



Lake Leelanau

L A K E A S S O C I A T I O N



Lake Leelanau
Lake Association

Upcoming Events

Kids' Fishing Day

Sun. June 30, 2019 • 11:00am - 3:00pm
at Veronica Valley Park

Annual Meeting

Thur. July 25, 2019 • 6:30pm
at Leland Lodge

Legacy Event

Sun. Aug. 18, 2019 • 4:00-6:00pm
location TBD

Lake Leelanau Street Fair

Sat. Sept. 14, 2019 • 11:00am-8:00pm
in the village of Lake Leelanau

Winter/Spring 2019

News & Views from the Watershed



In this issue

Ask the Biologist / pg. 9
Buoy Info & Reminder / pg. 5
Ice Safety Tips / pg. 3
Invasive Species Update / pg. 11
Kite Skiing Photos / pg. 10
Marketing & Fundraising / pg. 10
Membership Report / pg. 4
Michigan Shoreland Stewards / pg. 8
MISIP Report / pg. 5
Mission Statement / pg. 12
Newsletter Report / pg. 4
President's Letter / pg. 2
Swimmer's Itch Facts / pg. 7
Upcoming Events / pg. 1
Volunteer Requests / pg. 4
Water Quality Report / pg. 6
Water Quality Volunteering / pg. 6



Board of Directors

OFFICERS

Jeff Sanborn, President
 231-946-8680 JFSanborn80@gmail.com
Tom Hiatt, Vice President
 317-590-7376 tom@thomashiatt.com
Kathy Birney, Treasurer
 231-256-9182 dan.sweeney@hotmail.com
Cindy Kacin, Secretary
 231-256-8873 cakacin@charter.net
George Prewitt, Past President
 231-499-4470 geoprewittjr@charter.net

TOWNSHIP REPRESENTATIVES

John Popa, Bingham
 231-947-1088 jjpopa@charter.net
Jamie Damm, Centerville
 231-228-2409 jamedamm@gmail.com
Robert Bosch, Elmwood
 231-421-1676 rbosch10@yahoo.com
Wayne Wunderlich, Leland
 231-256-9294 cedarhavencot@hotmail.com
Jeff Green, Leland
 231-256-0644 green@indiana.edu

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Lonnie Rademacher, Fish
 517-303-9616 radema43@gmail.com
Bonnie Gotshall, Water Safety
 231-929-2177 gotshall2002@aol.com
Barb Kobberstad, Membership
 231-256-8802 bkobberstad@gmail.com
Hugh Farber, Water Quality
 231-256-7187 hughnbetty@gmail.com
Patrice Korson, Newsletter
 231-994-2000 korsoncreative@gmail.com
David Baty, Website / Social Media
david@lakeleelanau.org
Steve Lindo, Marketing / Fundraising
 231-256-2009 steve.lindo@gmail.com

President's Letter by Jeff Sanborn



First, thank you for being members of the Lake Leelanau Lake Association (LLA). Speaking for the whole board, we appreciate the members - after all, that's why we do what we do as an association, to allow members to enjoy a clean lake.

For this reason, we are developing a Strategic Plan to include Key Operating Goals this year. This means that we can enjoy the lake knowing that there are actions in place to keep our lake relatively pristine for generations to come. The plans are looking forward (2019 - 2025) and are not set in stone. Better ways of doing things can come along which is why we will be examining it yearly. On page 10 of this newsletter, I will let our Marketing/Fundraising Director, Steve Lindo explain in better terms just what is involved.

The next board meeting will be after you get this letter, but just to let you know, all these planning and stewardship goals will be discussed. Board meetings take place monthly, so you can let myself or Tom Hiatt know if you have an issue that you would like to present to the board and we will help arrange a time to make that happen.

Meanwhile, we are looking forward to the Michigan Lakes and Streams conference in May at Crystal Mountain. There is always great information available. Go to the MLSA website www.mymlsa.org to see what's happening. We need volunteers for just about everything we do and the better informed we all are, the better we can accomplish the difficult. There is not a lot happening right now (other than what was mentioned), obviously there will be much more after the meeting.

I'm rambling right now - but enjoying the 84 degree weather in Florida - and not missing snow at all. That being said, have a great winter and I look forward to seeing all of you at the annual meeting in July.

