

Lake Francis
Area Recreation & Conservation Club, Inc.
PO Box 81
South Haven, MN 55382

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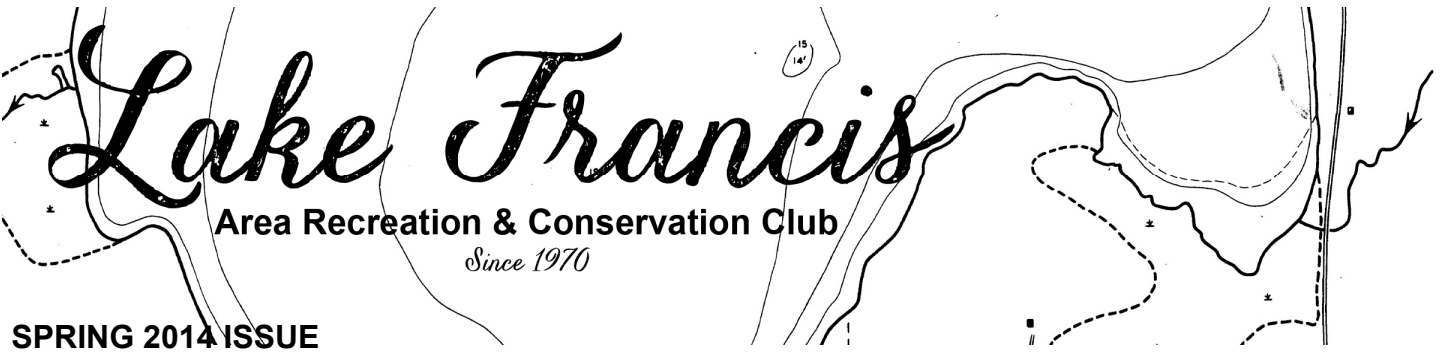
2014 Calendar of Lake Events & Area Happenings
March 4Ice Shelter Removal Date
March 21Johnson-Kelly American Legion Post 483 & Kingston Lions
Annual Fish Fry, Kingston Community Center, 4-8 p.m.
April 26*Meeker SWCD Tree Sale/Rain Barrel Pickup
May 10 & 11Take a Mom Fishing Weekend
May 17Lake Francis ARCC Board of Directors Meeting
June 1Deadline to Submit Newsletter Items for Summer
June 21Lake Francis ARCC Annual Meeting
June 6-8Take a Kid Fishing Weekend
June 21Lake Francis ARCC Board of Directors Meeting
July 4Lake Francis Dock Decoration Day
August 2Lake Francis ARCC Annual Picnic
August 8-10Kimball Days
September 1Deadline to Submit Newsletter Items for Fall
September 20Lake Association Board of Directors Meeting
*Tentative
Contact your Area Representative with concerns, comments or questions you'd
like the Lake Francis ARCC Board of Directors to address.

2014 MEMBERSHIP
INFO ENCLOSED

For only \$35/year, you'll enjoy
up-to-date lake information,
special events, a printed lake
directory, water level monitoring,
lake stewardship, and access to
the DNR, Wright & Meeker
County, area watershed and other
representatives and expertise.

The 2014 Membership Form
is enclosed, including the
opportunity to win a free
one-year membership by
guessing the 2014 "ice out."

- Most recent ice out dates:
- 2013 = May 1
 - 2012 = March 19
 - 2011 = April 13
 - 2010 = March 31
 - 2009 = April 12



SPRING 2014 ISSUE



The annual Kingston Lions Ice Fishing Contest was held Saturday, February 1. Winners included: 1st, Bailee Hedke, Litchfield; 2nd, Cody Mackereth, Kimball; 3rd, Shannon Caughey, Duluth; Largest Crappie, Jeff Lloyd, Rogers; and Largest Sunfish, Cody Mackereth, Kimball.

DNR Stocked Walleye Fingerlings in Fall 2013

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources stocked over 36,000 walleye fingerlings in Lake Francis in the fall of 2013. According to Gene Jeseritz, the fingerlings were smaller than in previous years. Lake Francis is stocked with walleye fingerlings once every three years. The next netting survey for Lake Francis is scheduled for 2015. *Privately stocked in 2004.

