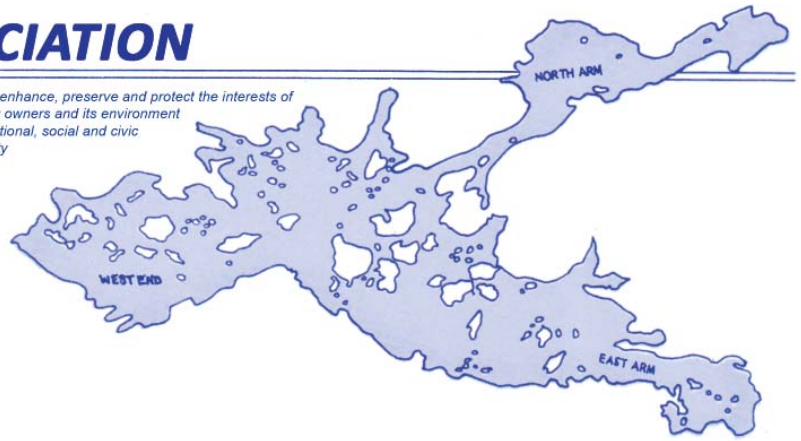


BURNTSIDE LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 81 ELY, MINNESOTA 55731

Incorporated in 1976 to enhance, preserve and protect the interests of Burntside Lake property owners and its environment and contribute to recreational, social and civic welfare of the community



Volume XXI, Summer 2014

2014 ANNUAL Meeting

Place: Vermillion Community College

Date: Saturday, August 2, 2014

Time: Coffee, Muffins: 8:30 A.M, Meeting: 9:30 A.M

Speaker: STEVE FOSS

Ely photographer Steve Foss travels the United States to photograph portraits, guide nature photography workshops on wildflowers, birds and wolves, and guide clients in teaching photo excursions. Steve's images have appeared in National Geographic Adventure, Birder's World, Boundary Waters Journal, and books and calendars. Steve moved to Ely in 2003, and has spent most of his boat and ice time since then learning Burntside and Birch lakes, logging hundreds of hours on each over the course of each year. He is an expert winter and summer fishing guide for Burntside!

In this Newsletter:

Board Officers and Directors

President

Philip Voxland
(612) 724-2200
(218) 365-5563

Vice President

Reynold Mack
(651) 295-9877
(218) 365-3331

Secretary

Tim Riley

Treasurer

Diedre Plude

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Ward Nelson
Pam Freeman

North Arm Reps:

Claire Taylor
Niki Roussopoulos
Geisler

West Arm Reps:

James Zissler
Eric Webster

Central Reps:

Paul Gustad
Rodney Nyenhuis

Island Reps:

Bob Leininger
David Bahnemann

- The 2013 Annual Meeting was presented with by-law amendments. After discussion, the members recommended that the Board of Directors reconsider those proposals and report back to this year's meeting. The task force met four times and presents its recommendations for approval at this year's meeting. **The reorganized and revised by-laws are provided here for your consideration. Voting at the Annual Meeting requires current dues payment and ownership of property on Burntside.**

- There is good news from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency about Burntside Water Quality. Our lake was studied by the MPCA over ten years ago. Measurements from the past two summers show that the lake continues to have low pollution levels.

- Last year, the DNR in June and July provided AIS inspection at the Van Vac public landing. Although we offered to again cover half the cost of inspections, our request was turned down by the DNR, in part because we do not have much traffic at our public accesses compared to other state areas.

- The National Forest Service conducted a prescribed burn of 31 Acres along the North Arm road near the Slim Lake portage. Ideal weather conditions are required for this forest fire fuel reduction project. Local emergency responders were on hand. Fortunately the burn completed without incident.

- By popular demand, an updated Ice on/Ice off spreadsheet is included in this newsletter. Burntside was not clear of ice until after the Minnesota fishing opener this year.

- In the distant past, the shoreline and areas around Burntside were heavily logged for timber used in construction and mining. There are reminders of that era still visible which you may see in some of the rocks and reefs in the far reaches of Burntside.

- It happens now and then that an unexpected visitor shows up at a cabin. A family diary from one visitor tells of cabin renting in the days of outhouses and no electricity.