I prefer winter and fall, when you feel the bone structure of the landscape. Something waits beneath it, the whole story doesn't show. -Andrew Wyeth

Tips for safety on the ice

It may feel late for this safety list, as we are on the back side of winter. However, we encourage you to save this page for ice activities in the future.

Always take a partner along.

Let others know exactly where you are going and when you will return.

Wear Layers

Know how to dress for cold weather by using the layering system. Layering makes it easier to remove or put clothes back on, if you get too warm or too cold. Layer your clothes in this order...

1. Thermal underwear (to wick away perspiration).
2. Something insulating, like fleece, wool or flannel pants and shirts.
3. Outside layer should be a windproof and waterproof jacket or down-filled coat with a hood.

Happy Feet, Hands and Head

- Wear insulated, waterproof or rubber boots.
- Wear liner socks and a pair of thick wool or non-cotton socks.
- Keep your boots loose to avoid cutting off warm circulation to your feet.
- Wear neoprene or waterproof nylon mittens or gloves to protect your hands from the icy water. As a substitute, wear rubber gloves (hospital style) inside of mittens.
- Wear a warm wool, fleece or knit hat. Avoid cotton because it doesn't insulate well when wet.

Things to Bring

- Small bag of sand to sprinkle around your ice hole for better traction, if you'll be fishing.
- Extra dry clothes and socks in case you get wet.
- Energy-rich snacks and warm drinks to fuel you through the cold day.
- Rope to use in case someone falls through the ice.
- A small first aid kit to treat minor injuries.
- Matches (stored in a waterproof container) in case you need to start a fire.
- Awls or screwdrivers carried in an easy-access outer pocket.
- Hand warmers.
- PFD seat cushion to use for flotation in case of an emergency.



Watch Your Step!

- Never go out on ice that is less than 4 inches thick.
- Avoid areas where there are feeder streams and springs.
- Avoid dark, honeycombed or porous ice.

In Case You Fall Through.....

- Don't panic... remain calm!
- Use the awls or screwdrivers to pull yourself up onto the ice.
- Try "swimming" out, which lets your body rise up and allows you to get onto firm ice.
- Use your legs to kick behind you to keep from being pulled under.
- If you can't get to safety, yell for help.
- Slip your boots off to make treading water easier.
- Keep your clothes on because they will insulate you from the cold water.
- Once on the ice, stay low and distribute your weight over as much surface area as possible.
- If someone else falls in, use this reminder...

REACH.....

Reach for the person in the water with a stick or fishing pole.

THROW....

Throw the person a rope, PFD, cooler, or anything that floats.

ROW.....

If a boat is accessible, row or push it to the person in the water.

GO.....

If you're not able to help the wet person out of the water, go for help!

Know When To Quit

- If you feel cold, it's because you ARE cold. Head for home!
- If you become wet, quickly change into dry clothes and seek warm shelter.
- Watch out for frostbite which appears as pale or bluish skin on exposed flesh. If you think you see frostbite, treat it with a warm water bath.
- Watch out for hypothermia, which will show up as shivering and confusion or loss of judgment. If you think you see hypothermia, seek warm shelter. Quickly get into dry clothes, take in warm fluids and use a blanket.
- Stop fishing if you become tired or cold!



Membership Report by Barb Kobberstad



Thank you for all our 387 current members. Your financial support is invaluable as we strive to effectively maintain and improve the quality of our lake. Please help us. Encourage your neighbors and friends to become members as well.

VOLUNTEERING

I would like to extend an invitation to you to pitch in and help our volunteer board members! Please look over the list below and see if there is a place for you to “give us a hand”! Contact the person listed if this is an area you can help out in.

Door to door distribution of our revised handbook

(One time distribution should happen in late summer and at your leisure.)

Barb Kobberstad / 231-218-1033 / bkobberstad@gmail.com

Membership Help

(This is an ongoing project.)

Barb Kobberstad / 231-218-1033 / bkobberstad@gmail.com

Twp Representative / Suttons Bay & Solon Twps.

(Reps are asked to come to board meetings to report updates from your township)

Jeff Sanborn / 231-946-8680 / JFSanborn80@gmail.com

Merganser spotters on the lake and in the trees

(Spotters are those who are often on the lake, able to look for merganser nests and report sightings in a timely manner.)

