

Windigo Lake Area Newsletter –Spring 2022

(For property owners and friends of Windigo Lake, Lake 27, and Hub Lake)



Windigo, an Island Lake with Natural Shoreline

Windigo Lake Area Courtesies:

Dedicated to preserving, protecting and enjoying our beautiful lakes.

- R** *Respect:* Consideration for other people
- E** *Environment:* Enjoy wildlife from a distance
- S** *Safety:* Heed the DNR regulations
- P** *Peace:* Remember - noise travels over water
- E** *Enjoy:* Have fun
- C** *Catch and Release:* Preserve our fishery
- T** *Trash:* Take it home; keep it out of the lake

CURRENT REMINDERS:

- 1) Membership renewal letters were mailed out February.
- 2) Our Spring Dinner is set for 4/30/22 at Trailways.
- 3) Hold the date for our Annual Meeting and Summer Picnic on Sat 8/13/2022 at the Persells Family home on Windigo.

Winter 2022 Index:

- President's Commentary
- Spring Dinner
- Annual Meeting recap
- Lake Tides Article - Turtles
- Membership
- Treasurer Report
- Lake Environment
- Fish and Wildlife Committee
- Loon and Wildlife Reports
- Volunteers Needed
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- Maps

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 30, 2022 – Spring Dinner
- August 13, 2022 – Annual Meeting and Summer Picnic at the Persells Family Home

PRESIDENT COMMENTARY

Patrick Steininger



Happy Winter and Spring to all!

I hope everyone is having a good start to the year 2022. I'm sure all of the Winter enthusiasts enjoyed the cold and snow in North Woods and Hayward area.

I don't mind winter, but always have Memorial Day circled on my calendar and look forward to the start of the summer season. There are a lot of great items and updates in this newsletter, and we are always looking for volunteers for the Association so if you are interested please let me know.

I was sorry to hear Ted Schwenker passed away, one of our first neighbors of the Steiningers' on Tamarack Trail. In fact our road didn't really have a name back then, so that does go back a few years. Prayers to the Schwenker Family.

Have a safe and healthy New Year!

Patrick Steininger WLPOA President

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Please join us for the Spring Dinner: Saturday April 30, 2022

Barb Pjevach



Let's try again! Hoping that the pandemic will be under control by the end of April, we are again planning to hold our Spring Dinner on the weekend before the fishing opener so that we can more easily hold the dinner at a local restaurant. (Many restaurants are reluctant to reserve a room for our dinner on the weekend of opening fishing). Trailways is willing to give us their whole restaurant for our dinner. Our speaker will be Allison Slavik, Director of the Sustainable Telemark Project of the American Birkebeiner Foundation. Please join us at Trailways on the evening of April 30! If you have misplaced your reservation form, see the attached form to the emailed version of this newsletter or email us at info@windigolake.org. Please

return your reservation form and check by April 15, 2022.

WLPOA Annual Meeting August 7, 2021

Barb Pjevach

We have attached the minutes of our annual meeting held Saturday August 7, 2021 at the home of Dennis and DeAnn Persells. 34 people attended and we hope that as the pandemic gets more in control that more can come this next summer. The Annual meeting and picnic this coming summer will again be at Persells on Saturday August 13, 2022.

We had lots of good discussion and dialogue during the meeting and after at the picnic. Thanks to all who came!

Topics covered at the meeting were:

- Secretary Report
- Treasurer Report
- Nominating
- Committee Reports
 - Membership
 - Lake Environment – Loon Update
 - Fish and Wildlife
 - Social
- New Business
 - Oak Wilt Update
 - ATV petition for Ochu Road
- Old Business
 - ATV Trail update
 - John Adams Windigo Physical History Project. Note we have attached John’s history paper to the email with this newsletter. If you only have a hard copy of this newsletter, email us at info@windigolake.org and we will send a copy to you.

RECENT LAKE TIDES NEWSLETTER – ALL ABOUT TURTLES

Barb Pjevach

The University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point and the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership publish a quarterly newsletter called Lake Tides with great information about Wisconsin Lakes. You can subscribe to their newsletters for free. The link to this information and to download the most current newsletter is:

<https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/resources/newsletter/default.aspx>.

