

# Green Lake Breeze

P.O. Box 362 • Spicer, MN 56288

August 2005

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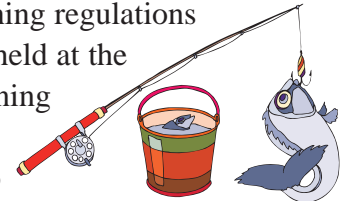
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Greetings Green Lake Property Owners,



The Saturday morning storm on July 23rd reminded me of how awesome mother nature can be. One minute Green Lake is calm and serene, a water skier's delight and within minutes the wind is blowing and the waves are rolling across the docks. We have been fortunate thus far this summer to have been on the edge of some major bad weather but have avoided the brunt of it. If you are out in the water, keep a watchful eye out for the weather.

A reminder to all you who are interested in fishing on Green Lake. The DNR will hold a public meeting on Thursday, August 25th to get input on proposed 2006 fishing regulations for Green Lake. This meeting will be held at the Dethlefs Senior Center in Spicer beginning at 5:00 p.m. Please plan to attend this meeting if you wish to provide input to the DNR.



Along the same line, your board has received information that Mn/Dot has made application for an exemption from the Pollution Control Agency's noise standards for Highway 23 along the west side of Green Lake. Questions about the exemption application should be directed to Lowell Flaten at Mn/Dot (320-214-3698). Written comments should be sent to Mn/Dot 8 Headquarters, 2505 Transportation Road, Willmar, MN 56201. These comments must be received by Mn/Dot no later than September 16, 2005.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer, as Labor Day is just around the corner.

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Bruce Halgren".

Bruce Halgren  
President, GLPOA





# Sewer and Water Report

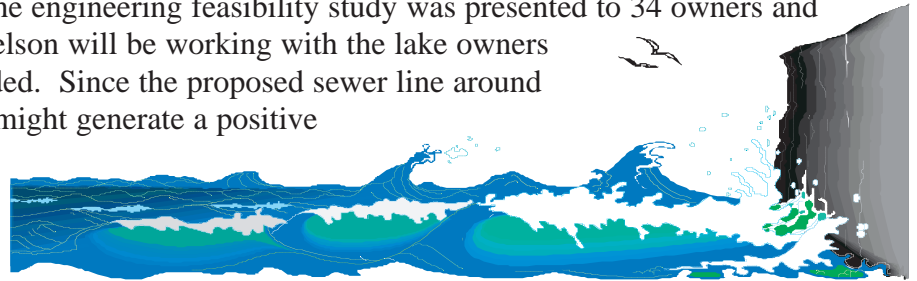


The monthly water losses for June show improvement in all three locations (Spicer, Green Lake, New London). The 6 month losses for the total system is 24.1%. Two new leaks on North Shore Drive were repaired so hopefully the losses will be less in July.

The board reviewed the engineering cost estimates for the Bunny Park sewer connection. The costs appear to be reasonable when spread over the 12 residential properties involved.

The Lake Florida owners meeting on the proposed sewer connection has peaked the interest of residents on George Lake and on Saturday, July 22nd the engineering feasibility study was presented to 34 owners and received a favorable response. Gary Danielson will be working with the lake owners association to determine future action needed. Since the proposed sewer line around George Lake also borders Nest Lake, this might generate a positive response from their owner association.

Dick Baken

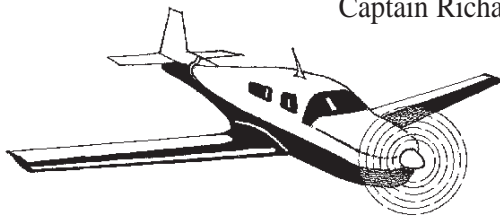


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## Green Lake Plane Will “Fly Again”

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*October 13, 1958* was a cool, damp day. Foggy conditions were forthcoming.



Captain Richard P. Carey, 36, a member of the Minnesota National Guard and a World War II veteran, was behind the controls of his National Guard Cessna L19 Birddog on this fateful day. Captain Carey was returning to Willmar from Rochester.

En route to the Willmar air field, Captain Carey radioed in for the final weather conditions. The air field controllers expressed concern about the conditions. He was not familiar with the area but was confident he could land the Birddog. Captain Carey indicated that he was low on fuel and needed to bring it in.

