

# Green Lake Breeze

P.O. Box 362 • Spicer, MN 56288

August 2006

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Dear Green Lake Property Owners,

Our summer is passing with many perfect lake days (hot and humid), and fortunately at this time, no destructive storms. Hopefully you all are enjoying this great summer weather and the beautiful water of Green Lake.

Everyone who received the most recent membership mailing from the GLPOA had the opportunity to sign up to become a member of the newly formed Minnesota Waters organization, a merger of the Rivers Council of Minnesota and the Minnesota Lakes Association, at the reduced rate of \$10.00. At this time there are 121 members of the GLPOA who

have paid their fee and who will therefore receive a very informative quarterly newsletter and a monthly electronic newsletter called "The Confluence." As an example of the interesting articles in these newsletters, the July edition of "The Confluence" reported on the dangers that fishermen can present to loons and other wildlife by the use of lead tackle.

Loons dive to the bottom of lakes in search of pebbles to help grind their food, but they cannot distinguish between the necessary stones and harmful lead sinkers. The loon can inadvertently ingest the lead which can cause death within two to three weeks. The article had a link to a site that lists times and locations of lead tackle exchanges held throughout the state, the closest one to Spicer that has not yet taken place is in St. Cloud on August 18th. Other interesting topics include, "Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species," "What's that Green Stuff Floating in my Water?" and "Heat and Lack of Rain Can Bring Toxic Algae Blooms." The website for Minnesota Waters is [www.minnesotawaters.org](http://www.minnesotawaters.org). Please consider joining and becoming a more informed steward of the waters of our planet.

As always, the Board is here to do our best to protect and preserve Green Lake. If any concerns or problems arise with which we may be able to help, please contact one of the board members listed on this page.

Sincerely,



Jill Nelson  
President, GLPOA



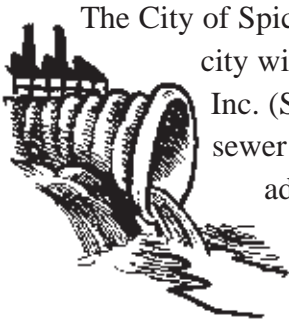
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# Reconstruction of Lake Avenue S.

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The City of Spicer and Kandiyohi County are planning the reconstruction of Lake Avenue South (County Road 10) between Salisbury Beach and 90th Street Northeast next summer and fall. The project was originally planned for this year, but was delayed because of other reconstruction work on County Road 10 west of Spicer and east of Indian Beach Road. This summer's construction should be completed and fully open to traffic this fall, but the final paving layer will be held off until next spring.



The City of Spicer will be taking the lead role in putting the project together. The city will be working with consulting engineers, Short, Elliot and Henderson, Inc. (SEH, Inc.) to develop plans, schedule hearings and oversee project construction. Sanitary sewer and water lines will be replaced as the road work is being done, and sidewalk will be added on the south side of the road. It is hoped the storm sewer system can be revamped to improve the water quality of discharges into Green Lake. It's also a goal to do most of the work August through October, trying to avoid peak summer activities.



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## Sewer and Water Report

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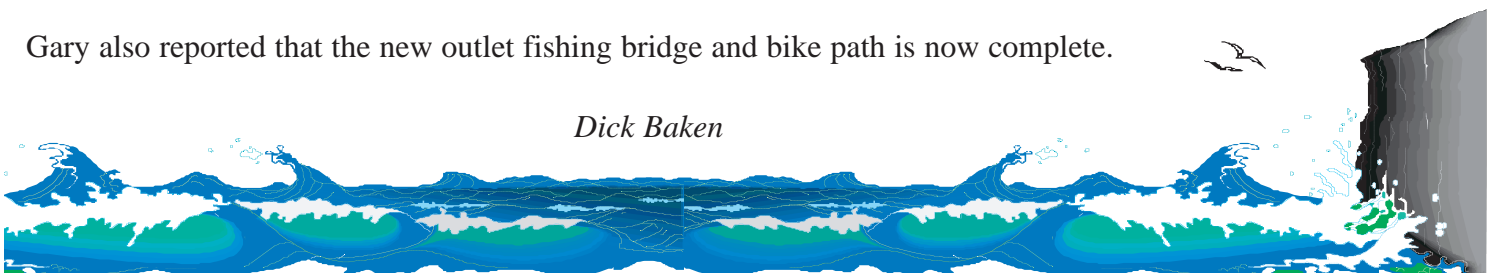
The May monthly water loss figures show a reduction of 20% from the previous month. However, since the total volume lost per month is relatively constant and the total volume pumped increased by 30%, the apparent reduction gives us a false impression of progress.

