

# Green Lake Breeze

P.O. Box 362 • Spicer, MN 56288

[www.greenlakespicer.com](http://www.greenlakespicer.com)

September 2010

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Dear Green Lake Property Owners,

With back to school shopping getting in full swing, the college kids all heading back and the cool weather blast that we had it felt like summer was over and fall had taken hold. But wait, we still have the state fair to go and summer is back. I spent ten hours with my family and friends for one of the best days of the summer! What a fantastic day!



I don't have a lot of breaking news to report this month but do want to put a BIG thank you out to those of you that sent additional money in for the AIS funding! The DNR is coming out to work with us this week on our fall survey of milfoil in Green Lake this week and we should get a much better handle on what effect our spring treatment had. I look forward to being able to give you a much better report on that next month.



Please mark your calendars for the presentation of Zebra Mussels from Dick Sternberg! We have Dick coming in for this presentation and have invited the other lake associations in the area, the county commissioners, our state elected officials and of course all of you.



This presentation is very informative and is designed to give every one a much better understanding of what Zebra Mussels are, how they can effect a body of water and what can be done to prevent the spread of these nasty little critters. Please plan on attending this presentation, the notice with all of the pertinent details can be found elsewhere in the Breeze.



Have a great Labor Day weekend!

*Kelly TerWisscha, President, GLPOA*



*Person of Interest*



# Summer Monitoring On Green Lake



Dear Members:

It has been said that the best test of a moral society is the kind of world it leaves to its children (Dietrich Bonhoffer).



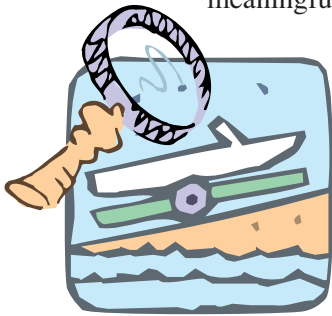
Those of us who are concerned about the quality of our public waters are being tested to find feasible solutions to the zebra mussel and other aquatic invasive species (AIS) threats. It has become obvious that the task is far greater than we, Kandiyohi County, are capable of address. Only the full power of our state legislature will prevent what now appears to be an environmental tsunami.

With the zebra mussel infestation of Lake Minnetonka, four of the top ten Minnesota fishing tournament waters are now infested. Green Lake is among the ten most popular tournament sites and is continually exposed to migrating watercraft and whatever they bring with them!

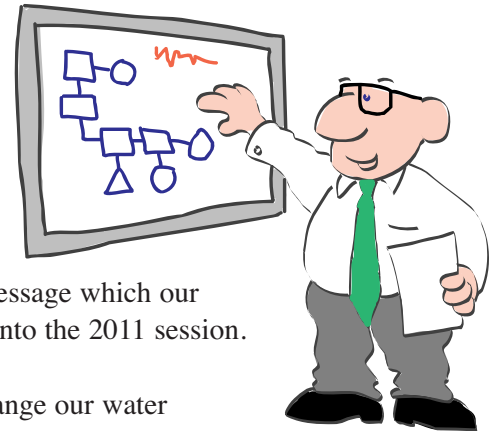


Recognizing that the DNR approach to preventing the spread of AIS including zebra mussels, is not working, many of you have asked that we become better informed of the magnitude of the problem and what can be done to address it in a meaningful way. In response to your requests we turned to Richard (Dick) Sternberg, a man who has made

the improvement of fresh water quality his career. We entered into a contract with Mr. Sternberg which results in, among other things a research of the scientific literature and a study of what both Minnesota and other states have done to combat AIS. He has condensed thousands of pages of data, both scientific and anecdotal, into a power point format which make a strong case for containment of infested lakes. DNR has consistently opposed containment.



Mr. Sternberg has given us the message which we must deliver to the legislature, the sooner the better for time is of the essence. He has agreed to speak and present his power point presentation in the dining room of the Green Lake Bible Camp at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, August 28th. Those of you who hold elective office are aware that a zebra mussel infestation in the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District would wreak havoc with lakeshore property values and this would result in less revenue for local government. It is our hope that Mr. Sternberg's work will form the core of the message which our environmental allies across the state will bring to the legislature this summer and fall into the 2011 session.



