

**MINNEWASKA LAKE ASSOC., INC.**

P.O. BOX 14  
GLENWOOD, MN 56334

Minnewaska



**DEDICATED TO LAKE IMPROVEMENT**

As everyone is aware the year 2020 has resulted in significant changes to everyone’s lives all over the world. Each one of us has been impacted in different ways. The COVID 19 virus has also had a very significant impact on the Minnewaska Lake Association’s (MLA) ability to conduct our normal business.

Our 21st Annual Banquet was all set for June 27, 2020. The MLA Board has decided that due to all of the issues that currently face our nation, communities, businesses, friends and neighbors , we are canceling the Banquet for 2020. We are considering having a Raffle of some kind later this summer. We will be monitoring the situation and make a decision in July or August. We will send out a flyer or additional newsletter as well as posting information on our Website at [MLA Lake.org](http://MLA Lake.org), when we make some final decisions.

The primary funding for the MLA projects are the annual memberships and the annual banquet. Therefore we are respectfully requesting that you consider renewing your membership. We are also asking that you PLEASE consider making a donation to help us continue all of our projects.

One major project we have been doing is treating Milfoil to avoid it from spreading and to try to contain the existing Milfoil. Another one is to treat the Starbuck Marina for the Starry Stonewort. We have also been stocking walleye fingerlings for many years. We have also supported many other youth and senior programs for many years. Last year we established a DBA under the MLA for the MLA Fish & Cruise. All of the MLA projects are directly related to maintaining Lake Minnewaska and to ensure the public can use and enjoy this great natural resource.

We had a great banquet in 2019 that allowed us to continue the projects in 2019. With your support through memberships and donations we will be able to continue all of the projects listed in this newsletter in 2020.

Great news is that the MN DNR Electrofishing catches in 2019 were at record levels. This was before the MN DNR stocked their fry and the MLA released the fingerlings, which indicated a good natural reproduction.

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MINNEWASKA LAKE ASSOCIATION (MLA) MEMBERSHIP DUES NOW.**

*The MLA Membership year runs from January 1 through December 31, each year.*

Use the form below to send your payment for your dues and/or banquet tickets to the treasurer. You can also include a donation, specifically for the Invasive Species Projects, or to our General fund. You do not have to be an MLA member to donate to the MLA for our projects. However, we encourage you to consider becoming a member. All the donations and money that the MLA receives are put back into the lake. We have NO PAID employees and all the board members donate their time.

Help us recruit new members by asking your friends and neighbors to show their support by becoming a member. Membership dues are only \$30.00 per year.

**Please check below**

\_\_\_ Annual Membership ONLY = \$30.00

\_\_\_ Annual Membership + Banquet = \$50.00

\_\_\_ Each spouse or child of member under 18 yrs of age \$20.00 \_\_\_ Number to attend banquet = \_\_\_

\_\_\_ Special Donation to Milfoil Project (Invasive Species) Fund \$\_\_\_\_\_.

**GRAND total contributed \$\_\_\_\_\_**

**Mail To: Minnewaska Lake Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 14, Glenwood, MN 56334**

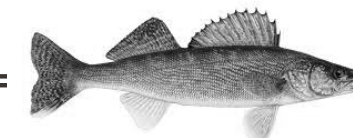
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM** *(Please print and/or include this information with your payment)*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_



Once again the MLA stocked walleye fingerlings last fall like we have for many years. The catches in 2019 were the highest since the DNR started the surveys in 1990. The previous years that were close were in 2001 and 2011. The numbers in these years resulted in great walleye fishing in the years that followed. Based on history the future looks great for the walleye population for next several years.

We want to thank the Pope County Land & Resource Department for their past and continued financial help with the Milfoil and Starry Stonewort projects.

Our hope is that you and your family, friends and neighbors will all remain healthy and we can get back to a somewhat normal life again in 2020.