Board member Trudie Guptill (New London) reported on the results of a detailed analysis of rate calculating formulas for residential and commercial water and sewer rates, or EDU's (Equivalent Dwelling Units). The study recommends that a single formula be used by Spicer, Green Lake, and New London, and be adopted for the 2007 year.

Gary Danielson reported that the Lake Florida sewer hook-up project is under way and the contractors will present their plans of action this week. The main trunk line should be finished by early fall, and the individual residential hookups before winter. In a recent meeting, the Lake Henderson residents asked for more information on timing and costs. Nest Lake and George Lake have recently shown more interest after hearing the Lake Florida cost projections. The Diamond Lake home owners have a meeting August 8th to discuss their options.

Gary also reported that the new outlet fishing bridge and bike path is now complete.

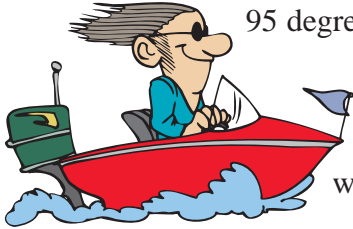
*Dick Baken*



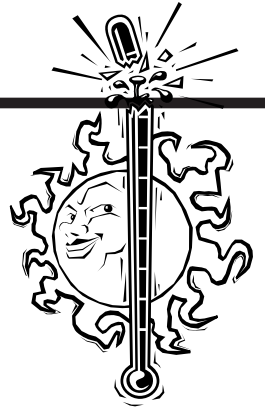
# Watercraft & Boat Laws

Hello to Green Lake Residents:

Green Lake and other lakes throughout the area have been the place to be with all the hot weather that we have been having. The temperature as I write this is around 95 degrees and forecast to continue for a few more days, which will definitely bring the people and boats to the water.



I wanted to remind everyone on a couple different laws regarding personal watercraft and boats.



- 1 Anyone operating or riding on a personal watercraft must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type I, II, III or V personal flotation device (PFD or life jacket).
- 2 Personal watercraft must travel at slow-no wake speed (5 mph or less) within 150 feet of non-motorized boats, shore (unless launching or landing skiers directly to or from open water), docks, swim rafts, swimmers, or any moored or anchored boat.
- 3 Operation of personal watercraft is allowed only from 9:30 a.m. to one hour before sunset.
- 4 If you tow a person on water skies, or any other device, there must be an additional person on board the personal watercraft to act as an observer. (The observer does not have to be facing backwards). The skier/kneeboarder etc. must also be wearing a PFD or there must be one on board the personal watercraft for the skier. Factory installed or factory specified wide-field rearview mirrors are allowed instead of an observer when pulling a skier or other device (tube, kneeboard, etc.). The mirrors must be specified by the personal watercraft manufacturer. After-market mirrors, stick-on mirrors, motorcycle mirrors etc. do not qualify for the observer exemption.
- 5 If the machine is equipped by the manufacturer with a lanyard-type engine cutoff switch, it must be attached to the person, life jacket or clothing of the operator when underway.
  - 6 You may not operate a personal watercraft in a manner that unreasonably or unnecessarily endangers life, limb, or property.
  - 7 You may not weave through congested watercraft traffic, or jump the wake of another watercraft within 150 feet of the other watercraft. This includes other personal watercraft.



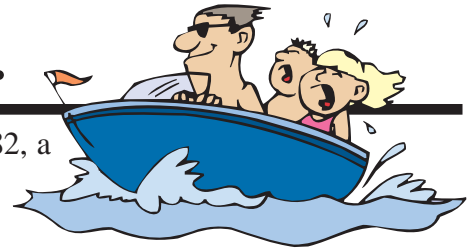
One of the violations of the law that we see frequently with personal watercraft is operating after allowed hours. Personal watercrafts are to be off the water one hour before sunset.

## Noise Limits

- 8 Subdivision 1 - Operation in excess of noise limits prohibited. A person may not operate a motorboat under any condition of load, acceleration, or deceleration in a manner that exceeds the noise limits contained in Subdivision 2.
- 9 Subdivision 2 - Noise Limits (a) - The noise limits for the total noise from the marine engine or motorboat may not exceed:
  - for marine engines or motorboats manufactured before January 1, 1982 a noise level of 84 decibels on the A scale measured at a distance of 50 feet from the motorboat or equivalent noise levels at other distances as specified by the commissioner in a pass-by test at least four feet above the water and at least four feet behind the transom of the motorboat being tested; and



# Watercraft & Boat Laws cont.



- for marine engines or motorboats manufactured on or after January 1, 1982, a noise level of 82 decibels on the A scale measured at a distance of 50 feet from the motorboat or equivalent noise levels at other distances as specified by the commissioner in a pass-by test at least four feet above the water and at least four feet behind the transom of the motorboat being tested.
- (b) The noise limits in paragraph (a) do not preclude enforcement of other laws relating to motorboat noise. The officer or deputy doing the testing shall determine which test or tests shall be used. Failure to pass either the pass-by or stationary idle test is a violation of this section.
- (c) Equivalent noise levels under paragraph (a) shall be specified by the commissioner by written order and published in the State Register. The noise level determinations are exempt from the rule-making provisions of chapter 14 and section 14.386 does not apply.



