



BALSAM, RED CEDAR, HEMLOCK,
BASS & MUD LAKES
Preserve and Protect for the Future.

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SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Well, we survived another winter and it sure seemed like the cold would never go away!! As I write this article, there is still ice on the lakes, but you can certainly see a glimpse of hope that it will soon be gone and spring activities can finally begin. RCLA activities are already well under way, so please take the time to read each committee report in the newsletter as they will clearly outline the work they will be conducting in 2022.

Open Board Position



I want to give a special shout out to our current RCLA Secretary, Rose Kopras. Rose has ably served our Association for many years and is now planning to spend her time on the lake and at the farm. This means we need a volunteer to fill Rose's role. If you, or anyone you know, may be interested in becoming more involved in this outstanding organization, please reach out to me at vbausc@yahoo.com. Prior to becoming President, I was Secretary for a number of years and would be more than happy to discuss the key responsibilities and (relatively minimal) time commitment of this position as well as answer any questions you might have. This is a key position on our board so we appreciate your help in identifying a secretary right away.

Financial Support/Donations

We appreciate the continued support the Red Cedar Lakes Association has received through membership dues and purchasing of the coupon book. Over the winter, we had an unexpected surprise with two generous donations to the Red Cedar Lakes Association. We would like to thank the Richard Bury Foundation again for their donation as well as the anonymous donation we received. Special donations like these along with your membership dues and coupon book purchases will help keep our mission "To preserve, Protect and Improve Red Cedar, Balsam, Hemlock, Bass and Mud lakes, their watershed and ecosystem" alive for future generations.

Volunteerism



Volunteering is still needed and important to accomplish our goals each committee has set forth in 2022. We have nine active committees in which you can volunteer and ALL SKILLS ARE WELCOME!! As a friendly reminder, there are various ways to sign up to volunteer. You can contact the Committee

PRESIDENT/OFFICER/NATURE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Valerie Bausch (612) 308-2242
vbausc@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT/OFFICER

Gerry Johnson (715) 410-5341
geraldjj@centurytel.net

SECRETARY/OFFICER

Rose Kopras (651) 491-6648
lakwisn@gmail.com

TREASURER/OFFICER

John Page (651) 208-2379
john.page.rcl@gmail.com

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Tom Goodwin (612) 868-4857
tlgfin1@gmail.com
Brett Heinlein (414) 254-0810
bwhleinlein0810@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Michelle Fischer (763) 954-0039
rclacommunication@gmail.com

COUPON BOOK COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Kathy Salvi (828) 228-8993
kathy.salvi@gmail.com

FISH HABITAT COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Tim Plaza (715) 826-0113
plazaberries349@gmail.com

LAKE INFORMATION & SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Len Christianson (612) 247-9771
lenc@centurytel.net

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Runae Maloney (612) 597-2906
runaed@skcable.com

SHORELINE & ISLAND RESTORATION COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Michael Klutho (612) 875-8014
mklutho2801@gmail.com

WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Tim Lewis (651) 962-6741
oldtobylewis@gmail.com



Chair (all are listed on the front page of this newsletter), you can go out to our website at www.redcedarlakes.com or you can send an email to me at vbausc@yahoo.com. A special THANK YOU to those that have volunteered throughout the years ... your time and dedication is greatly appreciated!!.

Annual Meeting



The RCLA Annual Meeting will take place on Sat., July 9, 2022 from 9:00-10:30 at Loch Lomond Beach Club. We encourage our membership to attend as you will hear updates from our Committee Chairs on the progress of the important work taking place on our lakes, financial updates from our Treasurer, President's direction and membership voting on open board positions. Per our policy, we will be sending out a postcard to all members 30 days in advance of the meeting as a reminder. Details of the meeting will also be on our website.

