

Big Birch Lake Association NEWSLETTER



No 151

July, 2023

Association initiates rapid response plan for AIS

By Robert Kutter

The Big Birch Lake Association initiated a Rapid Response Plan for aquatic invasive species (AIS) at its June meeting.

Deb Johnson, chair of the AIS Committee presented a plan for preventing any AIS from getting a foothold in Big Birch Lake.

The steps to report a suspected AIS include the following:

1. Note the location of a suspicious plant or animal where you found it on the lake. What access, road or shoreline is it near? Use GPS if possible.
2. Take several photos that show the characteristics of the plant or animal. Photos can be forwarded to the DNR AIS specialist.
3. Collect samples of the plant or animal, rinse them and place in a Ziploc bag with a damp paper towel and a paper note written in pencil. The note should include location, date, your name and contact information. Refrigerate the sample.

4. For local reporting, contact Deb Johnson at 612-581-9389 or John Roe 320-492-5811.

5. If a sample is considered suspicious, you may contact AIS specialist directly at the regional DNR: Christine Jurek 320-223-7847 christine.jurek@state.mn.us 1035 S. Benton Drive Sauk Rapids, MN 56379, or contact Emelia Hauck Jacobs 320-223-7855.

6. Transport the sample if necessary directly to the local DNR office.

7. Wait for official determination of the specimen from the DNR. If AIS is confirmed a DNR specialist will give further instructions.

8. If an AIS infestation is confirmed, the county's environmental coordinator, the BBLA Board and the DNR will work together to determine the best response depending upon the type of AIS and degree of spread. That response can be to eradicate the AIS, contain it before it spreads and or control it so as to minimize its impact.

Look for additional information about how you can be a part of this team to prevent any additional invasive from entering BBL. Also the association will print a handy guide you can use to remember the steps to follow.

Calendar

BBLA Board Meeting

July 15, 2023

BBLA Annual Meeting

August 19, 2023

BBLA Board Meeting

September 16, 2022

Annual meeting Aug. 19 at St. Joseph's, Grey Eagle

Three BBLA board members will be elected at the annual meeting on August 19, 2023.

The nominees are all incumbent directors: Deb Johnson, Kevin Costello, Craig Tweedale and Blake Johnson. Deb Johnson is an At-large director, Tweedale represents Area J, Blake Johnson represent Area D and Costello represents Area C.

According to the BBLA Bylaws, "Nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting provided that notice of the intent thereof has been given to the president or vice-president of the association or any member of the nominating committee at least 10 days before the annual general membership meeting." Since all incumbents agreed to run again, no nominating committee was established.

The annual meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. at St. Joseph's Parish Hall in Grey Eagle. Refresh-

ments are served beginning at 8 a.m. Please invite a neighbor to join you at the annual meeting.

A guest speaker has not been chosen at this time. so watch for an announcement on the association Facebook page.

Editor's Note: At the time of publication of this newsletter, the minutes from the August 2023 annual meeting have not been located. Traditionally they are printed in the July newsletter.

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Big Birch Lake Association Board of Directors

Director	Representing	Phone
Kevin Costello, Pres.	Area C Director	480-250-3698
Matt Everding, V. Pres.	Area F Director	320-492-5902
Craig Tweedale, Treas.	Area J Director	608-317-6647
Jay Anderson	Area I Director	763-482-1926
Mark Erdmann	Area G Director	612-386-9254
Blake Johnson	Area D Director	612-910-3871
Deb Johnson	Director At Large	320-285-5833
Adrian Johnson	Area A Director	952-939-0939
Brandon Kelly	Area E Director	320-491-6107
Hans Mische	Director At Large	320-250-9002
Grant Niehaus	Director At Large	320-583-4939
Jeanne Niehaus	Director At Large	651-757-7475
Gary Rothstein	Area H Director	320-290-7818
Mike Sadlowsky	Director At Large	612-366-5494
Steve Thelen	Area B Director	320-309-9881

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Mission Statement: The purpose of the Big Birch Lake Association shall be to improve and protect water quality, to advance the propagation and habitat of fish and to protect the welfare of all wildlife in Big Birch Lake and adjacent areas.

What do people find in an online search for Big Birch Lake? (See below)

How does it compare to what you know?

