



**The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, June 17
9:00 – 11:00am at Hazelton Town Hall**

Annual Meeting Speakers

- Scott Lucas, the MPCA Watershed Project Manager for the Upper Mississippi/Brainerd, specializing in erosion control and storm water
- Phil Hunsicker - AIS Prevention Planner with the DNR

The speaker begins shortly after 9:00 am.

There is only one meeting per year.

Address for **Hazelton Town Hall**: 24248 Us Highway 169, Aitkin, MN 56431, just 2.5 miles south of The Joint Tavern & Eatery. The town hall is a gray building on the east side of Hwy 169.

Everyone is welcome. Annual voluntary dues can be paid before the meeting starts. More membership information below.

Door prizes and coffee and a pastry are provided.

Board Member Elections

3 board positions are up for election.

Jim Hausauer (President), Gordy Vetsch and Pat Holder are up for re-election. Nominations will be accepted before the vote. This is for a 3-year term. Your vote will count at the annual meeting!

Board membership is voluntary. See list of board members below.

Paid association members, in recognition of their support, are posted on the [FILIA website](#) and periodically are listed in this newsletter. 103 people have already mailed in their dues and more are coming. The FILIA mailing address is at the end of this newsletter.

Membership dues for year 2017 are accepted through end of the year, and, for record keeping purposes, the earlier the better. Dues are voluntary. A list of members who have paid so far is below.

A membership application form can be found on our [website](#), and is also included with this mailing. Dues are \$25 a year and are welcome any time. Because some people do not have access to a printer, a membership application is not necessary as long as your check has your name and current home address. We'd like to have your contact information so you can send an email FiliaLake@gmail.com to update your contact information and to inquire what information we have in our records.

Requested information: Name, home and lake address, email addresses, best phone numbers. Multiple email addresses are welcome to ensure that all people associated with the lake address will receive the newsletters. Each lake address is counted is a member.

Tax Deduction Statement

1. FILIA is a Section 501(c)3 nonprofit and your dues may qualify as a charitable deduction for federal income tax purposes. Always consult with a tax adviser or the IRS to determine whether a contribution is deductible.
2. FILIA will not issue a receipt for dues paid. For your tax records your cancelled check serves as written acknowledgment of your donation. This also holds true for past dues paid.

Send your dues!

103 paid members so far!



Gene Nardini has retired from checking the lake clarity of Farm Island Lake. We'd like to thank him for his 20 years of volunteer service, and for the important data he provided.

Russ Hoppe has volunteered to take over the collection of water-quality data on Farm Island Lake.

CITIZEN LAKE MONITORING PROGRAM

The CLMP is a cooperative program combining the technical resources of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the volunteer efforts of citizens statewide who collect water-quality data on their lakes. [Read more about CLMP](#) on our website.



JUNE 1ST ...A BABY LOON SIGHTING WAS REPORTED BY JEANETTE DOTY

UNHATCHED LOON EGG UPDATE

Below is an email from the DNR sent to Barb Juntti regarding the abandoned loon egg she turned in for testing in October 2015.

From: "Woizeschke, Kevin R (DNR)" <kevin.woizeschke@state.mn.us>
Date: May 16, 2017 4:09 PM
Subject: RE: Farm Island Lake loon egg info please!
To: "Barb - Glen Juntti" |

Hi Barb,

The unhatched loon egg that you collect from Farm Island Lake on July 5, 2015 was sampled for contaminants related to the Gulf Oil spill of 2010. This particular egg did show the presence of oil contamination when it was tested for the presence of Alkyl PAH, but it is unclear if the level of contaminant actually prevented it from hatching.

What is clear is that the presence of oil contaminants in this egg that you collected has helped the DNR Nongame Wildlife Program become eligible to receive loon restoration funds as part of settlement from BP gulf oil spill that will benefit Minnesota's loons for the next 15 years. The first of these funds will likely become available in July of 2018.

We will send you a 2017 Minnesota LoonWatcher packet so you can report how your loons are doing this season on Farm Island Lake.

Thank you for your help, and have a great day!