Valerie Bausch President



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) COMMITTEE

We have another very active year planned. Below is a brief description of the upcoming projects:

Curly Leaf Pondweed:

In May we will be on the lake conducting the CLP pre-treatment surveys for Birch, Hemlock and Red Cedar lakes. These surveys provide us information regarding the amount of CLP actively growing in our lakes. The survey results provide the information necessary to determine where and how much herbicide treatment should be done to control CLP in our lakes.

Each spring the degree of CLP growth in our lakes can vary significantly. In past years we've treated as few as 2.5 acres and as many as 27.93 acres. We modify the amount of herbicide treatment each year to match actual CLP growth seen in our pre-treatment surveys.

During the summer/fall of 2021 we contracted with Freshwater Scientific Services

to perform two studies for us. The first was to conduct a bed mapping study to determine where CLP is found within Balsam, Red Cedar and Hemlock lakes. Most years we have RCLA volunteers perform the CLP bed mapping study. Every few years we have this study done by a professional to ensure we aren't missing any significant CLP beds within the lake. The study done by Freshwater Scientific Services confirmed previous studies performed by RCLA volunteers.

Note, we don't perform annual CLP bed mapping on either Bass or Mud Lakes. We are very fortunate that CLP has not been found in Bass Lake. At the current time we are not able to treat CLP in Mud Lake due to WI DNR restrictions.

This coming summer we will again be completing the CLP bed mapping study with the help of RCLA volunteers. If you'd like to help out, please contact either Tom or Brett. It's a great way to spend the day, help protect our lakes and to increase your knowledge of our lakes.



Mature Curly Leaf Pondweed

The second Freshwater Scientific Services study was performed this past fall and was a CLP turion density study. Turions are the seeds that mature CLP plants produce each year. When the CLP plant matures the turions fall off the plant and settle into the bottom of the lake. Turions can remain dormant in the lake bed for up to seven years before regenerating.

The RCLA completed a similar turion density study in 2012. The purpose of the fall 2021 study was to determine the current densi-



Curly Leaf Pondweed Turion

ty of turions in our lake beds and make a comparison to the 2012 study results. This comparison provides us some insight into the success of our CLP management efforts.

The Turion study indicates that we've seen a reduction in our actively growing CLP over the past ten years. The study indicates a reduction in turion density in Red Cedar Lake. The turion density remains about the same in Hemlock and Balsam, however the level of actively growing plants in these lakes has been reduced.

Freshwater Scientific Service's report for the CLP bed mapping and 2021 Turion Density study have been posted on the RCLA website. I'd encourage you to take a look at the report. It provides maps of the current CLP beds within our lakes and detailed comments on each of the lakes.

Purple Loosestrife Monitoring:

We will again be identifying and eradicating purple loosestrife in our lakes this coming year. July and August are peak times for this activity. This is when the plants flower and are most easily identified. The RCLA Nature Committee leads the effort to identify and eradicate purple loosestrife each summer.

Last year, due to COVID restrictions, we were not able to raise and release beetles to help control purple loosestrife. We are hoping we can restart this program this spring. This is a cooperative effort between the Birchwood Charter School, Washburn County Conservation and RCLA volunteers.

Over the years we've done a good job of controlling purple loosestrife on and near our lakes. However, purple loosestrife is a very persistent plant. Last summer we found purple loosestrife in several new areas of the lake. This illustrates the need to continually monitor and remove this invasive plant.

Shoreline Habitat Studies:

We've completed completing shoreline habitat studies on all our lakes; Balsam, Red Cedar Hemlock, Mud and Bass Lakes. These studies examine the health of our shorelines. The results of these studies provide insight concerning whether water quality improvements can be achieved through better shoreline management. If you would like a copy of the shoreline study for your lakefront property, please contact Michael Klutho - Shoreline Restoration Chair.

Ongoing Monitoring of AIS:

This coming summer we will again be performing ongoing monitoring to determine if any new AIS is present on our lakes. This includes placing Zebra Mussel plates on all our lakes, monitoring them on an ongoing basis and throwing rakes to check for any new AIS plants.

