

ANNUAL MEETING MAY 25

Our annual meeting will be held on Saturday, May 25 at the Marysburg Church Hall located south of the lakes on county road 15 to the 4 way stop and take a right. The church and the hall are on the north side of the road.

The meeting will start at 10:00, please come early so we can start on time.

This is your chance to provide feedback on the



2013 Dues

Please join the other property owners who have committed to improving the lakes by joining the Lake Association.

Name _____

Address: _____

Email address _____

___ Annual Dues	\$25
___ Guarantor	\$50
___ Benefactor	\$100
___ Corporate	\$1,000
___ Extra for Siren Fund	<u>\$20</u>

Total \$ _____

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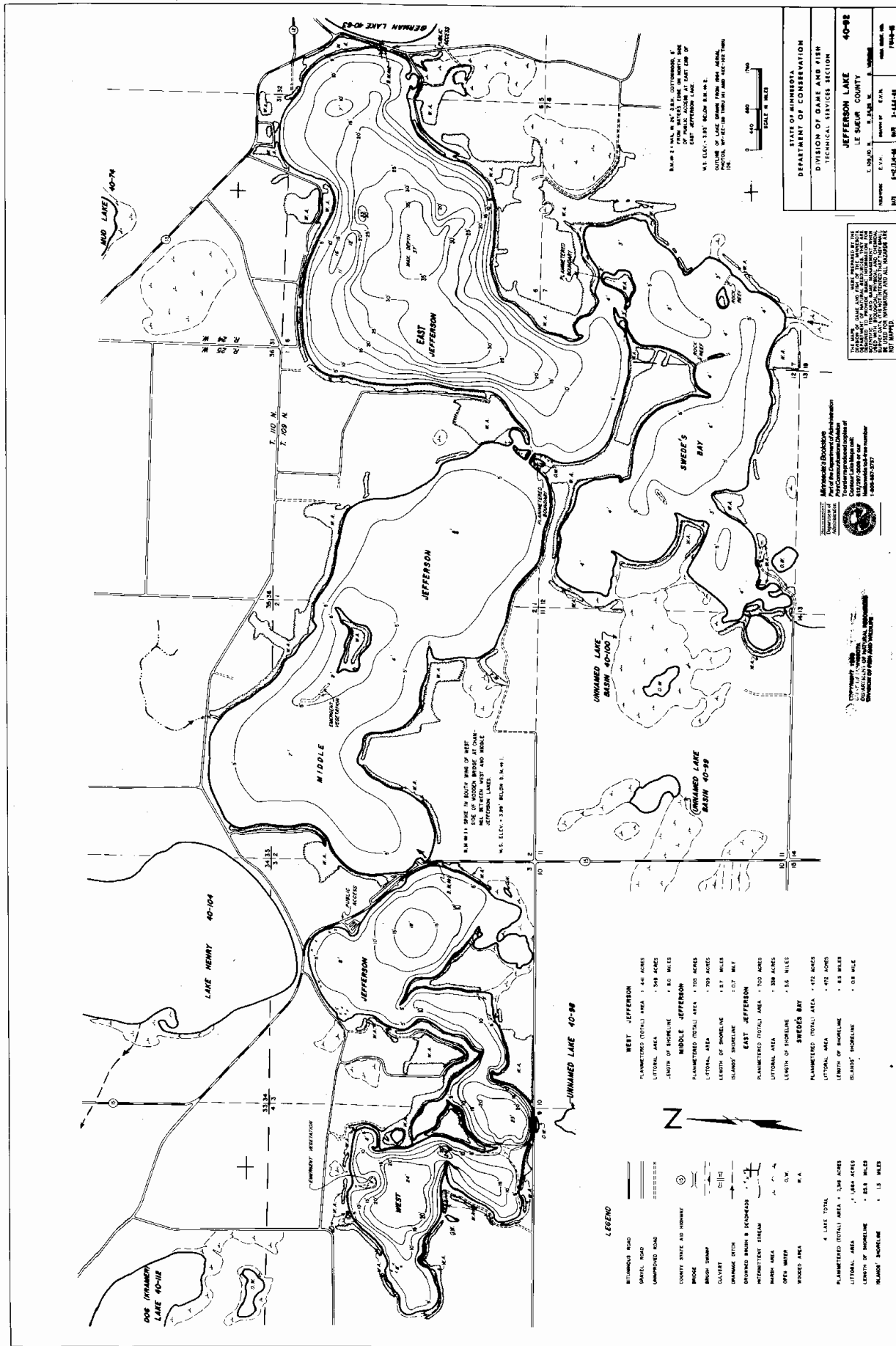
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issues that concern our lakes.

It is also a time to vote on the Association leadership. Several board positions are up for election.