Brian Price / 231-409-9080 / brprice11@gmail.com

Pontoon Boat Available for Water Quality Testing

(See the list on page 6 for info on water quality tasks.)

Brian Price / 231-409-9080 / brprice11@gmail.com

Kids' Fishing Day

(This is a one-day event, scheduled for June 30, 2019.)

Volunteers always needed for a variety of tasks.)

Lonnie Rademacher / 517-303-9616 / radema43@gmail.com

Lake Leelanau Street Fair

(This is a one-day event scheduled for Sept. 14, 2019.)

Volunteers needed for help serving food, and distributing lake association literature.)

Cindy Kacin / 231-256-8873 / cakacin@charter.net

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me, or any of the board members.

Thank you for
volunteering!



Newsletter Update

by Patrice Korson



While I love the changing seasons in Leelanau County, this current winter has been quite a spectacle! Still, I feel blessed to live in this gorgeous little corner of the world.

Handbook Update: For a couple years now, we've had a small committee plugging away at the new handbook. There is SO much info to be addressed, and it has been such a challenge to make this book feel complete. We don't want to miss anything important, as we expect this book will remain relevant for years to come. Please bear with us as we finish this project. Our new target for distribution is late summer 2019. Thanks for your patience.

I'd love to publish your photos of life on the lake in a future newsletter. Send anything you'd like to share to my email... KorsonCreative@gmail.com. Or call me at my office at 231-994-2000.

Happy Leelanau Spring, everyone!

Buoy Oh Buoy! by John J. Popa, PE



Hi everyone.

A few years ago, our newsletter had an article about the installation of buoys. The concern at that time was that there were many nuisance buoys that served no navigational purpose. Some were ordinary jugs that attempted to prevent boaters from using the surrounding waters, and many are hazardous to boating.

After the article, many owners removed the buoys, and we are thankful for that. However, many remain. *This is a reminder not to install non-conforming buoys.* Per Act 451 PA1994 section 324.80159, a permit is required to install a buoy. The permit is free and may be obtained by calling the DEQ, 231-775-9727. The application will be reviewed, possibly investigated on site, and processed according to regulations.

Buoys have requirements for location, need, hazard, proper marking, etc. We are again asking that all unnecessary buoys be removed, or obtain a permit for proper compliance. If you know of an improper buoy, please discuss this concern with the owner, and remind the owner of proper placement and permit requirements. This winter we noticed that many buoys were left in and the ice formed around them. This is extremely hazardous to those who use the ice for sno-boarding using a kite, snowmobiling, or ice boating...an owner could be found negligent. This is for safety and continued enjoyment of our wonderful lake. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Michigan Swimmers Itch Partnership (MISIP) by Bob Bosch

On a regular basis, in our Lake Leelanau Lake Association Board meetings, we receive information on the status and ongoing activities related to our swimmers itch program. This is intended to be a refresher on some of the background activities that make all of this possible.

The MISIP consists of most of the inland lakes in Northwest Michigan. The Steering Committee of MISIP consists of representatives from nine lake associations which are actively involved in setting policies and procedures for activities which would be of interest to and possibly benefit all of the lakes in the partnership.

Of the nine lakes with representatives on the steering committee, four of these lake associations; Higgins, Glen, Crystal, and Lake Leelanau, have been active in combatting swimmers itch through active research and control activities for a number of years.

The above mentioned four lakes, through MISIP, have been working with the Tip Of The Mitt Watershed Council, (TOMWS), who in turn has been working with a lobbyist to obtain grants from the State of Michigan to help fund our work, with the help of our consultants, in finding solutions to the swimmers itch problem.

For 2019 there is \$92,000 available for research. All four lakes will be submitting proposals hoping to get a portion of these funds to aid in carrying out our plans for this year.



Water Quality Report by Hugh Farber



An article in the February 7, 2019 Leelanau Enterprise regarding the developing new "County Plan" revealed the results of a "Master Plan Questionnaire" completed by 1412 addressees in the county. This included 275 students. According to

this article, the results show "water quality" to be the most important quality of the county by a large margin... 86%!