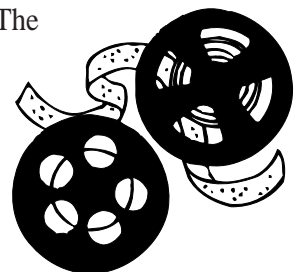
On his call, he stated he was heading in a southeasterly direction. He saw a light, then another. The lights turned out to be the Old Lakeview Café and the Old Mill Inn. His last call indicated that he had hit something (it was later determined that Captain Carey had hit a flock of seagulls). Captain Carey's Birddog plunged into Green Lake in dense fog at approximately 12:30 a.m. on *October 14, 1958*.

After the Birddog hit the water and began to sink, Captain Carey aborted the cockpit and attempted to swim to shore. The weight of his clothes and the temperature of the water made swimming impossible. Hypothermia set in. Thirteen days later, Captain Carey's body was recovered near *The Old Ice House* about 1/2 mile north of Spicer.

The Birddog was located 46 years later in approximately 40 feet of water. It was found by Corey Fladeboe of Willmar and Brett Almquist of Maple Grove using an underwater camera.

Plans are underway to recover the plane from the lake and restore it to its original condition. Once restored, it will be on display as a memorial to Captain Carey and the men and women of our Armed Forces. The memorial will include descriptions of Captain Carey's last journey and his Birddog. Donations for the restoration and memorial may be made at the United Prairie Bank in Spicer.

An underwater video of the Birddog can be seen on Saturday, August 6, 2005 at the Green Lake Bible Camp. The 20 minute video will be shown at the chapel immediately following the Blue Grass Service which begins at 5:30 p.m.



George Couleur

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# Nature Notes

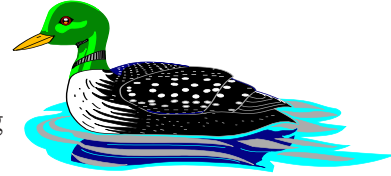
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The end of July, 2005 - we've endured about 16 days above 90 degrees, most of them in succession, high winds, welcome showers. One week going into the lake was like stepping into a tepid bathtub. Two days of stiff winds stirred up the cold water from the bottom, and it felt cold. More hot weather heated it up again. One cold night cooled it off. The lake level dropped during the intense heat - it rained and came up again. The water is still clear.

Okay, some harmless algae was prevalent one day, but it washes off in the shower. Cottonwood fluff still wafts across the waters and occasionally floats away. A few feathers or weeds drift by. One lives by a lake - what else can one expect!

The loons have been calling nightly and early in the morning. Along our east shore we have a solitary loon that swims not far from the docks. A couple days ago the young man next door and his two year old son were swimming and quietly approached the loon until they were about five feet away before it dived and swam away. Having had a similar experience with a couple of loons, I can attest to the fact there are few activities that top that for feeling at one with nature. Out on the pontoon one group encounters nine loons swimming together. Does anyone know what a group of loons is called? It's an exaltation of larks and a charm of finches, a gaggle of geese and a siege of herons, for instance, (don't get me started - I have a whole book of these) but I couldn't find loons listed. Gulls inhabit many rafts and sail in flotillas across the waves.



Butterflies, including large monarchs, flutter by. I hope they don't think it's fall and are gathering for their long flight to Mexico. Hummingbirds visit the geraniums, spike gayfeather, and the feeders. Goldfinches and house finches light in the trees and brighten up the birdbaths. Cardinals can be lured closer with a well-imitated call. If I read my bird book correctly, a small female American redstart bumped into my window yesterday, then caught its breath while sitting on the deck.

The squirrels, chipmunks and rabbits are still a bane to the gardeners and most bird feeders. One person cut shorter lengths of PVC pipe and put them on the post of one feeder. It literally threw the squirrels for one day, then they figured out a way around it.