Last year's big project was the cleanout of the boat passes between German and East Jeff as well as the one between West and Middle. (picture above)

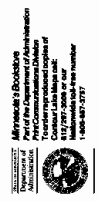


STATE OF MINNESOTA
 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
 DIVISION OF GAME AND FISH
 TECHNICAL SERVICES SECTION

JEFFERSON LAKE 40-98
 LE SUEUR COUNTY
 PROJECT NO. 1-102-10-98
 DATE 1-14-98
 DRAWN BY EJA
 CHECKED BY [blank]
 1994-98

8-0200

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 Division of Game and Fish
 1000 West 7th Street
 St. Paul, MN 55102
 1-800-657-3777

WEST - JEFFERSON	MIDDLE - JEFFERSON	EAST - JEFFERSON	SWEDES BAY
PLANNETED TOTAL AREA - 1.44 ACRES	PLANNETED TOTAL AREA - 1.05 ACRES	PLANNETED TOTAL AREA - 1.00 ACRES	PLANNETED TOTAL AREA - 1.42 ACRES
LITORAL AREA - .80 ACRES	LITORAL AREA - .70 ACRES	LITORAL AREA - .68 ACRES	LITORAL AREA - .83 ACRES
LENGTH OF SHORELINE - 1.80 MILES	LENGTH OF SHORELINE - 1.87 MILES	LENGTH OF SHORELINE - 1.56 MILES	LENGTH OF SHORELINE - 1.08 MILE
ISLANDS' SHORELINE - .07 MILE	ISLANDS' SHORELINE - .07 MILE	ISLANDS' SHORELINE - .07 MILE	ISLANDS' SHORELINE - .08 MILE

LEGEND

WINDMILL ROAD	UNNAMED LAKE 40-98
STATE ROAD	UNNAMED LAKE 40-104
COMPLETED ROAD	UNNAMED LAKE 40-102
COUNTY STATE AND HIGHWAY	UNNAMED LAKE 40-100
BRIDGE	UNNAMED LAKE 40-99
WADSWORTH SWAMP	
CULVERT	
UNNAMED PITS	
UNNAMED BASIN & BASKWOODS	
HYDROENTRANT STATION	
BASIN AREA	
OPEN WATER	
WOODED AREA	

Letters and Opinions

Letters and emails:

Thank you for your interest in farm and stream health in the Upper Mississippi River Basin.

More than ever before, taking care of this place we call home requires listening and collaboration. We believe it's time for conservation organizations to think differently and create new, more flexible ways to support landowners. And landowners must speak up, decide what will improve their operations and the streams that flow through them, and take action on their land and in their neighborhoods.

Fishers & Farmers Partnership for the Upper Mississippi River Basin, working with others, supports those efforts with organizational, technical and financial support.

Our goal is to keep farm profitability high and soil and nutrients on the land. We see that landowners want this, and they're finding creative ways to manage their operations with farm and fish health in mind—acting on what they believe.

We also see that more work gets done when landowners take the lead. Cooperative planning and purchasing reduces costs, farm operations improve, communities grow stronger, funders and others listen, and projects "sell themselves."

In the months ahead, we hope you'll look for ways farms and streams can be improved together. Listen! Support new thinking, conversation, and projects that benefit farms and streams. We'll do the same, and we'll keep you updated with stories and information that support the work. When you have a few moments, please take a look at our Annual Review and sign up for our monthly e-news clips (fishersandfarmers.org) if you are interested. We look forward to hearing from you.

In partnership,

--

Heidi L. Keuler
Fishery Biologist - Fishers & Farmers Partnership Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
La Crosse Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office
555 Lester Avenue
Onalaska, WI 54650
Phone: 608-783-8417
Fax: 608-783-8450
<http://fishersandfarmers.org/>
Heidi_Keuler@fws.gov



