

2009 NALMS e-Newsletter



July

President's Message – It is summer time to work and more importantly play!

Get ready, get set, go! It is time to play in our lakes and reservoirs. No excuses accepted! We talked about this time of year and how we look forward to doing all the things that we enjoy in and around lakes, so now go do it! Even those of us who are “working;” while we dip our Secchi disks, or fill our sample bottles for nutrients and phytoplankton analysis, or while netting some zooplankton and/or fish, stop take the time to breath in the beauty and experience only what a lake or reservoir can offer. Now go play a bit!

It does not matter if you are a lake homeowner, lake-watcher, citizen volunteer monitor, swimmer, boater, skier, fisherman, limnologist, engineer, environmental scientist, or whatever; here is your chance to make hay! Go enjoy your favorite lake or two or three...

Perhaps by now you have gotten my message for July, play in or round lakes and enjoy them and the opportunity they present to you. Ok, there needs to be some balance here, so work if you must, just do not forgot why lakes and reservoirs are special places while you work. Follow my lead, as soon as I complete this short note, I am going to sample a lake, but you know I plan on falling overboard so I can get some swimming in. I will allow the lake water to embrace me as I simply enjoy the moment. (Please don't tell the client, some think that work should not be fun, but not I, not in July!)

OK now that you are almost out the door and in your nearest lake remember to share your best lake play stories at the upcoming NALMS 29th International Symposium, “Ensuring Our Lakes’ Future” in Hartford CT this October 27 – 31.

Once again, when it comes to lakes and reservoirs, NALMS is ready to move forward with its affiliates and members in reaching out to current and potential partners to enhance the understanding of lakes and reservoirs. I encourage you to get involved with NALMS and find issues that are of mutual interest to your local organization and NALMS. Please contact me or your regional director and ask how you can get more involved with the many NALMS activities. Go to www.nalms.org to find contact information for NALMS officers, directors, and committees.

Thanks,

Harry Gibbons
President, NALMS

WITHIN NALMS

Word from the Executive Director – Susan Urbas

Harry's absolutely right. This is the month of all months – Lakes Appreciation Month - to focus less on reading and writing about lakes, and more on actually getting out there to enjoy them and in the process actively do things that promote their welfare year round. So I'll be brief, with just a short update on the website, and a reminder to put in an order for the Invasive Species Cards now.

Website Update: As you know, new websites tend to be a work in progress until all the bugs are worked out. So it is with ours. While the new website has brought many improvements, including our ability to manage most of the content in-house, several problems remain for which we have now contracted with a new developer to help us resolve. While the remedial work is underway, please continue to share with us your ideas for future improvements. Also, let us know with an email message to info@nalms.org, if you would be interested in helping to develop content needed for features such as Frequently Asked Questions, the Lake Management History Timeline and How to Form a Lake Association.

Invasive Species Cards: Don't forget to submit a request for the four baseball size cards that NALMS offers through a grant from BoatUS Foundation to help lake users identify and combat the spread of Curly-leaf Pondweed, Eurasian Watermilfoil, Hydrilla, and Zebra Mussels. Distributing the cards at lake-related meetings and events is an excellent way to celebrate Lakes Appreciation Month! Upon request, these cards are available to NALMS members free of charge. [Click here to view the front side of the cards on the website.](#) [To request yours, download the order form here.](#)

A Call to Action

- ◆ *Not involved in NALMS' activities?*
- ◆ *Do you love lakes, ponds or reservoirs?*
- ◆ *Would you like to be more involved in protecting these waterbodies and watersheds for our future?*
- ◆ *Do you have special skills that you'd like to put to good use in a large organization, or simply volunteer your time for a good cause?*

Then why not become active with the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS)?

NALMS is seeking candidates that will add diversity and breadth to the Board and its committees. There are many opportunities for you to become active. You could join a NALMS committee and help with education and outreach, drafting policies and legislation to help protect waterbodies, contribute to the fundraising and marketing activities of the society, among other opportunities. For more information about joining a committee, contact Susan Urbas (info@nalms.org or 608.233.2836).

You could also become a nominee for a position on the NALMS Board of Directors, to take a more active role in steering the direction of activities that relate to these precious resources. Experience or training in lake management is not required for a board position, and we encourage candidates

with expertise in nonprofit management, leadership development, marketing, fundraising, legal issues, and membership growth and development to consider running for a Board position.

Nominations are being accepted for the following Board positions:

- President-Elect
- Treasurer
- Region 2 Director – New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico
- Region 6 Director – Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, all areas outside of the US & Canada
- Region 10 Director – Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington
- Region 12 Director – Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Saskatchewan, Yukon

The President-Elect serves a three-year term including one year as President and one year as Immediate Past-President. The Treasurer serves a two-year term. Regional Directors serve three-year terms and act and vote in the interests of the Society as a whole, while bringing regional concerns to the attention of the Board.

