



Lakeshore News

The Official Newspaper Of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association

Vol. 51, No. 02

P.O. Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515

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INSIDE

Welcome Back!

President's Corner



*Roger Anderson
OTLPOA President*

Spring has sprung... The ice is off and we look forward to another wonderful summer on our lakes. The golf courses are open, our favorite restaurants have opened for another season, and we're ready for time with friends, pontooning, waterskiing, fishing and, (of course) company!

One of the reasons the Ottertail Lakes Property Owners Association was formed was to ensure that we can continue to enjoy all that the lakes area has to offer. We want to make certain that our lakes are clean and free from invasive species. We will continue to monitor our lakes with our wonderful group of volunteer water testers and to educate our property owners on ways to better our county's water quality.

Speaking of education, that will be our major focus this year. We want to educate our neighbors and friends on the benefits of membership in this association as well as to educate all of us on different types of invasive species and things each of us can do to ensure that we keep our lakes as clean as possible.

Please plan to attend our Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 26 (location to be determined). Meg Duhr, Outreach Specialist for the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center will update all of us on programs and initiatives throughout the state.

The 73rd Minnesota Governor's Fishing Opener will be held May 13-15 on Ottertail Lake. Please check out their website at www.mngovernorsopener.com to get updates and information.

So many exciting things happening on our lakes this summer! Get out there and enjoy.

OTLPOA MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

have been mailed.

If you do not receive a renewal form you are encouraged to let us know immediately.

Renewal forms can be found on page 5 please fill out and mail to

PO Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515 or you can visit

www.OTLPOA.com

and under the membership section pay online.

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I would take them out on the water, fishing, swimming, boating and just relaxing. I would also show them the many other sites and attractions our small communities have to offer. Examples being our resorts, restaurants and many shops. We also offer some of the most beautiful golf courses in the state.



A man wearing a tan hat, a blue life vest over a light-colored shirt, and khaki pants is sitting in a wooden canoe. He is holding a fishing rod and looking towards the water. The canoe is on a calm lake with many lily pads. In the background, there is a line of green trees under a blue sky with some clouds. A small yellow flag is visible on the water's surface near the canoe.



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OTLPOA Mission Statement

The object and purpose of this corporation shall be to promote the community welfare and civic development of all areas of Otter Tail County bordering on or approximate to the shoreline of Otter Tail Lake and such other land areas further removed therefrom as its members shall from time to time determine, and to assist the property owners within said area in the preservation of their civic areas and those of Otter Tail Lake itself, including the planting and promulgation of fish therein and the protection and preservation of wildlife on the land areas adjacent to Otter Tail Lake as may be determined by the members, to promote and develop the horticultural development of the areas described, to promote the cultural and social lives of the inhabitants of said area and to provide a vehicle by which legal or political problems common to the areas and the inhabitants thereof, including tax problems, may be resolved in any manner provided by law for the common welfare of the members of this corporation; and to that and this corporation may acquire by purchase or other means such real or personal property as may be necessary in carrying out its stated objectives and to mortgage or sell or exchange the same and to do any and all other acts permitted by the laws of the State of Minnesota in furtherance of its stated purposes.

Otter Tail County To Host 2021 Minnesota Governor's Fishing Opener

When anglers across Minnesota drop their lines on Saturday, May 15, Otter Tail County is committed to hosting the 2021 Minnesota Governor's Fishing Opener in a reimagined way from the previous 70 plus years. By design, the event will be safely shaped to proceed within the guidelines of the Stay Safe MN initiative during the global pandemic.

"Over the past year Minnesotans have found new and creative ways to come together – and I expect this year's fishing opener will be no different," said Governor Tim Walz. "Fishing on our 11,842 lakes is a great Minnesota tradition – though this year's celebrations may look different, I encourage Minnesotans to get outside and safely participate in this year's fishing season."

Otter Tail County is planning to host this year's opener celebration May 13-15, 2021. One of this year's highlights includes a friendly virtual fishing derby on any body of water throughout Otter Tail County. With 1048 lakes, the county has a rich diversity of fishing opportunities. Lund Boats donated a new Lund 1875 Impact XS with a 150 horsepower Mercury motor, which will be raffled on May 8. Raffle tickets are at multiple locations, see ottertailakescountry.com for details.

The local Otter Tail County planning committee is working with Explore Minnesota and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to create a range of scenarios to celebrate the opener based on the COVID-19 situation in May. The future may be unpredictable, but Otter Tail County is committed to continuing the Governor's Fishing Opener tradition with creativity and resolve.

"The fishing opener is going to be different this time, but that doesn't mean it can't be better," said Planning Committee Chair Erik Osberg. "Modified plans will allow us to carry on the celebration of Minnesota's fishing heritage."

The Minnesota Governor's Fishing Opener has been a tradition in Minnesota since 1948, designed to improve Minnesota's economy through the development and promotion of the state's recreational opportunities, especially fishing.

"We're looking forward to shining a spotlight on Otter Tail County and this important fishing tradition, especially as more Minnesotans than ever have discovered the thrill of the sport," said DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen. "Even if the event looks a little different this year, Minnesotans can experience the best of fishing and the spirit of the opener with Otter Tail's abundance of lakes and strong outdoor community."

The event celebrates the kickoff of the summer tourism season in Minnesota. The special partnership continues today with a promotional focus on a host community as well as state-wide fishing and recreational opportunities.

"The annual fishing opener is a time-honored Minnesota tradition to get excited for the summer travel season," said Explore Minnesota tourism director, John Edman. "Exploring the great outdoors in Otter Tail County and throughout the state, including fishing, road trips, hiking, biking or camping, are great ways to safely enjoy summer in Minnesota this year."

For more information, please visit mngovernorsopener.com.

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How Can The Association Better Serve You?

In the January mailing we asked if there are issues that the association can address and to share your concerns. Here are some of the responses we received:

Are there any water quality tests that can be done to determine why the lake itch lasted almost all year long in Blanche Lake?