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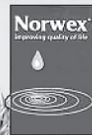
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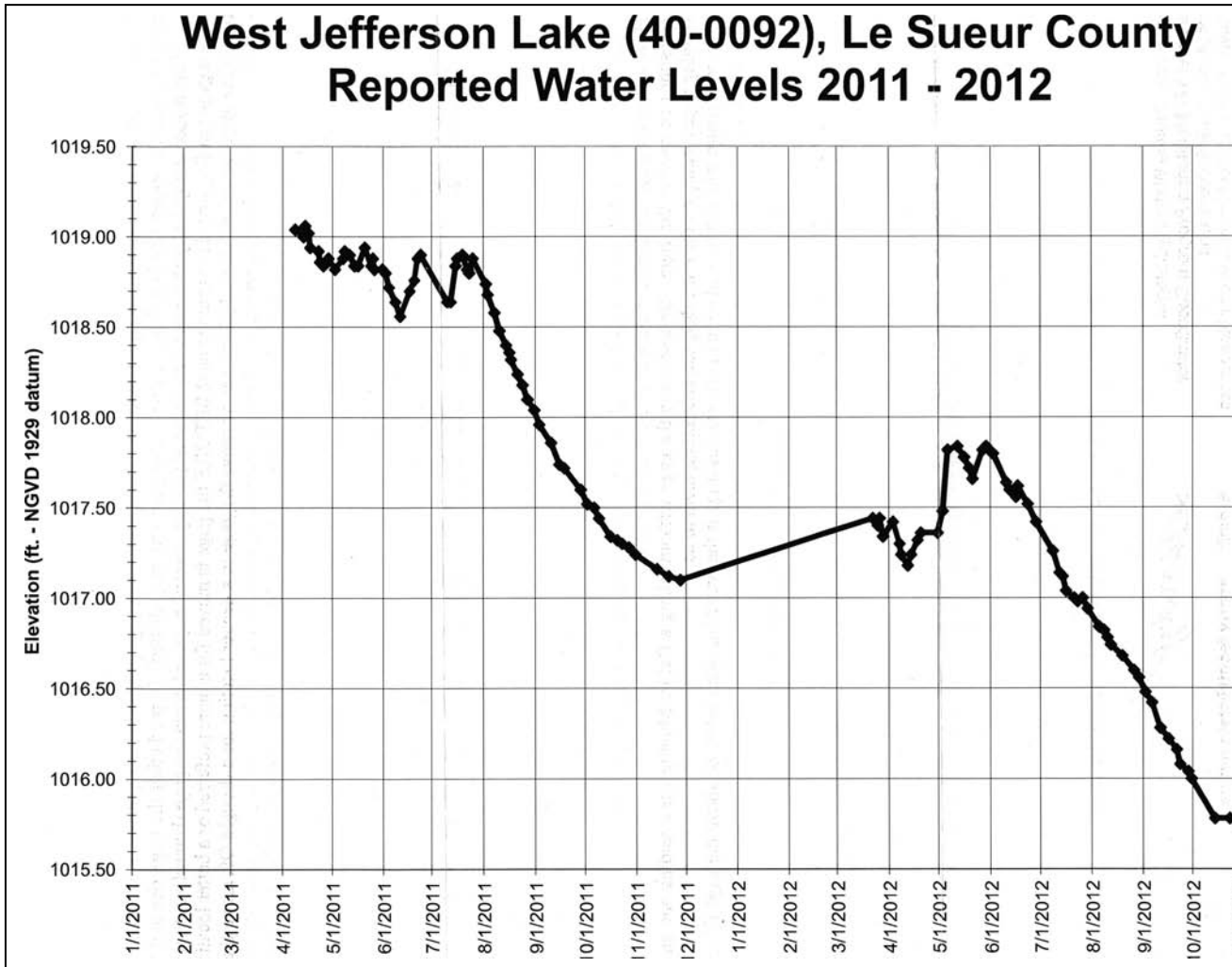
Water Conservation the Old Fashioned Way

In this high tech age we are living in we sometimes forget that there are some low tech solutions to our problems. One low tech solution to water conservation that also cuts down on runoff is to use rain barrels. Back in the “old days” homes had cisterns and barrels to catch roof runoff for drinking and washing water as well as watering the garden. Today, we use city water or well water for most of our drinking and washing needs. However, rain barrels are a great way to save some of the water that runs off your roofs to take care of the gardens. An added bonus is that the water collected by the rain barrels is water that then does NOT runoff driveways and streets picking up pollutants like oils, fertilizer, chemicals, etc. In many cases, the runoff carries these pollutants right to the rivers or lakes that the storm sewers drain into. When you use a rain barrel the runoff from the roof goes down a gutter pipe and into the barrel. If it's a really heavy rain the barrel will fill up then the rest goes out the overflow hose onto a grassy area. The barrel is then full of soft water you can use to fill watering cans and water your garden. Rain barrels come in all shapes, sizes and materials such as plastic or oak from whiskey barrels. Most that I've seen are the 55- gallon size, but I know one Northfielder who's built a 250 gallon tank for watering a large garden. Some people hook up a few in a series. The plastic ones can be decorated with plastic patio furniture paint then painted over with whatever scene your creativity comes up with. The Cannon River Watershed Partnership will be hosting some rain barrel building workshops this coming year. For dates, times and location information check out our website at www.crowp.net or give me a call at (507) 786-3913. If you don't see one that works for you give us a call - we are available to do a workshop for groups of 10 or more.



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Recent Lake Level History



“Lake Watch” alerts

So far we have 259 valid email addresses who have signed up for our “Lake Watch” email alerts. Thanks for your interest.

If you are not receiving alerts, please let me know.

Lake Watch” email list. Contact the Lake Association if you would like to be on the “Lake Watch” list.
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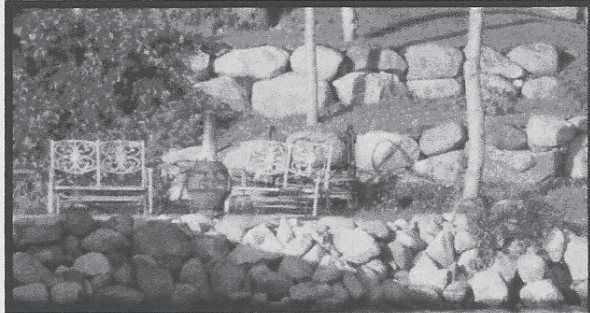


