



FILIA, P.O. Box 135, Aitkin, MN 56431 • FILIALake@gmail.com • FarmIslandLake.org

**Board Member Update**

Scott Scheele will serve as interim board member until the election at next year's annual meeting. Thank you, Scott, for volunteering your time to the stewardship of Farm Island Lake. The 2023 annual meeting is June 17.

**Shore Captain Needed**

We currently need 1 Shore Captain for the northwest shore. Anyone who is interested please contact a board member or send us an email. More information on your website. <https://www.farmislandlake.org/board-of-directors>

A sample can be found below.

**New on your website – Farm Island Lake/AIS Information Brochure**

“WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FARM ISLAND LAKE”

Find the brochure at <https://www.farmislandlake.org/copy-of-score-your-shore-1>

**184 paid members!**

**Membership Update**

48% of property owners have paid their dues so far. We need 55 more dues payments to do better than last year. A membership application is attached to this newsletter, and an application is included at the bottom of this newsletter and is available on your website.

The trend has been that 1/3 of paid members use the online payment method to pay their dues. The current member list is on your website <https://www.farmislandlake.org/membership>



- A large membership base provides us with a strong voice when it comes to the affairs involving lakeshore ownership, including grant applications, government, county and local agency activities.
- FILIA is a non-profit organization.

**Online Dues Payment**  
 You can pay your dues online using your credit card. There is a \$1.15 fee that goes directly to Square.com, the app that provides the secure online payment service. It is a simple, safe and fast way to use your credit card.

**Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Funding**  
 Additional monies can be paid toward the AIS Fund when you mail in your application or pay online.  
*Image of starry stonewort, an aggressive, aquatic invasive algae.*





As of end-of-July, we counted 22 adults and seven chicks. Eight chicks that I know of were hatched, with one lost after about two weeks. We usually average 4-6 chicks, so it was a good hatch. - Update from Barb Swenson.

## Aitkin County Planning and Zoning

If you are building or remodeling contact Aitkin County at 218-927-7342 or their website to be sure you are up-to-date on their codes <https://www.co.aitkin.mn.us/departments/enviro-svcs/enviromentalSvcs.html#gsc.tab=0>

### Volunteers needed to monitor, protect Minnesota waters at University of Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center event: Starry Trek 2022

Lake-loving volunteers are needed across the state of Minnesota on **Saturday, August 20, 2022** to participate in a search for starry stonewort—an aggressive, aquatic invasive algae that can spread easily and grows into dense mats at and below the lake's surface.

Starry Trek is an annual event where members of the public first gather at training sites to learn how to identify starry stonewort and other aquatic invasive species. The newly trained participants then branch out to local water accesses to search for signs of the invasive species.

**Farm Island Lake schedule. This event is free.** Click to register

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/starry-trek-2022-tickets-372928026767>

Sat, Aug 20, 2022 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM CDT  
Aitkin (Farm Island Lake Public Access)

This local training site is hosted by Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District and is held outside.

## Wake Boat Study - Announcing UMN Phase II research on recreational boating propeller wash

Received June 15, 2022 11:38 AM

Our team at the St. Anthony Fall Laboratory, UMN is excited to announce the launch of a second phase of research on boat-generated impacts on inland lakes and rivers. You are receiving this email because you registered for updates through our Healthy Waters Initiative website.

In this next phase of study, we will focus on characterizing the propeller wash that is generated by various types of recreational boats, including wakesurf boats. This is a topic that we've heard a lot of concern about over the last few years, and the current body of knowledge is lacking, making this topic an ideal candidate for robust research. To get in the water as soon as possible, we are funding the research through a crowdfunding campaign and we would greatly appreciate your financial contribution to this effort. If a donation is not possible, simply spreading the word about our study would be much appreciated.

You can find a full summary of the research plan, budget and schedule on the [Healthy Waters Initiative website](#). We've also included a link to the [crowdfunding campaign website](#).

Thank you for your support! Jeff Marr and Andy Riesgraf

Jeffrey DG Marr MS PE

Associate Director of Engineering and Facilities | St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | University of Minnesota  
2 Third Ave SE | Minneapolis, MN 55414 | E-Mail: [marrx003@umn.edu](mailto:marrx003@umn.edu)

## Prevent aquatic invasive species spread

Regardless of the activity—boating, paddling, fishing, moving shoreline equipment, using recreational gear on the water, or caring for aquarium pets or water gardens—everyone can do their part and take several simple actions to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

### Be sure to follow Minnesota laws:

- Clean watercraft, trailers and equipment to remove aquatic plants and prohibited invasive species.
- Drain all water and leave drain plugs out during transport.
- Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash.
- Never release bait, plants or aquarium pets into Minnesota waters.
- Dry docks, lifts and rafts for 21 days before moving them from one water body to another.