We have been fortunate that no new aquatic invasive species have been discovered in our lakes for many years.



Zebra Mussel Plate

AIS Education

On August 28, 2021 we held an RCLA Member Education meeting at the Town Hall in Mikana, WI. Several topics were discussed; Water Quality, Shoreline Resto-

ration, and our AIS efforts. The AIS education presentation has been posted to the RCLA website. The presentation provides an excellent overview of the AIS currently present within our lakes and RCLA's efforts to manage AIS going back to 2005. If you were unable to attend this meeting, I'd encourage you to go out to the RCLA Website to review the presentation.



Clean Boats Clean Water:

Every summer my brother brings his boat up for our annual fishing weekend. He lives near Madison and regularly fishes the Madison chain of lakes. When we launched his boat last summer we had lengthy conversation about Clean Boats and Clean Water. The Madison chain of lakes is host to a wide variety of invasive species including Eurasian Milfoil and Zebra Mussels. No one ever intended to introduce these invaders into those lakes but it happened. As a result, there is a lot of time, effort and money being put into trying to control invasive species in the Madison chain.

Understanding the reality of these problems when I asked my brother to use the decontamination station at our landing, he willingly complied. Our lakes are beautiful and to keep them that way we each need to do our part. Please encourage your family and friends to comply with our Clean Boats and Clean Water efforts by using our decontamination stations when they are launching or taking out their watercraft. These efforts go a long ways in keeping our lakes the wonderful resource that they are.

We are again recruiting paid landing monitors for our CBCW campaign. Monitors need to

be at least 16 years old and have the opportunity to spend some time quality time at one of the landings on our fantastic lakes. Working as a landing monitor is a critical role in protecting our lakes.

Conclusion:

As a reminder, many of the studies that have been performed on our lakes are available on the Red Cedar Lake Association (RCLA) website. The RCLA – Lake Management Plan is also available on the website. This report provides some great

information concerning the historical management that has taken place as well as our vision for the future.

We continue to enjoy excellent water quality in our lakes. We will be working hard to ensure this continues this coming summer and in future years. This work can't be completed without the help of volunteers. For all of you that have helped in the past - Thank You! If you have an interest in getting involved, please let us know (scan QR code below to complete volunteer form). We would love

to have your help – it's fun, educational and helps ensure the future quality of our lakes.

If you have any questions related to the various studies or presentations that have been posted on the RCLA website, please feel free to give one of us a call. Our phone numbers are located on the front of the newsletter.

Have a wonderful summer!

**Tom Goodwin &
Brett Heinlein**



NATURE COMMITTEE

Spring is finally here and it sure is nice to see the robins back and feel the warm sun. Before you know it, the ice will be off the lakes, our loons will be back and we will get to start enjoying all our summer lake activities!!

The Nature Committee's top priority will remain the continued participation in the Wisconsin LoonWatch Program, which helps protect common loons and their aquatic habitats through education, monitoring, and research. Other key activities for the Nature Committee will include expanding our "dark skies" program to educate residents on reducing bright lights on our lakes, monitoring and eradication of Purple Loosestrife and promoting the value and importance of using lead-free tackle.

Another important topic I would like to emphasize is the importance of not leaving any old fishing tackle in our lakes. This past summer we had a juvenile loon in distress as it had some fishing line with a sinker wrapped around its bill and could not feed properly. The Nature Committee contacted two wildlife rescue specialists, Linda and Kevin Grenzer, and although they are the best in the business and traveled to our lakes on two separate occasions to rescue our loon with the help of the Nature Committee, Larry Johnson and Tom Goodwin, they were unsuccessful. What happened to the loon we will probably never know ... so please, take the time to eliminate any unwanted fishing tackle in our lakes so we do not have another unfortunate incident.