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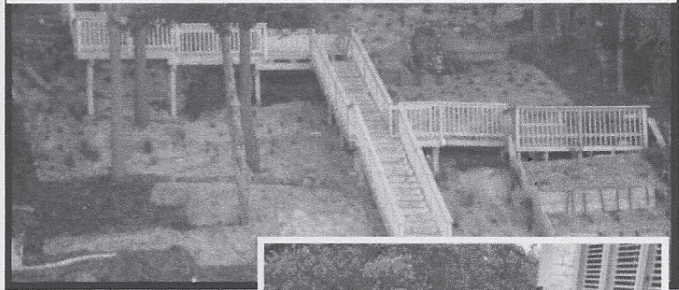
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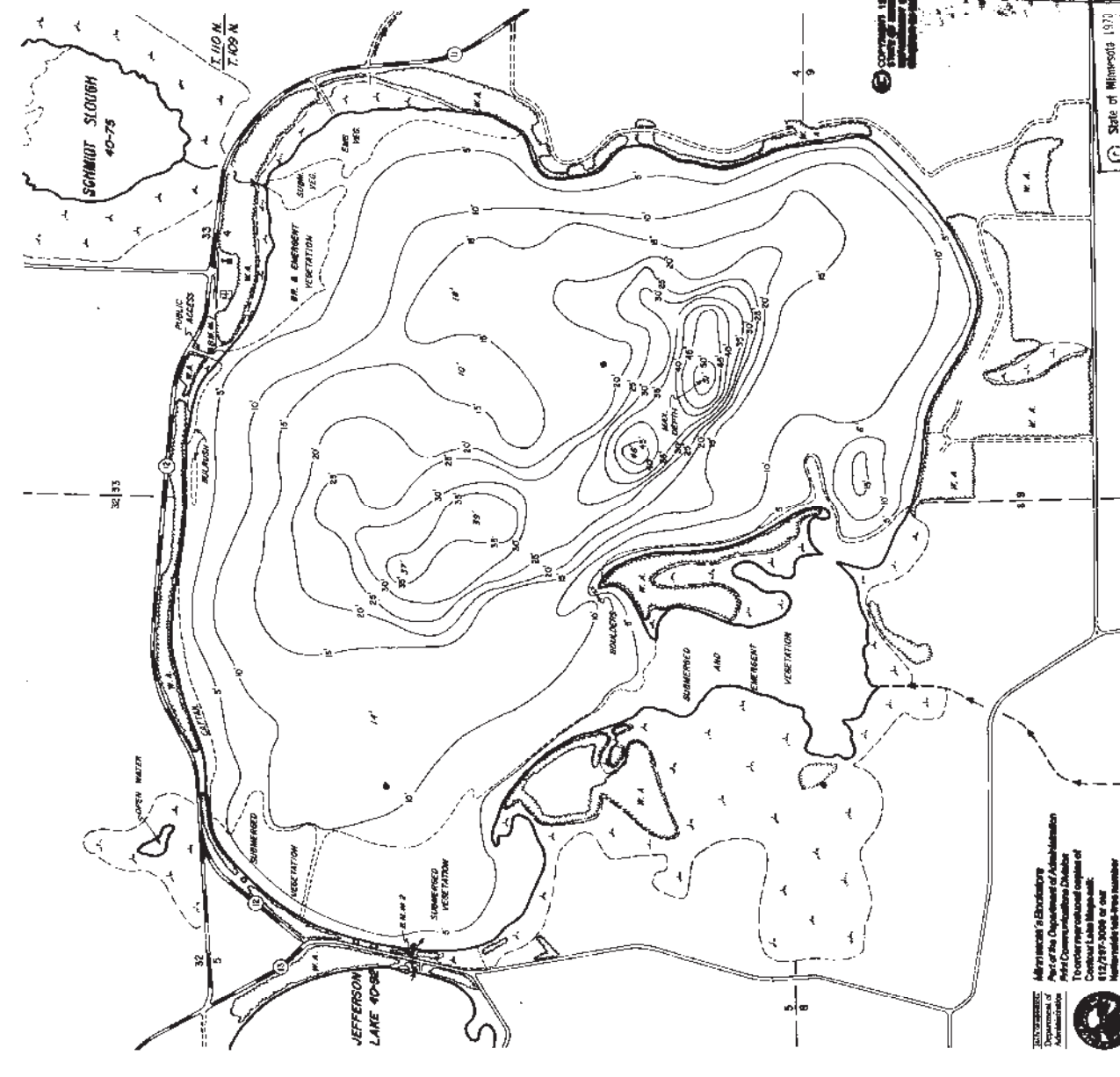
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- LENGTH OF SHORELINE
- ISLANDS SHORELINE
- B.M. #1: STAKE IN FINDER POLE 40' FROM WATER'S EDGE AT PUBLIC ACCESS ON NORTH SIDE OF LAKE.
- W.S. ELEV: 4.8' BELOW B.M.#1.
- B.M. #2: WATER GAUGE ON NORTH WING OF EAST SIDE OF CONCRETE BRIDGE AT INLET ON WEST SIDE OF LAKE.
- W.S. ELEV: READING OF 270' ON WATER GAUGE.



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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION	
DIVISION OF GAME AND FISH	
TECHNICAL SERVICES SECTION	
GERMAN LAKE 40-83	
LE SUEUR COUNTY	
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C-0432

Little Jefferson 4th of July Boat Parade

Decorate in red, white and blue or pick a theme and be creative!

1:30 registration at floating dock
2:00 parade starts

Stop by floating dock after parade to see if your boat has won!



If you have questions or would like to donate a prize,
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See you on the lake!