Lobby DNR to restrict number of fishing tours on Otter Tail Lake. Charge them \$2,500 a tour for restocking after tour. Every time they have one, I pick up dead fish for a week.

Hoping that there will be some guidelines/restrictions on rental properties. Increase of car, camping, boating certainly has an affect on lake safety. Is there any monitoring? Zoning constraints?

Why do they have all of the fishing tournaments on the lake? Some of them are from bars in North Dakota.

Swimmer's itch has been a major problem on Blanche nearly all summer. Association needs to have a lake treatment program. Would be willing to pay more for dues, as the situation is awful the past two years. Thank you for all your good work!

Do not spray for worms every year! Too many chemicals.

You are killing butterflies and moths by spraying. Yes, I was at Otter Tail as a kid through many "worm" years. The trees survived, and so did I. Butterflies and moths (many are beautiful) were abundant! I began collecting and mounting them while in elementary school and used some when teaching high school biology in Aitkin, MN to present concepts. Having been first on Otter Tail at 23 weeks of age and most summers at some time in my 87 years (not 2020-COVID), I do have a long view of the place.

The Otter Tail River has become a backwater swamp. Assistance is needed to deal with this matter. PLEASE HELP!!

Is worm spraying necessary every year? I have read that there can be several years between outbreaks.

Add bike and hiking path next to Hwy. 78. There are lots of bikers and hikers on the highway and it is very dangerous with morning and evening sun in driver's eyes.

Recycling. I believe the OTLPOA needs to work with OTC recycling to establish a more "user friendly" recycling program. The system for our lake residents is not effective. Collecting, separating, and then delivering recycled items to bins is too tedious and time consuming for renters, weekenders, elderly, resorters, etc. We do it because it's important to us, but for many it's easier to throw it away. Could the county form an alliance with sanitation companies to provide bins for recycling? Or bags for recycled items? Or more visible recycling sites and more sites?

Help restore my walleye fishing off my dock in the Otter Tail river. Bought my cabin in 2004. Caught 25-35 walleyes from 2004-2015, and have not caught a single fish since 2018. What happened? Help!

As mentioned last year, I remain concerned with rising taxes, seasonal property is assessed as a school tax. Why would we pay for schools we have no intention of using? We pay taxes for events township. I have no clue what they do for property owners. I have looked for responses, but have yet not seen a word.

The Otter Tail county taxes are really outrageous. With all money coming in from "hundreds" of lakes, it should be a rich county. Time for tax relief.

The Rapids Are Flowing



Every year the Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association wants to remind us to stay safe and enjoy our water ways. Please warn your friends and family members not to jump off the west side of the bridge near Zorbaz on Highway 72.



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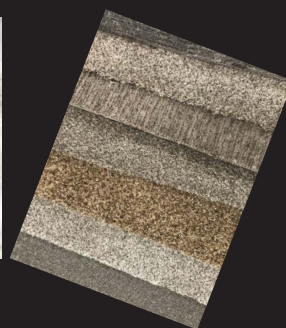
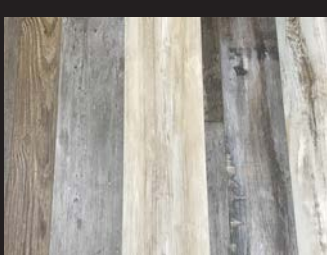
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10 Reasons

To Keep Your Dog Leashed

<https://www.thedrakecenter.com/services/dogs/blog/10-smart-reasons-keeping-your-dog-leash>

Fenced backyards and leash-free dog parks provide space for dogs to run wild and let out their inner racehorses. But on the street and other public places, it's safer to keep them leashed. Here's why:

Cars – It's a devastating moment for all involved when a dog gets hit by a moving vehicle. Even well-behaved dogs may suddenly run in the path of a moving car or not be seen by someone backing up in a parking lot. Parking lots, sidewalks, and roadside excursions are safer with a leash.

Greetings and Salutations – When your pup is leashed and greets another leashed pup, the dogs are usually on good behavior. They know their people are close, and they'll sniff to say "hi." If there's a hint of aggression, you can quickly pull your dog away and defuse the situation.

Staying Cleaner – If you've ever let your dog run loose in a park or other open space, only to watch in pain as they chased ducks into the muddy lake, then you know what we mean. No one really wants the extra chore of spontaneous bath time with their pooch.

Preventing Jumping on Others – Have you ever been at a park (not a dog park, a regular people park) and someone's off-leash dog terrorizes a toddler eating an ice cream? It's not that the dog is trying to scare the kid, but can you see how a 3-foot-tall person waving about a popsicle just out of reach of the dog's face can seem like a game to the one with the wagging tail? No one is making friends with this.

Loss Prevention – Dogs who accompany their people on leashes are less likely to get lost. For example, you can stop your dog from chasing after a cat. They won't go on solo exploratory missions, and you'll know exactly where they are and what they're doing.

Preventing Them from Eating Something They Shouldn't – Garbage, offerings from strangers, and non-edibles: we all know dogs explore the world with their mouths, and some of them are very food-oriented. Eating things they shouldn't can lead to upset tummies and worse.

No Accidental Puppies – Not every animal is spayed or neutered, and if a pup gets out of the house and meets up with another animal in heat, well, it doesn't take long for new puppies to be on the way.

Prevents the Spread of Disease – Some dogs like to eat other animals' "leavings," and those can carry disease. Such dining is less likely to happen if your pet is leashed.

Marks Them as a Pet – Well-trained dogs are a pleasure to walk on the leash, and it identifies them as your pet. Well-behaved dogs with identification are easier to reunite if you somehow get separated.

It's the Law – In most places, leash laws are in effect for the safety of your dog and those around them. This can be the most compelling reason to leash your dog; it's simply required!

Our dogs come to us understanding doggie codes, but they look to us for training and expectations for happily living with people. It's our role to teach them how to walk on a leash and guide them to other means of pleasant co-existing.