The Sheriff's Office does have a decibel meter and if you have any questions, please give us a call.

Sincerely,

*Sheriff Dan Hartog*

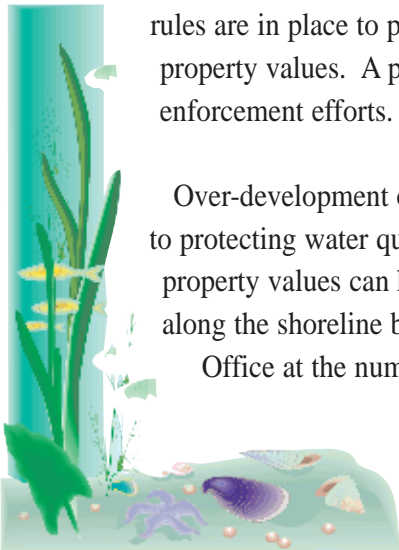
## Lakeshore Alterations

Anyone contemplating landscaping within the Shore Impact Zone (37.5 feet from the ordinary high water level) is asked to first contact the Kandiyohi County zoning Office at 231-6229. Construction of stairways, vegetation removal and grading are examples of activities requiring a Shoreland Alteration Permit. For work below the ordinary high water level contact Area Hydrologist, Skip Wright at 796-6272. Activities requiring a DNR permit include but are not limited to rock riprap placement, beach development, storm water outfalls and lake bank restoration.



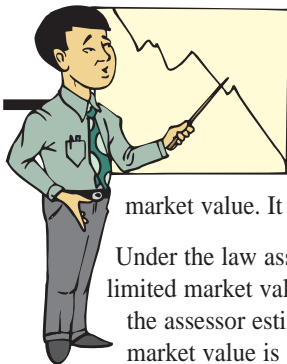
Work without a permit is in violation of the Kandiyohi County Shoreland Ordinance and Public Waters Law. These rules are in place to protect water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, the natural character of our lakeshore and property values. A photographic inventory of the Green Lake Shoreline is being planned this fall to help with enforcement efforts.

Over-development of Green Lake's shoreline is an ongoing phenomenon and has been cited as a major threat to protecting water quality and habitat. Lakeshore owners interested in protecting the lake environment and their property values can help reverse this trend. An option to traditional landscaping is reestablishing natural buffers along the shoreline by "lakescaping" with native plants. For more information contact the Spicer DNR Area Office at the number listed above or DNR Shoreline Restoration Specialist, Lelani Peterson at 354-2055.



*Skip Wright,*  
*DNR Area Hydrologist*





# Limited Market Value

The 2005 Legislature amended the law that imposes a limit on how much an assessor's estimate of market value is permitted to increase from one year to the next. The limited market value has no effect on the appraiser's estimated market value. It only affects the amount of value the property is taxed on — the taxable market value.

Under the law assessors are required to continue to estimate the market value of all properties. However, the law requires the use of a limited market value for purposes of determining property tax bills. The limited market value may be different from the market value that the assessor estimates for the property depending on the increase, if any, in the property's value from one year to the next. Limited market value is scheduled to sunset after assessment year 2008 for taxes payable in 2009. (M.S. 273.11, subdivision 1 a)

For assessment year **2002**, the amount of the increase shall not exceed the greater of:

1. 10% of the value in the preceding assessment, or
2. 15% of the difference between the current assessment and the preceding assessment.

For assessment year **2003**, the amount of the increase shall not exceed the greater of:

1. 12% of the value in preceding assessment, or
2. 20% of the difference between the current assessment and the preceding assessment.

For assessment year **2004**, the amount of the increase shall not exceed the greater of:

1. 15% of the value in the preceding assessment, or
2. 25% of the difference between the current assessment and the preceding assessment.

For assessment year **2005**, the amount of the increase shall not exceed the greater of:

1. 15% of the value in the preceding assessment, or
2. 25% of the difference between the current assessment and the preceding assessment.

