

Big Pine Lake Newsletter

Spring 2024

Big Pine Lake Property Owners Association, Aitkin MN

From the Board President

Hopefully this newsletter finds you healthy and ready to enjoy some time at the lake. While the creek is flowing again, hopefully we will have some spring rain to raise the lake level this year. There was not any snow on the ground when I went to the cabin in February, so we will need some rain this year.

I have been in communication with the MNDNR regarding the dam on Big Pine Lake. It is in need of repair or replacement. The fisheries department of the MNDNR favors having fish passage in a new structure. If we have fish passage, there is funding available (how much and when is the big question). There is no funding available for repairing the existing concrete structure. I am continuing to have conversations with the MNDNR. More information on the dam repairs should be available by the Spring Board meeting.

I have continued to attend the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) monthly meetings. As mentioned last year, an invasive to watch for is Spiny Water Flea. They have been detected in Lake Mille Lacs, so the fear is that they could be transported to Big Pine Lake. It looks much like cotton when it attaches to fishing line. Mille Lacs also has Mystery Snails, another invasive species. Last year during Starry Trek, a search organized to look for the Starry Stonewort invasive species, I saw large amounts of Mystery Snails along the shoreline of Lake Mille Lacs.

The board officers for 2024 are Tom Hubbard-President, Mike Moore, Vice President, Sharon Esnough, Treasurer, and Mary Lin Gmach, Secretary for the Board.

The Spring Board meeting is scheduled for May 18th, 9:00 AM at the Big Pine Lake Chapel.

We plan to continue our traditional events for 2024. Check the dates for the events in this newsletter. Please share the newsletter with your neighbors and let them know they can receive the newsletter as well as other lake communications by providing their email to the board. Check your emails and Nextdoor or Facebook social medias for updates!

See you at the Lake!
Tom Hubbard

2024 Events

Spring Board Meeting
Saturday May 25th 9AM
Big Pine Chapel

Spring Clean up
May 18th 10:00AM
Meet at the Junction

Annual Fishing Contest
July 6th
8 AM registration
10 AM-Noon Fishing
At Moore's

Boat Parade
July 6th
4 PM start at the island

**Summer Board Meeting &
Annual Membership meeting**
July 20th 8:30 AM/ 10 AM
Big Pine Chapel

BPLPOA Pot Luck Picnic
August 3rd 4:30PM
at Segars
RSVP segars@comcast.net
Or text 651-246-0182

Fall Board Meeting
September 21st 9 AM
Big Pine Chapel

Fall Highway Clean up
September 21st 10 AM
The Junction

BOAT PARADE

Saturday July 6th

New this year:
Before the Picnic!

4 PM line up
at south end of the island
Boats will slow cruise around the lake.
Registration info to come

Cash prizes:
1st Place \$100
2nd Place \$50
3rd Place \$25

Congrats to our 2023 Winners:
The Mayerich/Ullum Family
They had every superhero onboard!



Annual Fishing Contest

Saturday July 6th

No age requirements!
8 AM registration
10 AM-Noon Fishing

Noon weigh-in
and measurements at
Laurie & Mike Moores
(see map for location)

Prizes awarded!



A Special Request from our Host:

I want to propose naming the fishing contest in memory of Ryan Comer, who we lost tragically last year in a plane crash the weekend of the fishing contest. Ryan's family was a big contributor and supporter of the contest. They donated half the prizes every year since I've sponsored. I would like to call it "The Big Pine Lake Fishing Contest-in honor of Ryan Comer and Family". I will make new signs on my dime. Not asking our membership for any contributions.

Sincerely,
Mike Moore mmoore7985@gmail.com



Highway Cleanup

Thanks to Steve & Suzie Shulte
for organizing!

Please mark your calendars and plan to join the Big Pine Lake Property Owners Spring Highway Cleanup on Saturday, May 18th, at 10:00 a.m. Meet at the former Junction gas station. The more people that join in, the faster it goes! If you haven't done it before, give it a try. This takes about an hour from start to finish and is a great way to meet new and old neighbors. Please bring your own gloves.

Thank you!



Spring Clean up
May 18th 10 AM

Fall Clean up
September 21st 10AM

LAKE ASSOCIATION PICNIC

**JOIN YOUR LAKE NEIGHBORS FOR A POTLUCK PICNIC
SATURDAY AUGUST 3RD; 4:30PM**

44875 238TH LANE, SOUTH WEST OF THE ISLAND

MEAT AND WATER PROVIDED

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE AND A CHAIR

FAMILY AND FRIENDS WELCOME

**RSVP WITH AN ESTIMATED NUMBER OF GUESTS
TO SEGARS@COMCAST.NET**



This spring, the DNR will install a lake level monitoring gauge at the Moore's (where we host the fishing contest) so that water levels can be recorded and tracked over time. The readings will be available online and will be viewable by all. For more information about this program, see here: [Lake Level Monitoring](#)



[Minnesota Lakes & Rivers \(MLR\) agreement:](#)

As part of your Big Pine Lake Property Owners Association membership you receive a **FREE** membership to MLR. Please include your email in your membership renewal to receive the MLR newsletter.