Year	Species	Size	Number	Per lb	Pounds
2013	Walleye	Fingerlings	36,455	41	889.1
2010	Walleye	Fingerlings	21,386	23	940.0
2007	Walleye	Fingerlings	8,990	11	843.0
2004	Walleye*	Fingerlings	21,437	25	871.0

Lake Newsletter Goes Electronic in 2014

Beginning in Summer 2014, the summer and fall Lake Francis Area Recreation & Conservation Club newsletter editions will be delivered electronically via e-mail. The winter/spring issue will continue as a printed publication mailed to all lake residents.

The move to an electronic format will save the lake association approximately \$700 per year. This money will be re-allocated to the “Invasive Species” fund.

To receive the newsletter via e-mail, go to the LFARCC website and click on the “E-News” tab. (Follow the steps below to subscribe.)

The lake association takes your privacy seriously and will not share your e-mail address with others - it will only be used for distribution of the e-newsletter and other time-sensitive information.

No computer? No problem. Contact your area representative to receive a printed copy of the newsletter.

TO SUBSCRIBE

1. Type your e-mail address in the box at the bottom of the page; select “Subscribe” and click the “Submit Your Information” button.
2. You will receive an e-mail from “newsletter@lakefrancisarcc.com” with a link. **You must click the link to be subscribed.**
3. A web-site will open and you then will need to enter a two word phrase to be subscribed. Once you enter the correct phrases and click “Subscribe Me!” you will receive a confirmation e-mail from newsletter@lakefrancisarcc.com”.

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Holly Edwards320-398-3045

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Joan Perusse 320-236-2340
Joann Meyer 952-220-5884

Wildwood Terrace
 Roger Berggren.....320-587-5292
 Jan Anderson.....612-823-0654

East Shore
Jim Olsen 320-236-7949

Holiday Beach
 Bob Fleming.....952-451-2538
 Tony DeNucci.....952-403-9155

Pirates Cove
Bernice Miller320-236-7782

Rustic Ridge
Arden Krinke320-236-3721
Chuck Taci.....952-200-0893

Hidden Forest
Tim Pivec320-398-6383
Mike Oesterreich.....320-398-3231

Outlots
Janice Smith.....320-398-2594

President Bob Fleming
Vice President..... Jan Anderson
Secretary Tony DeNucci
Treasurer..... Mike Oesterreich

Advertising	Nancy Friesen
	Tim Pivec
AIS Watch Teams	Holly Edwards
DNR Rep &	
Eagle Creek Maintenance	Jim Olsen
Membership	Mary Lou Pivec
New Resident Packet	Joan Perusse
Newsletter	Ray Hirte
	Jennifer Severson
Precipitation Data	Wally Erickson
Sign Maintenance	Bob Fleming
Special Projects	Roger Berggren
Water Testing	Brian Knox
Web Site	Aaron Tatone

STAY SAFE:
Know Your Ice
Color Meanings

Although a useful indicator, color alone should not be relied upon. For instance, ice of any color subjected to a running water force underneath will be weaker than ice not subject to that pressure. In general, you can surmise the following from ice colors:

- **Light gray to dark black:** Melting ice, occurs even if air temperature is below 32°F. Not safe, its weak density can’t hold a load, stay off.
- **White to opaque:** Water-saturated snow freezes on top of ice forming another thin ice layer. Most times it’s weak due to being porous from air pockets.
- **Blue to clear:** High density, very strong, safest ice to be on if thick enough, stay off if less than 4” thick.
- **Mottled and slushy or “rotten” ice:** Not so much its color but its texture. This ice is thawing and slushy. It is deceptive - it may seem thick at the top but it is rotting away at the center and base. Most prevalent in spring, may be showing signs of browns from plant tannins, dirt and other natural materials that are resurfacing from thawing. Not suitable for even a footstep.

Courtesy of WikiHow.com

DNR’s New Mobile Website is a
Boon to Outdoor Recreationalists

A new, one-of-a-kind website that employs extensive mapping resources to help users locate hunting lands, state parks and forests and a wide range of other recreational areas is now available on mobile devices such as phones and tablets, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources announced.



After accessing the website at www.mndnr.gov/mobile/compass, users can bookmark it among other favorites on their mobile device.

“The website helps you find opportunities for recreation when you’re away from your computer,” said DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr. “It not only provides you with the location of recreation lands, but you can also find information such as types of vegetation and availability of trails and other resources.”

The mobile Recreation Compass features more than 5.5 million acres of public lands administered as state forest, wildlife management areas, state parks and recreation areas, waterfowl production areas, aquatic management areas, and scientific and natural areas, state trails, including water trails, Walk-In access areas, hunter walking trails and nearly 3,000 public water access sites.