New Buoy Contractor for Burntside

Beginning in 2014, Timbuktu Marina of Cook, Minnesota is in charge of buoy placement on Burntside. This year's late ice out (May 13th) and late finalization of their contract with St. Louis County prevented putting in the buoys on the day of Minnesota's fishing opener. Already they have been responsive to our calls for buoys which have needed placement in their designated location. Strong winds can pull the hazard warnings away from their rocks and reefs.

Contact President Phil Voxland or Vice President Reynold Mack if you spot a wayward or missing buoy. Please provide the detailed location information that is needed to find and locate them.

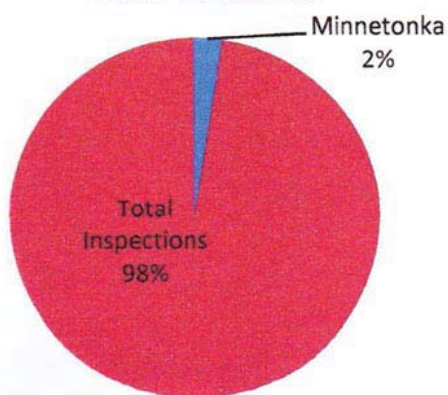
Septic or Outhouse Pumping for Water Access Properties

If your water access only property is in need of septic or outhouse pumping, we are working with a local septic contractor to have his barge on the lake this fall. We now have a list of water access people to remind you of the operations. If you are interested please contact Reynold Mack, Vice-President, Burntside Lake Association. 651-429-0174, 218-365-3331

DNR Summary Report on AIS Inspections in 2013

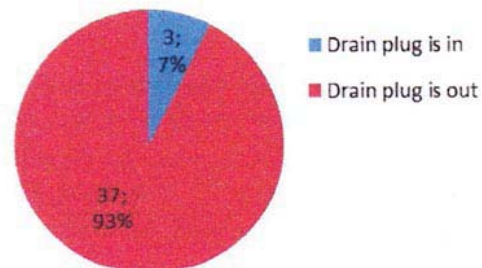
The Association in 2013 submitted a request to the DNR for matching grants to provide trained Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) inspectors at the public access landings. We proposed spot coverage on several weekends across open water season from spring into fall. Our Board agreed to pay half the salary for the interns who would be doing the inspections. Our request was approved, but the DNR only provided staff for approximately 25 hours (in June and July), which was about one-third of what we expected to be provided. Earlier this year, we received a Summary report based on those few hours. Here are two charts from that report:

Watercraft Coming from ZM Waters



Watercraft entering or exiting Van Vac access that last used zebra mussels designated waters. Inspectors found that 1 watercraft had come from a waterbody that is infested with zebra mussels.

Drain Plug status on Incoming Watercraft



Percentage of watercraft users observed coming to Burntside Lake with drain plugs installed. Per Minnesota statutes drain plugs are required to be removed when transporting watercraft. Watercraft users were directed to remove drain plugs and drain watercraft away from the water body prior to launching.



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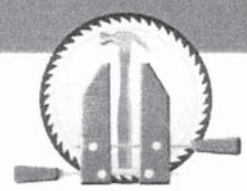
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From Start to Finish

Proposed By-Laws
Recommended by By-laws Task Force – July 15, 2014

This proposal to revise and renumber the Bylaws is to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting. The most substantial changes to our current bylaws is in Article #10. The revision clarifies uncertainties in the current bylaws about who is eligible to vote, and how votes are allocated.

BURNTSIDE LAKE ASSOCIATION

By-Laws pertaining to corporation formed under Minnesota statutes regarding non-profit corporations whose Article of Incorporation is dated September 10, 1976:

Article #1: The name of this corporation shall be Burntside Lake Association.

Article #2: The purpose shall be to enhance, promote and protect the interest of property owners on Burntside Lake and the immediate watershed thereof; to protect the environment thereof; and to contribute to the recreational, social and civic welfare of the community.

Article #3: Its duration shall be perpetual.

Article #4: The location and post office address of its registered office in this state shall be Box 81, Ely, Minnesota 55731.

Article #5: The Board of Directors shall include 4 Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) and 10 Area Representative Directors elected to represent the interests of Members from each of the following Burntside Lake areas:

- East Arm (2)
- Central Section (2)
- West Arm (2)
- North Arm (2)
- Island or Water access Properties (2)

The operation of this corporation shall rest in the hands of the membership and its duly elected Board of Directors.