Nature Committee with Kevin & Linda Grenzer before attempted loon rescue



Kevin & Linda Grenzer with Larry Johnson to attempt loon rescue

The Nature Committee currently has nine active members, but we are always looking for more volunteers to help promote our vision and make the Red Cedar Lakes a safe refuge for wildlife. If you are interested in joining this great committee or attending our next meeting to learn more about our 2022 activities, please contact chair Valerie Bausch at vbause@yahoo.com

Valerie Bausch

NATURE PROGRAM – JUNE 4, 2022

The Nature Committee will be hosting their annual Nature Program this year after 2 years of having to cancel due to COVID. We are excited to have Steve Betchkal be our guest speaker on **“Wisconsin’s Richness of Birds”**. The program will be on Saturday, June 4, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Loch Lomond Beach Club. Steve is an ornithologist (expert on birds), has authored several bird books, traveled all over the world studying and photographing birds and in his 30 years as a professional journalist he has produced 11,000 TV stories. In his presentation, Steve explores some amazing facts about some of the 400 birds we have here in Wisconsin -- from migration to anatomy to song, with a healthy dose of humor and conversation. **This program is free and, perfect for the whole family!**

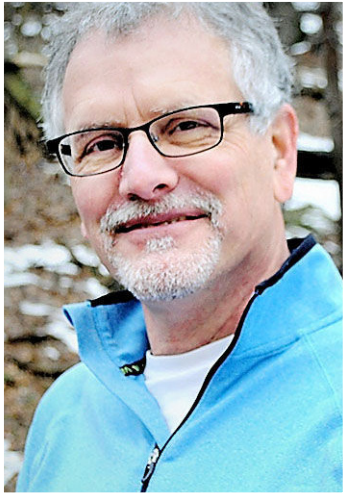


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Susan Albrinck

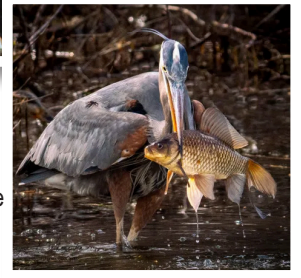


Photo credit:
Wayne Wegenke

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

As the communication committee chair, I hope you're enjoying the spring newsletter and finding a wealth of information from the various committees. In fact there's so much to share that I'm going to ask you to visit our website for further information www.redcedarlakes.com. Here you will find a variety of resources including:

- 2021 RCLA Lake Management Summary Report
- 2021 Red Cedar chain turion & CLP bed mapping study
- 2022 Red Cedar island restoration project plan & aerial view images
- Educational meeting presentations
- Previous Newsletters
- Committee contact information
- Donation Information
- University of Minnesota researchers study – waves created by recreational boats
- Contact info for RCLA sponsors and so much more!



Another excellent resource to keep in-the-know is our Facebook page: Red Cedar Lakes Association. News and announcements are frequently made here along with events and/or educational opportunities for you as our member.

Finally, I enjoy sharing a new recipe I've found with you each season. Today, the recipe is from the Real Food DIETITIANS. This recipe is fresh and yummy, perfect for a summer afternoon at the lake or on the boat.



Thai-Inspired Peanut Quinoa Salad

This salad is healthy, hearty, and loaded with colorful veggies. It is egg-free, gluten-free, vegetarian, and dairy-free.

Top it with crushed peanuts, cilantro, and lime juice to make it the perfect addition to any meal. You will find the recipe by scanning the QR code to the right with the camera on your phone. Enjoy!

Michelle Fischer



SCAN ME



COUPON BOOK COMMITTEE

As temperatures rise and the ice comes off the lake, our thoughts turn to spring and summer activities! To help with those plans, around the end of April, you will receive the RCLA 2022-2023 Coupon Book. It has been my pleasure to work with the local business owners of forty-five establishments, who have supplied seventy-nine valuable coupons to you. I hope you will take time to look through the book and discover the many ways our local community has chosen to support the RCLA and you.