In the last summer’s newsletter they had an article about turtles and we thought it could be of interest because of the various turtles we see in our lakes. You can read the article in the last Lake Tides Summer Newsletter by clicking this link: <https://www3.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Documents/resources/newsletter/vol46-vol50/vol46-3summer2021web.pdf#page=8>

Here are a few excerpts from the article.

Turtles are a keystone species keeping our waters clean. But threats to them exist and we can all help



them survive. These important reptiles provide a role in the aquatic food web that is essential to an entire chain of linked species, habitats, and ecosystem services. Without turtles in our waterways, they can degrade and collapse, and other species' populations and ecosystem functions can be lost. Turtles help maintain water quality by removing sources of harmful bacteria when they eat carcasses of fish and other animals that die in our waterways. Turtles are also essential in keeping fish habitat and wetland areas thriving! As turtles get older, they eat progressively more seeds and vegetable matter, rather than protein. They cycle nutrients in their guts and shells, and with the seeds in their guts, they spread new plants around as they move through their home range.

Most of Wisconsin's turtle species breed in late May through June, and they often move across roads to lay their eggs in nests on higher ground like roadsides. Road mortality is a leading cause of their decline. The predation of turtle nests by raccoons, fox, skunks, and coyotes is another major problem.

You can make a difference in turtle conservation on our local waterbody by increasing their habitat with fish sticks and other tree drop projects, bolstering native aquatic vegetation, and being mindful and watchful when you see them crossing roads or building nests.

MEMBERSHIP

Anne Marie and Mike Fries

Thanks to everyone who chose to be a member of WLPOA this past year. We had 80 paid members in 2021.

The annual dues letter was sent out in February via mail. If you did not receive one please contact Anne Marie Fries at amf291@gmail.com. We have also attached one to the email if you receive an emailed version of this newsletter.

The membership fee of \$25.00 is a small price to pay to help preserve our lakes and support our property owners. We are very lucky to still be AIS free and have a community that cares about continuing the health and beauty of Windigo and surrounding lakes.

WLPOA serves property owners on Windigo Lake, Hub Lake, and Lake 27 by promoting communication and cooperation among lakeshore owners and by working with the DNR and local government to maintain lake quality and protect our lake from invasive aquatic weeds. WLPOA, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization so your membership donation may be tax-deductible as provided by law.



Courtesy of Bob Lewis

TREASURER REPORT

Kris Soegaard

WLPOA’s annual income through December 31, 2021 is summarized below:

- We received a total of \$4,830.00 in member contributions, which consisted of the following:
 - \$2,000 in dues from members.
 - Donations to the Fish Management Fund in the amount of \$1,268.
 - Donations to the Invasive Species Fund in the amount of \$1,403.
 - Undesignated donations of \$25.00.
 - Donations to Friends of Windigo of \$135.
- Contributions for 2021 were slightly higher than those received in 2020 (\$4,780).



Green Heron on Windigo

We are grateful to all of our members for their continued support of WLPOA. Thank you!

The DNR Clean Boats Clean Water Grant we received in 2020 was extended by the DNR for use in 2021 since the 2020 grant was not used during 2020 because of the COVID pandemic. WLPOA uses this grant to fund the monitoring of our boat landing. The grant is 75% funded by the DNR with a 25% match provided by WLPOA. There is a \$3,000 cap on the amount that the DNR will spend each year. Our match can be satisfied with cash or by supplying “in-kind” donations of volunteer labor. Donated labor must be related to boat landing monitoring and cannot include time donated toward AIS monitoring or other activities beneficial to Windigo.

As of December 15, 2021, WLPOA had the following account balances. The balances reflect the transfer of 2021 member donations to the Fish Management Reserve and the Invasive Species Reserve from the General Fund (Checking).

WLPOA Account Balances	Amount
General Fund (Checking)	\$3,099.04
Dedicated Fish Management Reserve (Savings Account)	\$7,616.22
Dedicated Invasive Species Reserve (Savings Account)	\$14,827.77
DNR Grant for 2021 (active)	\$750.00
Total on Deposit	\$26,293.03

LAKE ENVIRONMENT

Colleen Graham

Clean boats, Clean Waters Grant

WLPOA has again been approved for a Clean Boats, Clean Waters grant which will help to pay for our boat landing monitor in 2022. The landing will be staffed on most weekends and holidays from fishing opener through Labor Day. WLPOA is responsible for 25% of the cost which can either be paid from our operating funds or through volunteer hours. If you are interested in logging some volunteer hours as a monitor, contact a board member for more info.