For assessment year **2006**, the amount of the increase shall not exceed the greater of:

1. 15% of the value in the preceding assessment, or
2. 25% of the difference between the current assessment and the preceding assessment.

For assessment year **2007**, the amount of the increase shall not exceed the greater of:

1. 15% of the value in the preceding assessment, or
2. 33% of the difference between the current assessment and the preceding assessment.

For assessment year **2008**, the amount of the increase shall not exceed the greater of:

1. 15% of the value in the preceding assessment, or
2. 50% of the difference between the current assessment and the preceding assessment.

The limited market value is utilized for the majority of properties on Green Lake. The exception is that new construction is not limited and is added at full value. The following is an example of limited market value. As we have mentioned in previous years, the 2002 assessment year becomes the basis for taxes due and payable in 2003. The limited taxable market value is calculated as follows:

2002 taxable value	\$130,000 x 10%	=	\$143,000	taxable value for 2003
2003 taxable value	\$143,000 x 12%	=	\$160,200	taxable value for 2004
2004 taxable value	\$160,200 x 15%	=	\$184,200	taxable value for 2005

Now we can see that the \$184,200 is not the taxable value for 2005 taxes. We now need to check the second option which is the difference between the current assessment and the preceding assessment.

Current assessment	\$297,200		
Preceding assessment	- \$160,200		
	<u>\$137,000</u>		
	x 25%		
	\$34,250 rounded to	\$34,300	
Preceding assessment		+ \$160,200	
		<u>\$194,500</u>	taxable value

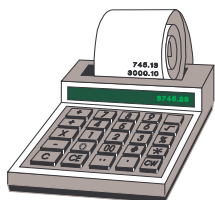


For establishing the taxable market value, we utilize the greater of the two options:

2006 Taxes . . . Estimated value is \$379,300.

<b>Option 1</b> =	\$194,500	2005 taxable value
	x 15%	
	<u>\$223,700</u>	lesser of the two options

<b>Option 2</b> =	\$379,300	current assessment
	- \$194,500	preceding assessment
	<u>\$184,800</u>	
	x 25%	of the difference
	\$46,200	
	+ \$194,500	
	<u>\$240,700</u>	greater of the two options



# Limited Market Value cont.

YR	EST/TAXABLE MARKET	TO VALUE	TC/MKT RATE	CREDITS	ABAT/ ADDED	SPECIAL ASMTS	TOTAL NET TAX
06	379,300 240,700	2,407	149.48300 .09152	.00	.00	.00	4152.00
05	297,200 194,500	1,945	164.43900 .09310	.00	.00	.00	3960.00
04	194,400 160,200	1,602	175.78900 .08933	.00	.00	.00	3436.00
03	160,400 143,000	1,430	183.55800 .11461	.00	.00	.00	3156.00
02	145,800 130,000	1,300	181.04000	.00	.00	.00	2842.00

The tax rate utilized for this example is the rate for the City of Spicer. This rate varies in the four governmental taxing districts on Green Lake.



**For Assessment Year 2006**

\*-----MARKET/TAXABLE VALUES-----\*

LAND	453,500	293,900
BUILD		
MACHINE		
EXEMPTIONS		
TOT MKT	453,500	293,900



This taxable value becomes the taxable market value for the taxes which will be paid in 2007. The Truth in Taxation statements which are sent in November will reflect a taxable value of \$293,900.

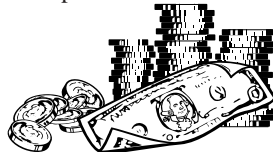
Estimated Market Value is \$453,500

**Option 1 =**

\$240,700	2006 taxable value
x 15%	of value
\$276,800	lesser of the two options

**Option 2 =**

\$453,500	current market value
- \$240,700	preceding assessment (2006 taxable value)
\$212,800	
x 25%	of the difference
\$53,200	
+ \$240,700	
\$293,900	greater of the two options



Finally, we will project into the future. We will assume the market value will remain unchanged.

Assessment Year 2007, Payable 2008

**Option 1 =**

\$293,900	2007 taxable value
x 15%	of value
\$338,000	lesser of the two options

**Option 2 =**

\$453,500	assessed market value
- \$293,900	preceding assessment (2007 taxable value)
\$159,600	
x 33%	of the difference
\$52,700	
+ \$293,900	
\$346,600	greater of the two options

The taxable value increases from \$293,900 to \$346,600 for taxes payable in 2008. This will be a 17.93% increase in taxable value assuming the market value remains unchanged.

Next we will go the final year of limited market values. Limited market value is scheduled to sunset after assessment year 2008 for taxes payable in 2009. Again, we assume no change in the Estimated Market Value of the property.

