

**GET THE LEAD OUT!** - Dave Plude  
A subject worth talking about...



This is a topic about replacing leaded fishing tackle with lead free fishing tackle and the use of it as an alternative in protecting our precious wildlife.

Tackling the problem can be simple in that we replace the leaded tackle with lead-free tackle alternatives which are available in many forms and are very effective in helping to stop the deaths of our wild life such as loons, eagles, and others. Lead, when ingested in sufficient quantities, is toxic and can have adverse effects on nervous and reproductive systems in animals. This metal is found in most fishing jigs and sinkers.

More and more anglers are using lead free tackle from non-poisonous metals, of which the list is many, and are becoming easier to find.

I have participated in the review and discussion of this topic myself and found it very educational and informative. There is more information to be found by visiting <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/living-green/nontoxic-tackle-get-lead-out>.



## Springtime is here!

Like many of you, I am anxiously waiting for the winter ice break up. There is something about nature ushering in a spring season. The anticipated new scenery, the sound of waves, watching boaters pass by, greeting lake lovers with the friendly Minnesota wave, and hearing the familiar songs of our great state bird, the Loon.

Keeping our lake beautiful takes all of us and our upcoming roadside cleanup is a simple way to make a big impact. By volunteering just a little time, you will help protect wildlife, keep our water clean, and make the area more enjoyable for everyone who lives or visits here.

It's also a great chance to meet neighbors and take pride in the place we share. Whether you can spare an hour or the afternoon, your help truly matters. Please consider joining us and being a part of what keeps our lake community special.

**Volunteers will meet Sunday, May 24th @ 1:00 p.m. at the home of Janine & Curt Hill, 21066 Shallow Lake Road.** Coffee, refreshments & cookies will be served prior to going out in groups to the designated roads of North Shallow Lake Road, South Shallow Lake Road and Shallow Lake Road. Garbage Bags will be provided, please bring gloves to wear.

On behalf of the SSLA, we would like to say thank you in advance for your participation.

Janine Hill - Board Member

## Mark your Calendar

- May 4 – Portable at Lake access
- May 24 – Cleanup Day
- June 12 – Boat meetup
- July 4<sup>th</sup> – Boat Parade!
- July 10 – Boat meetup
- July 25 – Brats 'n Beers
- Aug 14 – Boat meetup
- Aug 15 – Annual Mtg
- Sept 11 – Boat meetup

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello Neighbors

Another winter has passed, the snow is gone and the ice is on its way out, Mother nature seems to be confused, one day we are having a beautiful warm sunny day and then the next day is cold and snowing. I hope she sure makes up her mind; I am really looking forward to some warm sunny days and lake time.

There are some great events planned for the summer. I strongly encourage you to participate in a couple, get out and meet your neighbors and embrace this wonderful and amazing community.

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## July 4<sup>th</sup> Boat Parade - Mary Jo Swanson

Help us celebrate our country's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday by participating in the boat parade! This year you will need to **register your entry with Mary Jo Swanson by July 1st**. To register (there is NO FEE) your entry please either call, text, or email your name type of boat to 218-256-1622 or [mjdswns@gmail.com](mailto:mjdswns@gmail.com).



Judges will be stationed around the lake to determine the best boat no matter what the size—pontoon, etc. Your main theme is July 4<sup>th</sup> or patriotic. Go all out!! The winner will be judged on uniqueness, creativity, and originality. The judges will award the traveling trophy and a 1<sup>st</sup> place prize of \$50.

The boat parade begins at 10:00 a.m. at the boat landing on July 4<sup>th</sup>. When you register you will be assigned a number. If you wish to compete in the judging, **please make a sign with your assigned number large enough to be seen from the shore**. Place in on the left side of your boat. This will also be your position in the parade.

Ten judges are needed! If you would like to be a judge, please contact Mary Jo at the above number or email, and she will contact you.

### Shallow Lake Road Improvement



Feeley Township received a Minnesota Department of Transportation Local Road Improvement Grant for Shallow Lake Road. Itasca County is the acting sponsor for the project, and is working with Bolton & Menk Civil Engineering, the Feeley Township Board and the State LRIP engineers.

Thanks go out to Deb Langanki, the Feeley Township Board and Bolton & Menk for all their hard work in the grant application process. This is not a small accomplishment!

Although the process is complex and takes time, we are fairly optimistic for the project to begin late fall 2026.

Look for updates from our SSLA Facebook page, your Feeley Board members, or this newsletter.

- Joanne Watson

### Your Sand/Shallow Lake Association Board

President	Michelle Nelson
President Elect	Wesley Sisson
Past President	Jan Bilden
Secretary	Deb Sagedahl
Treasurer	Fay Klande
Board Members	Cindy Bonn
	Becky Ogden McCauley
	Dave Plude
	Janine Hill
	Denise Minea
Newsletter	Joanne Watson

### Shallow Lake Access Portable Toilet

The Shallow/Sand Lake Association will sponsor a portable ("portapotty") at the public landing on Shallow Lake again this year. At the annual meeting, there was strong support to continue this, as it is important in terms of keeping our waters clean as well as convenience for those using the landing or walking and biking along the road.

Unfortunately, the grant which funded 50% of the cost is not available through Itasca Soil and Water AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) and the full cost will be borne by the association, as approved at the meeting.