Please attend and expect to learn how we can change our water resources and fishing laws so that we can avoid the fate of Lake Minnetonka, Lake Mille Lacs, along with Douglas County Lakes and thereby protect the value of lakeshore properties.

Yours for a better tomorrow.

Respectfully,

Terry W. Frazee, Executive Secretary  
Green Lake Property Owners Association

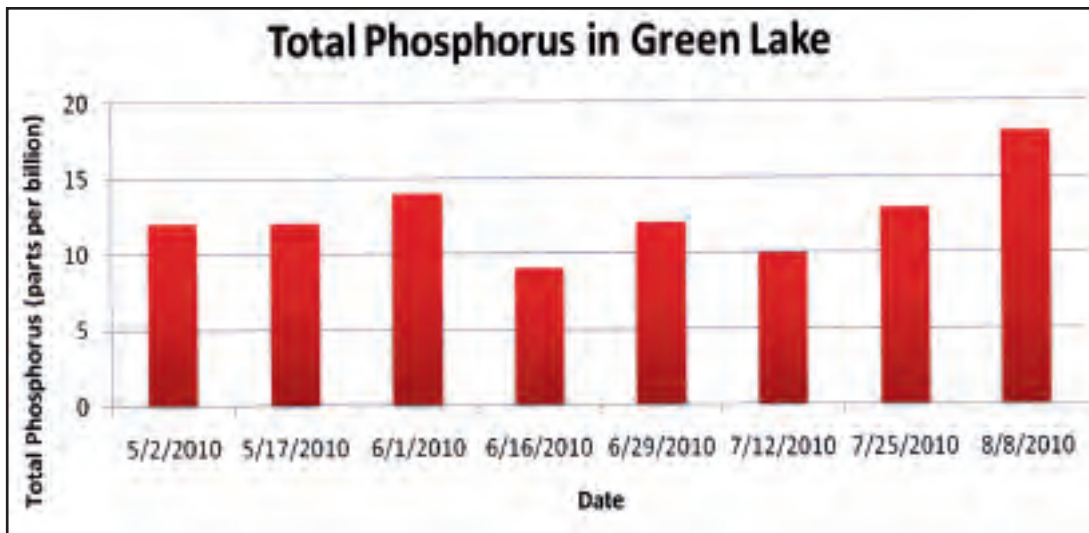


# Monitoring on Green Lake



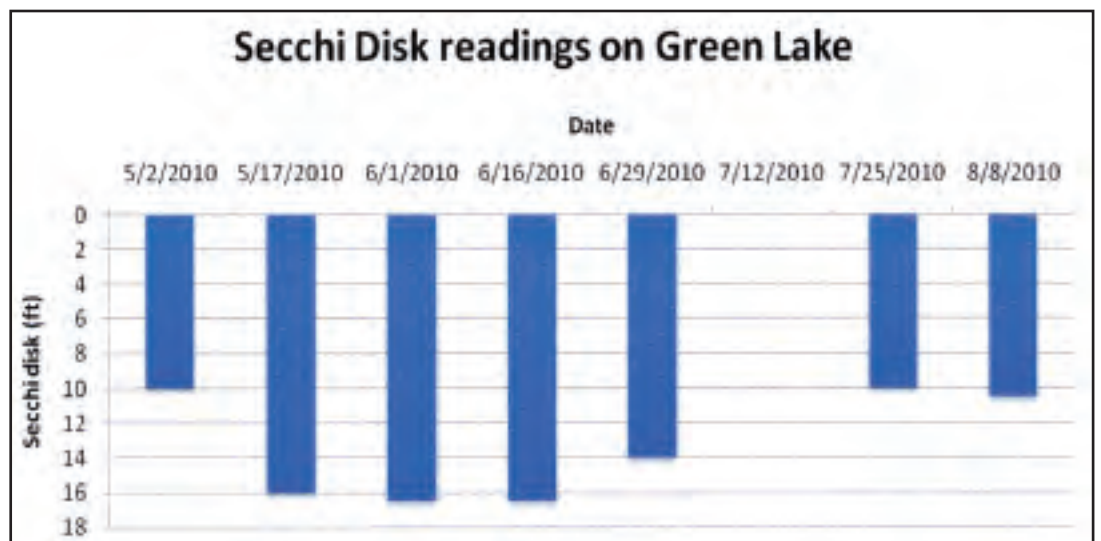
The Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District continues to monitor water quality in Green Lake as well as some of the inlets to the lake. Significant assistance with the monitoring has come from volunteers and the GLPOA, with special thanks to Jill and Riley Nelson, Ann and Bill Latham and Bob Hodapp for collecting water samples.