Kevin

Kevin R Woizeschke
Nongame Wildlife Biologist | Nongame Wildlife Program
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN, 56401
Phone: [218-203-4371](tel:218-203-4371)
Email: kevin.woizeschke@state.mn.us
Website: mndnr.gov





Adopt a Loon Platform

We would like to initiate more interest and involvement with the 3 to 4 loon platforms that we know are still on our lake. This would be a voluntary effort. Some of the responsibilities include:

- Making sure platform is placed within reach of loons
- Monitoring loon activity and baby loons

Is anyone interested in volunteering to coordinate this program? Please send us an email at FILIALake@gmail.com or call Cheryl McDonough at 218-851-7026.



4th of July Boat parade is Saturday July 1st

Meet at the south public access by noon. The south public access is off Tame Fish Rd. / Hwy 11.

Laura Boyd will lead the boat parade this year.

Besides decorating your boats consider decorating your dock and or deck.

The Board approved spending up to \$1,600 for AIS watercraft inspection for year 2017. This was the same amount as last year.



The following article was published by the DNR on their website about Farm Island Lake Walleye Reproduction.

Note: When government, local agencies, school districts, and county information is included it is meant to serve only as the messenger to keep everyone in the FILIA email network informed.

[Click here](#) to read the entire DNR newsletter.

Farm Island Lake Walleye

Natural Reproduction or Stock?

By Rick Bruesewitz

Success of fish stocking operations is determined in a variety of different ways. Ultimately, the bottom line question is "How well did they do in the fishery?" However,



Aitkin Fisheries staff wait to net fish as the fish are immobilized by the electrical current.

that question is hard to answer without a creel survey, which is pretty costly to perform. Other indicators of success are evaluated by examining the catch of walleye in our assessments. Normally we need to wait two or three years after stocking to judge a single year class based on how many we see in our assessment gill nets. Multiple assessments give an even more complete picture, which is why we increased the frequency of the assessment schedule at Farm Island to every three years from every five years. In order to get an early glimpse of

that in the years when fish were not stocked, catch rates were very low with only 1-3 young-of-the-year observed per hour of shocking time. Whereas in years that were stocked, catch rates ranged between about 20-100 per hour of shocking time. This suggests that while natural reproduction was occurring, it was still not enough to create the fishery that we are all used to. Based on this data, we changed the stocking plan back to annual stocking.

While we believe stocking is currently producing the bulk of the walleye in Farm Island, natural reproduction is important and may in some years add substantially to the fishery. While we caught few young-of-the-year walleye in 2014 (a year not stocked), we did see more than we expected of this year class in the gill net assessment last summer. Based on the historical gill net assessments, this natural year class appears to be about 1/2 of average strength. While not tremendous, it is certainly the best we have seen of the 7 natural year classes we have sampled since 1974.

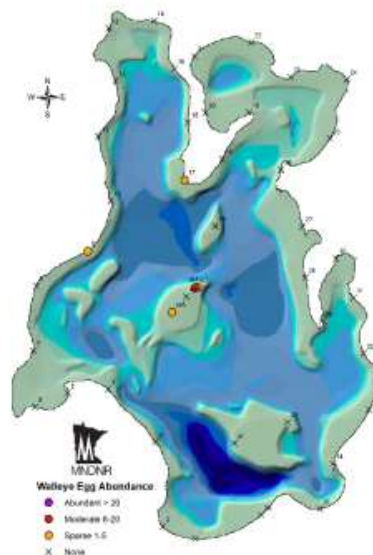
Some of you may remember that we attempted to enhance the spawning area in the Ripple River in the 1980s and 1990s. Substantial spawning riffles were created and sediment traps were installed to help keep those riffles free of sediments, but the project wasn't too successful. While rock is still there, sediments have deposited on top of them making them undesirable spawning habitat for walleye. We are going to attempt to change that.

While we had the right idea back in the 1990s, the fine details of river hydraulics were not as well understood as they are today. This spring we are going to be bringing in one of our river experts to help us figure out what we need to do to make it work better. There is a substantial run of fish that use that stretch of the river for spawning and we did observe walleye eggs both upstream and downstream of Ruby Road this spring, so we just need to figure out how to make those eggs survive a little better.

