



MINNEWASKA LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER APRIL 2026 EDITION

The MLA is excited to announce our 26th Annual Banquet, scheduled for Saturday, June 27, 2026.

Mark your calendars and join us for an evening dedicated to celebrating our lake community and supporting Lake Minnewaska preservation efforts.

Where:	Minnewaska House	
New Timing:	Doors Open	4pm
	Raffles and Refreshments	4-6pm
	Dinner, Program and Prizes	6pm onward



The Silent Auction will once again be digital! Scan the following QR code to preview and bid on items:

Due to four consecutive sell-outs, we strongly recommend purchasing your tickets early. They will be available in early April and may be ordered using the form in this newsletter. These tickets will be mailed directly to you after payment is received. Updates on ticket availability will be posted on our website.

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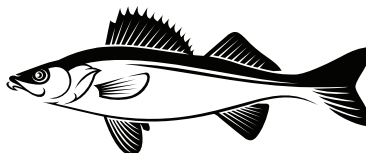
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Greetings from the Minnewaska Lake Association (MLA)! The spring and summer of 2025 brought fantastic fishing and recreational opportunities, and despite some ice access challenges last winter, ice fishing remained strong. We're proud that Minnewaska became a recognized MN Keep It Clean Lake in 2024, with 22 signs installed to remind everyone to keep trash and waste off the ice and out of the lake.

Last year's 25th Annual Banquet was another sold-out success. Our projects are funded by memberships, banquet proceeds, and donations. MLA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, so your donations are tax-deductible. We have several initiatives planned for 2026 and invite you to renew your membership and consider donating. Donations may now be allocated between General Fund, Aquatic Invasive Species, and Walleye Stocking.

The MLA continues to coordinate with the City of Starbuck regarding Aquatic Invasive Species surveys and treatments in the Starbuck Marina and the main lake. A comprehensive Point Intercept (PI) survey in 2025 established a baseline for aquatic plants (both native and invasive) leading to new discoveries and targeted management. We believe Minnewaska to be the largest lake in Minnesota with this entire lake sampling profile data.

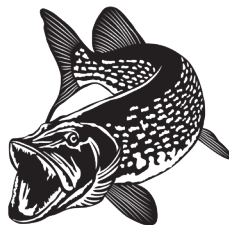
Our walleye stocking program remains essential, with an additional 2,000 pounds of walleye fingerlings released last fall, totaling more than 1.2 million since 1998.

We thank the Pope County Land & Resource Department and the MN DNR for their past and continued financial help with the invasive species projects on Lake Minnewaska.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and dedication to Lake Minnewaska. We look forward to seeing you all at our 26th Banquet on June 27, 2026!

Respectfully,

*Steve Nelson,
President, MLA*





WALLEYE STOCKING PROGRAM:

Since 1998, MLA has stocked thousands of walleye fingerlings annually. Each fall, 2,000 pounds are released (40,000-50,000 fingerlings), contributing to outstanding walleye fishing. The MN DNR also released 3.3 million walleye fry in Spring 2025.

MLA recommends releasing walleyes under 15" length to help maintain natural reproduction and growth cycles- refer to MN DNR fishing regulations for details on all species and observe daily/possession limits.

Please consider supporting our walleye stocking program with a donation.

THE FIGHT AGAINST AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS):

MLA implements a proactive and evidence-based AIS management plan to help protect the Lake Minnewaska ecosystem, water quality, and recreational opportunities. We continue to work with respected professional service providers for AIS lake surveying (Blue Water Science) and treatment plans (AquaTerra) using proven products with minimal ecological impact as recommended by industry experts and backed by scientific studies.

Our whole lake Point Intercept (PI) survey performed in August 2025 provides valuable data for targeted action. Aquatic plant samples were taken and recorded on a 250 meter grid across the entire lake, giving us a complete profile on how and where to allocate our AIS management resources.

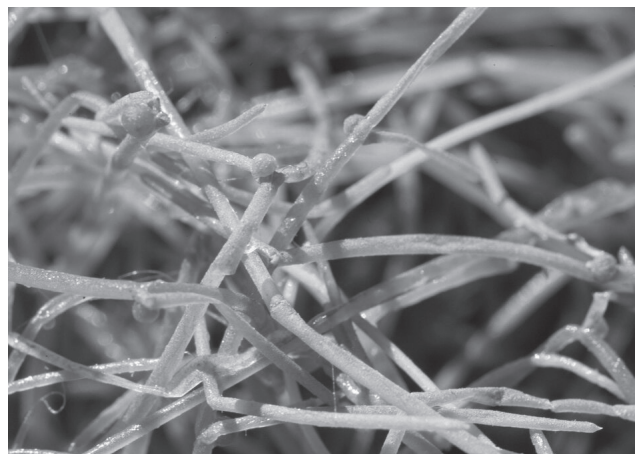
Donations for AIS management are welcome and can be indicated on your membership form.



