

Hello All,

I hope that all of you are safe and healthy.

### **Annual Meeting Re-scheduled to August 8<sup>th</sup>**

The FILIA annual meeting has been re-scheduled to August 8<sup>th</sup>, with this date being dependent on the development of the Covid-19 virus in Minnesota. The location and time remain the same - at Hazelton Town Hall from 9:00 Am to 11:00 AM.

### **Lake Service Providers are Essential**

The Minnesota Governor's Office updated their list of "essential services" to include:

- Lake Service Providers who, "install and support the installation of docks, boat lifts and other water-related equipment."
- Bait harvesters
- Garden Centers

### **DNR List of Permitted Lake Service Providers**

Lake service providers who install and remove docks and lifts for hire are required by the DNR to be trained and have a permit. Use the link below and select Aitkin and Crow Wing or other county for a list of permitted lake service providers. The list appears at bottom of the web page. [https://webapps11.dnr.state.mn.us/aquatic\\_invasive\\_species\\_training/lake\\_service\\_provider\\_permits/public\\_website\\_list](https://webapps11.dnr.state.mn.us/aquatic_invasive_species_training/lake_service_provider_permits/public_website_list).

The above link is also on your FILIA website on the Useful Info page.

<https://filialake.wixsite.com/filia/useful-links>

*The list of permitted lake service providers is made available for the convenience of the public only. Farm Island Lake Improvement Association, The State of Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources neither endorse the services listed nor accept any liability arising from the use of the services listed.*

### **AIS Inspections**

The DNR is discussing ways that the training of AIS Inspectors can move forward as well as guidelines for the safe inspection of watercraft at boat landings while following social distancing practices.

### **Membership Update**

We have 62 paid members. The list of paid members is on our website. You can pay your dues online at our website, or there is an online application which can be printed and mailed.

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

The board members have two scheduled meetings a year (and will also meet on an as-needed basis). The May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting will be a teleconference so we can practice social distancing due to the Covid-19 virus.

We have an opening for a board member so if you are interested please contact us. FILIA's email address is below.

Board members are elected, they serve a 3-year term, and it is a voluntary position.

### **Loon Watch**

I saw my first loon April 5<sup>th</sup> and we already have a loon couple swimming around the lake. Trumpeter swans are hanging around, as are hooded and common mergansers, mallards, wood ducks, golden eyes, buffleheads, sand hill cranes and geese. A flock of 9 Mute Swans touched down for a while. We have not seen any sign of fish gathering at the river to get ready to spawn – its still too cold here.

### **Ice-out Watch**

The ice is not completely gone from the lake. The south and southwest is open water; both north bays have a lot of ice and the east shore has ice. Little Pine is still 60% covered.

Your comments and questions are welcome and can be sent using the email address below.

Be Well.

Sincerely,  
*Cheryl McDonough*  
FILIA Treasurer/Secretary  
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Visit your website at <https://filialake.wixsite.com/filia>

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