Decontamination Stations

Sawyer County recently passed an ordinance regarding decontamination stations at boat landings. The ordinance doesn't require the stations to be installed; however, if a decontamination station is available and stocked, it must be used to clean the vessel before entering and exiting the waterbody. Failure to use the station could result in a warning followed by fines for repeated offenses. Washburn, Bayfield, and Ashland counties already passed a similar ordinance. The WLPOA board is investigating whether to install a station at the Windigo landing and what type of station would be most effective.

FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE

Paul Martin

Greetings!

There were several home owners who contacted me after seeing a DNR shock boat this fall. I contacted Max Wolter (DNR Fish Biologist) to confirm if there was an actual survey taken. He confirmed that it did happen and we discussed the results. Many factors are involved with the processing of the data from the study, but it did show a decline in Walleye reproduction from the previous years. Without any more studies that would target the adult fish population (Fyke netting in the spring) it is hard to determine the health of the fish population in Windigo. The fishing pressure is heavy, and coupled with the recent data from the shock survey suggests a decline in adult Walleye and Largemouth Bass. More surveys are needed to determine more accurate population estimates. This latest survey supports the theory of the slow decline in our fish population, making catch and release a very important tool in keeping our fishery healthy.

LOON AND WILDLIFE REPORTS

Barb Pjevach

This past fall was active with waterfowl. We had broods of wood ducks, mallard ducks, merganzers, and buffleheads until they migrated to warmer winter homes. We believe that we had one young loon born to the lake survive and migrate this past fall.

Ermine were also spotted frolicking. Eagles have been soaring around the eastern side of Windigo and on/near the island with the old nest.

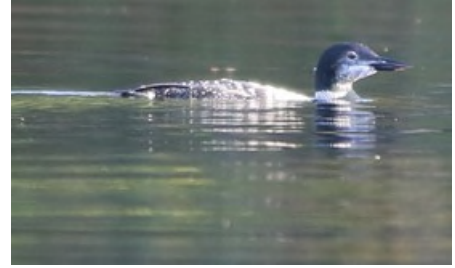


Buffleheads courtesy of Bob Lewis

At the current time, various birds that call our woods home are prevalent, but we will need to wait until spring and open water to see our wide variety of water birds again.

Loon Watch

As a reminder, our Lake 27, Windigo and Hub Lakes Loon Watch volunteer is Marilyn Konkler. Please contact her at **mkonkler55@gmail.com** with your loon sightings and observations this coming spring and summer. Marilyn is also looking for someone to take over her Loon Watch Volunteer role. It can be very fun and you can contact her to learn more about it.



Young Loon on Windigo Fall 2021

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

In addition to the openings below, many of our Board members have served for many years and we would really like some new people to join in on the fun and continue to help WLPOA help all of us. Please consider volunteering for the WLPOA Board or volunteer to help with part of any of the roles. The Board does a lot of communications by email and we can shift roles to accommodate your interests and talents. None of the roles are very time-consuming. In addition to existing Board members who have been in roles a long-time, we have the following specific openings:

Vice President: We would also welcome someone who would want to start as Vice President with the desire to move into the President role later.

Clean Boats Clean Water (CBCW) Volunteer: Assist the Lake Environment Board Member with managing the boat landing monitor, entering data into the DNR SWIMS database, assisting the Treasurer in administrating the annual CBCW grant.

Welcome Volunteers: Reach out to new property owners with information about our lakes.

Social Chair: Coordinate the Annual Meeting/Picnic and Spring Dinner.

We try to make sure that we split up various WLPOA responsibilities and help one another to ensure the time commitment with any of these positions to be minimal. Please consider joining us and helping with one of these roles! You can contact any Board member to ask questions about roles and express interest. Otherwise, you can always email us at info@windigolake.org and we can forward your request to the appropriate person.

PASSINGS

We have lost a couple of our Windigo neighbors in recent months, Gail Allen and Ted Schwenker. Our prayers and thoughts are with their families.