Article 6: The monies required to carry out the business of this corporation shall be acquired by dues, donations, and, if approved by the membership, special assessments from the membership. The rate of dues shall be set by the Board of Directors.

The fiscal year and membership year will be equal to the calendar year. Dues will be credited to the year they are received.

Article #7: The legal depository for the corporation shall be determined by the Treasurer and approved by the Board of Directors.

Article #8: There shall be no personal liability whatsoever of Members for corporate obligations.

Article #9: MEMBERSHIP; Membership eligibility in this corporation shall consist of property ownership in Burntside Lake. Membership is gained and held by paying annual dues.

Article #10: VOTING: Prior to a meeting of Members, the Officers will create from St. Louis County public records a list of all the unique parcel identification numbers on Burntside Lake. For each identified parcel only one vote may be cast on any issue by the parcel owner or by proxy. If there is more than one owner of a parcel, the owners must designate one Member or their proxy to cast the vote. If the same owner exists for multiple parcel identification numbers they will only have one vote.

Voting cards listing the parcel identifications will be issued to owners who are paid members or are their proxy holders during the registration time prior to the Annual Meeting or special meeting. A proxy holder must be a paid member.

If a special meeting is called between January 1 and the Annual Meeting, Members will be eligible to vote if they paid dues the previous year.

Article #11: VOTING BY PROXY; A Member may vote by proxy for Officers and Area Representative Directors and on any issues submitted to the membership for vote at the Annual Meeting or any special meeting called in accordance with these By-laws. A Member must be current in their dues to submit a proxy authorization.

Signed proxy authorizations may be mailed to the Secretary and must be received at least one day prior to the meeting. Proxies may be hand delivered to the Secretary on the day of the meeting. To be effective, a proxy authorization must be signed, dated and use the word "proxy" or otherwise state in substance that a named individual or a designated member of the Board of Directors, has the authority to vote on behalf of a Member. A voting card will be issued for every authorized proxy request.

Article #12: There shall be an Annual Meeting held the first Saturday of August of each year. This meeting date, time and place is subject to change at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the work of the corporation and elect its Officers and Area Representative Directors for the ensuing year.

Other meetings of the corporation can be called by the Board of Directors or by petition of 30% of the eligible voting Membership. Location of these meetings shall be set on a convenience basis. Notice to membership of all meetings shall be the responsibility of the Secretary

The members present at any properly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article #13: In order to be elected, Officers and Area Representative Directors must be voting members in good standing. They shall serve until their successors have been duly elected and qualified, or removed as provided in the By-laws.

Members of the Board of Directors shall serve without remuneration.

The President shall convene regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors, shall preside or arrange for one of the other Officers to preside at each meeting of the Board or Members in the following order: Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer. The Vice-President shall chair committees on special subjects as designated by the Board of Directors.

The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping records of Board actions, including overseeing taking of minutes at all Board Meetings, or Membership Meetings, sending out meeting announcements, distributing copies of minutes and the agenda to each Board Member or Member, and assuring that corporate records are maintained.

The Treasurer shall make a report at each Board meeting. The Treasurer shall assist in the preparation of the budget, help develop fundraising plans, and make financial information available to the Board and the Members.

Resignation from the Board must be in writing and received by the Secretary. A Board Member shall be terminated from the Board due to excess absences, more than two unexcused absences from Board meetings in a year. A Board Member may be removed for other reasons by three-fourths votes of the remaining Board Members.

A quorum of the Board shall consist of at least 40 percent of Board Members for business transactions to take place and motions to pass.

Terms for Officers and Area Representative Directors shall be two years. In order to provide continuity in administration, the Officers and Board Members will serve staggered terms. The President, Secretary, and one-half the Area Representative Directors will be elected during odd numbered years for a two-year term. The Vice-President, Treasurer, and the other half of the Area Representative Directors will be elected during even numbered years for two-year terms. Board of Director terms begin 1 day after the Annual Meeting.

Vacancies occurring in an elected position shall be filled by appointment by the remaining Board of Directors and that appointment will terminate at the next annual meeting.

A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by The Board and shall not include Board Members up for re-election. The Nominating Committee will present to the Membership at the Annual Meeting a slate of Officers and Area Representative Directors for expiring or vacant terms. In addition, candidates for Officers and Area Representative Directors positions may be nominated from the floor. Board of Directors must receive a majority of the votes cast be elected.