Are you wondering, why have I received this exciting book and what do I need to do next? This is our only RCLA fundraiser and your donation of \$25 allows you to freely use these coupons. You may send your donation using the enclosed envelope, and then use your book to enjoy the benefits of our supportive businesses. As you redeem the coupons, please let the businesses know you appreciate their support.

The monies received from this fundraiser are used to strengthen our financial position for the sole purpose of being ready to respond to initiatives that help fulfill our mission, 'to protect and preserve for the future.' At this time, we are enjoying beautifully clean waters, waters relatively free from AIS and

shorelines that are being improved through the work of the dedicated RCLA volunteers. Your support matters.

If you did not receive the Coupon Book and want one, please let me know.

- Send a message through our website <https://www.redcedarlakes.com> or our Facebook page
- Contact Kathy Salvi at 828.228.8993 or RCLAkathysalvi@gmail.com

If you would like more Coupon Books, they

are available for a donation of \$30 at Cedar Lake Grill, Dairy State Bank in Birchwood, Birchwood Café, and Butternut Hills Golf Course.

I hope you enjoy the coupon book as much as I did while working with our local business community. If there are businesses you would like to see added to the book, please let me know. I would love to collaborate with them to make the book even better in the future. Enjoy your time on our beautiful lakes and stay safe!!

Kathy Salvi

RCLA
2022 - 2023
Savings Guide
\$30 Donation

OVER \$850 in SAVINGS!
79 Local Coupons

RED CEDAR LAKES ASSN.
BALSAM, RED CEDAR, HEMLOCK,
BASS & MUD LAKES
Preserve and Protect for the Future.

The Red Cedar Lakes Association thanks you and the following participating restaurants, businesses and golf courses for supporting our organization to "Preserve and Protect for the Future"

<https://www.redcedarlakes.com>

Coupon Book Restaurants, Golf Courses & Businesses

Airtec
Back 9 Campground
Bair's Edgewater Store (3)
Bear Tracks (2)
Birch Lakes Resort
Butternut Hills Golf
Cedar Lake Grill (2)
Century 21
Cheers (11)
Cumberland Golf Club
Dairy State Bank (Back Cover)
Don Johnson Motors (2)
Ed's Pitstop (5)
Gary's Grocery (2)
Grinders

Jason Market (2)
Jimmy John's (2)
Kincaid's Country Inn
Lake Kids
Lehman's
Marshall House
Mary's Bluegill Bar (2)
MTJ Home Security
My Last Resort - Cedar Lake Grill
Norske Nook Restaurant & Bakery
Northside Café
Northwoods Lift & Dock (2)
Outdoor Ventures
Paws at Play (4)
Pine Ridge

Rice Lake Printery (2)
Rolling Oaks Golf Course (2)
Rustic Corner Cafe (2)
Spider Lake Saloon (2)
Sunset View Golf
Tagalong Golf & Resort
The Birchwood Cafe (2)
The Creamery
The Landing On Long Lake
The Roost (2)
Two Sisters
Unique Design and Spa (2)
Wagon Wheel (2)
Wildflower

FISH HABITAT COMMITTEE

Spring is finally here and the ice should be going out shortly. For many of us, all thoughts turn to fishing!

The Fish Sticks and Tree Drop programs are picking up steam on the Red Cedar chain of lakes. Fish Sticks and Tree Drops are two ways of improving fish habitat on Red Cedar, Hemlock and Balsam. Tree Drops are used to add woody structure to the shoreline for additional fish habitat. The programs differ slightly in requirements, but add the same structure to the lakes.

“Tree Drops” is the program the Fish Habitat Committee will be working on this year. It entails finding shore-land owners willing to be involved in placing trees in the water along their shoreline. There are very specific rules and regulations that need to be followed as well as reports that must be made to the Department of Natural Resources.

The Fish Habitat Committee is willing to assist the homeowner with the project, as well as provide some of the cable and clamps required to anchor the trees. Tree size, tree species and where the tree was harvested are all spelled out in a DNR publication.