Here are links to their obituaries:

Gail Allen: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/madison/name/gail-allen-obituary?id=32177647>

Ted Schwenker: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/twincities/name/theodore-schwenker-obituary?id=32237348>

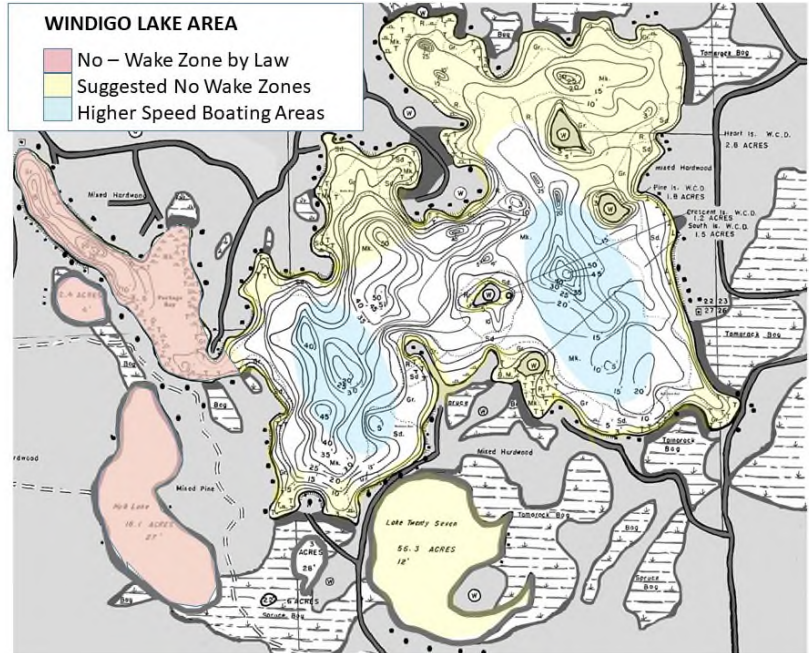
WINDIGO LAKE AREA MAPS

Barb Pjevach

CONTOURED MAP

We have previously distributed a contoured lake map for fishing and boating. We encourage all property owners to keep this map visible and show it to guests. If you would like to print off additional copies, [CLICK HERE](#) or go to this URL:

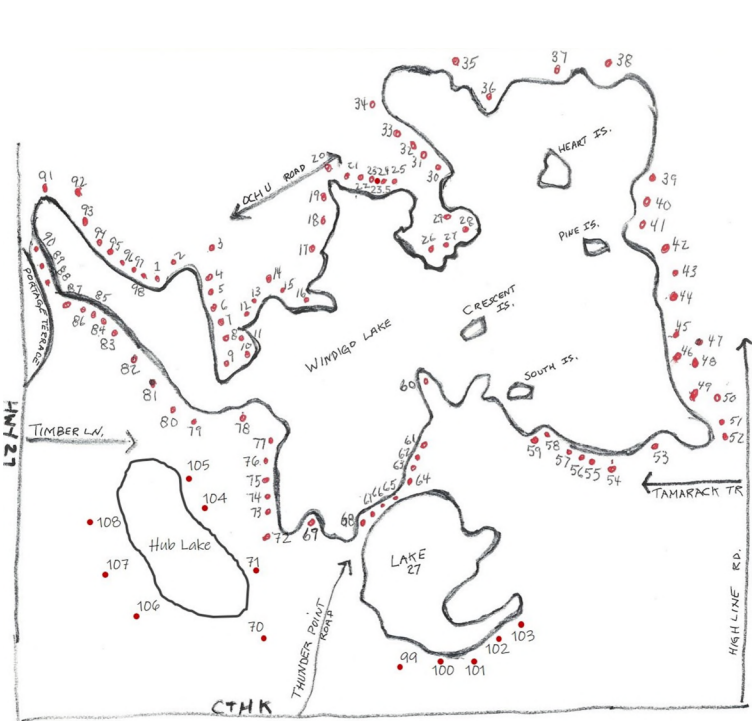
<https://tinyurl.com/yadfxmws> to download the map and lake courtesies.



PROPERTY OWNERS MAP AND LISTING

We have updated the numbered map and listing of property owners as of August 2020. [CLICK HERE](#) or go to this URL: <https://tinyurl.com/yceth574> to download the one page map and list.

For those of us preferring a slightly larger version, [CLICK HERE](#) or go to this URL: <https://tinyurl.com/y76usowp> for the 2 page version.



