

Spring 2019

## Green Lake Association

Volume 27



# Newsletter

### Presidents Corner

E-mail me at [bmeyer9806@gmail.com](mailto:bmeyer9806@gmail.com)

**Bruce Meyer - President**



Hello GLA'ers

I hope everyone survived the winter, it takes me back to the 80's when 20 below was not uncommon. The people fishing got an early start with the ice freezing over so soon. Hopefully this means our aquatic weed issue will be less this year, due to the lack of snow covering the lake until February. We will see.

As always, I would like to recognize and thank a GLA member that has gone above and beyond the call of volunteering. This spring it is Rick Ekstrand. Many of you know Rick, he and his wife Mary, have lived on Little Green Lake for over 40 years. Rick is an avid fisherman, but he is also an avid volunteer in the community. Rick has been active on many fronts, but it has been his continuous commitment to the area lakes that is to be recognized.



Rick Ekstrand

Rick has served on the Green Lake Association board, Chisago County Lake Improvement District, has been a DNR contact for water clarity screening and the person who reports our lakes official Ice in/out each year. Yes, he has also done his fair share of schlepping limbs/hauling dirt, debris and muck out of channels and culverts and helping those new to the lake.

Well you get the picture, just an all-around nice guy. THANK YOU, Rick, for your 40+ years of service to this community. See you out on the lake!

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Save the Date!!!

## Green Lake Association Spring Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 28

Join us for the GLA Annual Meeting as we come out of hibernation.

Date is Sunday, April 28th from 3pm-5pm ~ @ The Uncommon Loon Brewery

Get to know your neighbors on the lake and community. Food will be provided and drinks will be available for purchase. Come see one of our newest businesses in Chisago City. Meet the GLA Board Members. Listen to special guest speakers and see what is happening around the lake. Hope to see you there! Uncommon Loon is located in the old firehouse right on Highway 8.

### Green Lake Association Mission Statement

Our primary objective of the Green Lake Association is to preserve and improve the quality of the lake for lakeshore living and water based activities



Mark "Corky" Skoglund  
Co-Owner

763-689-5671  
[mark.skoglund@hotmail.com](mailto:mark.skoglund@hotmail.com)

PO Box 421  
10825 Lake Blvd.  
Chisago City, MN 55013

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



## Lake Treatment Update

Hello Fellow GLA Members

Despite the very late Spring, we had a very successful treatment program in 2018. Ice out was very late, occurring in early May and it seemed as if we skipped Spring. The late April snowstorm and quick melt cause a heavy runoff which pushed a lot of nutrients in to the lake and aided weed growth. Further complicating matters is the short treatment window we have for Curly leaf since the DNR permits expire by Mid May for Curly Leaf.

We managed to treat over 30 acres of Curly leaf in 2018 and it was a very effective treatment. Our treatment areas were modified, adding an area at the Southwest corner of Little Green Lake. We will continue to change our Curly Leaf treatments as needed. Curly Leaf is present in many areas of the Lake but we focus on high traffic areas and have a tight budget due to the high costs of chemical.

Milfoil was treated extensively in late June with new areas added on the North side of Big Green. The Milfoil treatment consisted of 72 acres and was especially effective in 2018. The goal for our Milfoil treatment is to make a major impact before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday. We always plan to treat by the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of June, but plant growth and weather are factors that may push the date out. We plan to focus on Milfoil for 2019 which is more impactful and economical.

We've managed to avoid any new invasive species for another year. Boat landing inspections will continue in 2019 and awareness of invasives by all that use the lakes is helping. We have Zebra Mussel monitoring stations scattered throughout the lakes and inspections for other invasive periodically. Please help us with prevention and control by familiarizing yourselves with the invasive species and reporting any suspicious weeds to the DNR or GLA.

Have a great Summer!