To many or most people, water quality refers to the "contaminants" that are in the lakes and streams. A part of the Lake Leelanau Lake Association sampling efforts address this issue. However there are so many other "water quality" issues that we in the LLLA try to address, on a regular basis.

- Watershed sources of lake water via ground water
 - Septic tank or fertilizer input via ground water
 - Disruption of natural buffers by inappropriate shoreline development
 - Development and maintenance of good shoreline buffers
- And the list goes on.

It is important that all members of the LLLA monitor potential issues in regards to water quality and follow up as appropriate, if you think it might be significant.

I continue to encourage all riparian owners to join the LLLA and also follow the educational efforts of the Leelanau County Clean Water task force. Check the county website for minutes of meetings, agendas and times of meetings, etc. www.leelanau.cc/lcw.asp There are also many opportunities for you to volunteer your time in the chart shown below. Become involved in maintaining water quality of our lake!!

Water Quality Volunteer Opportunities

Merganser Spotter	Positively identify mergansers. Training is available. Must be available in person, and spend a lot of time on the lake, from early May thru August.
Swimmers Itch Recording	Proficiency with Excel, Google Maps and Google Earth. Available in-person June thru Sept. Remainder of the year can be done electronically.
Water Sampling of Lake	Must have a boat and be able to sample once per week. Sampling takes approx. 1 hour. Training is provided. Must be available early May thru Sept in-person.
Water Sample Data Analysis	Proficiency with Excel, Google Maps and Google Earth. Available in-person May thru Sept. Remainder of the year can be done via email. Biology / water quality experience is helpful.
Currier of Frozen Water Samples	Coordinate with water sampling team to collect samples and transport them to Glen Lake, once in mid-June and once in mid-Sept. Must have use of a vehicle.
Water Sample Data Entry	Able to enter data from field sheets into online database. Must be proficient and accurate with entering data. Data Entry happens in Sept. and Oct.
Aquatic Plant Sample Collector	Must have a boat and be able to collect samples at boat launches. Training to identify aquatic plants is provided. Available in person during August.
Biological Sample Identification	Biology and taxonomy of algae, aquatic invertebrates and fish preferred, or willingness to be trained. Available May thru Sept. in-person. Remainder of the year can be electronically.
2017 Drone Video Analysis	Proficiency with Google Maps and Google Earth. Biology / water quality experience helpful, or willingness to be trained. Available May thru Sept. for fieldwork. Rest of year electronically.
Wetlands Advocacy	Preparation / submittal of comments to MDEQ on wetlands permits. Possible appearance at public hearings on behalf of LLLA. Training on MDEQ process can be provided. Available year-round in person and/or via email.



What Science Says About Avoiding Swimmer's Itch by Brian Price, Lake/Watershed Biologist

Recent advancements in applying new technologies, often referred to as “environmental DNA”, have allowed researchers to directly measure the presence and abundance of swimmer’s itch-causing cercaria in local waters.

Swimmer’s itch occurs when a small “worm” or cercaria, shed from a host snail and searching for a particular waterfowl to parasitize to complete its life cycle, encounters and penetrates the skin of a human by mistake. Humans are considered “accidental hosts”. The new science, employing a technology called quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR), allows researchers to measure the actual cercariae in water samples. So, for the first time, researchers can offer insights on how you can limit your exposure to swimmer’s itch.

FACT: Infected snails shed most of their cercaria early in the morning. The cercariae typically live for only one day.

WHAT IT MEANS: Swim later in the day if possible. qPCR samples taken every four hours beginning at 8am showed steady declines through the day, with very few cercaria present by late afternoon. So, tell the kids to swim late in the day.

FACT: Cercaria released at the bottom by snails rapidly move up in the water column (after all, they are looking for a duck to infect) and concentrate in the upper foot or less of water.

WHAT IT MEANS: Folk wisdom holds that onshore or along-shore winds mean that swimmer’s itch risk is higher. In this case that wisdom is validated. Cercaria are blown around by wind and currents, so limit your time in shallow water if the wind is blowing in or along the shore. And if possible, its always a good idea to swim in deeper water, such as from a boat.

FACT: While the data is still limited - just two seasons - there seems to be two distinct “peaks” in the concentration of cercaria in the water through the summer. These peaks seem to correspond roughly to early July and early August.