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Shoreline On Blanche Lake...Evening Of March 30, Next Morning Was Ice Off For Blanche
Photos submitted by Mary Jo Wentz



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2021 Upcoming Board Meetings

April 22 • May 27 • June 24
July 22 • Aug. 26 • Sept. 23 • Oct. 28
7pm • Ottertail Community Center (103 Lake Ave. S)

Annual Meeting June 26th

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Article Source: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/boatwater/pfd_selecting.html

As of May 2005, Minnesota law requires a life jacket to be worn by children less than 10 years of age when aboard watercraft in Minnesota when the craft is under way (not tied up at a dock or permanent mooring).

What is a life jacket and why does my child need to wear one?

A life jacket is a U.S. Coast Guard approved device that helps the wearer float if they enter the water.

A child should wear a life jacket anytime they are near water such as in a boat or float tube as well as on docks and river banks and at the beach when allowed by the life guard.

Contrary to many TV shows and the movies, drowning is usually silent. A victim (of any age) in the process of drowning can NOT cry out for help. They just bob up and down in the water, their head tipped back, mouth wide open gasping for air, and they are silent. It takes as little as 30 - 45 seconds for a child non-swimmer and it usually happens when an adult is nearby but doesn't recognize the telltale signs of a child in distress in the water.

Find a safe fit for your child

If you own a boat or plan on renting a boat or boating with a friend, you need to buy your child their own life jacket. Life jackets come in various types and sizes and there may not be a life jacket of the proper size and type to rent or borrow.

When buying a child's life jacket, check for:

- U.S. Coast Guard approved label.
- A snug fit. Check weight and chest size on the label and try the life jacket on your child right at the store. Pick up your child by the shoulders of the life jacket; and tell them to raise their arms and relax. The child's chin and ears won't slip through a properly fitting jacket. Do NOT buy a jacket that is too large, hoping the child will grow into it. Children come in many sizes and shapes. If a lifejacket style does not work well, try another one.
- Head support for younger children. A well designed life jacket will support the child's head when the child is in the water. The head support also serves to roll the child face up.
- A strap between the legs for younger children. This helps prevent the jacket from coming off over the child's head.

- Selecting a fit for children between 30 and 50 pounds. While some children weighing between 30 and 50 pounds may like the freedom of movement that a Type III life jacket provides, only children that can swim and are comfortable in the water should use a Type III. Most children in this weight range should wear a Type I or Type II life jacket.
- Comfort and appearance. This is especially important for teens, who are less likely to wear a life jacket.

Remember: life jackets only work when they are worn, and they do not take the place of adult supervision! Proper use of a life jacket

Here's some pointers for keeping your child safe.

- Every spring, check the life jacket for fit as well as wear and tear. Throw it away if you find air leakage, mildew, rot or rust. Cut up discarded life jackets so someone else doesn't try to use them.
- If a child panics in the water and thrashes about, they may turn onto his face, even though a life jacket with a collar is designed to keep them on their back with face out of the water. Have your child practice wearing a life jacket in the water - this will help prevent panic and rolling over.
- Never cut or alter a life jacket in any way. It will no longer be Coast Guard approved since it may lose its effectiveness.
- Wear your own life jacket to set an example for your child, and to enable you to help your child if an emergency occurs.
- Never use toys like plastic rings, arm floaties or water wings in place of a life jacket.
- Don't try wrapping a life jacket around a car seat for your baby. Much of the time, a car seat expelled from a boat in a crash or capsizing accident will flip upside down, holding your baby's face under water.
- Some infants are too small for any life jacket, even though the label may say 0-30 lbs. In general, babies under 6 months or 16 pounds are too small for a life jacket to be effective due to the extreme size of their head in relationship to their body mass. If your infant is newborn, please consider waiting until the baby is a little older before taking them boating.

Exemptions from wearing

The following are exemptions to the law:

- When in an enclosed cabin or below the top deck on a watercraft.
- When on an anchored boat that is a platform for swimming or diving.
- When aboard a charter (passenger) craft with a licensed captain.

Interaction with existing federal regulations

Interaction with existing federal regulation requiring children less than 13 to wear life jackets: "Federal regulation automatically adopts state law as the standard under Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 33 175.25"

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<https://www.edinarealty.com/real-estate-advice/spring-cabin-opening-insights>

Make A Plan Before You Leave Home

While it can be tempting to wing it, it's best to give this first weekend a little bit of thought. Don't forget to:

- Call to turn on any services you shut off over the winter, including electricity, water and trash collection.
- Check the insurance policies on your lake home and boat. Contact Edina Realty Insurance if you've purchased a new jet ski, boat or wave runner that you'd like to insure — or to confirm your policy has been renewed for 2020.
- Check your boating registration and renew it if necessary. In Minnesota and Wisconsin, watercraft licenses must be renewed every three years.
- In both Minnesota and Wisconsin, you'll need a fishing license if you're 16+ and plan to catch your dinner. Be sure to renew your license before you head out with your rod and reel.
- If you plan to put in a dock, and you need help, call your crew a few weeks in advance to see if they're available.

Focus On Systems And Safety

After a long winter away, you'll need to be sure that your home is safe to inhabit again before you turn on your water and other systems.

- Check the furnace and put in a new filter.
- Check pipes for rust or damage before you turn on your plumbing and water heater. If you're not sure what to look for, hire a plumber to do a basic assessment.
- Be on the lookout for signs of critters. Check screens and windows for holes and gaps, electrical cords for fraying or bite marks and cupboards, pantry and other areas for mouse activity.
- Inspect your deck and eaves for signs of rotting.
- Test the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Test and replace the batteries in motion sensor lights on the front door, deck and on the way down to the lake. If you don't have motion sensors, consider adding them for extra safety.