For more information on the Minnesota law, which holds true whether or not a lake is listed as infested – go to this online link. <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/laws.html>

Be sure to inform your visitors and neighbors of this important Minnesota regulation, which is also important and necessary to keep our lake clean and free of invasive species.



### And take these additional steps to reduce the risk of spreading aquatic invasive species whenever possible:

- Decontaminate watercraft and equipment – find free stations on the Courtesy Decontamination page of the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/Decon](http://mndnr.gov/Decon)).
- Spray with high-pressure water or rinse with very hot water (120 degrees for at least two minutes or 140 degrees for at least 10 seconds).
- Dry watercraft and equipment for at least five days before using in another water body.

People should contact our DNR aquatic invasive species specialist if they think they have found any invasive species that has not already been confirmed in a lake or river. Tim Plude | Invasive Species Specialist | Phone: 218-203-4354 | Email: [timothy.plude@state.mn.us](mailto:timothy.plude@state.mn.us).

More information is available on the Aquatic Invasive Species page of the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/AIS](http://mndnr.gov/AIS)).

## Removing lake plants could require a permit

The MN DNR reminds lakeshore property owners that a permit may be required to remove aquatic plants. Aquatic plants provide food and shelter for fish, ducks and wildlife. They also stabilize the lake bottom, which helps maintain water clarity, and protect shorelines from erosion by absorbing energy from waves and ice. Specific regulations govern what situations require permits for aquatic plant removal and can be found at <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/regulations.html>, along with the required permit.

### **AIS Photo – win \$250 cash or a \$350 kayak! Sponsored by the Aitkin County AIS Committee**

Read the article for full information at the Aitkin Independent Age July 9 [https://www.messagemedia.co/aitkin/outdoors/still-time-to-enter-ais-photo-finish/article\\_2b2fc5e4-fc6a-11ec-931b-e79ef0d350be.html](https://www.messagemedia.co/aitkin/outdoors/still-time-to-enter-ais-photo-finish/article_2b2fc5e4-fc6a-11ec-931b-e79ef0d350be.html)

All one has to do is take a photo of a boat, trailer or transom that has been cleaned of AIS. It may be the drain plug out, a clean prop, or a clean transom or trailer, for example.

Photos may be entered by email: [aitkinais@gmail.com](mailto:aitkinais@gmail.com), regular mail: Aitkin County SWCD 307 Second St. NW Aitkin, MN 56431 or dropped off at the SWCD office in the Aitkin County Government Center, second floor.

## Lake Updates

**The water clarity is down a bit due to the seasonal algae bloom.**

**The water level appears to be normal for this time of the year.**

- The FILIA Board Members, 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 Specialist, to name a few.
- When government, local agency and county information is included we are serving as the messenger to keep you informed of their activities concerning Farm Island Lake.
- The FILIA board members act in good faith as volunteers and assume no responsibility for the boat parade or any other FILIA activity. We do not sponsor the boat parade; we announce this event.

## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO ENHANCE AND PROTECT THE LAKE

*This is a section from the FILIA AIS Brochure which is on your website.*

As property owners and visitors on Farm Island Lake we have a responsibility to protect and enhance the quality of the lake. We have seen improvements in many areas and we can continue to make gains by following these best management practices.

### 1. Maintain or establish a buffer zone between your yard and the lake.

- Slow shore run off by terracing your landscape.
- Establish buffer zones of woody vegetation, tall grasses and native plants to prevent erosion and nutrients from reaching the lake.
- Minimize the removal of aquatic plants since they help to stabilize shorelines and provide habitat for fish and other wildlife.

### 2. Maintenance of your lawn.

- Limit fertilizing and don't fertilize within 50 feet of the lake.
- Keep grass clippings, leaves and pet waste out of the lake.

### 3. Prevent the spread of exotic and invasive species. Clean, Drain, Dispose, Dry.

### 4. Septic systems should be up to code with local ordinances and properly maintained.

- Do not dispose of paint, solvents, pesticides or household cleaners down the drain.
- Minimize using antibacterial cleaning products.
- Have your septic system pumped at least every three years, more often if heavily used.
- Systems with garbage disposals should be pumped every year.

The dog days, or dog days of summer, are the hot, sultry days of summer. They were historically the period following the heliacal rising (when a star first becomes visible above the eastern horizon just before sunrise) of the star system Sirius (known colloquially as the "Dog Star"), which Egyptian astrology connected with heat, drought, sudden thunderstorms, lethargy, fever, mad dogs, and bad luck. They are now taken to be the hottest, most uncomfortable part of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. The dog days run from July 3 to August 11, centering on the reappearance of Sirius in the night sky.

Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dog\\_days](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dog_days)



Art & Cartoons by Whitney Potter

## WHAT IS A PERSONAL WATERCRAFT?

A personal watercraft (sometimes called PWC or by brand names such as Jet Ski, Wave Runner, Sea Doo, etc.) is defined by law as a motorboat powered by an inboard motor powering a jet pump or by an outboard or propeller driven motor and is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the craft, rather than in the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside a motorboat.