Last summer, a land owner on Balsam Lake agreed to a tree drop to be placed on his shoreline. The property owner, along with Dan Ellefson (former Fish Habitat Chairman) and I tried a summer tree placement rather than the traditional winter placement. The 40 foot oak tree with an 11 inch diameter was placed and anchored on the property in about two hours.



This summer, we are planning on completing several more tree drops, working with various shore-land owners.

When you are fishing this summer, (especially with the kids and grandchildren), and you notice a new tree in the water that is cabled to the bank, be sure to thank the landowner when you bring in a nice crappie, bluegill or bass!

Tim Plaza



LAKE INFORMATION AND SAFETY COMMITTEE



University of Minnesota researchers have completed an extensive study of waves created by recreational boats.

“Researchers from the University of Minnesota St. Anthony Falls Laboratory carefully measured the maximum height, total energy, and maximum power of the waves from wakes produced by four recreational boats—two wake surf boats and two more typical recreational boats. They also measured how the wake waves changed as they moved away from the boats and toward shore.”

This study found that popular wake surf boats require a greater distance from the shoreline and other boats compared to more typical recreational boats. This distance is needed to reduce the potential impact of their larger waves. Please refer to the “Manage Your Wake” flyer to the right and posted at boat landing kiosks to familiarize yourself with the Water Sport Industry Association’s guidance for minimum distance from shoreline while operating your boat.

Please see our website for a link to the U of M waves created by recreational boats study. We have also posted their FAQ flyer for your reference.


Finally, please e-mail me if you have an interest in getting some hands on time for those kids who have completed on-line boater safety (links also found on our RCLA website).

Safe boating...

Len Christianson



SCAN ME



MANAGE YOUR WAKE

BE A RESPONSIBLE WATER SPORT PARTICIPANT BY COMPLYING WITH THE WSIA (WATER SPORT INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION) GUIDANCE FOR WAKE BOAT OPERATORS.

- Maintain a minimum distance of **200 feet** from any shoreline and others enjoying the lake. **RED CEDAR LAKES ASSOCIATION RECOMMENDS 400 FEET.**
- Minimize repetitive passes in the same area.
- Keep music at reasonable levels.

Remember: your wake has an impact on

- Property damage
- Shoreline erosion
- The lake bed and wildlife habitat
- The safety of others on the lake
- The transportation of AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) in the ballast tanks and on trailers

Wisconsin Statute 30.66 (3) PROHIBITED OPERATION

(a) No person may operate a motorboat within 100 feet of any dock, raft, pier, or buoyed restricted area on any lake at a speed in excess of slow-no-wake.

1. No person may operate a motorboat at a speed in excess of slow-no-wake within 100 feet of the shoreline of any lake.

Wisconsin Statute 30.68 (2) & (4) PROHIBITED OPERATION

(2) **NEGLIGENT OPERATION.** No person may operate or use any boat, or manipulate any water skis, aquaplane or similar device upon the waters of this state in a careless, negligent or reckless manner so as to endanger that person's life, property or person, or the life, property or person of another.


(4) **CREATING HAZARDOUS WAKE OR WASH**

(a) No person shall operate a motorboat so as to approach or pass another boat in such a manner as to create a hazardous wake or wash.

(b) An operator of a motorboat is liable for any damage caused to the person or property of another by the wake or wash from such motorboat unless the negligence of such other person was the primary cause of the damage.

If you witness boats violating distance laws call the Sheriff's Department:

On Red Cedar and Hemlock	715-537-3106
On Balsam Lake	715-468-4720
or Wisconsin DNR Enforcement	1-800-847-9367



Take the test. Go to WSIA.NET/WAKE-RESPONSIBLY for more information on how you can keep our lakes safe and your sport friendly.