Big Birch Lake is a popular recreational destination located near the town of Grey Eagle, Minnesota. Here are some important points to know about Big Birch Lake

1. Big Birch Lake is situated in Todd County, in central Minnesota. It is approximately 100 miles northwest of the Twin Cities (Minneapolis and St. Paul).
2. Size and Features: It is a large lake covering an area of approximately 2,125 acres (8.6 square kilometers) with a shoreline length of about 12 miles (19 kilometers). The lake is known for its clear waters and sandy beaches.
3. Recreational Activities: Big Birch Lake offers a wide range of recreational activities for visitors. Fishing is a popular pastime, with the lake being home to species such as walleye, northern pike, largemouth bass, and panfish. The lake is also suitable for boating, water skiing, swimming, and canoeing/kayaking. In winter, ice fishing and snowmobiling are popular activities.
4. Resorts and Cabins: There are several resorts, cabins, and vacation rentals available around Big Birch Lake. These accommodations offer amenities such as boat rentals, docks, swimming areas, and access to hiking trails. It's advisable to book in advance, especially during peak seasons.
5. Wildlife and Nature: Big Birch Lake is surrounded by natural beauty, including wooded areas and wetlands. Wildlife enthusiasts can spot various species of birds, including bald eagles, ospreys, loons, and ducks. The surrounding forests are

BBLA Comparative Financial Statement for June

		Jun 30, 23	Jun 30, 22
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
1060 · Certificate of Deposit		123,138.44	0.00
1005 · Checking-CMCU		3,257.72	1,406.64
1010 · Share Account-CMCU		35.90	35.90
1015 · My Goal Savings		3,223.34	3,221.36
1020 · Money Markey-CMCU		38,414.67	40,204.19
1050 · Cert of Deposit-12 Month #1		0.00	111,231.97
1055 · Cert of Deposit-12 Month #2		0.00	10,636.61
Total Checking/Savings		168,070.07	166,736.67
Other Current Assets			
1080 · Initiative Foundation Fund		45,065.91	46,037.36
1499 · Undeposited Funds		72.10	
Total Other Current Assets			
Total Current Assets		168,070.07	166,736.67
Fixed Assets			
1200 · Building & Land		35,300.00	35,300.00
Total Fixed Assets		35,300.00	35,300.00
TOTAL ASSETS		203,370.07	202,036.67
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Long Term Liabilities			
2550 · Reserve			
2551 · Aquatic-Invasive Species		100,000.00	100,000.00
2552 · Future Buffer Strips		14,495.72	14,495.72
Total 2550 · Reserve		114,495.72	
Total Long Term Liabilities			0.00
Total Liabilities		0.00	0.00
Equity			
3990 · Unrestricted Net Assets		133,848.96	120,443.92
Net Income		163.40	13,405.04
Total Equity		134,012.36	133,848.96
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		134,012.36	133,848.96

home to deer, squirrels, and other small mammals.

6. Environmental Stewardship: The community around Big Birch Lake actively promotes environmental stewardship and conservation efforts to preserve the natural beauty of the area. It is important for visitors to respect and follow any guidelines related to waste management, littering, and the protection of wildlife and vegetation.

7. Nearby Attractions: Grey Eagle, the nearest town to Big Birch Lake, offers a charming small-town atmosphere and amenities such as dining, shopping, and local events. Other attractions in the region include Lake Carlos State Park, which offers additional outdoor activities and hiking trails, and the town of Alexandria, known for its resorts, lakes, and unique shops.

The sights and sounds of spring did not disappoint

Many days of smoky haze from fires

After a more than abundant snowfall in 2023, everyone was happy to see bare ground again in the middle of April. Typical of our weather, we went from snow cover to spring with the help of temperatures in the upper 70's four days in a row at the end of April.

But, oh what a May after the ice went out on April 30. Day after day of pleasant temperatures and sunshine made one forget about April and all the winter months that preceded it. Redwing blackbirds, American robins, Baltimore orioles, grossbeaks, purple martins, busied themselves making nests and singing their songs.

Docks and boatlifts sprung up like dandelions along the shorelines. Soon people were cruising by in their pontoon boats taking in the sights and sounds of spring. It wasn't long and the first long weekend, (Memorial Day) was upon us.

As for fishing, the small number of boats on the water in May would suggest that people were fishing elsewhere. June began with an uninvited heat wave. Little rain fell in May and the heat of early June browned the lawns, something more often expected in late July and early August. At least there was no need for mowing lawns. There was no significant rainfall in June until the last weekend when showers were abundant but scattered.