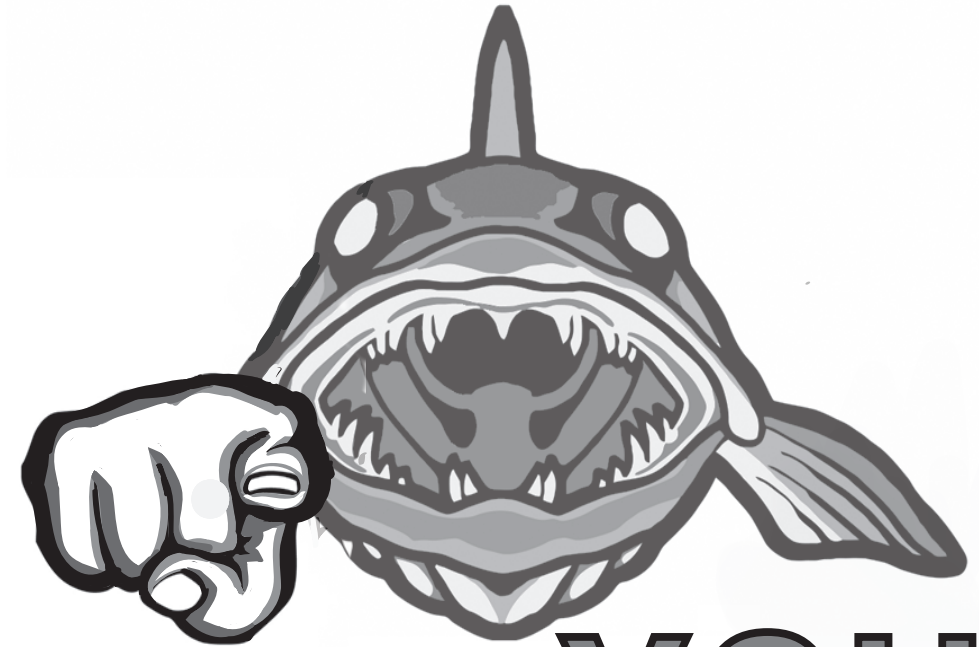
Thank you all for considering renewing your membership and consider adding a donation, which will allow the MLA to continue to ensure Lake Minnewaska remains the GREAT natural resource that it is today.

We hope you have a great summer and stay healthy so you can enjoy the many activities that Lake Minnewaska has to offer.

Sincerely;  
Michael Stai, President



***DEDICATED TO LAKE IMPROVEMENT***



**WE WANT YOU!**

**TO JOIN THE MINNEWASKA  
LAKE ASSOCIATION**

**GO TO [WWW.MLALAKE.ORG](http://WWW.MLALAKE.ORG) AND DISCOVER  
WHAT THIS WONDERFUL ORGANIZATION  
IS DOING TO PRESERVE, PROTECT AND PROMOTE  
THIS AREA'S GREATEST RESOURCE**

**THE MOST IMPORTANT \$30.00 YOU WILL EVER SPEND**

**MLA BOARD**

We would like to encourage you to consider becoming a member of the MLA board. If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a board member please contact anyone of the board members listed in this newsletter. The board members are also listed on the MLA website: mlalake.org. We will be practicing safe distance at our meetings in 2020 through outdoor or virtual on line meetings.

With each new board member we get new ideas and perspectives that will make the MLA a stronger organization. The primary objective of the board is to do whatever we can to preserve of the great natural resource that we have in Lake Minnewaska

Thank you for past and future support of the Minnewaska Lake Association.

Respectfully;  
MLA Board

**CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS OF THE MLA**

Mike Stai, President .....320-424-0384	Mary Krueger, Secretary..... 320-424-1958
Tina Struck, Treasurer ..... 320-247-2712	Fred Anderson, Membership .....320-334-1710
Tony Carlson, Banquet..... 320-334-4171	Mary Jo Wohlwend .....320-288-6442
Karen Warren, Advertising ..... 612-670-7316	Bill Anderson..... 320-634-4489
Ken Knudsen .....320-424-1702	Don Sack..... 320-634-5960
Dave Gross .....507-227-3776	Nancy Koep ..... 320-634-4660
Steve Pike .....952-239-9865	Mike Nemmers ..... 320-424-0368
Jerry Kirkvliet .....320-239-4860	Bill Wright..... 320-424-1439
Kurt Amundson.....320-239-4935	Dean Beck (DNR)..... 320-634-7323
Jim Rinsem.....612-875-4023	Mike Nolan..... 701-741-7877
Jim Morrissey .....320-634-5546	Doug Evink.....612-366-1701

***Thank you for past and future support of the Minnewaska Lake Association.***

*Mike Stai, MLA President*

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**STARRY STONEWORT**

In 2019, with some financial help and support from Pope County and, the MLA was able to perform 4 treatments to the Starry Stonewort in the Starbuck Marina. We had GREAT success. After the 4th treatment in September of 2019, the Post survey showed NO SIGNS of active Starry Stonewort Algae in the Marina. The MAJOR goal is to avoid allowing it to spread into the main lake, which would be devastating. If left untreated, this algae could destroy the ability to utilize the lake.

In January of 2020, Michael Stai met with Pope County and the Mayor of Starbuck to establish a plan for 2020. Even with the great results in 2019, we all agreed that we are anticipating some Starry Stonewort will reappear in the spring of 2020. Based on this discussion we applied for a permit for up to 4 more treatments in 2020. The approved chemical by the MN DNR that is used is a Chelated Copper that is non corrosive. We will be performing a PRE survey this spring to determine if and what treatments will be considered in 2020.