Nomination Process

Any member may submit nominations. Candidates must be nominated by at least two members to be eligible and self-nomination is encouraged if supported by two other NALMS members. Nominations are due no later than July 28, 2009 and must be made in writing (mail, fax or e-mail) and include an address, e-mail address and phone number for the nominee.

The Nominations Committee will screen nominees to ensure active membership and conformity with criteria for office, including, but not limited to:

- Demonstrated interest and participation in the Society;
- Leadership ability and other qualifications listed in the position requirements; and
- Willingness to accept the duties of office as outlined in the position requirements, including commitment to attend semi-annual board meetings.

Submit nominations or questions about Board position requirements to: Philip S. Forsberg (e-mail: forsberg@nalms.org). (This information is also posted in the “About Us” feature on the NALMS website).

2010 Lakes Appreciation Month Poster Contest

Promote the protection and stewardship of our aquatic resources by encouraging students to participate in the NALMS 2010 Lakes Appreciation Month Poster Contest. The student winner will have their poster displayed throughout the country on the 2010 NALMS Lakes Appreciation Month poster and will receive a special prize. Students in grades 4-8 may participate.

PLEASE PASS THIS INFORMATION ON TO YOUR LOCAL SCHOOLS!

Poster themes should focus on any lake and watershed issues, and may include topics such as pollution, aquatic invasive species, aquatic life, aquatic plants, lake ecology, and lake health. Posters should be no larger than 18 inches by 24 inches in size, and be in a style that is easily reproduced (i.e., crayon, watercolor, colored pencil, or marker). Please include the student's name, school, grade, teacher's name, and school contact information on the back of the poster. Posters must be received by the NALMS Education Committee no later than October 15, 2009.

Posters should be shipped to: NHDES, Attn: Amy Smagula, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301

Lakes Appreciation Month

July is Lakes Appreciation Month! Go and enjoy a lake, pond, or reservoir this month. You might want to even think about giving back this month. Volunteer at your favorite lake, clean up the trash, educate someone about the importance of a healthy lake, get a person to join your affiliate or NALMS, and most importantly slow down and enjoy and appreciate what you have.

Invitation to Participate in the 2009 Secchi Dip-In!

The Secchi Dip-In, co-sponsored by NALMS, the EPA and Kent State University, is now in its 16th year!

You are cordially invited to participate in this year's Secchi Dip-In, which will run from June 27 through July 19, 2009.

This three week event in June and July continues to demonstrate that volunteers can collect quality data on an international scale. How do we know it is quality data? Because the Dip-In solicits the participation of volunteer programs such as yours that train its volunteers. With your help, we have accumulated over 39,000 scientifically-useful records of data.

The Dip-In is a network of volunteer programs and volunteers, each supplying the data for state and local programs and, together with all the other Dip-In participants, gathering and providing continent-wide (and world-wide) information. Because of long term participation by volunteer programs, as of 2008 we have 1,876 water bodies with 5 or more years of data. Of those water bodies, 202 were exhibiting significant levels of change. Are changes in 11% of North America's waters significant? It might depend on whether it is "your" lake or stream that is changing. The Dip-In allows you to see how a water body is faring relative to neighboring bodies in other states and programs.

The Dip-In accepts data from a wide range of turbidity instruments such as Secchi disks, turbidity tubes and turbidimeters, and solicits other variables such as temperature and oxygen. The Dip-In also encourages the involvement of programs that sample rivers and streams, estuaries, and marine environments.

If you have not participated in the past, enroll by simply sending the Dip-In an e-mail with some information about your program. If you have participated in the past you should be getting a



separate e-mail letter. If you do not get a notice in the next day or two, it may mean that your contact's e-mail address on our mailing list is no longer correct. Please send us an e-mail with your new address and/or contact.

All of the data, including Dip-In 2008, is available on the Dip-In website, at http://dipin.kent.edu/Press_release.htm. You can retrieve data by state, by county, or by water body. If you find errors, please let us know; as you know these sites better than we do. If you want all of the information for your program or state, we can provide it as an Excel file or Access database.

We are again asking for your help to remind volunteers in your program of the Dip-In. Please use your e-mail list to notify the volunteers of the Dip-In. There is a press release you can modify at our website (http://dipin.kent.edu/Press_release.htm). A copy of a 2009 Dip-In questionnaire is also available (<http://dipin.kent.edu/Questionnaire.htm>).

For more details, contact: Bob Carlson, Department of Biological Sciences, Kent State University, Kent, OH 44242; Phone: 330.672.3992; Fax: 330.672.3713; E-mail: rcarlson@kent.edu.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS

2009 NALMS Annual Symposium in New England – Register Now!

You can now register for the 2009 symposium. It is a great time to do it. There's also information about student travel grants, pre-symposium workshops, sponsorship opportunities, and information for exhibitors.