The debate about fishing with underwater cameras has heated up. As the technology to spot fish on a screen and then move to that location has made some anglers question the validity of using high tech equipment. Seeing a specific fish and dropping bait before its mouth does give the angler an advantage.

The "green gunk" first appeared on my shore on June 8. Okay, I know "gunk" is not a scientific name for it, but nonetheless it made its slimy return. The filamentous algae has been growing precipitously since zebra mussels arrived in the

lake in the summer of 2014. While not harmful, its appearance is ugly and annoying. On some days it is more plentiful than other days. As the water warmed, the "gunk" spread like butter on warm toast.



The setting sun over BBL on the longest day of the year, June 20, 2023. Photo by Robert Kutter.

Speaking of plentiful, the clouds of smoke from Canadian forest fires have blanketed the area many days this spring. On June 14, I could not see across the lake due to the layer of smoke and lack of wind. The pungent smell of smoke in the air on that day was the strongest I had experienced to date. Blamed on forest fires in Canada, the smoke permeated the heart of Minnesota.

The first report of the loon population indicated there were 27 adult loons on the lake. Usually there are nine or 10 pairs of adult loons. What caused that increase this spring may be due to additional young loons looking for a place to settle. One day I saw three loons just swimming about a long way from the



Kutter's Column

shoreline. More recently I saw three groups of loons which appeared to be males.

The second loon count of the season on June 9, reported 21 adult loons, seven chicks and two pair still nesting.

Perhaps the additional loons on the water are why we think we have heard more from loons this spring. Their communication late into the night seemed more frequent and sometimes continued all through the night. Not that I mind, the call of the loon is the magic of summer sounds.

For the third summer in a row, the pair of loons closest to my shore have failed to produce an offspring. I think they nested twice considering the times I saw a pair of them and the times there was just one. No one seems to know where the pair nests in the northwest corner of the upper bay. When a loon nest was provided, they did not use it. So, one must conclude the eggs were infertile or were taken by raccoon, mink or some other animal looking for a meal.

As we came to the end of June, water activity was normal. That normal activity is radically replaced on the extended 4th of July weekend when it seems everyone wants to be on the water. While it is likely one would see additional water patrol, everyone should be especially cautious about knowing where other watercraft are in the immediate area. Also make sure all of the lights work on your boat if you are out after dark.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and do the things that bring you joy. Joy remembered is joy eternal.

As always, heaven seems closer in a house beside the water.

Obituaries of lake residents

Bernadine A. "Bernie" Waldorf, age 84 of Upsala, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Thursday, April 27 at Upsala Senior Living in Upsala, Minnesota.

Bernie was born in Little Falls, MN to John and Julia (Biermaier) Riemer on August 23, 1938. She was the youngest of nine children. She graduated from Little Falls High School in 1956. Bernie was enrolled in nurses training at St. Gabriel's Hospital in Little Falls and continued her training at Miller Hospital in St. Paul. She married Eugene Waldorf on April 25, 1959, in Little Falls, MN. In addition to partnering with her husband in raising their six children, Bernie worked in administrative jobs at Honeywell Corporation and the National Marrow Donor Program. She received her Associate of Arts degree in Interior Design from Lakewood Community College and held positions at Boldt Paint and Wallcoverings and Ethan Allen.

For sixteen years, Bernie supported Gene in his political career in the Minnesota State House of Representatives and later, Minnesota State Senate. Among many things, Bernie had a knack for remembering faces and names and providing hospitality for groups on multiple occasions. Bernie was a voracious reader, enjoyed sewing, quilting, interior decorating and getting to know her neighbors. She loved to travel and enjoyed participation with Gene in the Mississippi River Road Commission. She liked to golf, play cards and appreciated family weddings where she and Gene danced the night away. In a stance of enduring hopefulness, Bernie never chose to "scratch her Yahtzee". As a young mother, Bernie sewed costumes for school programs and taught Girl Scouts how to sew and cook. In later years, she gifted her grandchildren and great-grandchildren with handmade quilts. Bernie's community service included volunteer work at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church (Minneapolis), St. Casimir's Catholic Church (St. Paul) and St. Joseph's Catholic Church (Grey Eagle). Her many roles included trustee, parish council member, faith formation instructor, lector and Eucharistic Minister. Gene and Bernie also designed and sewed seasonal liturgical banners that hang in St. Joseph's Church in Grey Eagle. Early in their married life, Bernie and Gene were involved with Cursillo; throughout their

lives the two imparted their love of God and responsibility to serve with their children, extended family, and others. For many years, Bernie and Gene traveled the U.S., speaking in Catholic parishes about Sacrificial Giving.