Bob Milam

bobm@nowmicro.com - 612-889-9305

## Treasurer's Report by Treasurer Cheryl Kempenich

### Green Lake Association

#### Profit & Loss 2018

##### Income

Membership Dues	\$8,357
Business Sponsorship	\$2,350
Can Recycling	\$1,158
Interest	\$240
Chisago LID	\$11,300
St Croix Valley Foundation	\$1,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$24,405</b>

##### Expenses

Association Meeting	\$717
Bank Fees	\$68
Boat & Trailer	\$2,099
Newsletters	\$1,475
Lake Treatment	\$17,746
Insurance	\$539
Seminar	\$169
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$22,813</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>\$1,592</b>



## Help Our Lakes by Doing Your Part

Cleaning leaves/grass off sidewalks and driveways helps reduce excess nutrients going into lakes and rivers

Keep debris from going into city storm drains. Grass/leaves have phosphorus and result in increased lake algae. This is why our lake turns green and the weeds grow like crazy!

**You can improve the water quality of our local lakes by doing these 6 Simple Things !**

### 1. Mulch or compost grass clippings and leaves

- \*Remove clippings from hard surfaces like streets and driveways
- \*Leave your grass at 3 inches or higher
- \*Pick up leaves before they blow away
- \*Compost locally – Check your local city webpage for location

### 2. Use zero-phosphorus fertilizer –it's the law!

- \*Soils in our area are already phosphorus rich
- \*Phosphorus accelerates algae growth

### 3. Reduce storm water runoff from your property

- \*Direct downspouts away from hard surfaces
- \*Create a rain garden or lakeshore restoration -

Money may be available to get help with these projects from

*Chisago County Soil and Water Conservation District*

Contact them at 651-674-2333

or go to [www.chisagowsdc.org](http://www.chisagowsdc.org)

### 4. Use native plants

- \*Drought and winter tolerant, adapted to our climate
- \*Use native plants such as little blue stem, blazing star, dog-wood

**More information go to**

[www.extension.umn.edu](http://www.extension.umn.edu)

### 5. Remove invasive, non-native plants

- \*Buckthorn, reed canary grass, purple loosestrife
- \*Phragmites - See article on Page 4."

**More information go to**

[www.bluethumb.org](http://www.bluethumb.org)

### 6. Properly dispose of household hazardous waste

- \*Gasoline, motor oil, cleaning solvents, paint, pesticides, antifreeze and others, contaminates water and destroys aquatic vegetation.

**Free disposal at**

Hazardous Waste Center

39649 Grand Ave.

North Branch, MN. or call 651-213-8920

[http://www.chisagocounty.us/396/Household-](http://www.chisagocounty.us/396/Household-Hazardous-Waste)

[Hazardous-Waste](http://www.chisagocounty.us/396/Household-Hazardous-Waste)

**Be a solution to lake pollution!**

## Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID) Update Spring 2019

For the last few years, the LID has offered its Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Control Partnership Program to local lake associations to improve navigation. Treatment areas must be permitted by DNR and located more than 150 feet from shoreline. Green and Little Green together comprise 37.32% of the total littoral area within the Chisago Chain of Lakes, and are allotted that percentage of the total LID AIS treatment funds. (Littoral = the portion of the lake which is less than 15 feet deep, where the majority of aquatic plants are found.)

Thanks to this program, 30 acres of curly-leaf pondweed and 73.1 acres of Eurasian watermilfoil were treated last year. LID reimbursed the Green Lake Association (GLA) a total of \$11,300 for treatment on Green and Little Green Lakes. Thanks to contributions from our members, GLA funded the treatment cost balance of \$4,225. GLA is able to keep invasive plant species under control due to the effectiveness of owning its own treatment pontoon and utilizing a dedicated group of volunteers to complete the work.

LID and GLA partnered last summer on a carp control structure: A temporary chain link fence was attached to both the inflow and outflow sides of the two existing culverts between Little Green and Lake Ellen to restrict carp migration and spawning between the lakes. This fencing forces the carp spawning to occur in the main parts of the lake where sunfish eat the eggs. This reduces the carp population and fattens up the sunfish. Fencing was removed once spawning activity subsided. GLA and LID intend to obtain necessary permits and install the temporary fencing again this year.

The Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is pursuing \$100,000 in Clean Water Funds to implement a gully stabilization project on the Parmly property. SWCD has already secured \$40,000 from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency toward the project, and the remaining grant money should be approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources in the near future.

Green, Little Green, and Chisago Lakes should see the benefits of additional street sweeping that took place last fall due to Chisago City's purchase of its own street sweeper. Keeping leaves and sediment out of the lakes has a positive impact on water quality. Leaves and grass clippings are huge sources of phosphorus, which contribute heavily to algae growth in the warmer months.

The Lakeside School building is scheduled to be razed in September, at which time the property will be available for sale. At a city planning commission meeting in mid-February, numerous GLA members voiced their concerns that any type of property development be eco-friendly and protect water quality. Watch for more information on this topic, attend city meetings if you are so inclined, and make your voice heard as the property changes hands in the near future.

*"If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water." ~Loren Eiseley*

Monica Kinny ~ Area 5 Director ~ Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District

## Green Lake Real Estate Update

By Cheryl Kempenich, Caldwell Banker Burnett

In 2018 we had 13 Green Lake home sales compared to 16 sales in 2017. There were 2 homes that sold over \$700,000, for the first time since 2007! The average days on market was 96. Chisago Lake broke the record for the highest sale at \$962,500.

Out of the 13 sales, 6 of those sold under \$300,000, which reduced the median sale price to \$325,000 compared to \$412,500 in 2017. The homes that sold under \$300,000 were either small year-round cabins or in need of repair.

There were only 3 townhome sales at Ridge Pointe, with prices ranging from \$200,000 to \$278,000.

There are currently 2 active listings on the lake, and there are buyers waiting for Green Lake homes to become available. It looks to be another great year for Green Lake home sales!

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**Cheryl Kempenich**  
*Top 1% Locally & Nationally*

- Green Lake Home Owner
- Lakes Area Specialist
- Chisago County Press Columnist
- GLA Treasurer

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# Letters from the Lake

## MUDDY PAWS

I can't wait for spring  
to pounce on me again  
with its big muddy paws.  
In my mind I still see it  
digging in the dogwoods.  
I miss the spritzing I get  
when it romps in the rain  
and the wet way it presses  
its nose against my cheek  
like a puppy back from a nap.  
But it is only January now,  
barely half through the snow  
and bone-chilling sundogs

that tug at the sun's short leash.  
Spring is still hunkered down  
on the season's cold floors,  
dozing in the dimming glow  
of a dream of warmer times.  
Wreathed in its blue breath,  
winter knits its long gray scarf  
of countless cloudy days,  
never dropping a stitch,  
never intending to finish it,  
while I search the seed catalogs  
for growing signs of hope.

By John Thornberg

## Aquatic Invasive Species Report

By Lori Reichert ~ GLA Vice President

GOOD NEWS – Green Lake does NOT have Zebra Mussels or Phragmites, as of yet.

Our thanks go out to four volunteer families from Little Green and Big Green Lake who are working with the Lakes Improvement District and the DNR on a 3-4 year monitoring program to watch for Zebra Mussels. After the first year, we have NO Zebra Mussels; however, they have been found in both Forest Lake and Comfort Lake, making us susceptible. The concern is that they change the characteristics of the lake, cause harm to native species, damage shorelines and structures and can cause bodily harm, they are very sharp. You can watch for Zebra Mussels on your dock and report suspicions on the app below.

At first glance, phragmites appear to be a desirable ornamental grass, and there is a native grass that looks very similar. The non-native phragmites are currently classified as a restricted noxious weed, meaning it can no longer be sold in or imported to Minnesota; but, there is a movement to have them reclassified as an AIS. We're asking for your help in preventing the non-native Phragmites from taking over the Chisago Lakes Area lakeshore, roadside ditches and wetlands. Look at the pictures provided here or google them to get a better description, then report them on the App listed below. To see how close they already are to us, see the map of our area at: [www.maisrc.umn.edu/phragmites-map](http://www.maisrc.umn.edu/phragmites-map).