More information about the conference in general can be found on the NALMS website at <http://www.nalms.org/nalmsnew/nalms.aspx?subcatid=42&Sid=3>.

If you have questions relevant to the program please contact Amy Smagula at Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov or 603-271-2248.



Dust Bowl to Mud Bowl, September 14-16

From Dust Bowl to Mud Bowl, a national interdisciplinary conference on sedimentation, conservation measures, and the future of reservoirs, September 14-16, Kansas City, Missouri. National experts will present information on sediment sources, reservoir damage including accelerated eutrophication caused by sedimentation, and sediment source control measures. The conference will conclude with a facilitated discussion of conference participants developing an action plan to address reservoir sedimentation issues. A closing forum will also address possible impacts of climate change on watershed and reservoir management.

The conference organized by the Soil and Water Conservation Society <http://www.swcs.org/index.cfm> and the Kansas Center for Agricultural Resources and the Environment at Kansas State University, takes place at the Westin Crown Center Hotel.

The early registration deadline is July 31, 2009. The registration fee for SWCS members is \$150 and \$195 for non- SWCS members. The fee increases by \$50 after July 31. For online conference registration go to

<https://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Register/IdentityConfirmation.aspx?e=962e7551-098f-494b-a322-1b489d1a09c7>

The room rate for the Westin Crown Center Hotel is \$107. The cutoff date for reservations at this rate is August 16, 2009. The reservation number is 888-627-8538. Mention the Soil and Water Conservation Society to get the discounted rate.

If you would like a copy of the program agenda, please contact Don Snethen by e-mail, ddsneten@cjnetworks.com.

Take the Pledge in Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Association of Lakes (WAL) and Department of Natural Resources have teamed up to encourage anglers, boaters, and all visitors to their lakes to pledge that they will take steps to prevent spreading VHS fish disease and aquatic invasive species.

They encourage you to forward this message on to all of your friends, family, and neighbors, and encourage them to take the pledge!

Take the pledge and win great prizes!

One lucky winner will receive two luxury-suite tickets to the Brewers versus the San Francisco Giants game on Saturday, September 5. All you will have to do is take the pledge to follow these simple steps:

INSPECT boats, trailers and equipment.

REMOVE plants, animals and mud.

DRAIN water from boats and all equipment.

DON'T MOVE live fish away from a waterbody.

BUY minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer. Use leftover minnows only under certain conditions

The deadline to enter is July 5, 2009.

Winners will be announced July 6, 2009. Contestants must be at least 16 years of age.

Workshop on Low Lake Levels in Northern Wisconsin

Are you concerned about lower than normal water levels on Northern lakes? The July 28th workshop will explore some of the factors that may be causing low water levels as well as lake management concerns pertaining to naturally formed lakes and impounded systems. Topic areas include:

- Connections between groundwater and surface water levels
- Which types of lakes, in which landscape settings, are most susceptible to water level declines
- How Northern Wisconsin's lakes are changing and what these changes mean for long-term lake health
- Implications of climate change in Northern Wisconsin
- Ways we can adapt to our changing lakes on both natural lake and impounded systems

The cost to attend the workshop is \$25 per person. Registration fee includes program materials, lunch, and refreshments. To register online, go to <https://www.thedatabank.com/dpg/307/donate.asp?formid=events&c=6486254> by July 21st. Also on this webpage, you can download the workshop brochure that includes agenda, paper registration form, and map and directions to the workshop. If you have any questions, please call Wisconsin Association of Lakes at 800-542-5253 (toll-free in WI only) or 608-661-4313.

AFFILIATE TALK

To foster better communication amongst the diverse group of NALMS Affiliates, this section will feature a monthly topic or question which may be of interest to many affiliates. The goal is to help affiliate groups learn from each other, be more efficient with their time and resources, and better manage our lakes and reservoirs.

TMDLs for lakes and reservoirs. How many affiliates get directly involved with the development of TMDLs? How do you handle internal loading if you are working on a nutrient TMDL? Let NALMS know what your experiences have been with TMDLs and if you have a good example of an appropriate TMDL. Also, the TMDL is just a document that gets put on the shelf. The real important item is the TMDL implementation plan that follows. Many affiliates around the country are going to be busy with nutrient standards that are being developed and then will need to quickly work on nutrient TMDLs. Share your experiences with others.

Affiliate Websites – Check out this one

A great way to see what other affiliates are doing is to check out their websites and see what they are up to and how fancy their web pages are.

www.flms.net. The Florida affiliate does a great job coordinating 5 chapters of their group throughout the large state of Florida. They also do a great job doing lake features and have a money-match grant program on line.