The Secretary who is in office at the time that any Annual Meeting is called to order will be responsible for taking and submitting the minutes of that meeting, including the results of the election of new Board Members. Election of Officers and Area Representative Directors will be the last item on the agenda at each Annual Meeting.

Article #14: By-Laws of this corporation can be altered at an Annual Meeting by a two-thirds majority vote of those Members present at the Annual Meeting. Meetings of this corporation shall be run according to "Roberts' Rules of Order".

North Arm Prescribed Burn Completed, May 23rd



Smoke Rising from the Burn in the Camp Du Nord area (Photo by Lynne Hill)

At the 2013 Annual meeting, we heard from representatives of the National Forest Service about plans to conduct prescribed burns in the West and North arms of Burntside. Finally on Friday May 23rd weather conditions were ideal to conduct one of the planned burns. There were only very light winds. Only slight delays occurred for traffic on the North Arm road. Forest Service and Emergency crews were on site to deal with any problems. A follow up burn is planned for the same area in a few years to reduce larger fuels and encourage forest regeneration. A few hot spots were monitored through the weekend. A month later, the forest floor is becoming green again. Take an opportunity to take a drive along the North Arm road to see the first stages of natural recovery!



Large White and Norway Pines Survived the Burn (Photo by Claire Taylor)

Burntside Lake Ice Out (1940-2014) and Ice On (1987-2013) Dates

Year	Ice Out Date	Year	Ice Out Date	Ice on Date	Days of Open Water
1940	May 11	1987	April 16	December 17	245
1941	April 10	1988	April 30	November 20	204
1943	May 2	1989	May 6	December 3	211
1944	May 11	1990	April 26	December 2	220
1945	April 12	1991	April 24	November 26	216
1946	April 24	1992	May 6	November 29	207
1947	May 13	1993	April 30	November 28	212
1948	April 28	1994	May 2	December 10	222
1949	April 28	1995	April 30	November 25	209
1950	May 22	1996	May 22	November 27	189
1951	May 5	1997	May 1	December 8	221
1952	April 29	1998	April 17	December 22	249
1953	May 5	1999	April 28	December 17	233
1954	May 12	2000	April 29	December 9	224
1955	April 21	2001	May 1	December 28	241
1956	May 10	2002	May 3	November 27	208
1957	May 1	2003	May 2	December 3	215
1958	April 21	2004	April 30	December 17	231
1960	May 1	2005	April 18	December 17	243
1961	May 1	2006	April 16	December 7	235
1962	May 6	2007	April 28	December 1	217
1963	April 30	2008	May 12	December 9	211
1964	April 18	2009	May 1	December 14	227
1970	May 5	2010	April 3	December 9	250
1971	May 3	2011	May 1	December 17	230
1972	May 7	2012	March 28	December 10	257
1973	April 27	2013	May 19	November 29	194
1974	May 2	2014	May 13		
1975	April 30				
1976	April 19		Earliest Ice Out	March 28, 2012	
1977	April 24		Latest Ice Out	May 22, 1950	
1978	May 4		Median Ice Out	April 29	
1979	May 12				
1980	April 28		Earliest Ice On	November 20, 1988	
1981	April 12		Latest Ice On	December 28, 2001	
1982	May 4		Median Ice On	December 8	
1983	April 23				
1984	April 26		Fewest Open Days	189	
1985	April 26		Median Open Days	221	
1986	April 19		Most Open Days	257	