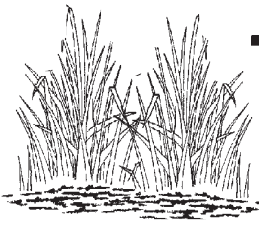


Sunsets have been striking recently. One hopes it isn't always massive fires and smoke from out west that bring us that beauty. One evening as my daughter and I were in swimming, I remembered an analogy my father, a Lutheran minister, used. She stood in the water, and I moved 15-20 feet away (this works no matter how many people are in swimming or along the shore or how far from each other one stands). We could both see the round orange sun, but it looked as if each path across the water was coming directly to each of us. Dad said the setting sun was like the grace of God - it is available to everyone, all can see it, yet it blesses each of us individually.

May you and yours be blessed, and may gentle breezes cool the heat of the sun and enhance your days at Green Lake.

*Gloria Benson*





# Bulrushes

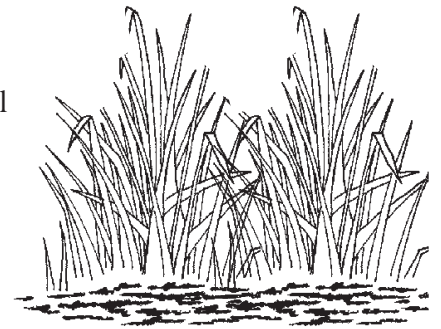
Bulrush is a species of aquatic plant that has been declining in abundance on many Minnesota lakes, including Green Lake. Historical loss of bulrush has been primarily due to lake shore development. Bulrush are an emergent aquatic plant. That is they grow in shallow water, and emerge or stick up above the water surface.

Why is anyone concerned about their loss? Because they help to keep Green Lake clean. Bulrush, like other rooted aquatic plants, extract nutrient from the water and lake sediment. This reduces available nutrients which can stimulate undesirable algae blooms. They help to reduce the effects of ice “jacking” damage to shorelines. Fish, especially bluegill and largemouth bass, use them for protective cover, for spawning, for shade, and to find certain kinds of insect food. Recent studies have shown that black crappie are very dependent on hard structures along undeveloped shoreline for successful spawning.

Minnesota Rule 6280 provides standards for aquatic plant removal. The removal of any emergent vegetation like bulrush or cattail requires a permit from DNR Fisheries. Fines and restoration orders can be issued for illegal removal. Contact Dave Coahran at Spicer Area Fisheries (320-796-2161) if you have questions about aquatic plant control along your lake shore property.

Sincerely,

*Bruce Gilbertson, Area Fisheries Supervisor*



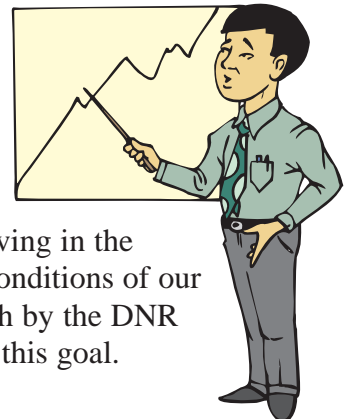
# Watershed Monitoring



The second consecutive year of water monitoring of the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed has been running very smoothly due in large part to the volunteers who are collecting the lake/stream specimens and are taking the lake Secchi reading. Skip Wright of the MN DNR and Bruce Wilson, Limnologist of the MPCA, who are overseeing the project and have offered many hours of technical expertise, are also instrumental in the success of the monitoring project.

Five of the scheduled 10 sample dates have now been completed. The graphs that are included in this article show the Total Phosphorus and Chlorophyll-A results of the lakes as analyzed by ERA Laboratories in Duluth, MN, and the Secchi readings that were reported by the lake volunteers. Like last year, the lakes being monitored are Monongalia, Nest, Green (two sites) and Calhoun. The goal set for Green Lake is to keep the Total Phosphorus level below 18 ppb.

Following the graphs is an article by Skip Wright with his interpretation of the data that has been gathered. He also has included an MPCA chart that shows the target values for two different eco-regions, with Green Lake being placed in the “Northern Lakes and Forest” region for reasons he explains in his article.



Improving the quality of our lakes and rivers will require an effort by all of the people living in the watershed district. By staying informed of the conditions of our waters and by following guidelines set forth by the DNR and MPCA, we will be able to accomplish this goal.