The monitoring results for 2010 thus far are pictured below in graph form. The first graph shows total phosphorus readings on Green Lake. As most of you know, excess phosphorus in lakes promotes algae growth and too much algae in the lake affects the aesthetic and water quality properties of the lake. Notice that all of the readings so far this year have been below 18 parts per billion (ppb). The standard of 18 ppb is important because of the water quality goal set for Green Lake in 2002; non-degradation. For Green Lake to be considered meeting this water quality goal, average annual total phosphorus readings must remain at or below 18 ppb. While the 2009 average annual total phosphorus reached 19 ppb, this year's average total phosphorus to date is 12.5 ppb, and is likely to remain below 18ppb for the annual average.



Another important piece of water quality information collected by our volunteers has to do with water clarity. As anyone who lives on or has visited Green Lake knows that the clarity of the water is one of the lake's many assets. To measure the water clarity, our volunteers use a secchi disk. A secchi disk is a white circular disk attached to a rope that is marked for

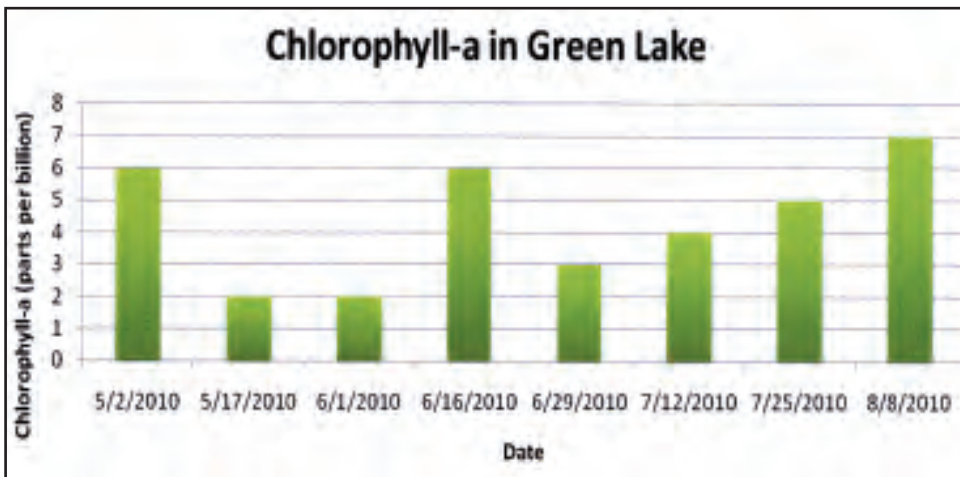
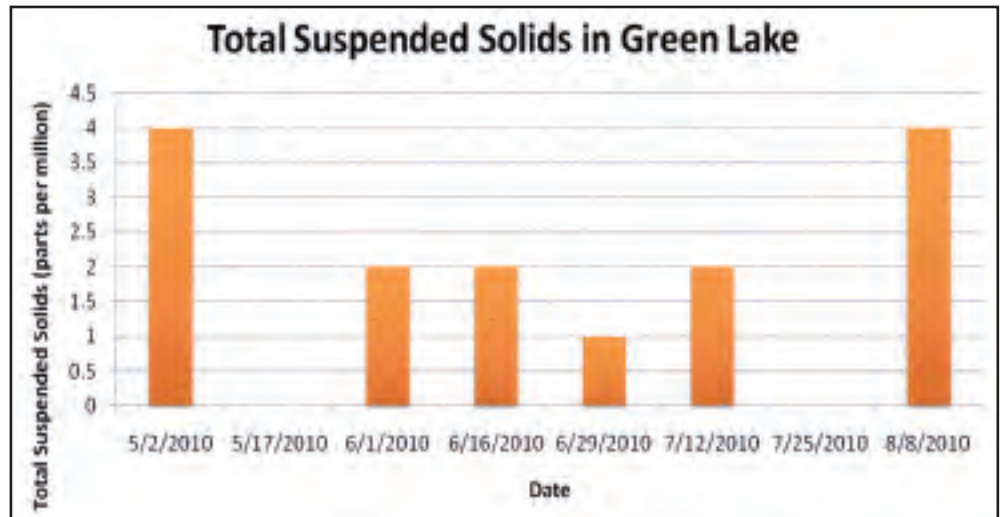
measuring the water's depth. The disk is lowered into the water on the shady side of the boat until it is no longer visible and that depth is recorded. The deeper the depth, the clearer the water is. A graph of the secchi disk readings from this year is shown below. In the graph, note that 0 feet on the y-axis represents the lake's surface — the further the bar goes down, the clearer the water.