STARRY STONWORT PROJECT (SSW):

SSW was discovered in the Starbuck Marina in August 2017 and has since spread into the main channel outside the Marina and into the main lake. MLA has been proactively working to monitor and control the SSW issue including expanded survey areas in 2023 and again in 2025.

Our initial SSW treatments in 2018 covered 1.5 acres. The 2025 PI survey revealed new growth which was aggressively managed into the Fall and MLA treated a total of 7.8 acres last year. While no eradication treatments exist for SSW, ongoing efforts are crucial to minimize the spread.

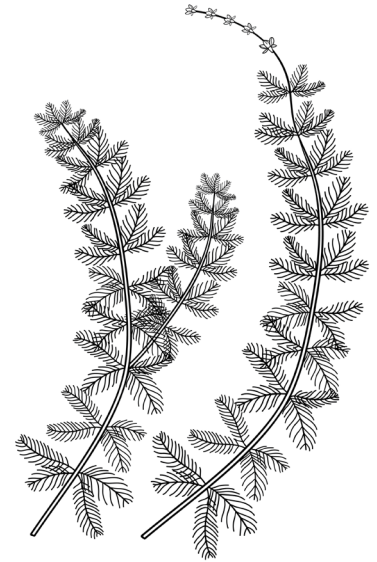




EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL PROJECT (EWM):

MLA has been proactively managing EWM since 2013, initially treating over 40 acres. In the years since, we have had success treating this AIS with more eco-friendly products like ProcellaCOR, now offering multi-year control. Through continuing MLA efforts, sampling surveys are showing many previous treatment sites with EWM growth suppressed and native vegetation growth re-established.

In 2025, 4.4 acres of EWM were treated with successful results. The 2025 PI survey indicated no new areas of treatable EWM across the entire lake. We will continue to monitor and manage EWM in 2026.



THRIVENT ENDORSEMENT:

Thank you to Thrivent members for their generous contributions in 2025. This partnership helps allocate Members Choice Dollars to MLA, supporting our initiatives.

MLA FISH & CRUISE:

MLA's Fish & Cruise program enriches lives by providing on-the-water experiences for area seniors and veterans. Fishing trips and cruises are provided to these individuals at no cost with the generous support from the businesses and organizations listed below and on the side of our pontoon:

- American Business Solutions
- Glenwood Retirement Village
- Glenwood State Bank
- Last Cast Bait and Tackle
- Minnewaska Lutheran Home
- Minnewaska Marine
- Pope County
- Tanis Aircraft Products
- Tom's Market



We're seeking more Captains and helpers for these outings- training is provided. Interested? Call the Fish & Cruise hotline at 320-334-4072!





KEEP IT CLEAN:

Minnewaska became recognized as a *Keep It Clean* lake in 2024. MLA installed 22 signs at lake access locations as a reminder to keep garbage and waste off the ice and out of the lake. Thank you to all who were on the ice last winter for keeping our ice and lake clean!



NEW MLA WEBSITE – www.mlalake.org

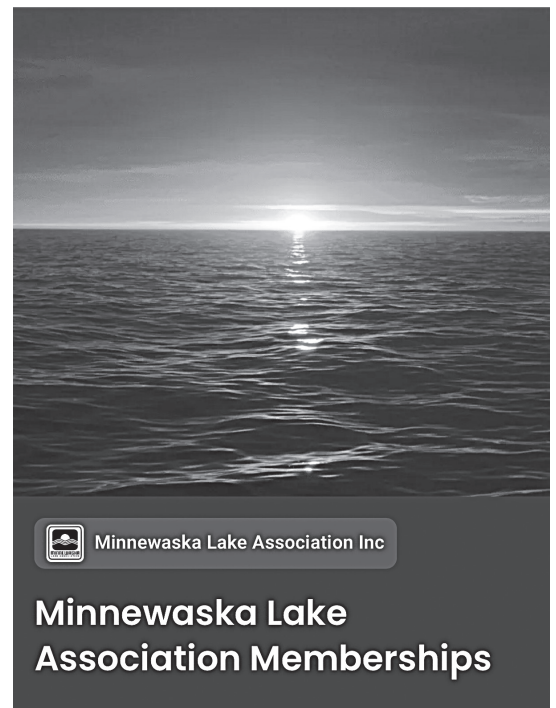
We're excited to unveil our revamped website. Launched in Spring 2026, this platform enables us to share updates more efficiently. Help spread the word by directing friends and neighbors to our site.