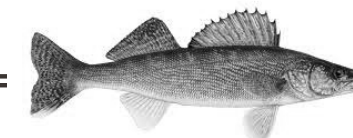
This entire project is at a significant investment of just under \$17,000 per year for 4 treatments. This invasive species can be detrimental to the use of the marina but also even more devastating to the rest of the lake if not contained. Without focused efforts it can become so thick that fish cannot even swim through the area, much less trying to run a boat through.

The MLA is coordinating and managing this project in 2020, along with Pope County Land & Resource Management Department, the MN DNR and the City of Starbuck.

**MILFOIL PROJECT (Invasive species)**

The MLA has been treating the Milfoil in Lake Minnewaska since 2013. We will be treating this invasive species again in the spring of 2020. We will continue to work to educate the home owners and public about the importance of informing MLA Board about possible new infested areas. This is a very important part of controlling the spread of Milfoil.

The MLA started this project to try to contain and control the spread of Milfoil in 2013. In 2017 the MLA applied chemicals to 38.27 acres of Milfoil in Lake Minnewaska. In 2018 the MLA treated 25.3 acres and in 2019 we treated 27.4 acres of Milfoil. In 2020 we applied for a permit to treat 30 acres. Because of early detection we have successfully killed the Milfoil in several areas in the lake over the past 6 years. Even the areas that we have not totally killed the Milfoil, we have been successful in thinning the infestation and reducing the number of acres in those areas. Because Minnewaska has over 7,800 acres of water we will never be able to totally eradicate the Milfoil. This needs to be a long term commitment from everyone.



With increased public awareness and through education we are having a positive impact. In order to allow the Lake Association to continue this important project, we need your help and support. The cost to treat one acre is \$400. If you have donated in the past, we want to thank you and encourage you to consider sending in a donation this year with your annual membership.

Any money designated towards Milfoil or Starry Stonewort will be deposited in a separate bank account, specifically for invasive species projects.

If you want to contribute to the Invasive species program, you can indicate on the last page of this newsletter and mail along with your membership to: Minnewaska Lake Association at P.O. Box 14, Glenwood, MN 56334.

The MLA would like to say "Thank-You" for your consideration in continuing to support these great projects.

## ZEBRA MUSSELS

In 2019, based on our observations, the Zebra Mussels seem to be going through a transition. Several lake owner have indicated that they did not have as many last fall as in previous years. Please thoroughly inspect your boats and trailers when launching and retrieving them to avoid the possible spread of this invasive species. There is a theory that the pan fish are eating them. Based on the GREAT crappie and sunfish fishing the last couple of years, this theory may be correct.

## THRIVENT ENDORSEMENT

We would like to thank all the members that continue to use this method of helping to support the MLA. This is greatly appreciated. This partnership has proven to be very successful and provides a good method to allocate and send your Choice Dollars for the Thrivent Financial members as a donation to the MLA.

## MLA WEBSITE – mlalake.org

We continue to work on keeping our website current. We have posted this newsletter on our website so it is available to potential new members and the general public. We will also be posting more information as it becomes available regarding any raffles or other MLA events in 2020.



## MEMBERSHIP

The MLA has a strong commitment to educating the youth about the important factors that impact our lake. We continue to support youth programs such as the Minn-Aqua, Take a Kid Fishing, Pope & Stevens County Water Festival, youth fishing league and the Ice fishing contest, which is held by the FFA that was associated with Winterama. We continue to support programs that encourage the youth, seniors and veterans the opportunity to enjoy Lake Minnewaska, through the "MLA Fish and Cruise" program.

Only through your continued memberships and donations will the MLA be able to continue to provide support for these great events. This is in addition to the other projects as previously mentioned in this newsletter, such as the invasive species. Without continuing these projects the invasive species will have a dramatic negative impact on the ability of the public to utilize the lake. Also, as proven in other lakes in Minnesota, if we don't treat these invasive species it will have a very negative impact value of the Lake Property and the economy of the area.

Because of the MLA's continued efforts in releasing walleye fingerlings each year, given the record numbers in 2019, there is a GREAT number of small Walleye's that will support great fishing for many years.

All the donations that the MLA receives are used for education and projects that are directly related to the lake. It is important to realize that some projects do not happen overnight. However, with the common goal of protecting our resources, with your continued support, we can and will continue to make a difference.

The MLA membership runs from January 1st through December 31st. If you are already a member of the MLA, thank you for your support. If you are not currently a member, please consider joining.