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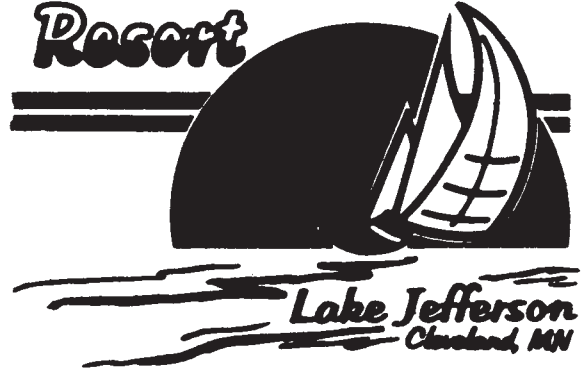
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Waterville State Fish Hatchery

- Facility was built in 1954, major upgrades done in 1989, 1998, and 2012. Facility includes an iron filter, hatchery house, headquarter building, multiple stall garage and bullpen, 15 ponds that range in size from one acre to ten acres.
- Annual production:
 - Take and incubate up to 4 million northern pike eggs, which are hatched and held up to swimup stage
 - Incubate between 125,000 and 450,000 muskellunge eggs and hold to swimup stage; start between 120,000 and 175,000 muskellunge fry. Rear between 75,000 and 120,000 muskellunge transplants (1.75-4.5 inch fingerlings)
 - Hatch between 30 and 45 million walleye fry. Rear between 75,000 and 400,000 walleye frylings (1-1.75 inch fingerlings) in drainable ponds. Rear between 800 and 1,500 pound of walleye fingerlings (4-6 inch fingerlings) in drainable ponds.
 - Maintain year around, 75-100 certified disease free channel catfish adults for yearly eggtake. Hatch between 20,000 and 40,000 channel catfish eggs. Rear between 10,000 and 20,000 channel catfish fingerlings (3.5-4.5 inch fingerlings)
- Where do the fish go?
 - Northern pike – Waterville’s 9 county area, occasionally other lakes in southern Minnesota
 - Walleye – southern Minnesota, occasionally metro and other areas.
 - Channel catfish – primarily reared for a federal mussel recovery program in Wisconsin; occasionally stocked in southern Minnesota
 - Muskellunge - statewide
- What are the life stages of a fish?
 - Egg, sac fry, swimup fry, fingerling, yearling adult
- Where do you get your water?
 - An 8.3 acre pond is filled with well water for use in the hatchery. Other various grow out ponds are filled with water taken from Lake Tetonka. In the fall, when the ponds are drained, the water is returned to Lake Tetonka.
- How many people work here?
 - A Fisheries Supervisor and Assistant Supervisor, a Hatchery Specialist, a Fisheries Specialist, a Fisheries Technician, an Office Administrative Specialist, a Seasonal Laborer, and during summer, one to three Fisheries Interns.



Rain gage 2013

Month	Rain	Snow
January	0.80	1.25
February	1.34	12.6
March	2.11	12.5
April up to 24th	8.80	19.5
May	0	0.00
June	0	0.00
July	0	0.00
August	0	0.00
September	0	0.00
October	0	0.00
November	0	0.25

Nature Notes – Freshwater Mussels

Sandie Gibbs

Last fall's drought shrunk the lake leaving a great gravel walking path around the edge. On a sunny day last October we walked down to see how many additional feet of beach we'd acquired. A neighbor's dock was totally out of the water – no need to 'take it in' this year. And then I noticed an empty mussel shell in the sand. Pearly white, hinged sides still intact. Another open shell lay in a few inches of water. I picked up a couple more halves and set them aside for the grandkids to see.

They arrived a couple days later to jump in the leaves by the lake. We took a break from jumping and strolled along the beach. I pointed out the few large shells I'd found earlier. It didn't take them long to find several on their own. They had been to Florida just weeks before hunting for shark's teeth and shells on the gulf coast. It was fun to see them excited about finding shells on Lake Jefferson.

Miniscule shells glistened in the sun. One very large mussel, still wet at the edge of the lake, was still alive. I tossed it into deeper water after photographing it.

This January we hiked across the lakes from West Jefferson to East Jefferson and mussel shells were evident as we hugged the shoreline. I thought we were finding clams until I started to do some research.

These are freshwater mussels, which are related to clams, snails and the octopus. Mussels produce pearls, clams don't. We found two quite different species along the shores of West Jefferson – one about 4-inches long, and very thick shelled. The type used to make buttons. We found several still hinged together– until the our grandchildren swiftly broke them apart. The other type, measuring closer to 5-inches, is more fragile with a rounded shape and paper-thin shell you could easily break with one hand.

We occasionally find mussels while swimming, stepping on a 'smooth rock' that turned out to be alive. But we've never seen so many empty shells along the shoreline. We are guessing the mussels have stayed put in their 'mussel bed' while the waters receded, making them easier pickings for predators. According to the DNR, muskrats, raccoons, otters, ducks, and wading birds all count on mussels as a major food source. Several animal tracks were clearly recorded in the damp mud where we found empty shells. We recognized raccoon tracks for sure and what we think may be mink, opossum or muskrat tracks. I took photos for later identification. We've often witnessed muskrats diving and surfacing near shore – likely feasting.

