



The 2021 Annual FILIA meeting was held Saturday June 19

54 people attended the annual meeting. A lot was discussed and a plethora of door prizes were passed out. Goodies, coffee and water were purchased from Farm Island Store.

Annual meeting minutes are now on the FILIA website. [Click here.](#)

Sheriff Dan Guida, the guest speaker, presented information about safety and then was asked questions from the attendees. When asked about wash or wake damage he said to take pictures and/or videos and call 911 or the Sheriff at (218) 927-7435. The lakes are public water and are to be shared.

New Board Members

Stan Barnes and Mike Harrington are our new board members. Welcome!

Dennis Kraimer has taken over as President since Cindy stepped down as her term was over. Gordy Vetsch is now the Vice President. Thank you, Dennis and Gordy, for taking on this extra responsibility.

2020 AIS Inspection Results

ACSW (Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District) reported for year 2020 that Farm Island Lake had 2,051 inspections - found 16 boats with no plugs and 4 boats with mud and debris. They are having trouble finding people to hire to cover the inspection sites. Contact Steve Hughes at 218-927-7284

ACLARA Update



Aitkin County Lakes and Rivers Association has 17 lake members, which represents about 3,500 people working toward a general cause for the betterment of the lakes.

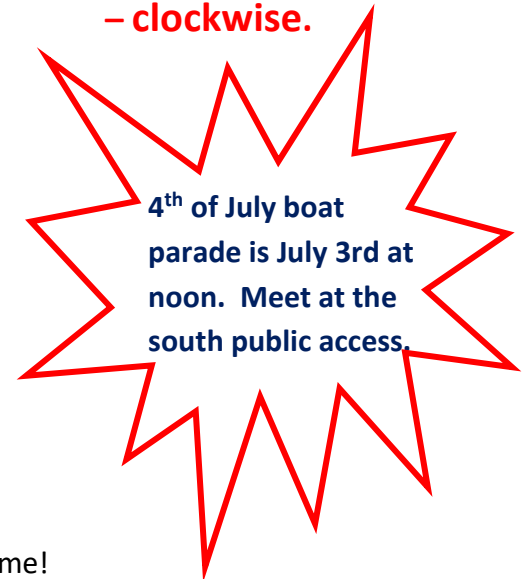
July 4th Boat Parade is July 3rd

At the request and a vote from the meeting attendees, the parade will head west – clockwise. The parade typically takes over an hour to complete. Please stay with the parade through to the end so all the folks can enjoy the decorations. Practice safe boating, don't follow too closely, and be kind.

Membership

We have 208 paid members as of June 19, 2021. A membership application form can be found on our website and is also included with this mailing, and you can pay online. Yearly dues are \$25 and

**The parade will head west
– clockwise.**

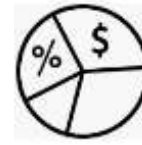


membership is voluntary. Be sure to include your email address on the application.

● FILIA is a non-profit organization.

A BIG THANK YOU to Hugh Heinicke, CPA for inspecting the 2020 year-end financial reports!

2020 Financial Report is on our Website, including past reports.

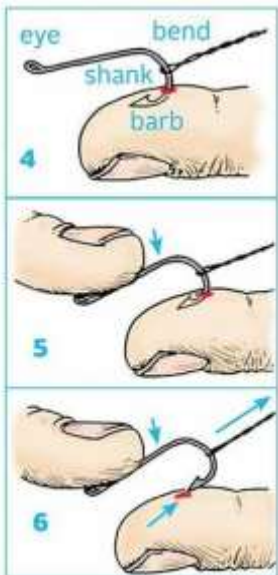


Russ Hoppe reported on water clarity and lake level:



- **June 13 clarity was at 14 feet, which is normal**
- **Lake level is 8 inches under OHWL (Ordinary High Water Level)**
- **Water temperature is around 80°, ahead of schedule by 2 weeks**

Hooked? What to do if you get “caught” up in all the fun



Article from Independent Age published June 12, 2019

A common injury for those who fish or just hang out near docks and boats is becoming “hooked” when the intended catch was a fish. The medical team at Essentia Health recommends removing the fish hook from your finger using the String Yank Technique.