*Jill Nelson*

# Secchi & Phosphorus Readings

## Secchi Readings (in Feet) – 2005

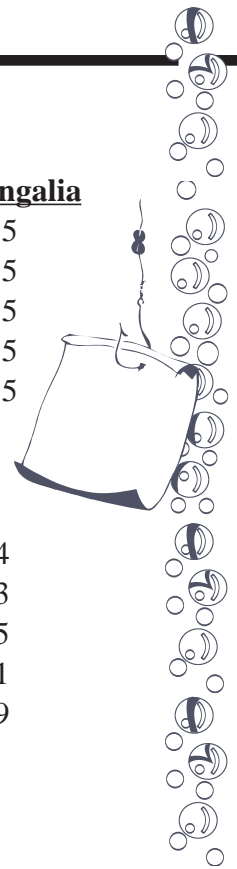
	Green Lake (Old Mill)	Green Lake (Indian Beach)	Nest	Calhoun	Monongalia
5/24/2005	23	19	12	7	5.5
6/7/2005	15	15	16	8	6.5
6/21/2005	17	16	11	6	6.5
7/5/2005	13.5	12.5	7	5	5.5
7/19/2005	11	10	5.5	4.5	8.5
7/25/2005	10.5	11			

## Total Phosphorus

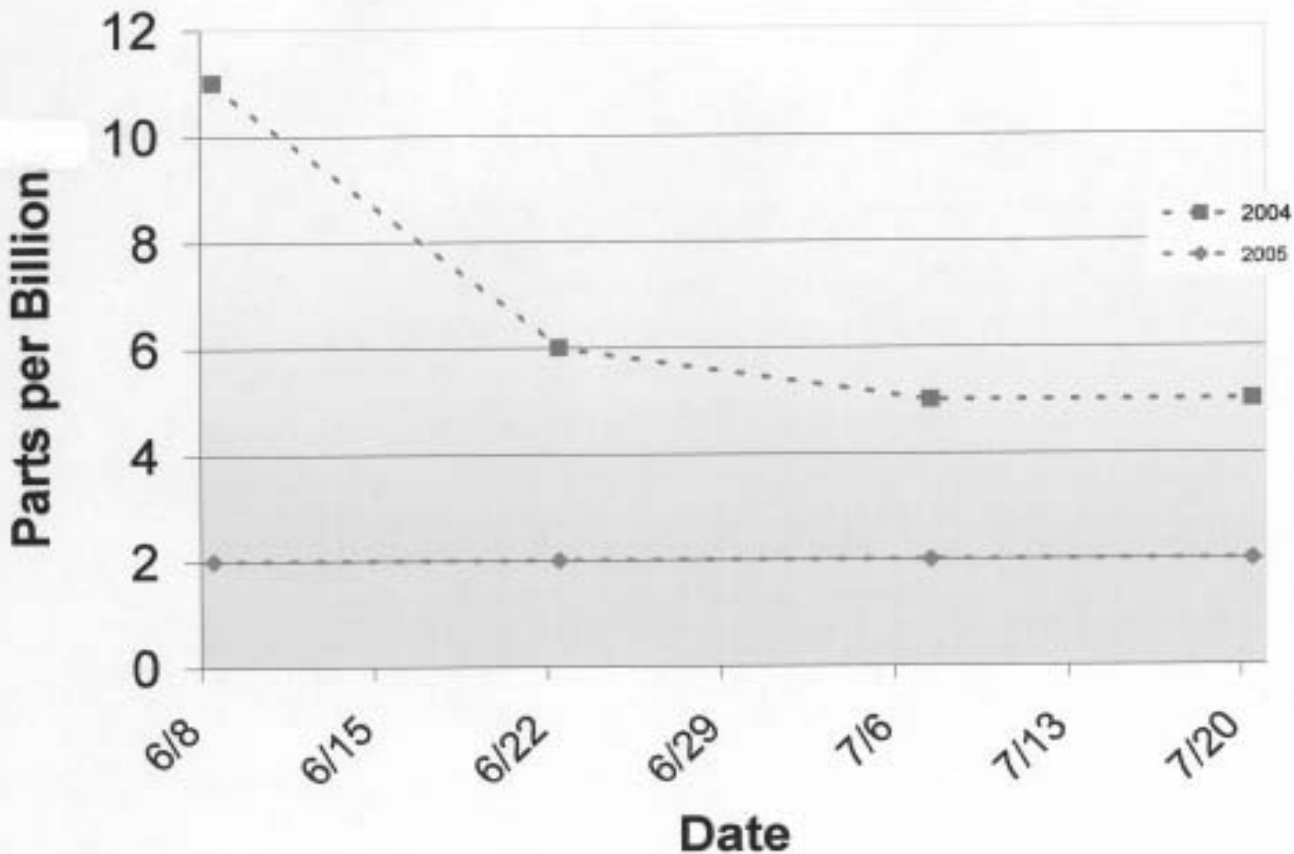
5/24/2005	14	15	18	20	34
6/7/2005	13	13	13	13	13
6/21/2005	10	10	22	33	35
7/5/2005	11	13	36	27	31
7/19/2005	14	11	43	31	29

