



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

Letter from the FILIA president, Bill Haroldson

Hello, and Greetings FILIA Members and neighbors, your families, and visitors alike.

This past winter's very mild "El Nino" weather has certainly been the conversation of this past winter season. Now, by month's end, March appears to be ready to go out as a Lion? "Ice Out" came at a record breaking early date. With the approaching snow and cold weather, I am praying that FIL doesn't have a new record "Ice On" date of March 29th? As they say, "Stay tuned"...

Along with FIL, other local lakes have sustained some shoreline damage due to ice heaves back in mid-February. Lesser damage can be repaired as a "Maintenance Issue", not requiring a permit from Aitkin County Environmental Services. However, "Extensive Damage" will be required to have a permit prior to starting any work. Information and permit applications can be found on Aitkin County's website, under Environmental Services. In either case, please contact Henry Egland, Wetland Specialist, Environmental Services FIRST by phone or visiting the website, to schedule an on-site evaluation to determine the damage. You certainly do not want to be fined... This may be the opportune time to create a more efficient buffer zone for your shoreline to protect the lake, too!

Our Newsletter Editor Cheryl McDonough has created another wonderful Newsletter for us to benefit from. We cannot thank you enough, Cheryl. This Association would most certainly be lost without your continued volunteering over the past 9 years. Thank you so much!

And, Thank you all for your continued support, and for being awesome Advocates in protecting Farm Island Lake, and your Families' Legacy!

Best wishes for a joyous Spring! May God Bless FIL, you and yours, and our Country,
Bill

Annual Meeting June 8

The FILIA annual meeting will be held at Hazelton Town Hall from 9:00 to 11:00 AM.

It's a good way to meet your neighbors and stay on top of events and discussions surrounding Farm Island Lake and the Aitkin community. The meeting is held at Hazelton Township on Hwy 169, about 4 miles south of Tame Fish Lake Rd.

You do not have to be a paid member to attend. We have guest speakers who cover information pertinent to lake property owners. Other activities, to name just a few: walleye re-stocking updates (when available), attendees can discuss concerns and happenings around the lake, vote for board association member when a board member's term is expired, ACLARA updates, AIS updates, water clarity, etc.

The speaker this year will be Executive Director Jeff Forester of MLR – Minnesota Lakes and Rivers. MLR has been protecting Minnesota's lake and river heritage since 1994 by:

- Working to keep lake places affordable,
- Working to protect and improve water quality,
- Providing grants to help with shoreline management, aquatic invasive species control and prevention,

- septic system management, firewise wildfire protection, Sustainable Forest Incentive Act, non-typical insurance for remote properties, and more,
 - Greater transparency in the taxation and permitting process.
- Click here to join MLR <https://mnlakesandrivers.org/>

Greetings from Sheriff Dan Guida

Received 3/15/2024

I'm not sure how many would agree with me, but I am ready for some rain!

Last year I dealt with spring flooding and this year we have a low water drought scenario that is causing some major fire concerns. Please use extreme caution around those fun spring campfires. Let's hope for rainy weekdays....



One fun part of being at the lake is jumping on an ATV or side by side and going for a ride. Aitkin County has an ATV ordinance that allows travel on the far-right side of county roads, 30 MPH, with headlights required. The operator must have a driver's license, ATV safety certificate, and with anyone under 18 years old a DOT approved helmet. If there are questions and you wish to read the specific ordinance you can just google Aitkin County ATV ordinance and make sure you are reading the most current version.

If there are safety issues on the lake, please immediately call and we will dispatch our team to assist. We will have several Recreational Water Patrol staff that will frequent Farm Island, as well as Deputy Asmus, our senior recreational Deputy. This crew will perform routine safety checks for PFDs, Fire Extinguishers, and any other requirements that exist. If you are unsure of the requirements, a boating guidelines book is put out by the MN DNR every year and is available at the license centers or on the front desk at the Sheriff's Office.

I want to thank all of you for a great winter. Your calls are always welcome and if you see something, say something and we will do our best to solve the problems!

Sheriff Daniel Guida

Aitkin County | W-218-927-7435

dan.guida@co.aitkin.mn.us

MNDNR Creel Survey This Summer



The biggest thing for Farm Island this year is that we will have a creel survey this summer. We'll start it at opener and then run it thru the end of September. Farm Islanders will see our creel clerk running around the lake doing boat counts and interviewing anglers, so we have the information to estimate fishing pressure and harvest.