The mobile website has lake, river and stream names, as well as federal, state and local highways and roads.

The agency opted to create the service as a mobile website instead of an app because a mobile website is device independent and can be easily updated and maintained. The mobile website runs on just about anything using a modern web browser.

The Recreation Compass has been available on desktop and laptop computers since 1998, but the mobile version was developed in 2013 and has been tested extensively since last August.

The mobile Recreation Compass also links to other DNR mobile websites such as LakeFinder and Fall Colors.

Courtesy of MN Department of Natural Resources

Ice Shelter Removal Date March 4

- If shelters are not removed, owners will be prosecuted, and the structure and contents may be confiscated and removed, or destroyed by a conservation officer.
- After removal dates, shelters may remain on the ice between midnight and one hour before sunrise only when occupied or attended.
- Storing or leaving shelters on a public access is prohibited
- It is unlawful to improperly dispose of ice fishing shacks anywhere in the state. Please clean up around your shack and check with local refuse providers or landfills for ice shelter disposal information.

SHARE YOUR BIG CATCH! Send your fishing photos to lakefrancisnews@gmail.com.

Statewide MN COLA Group Pushes
Protecting Public Waters

(St. Paul, Minn.-January 7, 2014) Today, the Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations (MN COLA) is releasing its Legislative Agenda for consideration in the 2014 Minnesota State Legislative Session.

The overall intention of our 2014 legislative platform is to protect the waters of the state more effectively and more vigorously than in the past. Our waters are a precious natural resource, and they are a critical component of both our way of life and Minnesota’s \$11 billion tourism industry. Minnesota must do more to halt the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS), which can have a devastating impact on water quality, habitat, and recreational use.

Every month the DNR declares more and more Minnesota lakes and sub-watershed systems as infested by one AIS or another. The time is now to increase protection for our lakes by means of increased inspection/decontamination programs, new funding sources, and long-term funding for scientific research. The University of Minnesota has only recently begun working on research that could help stop the spread of AIS, but possible outcomes are years away. We believe these specific legislative changes must be addressed:

- Modification to AIS Minnesota Statute 84D to specifically follow the “Uniform Minimum Protocol and Standards (UMPS) for Watercraft
- Interception Programs for Dreissenid Mussels in the Western United States” or more restrictive protocols for AIS programs which are substantiated by science-based research;
- Modification to Minnesota AIS Statute 84D to require a certified thermal decontamination process for non-compliance of AIS laws. This process must deliver consistent results, be readily available for public use, and includes:
 - * A control mechanism as a means to verify thermal decontamination has been completed after non-compliance;
 - * A required certified training program for every decontamination equipment operator;
 - * A third-party verification program to ensure decontamination procedures are consistently followed;
 - * An annual legislative report by the State Agency administrating the decontamination program;
- Use of Outdoor Heritage Fund (portion of 2008 Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment) to protect fish habitat from AIS; with funds available to Local Government Units (LGU) for thermal decontamination equipment and programs;
- Establishment of a long-term funding source for AIS field programs such as an AIS decal purchase for all watercraft;
- Establishment of adequate long-term funding for the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) at the U of M to develop effective prevention and containment methods for invasive animals and more effective control methods to reduce aquatic invasive plant populations;

Minnesota must respond immediately to the AIS threats facing our Land of 10,000 Lakes in order to preserve our outdoor recreational traditions, native fish populations and habitat, and water quality, all of which are essential to our tourism industry. If left unchecked, there may not be an opportunity for reversal. Future generations are counting on us today to do the right thing. We simply cannot rely on “personal responsibly” and our current ineffective solutions.

For more information, contact: Tom Nelson, President, Minnesota Coalitions of Lake Associations, nelso885@umn.edu, (218) 259-9752.



MN COLA is a statewide citizen network of county lake and river associations, representing the interests of over 40,000 lakeshore property owners, organized to protect and improve the waters and shore lands of the State of Minnesota.

2014 Fishing Seasons	
May 10-Feb 22.	Northern Pike, Sauger, Walleye
May 10-Sept 30.....	Lake Trout
May 16-Oct 31 ..	Stream Trout, In Lakes
May 24-Feb 22.	Smallmouth & Largemouth Bass
June 7-Dec 1.....	Muskie
Sept 8-Feb 22	Smallmouth Bass, Catch & Release Only
Sept 15-30	Stream Trout, Catch & Release Only
Nov 15-Feb 22	Dark House Spearing