Facts: Freshwater Mussels

- Long-lived, from 10 – 100 years
- Bivalve, meaning two shells
- Related to clams, snails, & octopus
- Spend most of their time in the same area or 'mussel bed'
- Move on singular, muscular foot to find deeper water
- 297 known species in North America
- 48 native species in Minnesota
- 25 are on state's endangered, threatened, special concern list
- Excellent indicator of the health of aquatic ecosystems
- Nature's water filters, can filter several gallons of water per day
- Not for human consumption, due to toxic contaminants stored in tissues
- Button makers almost wiped out the mussel population in the midwest in the 1930's

Sources: www.dnr.state.mn.us and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service www.fws.gov



The life cycle of mussels is very interesting. The mother releases the fertilized young into the water next to a passing host fish, where they attach to the gills or skin and remain for two to ten months to a juvenile stage. Amazing, since mussels don't have eyes to see. Each mussel species has their own specific host fish. Then they drop off to survive on their own.

Some mussel species must have running water such as a brook or river to pass phytoplankton by them to survive. Only a few species do fine burrowing into the mud bottom of lakes like Jefferson, allowing a botanical garden of algae to grow on their shells and creating habitat for other aquatic life.

You must have a valid fishing license to possess 24-whole or 48-half shells. No live mussels can be collected in Minnesota. And it is illegal to collect any of the 25 species included on the state's 'endangered, threatened, or of special concern' list.

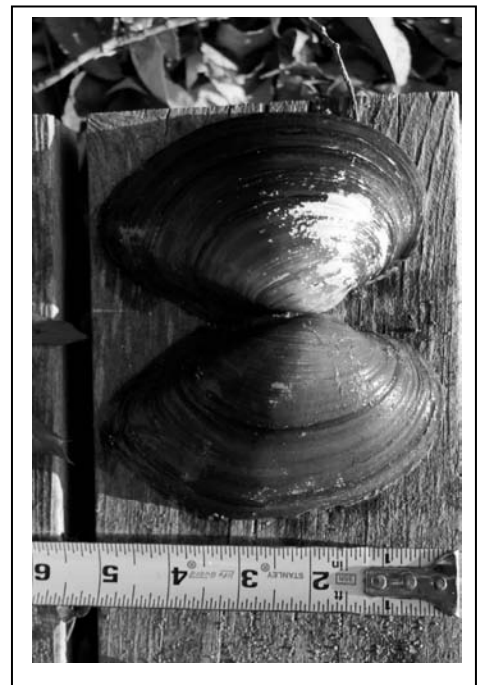
The six species listed by the DNR as native to Le Sueur County have unique names: Elktoe, Monkeyface, Mucket, and Pistolgrip are all threatened. The Yellow Sandshell is endangered. The Hickorynut is of special concern. The DNR says it is difficult to tell some common mussels from those on the list, so it's best to just leave shells where you find them.

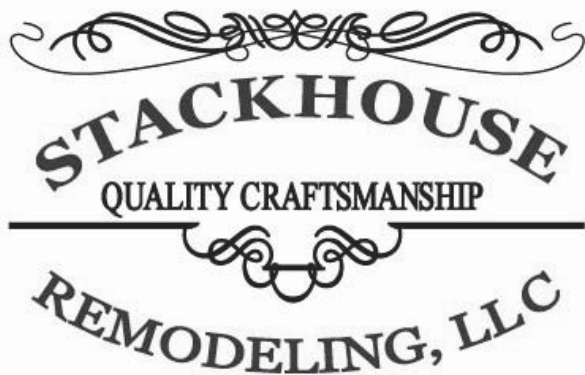
A full color poster on Freshwater Mussels of Minnesota is available by request at:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/pubsrequest.html>

Recommended reading: *Mussel Bound* – Young Naturalists article in July/August 2000 issue of Minnesota Conservation Volunteer available online:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/young_naturalists/mussels/index.html