Check In On Basic Necessities

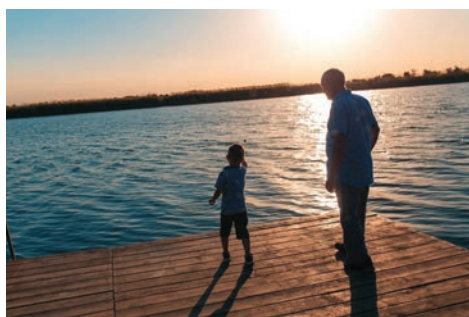
Whether you'll spend the whole summer or special weekends at your lake home, you'll want to be sure it's stocked with the basics. Run a quick inventory review before heading to the store for replenishments.

- Go through your pantry and throw out any expired food, as well as anything that looks like it may have been subjected to a critter invasion.
- Turn on the refrigerator and freezer for several hours before stocking it with perishable items.
- Check that you're stocked up on sunscreen and bug spray. Remember that sunscreen lasts at its original potency for up to three years. If you're not sure when your bottles were purchased, buy a new set and label the purchase date so you can avoid tossing out bottles in the future.
- Check the stock of your bathroom toiletries. To save money and stay green, buy shampoo, conditioner and body wash in bulk bottles rather than using travel samples.

Plan For Next Year

Even with the best-laid plans, you're likely to forget the exact size of batteries you need, or the magic solution that helps spruce up your rusty showerhead. At the end of your first weekend up north, write out a cabin-opening supplies checklist that you can use for years to come. Include:

- Battery sizes for smoke, carbon monoxide and outdoor motion detectors
- Furnace and air filter specifics
- Vacuum bag sizes
- Tools you need to check or turn on specific systems
- Rags and cleaning cloths
- Cleaning solutions
- Toiletry basics
- Critter traps or deterrents
- You'll thank yourself next year when your organizational habits give you even more time on the lake on that first perfect cabin weekend.



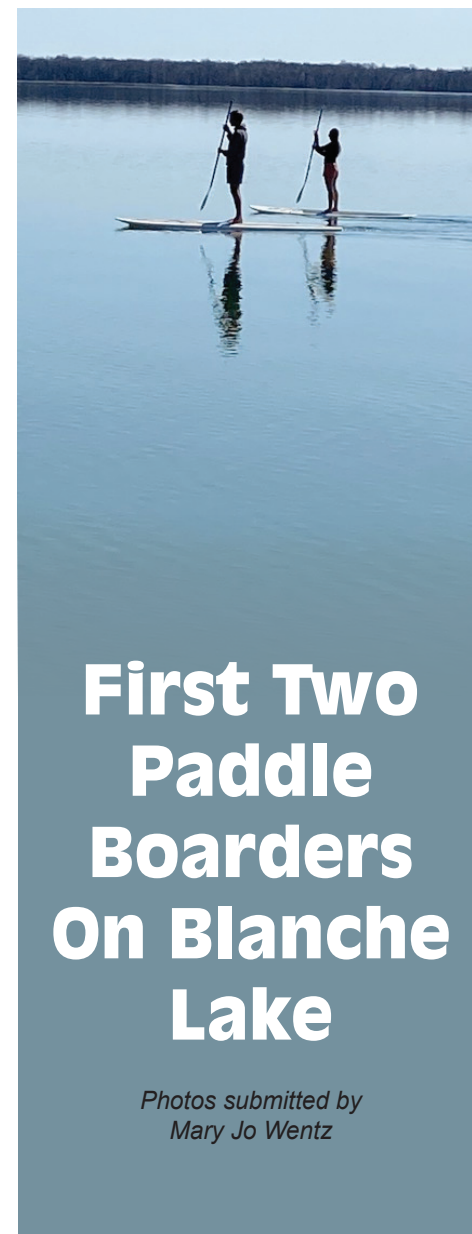
Hoping To Buy A Lake Home This Summer?

Buyers don't want to miss one day on the water, and the market is already heating up! Start by contacting Edina Realty or your agent to learn more about options in your desired lake home area.



First Paddleboat On Blanche Lake... Ice Is Still On Most Of The Lake

Photos submitted by Mary Jo Wentz



First Two Paddle Boards On Blanche Lake

Photos submitted by Mary Jo Wentz



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Fish Kills And Die Offs

As many as 500 fish die-offs can happen each year in Minnesota, most of them from natural causes. If you see one, report it. Early reports allow timely water samples and other investigative responses to be taken if needed.

Most fish diseases and infection issues found in nature tend to be concentrated in fish of a specific species and size range. In contrast, when a die-off includes fish of vastly different sizes and multiple species, human activity is a more likely cause.



To Report A Fish Kill

Call the state duty officer at 651-649-5451 or 800-422-0798 to report fish die-offs. The duty officer provides a single point of contact for the incident and is available 24 hours a day seven days a week. Try to describe the fish types and sizes affected by the kill.

Spring & Summer

Groupings of dead fish usually are the result of a common bacterial infection referred to as columnaris. Columnaris tends to affect fish as water temperatures warm and fish are stressed from the energy they spent on spawning. Columnaris infections can kill sunfish, crappies and bullheads, and occasionally, largemouth bass and northern pike.

Ice Out

The retreat of lake and stream ice can sometimes leaves behind dead fish, commonly referred to as winterkill.

When snow and ice cover a lake, they limit the sunlight reaching aquatic plants. The plants cut back on the amount of oxygen they produce. If vegetation dies from lack of sunlight, the plants start to decompose, which uses oxygen dissolved in the water. If oxygen depletion becomes severe enough, fish die.

Winterkill potential is worse in winters with abundant or early snowfall. Lower autumn water levels increase the probability and severity of winterkill. Early ice-on and late ice-out dates also increase the winterkill potential. Wetlands and shallow, soft-bottom lakes are more winterkill-prone than deeper, hard-bottomed lakes.