Please consider opting in to receive the newsletters by email, as MLA is working toward electronic communications to reduce the time and expense involved in manually mailing the newsletter.

NEW MLA ONLINE MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

MLA memberships may now be purchased or renewed online via the Zeffy platform, which is free to non-profits, ensuring all proceeds benefit MLA projects. Voluntary donations may also be made through Zeffy.

Please renew your membership or join today to support our important lake stewardship and community programs. Encourage others to join and support Lake Minnewaska! Membership runs from January 1 through December 31





MLA BOARD

The current MLA Board members are listed below and also posted on the MLA website: www.mlalake.org

The MLA Board strives to preserve Lake Minnewaska for the recreational enjoyment and community vitality this beautiful lake brings to our area.

MLA is making significant investments each year to maintain our incredible Lake Minnewaska resource, including AIS management, walleye stocking, AED's at Glenwood & Starbuck Beaches, Keep It Clean initiatives, and youth programs like Kids Spring Bike Giveaway, Pope & Stevens County Water Festival, and more. We are proud to provide seniors and veterans the opportunity to enjoy Lake Minnewaska through the MLA Fish & Cruise program.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS OF THE MLA

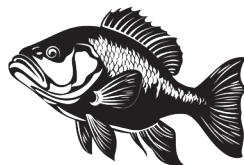
Steve Nelson, President.....	320-424-9474	Anja Carlson	612-239-6913
Mike Stai, Vice President	320-424-0384	Tony Carlson.....	320-334-4171
Pat Krueger, Treasurer	320-424-1957	Marty Gjerde	320-295-1435
Mary Krueger, Secretary.....	320-424-1958	Dave Gross	507-227-3776
Tom Silver, Mmbrshp & Banq	320-424-0533	Jim Morrissey	320-424-2400
Doug Evink, Fish & Cruise	612-366-1701	Michael Noland.....	701-741-7877
Kurt Amundson.....	320-239-4935	Steve Pike	952-239-9865
Angie Anderson	320-220-2130	Jim Rinsem.....	612-875-4023
Bill Anderson.....	320-220-1947	Don Sack.....	763-228-1297
Steve Blair.....	320-368-2794	Bill Wright.....	320-334-0135

NOTE: There are NO PAID employees and all the board members are donating their time to the MLA.

Thank you for your continued support of the Minnewaska Lake Association!

Sincerely, MLA Board

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





WE WANT YOU!

**FOR THE MINNEWASKA LAKE ASSOCIATION
MOST IMPORTANT \$30 YOU'LL EVER SPEND**



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

The MLA Membership year runs from January 1 – December 31 each year.

Please fill in the requested information below and send payment for your membership dues and/or banquet tickets to the mailing address listed. Tickets will be mailed upon receipt based on the return address provided by you below.

Item Description	Annual Membership:		Additional Banquet Meal Ticket(s):		Elective Donation to Specified MLA Fund :		
	ONLY	+ 1 Banquet Ticket	Spouse	Child < 18 Years	General	Walleye	Invasive Species
Cost	\$30.00	\$60.00	\$30.00	\$30.00 per Child	Please specify elective donation amount(s) by category based on the three descriptions below.		
Selection				# of Children _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)

Total Contribution to Minnewaska Lake Association: \$ _____ Sum of (a) - (g) Above

- Please denote selection with an 'X' or '✓'
- Please specify # of children attending | Total of (d) = # of Children X \$30.00
- Non-members can make elective donations

Please note: an annual membership is required for one or more individuals to attend the MLA Banquet

Please mail this entire page with a check corresponding to the *Total Contribution* calculated above to the following:

Minnewaska Lake Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 14
Glenwood, MN 56334

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CELL PHONE # _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Check box to receive MLA newsletter via email above

MINNEWASKA LAKE ASSOC., INC.

P.O. BOX 14

GLENWOOD, MN 56334