Street	Fire#	Owner 8/2020	Map #
Tanager Trail	15935N	Joseph E & Joan L Wallf	1
Tanager Trail	15981 W	Dennis and De Ann Penzels	2
Ochu Rd	8185 N	Dave & Sarah Amelotte	3
Ochu Rd	8163 N	Jim & Joann Evans	4
Ochu Rd	8161 N	Susan & Richard Cochrane	5
Ochu Rd	8141 N	Carl Allen & Jeff Hooying	6
Ochu Rd	8155N	Craig & Melissa Friesold	7
Ochu Rd	8106N	Virginia L & Steven D Wilson	8
Ochu Rd	8103 N	Mark & Susan Glander	9
Ochu Rd	8132 N	Paul & Marilyn Martin	10
Ochu Rd	8138 N	Marvin & Sandra Resz	11
Ochu Rd	8148N	Joseph & Joan L Wallf	12
Ochu Rd	8172 N	Peg Huff and Howard Family	13
Ochu Rd	8180 N	Jack & Tash Hemming	14
Ochu Rd	8180 N	Don Bellach	15
Ochu Rd	8210 N	David Bink Estate	16
Ochu Rd	8248 N	Carol Haller	17
Ochu Rd	8259N	Thomas Simons	18
Ochu Rd	8264N	Nancy Chest	19
Ochu Rd	8276 N	David Ochu & Bonnie Kutz	20
Ochu Rd	8289N	Kristine Ochu & Herbert Rush	21
Ochu Rd	8299N	John and Christina Knapek	22
Peninsula Lane	8265 N	John & Sue Staker	23
Peninsula Lane	8267 N	Dan & Heidi Lew	23.5
Peninsula Lane	8267 N	Karen Berg & Dan Shannon	24
Peninsula Lane	8265 N	Anne Marie (Hansch) & Michael Fries	25
Peninsula Lane	8201 N	John & Judith Adams	26
Peninsula Lane	8205 N	Toad & Katherine Bloomfield	27
Peninsula Lane	8210 N	Ken Evans/Cheryl Beneman	28
Peninsula Lane	8214N	Glenn Bauer	29
Peninsula Lane	8276 N	Pam & Bob Seafers	30
Peninsula Lane	8222 N	Fred & Nancy Behr	31
Ochu Rd	8320 N	Randy & Peggy Stewart	32
Ochu Rd	8326 N	Mike & Rosanne Lantz	33
Ochu Rd	8326N	Catherine and Eugene Minatt	34
Ochu Rd	8434 N	Jim & Joyce Scholten	35
Higline Rd	8429 N	Douglas & Kathleen Neumann	36
Higline Rd	8425 N	Bill & Gwen Werner	37
Higline Rd	8401 N	Paul Neumann	38
Higline Rd	8228N	Luanda Johnson, Erik & Kim Peterson	39
Higline Rd	8215 N	Thomas Gilbert	40
Higline Rd	8211N	Diane and William Chetrou	41
Higline Rd	8191N	Jim & Nancy Parlow	42
Higline Rd	8167N	Bill & Joan Tobin	43
Higline Rd	8145 N	Bob & Linda West	44
Higline Rd	8145 N	Robert & Laura Hunt	45
Higline Rd	8147 N	Linda & Andy Davik	46
Higline Rd	8147 N	Mike & Heidi McTaggart	47
Higline Rd	8141 N	Dave & Donna Rooker	48
Higline Rd	8071 N	Ron & Sarah Wlaga	49
Higline Rd	8071 N	Jeanne Shaw	50
Higline Rd	8005 N	Larry & Diane Parlow	51
Higline Rd	7954 N	Steve Mgliacco	52
Tamarack Trail	15380 W	Dan & Barb Pjevach	53
Tamarack Trail	15390 W	Dick & Karen Steninger	54
Tamarack Trail	15410 W	Arny Graves	55
Tamarack Trail	15410 W	Patrick & Jennifer Steninger	55
Tamarack Trail	15418 W	Bernice LaBarbara	56
Tamarack Trail	15430 W	Susan and Diane Cadden	57
Tamarack Trail	15456 W	Steve & Kris Sogaard	58
Thunder Point Rd	15460 W	Sharon Link & Bob Lewis	59
Thunder Point Rd	8054 N	Tom & Joyce Eastman	60
Thunder Point Rd	7991 N	Jim and Judy Ghent	61
Thunder Point Rd	7981 N	Diane Berg	62
Thunder Point Rd	7973 N	Sandy Bender	63
Thunder Point Rd	7965 N	Jim & Jeanette Rokoff	64
Thunder Point Rd	7943 N	Colleen Gahagan/John Garnett	65