Along with Gene, Bernie was active with the Big Birch Lake Association (BBLA), including putting out loon nests and checking for invasive species on the lake. In 2019, the two received the BBLA Friends of the Lake Award for their 27 years of service to the organization. When they weren't involved in BBLA activities, Bernie and Gene enjoyed sailing and swimming at Big Birch, meals at the Double R with friends and family and entertaining guests at the lake.

Bernie is survived by her six children, Jeanne (Dean) Peterson of Upsala, Paul (Barb) Waldorf of Oakdale, Sr. Bridget Waldorf, SSND of Dallas, Texas, Renee (Jody) King of Sartell, John (Katie) Waldorf of Sunrise, and David Waldorf of Minneapolis; 14 grandchildren, Curt (Lisa) Peterson, Matt (Lauren) Peterson, Christy (Adam) Wehlage, Anna (Tyler) Wolbeck, Amy Waldorf (Charles Sweigert), Greg (Maddi) Waldorf, Megan Waldorf, Elizabeth Waldorf, Joshua Waldorf, Joanna Waldorf, Ben Waldorf, Anthony King, Zachary King, and Samantha King; 12 great-grandchildren, Addie, Milo, Oliver, Emmett, Hazel, Rohan, Luetta, Phoebe, Jack, Charlie, Calvin and Charles; brother and sisters, Betty Plumer of Oklahoma, Dorothy Feakes of Forsyth, Montana, Fred (Jean) Riemer of Phoenix, Arizona, and Jeanette (Lester) Kotula of St. Paul, and many other relatives.

Bernie was preceded in death by her husband, Gene on February 29, 2020; parents, John and Julia Riemer; brothers and sisters, Joseph and his wife, Beverly Riemer, Christine and her husband, Dan Brown, Tom and his wife, Marge Riemer, Longinus (Lon) and her brothers-in-law, Glenn Feakes and Harold Plumer; and many other beloved extended family members.

Raymond "Ray" Meldaus

Raymond A. "Ray" Meldaus, age 99 of Big Birch Lake in Grey Eagle, passed away peacefully with family at his side on Thursday, March 30, 2023.

Ray was born October 25, 1923 to Michael and Naimi (Kopman) Meldaus at the family homestead on Big Birch Lake. The Meldaus family members were active within the local Finnish community. After graduating from Grey Eagle High School, Ray enlisted in the Navy in June of 1941 and proudly served throughout WWII until his discharge in November of 1945.

Ray met the love of his life shortly after

the war, and in 1947, he and Elizabeth "Tootie" Buchholz were married in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Ray got his start as a sharp-dressed man working at Brown's Clothing in Minneapolis before his long-term career at Minneapolis/Minnesota Blueprint. Ray and Tootie lived in Robbinsdale, Minnesota, and after retirement, the couple moved to Big Birch Lake in Grey Eagle and wintered in Florida for many years.

Ray was an avid reader, history buff and music lover. He excelled in keeping things in immaculate order and finding ingenious solutions to problems. Ray loved sharing stories and a laugh with family & friends and relished his lifelong time on the shores of Big Birch Lake.

Survivors include his son, Jeffrey (Carol) Meldaus of Anoka; daughter, Susette (Pat) Smith of Maple Grove.

Annual BBLA Golf Outing enjoyed by many

By Jeanne Niehaus

The 25th Big Birch Lake Association Annual Golf Outing was held at the Meadowlark golf course on June 23rd. A great morning of golf, followed by lunch and awards program was enjoyed by a lively crowd of sixty- four members.

The first-place team award went to the Elfering foursome for a second year. Congratulations to Dean, Brian, Ryan and Jean. They will be the team to beat next year!

Hans Mische took the prize for Men's Longest Drive. Bruce Schmall made the longest putt and Austin Bohlig was closest to the pin to round out the men's awards. Sandy Bragelman had a great day taking home the prizes for Women's Longest Drive and Longest Putt.