Photo credit: Healthy Waters Initiative, University of Minnesota



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

We are winding down winter and gearing up for spring as I write this. We currently have 568 members from 384 properties. Membership dues total \$11,360. Currently, I am waiting for replies from 57 properties who have not renewed their membership. A second, and final, reminder has been sent. Our 2021 membership was 630.

The Membership Invitation Folder, along with an introduction letter, was sent to 300 property owners who are not currently members but own 'property with improvements' on Balsam, Red Cedar, Hemlock, Mud and Bass Lakes.

In addition to the membership dues, our members donated \$8,422 to the work of the individual committees. We also received a \$10,000 anonymous donation, which was designated to be used for Water Quality and AIS initiatives. On behalf of the Board, I want to say THANK YOU for renewing your membership, and for your generous donations.

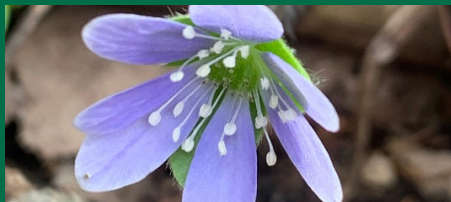
We currently have eleven corporate memberships listed below. Again, on behalf of the Board, THANK YOU for supporting the RCLA and its mission to 'preserve and protect for the future'.

Enjoy the summer – volunteer, if you can, and invite your non-member neighbors to become members.

Runae Maloney



CORPORATE MEMBERS



Airtec Sports
203 S Main Street
Rice Lake, WI 54868
(715) 234-8174
<https://airtecsportsricelake.com>

Birchwood Café
120 Main Street
Birchwood, WI 54817
(715) 354-3000
<https://www.birchwoodcafe.com>

Cedar Lake Grill
2670 27th Street
Mikana, WI 54857
(715) 254-9951
<https://cedarlakegrill.business.site>

Cedar Ridge Wealth Management Group, LTD
8530 Eagle Point Blvd., Suite 250
Lake Elmo, MN 55042
(651) 200-4144
<https://www.cedarridgewealth.com/>

Dairy State Bank
124 S Main Street
Birchwood, WI 54817
(715) 354-3411
<https://dairystatebank.com/>

Ed's Pitstop
701 WI-48
Birchwood, WI 54817
(715) 354-7991
<https://www.edspitstop.biz>

The Gathering Place
2738 27 1/2 Avenue
Birchwood, WI 54817
(715) 354-3029
<https://gatheringplaceresort.com/>

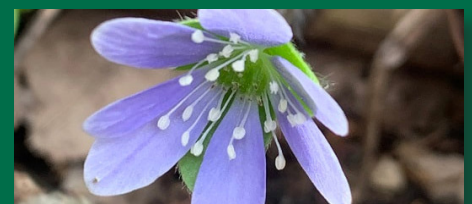
Loch Lomond Beach Club
2754 28th Street
Birchwood, WI 54817
(715) 354-3400
<https://www.llbeachclub.com/>

Mikana Marine & Resort
2718 26 1/2 Ave
Rice Lake, WI 54868
(715) 234-3008
<https://www.mikanamarineresort.com>

Perlick Distillery
W5150 County Hwy. B
Sarona, WI 54870
(715) 296-5087
<https://perlickdistillery.com>

Pines at the Lake
2801 27th Street
Birchwood, WI 54817
(612) 875-8014
<https://pinesatthelake.com/>

**THANK YOU! PLEASE
SUPPORT THESE
LOCAL BUSINESSES.**



Challenge Met! Our Island Will Be Preserved & Enhanced

We are pleased to report that thanks to generous donations from our Members, the Northernmost island on Red Cedar Lake will undergo rehabilitation and enhancement this upcoming season. Our request for donations ear-marked to cover the costs of the much-needed shoring up of this island – one of only a few islands on our chain of lakes open to everyone to use – was a resounding success. RCLA extends our sincere thanks to our Members for their willingness to invest in preserving and enhancing our high-quality lakes through this island preservation initiative.