1. Remove hook from lure by cutting at attachment ring.

2. Tape any additional free hooks to prevent the hooks from also getting embedded.

3. First, wash your hands with soap and water, or disinfecting solution, and then wash the area surrounding the hook.

4. Tie off a loop with some fishing line.

We do not recommend pushing the hook through your skin and cutting the barb as this introduces another potential wound for infection. Also, do not try to remove a fish hook that is deeply embedded in the skin, lodged within a joint or tendon, or located in or near an eye or artery. If you are at all unsure, it is best to seek medical attention immediately.

Hooked? What to do if you get “caught” up in all the fun



CHASING WILDLIFE AND WATERFOWL IS ILLEGAL

DO NOT chase animals. It’s not nice -

and harassing wildlife is illegal.

At least 2 tiny baby chicks have been reported

DNR Boating and Fishing Guide is on our Website

Check it out for Personal Watercraft (Jet Ski) regulations, such as time-of-day usage, age restrictions; life jacket information, water navigation, paddling safety, scuba diving safety, when an aquatic plant management permit is not needed, rescue breathing, etc. On our website under [Useful Information](#).

“Score Your Shore”

A tool to assess habitat conditions of developed lake lots, to be used by lakeshore property owners and organizations to self-assess habitat and stewardship on their land and adjacent aquatic areas. [Click here](#) for more....

- The FILIA Board Members, in order to fulfill our mission of stewardship for Farm Island Lake, strive to maintain good communications and collaborative efforts with lake association members and Aitkin County and state agencies such as the DNR, Aitkin Area Fisheries, Aitkin County Soil & Water Conservation District, and Invasive Species Specialists, to name a few.
- The FILIA board members act in good faith as volunteers and assume no responsibility for the boat parade or any other FILIA activity.

Blackbaud Giving Fund

Did anybody pay their dues through the Blackbaud Giving Fund? Please reply to this email or call me at 218-851-7026. I received a \$30 check via this fund and I need to open an account with Blackbaud in order to see your name, and I couldn't open the account. We ask that members please not pay their dues via a 'Giving or GoFund type of fund'. It creates extra administrative tasks and then FILIA receives marketing emails from the funds. Thanks for your understanding. You can always pay online on your website.

Door Prizes at the annual meeting

Various door prizes are passed out at the end of the annual meetings. We'd like to acknowledge and thank the local businesses that have provided these prizes throughout the year

- Farm Island Store
- F.I.R.M. Farm Island Repair & Marine
- The Joint - Tavern and Eatery
- The Green House
- Beartooth True Value Hardware
- Hyytinen Hardware Hank
- Grannies' Butcher Shop

And a huge THANK YOU to Bill Haroldson for asking for the donations!

NOT SURE IF YOU PAID YOUR DUES FOR THIS YEAR? AN UP-TO-DATE LIST OF MEMBERS IS ON YOUR WEBSITE. [Click here.](#) Or, send me an email and I can let you know. You can also get an application form and view previous year's members online.

SCUBA Warning Flag

A diver down flag, or scuba flag, is a flag used on the water to indicate that there is a diver below. This flag will also be displayed on the diver's boat.

All vessels, boats, jet skis, etc. should **stay at least 200 feet away when they see a SCUBA flag.**



2021 Calendar of FILIA Events

*Spring Board Meeting	Saturday, May 1, 9:00 am	The Joint Tavern & Eatery
Annual Association Meeting	Saturday, June 19, 9-11:00 am	Hazelton Town Hall
4th of July Boat Parade	Saturday, July 3, Noon	FIL South Public Access
*Fall Board Meeting	Monday, Sept 6, 9:00 am	The Joint Tavern & Eatery

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennis Kraimer..... President	Jim Hausauer	Denise Noling
Gordy Vetsch..... V.P.	Cindy Chuhanic	Stan Barnes
Cheryl McDonough ... Treasurer/Secretary	Bill Haroldson	Mike Harrington