I know there have been concerns for some time about issues relating to anglers from Mille Lacs "moving" to Farm Island. This creel should give us an idea of just how much of that is occurring. In any event, thank you all for your cooperation with this project as it will certainly need your collective cooperation to make it successful.


Have a great spring,

Rick

Rick Bruesewitz Aitkin Area Fisheries Supervisor | Fish and Wildlife


Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 1200 Minnesota Ave S., Aitkin, MN 56431

Phone: 218-429-3037, Email: rick.bruesewitz@state.mn.us



Did you know lake association membership is more than just about the \$25 yearly donation?


No, I did not. What else does membership mean?



A large lake association membership provides a strong influence when it comes to the affairs involving lakeshore ownership, including grant applications, government, county, and local agency activities.

I have property on Farm Island Lake. Does that mean I'm automatically a member?

No. To count as a member you need to pay the voluntary membership each year. An application is online, or you can pay online at the FILIA website: FarmIslandLake.org



I'll pay my dues right away. It makes sense as an easy way to support the lake.

33 paid members!

Membership Update

Your voluntary dues can be paid until the end of the year. 212 (55% of the 375 property owners on Farm Island Lake) members paid their voluntary membership dues last year. Thank you!



An application is at the end of this newsletter and is on the website.

You can also pay dues online at FarmlandLake.org. Past and present member lists are online. **A member is someone who has paid their dues.**

FILIA had 238 members in year 2021 and 235 in 2020, so it would be great to receive dues from those who have not yet paid.

It does make a difference!

If you have not been a FILIA member in the past, please consider joining this year. If you are already a member, we hope you will continue to support the stewardship that FILIA provides.



FILIA Membership Facts

- 372 property owners as of March 2023
- Newsletters are emailed to 501 recipients
- 223 members is the average membership over the last 5 years
- 33% of members pay additional money toward the AIS Fund
- 33% pay their dues online at FarmlandLake.org
- \$2,362 is the average donated to the AIS Fund over 5 years
- FILIA is a non-profit organization
- You are a member when you pay dues, which are due each year

Ice-out date was March 14

This is the earliest date that I have on record. Past ice-out and ice-on dates are on the website.

- 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, Aitkin County, and state agencies. To name a few - the DNR, Aitkin Area Fisheries, Aitkin County Soil & Water Conservation District, and Invasive Species Specialist, etc.
- 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 other FILIA activities.

2023 Aitkin County AIS Inspection Numbers/ Data Review

Submitted by Kyle Fredrickson | Aitkin County Soil And Water Conservation District | Aitkin AIS coordinator/ District Technician - Forester | 218-927-7285

	2023	2022	2021	2020
Plug on Arrival	87	1	45	61
Issues found	40	38	72	104
Zebra Mussels Found	3	2	0	0
Drain Required	6	2	2	-
Decontamination	25	-	-	2
Lakes Inspected	26	17	17	17
Total Inspections	11696	9991	9417	10516

Lake Name	Inspection
FARM ISLAND, SOUTH	1280
FARM ISLAND, NORTH	1238
CEDAR, CEDAR	1093
CLEAR, CLEAR	1010
BIG SANDY, EAST	827
BIG SANDY, HWY 65	764
BIG PINE	703
BIG SANDY, NORTH WEST	685

List of water bodies monitored for zebra mussels using tow/ and vertical veliger net pulls.

Spirit Lake, Ripple Lake, Big Sandy Lake, Hammal Lake, Lone Lake, Minnewawa Lake, Hickory, , Wilkins Lake, Dam Lake, Long Lake.

No positive results in 2023!

Risks found on watercraft					
Lake name	mud	plants	water	zebra mussels	Grand Total
1003302, MINNEWAWA, SOUTH	1				1
1006203, BIG SANDY, HWY 65		2			2
1008901, LONG		2			2
1009301, CLEAR, CLEAR	1	3			4
1009901, GUN	2	2			4
1010201, WILKINS		1			1
1010501, FLEMING		2			2
1012501, LONE LAKE		1			1
1014601, RIPPLE LAKE, RIPPLE		2			2
1015701, BIG PINE		3			3
1015901, FARM ISLAND, NORTH	1	4		1	6
1015902, FARM ISLAND, SOUTH		2			2
1020401, ROUND (North of Mille Lacs)		1			1
1020901, CEDAR, CEDAR		1	1		2
Sissabagamah		2			2
Grand Total	5	28	1	1	35

Zebra Mussels found on watercraft	
Lake Name	Grand Total
1015701, BIG PINE	1
1015902, FARM ISLAND, SOUTH	2
Grand Total	3

Lake level March 18, 2014

1,254.85 feet
 0.65 feet (7.8 inches) below OHWL
 This is low for spring ice-out.