Water samples are tested for two additional parameters: total suspended solids and chlorophyll-a. For 2009 (to date), Green Lake has been meeting water quality standards for both of these analytes. Continuing our monitoring will allow us to track the yearly averages for each parameter over time and watch for trends.

# Monitoring on Green Lake continued...

The following two graphs show the total suspended solids and chlorophyll-a readings for Green Lake.



If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District at 320-796-0888, email us at [chad@mfcrow.org](mailto:chad@mfcrow.org), or stop by our office.

Have a great rest of the summer!!

*S. Jacobson, C. Anderson*

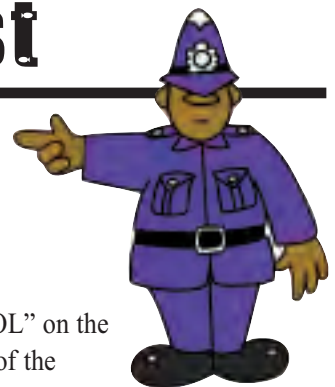


# Patrol To Begin October 1st

If you paid for membership, along with the patrol service you will notice that the "PATROL SIGNS" will be placed on your residence shortly after the 1st of October.

The bi-monthly patrol will begin near the middle of October.

The person who does the patrol will be identified this year by a vest with the words "GREEN LAKE PATROL" on the back. If further I.D. is needed an identification card with the picture of the employee has been issued by the Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Office.



Postcards will be mailed to your home residence during the six month period, as we do not know when you leave for your winter home. Please advise your postmaster to forward your PATROL CARDS as they do your regular mail.

Thank you and have a wonderful winter season!





# Kandiyohi County Lake Base Rates

Green Lake is located in four different governmental taxing districts and two different school districts. Lakeshore properties for the most part are valued on a per-front-foot basis. The Kandiyohi County Assessors office establishes a base rate for each lake in the county, which is adjusted on a yearly basis according to sales indicators. This per-front-foot rate for the 2010 assessment was \$5700 per-front-foot for Green Lake. The largest share of lakeshore value is located in New London township which has 32.1% of the lakes value. Next is Irving township with 27.5% of the value. Green Lake township follows with 20.9% with the village of Spicer last at 19.5% of the lakeshore value.



## 2010 Kandiyohi County Lake Base Rates

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2010</u>		<u>2005</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2010</u>
Green Lake	4600	5600	5700	Big Kandiyohi Lake	1250	1650	1150
Lake Florida	1500	2300	2300	Nest Lake	1100	1450	1300
Eagle Lake	2100	2300	1750	Elkhorn Lake	850	850	800
Lake Andrew	1300	2000	2000	Calhoun Lake	500	800	800
Diamond Lake	1600	1850	1800	Long Lake (Irving, Roseville)	575	750	850
George Lake	1600	2100	2200	Long Lake (Dovre)	550	750	580
Games Lake	1500	2000	1600	Bass Lake	400	500	500
Norway Lake	1300	1750	1400	Ringo Lake	400	500	500
Henderson Lake	1100	1500	1700	Crow River Frontage	400	400	400

The assessor is a historian who utilizes the current sales to establish an estimated market value, which becomes the basis for the next year's taxes. A look back at the base values on Green Lake.

