

Dick Sternberg Speaking in Spicer on Zebra Mussel Threat

Dick Sternberg is the featured speaker for a public meeting on Saturday, April 17, at 1 P.M. at the Dethlefs Center in Spicer. Sternberg, freshwater biologist and nationally recognized angler and outdoors author, will present a research-based Power Point on the potential impacts and prevention of zebra mussel infestation in Kandiyohi County lakes.

The Public Awareness meeting is sponsored by Kandiyohi County Lakes Association, Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District and Kandiyohi County to highlight the spread of aquatic invasive species threatening the County.

Sternberg's presentation includes impacts of zebra mussels to water resource ecology and fish populations.

Zebra mussel infestation was verified in Lake Le Homme Dieu in 2009, only 50 miles from Kandiyohi County. The close proximity of zebra mussels combined with the high recreational use of local waters make Kandiyohi County lakes and watersheds more vulnerable and at high risk for infestation.

Zebra mussels filter plankton which clears the water, promoting deeper, denser growth of Eurasian watermilfoil, curly-leaf pondweed and other aquatic vegetation. Filtering also reduces food for small fish. Feces and dead shells accumulate on the lakebed, and when washed up on shore can cause cuts and scrapes from their sharp edges as well as foul odors.

Attendance at this meeting is of utmost importance to all stakeholders and lake users in the County. The value of recreational use in these lakes, rivers and streams can be greatly diminished by invasive species such as zebra mussels. Information presented at the meeting will provide understanding of these threats and the best prevention measures.

Dethlefs Center is located on the East side of Green Lake Mall, 317 Hillcrest Avenue in Spicer. Refreshments will be served and door prizes are books by Dick Sternberg.

April 17, Saturday at 1:00 PM Dethlefs Center in Spicer!



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