The OHWL sign is by the Little Pine Lake culvert. OHWL stands for Ordinary High Water Level. The DNR's definition is: the ordinary high water level is an elevation delineating that has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave



evidence upon the landscape, commonly the point where the natural vegetation changes from predominantly aquatic to predominantly terrestrial. Click here for the complete definition as stated by the DNR. http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/surfacewater_section/hydrographics/ohw.html

Aitkin County Planning and Zoning

If you are building, remodeling or working on shoreline, 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>

Lack of snow could spur growth of Minnesota lake invader Curly-leaf

MPRNews article by Kirsti Marohn February 25, 2024

<https://www.mprnews.org/story/2024/02/25/lack-of-snow-could-spur->



Curly-leaf pondweed. Courtesy of Michael Verhoeven, University of Minnesota

This year's lack of snow cover on many Minnesota lakes could boost the growth of a nuisance aquatic plant, a University of Minnesota researcher predicts.

[Curly-leaf pondweed](#) is an invasive species that's been found in Minnesota for more than a century. It's known to be present in more than 750 water bodies in the state. It grows in the early spring and can create dense mats on the surface that interfere with recreation.

"It can be hard to use any motorized Jet Ski, boat with a propeller, etcetera, because there's so much vegetation that it essentially clogs up your propulsion system," said Michael Verhoeven, a research scientist at the university's fisheries system ecology lab.

That problem could be worse this summer. Verhoeven has studied curly-leaf pondweed and found its growth patterns are closely tied to the amount of snow on the ice that covers lakes.

Snow cover prevents light from reaching plants at the bottom of the lake where curly-leaf pondweed grows during the winter, Verhoeven said. But this year, many Minnesota lakes have had less ice than normal, and little to no snow cover.

"The general consensus from the data that we used in our work is that winters like this will be really good for curly leaf pondweed," he said. "It's going to be a happy plant when the ice comes out."

It's the snow cover, not the ice, that matters to the invasive plant, Verhoeven said.

"Essentially, if the light is getting through the ice, the curly-leaf doesn't really care whether or not there's ice," he said. "It's a plant that's well adapted to grow in cold conditions under the ice."

Curly-leaf typically dies off by early summer, releasing nutrients into the water that can spur algae growth and contribute to poorer water quality. That cycle is exacerbated in smaller lakes or those where curly-leaf grows abundantly, Verhoeven said. It also can outcompete native plants, reducing a lake's biodiversity.

Some lakes control problematic curly-leaf pondweed with herbicide or mechanical harvesting.

Curly-leaf pondweed is spread mainly by humans moving boats from one lake to another. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources advises boaters to clean their watercraft of all aquatic plants and remove drain plugs before transporting their boat.



Curly-leaf pondweed.
Courtesy of the University of Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center



There are certain areas of Farm Island Lake that have curly-leaf. The FILIA Board Members ask that people with curly-leaf work together to determine any action taken. The best time for removal of curly-leaf is within weeks of when the ice melts. Trying to harvest the weeds in the spring and summer merely spreads the seeds around.

[Click here](#) to learn more at the MNDNR website and [click here](#) for information on our FILIA website.

AIS Detectors Core Course from the UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA – Aquatic Invasive Species

Registration for the AIS Detectors Core Course is now OPEN!

[View this message on the web.](#)

Check out the live workshop options below and click the "Register Here" button to register. If you have already taken the AIS Detectors Core Course and are interested in retaking it as a refresher, you should have received a special coupon code in your inbox on Thursday. Retaking this course is NOT required to maintain your status as an AIS Detector. [Register Now!](#)

Ready to be part of the solution to aquatic invasive species (AIS) problems? The AIS Detectors Core Course is the class for you! During this course you can expect to learn some basic aquatic ecology, how to identify high priority invasive species for Minnesota, impacts AIS can have on the environment, how to report AIS sightings, Minnesota AIS regulations, and how to search for AIS on your own.