N -  - K

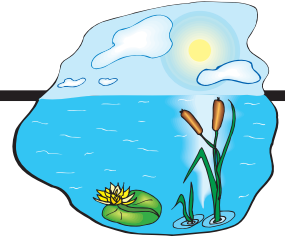
Just Say **NO** to Phosphorus!



## Green Lake - Chlorophyll A



# Water Monitoring Data Analysis



Water Transparency, Total Phosphorus and Chlorophyll-A levels taken so far this summer indicate continued good water quality in Green Lake similar to conditions seen in 2004. This corresponds to a recent report by MPCA where Green Lake is included with George, Games, Long (near Hawick) and Big Kandiyohi for lakes in Kandiyohi County that are showing a trend of improved water clarity from data gathered through their Citizens Lake Monitoring Program.

The improved quality seen over the past two years appears to be related to moderate climate and runoff conditions as well as improved wastewater treatment, reduced use of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorus and an overall increase in awareness about the threat of non-point source pollution to water quality.

Green Lake remains in the category of minimally impacted lakes in the Northern Lakes and Forested Eco-region even though it is located in the North Central Hardwood Forests Eco-region. This classification is due in part to the size and depth of the lake, and also to the large number of lakes, and areas of wetlands and forest land that are located in the contributing watershed which help protect its water quality for this part of the state.

<u>Eco-Region</u>	<u>Total Phosphorus (ppb)</u>	<u>Secchi Disc (feet)</u>	<u>Chlorophyll-A (ppb)</u>
Northern Lakes and Forests	14-17	8-15	<10
North Central Hardwood Forests	23-50	5-11	5-22

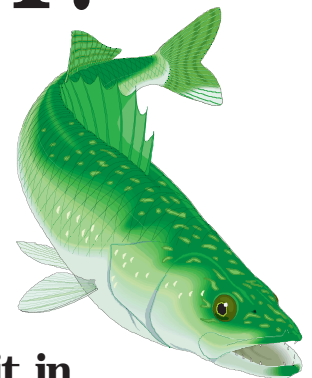
*Skip Wright, MN DNR Area Hydrologist*

*Minnesota Pollution Control Agency*

## GET THE LEAD OUT!



**EXCHANGE YOUR  
LEAD TACKLE**



**Bring in your old lead tackle and trade it in  
for FREE SAMPLES of non-toxic sinkers and jigs**

**August 25th, 2-7 p.m.**

**Mel's Sport Shop**

**102 Ruth Street**

**Spicer, Minnesota**

*Sponsored by*



**Minnesota Office of  
Environmental Assistance**

**Questions?**

**Call 651-215-0262**

# DNR Sets Public Input Meeting...

## ...for the Green Lake Regulations



The Department of Natural Resources will host a public input meeting on Green Lake experimental fishing regulations from 5 to 8:30 p.m., August 25<sup>th</sup> in the Dethlefs Senior Center in Spicer.

The purpose of the meeting is for the DNR to share the results of a nine-year fishing regulation study on Green Lake and for citizens to provide input on future fishing regulations. Current regulations include a 24-inch maximum size limit for northern pike (all northern pike 24 inches and larger must be released immediately) and all bass 14-21 inches must be immediately returned to the water.