Most everyone went home with a prize. A big thank you to the following groups that made this a fun way to wrap up the morning. The Manning family once again secured Taylor Made products and clubs. Ruth Rothstein of Central Minnesota Insurance offered four gift certificates to All Stars. Opatz Metals contributed Yeti mugs and hats. Guy Waymore Emporium offered two concert tickets and Meadowlark Golf club contributed four rounds of golf to the lucky drawing winners.

Put June 21st on your calendar for next year's event.



Hans Mische took the prize for longest drive among men.

Sandy Bragelmann took the prizes for longest putt and longest drive for women at the annual BBLA Golf Outing held at the Meadowlark Golf Club in Melrose.



Participants in the Annual BBLA Golf Outing toasted the day on June 23, 2023.

The Elfering family took first place for second year in a row.

Association committees complete many spring projects

By Grant Niehaus

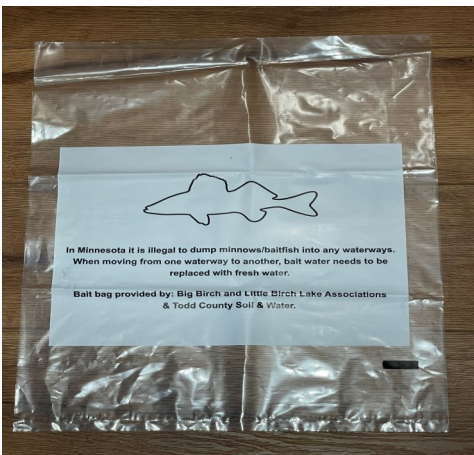
Three Aquatic Vegetation Removal Stations were installed at the DNR Public Boat Accesses (State Forest, Hunter's Bay, and North Bay). These stations contain tools that make it easier to remove aquatic vegetation/animals from your boat/motor/trailer when entering and leaving BBL.

Please use these stations and encourage others to use these as well to help prevent the spread of AIS into BBL and other lakes. These stations were purchased by the BBLA



in conjunction with a matching grant from the Todd County AIS Program.

The BBLA partnered with the Little Birch Lake Association and Todd County to supply **minnow bags** at the local bait shops. These minnow bags have instructional information printed on them reminding anglers that it is illegal to dump unused bait



and water in the lake and also how to properly transport live bait.

The DNR North Bay Access appeared to have a **frost boil** this spring that formed in the middle of the turn-around at the access. The DNR has been notified, but it says it will take some time to fix this. Please take caution if using this public access.

The DNR stocked **1.9 million walleye fry** in BBL this spring. This is part of the ongoing stocking strategy to stock walleye fry on odd years and walleye fingerlings (in conjunction with the BBLA) on even years.

There was an increase in the number of dead fish (mostly bluegills) washing up on people's shoreline in June. The DNR was notified, and it is believed this die off is due to the rapid warming of the water that we saw this spring with the lack of precipitation and hot temperatures.

Loon count volunteers, Bob Gerner, Charlene Gerner, Bob Gagne, and Marlene Pflipsen, were out surveying the Loons on June 6th. They observed the following: 27 adult loons, 6 active nests, 1 juvenile chick. Please remind your family and friends when out on the water to keep an eye out for the loons and their chicks and to keep a safe distance from them.

The association is currently working on updating our **buffer strip agreement** with the three farmers along Fish Creek (Adley) to align with the states buffer law. Once an agreement with the current landowners is reached, we will then look at potentially adding new buffers along other ditches that flow into the lake where ortho phosphorus levels are high.

Ortho phosphorus levels have only been taken once during the spring thaw but lack of rain has made the runoff into the lake minimal.

Grant Niehaus picked up the **trash on the ice this past spring**. Below is a picture of items on the ice that was left over by ice fishermen and people recreating on the lake. Some of the items found were minnow bags, beer cans, pudding shot cups, carpet fragments, golf balls, towels, ash from fires, wood blocks from fish houses, cigarette butts, and bags of human feces.

Please encourage those recreating on the lake to refrain from disposing of their trash on the lake and instead take it home with them and dispose of it properly there.



Thank you to all of those who participated in the **BBLA Spring Road Ditch Clean Up**. The event was a success and all the road ditches around the lake were covered. Also, thank you to Opatz Metals and Rolloffs for accepting the trash from this event.