In addition to the river spawning, walleye also spawn in the lake. Last year one of our

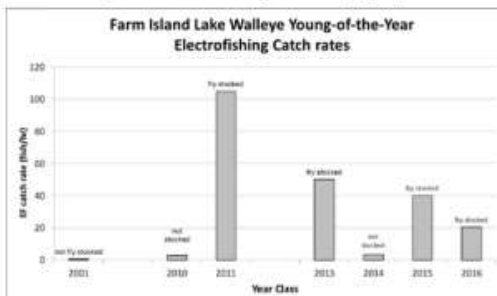


researchers worked with staff from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point to examine shoreline and identify the primary areas being used for spawning. They were similar to where we have found walleyes spawning in past spring trapping and electrofishing assessments. They also found some habitats that looked good, but were just not being used. His thoughts were that the water flow in these good looking areas was just not as prevalent as it was off the little islands and Johnson's Point, where



Farm Island Lake with locations checked for walleye eggs, and relative abundance of areas eggs were found. Map from Researcher Tim Cross, MN DNR

most of the eggs were observed. Wave action and water flow is exceedingly important to maintain oxygen levels near the eggs to allow for development and hatching. They also measured the depths of water and distance to shore where these eggs were observed on 28 different lakes. Most were found in less than 2 ft of water and less than 10 ft from the shoreline. This gives you some idea why good shoreline management is so critically important.



how well a year class survived, we can also conduct fall electrofishing surveys.

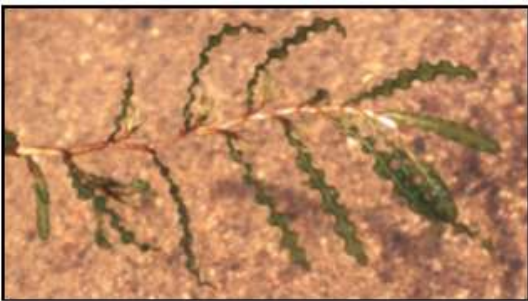
On Farm Island Lake we have conducted fall electrofishing surveys 6 times in the last 7 years, plus once in 2001. What we found was

Thank you!

The Board Members would like to thank Hugh Heinecke, CPA for volunteering his services in the inspection of the association's financial records. [Click here](#) to view the final year-end financial report on the website. It is also at end of this newsletter.



Walleye fry were stocked by DNR this May 5th



Curly Leaf – DNR assessment will be done this June

Blue Fire Number



The **Blue Fire Number**, which is your address number, is used by **emergency responders** to locate your property. This could save your life or property. If you are in an association you need your own number, placed by your individual house, so you can quickly be located. To order, contact the Aitkin County Highway Department 218-927-3741.

GPS doesn't work well in our area. In an emergency, be able to give detailed directions on how to reach you. Write it down, and post it so everyone at your house can see it.

Damage or break-ins should be reported to the Sherriff immediately

Aitkin County Sheriff
218-927-7435 Or 911

DNR Information Center
651-296-6157

A plethora of information.... Below is the table of contents. I've included some personal watercraft (PWC, jet ski) rules here because we get a lot of questions regarding PWC hours, etc.

- Personal watercraft must travel at slow no-wake speed (5mph or less) within 150 feet of nonmotorized boats, shore (unless launching or landing skiers directly to or from open water), docks, swim rafts, swimmers, or any moored or anchored boat.
- Operation of personal watercraft is allowed only from 9:30 a.m. to 1 hour before sunset.

2017 Minnesota Boating Guide

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FILIA Mission Statement

The mission of the Farm Island Lake Improvement Association is to:

- 1) Promote the safety and common good of the Farm Island Lake (FIL) community.
- 2) Improve and preserve the quality of the land and water in the FIL area for its members, the community and future generations.

