



**Fall Meeting Saturday August 20 at 9:00 am
at Hazelton Township Hall**

Fall Meeting Speaker

Steve Hughes, Aitkin County Soil & Water is scheduled for this meeting. For an AIS update see email from Steve, below. The speaker begins shortly after 9:00 am.

Hazelton Township Hall

is located 5 miles south of the Farm Island Store; a gray building on the east side of Hwy 169. Treats and coffee will be served. There will be door prizes but you must be present to win and have paid current dues. You can pay dues at beginning of meeting so plan to arrive earlier than 9am.

Board Member Elections

Each year 3 board positions are up for election. Greg Anderson and Cheryl McDonough (Treasurer) are up for re-election, with Julie Anderson running as a candidate. Nominations will be accepted before the vote. This is for a 3-year term. Your vote will count at the Fall meeting!

Pam Husom has been a board member for many years and we want to thank her for her years of service.

Slow No-Wake Expired August 8th

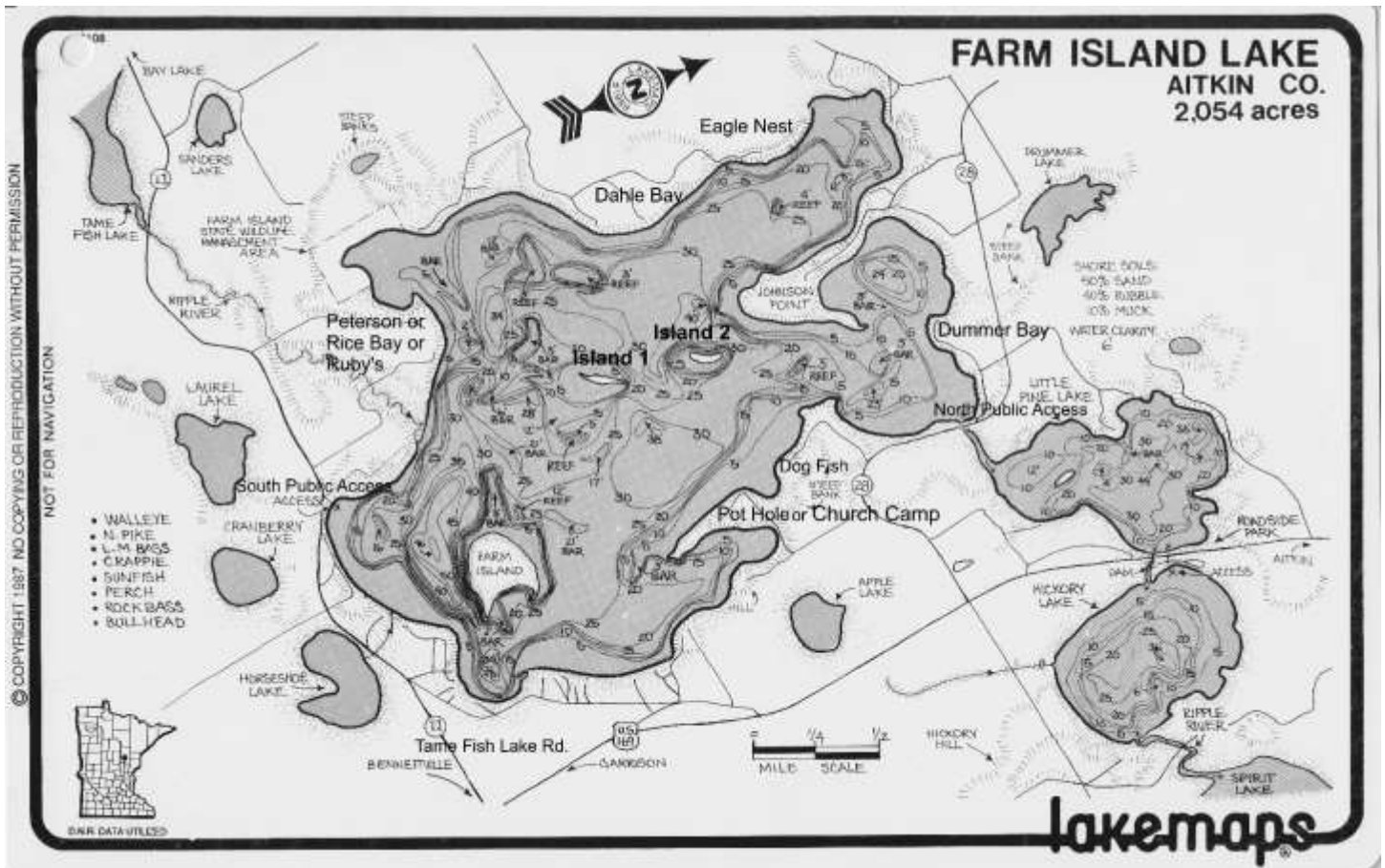
A Slow No-Wake was issued by the Aitkin County Commissioners along with the Aitkin County Sherriff effective from July 14 through midnight August 8. This was an entire lake no- wake. It also included Little Pine Lake, which connects to FIL on the north end. For more information, please see the [Aitkin County Sherriff on Facebook](#).