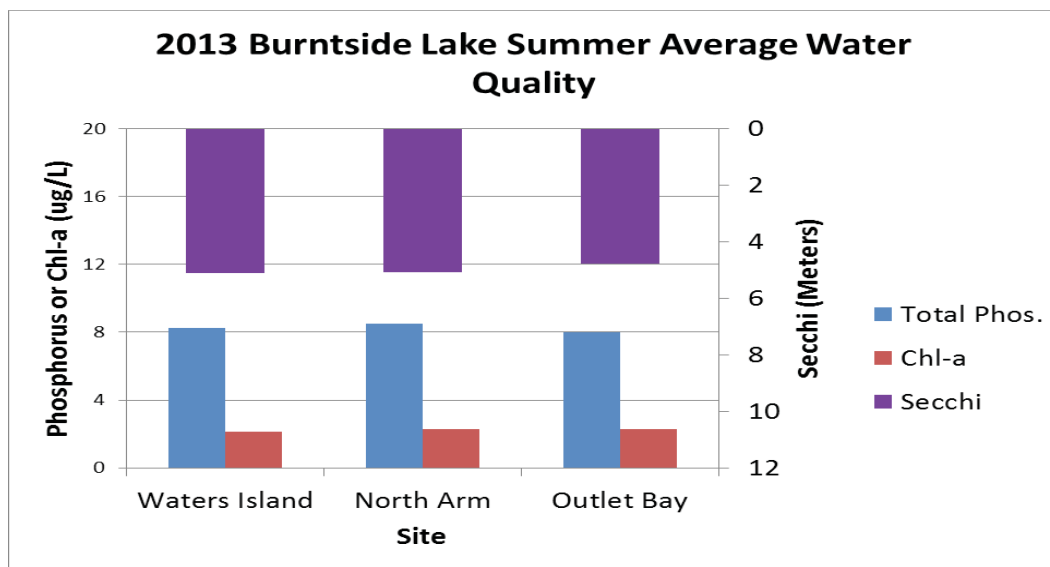
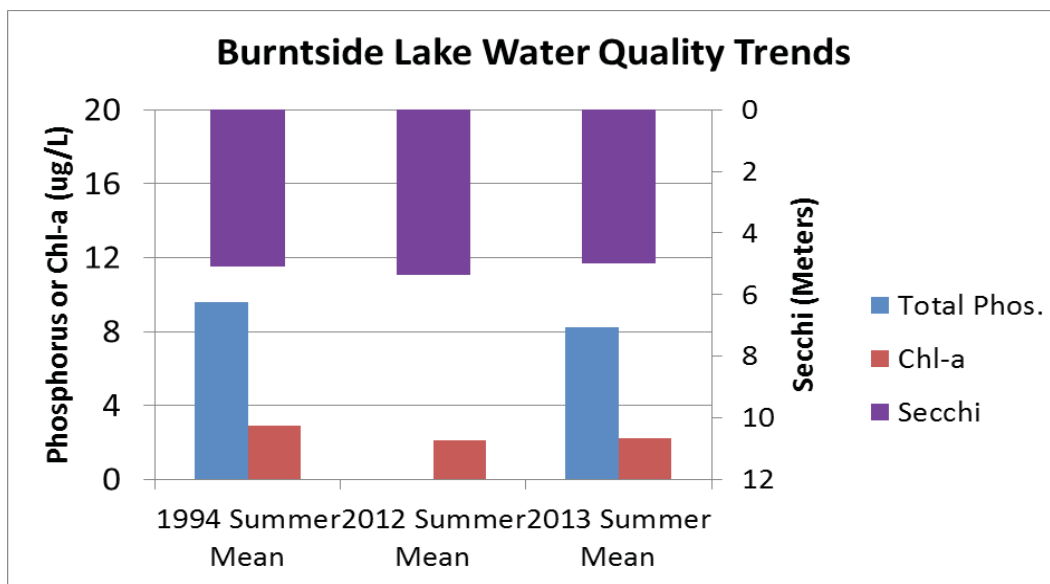
These unofficial dates have been gathered from a number of sources. Many are from Jay Mackie, on the West end of Burntside and data from Dick Maki via his father's cabin log book on the East End. Waino Maki, Dan Lindberg, Mark Cherne and Lonnie La Montagne of Burntside Lodge also provided dates. (1942, 1959, and 1965-69 are missing, if you have data let us know!)

Key Findings for Burntside Water Quality from Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Edited Excerpts from a Report by Jesse Anderson, MPCA