4 Live Core Course Workshop Dates:

May 3 In-Person: Plymouth

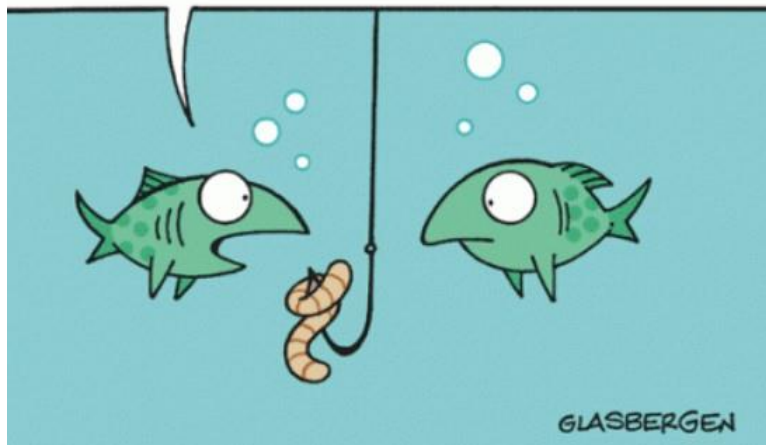
June 4/5 Virtual: Join from Anywhere!

May 17 In-Person: Detroit Lakes

June 7 In-Person: Duluth

Fishing opener is May 11

I'M THINKING ABOUT GOING ONLINE,
BUT I HEARD IT CAN BE DANGEROUS!



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 another county for a list of permitted lake service providers. The list appears at the bottom of the web page.

https://webapps11.dnr.state.mn.us/aquatic_invasive_species_training/lake_service_provider_permits/public_website_list.

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.

Did You Know?

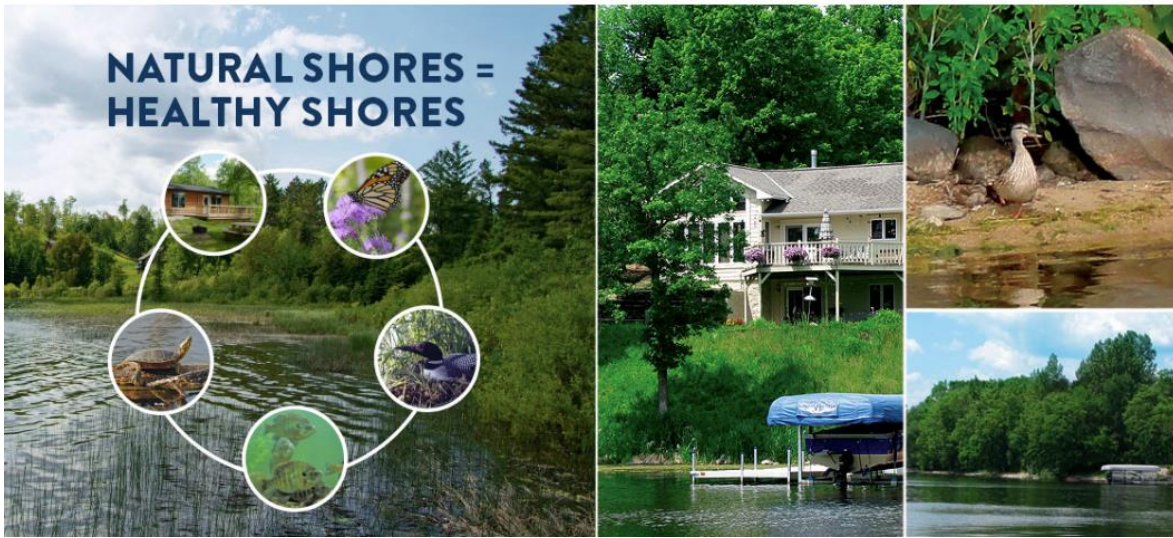
- **PWC (jet skis) hours of operation are between 9:30 AM and sunset**
- PWC must travel at slow-no wake speed (5 mph or less) within 150 feet of shore, docks, swimmers, swimming rafts, any moored or anchored watercraft, or nonmotorized watercraft. Exception is when a PWC is launching or landing a water skier by the most direct route to open water.
- **It is illegal to chase or harass wildlife**, or weave through congested watercraft traffic or jump the wake of another watercraft within 150 feet of that boat.