Other Causes

Human causes of fish kills can include water discharged at high temperatures; toxic chemicals discharged or spilled; pesticides and fertilizers; manure runoff; and low oxygen levels in a lake resulting from storm water that runs off urban or rural landscapes. Multiple causes often contribute to fish deaths.

General questions about fish kills? Call the closest area fisheries office.

WE STILL NEED YOUR PHOTOS!


**Please submit to
secretary@otlpoa.com
 and include a byline and
 brief description**

BAPTIST

Basswood Baptist Church B.G.C. 
 38188 340th St., Richville, MN 56576
 Bert Holmquist, Pastor—218-495-3800
 Church—218-495-3771
 Sunday School 9:30 am, refreshments following
 Worship Service 10:45 am
 Bible Study, Youth Group & Kids Club - Wednesday 7:00 pm
 Ladies' Bible Study - 3rd Thursday
 Men's Prayer Breakfast - 1st Saturday 7:00 am
 Potluck Dinner - 2nd Sunday

First Baptist (ABC) - Battle Lake
"The Little Brown Church on the Hill"
 Lynn Hansen, Pastor—651-485-7378
www.firstbaptistbattlelake.org
 Sunday Worship 9:30 am
 Fellowship & refreshments 10:30 am

BATTLE LAKE ALLIANCE

401 W. Gilbertson St., Battle Lake 
 Derek Mansker, Pastor • Church—218-864-5539
 Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am
 Fellowship & refreshments after service
 Find us on the web at battlelake.org

CATHOLIC

Father Leroy Schik, Pastor
 Mass Times—218-864-5619
www.ollsj.org
St. James Catholic - Maine Township 
 Saturday Mass 5:00 pm, October 1 - May 1
Saint Edwards - Henning 
 Sunday Mass 8:30 am - October 1 - May 1
Our Lady of the Lake - Battle Lake 
 Sunday Mass 10:30 am



Lakes Area Church Directory 2021



Join us in worship!

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METHODIST

Ottertail United Methodist Church 
 104 Shores Drive, Ottertail
 Rod Turnquist, Pastor
 Church—218-367-2270
 Worship 8:45 am
 Coffee Fellowship following Worship

Richville United Methodist Church
 130 SW 1st Ave., Richville
 Rod Turnquist, Pastor
 Church—218-346-5656
 Worship 10:30 am
 Coffee Fellowship following Worship 2nd & 4th Sunday

PRESBYTERIAN

Maine Presbyterian 
 30761 Co. Hwy. 45, Maine Township
 2 miles north of Phelps Mill
 Tom Junkert, Pastor
 Website: mainepresbyterianchurch.org
 Church—218-495-2539
 Summer - Worship 9:30 am (Thru August)
 Coffee Following Worship Service
 Winter - Worship 10:00 am

LUTHERAN

Bethel Lutheran Church
 Battle Lake Campus:
Meets at Lakes Area Community Center
 112 West Main St., Battle Lake
 218-862-4903
 Sunday School 9:15 am
 (no Sunday School during summer months)
 Worship: 9:00am & 10:30 am
 Website: bethellutheran.church

First Lutheran - ELCA 
 505 W. Holdt St., Battle Lake
 Bradley Skogen, Pastor
bfirslutheran.org
 Church—218-864-5686
 Coffee Fellowship: 9:00 am
 Worship: 10:00 am
 Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays

Sverdrup Lutheran Church 
 PO Box 70
 209 Southern Ave. E., Underwood
 Tammy Jacobson, Pastor
 Church—218-826-6919
 Worship 9:00 am

Tingvold Lutheran Church
 6 miles north of Underwood, Co. 1 & Co. 35
 Martha Halls, Pastor
 Church—218-826-6487
 September 1-May 31: Service 11:00 am
 Fellowship 10:00 am
 June 1-August 31: Service 10:30 am
 Fellowship 9:30am

Zion Lutheran - ELCA
 36051 Co. Hwy. 74, Amor
 Hwy. 1 & 74, 10 miles north of Battle Lake
 James Gronbeck, Pastor • Church—218-495-2563
 Email: zionamoroffice@prtcl.com
 Website: www.zionamor.org
 Summer Services May 12 - September 15
 Worship 8:15 am & 10:00 am
 Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
 8:15 am - Traditional Service Weekly
 10:00 am - Informal Service 1st & 4th Sundays (Piano)
 Contemporary Service; 2nd & 3rd Sundays
 (Praise Team)
 Fellowship and refreshments between services.
 Bible Study - Tuesday 10:00 am, Covid-19 social distancing
 protocol in place, services are also live streamed.

Clean In Clean Out

When boating or fishing in Minnesota, protect your waters by following state aquatic invasive species laws

REMEMBER!



1. **CLEAN** all visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species from watercraft, trailers, and water-related equipment before leaving any water access or shoreland.



2. **DRAIN** water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait containers, motor) and drain bilge, livewell and baitwell by removing drain plugs before leaving a water access or shoreline property. **Keep drain plugs out** and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft.



3. **DISPOSE** of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches, and worms, in the trash. It is illegal to release bait into a waterbody or release aquatic animals from one waterbody to another. If you want to keep your bait, you must refill the bait container with bottled or tap water.



A Couple Of Pictures Showing Sure Signs Of Spring..Being Able To Work Outside In The Sun



Photos submitted by
Mary Jo Wentz

KNOW THE LAW: You may not...

- Transport watercraft without removing the drain plug.
- Arrive at lake access with drain plug in place.
- Transport aquatic plants, zebra mussels, or other prohibited species on any roadway.
- Launch a watercraft with prohibited species attached.
- Transport water from Minnesota lakes or rivers.
- Release bait into the water.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS



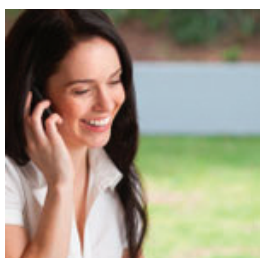
Spray, rinse, dry — Some invasive species are small and difficult to see at the access. To remove or kill them, take one or more of the following precautions before moving to another waterbody, especially after leaving zebra mussel and spiny waterflea infested waters:

- Spray with high-pressure water
- Rinse with very hot water*
- Dry for at least 5 days

Run motor and personal watercraft for a few seconds to discharge water before leaving a water access.