Some examples of how we strive to meet our mission are:

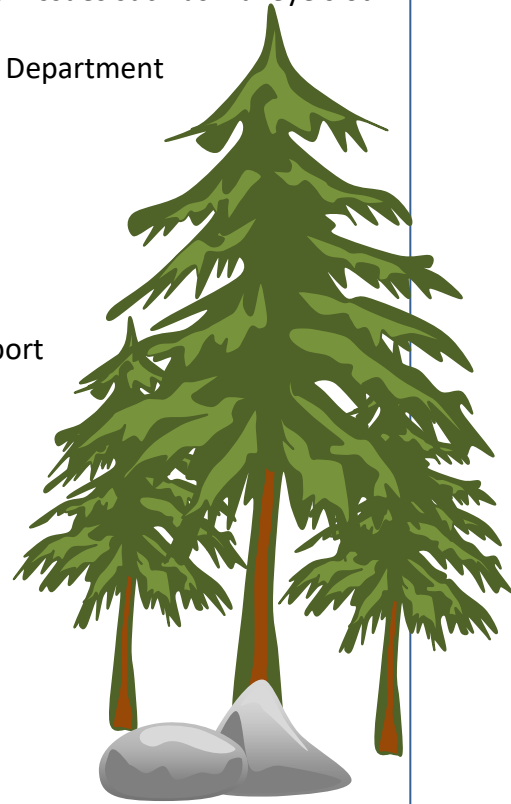
- Work with DNR, ACLARA and Aitkin Soil and Water Department on Invasive Species Prevention, includes efforts to monitor public accesses
- Provide opportunities (Farm Island Lake Boat Parade, annual meeting, AIS updates, etc.) for members to get to know each other. This will foster a safer community setting.
- Improve boating safety via the lake buoys
- Provide an opportunity for members to give feedback to the DNR on issues such as walleye slot limits, invasive species, and boat access
- Provide members feedback on safety issues from the Aitkin Sheriff Department
- Loon nesting program
- Water quality monitoring
- Lake weed control
- Improve walleye spawning area

The FILIA [website](#) contains useful information – to name just a few:

- * 2015 Aitkin County Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Risk Assessment Report
- * [FILIA Membership Application Form](#)
- * Contact information - Board of Directors and Shore Captains
- * Previous Newsletters and other reports
- * Contact information for
 - Aitkin County Government
 - MN DNR
 - Aitkin County Sheriff
 - Minnesota Waters home page

Check it out at www.minnesotawaters.org/farmislandlakeimprovement

Among other activities, we have been working closely with the DNR, ACLARA, Aitkin County Soil & Water, etc. to help prevent Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) infestation.



THERE HAVE BEEN VARIOUS REPORTS OF A NEW EAGLE NEST ON THE NORTHEAST SIDE OF THE LAKE.



FILIA Board Members

All board members can be emailed using the FILIA email address:

FILIALake@gmail.com

Jim Hausauer President

Bill Haroldson V.P.

Cindy Chuhanic Secretary

Cheryl McDonough ...Treasurer

Dennis Kraimer

Gordon Vetsch

Patrick Holder

Greg Anderson

Julie Anderson

Board membership is voluntary.

2017 Calendar of Events

*Spring Board Meeting

Saturday, May 6, 9:00am

The Joint Tavern & Eatery

Spring Association Meeting

Saturday, June 17, 9:00am

Hazelton Town Hall

**4th of July Boat Parade

Saturday, July 1, Noon

FIL South Public Access

*Fall Board Meeting

Monday, Sept 4, 9:00am

The Joint Tavern & Eatery

Hazelton Town Hall is located on east side of US Hwy 169, a few miles south of Tame Fish Lake Rd.

**Only board members attend the Board Meetings.*

**** The boat parade is not sponsored by the association.**

Members can email the board at any time and we will try to address your questions in a timely matter.
The best way to contact us is with the FiliaLake@gmail.com email address.

Enjoy the lake!

Sincerely,

Cheryl McDonough

FILIA Treasurer

Your questions and comments are welcome.

FILIA

PO Box 135

Aitkin, MN 56431

FiliaLake@gmail.com

<http://minnesotawaters.org/farmislandlakeimp>

FILIA Financial Reports

Year End December 31, 2016

REVENUE		
	Year End 2016	
REVENUE	ACTUAL	%
Membership Dues	5,050	71%
AIS Fund/General Lake Fund	1,630	23%
Future Membership Dues	375	5%
Interest Income	32	0%
TOTALS	\$7,087	



EXPENSES		
	Year End 2016	
EXPENSES	ACTUAL	%
GL Insurance	305	7%
2015 AIS Inspection	2,903	69%
Dues Paid	295	7%
Meetings	116	3%
Mass Mailing	456	11%
Rentals	110	3%
TOTALS	\$4,185	



ASSETS		
	Year End 2016	
ASSETS	ACTUAL	%
Checking	8,818	21%
Money Market	20,345	49%
Fixed CD	12,358	30%
Petty Cash	35	0%
TOTALS	\$41,556	



The current list of members is listed below. The list is also on the [website](#).