Minnesota's personal watercraft laws https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/education_safety/safety/boatwater/pwc-brochure.pdf

Shoreland Management – Protect the Lake and the Wildlife

https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/shoreland/index.html



Maintain and/or restore natural vegetation along your shoreline. Natural vegetation:

- Holds soil in place protecting shorelines from increasingly intensive rain events and rising water levels
- Slows runoff and stores moisture
- Filters out nutrients, which along with rising lake temperatures, accelerates algae blooms
- Provides habitat so species can survive in a changing climate
- Increases property values by keeping lakes clean.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO ENHANCE AND PROTECT THE LAKE AND WILDLIFE

This is a section from the FILIA AIS Brochure which is on the 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.
 - Limit fertilizing.
- 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.
- Use zero-phosphorus fertilizer.
- Keep grass clippings, leaves and pet waste out of the lake.

Spring Burning Restrictions Set to Begin in Minnesota

MNDNR News Release March 15, 2024

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is restricting the open burning of vegetative debris due to increased wildfire risk resulting from unusually warm temperatures and exceptionally dry conditions across most of Minnesota.

Beginning Monday, March 18, the restrictions apply in the following counties:

Aitkin, Anoka, Becker, Beltrami, Benton, Carlton, Cass, Chisago, Clay, Clearwater, Crow Wing, Douglas, Grant, Hennepin, Hubbard, Isanti, Itasca, Kanabec, Mahnommen, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Norman, Otter Tail, Pine, Polk, Pope, Ramsey, Red Lake, Sherburne, St. Louis County (southern half), Stearns, Stevens, Todd, Traverse, Wadena, Washington, Wilkin, and Wright.

The DNR will not issue permits for open burning of brush or yard waste in these counties until restrictions are lifted.

Wildfire risk increases each year after the snow melts and before vegetation greens up. “This year, we’ve seen an early start to our wildfire season due to exceptionally warm winter temperatures and less than half the average snowfall across much of the state,” said Karen Harrison, DNR wildfire prevention specialist. “Spring burning restrictions help reduce the number of wildfires, especially those caused by debris burning.”

Harrison encourages residents to use alternatives to burning to dispose of yard waste, such as composting, chipping, or taking brush to a collection site. For more information, visit the [composting for woodland owners page](https://mndnr.gov/wildfire/prevention/debris-composting.html) of the DNR website (mndnr.gov/wildfire/prevention/debris-composting.html).

People cause over 90% of wildfires in Minnesota. Due to the high wildfire potential this spring, people should be careful with anything that can cause a spark, especially on dry, windy days. If a fire rekindles or escapes, the person who set it is liable for any damage caused, as well as for wildfire suppression costs.

Burning restrictions will be adjusted as conditions change. For more information and daily updates on current fire risk and open burning restrictions, visit the [statewide fire danger and burning restrictions page](https://mndnr.gov/burnrestrictions) of the DNR website (mndnr.gov/burnrestrictions).



Be sure FILIA has your email address so you can receive the newsletters and other updates.

AITKIN COUNTY Infested Waters List

Water body name	County or counties	Listed for aquatic invasive species	Year listed as infested	Year species was first confirmed, or connected water body
Big Pine	Aitkin	zebra mussel	2018	2018
Big Sandy	Aitkin	flowering rush	2009	2008
Cedar	Aitkin	zebra mussel	2021	2021
Farm Island	Aitkin	zebra mussel	2020	2020
French	Aitkin	Eurasian watermilfoil	2019	2019
Hickory	Aitkin	zebra mussel	2023	connected to Spirit (01-0178)
Little Pine	Aitkin	zebra mussel	2020	connected to Farm Island (01-0159)
Ripple River between Farm Island (01-0159) and Little Pine (01-0176)	Aitkin	zebra mussel	2020	connected to Farm Island (01-0159)
Spirit	Aitkin	zebra mussel	2023	2023

Note: Farm Island Lake also has Curley-leaf, Chinese and Banded mystery snails

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. 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.



University of Minnesota's Saint Anthony Falls Lab is researching the potential impacts of boat-generated waves and propeller wash on Minnesota's lakes.