Transport fish on ice — be prepared, bring a cooler.

* These water temperatures will kill zebra mussels and some other AIS: 120°F for at least 2 minutes; or 140°F for at least 10 seconds.



Report new infestations

If you suspect a new infestation of an invasive plant or animal, take a photo and note the location, or save a specimen and report it to a local DNR invasive species contact.



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GLENDALOUGH STATE PARK

SEASONAL UPDATE

Water is available year-round at the park office and at yurts.

BATHROOM FACILITIES: Trail center restrooms are open year-round! Vault toilets in the park are open year-round. Facilities are wheelchair accessible.

ELECTRIC SITES:

One RV electric site is available Oct. 1 to May 1 by calling the park. All camper cabins have electricity.

RECREATION FACILITIES

Summer

- Picnic Area, Molly Stark Lake - Includes picnic tables and shelter.
- Picnic Shelter, Open Shelter

Located near Molly Stark Lake Available for rent by calling the park. Shelter has electricity and accommodates 100 people. Handicapped accessible.

- Canoe Access
- Carry-in access only.
- Golf Course Within 10 miles

2 Wildlife Observation Areas

1 observation area located on Battle Creek, the other is on Lake Emma. Binoculars and field guides available from the park office for free use.

PARK HIGHLIGHTS

- Cart-in Tent Camping
- Hiking
- Wildlife Observation
- Heritage Fishing/Large Panfish
- Canoeing on Chain of Lakes
- Sandy Swimming Beach
- Equipment Rentals Available

Nestled in the transition zone between prairie and hardwood forest, Glendalough offers a true respite from civilization. Crystal clear Annie Battle Lake is a 335-acre, non-motorized "Heritage Fishery" that provides a tranquil fishing experience second to none. Special regulations sustain a steady supply of large sunfish, crappie, and the occasional walleye for the frying pan, and large bass for the camera. Near the pristine shores of this lake are a cart-in campground and canoe-in campsites, all free from the traffic and noise of traditional drive-in camping.

Annie can also be the starting point for an exploration of the park by canoe or kayak on the connecting creeks. The restored historic Glendalough Lodge on the north side of the lake details the park's history as a private retreat and game farm for the Minneapolis Tribune.

Numerous hiking trails, including two interpretive trails, meander along five lakes, through rich woods and blooming prairies. Wildlife abounds year-round, and there are many observation decks along the trails. Trails are groomed in winter for skiing and snowshoeing. Picnicking and swimming is available on two sandy lakes.

Migrating monarchs should be highly visible along the Prairie Hill Trail from mid-August through Labor Day. Vehicle permits are required and can be purchased at the park. For more information, call the park at 218-864-0110.

VIRTUAL TOUR Take a panoramic virtual tour of Glendalough State Park. Peek inside the Glendalough Lodge, marvel at a vibrant prairie sunset, check out the unique canoe-in group campsite, and more. It's a great tool to help you plan your next trip to the park! Take the high speed panoramic tour or the low speed/accessible tour. www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/glendalough click on the Panoramic Tour or the Snapshot Tour under Park Notes.

Hours: Best time to contact the park is:
Daily from 9am - 4pm
218-864-0110 • fax: 218-864-0587
email: glendalough.statepark@state.mn.us
25287 Whitetail Lane, Battle Lake, MN 56515
www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/glendalough
From the town of Battle Lake, go 1.5 miles north on State Hwy. #78 and 1.8 miles east on Otter Tail Co. Hwy #16 to the park entrance.

Alcohol

is involved in about 30 percent of fatal boat accidents in Minnesota.

Drunk boating is drunk driving — designate a sober ride on the water and on the road.

Source: MN DNR

LAND TRANSFERS Feb. 1 through April 1, 2021					
TWP	LAKE NAME	PROPERTY TYPE	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	SALE PRICE
GIRARD	W BATTLE	RESIDENTIAL	RUEHLE,DALE J	REITZ,JONATHAN & STACEY	\$620,000
OTTER TAIL	OTTERTAIL RIVER(OT)	SEASONAL RES REC	KNAPP,ROSALIE K	BEYER,BRIAN & JAMIE / IWEN, CHAD & QUINN	\$40,000
OTTER TAIL	OTTERTAIL RIVER(OT)	SEASONAL RES REC	KNAPP,ROSALIE K	SMART INVESTMENT GROUP, LLC	\$80,000
EVERTS	OTTERTAIL	SEASONAL RES REC	HATLIE,GRAYDON O	MILLER,CAROLEE	\$265,000
EVERTS	OTTERTAIL	SEASONAL RES REC	ALT,MICHAEL A.	BERSETH,NEIL & SUSAN KIM	\$565,000
AMOR	OTTERTAIL	SEASONAL RES REC	BUSH,LINDSAY	SCHONHARDT,TIMOTHY JOHN & SUSAN JEAN	\$304,000
AMOR	OTTERTAIL	SEASONAL RES REC	VANCE,SCOTT A & TONI	DRAEGER,RYAN & ALICIA	\$400,000
EVERTS	SILVER (EVERTS)	RESIDENTIAL	ILLIES,CURTIS A & RUTH S	DISCHINGER,BENJAMIN J & CHERI M	\$547,500

Otter Tail County wants to remind you about
21 DAY DRY TIME for docks and lifts.
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OTTER TAIL
COUNTY - MINNESOTA

What Is Swimmer's Itch?