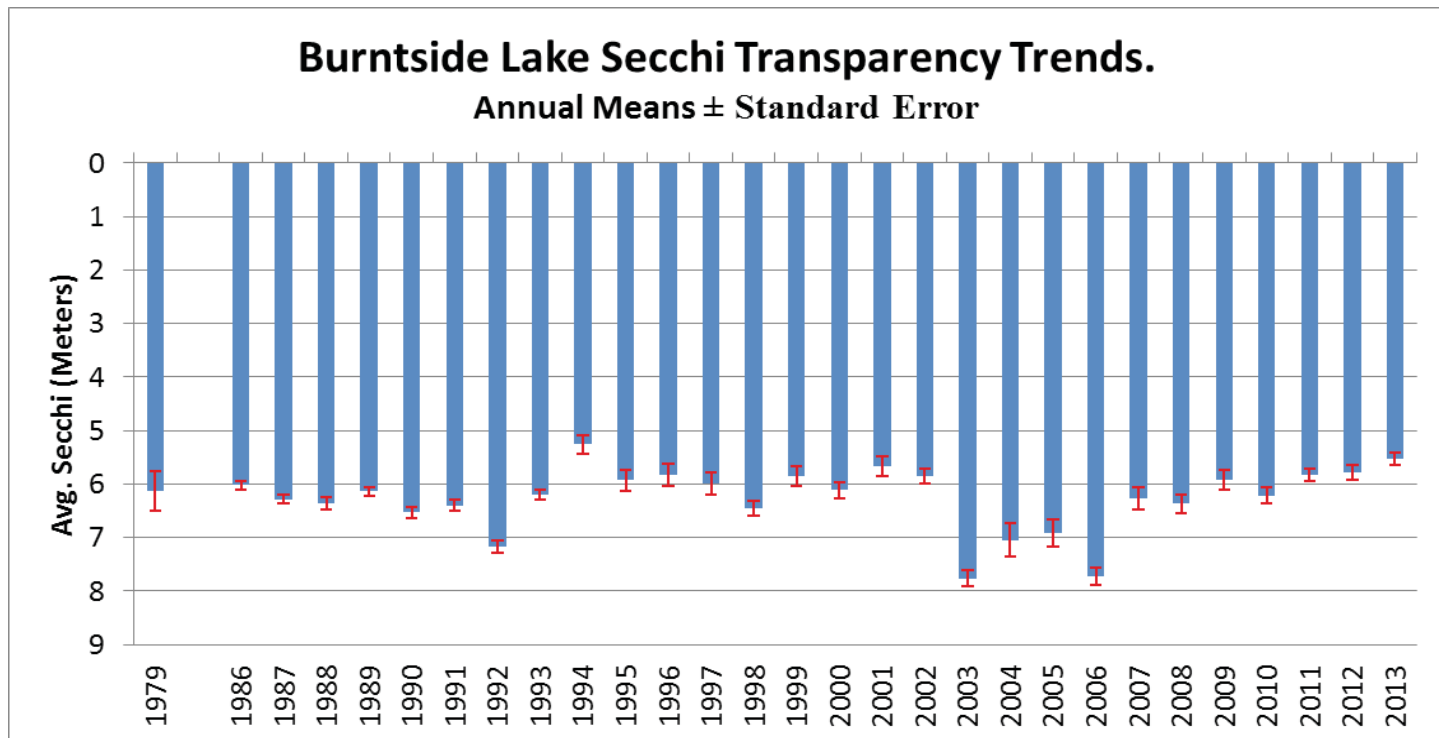
The MPCA returned to Burntside Lake in 2012 and 2013 to gather measurements of water quality that follow up on a more thorough analysis of Burntside Lake in 1994. Here are excerpts from a report with the good news from their recent findings.

“Summer average total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and Secchi transparency data did not change significantly between 2012 and 2013, or from the 1994 Lake Assessment Study. Burntside continues to have excellent water quality, as defined by low nutrients and algae, and high Secchi transparency. Summer mean Chlorophyll declined slightly from 1994 to our recent monitoring, from 2.9 to about 2.2 ug/L (or parts per billion). Concentrations of phosphorus and chlorophyll were quite consistent throughout our May-September monthly samples and among the three sampling sites (near Waters Island, North Arm, and Outlet Bay).



The lake continues to meet our water quality standards for eutrophication and the protection of cold water fisheries (i.e. Lake Trout). The Lake Trout water quality standards for total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a and Secchi transparency are < 12 ug/L, < 3 ug/L, and > 4.8 meters, respectively. The 2012-2013 summer average values for Burntside were 8.2 ug/L total phosphorus, 2.2 ug/L chlorophyll-a and 5.1 meters for Secchi.

Thanks to the great work of volunteers in the Association and the MPCA’s Citizen Lake Monitoring Program, we have an excellent long term record of Secchi transparency in the lake, with yearly data back to 1986. Overall, there is no statistical time-trend in transparency; and yearly variability (measured by standard error) is low. The long term annual average transparency is 6.3 meters (20.6 feet). There has been a slight decline in transparency since 2007; continued yearly monitoring is suggested to track this, a similar slight decline occurred in the late 1990’s as well (see chart).