Waves and propeller wash produced by recreational boats have the potential to damage delicate lake ecosystems (e.g., shoreline erosion, decreased water quality, loss of aquatic vegetation, etc.). A better understanding of when, where, and how boat waves and wash impact lakes can help communities make informed decisions that balance recreation with keeping our lakes healthy for future generations.

Our goal is to provide Minnesotans with a robustly researched picture of the environmental impacts of various boat types and activities so that everyone has the information they need to enjoy and protect their favorite lakes. Read their updated reports at:

<https://sites.google.com/umn.edu/healthywatersinitiative/welcome>

If you witness a concern, please call the Aitkin County Sheriff's office at 218-927-7435 and provide as much information as you can. Location and photos and videos really help. Our local law enforcement really does want to hear from you.

Boating and Fishing Regulations

The DNR Boating and Fishing Regulations are on our website under Useful Info: <https://www.farmislandlake.org/useful-links> and are also listed on the DNR website.



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.

Important Phone Numbers

Aitkin County Sheriff & Water Patrol	911 or 218-927-7435
MNDNR Hotline	651-296-6157
AIS Specialist	218-203-4354



The ice is out, so loons should appear soon! Volunteers will be placing the ANP (Artificial Nesting Platforms) for the loons to nest on.

Get the Lead Out

Get the Lead Out is an educational program with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency working to protect and restore the population of common loons and wildlife in Minnesota by reducing their exposure to lead-based fishing tackle.

To learn more about Get the Lead Out, visit <https://lakeadmin.org/get-the-lead-out/> or

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LeadOutMN/>

Cool Loon Facts

All About Birds https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Common_Loon/overview#

- The Common Loon swims underwater to catch fish, propelling itself with its feet. It swallows most of its prey underwater. The loon has sharp, rearward-pointing projections on the roof of its mouth and tongue that help it keep a firm hold on slippery fish.
- Loons are water birds, only going ashore to mate and incubate eggs. Their legs are placed far back on their bodies, allowing efficient swimming but only awkward movement on land.
- Loons are agile swimmers, but they move pretty fast in the air, too. Migrating loons have been clocked flying at speeds more than 70 mph.
- A hungry loon family can put away a lot of fish. Biologists estimate that loon parents and their 2 chicks can eat about a half-ton of fish over a 15-week period.
- Loons are like airplanes in that they need a runway for takeoff. In the case of loons, they need from 30 yards up to a quarter-mile (depending on the wind) for flapping their wings and running across the top of the water in order to gain enough speed for lift-off.
- Loons are well equipped for their submarine maneuvers to catch fish. Unlike most birds, loons have solid bones that make them less buoyant and better at diving. They can quickly blow air out of their lungs and flatten their feathers to expel air within their plumage, so they can dive quickly and swim fast underwater. Once below the surface, the loon's heart slows down to conserve oxygen.
- Migrating Common Loons occasionally land on wet highways or parking lots, mistaking them for rivers and lakes. They become stranded without a considerable amount of

open water for a long takeoff. A loon may also get stranded on a pond that is too small.

- The Common Loon is flightless for a few weeks after molting all of its wing feathers at the same time in midwinter.
- Like many young birds, juvenile loons are really on their own after mom and dad leave at about 12 weeks. The parents head off on migration in the fall, leaving juveniles to gather into flocks on northern lakes and make their own journey south a few weeks later. Once the juveniles reach coastal waters on the ocean, they stay there for the next two years. In the third year, young loons return north, although they may not breed for several more years (on average they are six years old when they start breeding).
- The oldest recorded Common Loon was a female, and at least 29 years and 10 months old when she was spotted in Michigan in 2016 and identified by her band. She was originally banded in the same state in 1989.



Looking for People with Waders

Loon ANPs - The FILIA board is looking for people who will help with placement and removal of the loon ANPs (Artificial Nesting Platforms). The platforms are placed in the lake just after ice-out, around mid-May, and pulled out of the lake around the beginning of September, after loons have left their nest.

Bog Removal - We also need folks to help with removal of large bogs when the ice is melting in the spring, around May. This would be on an as-needed basis, should a large bog need to be moved to prevent property damage. This happened in the spring of year 2022 when a large bog was moved away from the east side of Dahle's Bay. The board filed for a permit with the DNR to remove the bog.

Please contact us at FILIAlake@gmail.com or call 218-851-7026 for more information and to volunteer.

Thank you!