Farm Island Lake Improvement Association Member List

as of June 10, 2017

Altman, Mark & Charlene
 Amrhein, Terry & Dorla
 Anderson, Greg & Diane Von Arx
 Anderson, Julie
 Anderson, Pete & Mary; Krueger Arden & Cathy
 Arndt, Dave & Jennifer
 Arndt, Joseph E. Trust
 Balko, Tracy
 Ball, Dennis & Sharon
 Barnes, Stan & Karla

Bencini, Barbara, Lon, Debra
Betzler, Ronald & Julie; Don & Anita Hime; Jane & Tony Sparrow
Boudreau, David & Laura
Brewster, Linda & David
Buechele, Donald & Doreen
Burnison, Russ & Trish
Cannady, Douglas & Judith
Carroll, Wade & Linda
Chmelik, Marvin & Joanne Trustees
Christy, Judith M Trustee
Coleman, Lauren & Ruth
Coleman, Lawrence & Carol
Cowan, Robert & Pamela
Dahle, John
Dahlquist, Christopher & Jean
Danielson, Steve & Roxanne
Diedrich, Bill & Karen
Ditty, Dave & Angie
Dosser, Paul & Linda
Doty, Gary & Jody Nelson
Farm Island Store (FIS)
Feldstein, Thomas & Mary Ellen
Fjerstad, Mark & Kim Curless
Fragodt, Brian & Joy
Frederick, Todd & Keri
Furth, John or Allison
Furuly LLC
Geist, Gary & Mary Joan
Gilson, Scott & Pam
Haroldson, Debbie
Haroldson, William (Bill)
Harrington, Michael & Wendy
Hausauer, Jim & Nancy
Henrickson,Dennis & Candace
Hesse, Steven & Sally
Hoffman, Michael & Denise
Holder, Patrick & Maryann
Holter, Steven & Lynn
Jelsing, Vicki & Doyle
Knotek,Mikal, Kelle,Bob & Jan
Knutson, Brian & Debbie
Kuchenmeister, Randy & Tracy
Landgren, Ted & Natale Madgy
Larson, Sean & Linda,Mike Lund
Lensegrav, John & Lisa
Leonard, Gary & Rea
Letich, Mark or Brian Burke

Lindbo, Larry (Buzz) & Judy
Long, Gerry & Judy
Lund, James
Macmillan, Michael & Carol
Martinson, John & Sara Fisher
McDonough, Kevin & Cheryl
McPheeters, Jeff & Tammy also Richard & Mavis
Meline, Bill & Darlene
Moormeier, Reed & Jayne
Muelhbauer, Gerald & Pamela
Nelson, Reed & Joan
Ness, Wayne & Mary
Netz, David & Barbara Trustees
Norberg, Richard & Nathalyn
Norgren, Jim & Judy
Oare, Scott & Robbin
O'Brien, John & Karin
Poser, Richard & Sue
Rachey, Loren & Dianne
Rasmussen, Jim & Roma Lee
Reinhard, Arnie & Connie
Rezac, Terrance & Janet
Roiger, Lavonne E Living Trust
Romenesko, Stuart & Sherry
Scheele, Cheryl & Scott
Schifsky, Mark & Peg
Schlichte, Robert & Kathy
Schultz, Robert
Scott, Thomas & Cynthia
Seltun, Jay & Kelly
Sherburne, James M.
Sherf, Dale & Barbara
Smalley, Matt & Angela
Sowles, James & Lois Trustees
Strohmayer, Tim & Chris
Thompson, David & Rita
Thorson, Doug & Cris
Utterberg, Tom & Carol
Vetsch, Thomas & Connie
Westendorf, Dean & Mary
Wisnewski, Paul & Lori
Young, Keath & Lesley
Zeien, Debra
Zeilinger, Ken & Deb
Zelixon, Lily & Alexander
Zingsheim, Tom & Mimi