Source: <https://www.aocd.org/page/SwimmersItch>

Swimmer's itch is a patchy red pinpoint skin rash associated with itching on the parts of the body that have been in the water. Swimmer's itch is usually not severe. After the initial transient itching it will disappear without treatment. The itching occurs within 48 hours and may last up to 7 days. Rarely, it can be severe if a large proportion of the body is affected. The major, although not the only, cause of swimmer's itch are trematode parasites of aquatic/migrating birds. The life cycles of these parasites involve snails as the first host and aquatic birds or some mammals as the final host.

The larval parasite called a "cercaria" is released by aquatic or amphibious (moves both on land and water) snails and causes dermatitis when it mistakenly penetrates a person's skin rather than its rightful host, usually a duck. Swimmer's itch occurs in both freshwater and in the marine coastal environments.

What Are The Other Causes Of Itching Among Swimmers?

Common lore in the media is that this is caused by "duck fleas" in freshwater and "sea lice" in the marine environment. Neither is correct. Trematode parasites cause the freshwater swimmer's itch and both trematode parasites and nematocysts cause marine swimmer's itch. Marine swimmers itch is probably from contact with the larval form of the thimble jellyfish (*Linuche unguiculata*), sea anemone (*Edwardsiella lineata*), Portuguese Man-of-War (*Physalia utriculus*), and probably numerous others. In unusual circumstances, different algae, chemical pollutants and sewage may cause dermatitis that is indistinguishable from cercarial dermatitis. Thus, it is important, when visiting the pharmacist or physician, to mention that the itching dermatitis may have been acquired by swimming or bathing.



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LOST & FOUND

Have you lost something? Have you found something in your yard or on your shoreline that wasn't yours? If you have been unable to locate your lost items, or unable to return a found item to the rightful owner, email photo or description to secretary@otlpoa.com

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2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
Apr 22	Recyclable Materials Collage Class at Red Door Art Gallery (Wahpeton)
Apr 22	OTLPOA Board Meeting
Apr 24	Bread & Jam Dash (Fergus Falls)
Apr 24	Parkers Prairie Lions Club 4-Wheeler/ATV Ride
Apr 24	Basket Weaving Workshop at Landmark Center (Henning)
May 1	Otter Cove Color Run (Fergus Falls)
May 8	Walleye Fishing Opener - OTC Disgruntled Daze Fishing Opener Patio Party (Perham)
May 8	Garden Art at New York Mills Cultural Center
May 8	Front 20 Outfitters 10th Anniversary (Perham)
May 13	Art for Lunch Class - Garden Art at New York Mills Cultural Center
May 13-15	Governor's Fishing Opener in Otter Tail County
May 15	Spring Fling Bazaar (Perham)
May 22	Otter Stop & Shop - (Ottertail City)
May 22	Fergus Falls Craft Beer Tour
May 27	OTLPOA Board Meeting
May 27	Cruise Night Parade (Pelican Rapids)
Jun 5	Lake Region Run (Fergus Falls)
Jun 5	City Wide Clean Up Day (Ottertail City)
Jun 5-27	Wadena Flea & Craft Market
Jun 8	Music In The Park - Mark Christensen (Ottertail City)
Jun 11	Hazardous Waste Mobile Collection (Ottertail City)
Jun 11-12	Summerfest (Fergus Falls)
Jun 12	Running Wild Trail Run, Maplewood State Park
Jun 12	Theater In The Park - Funtastics (Ottertail City)
Jun 12	Great American Think-Off (Perham)
Jun 12	18th Annual Ronald McDonald House Ride
Jun 16-20	Turtle Fest (Perham)
Jun 19-22	Wadena County Fair
Jun 22	Music In The Park - "Elvis" Todd Anderson (Ottertail City)
Jun 24	OTLPOA Board Meeting
Jun 24-26	Pelican Fest (Pelican Rapids)
Jun 26	Kinship Triathlon (Perham)
Jun 26	BBQ Cook Off (Perham)
Jul 9	Relay for Life of East Otter Tail County (Perham)
Jul 10	Theater In The Park - Madhatters (Ottertail City)
Jul 10	Flowers: Loose & Juicy with Grace Haverty at Art of the Lakes (Battle Lake)
Jul 10-11	Phelps Mill Arts Festival
Jul 13	Music In The Park - Blue English (Ottertail City)
Jul 14-17	Otter Tail County Fair (Fergus Falls)
Jul 15	Shop Move 'n Groove (Downtown Fergus Falls)
Jul 16 & 18	Art of the Lakes Studio Tour (various locations)
Jul 17	Ottertail Business & Community Association Annual Auction
Jul 18-20	US Blind Golf Association-Midwest Regional Tournament (Fergus Falls)
Jul 22	OTLPOA Board Meeting
Jul 22-25	East Otter Tail County Fair (Perham)
Jul 24	Plein Air in Oils with Scott Lloyd Anderson at Art of the Lakes (Battle Lake)
Jul 24	Art in the Park (Pelican Rapids)
Jul 24-25	Wenonga Days (Battle Lake)
Jul 24	Wenonga Days 5K/10K Run & Walk (Battle Lake)
Jul 27	Music In The Park - Whiskey Business (Tentative) (Ottertail City)
Jul 30	Tuffy Nelson Golf Tournament (Perham)
Jul 31	YMCA Hoot Lake Triathlon (Fergus Falls)
Aug 5-7	WE Fest (Detroit Lakes)
Aug 6-8	Parkers Prairie Fall Festival and Bull Ride
Aug 6-8	Flekkefest (Elbow Lake)
Aug 6-7	Perham Crazy Days
Aug 7	Rail Trails 100 Bike Tour (Fergus Falls)
Aug 7	Expressive Watercolor with Dan Mondloch at Art of the Lakes (Battle Lake)
Aug 12-15	Vergas Looney Days
Aug 13	Demo Derby (Ottertail City)
Aug 14	Art & Craft Affair (Battle Lake)
Aug 14	Otter Fest (Ottertail City)
Aug 14	Music In The Park - Slew Foot Family Band (Ottertail City)
Aug 20	16th Annual Chamber Golf Scramble "Safari Par-Tee"
Aug 20-21	Fergus Falls Saddle Club Rodeo
Aug 21-22	Perham Pioneer Days
Aug 21-22	Black Powder Rendezvous (Perham)
Aug 24	Music In The Park - TBA (Ottertail City)
Aug 26	OTLPOA Board Meeting
Aug 27-28	Barnsville Potato Days Festival
ONGOING EVENTS AND EXHIBITS	
To May 1	Michael Weatherly Exhibit: "Behind the Door" at Kaddatz Galleries (Fergus Falls)
To May 1	Kim Embretson Exhibit: "Otter Tail River Project at Kaddatz Galleries (Fergus Falls)
May 6-Jun 19	Jodi Reeb at Kaddatz Galleries (Fergus Falls)
To May 29	Garden Art Exhibition at Red Door Gallery (Wahpeton)
Jun - Aug	International Turtle Races (Perham) *Every Wednesday through August
Jun 26-Aug 7	Kimble Bromley at Kaddatz Galleries (Fergus Falls)
Jun 26-Aug 7	Kaddatz Art Reach Student Work, Studio K (Fergus Falls)
Aug 11-Sep 30	Jon Kamrath at Kaddatz Galleries (Fergus Falls)
Aug 11-Sep 30	Diane Scully at Kaddatz Galleries, Studio K (Fergus Falls)