Thank you to all of those who participated in the **Junk Cleanup Day!** This year, the BBLA partnered with the Little Birch Lake Association and filled two 30-yard dumpsters. Also, thank you to Opatz Metals and Rolloffs and Lake Country Storage for partnering with the



News from the Boardroom

Please attend the **annual meeting** on August 19 at 8:30 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Grey Eagle. The meeting is the members' opportunity to learn about what the association has done and elect board members for three-year terms.

DNR Conservation Officer, Caleb Silgjord will be present at the annual meeting for a time of Q and A.

Directors Deb Johnson and Mark Erdmann presented information to the Grey Eagle Township Board of Supervisors about restricting use of boat launching at the **township lake access on the north bay**. The township is open to making changes but wants addition information about how the same restriction is working at the St. Rosa access.

The board is wrestling with what restrictions can and cannot be done at township accesses. All changes have to meet the requirements of the DNR and environmental services. The boards position is to limit access to boats that can bring aquatic invasive species into the water.

The board is in the process of reviewing what it will pay farmers for **buffer strips** along tributaries to Adley Creek. Changes in buffer laws forced the association to reexamine its long-held practices regarding buffer strips.

The **lake level** is down two inches below the historic ordinary high watermark of the lake. Chuck Schiemann does the measurement for the BBLA and reports to the DNR.

Walleye stocking. The DNR stocked 1.9 million walleye fry this past spring. Fry has a three percent survival rate (a good year class is 3%, most likely it is less than 1% on a given fry year class for BBL). There are no plans for a walleye fundraiser in 2023. Pending DNR survey data in 2023/2024, the BBLA will fundraise to stock walleye fingerlings in the Fall of 2024.

The association will move some of its funds to CD's with greater interest.

Ice-out Dates

April 7 2004	April 9, 2005
April 10, 2006	April 16, 2007
April 30, 2008	April 20, 2009
April 2, 2010	April 21, 2011
March 20, 2012	May 11, 2013
April 27, 2014	April 10, 2015
March 27, 2016	March 31, 2017
May 5, 2018	April 20, 2019
April 12, 2020	April 1, 2021
April 24, 2022	April 30, 2023

Swimmers' itch

Cercarial dermatitis, the technical name for swimmer's itch, is actually an allergic reaction to some microscopic parasites.

These parasites live in birds, like ducks and geese, and the parasite's eggs enter the water through a bird's feces.

From there, the eggs hatch and larvae find a new host: snails. The parasites eventually seek a more suitable host in birds, completing the life cycle. However, the microscopic critters occasionally get lost and accidentally burrow into an unsuspecting human.

People aren't suitable hosts, so the parasites quickly die and leave humans with the itchy rash we know as swimmer's itch. The bumps are generally harmless and will heal in a few days. Just try not to scratch too much. If you create an open wound, that could get infected and cause bigger issues.

It can be difficult to tell if an area is infected with swimmer's itch. Because the parasite's life cycle is so short, a clear area can become infected quickly and vice versa. However, there are things you can do to reduce your risk. The parasites live in shallow areas, so one easy way to avoid infection is to go out to deeper waters. Bring a life jacket if you're not a strong swimmer. If you are swimming or wading in shallow waters, avoid marshy areas and rinse off in the shower when you get out. You can wash away the parasites before they have a chance to get into your skin. [Mayo Clinic](#) also suggests wearing plenty of water resistant sunscreen to protect your skin from the parasites (and UV rays, of course).

Emerald ash borer arrives at BBL

By Grant Niehaus,

Some of the ash trees on the southwest side of the lake appear to be infected with emerald ash borer.

As you may know, this bug burrows into the bark and lays its larva in ash trees, which ends up killing the tree.

In the case you have ash trees on your property and want to treat them to prevent them from getting infected, there are some treatment options.



Most tree service companies offer injection services as well treatments available at your local hardware/home improvement store.



The Big Birch Lake Ladies Annual Luncheon held this year at The Rock Tavern.

Sixty Five women enjoyed wonderful food and drink while visiting with old and new friends on the lake.

MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUNE 2023

Althaus, Kurt & Lori	Flaws, Michael & Marilyn	Lafayette Resort	Rudolph, Jerry & Deb
Anderson, Chadyienne	Fox, Thomas & Laurie	Langer, Denise	Russell, Jim & Mindy
Anderson, Jean	Freeman, Dave & Sue	Larson, Brendan & Debi	Rutherford, Peter & Lourel
Anderson, Stephen & Lisa	Frerichs Frank, Jane	Larson, Maxwell & Brenda	Sadlowsky, Mike & Vicki
Anderson, Todd & Debbie	Froehling, Joseph	Lemieux, BJ & Rachel	Sand, Daniel & Mary
Atkinson, Dan & Jan	Fuchs, Brian & Lori	Lieder, William & Renee	Savage, William & Sharon
Atwood, Duane & Jody Miller	Gagne, Bob & Christine	Lind, James & Maryellen	Schanhaar, Tom & Deb
Auger, John & Karen	Gallagher, Pat & Caryn	Linn, Mike & Denise	Schiemann, Charles & Ellie
Austing, April	Gangl, Dale	Linz, Curtis & Mary	Schlough, Thomas & Joyce
Austing, Dick & Jane	Gasow, Ralph & Lori	Loehr, Jim & Renee	Schmid, Judith
Becker, Virginia	Gerads, Dale & Mary Lou	Logan, Guy & Suzanne	Schmid, Ted & Julie
Beckermann, Fran & Linda	Gerding, Dwayne & Alvina	Mack, Murray & Sue	Schmidt, Jane
Beekhuizen, Steven & Julie	Gerner, Robert & Charlene	Maeder, Niklas & Brandee	Schmidt, Thomas & Joann
Benning, Ken & Mary Pat	Gordon, Brian & Kristen	Malm, Scott	Schmit, Nicholas
Benolken, Sue	Goulet, Evan & Emily	Marland, Richard & Marge Anderson	Schnettler, John & Jan
Berg, Dwaine & Louise	Grossman, Jim & Jan	Matchinsky, James & Roselyn	Schriver, John & Lezlie
Berg, Ken & Bev	Gruenke Lake Cabin LLC	McConnell, David & Ann	Schwantes, Mike & Amy
Bergmann, Ken & Marilyn	Grutsch, John & Jan	Mehr, Mike & Lori	Schwartz, Dick & Ellen
Beuning, James & Judine	Hammerstrom, Malia	Mehr, Ralph & Mary Ann	Schwartz, Steve & Joann
Blommel Family	Hatton, Rene & LuAnn	Meyer, Barry	Schwieters, Charles & Beatrice
Blommel, Leroy & Marilyn	Hendrickson, David & Colette	Meyer, Glenn & Dianne	Seitzer, Jim & Belinda
Borgerding, Clarence	Hennemann, Kitty	Meyer, Juel	Sieben, Kevin & Beth
Braegelmann, Pat & Sandy	Hinman, John & Kathy	Meyer, Ken & Sherry	Silbernagel, John & Marie
Brandt, Richard & Judy	Hinnenkamp, Ben & Pam	Meyer, Virg & Joyce	Sinclair, James & Carolyn
Brattensborg, Ruth	Hoeschen, Larry & Elaine	Miley, Rod & Nancy	Sinclair, Ken & Jan
Brixius, Bernard	Hoffman, Dan & Janell	Mische, Hans & Julie	Spanier, Eric & Jana
Broman, Brad & Charlene	Hughes, Bob & Sally	Moening, Lee & Judy	Spears (Moening), Heather
Broman, Mark	Hughes, Parry & Kathy	Mohr, Marilyn	Spence, Jim & Christine
Broman, Raleigh & Ruth	Hughes, Tim & Kristine	Mohs, Dean & Sandy	Sschmall, Bruce
Brown, Becky	Humbert, Rick & Lois	Molitor, Chick & Karen	Stalboerger Family, Lorraine
Bullock, Lou & Debbie	Humbert, Ryan & Stacy	Molitor, Jon	Starfield, Glenn & Katy
Bushman, Wayne	Huseby, Robert & Christina	Moser, Helen	Steinbring, Brad
Bussmann Properties LLC	Ingold, Kirk & Mandi	Mueller, Jerry	Steinbring, John & Sandy
Butte, Rick	Ingold, Linnea	Nathe, Mike & Laura	Stomberg, Chuck & Nancy
Campbell, Mel & Sherry	Iverson, Ron & Jennifer	Neibling, Tim & Sue	Strack, Bob
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Above: This is the crew from Sandy Beach that did roadside cleanup this past spring.

Right: Loon pair quickly claimed an artificial platform for nesting.



Fish nearly bigger than the boy who caught it.