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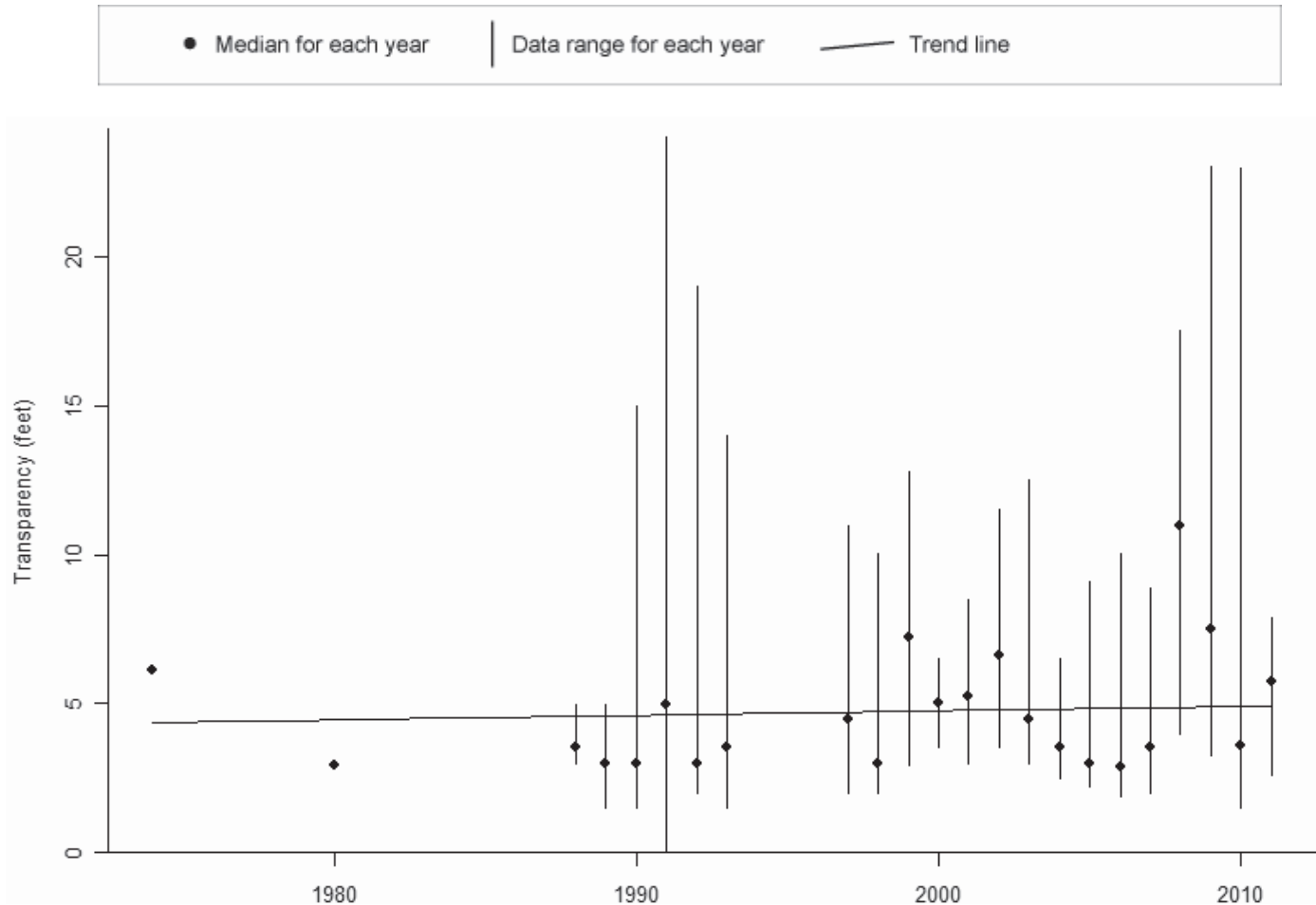
East Jefferson, Getting Better or Worse?

Transparency Trends from the MPCA

These graphs show statistical changes in transparency over time at this site and across its watershed. For sites and watersheds with at least 8 years of data, the graphs include a trend line, which shows the direction of detected changes in transparency (increasing, decreasing, or no change).

Lake Transparency Trend

Trend analysis result: The median transparency at this lake from 1974 to 2011 increased by 0.00 feet per decade. Given the variability over these years, there is no evidence yet of a long-term trend in either direction.



To do list:

- Pay Lake Association dues.
- Clean up low water areas
- Check my boat and trailer for exotic species every time I launch.
- Encourage county commissioners to move up the County 104 project.
- Encourage the County to take over the storm siren maintenance and insurance as a matter of Public Safety.
- Check my own property for opportunities to prevent nutrient run-off into the lake.
- Send news and articles for future newsletters to Buster.

Le Sueur County Commissioners

District 1:

David Gliszinski
28481 141st Ave
New Prague, MN 56071
Phone: (952) 212-1953
Commissioner of: City of New Prague, City of Heidelberg, Lanesburgh Township

District 2:

Joe Connolly
36966 261st Ave.
Le Sueur, MN 56058
Phone: (507) 665-6150
Commissioner of: City of Montgomery, Montgomery Township, Sharon Township, Lexington Township, and Ottawa Township

District 3:

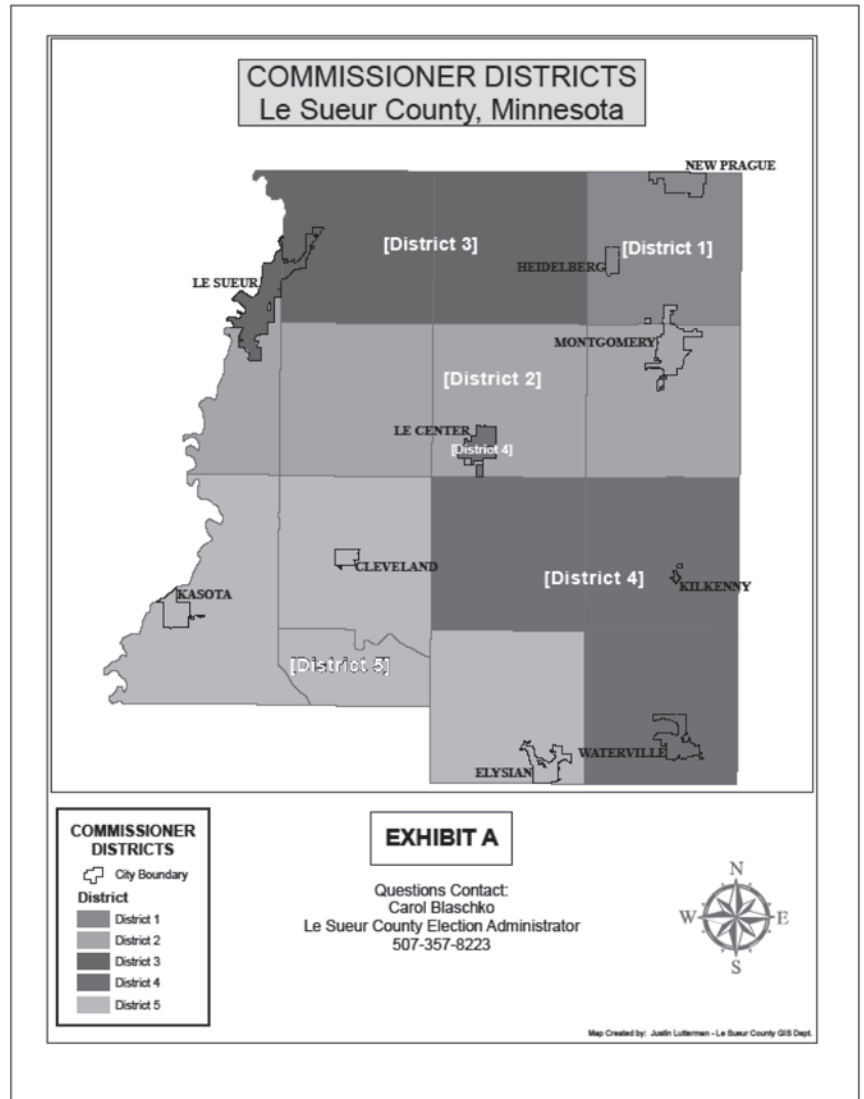
John King
403 Ferry St
Le Sueur, MN 56058
Phone: (507) 665-2256
Commissioner of: City of Le Sueur,
Derrynane Township and Tyrone
Township

District 4:

Lance Wetzel
295 Rolling Hills Drive South
Le Center, MN 56057
Phone: (507) 357-6621
Commissioner of: City of Le Center,
City of Waterville, City of Kilkenny,
Waterville Township, Kilkenny
Township and Cordova Township

District 5:

Steven J. Rohlfing
28020 Maple Lane
Madison Lake, MN 56063
Phone: (507) 317-5095
Commissioner of: City of Kasota, City
of Cleveland, City of Elysian, City of
Mankato, Elysian Township,
Washington Township, Kasota
Township and Cleveland Township



2013 Dues

Please join the other property owners who have committed to improving the lakes by joining the Lake Association.

Name _____

Address: _____

Email address _____

___ Annual Dues \$25

___ Guarantor \$50

___ Benefactor \$100

___ Corporate \$1,000

___ Extra for Siren Fund \$20

Total \$ _____

Please send this page and your check to:

Larry Wasmund (treasurer)
28275 464th St.
Cleveland MN 56017

Make checks payable to:

Greater Jefferson German Lakes Association

Or to:

GJGLA

You may also register online at:
<http://jgla.org>

You may use your credit card to pay online.

Board of Directors 2012-13

Term expires 2014

Scott Hass (President)

Storm Sirens, Lake Management Plan, Sportsmen Club
3565 E. 260th St
Webster MN 55088 952-461-6330
scott.hass@hickorytech.net

Buster West (Vice President)

Newsletter, Website content
46451 Evergreen Lane
Cleveland, MN 56017 507-934-4251
buster@hickorytech.net

Arne Jessen (Secretary)

COLA representative, Lake Management Plan
46256 Beaver Dam Road
Cleveland MN 56017 507-931-6408
arnemeryl@yahoo.com

Term expires 2013

Bud Warmka

28246 Cedar Trail
Cleveland MN 56017 507-931-0995
bwarmka@mediacombb.net

Steve Schulte

Summer Fishing Contest
47826 Outback Lane
Elysian, MN 56028 507-931-6306
scubaschulte@hotmail.com

Rick Connors

Nutrient runoff from farms, summer fishing contest
46463 Cape Horn Road
Cleveland MN 56017 507-380-9962

Larry Wasmund (Treasurer)

Sewer Board, Septic Inventory, Roads and bridges
28275 464th Street
Cleveland MN 56017 507-469-0205
imlakingit@myclearwave.net

Bob Schuttloffel

46942 Glens Beach Road
Waterville MN 56096 507-362-4917
bobandee@frontiernet.com

Greater Jefferson German Lakes Ass'n
315 South Minnesota Avenue
Attn: Buster West
St. Peter MN 56082

Return Service Requested

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Mankato, MN
Permit no. 66



Website: <http://jgla.org>

email: lakeassociation@hickorytech.net

Mission Statement

The mission and purpose of the Association is to:

- Promote and coordinate water management, water quality, and water control in the Jefferson German lakes water basin.
- Further communication between members of the Association and other parties interested in the Jefferson German lakes water basin.
- And do all other things of common interest and benefit with regard to water management, water quality, and water control regarding the Jefferson German lakes water basin.