Estimated Market Value is \$453,500



*continued on next page*

# Limited Market Value cont.

Option 1 = \$346,600 2008 taxable value  
 $\times \quad 15\%$   
 \$398,600 lesser of the two options



Option 2 = \$453,500 assumed market value  
 $- \quad \$346,600$  preceding assessment (2008 taxable value)  
 \$106,900  
 $\times \quad 50\%$  of the difference  
 \$53,500  
 $+ \quad \$346,600$   
 \$400,100 greater of the two options

The taxable value increases from \$346,600 to \$400,100 for taxes payable in 2009. This will be 15.43% increase in taxable value assuming the market value remains unchanged.

For taxes payable in 2010 the taxable value will change from \$400,100 to \$453,500. This will be a 13.34% increase in taxable value assuming the market value remains unchanged.

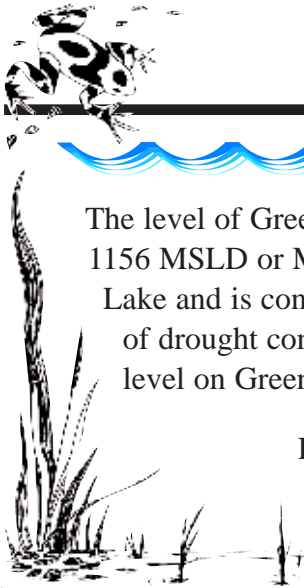
The greatest assumption remains as to what future legislative actions or amendments are made to the limited market value law (M.S. 273.11, subdivision 1a).

Sincerely,

*Garfield Herfindahl - Deputy Kandiyohi County Assessor*



# Green Lake Water Levels



The level of Green Lake, recorded by Lake Level MN Volunteer — Dale Mahlow on July 25th, 2006 was 1156 MSLD or Mean Sea Level Datum. This level is .6 feet below the long term July average for Green Lake and is consistent with lower lake levels being seen statewide. Lower lake levels are a direct result of drought conditions extending across about 80% of our state. The all time lowest recorded water level on Green Lake was 1153.9 on November 12th, 1976.

For more information on drought conditions or water levels visit DNR Waters website at [www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/index.html).

*Skip Wright, DNR Area Hydrologist*

# Let's Not Bathe In Green Lake

Bathing in Green Lake seems a time-honored tradition and it is obviously practiced by many of our members and other residents. Shampoo bottles at the end of the dock and lathered heads are not rare sites around our beloved lake. In reality there is likely no better current example of unfettered point source polluting of our once-pristine lake. Riparian buffers, after all, are ineffective if substances are placed directly into the lake. Soaps and shampoos may no longer contain phosphates but they are contaminating our lake with whatever they do contain. The Boundary Waters website ([www.bwcaw.org/rules](http://www.bwcaw.org/rules)) states 'All soaps pollute water including soaps labeled "biodegradable.'" Let's stop openly polluting Green Lake; let's embrace a Green Lake without soap suds on the surface; let's let the memories of bathing in Green Lake remain just that: memories.



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# Motorists Advised of Detour to be Installed on CSAH 10, East of CSAH 4 - Tuesday, August 1, 2006

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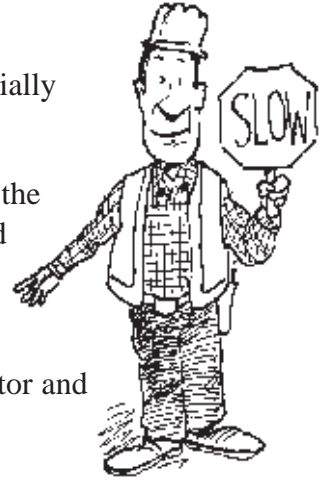
The Kandiyohi County Public Works Department office in Willmar announced today that, weather permitting, work will begin at CSAH 2 (North) to CSAH 2 (South) on CSAH 10.

The work will consist of removing bituminous pavement and beginning grading operations. Through traffic will be diverted to CSAH 28, CSAH 98 and CSAH 4 for this Phase 1 portion of the construction. Local traffic should use caution and be aware of construction activities.

Weather permitting, the Phase 1 portion of the Project should be substantially completed within approximately four weeks.

Phase 2, on CSAH 10 from CR 95 (Indian Beach Road) to CSAH 2 (North) will begin the middle of August. Weather permitting, the entire project will be substantially completed by November of 2006.

Motorists are reminded to slow down for their safety and the safety of the workers as construction continues. Duininck Bros. Inc., Prinsburg, Minnesota, is the Prime Contactor and Minnerath Construction, Inc. is the Grading Contractor for construction of the project.



Address Service Requested

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