**REPORT any suspected AIS on an App:** Go to your App store and upload "GLEDN" (Great Lakes Early Detection Network). Take a picture to identify it and the App will use your GPS location to identify where it is. Experts will come to the site, if necessary, to verify your find.

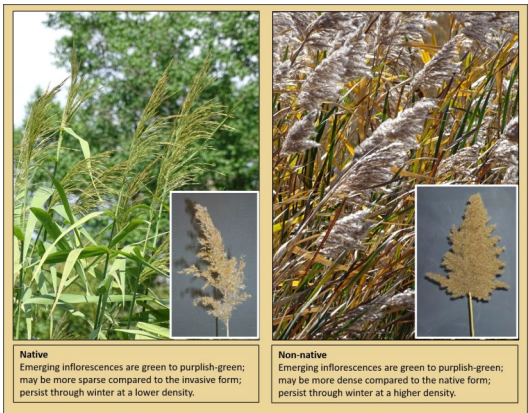
## Crazy February Weather

This February will go down in the record books as the snowiest February on record for Minnesota with totals of 40 inches. Along with the snow, we had the Polar Vortex hit us the first part of February with record negative temperatures of 32 degrees below zero with 60 below wind chills. In January rain fell before temps dropped causing icy roads, driveways and sidewalks, making traveling and walking treacherous.



This photo was taken by a member who lives near the channel between Green and Little Green - 6 foot high ice ramming up against their shoreline. It will likely cost a bit to fix in the spring. This is a natural reaction when the ice melts and refreezes pushing up land. Many may have some shoreline issues due to the ice, but nothing like this.

## Curling Event on Little Green



**Native**  
Emerging inflorescences are green to purplish-green; may be more sparse compared to the invasive form; persist through winter at a lower density.

**Non-native**  
Emerging inflorescences are green to purplish-green; may be more dense compared to the native form; persist through winter at a higher density.

## GLA Summer Floatilla

Calling all boaters!!!! Join us once again for the GLA Summer Floatilla. We meet up by Ojekita Public Beach on Green Lake and tie up for a social time starting at 6:30pm on the following Thursdays:

June 13 & 27

July 11 & 25

Aug 8 & 22



Hope to see you out there! Connie Mayfield

## Lakes Coalition News

### Chisago Lakes Area Coalition of Lake Associations

Chisago Lakes Area Coalition of Lake Associations is made up of representatives from Green Lake, Chisago Lindstrom Lake, and Center Lake associations. The group meets on a quarterly basis to discuss items that are common to each organization (such as spraying for aquatic invasive species).

The coalition also works closely with the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District to support efforts to improve the quality of the lakes for the future.

Connie Mayfield

## Thank You Volunteers!

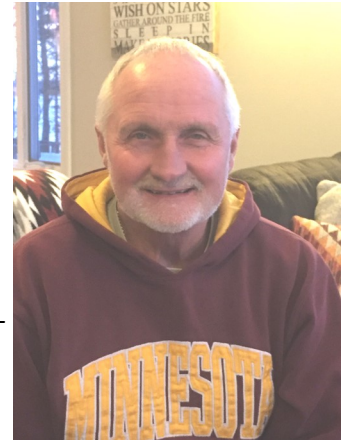
*Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who have assisted the Green Lake Association throughout the year. We couldn't do it without you. We appreciate the time and talent you gave to make our lake an amazing place to live and enjoy. From being on the GLA Board to weed treatments, city dock installation and lake clean up, Just to name a few.*

## What's Happening on the Lake

If you want to be in the know about what's happening on the lake throughout the year and don't want to wait for the newsletter send Connie Mayfield your e-mail address. Any changes to email send to Connie. She sends out updates and fun facts throughout the year. Please send your email to [CJM3755@gmail.com](mailto:CJM3755@gmail.com)

## GLA Can Recycling Volunteer

GLA member Dave Carr volunteers with the aluminum can recycling. Dave makes sure the bin and surrounding area is kept clean and contacts the recyclers to pick up the bin when full. Not a difficult chore, but an important one, as the recycling brings in about \$1,000 annually to the GLA association. Thanks Dave for your work and support - it does make a difference! The bin is located behind the Chisago Warehouse Liquor Store.