LAKE NEWS & INFORMATION

Supreme Court upholds permit to dump waste from Alaska gold mine into lake

Associated Press

The Supreme Court recently upheld a federal permit to dump waste from an Alaskan gold mine into a nearby lake, even though there is a strong chance that the aquatic community will be impacted. Environmentalists feared the ruling could weaken protection of other lakes, streams, and waterways from mining waste.

By a 6-3 vote, the justices said a federal appeals court wrongly blocked on environmental grounds the Army Corps of Engineer's waste disposal permit for the Kensington gold mine 45 miles north of Juneau. The mine, which had been closed since 1928, has been awaiting a resumption of operation, pending approval of the waste disposal issue. The court ruling clears the way for as much as 4.5 million tons of mine to be dumped into Lower Slate Lake in the Tongass National Forest.

The court, in its majority opinion written by Justice Anthony Kennedy, said that the Army Corp. was correct in agreeing with the mining company that the waste should be considered as "fill material" and not subject to more stringent Environmental Protection Agency standards under the federal Clean Water Act.

New Online Water Quality Standards Academy TMDL Module

EPA's Water Quality Standards Academy Online (WQSA Online) has posted its second Basic Course Supplemental Topics Module, Listing Impaired Waters and Developing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). The new online module addresses the identification and prioritization of impaired or threatened waters by states and tribes, and the development of pollutant loading analyses with a focus on meeting the state's/tribe's water quality standards. Similar to the Key Concepts modules, the Supplemental Topics Modules present text-based information across a sequence of pages that include links to further information and resources, and then a brief quiz at the end. Because these modules are supplemental, they are not associated with the Certificate of Completion earned by completing the Key Concepts modules. The website is <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/academy/supp/tmdl/>.

U.S. - Canada Update Pact to Protect and Maintain Great Lakes

The Associated Press reported on June 13 that the United States and Canada updated a key agreement that protects the Great Lakes from invasive species, climate change and other threats to the fresh water system. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon said the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, which was last amended in 1987, was no longer adequate. The agreement pledges the United States and Canada to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem. Cannon discussed that the U.S. and Canada will work together to make sure that citizens of both countries have access to safe, clean, healthy water.

Featured Lake – Ancient Lakes of the World – Lake Tanganyika

Exploring the 18 oldest lakes in the world – We now jump over to Africa to the third largest lake in the world by volume.

Lake Tanganyika is home to more than 2,000 plant and animal species, and is one of the richest freshwater ecosystems in the world. About 600 of these species exist nowhere else in the world outside the Lake Tanganyika watershed.

Tanganyika is the third largest lake in the world by volume, exceeded only by the Caspian and Baikal. Tanganyika is also one of less than 20 ancient lakes on earth. Lake Tanganyika is the second largest lake in Africa. Although it is less than half the size of Lake Victoria, it drains an area approximately the same size (200,000 km²).



Much of the lake's coastline is high escarpment, falling directly into the lake. The lake is situated within the Western Rift of the geographic feature known as the Great Rift Valley formed by the tectonic East African Rift, and is confined by the mountainous walls of the valley. It is the largest rift lake in Africa and the second largest lake by surface area on the continent.

The mean depth is 570 meters with a maximum depth of 1,470 meters. The lake of this size has a long residence time, roughly 440 years. This natural lake is considered oligotrophic but showing serious signs of cultural eutrophication.

Approximately one million people live around the lake. Tanganyika is a source of fish for consumption and for trade, and a vital transport and communications link between the countries bordering it.

Lake Tanganyika is home to over 250 cichlid fish species. African cichlid fish are the largest and most diverse radiation of vertebrate species in the world. In addition, Lake Tanganyika also contains other species flocks including non-cichlid fish, gastropods, bivalves, leeches and sponges.



This lake was an important location for World War I and the scene for two important battles. First military boats used as ferries were eventually sunk around 1916 and then later in the same year air raids occurred near the lake to take over the territory. One of the German military boats was scuttled to avoid getting into enemy hands. Later in 1927, it was resurrected by a salvage company and re-commissioned as a ferry. This boat still operates today on the lake.

Website of the Month – <http://www.fws.gov/eddies/>

The great magazine *Eddies: Reflections on Fisheries Conservation* celebrated its first anniversary in February. The magazine is a publication of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Fisheries Department and is intended to publicize the news of the fish culture and conservation, but also has a lot of great stories (from outstanding writers) about fishing in general.

You can subscribe (and check out the inaugural issue for free as a downloadable .PDF file) at this website. This website and magazine is just another great source of information.

Open Invitation to Add to the Next E-newsletter

If you are having a conference, have a lake-related question, need advice, looking for similar lake problems/solutions, have an interesting story to share, or just want to be heard throughout NALMS, please send your material to Steve Lundt at slundt@mwr.dst.co.us. All e-newsletter material is due to Steve Lundt by the first Friday of each month to be considered for inclusion in that month's e-newsletter.