We had a great response from volunteers.

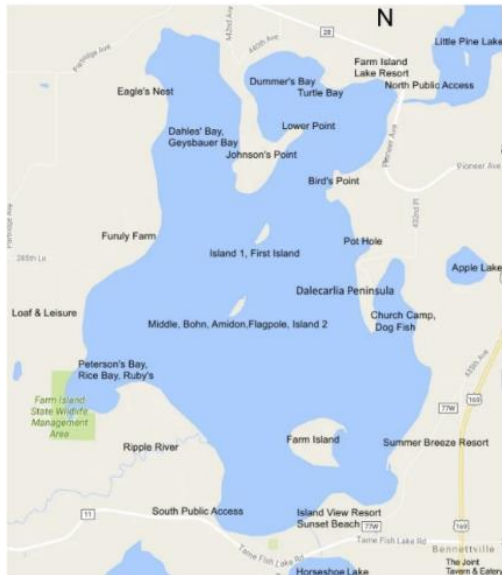
AIS Brochure

“WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER
FARM ISLAND LAKE”

Find the brochure at

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

A printable version of this map is on our website.



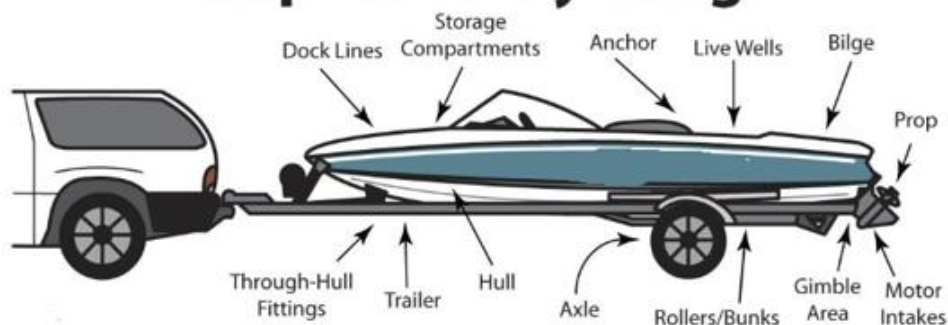
Minnesota law requires water recreationists to:

- Clean watercraft of all aquatic plants and prohibited invasive species.
- Drain all water by removing drain plugs and keeping them out during transport.
- Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash and dispose of bait water.
- Dry docks, lifts, swim rafts and other equipment for at least 21 days before placing equipment into another water body.

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.

Before leaving and before launching...
inspect everything!



To prevent the spread
of all aquatic species,
remember to

- Clean
- Drain
- Dry
- Dispose of water.

2024 Calendar of FILIA Events

*Spring Board Meeting	Saturday, May 4, 8:00 am	The Joint Tavern & Eatery
Annual Association Meeting	Saturday, June 8, 9-11:00 am	Hazelton Town Hall
4th of July Boat Parade	Thursday, July 4, Noon	FIL South Public Access
*Fall Board Meeting	Saturday, Sept 7, 8:00 am	The Joint Tavern & Eatery

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

*Only board members attend the board meetings.

The annual meeting is held the 2nd Saturday of June each year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>Bill Haroldson President</i> <i>Gordon Vetsch V.P.</i> <i>Cheryl McDonough Treasurer</i>	<i>Denise Noling..... Secretary</i> <i>Cindy Chuhanic</i> <i>Dennis Kraimer</i>	<i>Mike Harrington</i> <i>Stan Barnes</i> <i>Scott Scheele</i>
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Contact board members: FILIAlake@gmail.com

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](#) *Mission statement, printable map of Farm Island Lake, description*
- [Membership](#) *Members lists, application form*
- [Pay Dues](#) *Pay yearly membership dues online with credit card*
- [Newsletters/Lake Info](#) *Current and past newsletters, Gillnet Survey Results*
- [Contact/Calendar](#) *List of Board of Directors, Shore Captains, Meeting dates*
 - [Local Events](#)
- [Administrative](#) *Financial reports, current and 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.

Have a safe and blessed holiday season and a joyous new year!

Sincerely,
 Cheryl McDonough
 FILIA Treasurer
fiallake@gmail.com
 Your comments are welcome.

FILIA
 PO Box 135
 Aitkin, MN 56431

FarmIslandLake.org

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 \$ _____