Our dissolved oxygen and temperature profiles throughout the water column indicate that Burntside continues to have excellent habitat for Lake Trout throughout the summer season. At all 3 locations dissolved oxygen was consistently > 7 mg/L (or parts per million) throughout nearly all the water column, which is the preferred condition for maintaining lake trout populations. Also, our deep-water total phosphorus concentrations at the Waters Island site were very similar to those collected near the surface, which supports our conclusions of low nutrients and sufficient cold water habitat in the lake.

Based on our seasonal sampling in 2012, total calcium concentrations are consistently low in Burntside, around 9 mg/L. Studies have suggested that, in general, minimum calcium concentrations of 12-15 mg/L are needed for zebra mussels to colonize lakes.”

Sunrise 

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1947-48 Burntside Diaries

Chip Peterson, Phil Voxland



On the Left, Mrs. John Nelson on the Steps of Her Family Cabin

In the late summer of last year, an unexpected car drove down the hillside and stopped by our cabin's kitchen door. That's not so unusual, lost motorists sometimes do pick the wrong driveway. But this time, I stepped outside and said "Chip Peterson, what are you doing here!" I had worked occasionally with Chip at the University and easily recognized him. To my surprise he said he was hoping to show his wife where over sixty years ago his family and friends had rented cabins from my Aunt Ellen and her mother. Chip offered to share some excerpts from the diary his father kept of their Burntside visit. In their details, they can remind us what cabins here were really like in the years just after World War II.

"July 7, 1947: On the Nelson and Sundholm cabins Here we are for two weeks at a private cabin on Burntside Lake owned by Mrs. John Nelson. It is about a half mile west of Camp Van Vac, where we spent a week in 1942. Situated about 15 feet above the lake level 120 feet from the shore, the cabin has a large living room--about 15 by 22 feet, with a glazed-in porch across the front. There is a double bed and a rollaway bed on the porch in addition to a swing in which somebody could sleep, and there are two single cots in the living room.

A wood stove in the living room and a range in the kitchen supply the heat, augmented for cooking by a kerosene stove. Like most cabins in the area, it is quite primitive in modern conveniences, being entirely without plumbing (not even a sink) and electricity. It is, however, well equipped with kitchen utensils, dishes, and furniture since it has been the summer home of the Nelsons since 1920 (Mr. Nelson having died in 1934). We have dealt more with Mrs. Arvid Sundholm, Mrs. Nelson's daughter who owns another cottage next door and works in the Ely post office.

We have our choice of two fine rowboats kept in a boathouse on the shore and slid in and out of the water on an ingenious system of rails. Our view here is superb. We can see 10 of Burntside's 153 beautiful rocky, evergreen-covered islands from our lakefront. Our only regret is that the trees that have grown up in front of the cabin since it was built have all but deprived it of a view of the lake.

Mrs. Nelson's cabin rents for \$30.00 per week, bed linen and some hand towels included but no bath towels or ice. Sundholm's rents for \$35.00 per week--larger (2 bedrooms) with a sink and nice kitchen cabinets.

July 10, 1947: On the retail role of Camp Van Vac at the time After naps for the children, Bugs [my mom's nickname since grade school], and I visited Camp Van Vac where we bought milk, ice, and bread and learned we could rent canoes by the day. [A similar diary entry a year later speaks of also purchasing a Sunday paper there.]

July 19, 1947: On Burntside weather This afternoon Bugs and I sat in the boathouse and watched the most bizarre rainstorm either of us has seen pass over us. It was clear when we came to the lake after lunch, with dark clouds

approaching from the west. Within ten minutes we were engulfed in a heavy rain and hailstorm which completely obscured the view of even the nearest islands. The wind whipped up waves in sheets. Then it left as quickly as it had come. The sun was shining a few hundred feet to the west while it was still raining here. In ten minutes all the sky was blue with billowy clouds.

July 15, 1948: On rowing to island picnics The motor still was on strike but we managed a picnic lunch of pancakes on an island across the open water NNE of here, where we found a nice spot on the lee side away from the strong wind. [The diaries for both years are astoundingly full of accounts of island picnics of pancakes or bacon and eggs; never a mention of anything as mundane as sandwiches.] Rowing back was hard work--and almost frightening when the waves broke over the gunwales.

