicated that the fine is quite high. If you have any questions regarding the disposal of anything, call Pope-Douglas Recycling Center. If you have too many personal papers to shred, the recycling center has a day when you can bring all these “papers” in and pitch them into their incinerator. They prefer to have you watch the “pitch-in”. They can burn because they burn at a very high temperature, which burn barrels do not. Their website is www.popedouglasrecycle.com.

WATER CLARITY

Our water monitors, Rich Braun and Vern Lorsung, report that there is good news and bad news regarding the water clarity this summer.

Date	Big Latoka	Little Latoka
June.....	20 feet +.....	12 feet
July 14.....	23 feet.....	14 feet
July 31.....	19 feet.....	12.5 feet

The readings on Big Latoka are the best we have had since we started keeping records. The water level is dropping, but the clarity is very good.

Little Latoka is not doing as well. The clarity is down and the water “murky”. Many of the area lakes have reported good water clarity this year. Is it because of the zero phosphorus fertilizer or the cool spring? If so, why hasn’t the Little Lake improved as much as the larger one?

COME TO THE PICNIC

The picnic will be on Saturday, September 27, 11:30 at the FIREMANS LODGE. This is later than usual, but it was the only available date we could use their facilities. Bring a dish to share. The association will provide beverages, plates and utensils.

If you can come early or stay late, we could use some help with the set-up and takedown. Call Karen Cook if you can help. If the weather is so bad forcing a cancellation, we will put out a notice on the local radio stations KXRA 14.90 AM, KIKV 100.4 FM, and COOL 93.4 FM.

YOU ARE APPRECIATED

Your lake association is a board of nine members (right now we are eight, as we are short one). Some of us are retired, others not. We cannot do everything by ourselves so we depend upon you for help. We extend our appreciation and thanks to: El Holm for his work on the North access. He removed weeds from our recent plantings and hauled in more mulch. It is a great improvement. Jim Scott framed and installed our new display case at the North access. Jean Weiss has volunteered to keep the information in the case current. Our water monitors Rich Braun and Vern Lorsung continue to keep us informed on the health of our lake. Many other volunteers have helped with the annual meeting and picnic. A big **THANKS** to all of you.

DID YOU KNOW

You may operate your PERSONAL WATER CRAFT only between 9:30 a.m. to 1 hr before sunset?

Please remind all operators of the PWC laws. In 2008 all personal watercrafts are required to display the decal shown below. If you, a family member, or a guest operates a PWC, please read these laws and make sure that everyone understands and obeys them.

MINNESOTA PERSONAL WATERCRAFT LAWS

You Must... Wear a USCG approved life jacket. Travel at slow-no wake speed (5 mph or less) within 150 feet of: non-motorized boats, shore (unless launching or landing skiers directly to open water), docks, swim rafts, swimmers or any moored or anchored boat. Operate only from 9:30 a.m. to 1 hour before sunset. Use the cutoff lanyard properly. Obey operator age/permit laws for those younger than 18 years old.

You May Not...

Chase or harass wildlife. Jump the wake of another boat within 150 feet of the craft. Operate a personal watercraft in a manner that endangers life, limb or property.

Protect Your Sport

Respect your neighbors...don't operate for long periods in the same area or near occupied boats or shore.

This is only a summary of the laws as of January 2007 and is required to be visible to the operator on all personal watercraft in Minnesota. For more information please contact:

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Boat and Water Safety Section
500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4046
651-259-5400, 1-888-646-6367, TTY 651-296-5484, 1-800-657-3929
www.dnr.state.mn.us/boating.

A BURNING REMINDER

Every fall we all have to deal with fallen leaves. Please remember that you cannot burn leaves within 100' of the lake. The county ordinance reads: Burning shall be prohibited within 100 feet of the ordinary high water high water mark of a recreational lake. A wood burning campfire less than 3 feet in diameter designed to enclose ash for removal would be exempt from this rule.

Failure to follow these guidelines is considered a misdemeanor. The fine could be \$750

We have had requests from lake residents to remind you not to rake the leaves into the lake, but remove as many as you can from the lake. If you are giving your lawn a fall fertilizer treatment, you can only use non-phosphorus fertilizer.

BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY

A few items have been reported missing this summer. While most of the people who live and play on Lake Latoka are honest, a few are not. Please do not leave items by the lake or in your boats that could be easily taken such as tackle boxes or fishing poles.

LAKE LATOKA WEBSITE COMING!

Soon, Lake Latoka will have it's own website. Kathryn (Kat) Glaeser, a new resident on Little Latoka is our volunteer Web Master and is working with Gary Deick's son-in-law J.D. to get the site up and running. We will let you know what the name of the website will be, and also the new email address when they have been established. Until then, please do not use the old email address (lklatoka@rea-alp.com) because we no longer have access to it. Thanks Kat Glaeser (soon to be Liesemeyer) and J.D. for all your work.