WHAT IT MEANS: If you plan to spend lots of time in the water, be extra rigorous about swimming later in the day during those peak seasonal periods.

FACT: Cercaria penetrate the skin rapidly, and swimmers often begin to itch while still in the water.

WHAT IT MEANS: If you start to feel itchy, get out right away, and tell others to stay out until you know for sure.

There are other things that swimmers can do to limit their chances of getting the itch. Creams or other repellants show promise, as does certain types of protective clothing. In the meantime, and while the science continues to advance, the best advice is to SWIM SMART by following a few simple rules:

- 1) swim later in the day;
- 2) avoid shallow water when the wind is blowing onshore;
- 3) if you start to itch get out!

Following all of this advice is no guarantee that you will not encounter the itch. But it is the best advice we have based on our current scientific understanding. If you do get “the itch,” your case will likely be much less severe if you follow these simple precautions.

Lake Leelanau Lake Association, along with other Leelanau county lakes, has long been in the vanguard of swimmer’s itch research and control and we want to continue, in collaboration with other Leelanau County lakes, to provide the best opportunity to alleviate this problem. The last couple of years has seen a resurgence of pioneering work and progress in our battle to finally negate the scourge of swimmer’s itch.

If you want to learn more, you can read a recent paper published by the principals in FWS, Ron Reimink, Dr. Patrick Hanington, and their associates at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30120669>.

Here Comes Summer

As the snow begins to melt, we all start to look forward to the upcoming summer months, when we will hopefully spend lots of hours on the lake, or at the shore. If you are considering making any changes to your shoreline this spring, you need to learn more about being a good steward of the lake. Owning property that borders on Lake Leelanau gives you the huge responsibility of caring for your land, so as to protect the waters of our beautiful lake.

Did you know many of the things you love about lake-front living depend on natural vegetation?

A healthy (natural) shoreline has a variety of trees, shrubs and plants. These plants are doing "work" by supporting a large variety of fish and wildlife. They provide needed habitat for feeding, staying safe and raising their young. Natural vegetation not only provides habitat for fish and wildlife but also helps the lake in many other ways by:

- Slowing and filtering runoff as it moves towards the lake to help keep it clean.
- Allowing more water to be absorbed into the ground than runoff.
- Providing needed shade for keeping the water cooler close to shore.
- Protecting the lake edge from wave and ice erosion when there is a good mixture of native plants both on the land and in the water.

Michigan Shoreland Stewards

According to the National Lake Assessment, the biggest threat to our nation's inland lakes is the loss of lakeshore habitat. The Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership (MNSP) is tackling this problem through

promotion and implementation of lake-friendly landscaping and erosion control. The MNSP has developed an educational tool called the Michigan Shoreland Stewards Program. It is designed to:

- Encourage property owners to use natural shoreland landscaping techniques
- Provide recognition for property owners who use these practices to protect their lake
- Provide educational resources to help property owners manage their property for a healthy lake

How does the survey work?

The survey asks questions related to each of the four sections of your shoreland property (see diagram below). Responses to the questions are rated to determine your stewardship level. After taking the survey you can save your answers, so as you make improvements to your land, you can improve your score. The information remains anonymous except to you and your authorized program administrator. After determining your stewardship level, a rating will be named and a certificate of recognition given, based upon the level achieved. You can download the program guide at www.mishorelandstewards.org or if a hard copy is needed, you may contact Eli Baker at eli@watershedcouncil.org.

This program received the 2018 national award for excellence in education and outreach from the North American Lake Management Society. Please consider becoming a steward yourself. And if you have questions about shoreland stewardship, or are interested in becoming an ambassador yourself, contact our local Michigan Shoreland Stewardship ambassador Tricia Denton at glenlakeguardians@gmail.com



Ask the Biologist...

by Heather Hettinger
DNR Fish Biologist

Ed. Note: With the new year comes new and exciting changes for the LLLA newsletter. This issue is the first publication of our new column, in which our readers can submit questions to be answered by a fish expert. Heather Hettinger is our local fish biologist with the Michigan DNR. We're grateful to have her expertise answering the questions you provide. Please send your questions to Heather at hettingerh@michigan.gov.