July 19, 1948: On running afoul of state regulations We rose at the ungodly hour of 7:30 to get an early start on a projected canoe trip up the Dead River from Burntside into East Twin Lake for a picnic lunch . . . but the 1945 law requiring state boat permits got in our way. The canoes were rated a capacity of three persons and apparently weight made no difference. [The reference to weight is because we three kids were 3, 6, and 9 years old.] The wife of the owner said he might allow us to go on a calmer day but she couldn't take the responsibility.

From post-return addendum (1948): On unreliable technology Taking along Gerald's motor [Gerald was my mother's brother-in-law] was a dubious time-saver. Because of repeated attacks of dirt in the carburetor, I must have spent 2-1/2 hours fixing it or trying to start the motor and another 2 hours in returning it to Gerald in time for his vacation on Sunday after we got back. Using something like a Coleman gasoline lantern funnel to strain the gas might avoid the worst trouble; however, We could conveniently have gone to all our island picnic places, save one, by oar power, and I doubt that we saved any more time than the motor cost us."



Among the islands in rowing distance from the Nelson cabin is Indian Island, near the Burntside Lodge. This picture from Alice Sundholm's photo album "Graduation Memories" dates from 1925. It shows a child crouched near the shoreline wearing what looks like an adult's hat. A birchbark canoe balances along the rocks. There are apparently cloth tents and packs between the canoe and the trees. Indian Island is owned now by the Bois Forte Tribal Council.

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From the Logging Era: Rings Around the Lake



East Arm



Central Area (Dead River)



North Arm



West Arm

Milt Stenlund's history "Burntside Lake – The Early Days 1880-1920" tells of the logging of the forests around Burntside. This began roughly in 1895 and finished around 1930. In the winters of those years, thousands of trees were cut, and brought down to the shoreline and out onto the ice. When spring came, logs were gathered together in "boom rafts" to be towed to the west end of the lake either to Outlet Bay or Hoist Bay. From Outlet Bay logs floated down the Burntside River to Shagawa Lake and on to Winton saw mills. From Hoist Bay, Oliver Mining Company used a spur railroad track to transport timber into Ely for underground mining.

In each area on Burntside there is still evidence where the logging rafts were assembled. Chains through these ring pins were attached to the rafts to keep the logs from drifting in the wind. The West Arm buoy is a curiosity. It is unlike the others, and appears to have made use of an old iron sled runner to hold the buoy in place. Some of these heritage artifacts are on private property; none should be tampered with. Keep an eye out for the rings from an era long ago! (Photos by Claire Taylor and Phil Voxland)

Gaul Island Added to Burntside Islands SNA

Last Fall Gaul Island was added to the “Burntside Islands SNA” which already included Pine and Snellman Islands. Anyone can visit Minnesota’s Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs) throughout the year to enjoy the undisturbed natural quality of these sites. Hiking, bird-watching, nature photography, snowshoeing or other activities that do not disturb natural conditions are allowed. These locations preserve natural features and rare resources of exceptional scientific and educational value.

The Trust for Public Land was engaged in acquiring Gaul Island and shepherding the conversion from private to a public ownership. Property tax receipts from the island totaled \$4,995.90 in 2013. Going forward, St. Louis County will receive what are called payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) estimated annually to be \$5200. PILT is a local government aid payment made by the state to the counties for tax-exempt natural resources.




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From the Treasurer's Desk...

The Articles of Incorporation of 1976 establish the purposes of **Burntside Lake Association** "to enhance, promote and protect the interest of property owners on Burntside Lake and the watershed thereof; to protect the environment thereof; and to contribute to the recreational, social and civic welfare of the community." As a property owner, that's in your interest! As a non-profit corporation we operate with no political agenda. Wouldn't you like to join?

We send the newsletter to all property owners, whether or not they are members of the Association, with the hope that they also send in their \$20 dues. We are able to keep the dues low because of the advertising placed by businesses in the Ely Community. We encourage you to patronize their businesses!

Please send this form with your \$20 dues for 2014. Checks may be made payable to: "Burntside Lake Association".

=====

2014 Burntside Lake Association Dues and/or Address Change Notification

Name (Please Print): _____

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E-Mail Address: _____

Enclosed are 2013 dues of \$20

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Please note my e-mail address change





Burntside Lake Association

P.O. Box 81

Ely, MN 55731