Our annual dues are the lowest in the county among lake associations (\$15) and the seasonal cost of having the portable, which includes weekly maintenance, was almost \$700. The generosity of residents with extra gifts is greatly appreciated to support this project.

Dates are May 4 through Labor Day 😊 - Jan Bilden

### Shoreland Lake Zone Environment

There have been concerns raised about the number of boats and motor vehicles that are parked long-term within the run-off (Zone 3) and upland (Zone 4) areas by Shallow and Sand Lakes.

Not only is this unsightly for neighbors and those on the lake, but presents a threat to the waters due to the possibility of gas and oil leaks. Please be considerate and store boats and motors properly and away from our lakes. Thank you.

For more about shoreland care and managing lake runoff go to <https://itascaswcd.org/images/Itasca-Country-Shoreland-Guide-2018.pdf>  
- Jan Bilden

## More Fun Things to do With Your Lake Community This Summer



Boat float 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays – meetup on Shallow Lake 6pm with your neighbors (bring food to share). In case of incl weather, we will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday. Musicians (and bagpipers) welcome! ...June 12...July 10...August 14... Sept 11...

Shallow Lake Brats & Beer – Nelsons (Chris & Michelle) and the SSLA Board are again hosting this summer get-together July 25<sup>th</sup>, 5-9pm. Join us for an evening of fun with your lake community. S'mores, brats and water provided. Bring your own beverage, a dish to share, and an extra chair or two!

SSLA Annual Meeting – This year's annual meeting will again be at Warba Bethel Lutheran Church Aug 15 at 9:30 and will feature the usual breakfast extraordinaire by the board. Also visiting us is Hannah Leeper, bear expert from the Mn DNR sharing her stories and talking about being bear-wise.

### Spring Break-Up - Jan Bilden

It is the third week of April and we are near our historical average ice-out date for Shallow Lake. There is 65 years of data, the first 39 thanks to Ralph Herring, longtime resident of the west end. From 1960-1999, Ralph's information shows that the average ice-out date was April 23 with the earliest being April 3 and the latest May 3.

Since 1999, with climate change, there has been much more variation. Our earliest of this century is March 17 in 2024 and the latest was May 14 in 2013, a span of almost two months, so twice that of pre-2000. When we talk about climate change we note average temperatures and length of heat waves have increased, weather patterns have been disrupted and changed the predictability of our seasons.

Also note that McGuire Lake just south of Shallow Lake was totally open by April 19..

Here is Shallow Lake data for the last 5 years for comparison:

2021: April 5	2022: May 6
2023: May 5	2024: March 17
2025: April 18	2026: April 23

### ... President's Letter cont.

Remember our goal is always the health of our lakes. Use a 5-star service if you are using someone to put in your dock. Make sure all equipment is clean before putting in the lake.

Wishing you a great fishing opener and safe and healthy Memorial Day.

See you on the Lake! - Michelle



### Itasca FiveStar Service Providers

Please move your business to an Itasca FiveStar service provider. FiveStar providers are DNR-certified, sign a contract agreeing to apply additional specified AIS best-practices and safeguards when moving from one lake or river to another, and agree to help identify and disseminate AIS best practices and safeguards throughout Itasca County. See description of services below, there are FiveStar Marine Dealers and Landscapers available. For much more information visit the link to Itasca Soil & Water Conservation District below:

<https://www.itascaswcd.org/five-star-program>

**Grand Rapids Marine** 218-326-0351

<http://www.grandrapidsmarine.com>

**Thousand Lakes Dock and Lift** (Matt 218-398-7553, Andy 218-259-0955)

<https://www.thousandlakesdockandlift.com>

[Matt.TLDL@gmail.com](mailto:Matt.TLDL@gmail.com) or [AndyA.TLDL@gmail.com](mailto:AndyA.TLDL@gmail.com)

**JJ's Barge Service**, Justin Jordan 218-244-5194

<http://jjsbargeservice.com>

**38 Outpost** - Mobile phone 218-259-9997,

<https://www.facebook.com/38Outpost>

**Lake Home Helpers** Greg Kujawa 218-969-5028

<https://lake-home-helpers.business.site/>

**\*\*Grooms Property Services** Paul Grooms 218-259-2157

<https://groomspropertyservice.com>

**\*\* Grooms Property Service** has been bought by Willey's Marine in McGregor. Jerry Hoover from Willey's reached out to me and said they take AIS prevention very seriously and have submitted paperwork to be a 5-Star Certified Provider. They partner with MHD Lake Service for seasonal install/removal: 218-520-5889.

- Joanne Watson

**\*\*\*MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM\*\*\***

**The Shallow/Sand Lake Association**

*Get Involved Make a Difference Be Involved*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Interested in Volunteering? (board vacancies Aug 2026) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Additional donation  Porta-pot  Water Testing  Newsletter

\_\_\_\_\_ Annual dues \$15 – please renew before or at Annual Meeting

Checks may be sent to Shallow/Sand Lake Association, PO Box 2734, Warba, MN 55793.

**Thank you, members, who also have given additional gifts to support SSLA.**



Shallow Sand Lake Association

P.O. Box 2734

Warba, Mn 55793

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1069219389836059/?ref=bookmarks>