“We intend to share what we learned during the study, listen to the interests of citizens and then apply an appropriate fishing regulation effective March 1, 2006,” said Bruce Gilbertson, DNR Spicer Area Fisheries Supervisor. “The three options are to keep the current regulations, modify them or return to statewide regulations.”

Those unable to attend the Willmar meeting can send written comments by September 6, 2005 to Bruce Gilbertson, Spicer Area Fisheries Office, PO Box 457, Spicer, MN 56288.



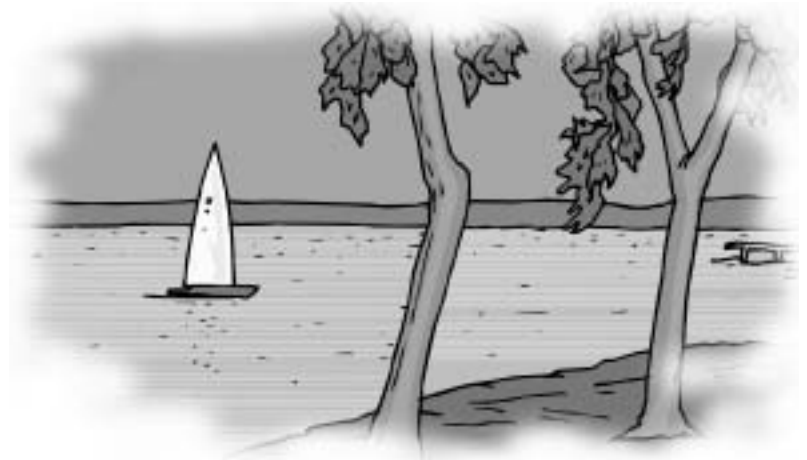
The DNR will also host an open house input opportunity from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., August 25<sup>th</sup> in the second floor conference room at the DNR Central Office at 500 Lafayette Road in St. Paul. A DNR staff person will be available to take public comments though there will not be a formal presentation. A St. Paul public input opportunity is required by statute for regulation changes that involve lakes of more than 1,500 acres in size.

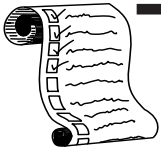
*For more information contact:*



**Bruce Gilbertson,**  
*Spicer Area Fisheries Supervisor*  
at 320-796-2161 or

**C.B. Bylander,**  
*Fish & Wildlife Division Outreach Section Chief*  
at 651-297-1155





# Whom Do I Call For Important Questions?

## *Department of Natural Resources*

Trails & Waterways .....Gregg Soupir .....796.6281  
 Fishery .....Bruce Gilbertson .....796.2161  
 Hydrologist .....Skip Wright .....796.6272  
 Conservation Officer .....Jim Steffen .....366.3952  
 Shore Line Habitat.....Leilani Peterson .....354.0009  
 Turn In Poachers (TIP) .....800.652.9093  
 DNR Web Page .....www.dnr.state.mn.us

## *Kandiyohi County*

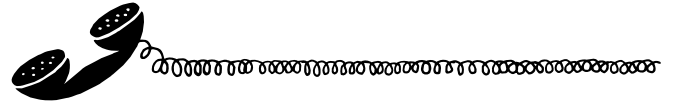
Assessors Office .....Tim Falkum.....231.6200  
 Environmental Office .....Jeff Bredberg.....231.6288  
 Natural Resource  
 Conservation Service.....Steve Smith.....235.3540  
 Public Works .....Gary Danielson .....235.3266

## *Kandiyohi County cont.*

Sheriff's Office .....Dan Hartog .....235.1260  
 Emergency .....911  
 Vehicles Parked on Walking Path .....235.1260  
 Soil & Water  
 Conservation District.....Rick Reimer .....235.3906  
 Zoning Administrator.....Gary Geer .....231.6229  
 Kandiyohi County Web Page.....www.co.kandiyohi.mn.us

## *Local Elected Chairpersons/Mayor*

Green Lake Township .....Brian Hedtke .....796.2783  
 Irving Township.....Daniel Olson .....276.8658  
 New London Township .....Mark Mertens .....354.5433  
 Spicer, City of .....Bill Taylor .....796.5562



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 Green Lake Property Owners Association  
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 Return Service Requested