Follow this link to see their [January newsletter](#)

The Association has a limited number of Shoreland Guides for Lake Stewardship available at a discounted price. The Guide informs shoreland property owners on ways they can restore and protect their shorelines. Please reach out and we can arrange to get you one for your shoreline enhancement project. Dick Weber is offering the shoreland guides **free** to the first 10 lakeshore owners that agree to follow it in their lakeshore improvement project.

Lake Friends who have passed this year- their families are in our thoughts and prayers:

Linda A. Zuel Weber, 12 February 2024

Sharron Lee Beck, née Eldridge, Feb. 5, 2024

Rome Harrison Hutchings, August 16, 2023

Ryan Comer, June 30th, 2023

*Please let a board member know if you have a lake friend or family member who has passed in the last year and we will include them in next years newsletter.

Neighborhood News

Lake news for the good of the neighborhood, but not BPL-POA organized or managed

Big Pine Lake-Aitkin Facebook Group



Thank you to Nick Jestus and Amie Mayo for creating and moderating a facebook group for Big Pine Lake-Aitkin. If you prefer to communicate in facebook, they will make an effort to share information within this group. To join, follow the link below, or search for Big Pine Lake-Aitkin in your Facebook groups.

Big Pine Lake-Aitkin



Join us on Nextdoor!

Nextdoor Tips and Tricks:

- To see only Big Pine Lake info, click on the 'Big Pine Lake' name under your profile name.
- To reduce other neighborhood information: Click on your name or picture, click on the gear icon  Choose 'feed preferences'. Adjust to settings you prefer
- Reducing who sees your post: If you only want to send to Big Pine Lake, or BPL and our nearby neighborhoods, after writing your message, hit next. Then click on the world icon  From there you can choose who you want to see your post.

<https://nextdoor.com/neighborhood/bigpinelake--aitkin--mn/>

At the Pine Lake Chapel- 43472 240th St

A Community Christian Church here at Big Pine Lake since 1901

Pine Lake Chapel is a great resource and meeting place that can be rented for special events. Please contact Angie Barnhart at 651-235-9874 cartoonc@juno.com or Sharon Navarre at 952-496-0172 for more information.

Open Events for all:

- **Community Potluck-Second Wednesdays at 6 p.m.** - Everyone is welcome for food, fun and games.
- **Community Men's Club Breakfast "Chat and Chew"** - Third Tuesdays at 8 a.m.
- **Memorial Day Weekend Rummage Sale** - May 24th & 25th, 2024
- **Pancake Breakfasts** - Opening of Fishing Saturday and Opening of Deer Hunting Saturday - Freewill offering
- **Sunday services with Pastor Gary Taylor** - Services at 1 p.m. on Sundays - Fellowship follows

Join Big Pine Lake Property Owners Association!

Name: _____

Lake address: _____ Aitkin, MN 56431

Email: _____ Lake Phone _____

Home/Mailing Address: _____

New Member Renewing Member I have new contact information

Membership Dues: \$35.00

Please remit payment to:

Invasive Species donation: _____

Big Pine Lake POA
Co: Sharon Esnough
44703 238TH LN
AITKIN MN 56431

Total check: _____

Due June 15th

Boat Parade
Line up on south side of island
July 6th 4:00PM

Pot Luck Picnic
All Welcome!
August 3rd, 4:30PM
44875 238th Lane
Bring a dish to share
BYOB

Fishing Contest
Saturday July 6th
Registration 8 AM-10 AM
Fish from 10 AM-Noon
Weigh-in at noon
Laurie & Mike Moores

Association Meetings at Big Pine Chapel
Spring board mtg-May 25th at 9:00AM
Summer Mtgs- July 20th
8:30AM board & 10AM membership
Fall Board-September 21st 9:00AM

Roadside Pickup
Spring: May 18th 10AM
Fall: Sept 21st 10 AM
Meet at The Junction

BPLPOA Board

Tom Hubbard	President	hub6@me.com
Mike Moore	Vice President	mmoore7985@gmail.com
Sharon Esnough	Treasurer	shortyes420@gmail.com
Mary Lin Gmach	Secretary	marylingmach@gmail.com
Marie Segar	Newsletter/Directory	Segars@comcast.net

Jerry Low	jerryjlow@gmail.com
Dick Weber	raweber200@gmail.com
Wes Thomas	suewessarb@msn.com
Stacy Robin	sgr80@msn.com
Sharrell Wright	dswright1921@gmail.com
Steve Wickham	swick62@msn.com