



## AMay 2021 Membership Renewal Edition

Lake Association Members, and Lake Property Owners,

Greetings from your Lake Association President. I hope this newsletter finds you well and I would like to welcome you back to the lake for the summer of 2021. For those of you, like me, that wait all winter for the day we can put the boat back in the water, we were treated to a rapid thaw at the end of March. Then some glorious sunny warm weather, and rain which took the ice out in record fashion. This allowed some to put in docks and boats the last week of March. The unseasonable weather in March also led to an early migratory bird fly-overs or short stop on the lake as they continued north. It is always an exciting and active time and great fun to see all the wildlife on the lake. In my 25 years of visiting/living on the lake, I am unable to recall another time the ice was out before April 1st. Conversely and unfortunately, many of the April showers were flurries and brought back the below average temperatures.

As noted in the newsletter title above this is our Associations annual membership/renewal newsletter. We extend our membership newsletter out to as many addresses as we have been able to acquire. Since it is impossible to catch all the changes and new property owners on the lake, I encourage you if you know a new property owner please extend this newsletter out to them and encourage them to join and be a part of the association that protects, maintains, and enhances our lake ecosystem and recreational activities we are fortunate to enjoy. (Attached find the membership form at the end of this newsletter) Dues remain at \$10 dollars for family to ensure it is affordable and easy for everyone to be a part of the organization. However, additional donations are always welcomed, and put to good use for projects, mailings, and general operations of the organization. **Kindly, we ask that you pay your dues by or before June 26th** so we can update our mailing list, and make sure all members continue to get updates from the Association. **ANOTHER MEMBER BENEFIT** (While supplies last) We are excited to provide one free Lake Association Calendars again to paid members. Additional calendars can be purchased for \$5.00. Personally, I have enjoyed every calendar, but thanks to Linda Carpenter (Calendar Organizer and Designer along with her husband John Kowalewski who organized and got sponsors again, and our Membership who provided their photos, this year's calendar is my personal favorite. I loved seeing all the family activities on the lake, as well as all the extraordinary nature

photos that members captured. The calendar always highlights the many blessings we have in being able to live, vacation, or recreate on our beautiful chain of lakes. Thanks to all who participated. Due to size and cost, calendars cannot be shipped, so they can be picked from

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It is with great disappointment, as I am writing this newsletter, news outlets are once again reporting that Covid-19 numbers are again rising in many states (Wisconsin being one of them). Due to the major planning that is involved with "Area Lake Days" we cancelled for May 2021 which would have also been the date of our first meeting. Hopefully, our first meeting will be June 12th, 10 AM at the Backwood, but weather permitting we are looking to have an outdoor meeting. A representative from TSB Lakeshore Restoration and diving will be on hand to educate on shore line buffer zones, native plantings and possible grants that might be able to be obtained to offset property owner cost of shoreline buffer projects.

Lastly in 2021, due to the association not being able to meet in 2020 due to Covid, we are continuing the focus areas of last year. To refresh you on the areas you choose to focus on they were as follows...  
1. Water clarity, erosion, and shoreline restoration, 2. Theft, 3. Boating courtesy and 4. Continued focus on Invasive Species impacting the lake and fishing habitats.

Karl Nordin  
President  
715-577-8692 calls and text are best  
Lake Association website: [Islandchainoflakes.org](http://Islandchainoflakes.org)

## **AMAZON SMILE:**

Smile.amazon.com We have now set up the Island Chain of Lakes as a beneficiary of Amazon's charity give back programs for 501c3's. Instead of making purchases through Amazon.com if you sign up for an Amazon smile account Amazon will donate 0.5% on eligible purchases to your favorite Charity or organization in this case the **Island Chain of Lakes Association** at no cost to you. When setting this up search for us using the EIN Number 83-0802634 or Island Chain of Lakes Association. Thanks in advance for selecting us as your Organization of choice. Once you sign up you should get a email like this...**Dear Karl Nordin,**

Thanks for visiting [AmazonSmile!](https://www.amazon.com/amazonsmile) Per your request, we have successfully changed the AmazonSmile charity you are supporting to Island Chain of Lakes Association Inc.

## **PROMOTING AND ENHANCING BOATING SAFETY:**

1. After hearing our membership related to navigation challenges between McCann and Island Lakes especially at night, we purchased 4 more center channel markers buoys for 2021 - Now there should be a clear sight path between each buoy as you navigate the channel making it easier and safer.
2. One of our wake boarding members provided the Association with Proactive Wake Boating courtesy signs. With permission of the Rusk County Forestry Department we have mounted these signs at each of our boat landings. Great to see this collaboration for boating safety.

## **Spring Thank You's:**

**2021's Buoy and hazard marker installation crew:** Ralph DeLuga, John Kowalewski, Rick Krahn, and Mark Schmitt

**Repair on buoy's:** Darrel Bauman

**Storage of buoys for the winter:** Mark and Nola Schmitt

**Outdoor Association pontoon boat storage:** Rick and Deb Krahn

**The Lake Association Board Members and Lake Representatives for their continued dedications and work for the organization:** Mark Schmitt, VP, Al Christianson, Secretary, John Kowalewski, Treasure, Rick Krahn, Island Lake Rep, Ted Hakala, McCann lake rep, Tom Slowinski, Clear Lake Rep, and Ron Ottum, Chain Lake Rep.

**Dan Borreson:** Association financial auditor



## **ASSOCIATION MEETING SCHEDULE**

May 2021: There will be no meeting due to cancellation of Area Lake Days/Covid

June 12, 2021 10 AM Backwoods: Outdoor Meeting if weather permits- Speaker from TSB on Shoreline Buffer zones.

July and August meetings to be determined: Watch upcoming newsletters.