Personal watercraft are considered motorboats under the law so they must follow all the regulations that govern other motorboats.

### In addition, personal watercraft. . .

- Are required to have a rules decal (provided at no charge by the DNR) in full view of the operator.
- Operators and passengers must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III or V life jacket.
- Are required to carry a USCG approved fire extinguisher.
- Must travel at slow-no wake speed (5 mph or less) within 150 feet of shore (except when a PWC is launching or landing a water skier by the most direct route to open water), docks, swimmers, swimming rafts, any moored or anchored watercraft or non-motorized watercraft.



## AGE RESTRICTIONS FOR PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

Contact the MN DNR at the address at the end of this pamphlet for home-study materials for a youth watercraft operator's permit.

It is unlawful for a PWC owner to permit its operation in violation of the age restrictions. (See chart on next column.)



*Note: When government, local agency and county information is included we are serving as the messenger to inform of their activities concerning Farm Island Lake.*

- While towing a person on water skis or other device, must have an additional person on board to act as observer. Wide-angle rearview mirrors may be substituted for an observer but they must be factory-installed or specified by the PWC manufacturer.
- Cutoff lanyards must be properly used and attached to the person, life jacket or clothing of the operator.
- May only operate between 9:30 a.m. and one hour before sunset (see sunset schedule).

### You may not . . .

- Chase or harass wildlife.
- Operate while facing backward.
- Operate in a way that endangers life, limb or property.
- Operate a personal watercraft if the spring-loaded throttle mechanism has been removed or tampered with so it interferes with the return-to-idle system.
- Weave through congested watercraft traffic or jump the wake of another watercraft within 150 feet of the other boat.
- Travel through emergent or floating vegetation at greater than a slow-no wake speed.

**Less than 13 years old** May not operate, even with an adult on board.

**13 years old** **Must either have:** someone at least 21 on board, **or** a watercraft operator's permit and be in continuous visual observation by someone at least 21.

**14-17 years old** **Must either have:** a watercraft operator's permit, **or** someone at least 21 on board.

## Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

Water quality data and maps specific to FIL can be found at <https://webapp.pca.state.mn.us/cmp/stations/01-0159-00-205>. More than 1,400 Minnesotans track the health of their favorite lake or stream. Volunteers measure the water clarity of lakes and streams, and the MPCA uses that valuable data to make decisions on watershed protection and restoration. For some lakes and streams, volunteer monitoring provides the only data available, making this work indispensable. Thank you FILIA member Russ Hoppe, who reports FIL Secchi readings to the MPCA.

## 2022 Calendar of FILIA Events

*Spring Board Meeting	Saturday, May 7, 8:00 am	Joint Tavern & Eatery
Annual Association Meeting	Saturday, June 18, 9-11:00 am	Hazelton Town Hall
4th of July Boat Parade	Saturday, July 2, Noon	FIL South Public Access
*Fall Board Meeting	Saturday, Sept 3, 8:00 am	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 annual meeting is held the 3rd Saturday of June each year.

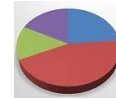
### Board of Directors

Dennis Kraimer..... President  
Gordon Vetsch..... V.P.  
Cheryl McDonough..... Treasurer

Denise Noling..... Secretary  
Cindy Chuhanic  
Bill Haroldson

Stan Barnes  
Mike Harrington  
Scott Scheele

### Financial report is on your website under Administration



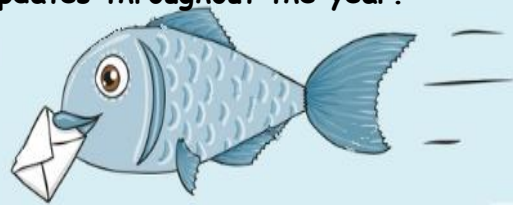
### FILIA Website

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](http://FarmIslandLake.org) You can also use the "Search" function to find information.

### Site Map

- [Home](#)
- [Membership](#)
- [Pay Dues](#)
- [Newsletters/Lake Info](#)
- [Contact/Calendar](#)
  - [Local Events](#)
- [Administrative](#) Financial reports, current, past
  - [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, etc.
  - [Boating & Fishing Regulations](#)
  - [DNR Permitted Lake Service Providers](#)

**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 and  
Board Members  
FILIA Treasurer  
[filialake@gmail.com](mailto:filialake@gmail.com)

FILIA  
PO Box 135  
Aitkin, MN 56431

[FarmIslandLake.org](http://FarmIslandLake.org)

*Your comments are welcome.*

## 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](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](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/preventspread_watercraft.html)

To print just this page for your application, in your Print Settings at the Pages input prompt, type in 8.

# 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** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your membership!