So, what's going to take place? First, the badly eroded shoreline areas around the island will be reinforced with carefully selected and hand-placed rocks. Next, the Southern

Here is an overview of the areas of the island that are included in this project and the work to be performed in each area. See website under "RCLA Grants & Lake Plans" tab for 2022 Red Cedar Island Restoration Project Aerial View: <https://www.redcedarlakes.com/grants-lake-plans>



area on the island itself has become degraded so it will be re-vegetated with native plantings designed to maintain the island surface itself utilizing the vegetation's deep and extensive root structure.



The project itself is being undertaken via a three-way partnership. RCLA has teamed up with the Wisconsin DNR and Barron County to jointly plan and secure permits for the project. All three will now undertake this island rehab project during this summer. Special shout outs go to Tyler Gruetzmacher, the Barron County Conservationist and Aaron Cole and Kyle Young with the DNR. Their knowledge and expertise and willingness to work with our association allowed us to make this project possible. And their direction during the rehab work itself will ensure its success. Thanks to all of them.

Thanks also goes out to Jeff Rettenmund with Bull Dozin, Inc. for braving the cold (and trusting the ice) to get our rip-rap supplies staged onto the island so we are ready to go once the ice melts and the fish spawn is over. Jeff and his colleagues hand selected the special sized and style of rock needed for this project in the dead of winter. It's questionable whether their hands have fully thawed as of yet! We will wait until it's warmer to move the dirt and other supplies over by boat.

One of the interesting things we learned from the DNR while gearing up for this project is that the shallow areas around this particular island are some of our best walleye spawning areas. Because of this, we will be hand placing all of the rip-rap rocks after the spawn is over. Our work will be conducted with great care and under the direct supervision of the DNR to ensure that this prime spawning habitat is preserved.

Again, we can't thank enough all who came together to make this project a reality. Especially our generous Member donors and our partners in this project, the experts at the DNR and Barron County.

You'll probably see us working on this project while you are out boating this upcoming season. What you will see is your RCLA volunteer-driven Association fulfilling its mission to keep our lakes healthy and preserved. Be sure to wave and please be sure to note that certain areas of the island will be roped off. We really do need everyone's help in making sure this rehabilitation project is successful so please limit your activity on the South end of the island so as not to disturb the new plantings we will be installing there.

Michael Klutho



WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

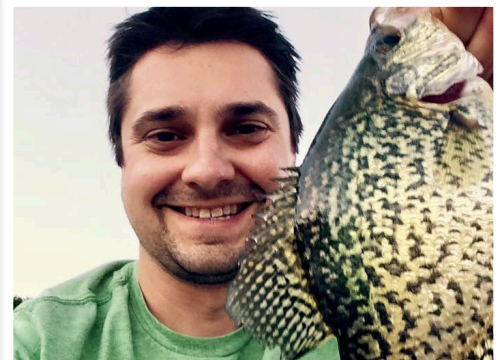
New Comprehensive Lakes Management Plan this Year

Clean water is no accident, and our chain of lakes benefit from a very active association that has been using the last management plan from 2004 to guide our efforts. It is past time for a new plan. These ideally would be updated every decade. Based on the last 18 years of experience, and as many years of data, we have been developing a new comprehensive lake management plan. Your input will be the next step.

The Red Cedar Lakes Association has been collecting lake quality data since 1987 and stream water sampling since 2018. We have been actively managing aquatic invasive plants like curly leaf pondweed since 2012, with plans going back to 2010. We have been working with LEAPS, our lakes consulting firm since 2010. And we have been active in getting Department of Natural Resources grants for over a dozen years to leverage association dollars with over a million dollars of government funding for lake quality.

The last comprehensive plan for the area was published in 2004. We are currently analyzing data and getting professional input on the data and management options. Once the first draft is ready for review, you will get a chance to learn about it and comment on it. This is an important step! We will need your input since the association represents you as the area landowner or lake user. Watch for opportunities on our website.

Tim Lewis





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