**BURNING PERMITS REQUIRED:** By John Bowe- Association Member



Burning permits are required anywhere in the state of Wisconsin. Each city, county, villages and townships may have a little different regulations, however they each have them. Make sure you know the regulations for the area you are burning. DNR permits are NOT valid in cities or villages.

Fire conditions and daily burning restrictions are posted every day after 11am on the Wisconsin department of Natural resources website.

Burning permits may be obtained for free via email instantly on the DNR website (burning permits - <https://dnr.wi.gov/burnpermits/> ) or via mail by calling 1-888-947-2876. Permits are only valid for the date shown on the permit.

This year is very dry and fire danger exceptionally high and will remain high throughout this spring until green up. This year we have very little moisture in the soil or ground fuel throughout forests. Consider alternatives to burning this spring if possible.

If you must burn. Brush and leaves are legal to burn after obtaining a proper burning permit. Remember garbage, furniture, rubber and plastics of any kind are illegal to burn. Simple contained camp fires are legal without a burning permit.

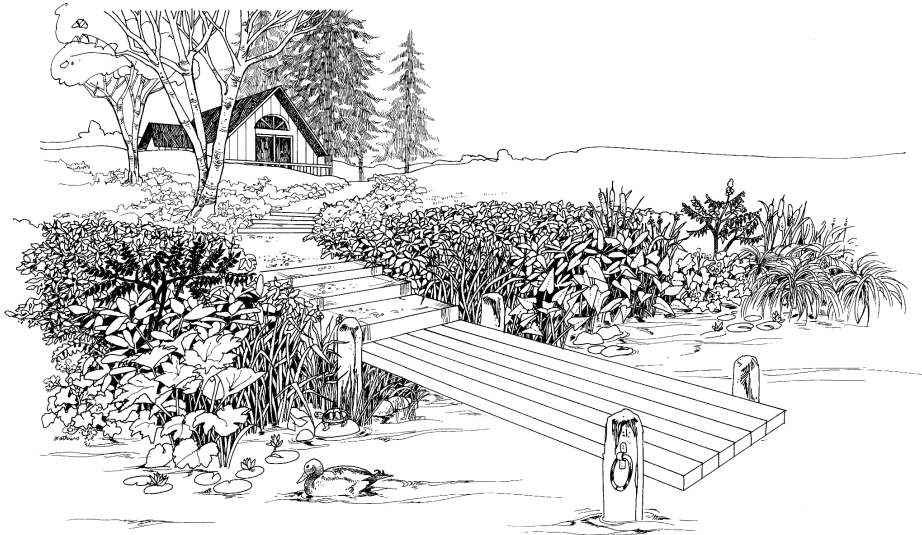
Burning may not disturb, inconvenience or do damage to neighbors by smoke or fire.

Do not hesitate to call 911 if you have any doubts about controlling your fire. Chippewa County non-emergency dispatch 715-726-7701 Rusk county non-emergency dispatch 715-532-2200

Burning debris is the leading cause of wildfires in Wisconsin. You are 100% responsible for all costs associated with a fire caused by you burning, even with a burning permit. Firefighters are battling 39-wildfires in Wisconsin as of 1430 on 3-21-21

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# MANAGING RUNOFF WITH HEALTHY LAKES & RIVERS PRACTICES



Healthy Lakes & Rivers practices such as fish sticks, native plantings, diversions, rock infiltration, and rain gardens help to meet various goals to improve waterbody health. This decision tool will direct you to the appropriate practice to meet your healthy lakes and rivers goals.

## What goals do you have for your property?

- Create fish and wildlife habitat. > **CHOOSE FISH STICKS** - . This fish and wildlife habitat best practice creates food, shelter, and breeding areas for all sorts of creatures: small aquatic insects, fish, turtles, ducks, and songbirds. Fish Sticks can also help prevent bank erosion—protecting lakeshore properties and your lake.
- Improve wildlife habitat, natural beauty and privacy, and decrease runoff. > **CHOOSE NATIVE PLANTINGS** - Shoreline plantings, bird/butterfly habitat, woodland, low growing, deer resistant, and bare soil area plantings.
- Prevent runoff from getting into your lake or river or direct water to an infiltration practice. > **CHOOSE DIVERSION PRACTICES** - a diversion redirects runoff that would otherwise move downhill into the lake or river to a dispersion area where it can soak into the ground. It may be used in connection with a rock infiltration or rain garden. By increasing the frequency of diversion practices, runoff volume can be kept low, decreasing erosion.
- Capture and clean runoff. **CHOOSE ROCK INFILTRATION** -This infiltration best practice captures, cleans, and infiltrates runoff that would otherwise move downhill into the lake or river. It is appropriate for sandy to loamy soils only (not clay!).
- Create wildlife habitat and natural beauty while capturing and cleaning runoff. **CHOOSE A RAIN GARDEN**- Rain gardens collectively protect lakes and rivers by preventing

polluted runoff from entering them. They provide habitat for birds, butterflies, and beneficial insects and promote natural beauty. Rain gardens are designed to drain within 1-2 days, which means they won't pond water long enough to grow more mosquitoes.

Want to learn more about the above management options please see the original article at [https://healthylakeswi.com/files/2020/06/HLDecisionTool\\_MngRunoff.pdf?x36223](https://healthylakeswi.com/files/2020/06/HLDecisionTool_MngRunoff.pdf?x36223)

## **Future Thinking- Protecting the Association's Assets**

Do you have or know anyone that might have a small piece of property that they would be willing to donate or sell at a reduced price to the Association?

The board has suggested that I put out an inquiry to find out if there is anyone that might know of land that would have road access, would be close to our chain of lakes that could house a pole shed for Association assets such as our buoys, the association pontoon, etc.

If you have or know someone who might have property please let Karl Nordin know at 715-577-8692