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12 Outdoor Upgrades That Make Your Home More Valuable

<https://www.bobvila.com/>

Exterior upgrades enhance the look of your property and can offer recreational benefits. Not every renovation, however, produces a return on investment, and some upgrades (like swimming pools) make your home less attractive to potential buyers. If you want to...

Build An Outdoor Fire Pit



During the summer months, nothing beats roasting marshmallows and sharing stories around a roaring fire. Homeowners who install an outdoor fire pit will not only create delightful memories, but will also realize a 67 percent return on investment. Fire features that have a gas burner and patio area cost an average of \$6,000 to construct, and you'll recoup about \$4,000 when you sell your home, according to the National Association of Realtors® (NAR) and National Association of Landscape Professionals' (NALP)

Add A Deck



Do you enjoy spending time outdoors? Then consider installing an attached or detached wood deck, which will give you the perfect spot for grilling, sunbathing, and entertaining. Wooden decks also a major selling point. According to Remodeling Magazine, a 16' x 20' wood deck with stairs and railings runs an average of \$13,333, but you'll recoup \$10,083 of that when it's time to sell. That's a return of almost 76 percent!

Replace Your Garage Door



You might think your current garage doors are good enough, but upgrading them will give your give your curb appeal and home value a major boost. According to Remodeling Magazine's 2019 Cost vs Value Report a garage door replacement will cost you upwards to \$3,600, but you'll recoup almost 98 percent of that. When prospective buyers pull up, your home will already be making a great impression.

Install A Backyard Patio



Installing a patio is another project that expands and enhances your outside living area while increasing the value of your home. According to the NAR and NALP, an 18' x 20' concrete paver patio costs about \$7,200 and you'll earn around 69 percent.

Replace Your Front Door



While making cosmetic changes to the front of your house, upgrade your front door. Swapping your drab door for a steel unit with window panels, casing, and new hardware is around \$1,800, but the Remodeling Magazine report estimates that you'll make almost 75 percent of that back. An impressive entryway sets the tone for the rest of the house tour.

Invest In An Outdoor Kitchen



An outdoor kitchen might not be on most homebuyer's must-have lists, but it is a feature that could seal the deal for the sale. The NAR and NALP claim an outdoor kitchen project will set you back about \$14,000 but you'll recover an estimated \$10,000. To guarantee the best ROI keep the project simple: an inset grill, stainless steel drawers, ice chest, sink, 60 square feet of concrete counter top is plenty.

Implement A Lawn-Care Program



If you want a good-looking lawn, you need to supply sufficient nutrients and take steps to reduce weeds. The NAR and NALP recommend an average of six applications of lawn fertilizer and weed-control annually, which will cost around \$375 for a 2,835-square-foot lawn. Your efforts can boost your home's value by \$1,000, which equals a 267 percent ROI.

Add Outdoor Lighting



Outdoor lighting deters burglars and creates magical ambience in your yard. What's more, stylish, effective exterior lighting (think motion lights or low-voltage landscape options) can really amp up your home's curb appeal. You can expect to pay up to \$5,000, but according to the NAR and NALP, you could see, on average, a 50 percent return on your investment.

Fix The Facade



Replacing the exterior siding sounds like an expensive and immense project, but it is actually one of the most cost-effective ways to improve your home's value according to Remodeling Magazine—it's just about doing it right. The report suggests focusing efforts solely on the front of the home and using manufactured stone veneer. The expected cost is close to \$9,000, but you're projected to earn back 95 percent!

Plant Trees



Tree maintenance might not be the most exciting project, but it certainly pays off. In the joint NAR and NALP report tree care ranks in the top five of projects' appeal to buyers. This includes three applications of tree fertilizer, regular spraying, trimming and pruning, as well as the possible removal of a tree. This can cost up to \$2,000, but you're expected to recover it all back.

Refresh Your Landscape



Luscious landscaping increases the chance of a home sale. Plus, according to the NAR and NALP, an outdoor makeover could net you a healthy 83 percent return on investment. The association defines a "landscape upgrade" as installing a natural flagstone walkway, adding stone planters, mulching, and planting a handful of flowering shrubs and a sizable tree—all of which will set you back, on average, roughly \$6,000.

Install A Lawn Sprinkler System



One of the best investments for a great-looking lawn is a buried sprinkler system. When calculating the ROI of installing a sprinkler system, which runs around \$3,500, you should also consider the amount you'll probably save on water. According to the NAR and NALP report, you'll recover \$3,000 or 86 percent from the project.



“Getting Ready for Summer!”
Photo by Brooke

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