1990 = 875	1996 = 1550	2002 = 2475	2008 = 5600
1991 = 920	1997 = 1700	2003 = 3000	2009 = 5700
1992 = 1250	1998 = 1850	2004 = 3800	2010 = 5700
1993 = 1350	1999 = 1950	2005 = 4600	
1994 = 1400	2000 = 1950	2006 = 5500	
1995 = 1475	2001 = 2250	2007 = 5600	



The base rate for the 2011 assessment, which becomes payable as a tax in 2012 has yet to be set. Values are established as of January 2nd of each year.

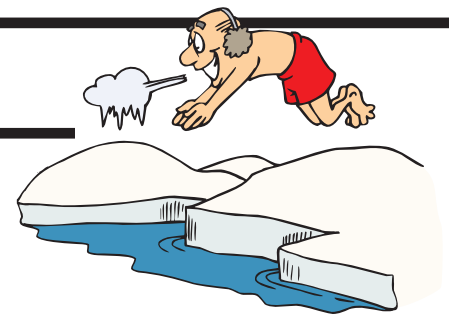
The sale prices of properties that are sold are compared with their assessed values to determine whether the assessed values of the district meets state requirements. Notices are mailed to each property owner in the spring of each year advising the owner of the property value and classifications and the process to appeal if the owner disagrees.



Sincerely,  
*Garfield Herfindahl*  
 Assistant Kandiyohi County Assessor



# Green Lake Freeze Dates



Green Lake, Kandiyohi County, Minnesota 56288

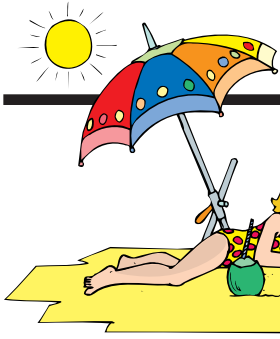
YEAR	ICE IN	ICE OUT
1940		4/26
1941		4/12
1942		4/14
1943		4/13
1944		4/18
1945		4/16
1946		4/17
1947		4/16
1948		4/16
1949		4/14
1950		5/05
1951		5/07
1952	12/2	4/26
1953	11/27	4/15
1954	12/04	4/16
1955	11/24	4/11
1956	12/07	4/25
1957	12/04	4/24
1958	11/30	4/13
1959	12/01	4/07
1960	12/08	4/19
1961	12/08	4/13
1962	12/12	5/01
1963	12/10	4/12
1964	11/29	4/17
1965	11/29	5/02
1966	12/02	4/05
1967	11/28	4/11
1968	12/06	4/01
1969	12/01	4/20
1970	11/24	4/23
1971	12/01	4/18
1972	12/02	4/29
1973	12/10	4/05
1974	12/02	4/21
1975	12/01	4/29
1976	11/26	4/10
1977	11/26	4/22
1978	11/28	4/22
1979	12/02	4/30
1980	12/03	4/21
1981	12/10	3/28
1982	12/09	4/22



YEAR	ICE IN	ICE OUT
1983	12/01	4/14
1984	11/29	4/18
1985	11/23	4/17
1986	11/21	4/15
1987	11/23	3/22
1988	11/28	4/18
1989	11/26	4/23
1990	12/04	4/06
1991	11/26	4/11
1992	11/28	4/10
1993	11/26	4/19
1994	12/06	4/15
1995	11/24	4/16
1996	11/22	4/25
1997	11/24	4/25
December 4 - Open		January 3 - Closed
1998	12/20	4/07
1999	12/17	4/06
2000	12/01	3/24
2001	12/25	4/26
2002	12/03	4/16
2003	12/02	4/13
2004	12/14	4/03
2005	12/02	4/09
2006	12/05	4/09
2007	12/02	4/10
2008	12/07	4/29
2009	12/10	4/19
2010		4/02



# Nature Notes



Okay, it's not really September yet but it's important to get out the news about the program on August 28th. See elsewhere for that news and the article in the *West Central Tribune* recently.

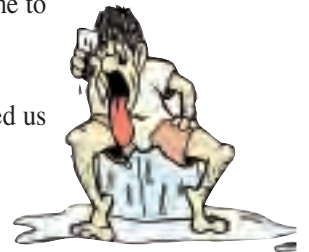
(Note that in the above first sentence, "it's" means "it is." The typist inadvertently put an apostrophe in my headline last month, part of which was meant to read ". . . Green Lake and Its Breezes.")