If you haven't paid your dues for this year, please return your Membership Forms and Dues as soon as possible. Paying now ensures we have the funds to spray this spring and summer. We are never sure if we will receive grant money from the DNR or LID each year to treat the lake. The money received from dues help ensure we have funds to treat our lake.



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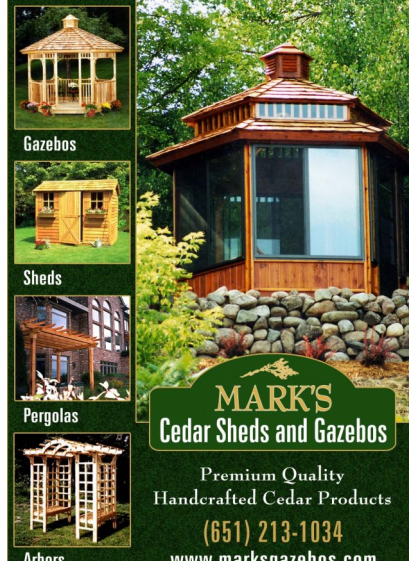


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Please note: For those businesses that pay a yearly business sponsorship of \$100 or more, their business will be listed on our newsletter and website. Please submit via email an ad/business card with your sponsorship to Cheryl at [ckemperich@cbburnet.com](mailto:ckemperich@cbburnet.com). We reserve the right to adjust the ad/business card size to fit our newsletter.

# GREEN LAKE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

## RESIDENT INFORMATION

**Name:**

Contact Phone Number

**Date:**

Current address:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Email address:

How long have you lived here?

## BUSINESS INFORMATION

**Business Name: (for Business Membership)**

**Please attach business card**

Business Name:

Business address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Phone number:

Email:

Contact Name:

## MAILING ADDRESS

Mailing address if different than the one on Green Lake

Address:

Phone:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Email address:

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

Basic Level Membership - (\$ 40.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Preservation Level Membership - (\$75.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Conservation Level Membership - (\$150.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

You can pay by check, PayPal or electronic payment [Go to www.GreenLakeChisago.com](http://www.GreenLakeChisago.com) to make payment by PayPal

Business Level Membership - (\$125.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to GLA.*

**Additional Donations - \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*If you pay by electronic payment, please*

*Thank you for your continued support!*

*fill out form and send it in for our records*

## COMMENTS

Signature:

Date:

Green Lake Association  
P.O. Box 212, Chisago City, MN 55013



Green Lake Association  
P.O. Box 212  
Chisago City, MN 55013

Or Current Resident

**GLA Aluminum Can Recycling**

Green Lake Association earns money from your aluminum cans. Located behind Chisago Warehouse Liquor. (on the corner of the front-age road) look for the container with GLA's name on it. On average we make about \$1000 a year.

## Board Members

Board Member	Office	Phone Number	E-mail
Bruce Meyer	President	651-600-8825	<a href="mailto:BMeyer9806@gmail.com">BMeyer9806@gmail.com</a>
Lori Reichert	Vice President	651-402-7164	<a href="mailto:Lori.Reichert72@gmail.com">Lori.Reichert72@gmail.com</a>
Cheryl Kempenich	Treasurer	612-735-0553	<a href="mailto:CKempenich@cbburnet.com">CKempenich@cbburnet.com</a>
Christine Milam	Secretary	612-804-2982	<a href="mailto:ChristineM@nowmicro.com">ChristineM@nowmicro.com</a>

## Committee Members

Activities & Fundraising	Lake Treatment	Communication
Connie Mayfield	Kevin Murphy	Kemtech—Web Design
Bruce Meyer	Jim Revel	Christine Milam -Newsletter
	Don Schug	Bob Milam—Grant Writing
	Bob Milam	

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