A special thanks to all of you who have been understanding and compliant. The water level is still high so we ask that you take this under consideration while enjoying the lake.

The record high for the lake in 2012 was 1257.25" and was 1255.5" on July 16, 2016. This is about 2 inches above the trigger elevation.

Map courtesy of Lakemaps ©1987

Bay names and other lake locations have been identified on this map. We are working on adding more information. This map will also be posted on your [FILIA website](#).



In an effort to keep you updated with Farm Island Lake Improvement Association (FILIA) happenings, association members will periodically receive emails with pertinent information – such as recent power outages and No-Wake alerts.

We currently have a list of **181 paying members** this year, and we'd like more members. A membership application form can be found on our [website](#), and is also included with this mailing. Dues are \$25 a year.



Anyone interested in news-worthy updates and in the welfare and preservation of Farm Island Lake is invited to attend the meetings (see calendar below).

Soon to come: Paid association members will be posted on the [FILIA website](#) in recognition of their support.

AIS Update

Below is an email from Steve Hughes, dated August 5, 2016

From: Steve Hughes <hughes.aitkinswcd@gmail.com>

Subject: August 5,6, and 7 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) inspections and decontamination units

Hello: As we move along through the summer of 2016 it is hard to believe that we are already thinking about Labor Day weekend just one month away! The inspectors will be out at area lakes this weekend to continue to educate the boaters on the importance of AIS prevention. We staff 17 accesses throughout Aitkin County on a very regular basis, and we add about 4 or 5 other priority accesses each weekend. We hope to have contact with most lake users at some point throughout the boating season.

In addition to the county AIS inspectors we have great support from conservation officers and the Aitkin County Sheriff's Office. According to Sheriff Turner, there are additional boater contacts carried out by the Sheriff Department Deputies. To date, about 300 additional contacts have been made (this adds to the about 6000 inspections so far by our regular inspectors). Our message is consistent that lakes are extremely important and everyone needs to do their part to keep the lakes healthy and free of aquatic invasive species. The 3 decontamination units will be staffed all this weekend and available to spray down boats, trailers, bilge areas, and live wells with heated water to kill any AIS that may be attached.

Volunteers recently concluded zebra mussel veliger (microscopic young) sampling. This sampling involves pulling a funnel-shaped net through the water column to look for any AIS, especially zebra mussels. In 2015 10 major lakes in Aitkin County were sampled and all were free of zebra mussels. A similar effort was done in 2016 in mid-July. July and August are the peak times for zebra mussel activity.

We plan to conduct inspections through Labor Day.

Watch for the 2017 grant application for AIS funding and inspector hours. This is planned to be ready by about August 15th. This is an Aitkin County Grant using a portion of the State AIS funding. The process will be very similar to the grant process from 2016. Our goal is to keep the application as short and simple as we can.

Have a great weekend!

Steve Hughes, AIS Coordinator & Aitkin County SWCD District Manager

Farm Island Lake has been tested for Zebra Mussel Veliger.
Results should be available for this Fall meeting.



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.

Leaf-y Discussion

Curley-leaf pondweed locations and amount have been updated by the DNR located in Brainerd. This will be discussed at our Fall Association meeting.



Loon Watch

6 BABY LOONS ARE THE OFFICIAL COUNT
20 ADULT LOONS IS USUAL COUNT EACH SUMMER

Aug 7th by Peterson bay, Glen Juntti saw about 7 adults doing the "August Cavorting" - swimming in a circle for about a half hour.

Shore Captains are Farm Island Lake residents who have volunteered to help provide other lake users and residents with lake related information by:

- Welcoming new residents and making them aware of lake issues (e.g. Invasive Species controls) and opportunities.
- Helping disseminate late breaking news (e.g. no-wake order in 2012 due to high water).
- Providing input to the FILIA board on issues and opportunities based on feedback from their area. [A list of the Shore Captains and more information is on our website.](#)
- We could use a few more Shore Captains so please [contact us](#).
- **Please welcome new Shore Captains:** Sharon Mattison, Karen Ulstad and Cindy & Tom Scott

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:

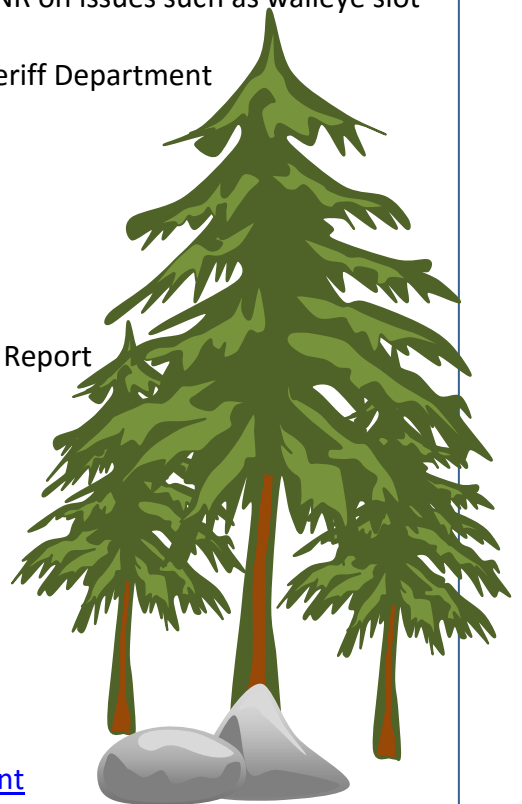
- Work with DNR, ACLARA and Aitkin Soil and Water Department on Invasive Species Prevention, includes efforts to monitor public accesses
- Provide opportunities (Farm Island Lake Boat Parade, semiannual meetings, etc.) for members to get to know each other. This will foster a safer community setting.
- 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



PREVIOUS NO-WAKE OCCURRED ON JULY 2012



News from the DNR

Available on our FILIA website is the first issue of the [Aitkin DNR Fisheries Newsletter](#).

With this newsletter the DNR hopes to pass on a little information of the current work at their office, and to focus on a few of the more interesting projects the DNR has ongoing.

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.

Plan to attend the FILIA meetings, held every year on the 3rd Saturday of June and August

Spring and Fall association meetings are from 9:00am – 11:00am at Hazelton Town Hall. You do not have to be a member to attend. You can sign up to be a member at the meeting. We have guest speakers who cover information pertinent to lake owners. We are always looking for new ideas for speakers.

Other activities, to name just a few: walleye re-stocking updates (when available), attendees can discuss concerns and happenings around the lake, in August there is a vote for board association member when a board member's term is expired, ACLARA updates, AIS updates, water clarity, etc.

Guest speakers present at the start of the meeting. Coffee and pastries are provided. This is a great time to meet your neighbors and get more involved with the lake.

Our Spring meeting guest speaker was Rick Bruesewitz, DNR Aitkin Area Fisheries Supervisor.



FILIA Apparel: Shirts Plus of Aitkin reported that 112 items of apparel were sold during the online sale of FILIA clothing.

If enough interest, they will open the online store again for a limited time so you can order online. The online store by-passes the set up charge.

Questions should be directed to [Shirts Plus of Aitkin](#) 218-927-2837 or visit them in downtown Aitkin at 212 Minnesota Ave N.



The 4th of July boat parade, which took place on July 2nd, included 40 boats and was led by Gordon Vetsch.

2016 FILIA Board Members

Jim Hausauer	President	jhausauer@hotmail.com
Bill Haroldson	V.P.	wmbill100@gmail.com
Cindy Chuhanic	Secretary	cchuhani@yahoo.com
Cheryl McDonough	Treasurer	cherylhmcDonough@gmail.com
Pam Husom		fp.huey1@gmail.com
Dennis Kraimer		dkkraimer@hotmail.com
Gordon Vetsch		gordonvetsch@gmail.com
Greg Anderson		farmislandlake@yahoo.com
Patrick Holder		Patrick_holder@hotmail.com

2017 Calendar of Events

*Spring Board Meeting	Saturday, May 6th, 9:00am	at The Joint Tavern & Eatery
Spring Association Meeting	Saturday, June 17th, 9:00am	at Hazelton Town Hall
4th of July Boat Parade	Saturday, July 1st at Noon	gather at FIL South Public Access
Fall Association Meeting	Saturday, Aug 19h, 9:00am	at Hazelton Town Hall
*Fall Board Meeting	Monday, Sept 4th, 9:00am	at The Joint Tavern & Eatery

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

**Only board members attend the Board Meetings.*

Have fun this summer!

Sincerely,

Cindy

FILIA Secretary

cchuhani@yahoo.com

Your questions and comments are welcome.

FILIA

PO Box 135

Aitkin, MN 56431

FiliaLake@gmail.com

<http://minnesotawaters.org/farmislandlakeimp>