FILIA Website

There is a lot of information on the FILIA website. This site map includes the links to the various pages on the website. FarmIslandLake.org

Site Map

- [Home](#)
- [Membership](#)
- [Pay Dues](#)
- [Newsletters/Lake Info](#)
- [Contact/Calendar](#)
 - [Local Events](#)
- [Administrative](#)
 - [Meeting Minutes](#)
 - [FILIA Bylaws](#)
- [Aquatic Invasive Species](#)
 - [Score Your Shore](#)
 - [How to identify zebra mussels](#)
 - [Living with zebra mussels](#)
 - [How to combat swimmer's itch](#)
- [Useful Info](#) - [Aitkin County contacts](#)
 - [Boating & Fishing Regulations](#)
 - [DNR Permitted Lake Service Providers](#)
- [Mission statement, printable map of Farm Island Lake, description](#)
- [Members lists, application form](#)
- Pay yearly membership dues online with credit card
- Current and past newsletters, Gillnet Survey Results
- List of Board of Directors, Shore Captains, Meeting dates
- Financial reports, current and past

Be sure we have your email addresses to ensure receipt of newsletters and email updates throughout the year.



Be Well. Be safe. Have fun!

Sincerely,
Cheryl McDonough & Board Members
FILIA Treasurer/Secretary
filialake@gmail.com
[Your comments are welcome.](#)

FILIA
PO Box 135
Aitkin, MN 56431

FarmIslandLake.org
FILIA is a non-profit organization



Clean In Clean Out

When boating or fishing in Minnesota, protect your waters by following state aquatic invasive species laws.

1. **CLEAN** all visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species from watercraft, trailers, and water-related equipment before leaving any water access or shoreland.

2. **DRAIN** water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait containers, motor) *and* drain bilge, live well and baitwell by removing drain plugs before leaving a water access or shoreline property. **Keep drain plugs out** and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft.

https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/q_and_a_drain_plug_law_20110609.pdf

3. **DISPOSE** of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches, and worms, in the trash. It is illegal to release bait into a waterbody or release aquatic animals from one waterbody to another. If you want to keep your bait, you must refill the bait container with bottled or tap water.

KNOW THE LAW: You may not...

- Transport watercraft without removing the drain plug.
- Arrive at lake access with drain plug in place.
- Transport aquatic plants, zebra mussels, or other prohibited species on any roadway.
- Launch a watercraft with prohibited species attached.
- Transport water from Minnesota lakes or rivers.
- Release bait into the water.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Spray, rinse, dry — Some invasive species are small and difficult to see at the access. To remove or kill them, take one or more of the following precautions before moving to another waterbody, especially after leaving zebra mussel and spiny waterflea infested waters:

- **Spray** with high-pressure water
- **Rinse** with very hot water*
- **Dry** for at least 5 days

Run motor and personal watercraft for a few seconds to discharge water before leaving a water access.

Transport fish on ice — be prepared, bring a cooler.

* These water temperatures will kill zebra mussels and some other AIS: 120°F for at least 2 minutes; or 140°F for at least 10 seconds

Report suspicious infestations

If you suspect a new infestation of an invasive plant or animal, take a photo and note the location, or save a specimen and report it to a local [DNR invasive species contact](#).

More information at https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/preventspread_watercraft.html



FILIA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

FarmIslandLake.org

BECOME A MEMBER AND HELP PRESERVE AND ENHANCE FARM ISLAND LAKE

Dues are **\$25.00** a year per property owner from January to December.

You can pay online at your FILIA website, or bring this form to the annual meeting, or mail it to:

Farm Island Lake Improvement Association (or FILIA)

Date: _____

PO Box 135

Aitkin, MN 56431

Name _____

Home

Address _____

No need to write your home address if your correct address is on your check.

Lake

Address _____

Phone-best year-round contact

phone(s) _____

Email-best year-round contact

email(s) _____

Your email addresses will be used to send you newsletters and other FILIA news. It will not be sold or shared.

Additional money for the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Fund \$ _____