A brightly colored goldfinch sat in my maple tree, singing the most beautiful, trilling, thrilling song. Until I read an article recently I didn't know that birds had to learn how to sing. I must apologize to the little one I referred to a couple months ago that made such a raucous attempt at singing that I thought it had laryngitis. I also didn't know that goldfinches are among the latest nesters of the season.

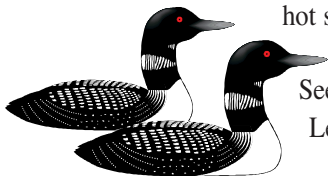


Watch for monarch butterflies soon. I saw a lovely one on a purple cone flower, but one doth not a migration make -oops! I just looked up Jim Gilbert's *Phrenology* in which he stated that monarch butterflies go on migration "one at a time." Their habitat is being destroyed by development; the milkweeds their caterpillars eat are being wiped out when meadows are cleared for new housing, etc. We're fortunate to have some growing along our beaches—I used to pull them before I learned that fact. Other birds eat the seeds and use the soft downy fluff for their nests, especially the already mentioned goldfinches.

Looking out my upstairs window, I notice the top leaves in a basswood tree are showing at tinge of yellow. Come to think of it, that takes me by surprise every year.

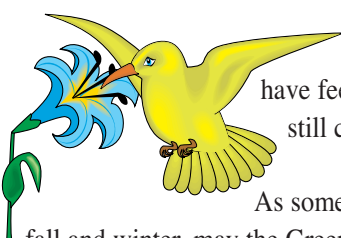


We're all familiar with the kooky, unpredictable weather we've had this summer. Weather persons have reminded us of the hottest days, the most humid days, the highest heat index days, the most days over 90 degrees, most tornadoes—in the nation, etc. Some think that if we didn't hear those figures, it wouldn't seem so hot—forget it. At least we know it's not in our imaginations—I like explanations. I've felt as ill in "dry" heat at 90 with the sun beating down as I've been in Minnesota during the same temps. Fortunately, some people thrive on the hot sticky weather. They are so lucky.



Seen any loons lately? I hear them and see an occasional one, day or night—or both. Let me know your sightings, please (796-2323).

We don't have "lions and tigers and bears and such" to deal with, but we have those pesky rabbits. Now they're eating off my geranium flowers and, worst of all, all but two "branches" of my almost-double Freedom Hibiscus. Any solution, any one?



Keep your hummingbird feeders going until the last hummingbird has migrated. They almost double their weight in preparation for the several thousand mile flight to Mexico and Central America. I'm fortunate to have feeders with perches by the nectar accesses, so they can conserve their energy while dining, even though some still choose to hover. The choice is theirs.

As some of you begin your "migrations" to warmer climates this fall and winter, may the Green Lake breezes waft through your memories. May no trees fall down nor sticks need picking up. May the spirit of the wind and water stay with you so that you will be filled with peace and contentment and healing, whatever you need. The same, of course, is true for those who stay in the northern climes and here at Green Lake. Her breezes will welcome you all back next spring.



**The Green Lake Breeze**  
**Green Lake Property Owners Association**  
**P.O. Box 362**  
**Spicer, Minnesota 56288**  
**www.greenlakespicer.com**

**Return Service Requested**

## Membership As Of September 1, 2010

	<u>ASSOCIATE</u>	<u>GREEN LAKE</u>	<u>IRVING</u>	<u>NEW LONDON</u>	<u>SPICER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Possible Membership	29	134	222	260	174	819
Members Paid Dues	14	88	154	147	83	486
% of Members Paying Dues	48%	65.67%	69.36%	56.53%	47.70%	59.34%
Members Paid Patrol		32	49	32	7	120
% of Members Paying Patrol		22.30%	22.07%	12.30%	4.02%	14.65%
Members Paid for Milfoil Treatment	2	31	59	51	26	169
% of Members Paying Milfoil	6.89%	26.11%	27.47%	20.38%	16.09%	21.85%
Members Paid for Fishing Improvement	1	14	22	15	900.00%	61
% of Members Paying Fishing	3%	10.44%	9.90%	6.15%	5.17%	7.45%