Mayflies visit us a couple of weeks every year and make their presence known. It's been said though that they are a sign of a healthy lake system. Is there any truth to that? Very true! Mayflies are a huge indicator of water quality- most folks interested in aquatic health look to the EPT Index of species to show us how clean our water is. The EPT Index is named for three orders of aquatic insects that are common in healthy aquatic communities: Ephemeroptera (mayflies), Plecoptera (stoneflies), and Trichoptera (caddisflies). The EPT Index is based on the idea that high-quality waterbodies, lakes or streams, usually have the greatest species richness; richness can be defined as the number of different species represented in a system (such as Lake Leelanau).

Many aquatic insect species are intolerant of pollution and disturbance- the lower the water quality, the lower the species richness that is expected. Of those three species, the one that we as humans tend to interact with the most is of course the mayfly. Mayflies have a fairly long life cycle for an insect, spending a couple of years on the lake or stream bottom as a nymph before molting into a subimago (the ones clinging to your house), then morphing again into an imago (the ones spawning on the surface of the lake). In their nymph stage they are a hugely important food source to just about every species of fish found in Lake Leelanau; particularly yellow perch and walleye. So, I know many people are annoyed by these critters that cling to every square inch of your cottage, dock, boat, pets, grandkids- but at the end of the day it's a good thing that they are around!



Perch are making a big comeback in Lake Michigan and also Lake Leelanau. Is it common to

see population cycles rise and dip in fish species as we sometimes see in the animal world? Maybe you could also talk about the new 25 fish creel limits. Yellow perch populations in both the Great Lakes and inland lakes do tend to be cyclical- I hear it from anglers a lot...I used to be able to go out with a buddy and have our two man limit in a couple of hours- now I can't hardly get 20 to take home. Lake Leelanau is not alone. What people sometimes forget is back in the day when limits were easy, we didn't have lakes that had invasive species like we do now. As each new species has come into our lakes and established itself, its disrupted something else. Or disrupted multiple things. The biggest conflict lies with plankton- everything eats plankton at some stage of their life, and when one of your major invasive in inland lakes is the zebra mussel, who loves to consume plankton, it creates these shifts where other species in the lake have to adapt. The yellow perch daily bag limit was recently lowered to 25 fish per person per day across the state, with only two exceptions (Lake Erie and Lake Gogebic- check out the guide for details). Anglers have been requesting a smaller bag limit for a while now, partially because they were recognizing the decline in perch numbers as well. Even with this reduction, of all the states that border Lake Michigan, we still have the highest limit- Indiana and Illinois have a 15 fish limit, while Wisconsin lumps their yellow perch in with pan-fish, with a combined limit of 25. In order to simplify regulations (which anglers also ask for a lot), and because inland lakes have the same issues when it comes to perch as Lake Michigan does, it was decided to make the regulation change state-wide.

Do you have the final North Lake Netting Survey report done? The North Lake Leelanau is in a draft form right now- unfortunately I had a couple of other waterbodies that have some pretty pressing issues that diverted my attention away from it for a



Ask the Biologist, cont.

bit. As soon as it is reviewed and approved, it will be posted on the DNR Webpage- as soon as that happens I will be sure to let the association know so that we can get the link out and get it in people hands!

Don't forget to contact me with questions at hettingerh@michigan.gov

Marketing & Fundraising by Steve Lindo



Everyone who's worked with marketing, publications, fundraising and events knows that success hinges on good advance planning and preparation. The last couple of months have been a busy time for the LLLA board's planning activities. The starting point was a slew of marketing and fundraising ideas produced by the interviews conducted last Fall, some of which have already been incorporated into the association's strategic plan.

Two noteworthy marketing and fundraising themes that emerged from the interviews were:

1. Implement the virtuous circle consisting of
 - Generate more public awareness of LLLA's activities
 - Convert that awareness into more members and donations
 - Repeat, Repeat, Repeat
2. Coordinate marketing and fundraising more closely across all of LLLA's activities

Three of the community awareness ideas that had broad consensus among the interviewees were:

1. More community events, including watershed schools
2. Update the association's print and wearable materials
3. More LLLA visibility on the lake during the summer season

While we await Spring's arrival, I'll continue adding seasonal posts to LLLA's Facebook page and working on the 2019 marketing and fundraising plan, which is due to be completed by March 31 and implemented in good time for the hectic summer months.