PLEASE HELP!

Please help us keep our lakeshore ownership list up to date. For property ownership changes, contact **Sue Orpen** at sorpen@charter.net or 762-1708. If you have sold your property or know of anyone new on the lake, please let us know. We need this information to send newsletters and a welcome representative to all new property owners.

LAKESCAPING INFORMATION

Resources available:

- The book **Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality** by Carol Henderson and the CD ROM **Restore Your Shore**. These were donated to the Douglas County Public Library by the Lake Latoka Property Owner's Association and are there for your use.
- Douglas County Soil and Water at the USDA Service Center, 900 Robert St SW (behind the north McDonalds) 763-3191
- Internet. You can find lots of information by putting *lakescaping* or *DNR lakescaping* in your search engine.

PLEASE SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

So far, we have about 64 of your email addresses. We usually send out 2 or 3 emails a month. To maintain your privacy, we send the emails out using the Blind Carbon Copy so that your email address is not visible to anyone else. Most of the emails sent out are for lost and found items. Another important use is communicating about Forest Tent Caterpillar infestation in the spring and early summer. It was a very effective tool this past spring in letting us know about your caterpillars. We, in turn, sent out updates to you on caterpillar #s and where we stood on spraying. Other emails are reminders for the annual meeting, boat parade and picnic. It is a great tool for getting information to you quickly. Please email Sue Orpen at sorpen@charter.net or call her at 762-1708 to get your name added to the email list. Thanks!

DUES AND WALLEYE STOCKING DONATIONS

There is still time to pay your 2008 dues and/or make walleye stocking donations. The donations for walleye stocking that were made in 2007 were used for stocking last fall. The plan is to stock every other year (opposite the DNR stocking), so fall of 2009 will be our next time to stock. If you have any questions on stocking, contact Gary Deick at 762-2538 or ggdeick@charter.net. If you have questions on the LLPOA dues, contact Sue Orpen at 762-1708 or sorpen@charter.net.

FREE TO YOU

I still have several extra car tires that can be used as heavy-duty dock bumpers or under a pontoon boat stored on dry land. Please call Jim Scott at 759-3033

ARMY WORMS? TENT CATERPILLARS? WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE??? **WHICH DO WE SPRAY FOR?**

Forest Tent Caterpillars

Forest tent caterpillars, *Malacosoma disstria*, are in areas where there are hardwood trees throughout most of the United States and Canada. These caterpillars are commonly, but mistakenly, called 'armyworms'.



In mid-May, forest tent caterpillar larvae emerge from egg masses. They feed for about 5-6 weeks on broadleaf trees. In this area, Basswoods are especially hard hit. The forest tent caterpillar larvae eat the leaves until they become full-grown caterpillars, and then seek protected places to pupate (spin silky cocoons). Usually in mid-July, tan adult moths emerge from the cocoons. The moths live for about five days and deposit 100 to 350 eggs in gray cylindrical masses surrounding small twigs. The eggs overwinter and the larvae hatch from the eggs the next spring.

Army Worms

Army worms, *Spodoptera frugipeda*, don't eat leaves. They eat turf grasses and grains planted in the fall.



Eastern Tent Caterpillar

Eastern tent caterpillars, *Malacosoma americanum*, spin very large tent-like nests in the crotches of host trees. They are native to North America east of the Rockies.

They infest some shade trees and fruit trees, especially black cherry.



Eastern tent caterpillars
USDA Forest Service

**THIS INFORMATION WAS TAKEN FROM THE 3
FOLLOWING WEBSITES;**

greensmiths.com/army.html

Extension.umn.edu/distribution/hortculture/DG7563.html

Tent-caterpillar.com/1-eastern-tent-caterpillar.htm

For those of you who are interested, there is much more information available on the web.

THE ANSWER

We spray for the forest tent caterpillars....This year, we sprayed selected areas on the big lake and on Little Latoka on June 14th. Those areas had more forest tent caterpillars than had been seen for a lot of years. Other areas that normally have comparable quantities, had very few, so it is hard to predict what areas to include in spraying. We want to wait long enough to be certain an area needs it, but to make the decision early enough for it to be effective. Unfortunately, the spraying this year was later than anyone of us wanted due to the rain and high winds that we were having, but it did help. Please continue to alert us when you feel you have a heavy infestation and while they are still small, if possible. That is how we determine what areas need to be sprayed.

Watch for the names of two new volunteers who have agreed to oversee the spraying of forest tent caterpillars next year! **

Thanks, Sue Orpen