Thunder Point Rd	7933 N	Nancy Nelson	66
Thunder Point Rd	7929N	Mark and Eve-Marie Walter	67
Thunder Point Rd	7911 N	Mark & Barbara Rapard	68
Thunder Point Rd	7911 N	Connie Rapard	68
Thunder Point Rd	7855 & 7	Rock & Julie Raaberg	69
Thunder Point Rd	7779N	Donald & Alice Shelhorn	70
Timber Lane	7955 & 7	Carson & Amanda Kipfer	71, 72
Timber Lane	794 N	Sharon & Marilyn Kowler	73
Timber Lane	7990 N	Robert & Nancy Wadsk	74
Timber Lane	8002 N	Gary & Laurel Hartmann	75
Timber Lane	8008N	Michael & Holly Jones	76
Timber Lane	8010 N	Michal and Elaine Anderson	77
Timber Lane	8014N	Mary Jo Collier	78
Timber Lane	8048 N	Michael Sorenson	79
Timber Lane	8042 N	Linda & Brian Constock	80
Timber Lane	8000 N	Vern & Eileen Kuennen	81
Timber Lane	8104 N	Dennis Westby	82
Windigo Lane	8159N	Frank & Diane Dowell	83
Windigo Lane	8164N	John & Gloria V Rankie	84
Windigo Lane	8174 N	Ruth Prose	85
Windigo Lane	8182N	Jeffrey & Cheryl Gjerdingen	86
Portage Terrace	8206 N	Mich & Lynn Patrick	87
Portage Terrace	8212 N	Doag and Denise Hodgen	88
State Hwy 27	8222 N	Suzanne Wlaga	89
State Hwy 27	8235N	Cynthia & Jonathan Gettle	90
State Hwy 27	8238N	Earl R & Nancy J Myer	91
Bluestad Dr	15998W	Steve & Susan Gross	92
Bluestad Dr	8242N	Steve & Susan Gross	92
Bluestad Dr	15997 W	Gwen Sweet/Randy Freitag	93
Bluestad Dr	15993 W	Jim & Lauren Hanson	94
Bluestad Dr	15989 W	Jeffrey & Stephanie Sells	95
Tanager Trail	15890 W	Will & Andrea Kipperberg	96
Tanager Trail	15870 W	Annette & Brian Young	97, 98
Thunder Point Rd	7778N	Mark & Rhonda Rosen	99
Thunder Point Rd	7759N	Cangery Maloney	100
Lightning Lane	7758 N	James & Julie Sindinger	101
Thunder Point Rd	7762N	Allen & Kathy Meyer	102
Lightning Lane	7784N	Mark & Teresa Des Lauriers	103
Timber Lane	8029 N	John & Rhonda Nol	104
Timber Lane	8051 N	Sharon & Kathy Barnd	105
State Hwy 27	7919N	Roger Chudy	106
State Hwy 27	7908N	Holly and Bryan Deema	107
Timber Lane	8121N	Peter & Jill Swanson	108

Windigo Lake Property Owners Association

P.O. Box 13071, Hayward, WI 54843

Email: info@windigolake.org

Website: www.windigolake.org (or www.windigolake.com)

<u>Officers</u>		
President	Patrick Steininger	708-899-3193
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Vice-President	Open	
Treasurer	Kris Soegaard	612-616-0742
		soegie2@centurylink.net
Secretary	Kris Soegaard	612-616-0742
		soegie2@centurylink.net
Board Member At-Large	Steve Soegaard	612-360-7205
		soegie1@centurylink.net

<u>Committees</u>		
Social	Dave & Donna Roeker	715-634-6013
		roekersupnorth@CenturyTel.net
Membership	Anne Marie and Mike Fries	715-634-3062
		amf291@gmail.com
Lake Environment & Safety	Colleen Graham	715-558-3008
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Invasive Species Monitoring & Safety Volunteer	Open	
Fish & Wildlife	Paul Martin	651-260-1733
		pmwood80@yahoo.com
Communications	Barb Pjevach	952-829-9016
		brpjevach@gmail.com