Stay warm!



Kite Skiing on Lake Leelanau

You may be lucky enough to see some adventure seekers taking advantage of the frozen ice of Lake Leelanau. You'd be hard pressed to find a more suitable open area of ice to use for an exciting sport like Kite Skiing. Check out these amazing photos, taken on North Lake Leelanau in mid February 2019.

Photos compliments of Elijah Allen

Invasive Species Update by Jane Perrino, M.S.

Ed. Note: Jane Perrino is the Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator for the Benzie Conservation District. We thank her for submitting this very informative piece.

At this point in time, the arrival of aquatic invasive species (AIS) in the Great Lakes region is old news. Newer on the front page, is the Benzie Conservation District's program to prevent their spread – and it has been active on your lake!

The Aquatic Invasive Species Pathways Project (AISPP) has completed a successful second season in the field.

Program objectives were not only met, but have been exceeded. Our team went to public boat launches each week to decontaminate watercraft and engage recreational boaters and anglers about nuisance species, from May to September (see photo below). This season: more than 4,000 people were educated directly, over 200,000 indirectly, and 676 boats were washed by the AISPP staff and volunteers. In Leelanau County we visited 7 public accesses between South Lake Leelanau, Lime, Cedar and Glen lakes. I'm very happy to share that the compliance rate for having boats inspected and washed in Leelanau County was 91% - folks were really interested in preventing the spread of invasive species (and getting a free boat wash!).

We were pleased to have volunteers join us in our field efforts this year. Thanks to Jeff Sanborn and Dr. Nick Fleezanis for joining us at the Narrows for a "Landing Blitz" in July! Over the past two years this



program has provided boat launch outreach, launch surveys, educational events, and public presentations to numerous entities. By sharing information about species' locations, how to identify plants and animals accurately, and management options we hope to help our partners in lake stewardship. Based on our activities on Lake Leelanau, we've spotted the presence of rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*), Eurasian water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), and yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*, see photo at left, taken at the Bingham public boat launch).

By detecting and reporting locations of invasive species, even the public can help deepen science-based decisions for lake management. We are encouraging the public to contact their lake association and other local conservation groups if they see something strange, and to explore the highly informative Midwest Invasive Species Information Network website: www.misin.msu.edu. Here, you will find species information and real-time maps of population discoveries.

What to do if you see something? Please leave it where it is, and see if you can safely get a photograph of it to share with experts. In an effort to avoid further transfer of invasive species, officials recommend snapping a picture and specifying the location and time. Between local groups, and even the MISIN website, the species can be verified. Thank you to the Lake Leelanau Lake Association for partnering with this program over the past two years. We look forward to protecting our beautiful waters in 2019!

Jane Perrino, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, Benzie Conservation District
231-882-4391
Jane@benziecd.org



2017-2018 Stats for Leelanau County

Boats Washed:
641

Boat Types:

- 87% Paddled
- 7% Speedboat
- 6% Fishing
- 2% Pontoon

Lake Locations:

- S. Lake Leelanau
- Cedar Lake
- Lime Lake
- Glen Lake
- West GT Bay @ Greilickville

2018 Compliance Rate: 91%

Most Common Sources of Aquatic Species Info:

- Non-Profits
- Lake Associations
- Boat Retailers
- DNR



Lake Leelanau Lake Association
P.O. Box 123
Leland, MI 49654-0123

DEDICATIONS

Lake Leelanau Lake Association accepts monetary gifts made in someone's honor or memory. If you or a loved one names the LLLA as the recipient of donations, we will gladly provide envelopes for the memorial services at your request.

Thanks for your consideration.



Follow us on Facebook!



Our Mission Statement

As a volunteer organization, our efforts are directed towards maintaining and improving the waters of Lake Leelanau and its watershed for all to enjoy. We do this by educating our members and the public at large through a variety of activities. We also participate in township, county and state planning and development proposals that may affect the quality of the lake and its watershed. We are here to serve the Lake Leelanau riparian owners, businesses, anglers and users and we welcome the involvement of interested people or groups.