

Hello Horseshoe Lake Property Owners,

It is time for a Spring Newsletter.

Welcome to our new property owners. Horseshoe Lake Property Association, Inc. is an organization of the lake property owners and its mission is to preserve and maintain Horseshoe Lake as a valuable resource for the present time and for generations to come in the future. The Association sends periodic new letters by email to its members. The Association also maintains a website at: www.horseshoelake.org if you are aware of a new property owner pass along this newsletter.

The lake is starting to turn over to spring. Docks are edging into the water and water craft are coming back from storage. You may have noticed that the water level on the lake is higher than it was last summer. Lake levels fluctuate over time due to the amount of rain and snow falls and it is not unusual but with the higher water levels there are some things to keep in mind when enjoying the lake. According to the DNR's website information about high lake water levels: *High water levels can boost the amount of nutrients from runoff and flooded lakeshore soils, as well as create health problems with flooded septic systems and private wells. Fluctuating water levels can also increase shoreline erosion.*

In order to reduce possible shore line erosion and the absorption of nutrients from submerged shoreline soils, water craft should not operate at high speeds near shore. Maintain a no wake zone within 100 feet of shore for boats and 200 feet for jet skis. It is especially important not to have high speed starts close to shore. The turbulence from high speed starts close to shore raises phosphorus and other nutrients from the lake bottom and the submerged shore soils. The channel between the two basins is also a no wake zone. Property owners should make their guests aware of the need to operate water craft following the no wake zones. It is difficult to enforce rules related to the operation of water craft so we ask that everyone voluntarily follow them.

On another matter, Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) has reoccurred in the lake and our contractor, Matt Berg, plans to survey the lake again this spring to determine if the patches have increased in size. Ed Wink has applied for a permit to treat the EWM with a herbicide. We have made arrangements for Northern Aquatic Services to apply a herbicide this spring when the plants are taking on nutrients and treatment is the most effective.

We will notify everyone when the treatment is scheduled and property owners who are within 150 feet of the treated areas will receive a notice at their property. Signs will be posted on shore near the treatment sites as well. The notice will advise members of the herbicide to be used and precautions to be taken to avoid exposure to the herbicide. The usage restrictions are for the areas treated plus a 150-foot perimeter. They will likely include a 1 day swimming restriction, and a 21 day restriction on irrigation and domestic potable water from the treatment site.

The Washburn County Emergency Management has been calling residents to cancel all burning permits, to restrict all outdoor burning and grilling. We are currently under red flag warning because of the extreme dryness, low humidity and high winds. Please check the DNR website for information about burning restrictions.

The Horseshoe Lake Property Association, Inc. will hold its annual meeting on July 2, 2016 at the Minong Town Hall on Nancy Lake Road at 9:00 am. The meeting usually lasts one hour and is an opportunity to meet your neighbors on the lake and hear important information about the Association and the Lake. Save the date.

If you have questions, feel free to send an email to Ed Wink, Secretary/Treasurer at ewink@umn.edu He can also be reached at 612-239-8722.

Horseshoe Lake Property Association, Inc. Board of Directors