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## First Water Testing of the Season

(Testing began on May 16<sup>th</sup>)

**Secchi Disk Reading Results:** Ottertail Lake: 16', Blanche Lake: 18', Long Lake 13", Round Lake 13', Walker Lake 8', (Deer Lake not yet tested)



**Busy access at one of the Ottertail launchings over Memorial Day Weekend**  
*Photo submitted by Ken Wentz*



**Blanche Lake water testing site**  
*Photo submitted by Mary Jo Wentz*



**Catching minnows at the Ottertail Dam over Memorial Day weekend**  
*Photo submitted by Ken Wentz*



## Mark your Calendar

**OTLPOA ANNUAL MEETING**  
*saturday* **JUNE 26**  
**THUMPER POND, OTTERTAIL**

Continental Breakfast served at 8:00am  
Meeting at 9:00am

*Guest Speaker*  
Meg Duhr from Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center

# President's Corner



*Roger Anderson, OTLPOA President*

Summer is in full swing! With that, water temperatures are heating up enabling all of us to truly enjoy our lakes. Swimming, tubing, waterskiing, wind surfing, kayaking, paddle boarding, and so much more are out there for our enjoyment. Unfortunately, this warmer weather and warmer lake temperatures can lead to some issues for our lakes. I have received several emails regarding swimmer's itch on some of our lakes. Unfortunately, there is nothing OTLPOA can do to eliminate this problem. If you have questions about swimmer's itch and treatment, please contact the Ottertail County DNR.

Our association has been asked by local fishermen and guides to lead a task force with the goal of lowering the limit on Walleye and implementing a slot limit on Ottertail County Lakes. Once this task force has met, they will arrange a meeting with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to discuss size and quantity limits on all Otter Tail County Lakes. We encourage feedback from all lakes property owners and ask that you email me at roger.anderson0515@yahoo.com with your thoughts and recommendations.

We recently had our area lakes treated for tent caterpillars and it appears that this treatment has been effective. We also participated in spraying for curly pond weed in the channel coming out of Long Lake and are in discussions with the DNR regarding the necessity for this man-made culvert.

Our annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 26 at Thumper Pond. Doors will open for registration and complimentary continental breakfast at 7:30 am. Hope to see you there!

As always, please be good stewards of your lakes and enjoy this beautiful summer.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

**www.otlpoa.com**



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- **Foundation Donations**

## 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.



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## OTLPOA OFFICERS

**President: Roger Anderson**

651.301.3616, roger.anderson0515@yahoo.com

**Vice President: Rob Bope**, 612.889.8771, hedg@aol.com

**Secretary: Becky Kemling**, secretary@otlpoa.com

218.371.9095, beckykemling@msn.com

**Treasurer: Pat Hunke**, 218.639.4910, phunke@hunkestransfer.com

### Directors:

#### Blanche Lake

**Fred Rizk**, frizk@aol.com, 701.635.6477

**Ken Wentz**, kmwmjw@gmail.com, 760.885.9668

#### Long Lake

**Lynn Cave**, iasewtaquilter@gmail.com, 641.373.6021

#### Deer Lake

**Stan Feters**, sfeters@prtcl.com, 218.495.2324

#### Round Lake

**Steve Mouritsen**, steve.mouritsen@wellsfargo.com, 612.237.6927

#### Ottertail River North

**Becky Kemling**, beckykemling@msn.com, 218.371.9095

#### Walker Lake

**Gary Overturf**, garyoverturf@msn.com, 651.686.5807

#### Otter Tail Lake

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**Debbie Ness**, deb@yourresort.com, 218.495.2468

**Scott Simdorn**, scottsimdorn58@gmail.com, 701.640.1572

**Linda Snyder**, whip56520@yahoo.com, 701.367.9956

# Curly Pond Weed Spraying



Treatment for CLPondweed was applied to Channel on June 7th

*Photos submitted by Rob Bope*

David Hillstrom, the Regional Manager of PLM Lake and Land Management Corp, helped answer some frequently asked questions regarding Curly Leaf Pondweed and the treatments used to control the spread:

**General information of Curly Leaf Pondweed:** CLP has a unique lifestyle. If we look at the start of its life in the fall, it can grow over the winter with minimal light and in cold water temperatures. Once ice is out, it has several inches of growth over any native plants and begins to rapidly grow. CLP treatments (acres of CLP) generally occur in the middle to end of May. This targets the species prior to turion production (seeds) and also limits any impacts to native plants that have likely not started their growth for the season yet. The most common herbicide used is Endothal (Aquathol K) but we are starting to see the use of diquat dibromide in certain situations.

**Frequency of treatment:** Generally, only one treatment is allowed for CLP. Echo Ranch POA is treating with a native aquatic plant management permit and are allowed to treat up to two times per season. The treatment that occurred earlier this week should reduce CLP frequency to near 0% after 10 days.

**Avoiding the spread:** We at PLM feel that general awareness is best. Keeping landowners informed of what CLP looks like and to notify the association if they think they have it near their shoreline or find it in a large patch works very well. CLP can often times be confused with other native plants. Sending pictures to the MN DNR or a service provider similar to PLM for identification is always possible and encouraged.



**Is treatment harmful:** The short answer is no. The U.S. EPA has reviewed both Endothal and Diquat Dibromide extensively and there are no unreasonable adverse effects to humans, animals, fish etc.. when the product(s) are used appropriately and within label limits. Herbicides will always have the chance to affect other aquatic plants, however, treatment timing and specific rates can limit damage to favorable native plants. The benefit will far exceed the risk when permits are issued for this type of work.

**PLM information:** PLM has been serving the United States for over 40 years. We have offices in Minnesota, Michigan, North and South Carolina respectively. We work with individual landowners, lake associations, municipalities and government agencies around the nation helping reduce invasive plants and animals and maintaining the aesthetics of individual properties and recreational use of the nations waters. As for myself, I have been with PLM for nine years and started as a summer employment while attending the University of Minnesota Duluth. Upon graduation, I was offered the position of Regional Manager and I manage our Brainerd office. My territory is essentially highway 94 and north to the Canadian border along with some field work in North Dakota.

## What does a membership include?

- ★ Six issues of Lakeshore News
- ★ Lakeshore directory that is published every two years
- ★ Continental breakfast at the Annual Meetings
- ★ Representation at Minnesota Lakes and Rivers and Coalition of Lake Associations (which includes water testing of our lakes)
- ★ Establishment of AIS monitoring system (ILIDS)

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association Inc. 2021 Membership (Check one)

**Property Owner Member:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Associate Member:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Owners Lake Property) (Does not own lake property or shares ownership)

**Name of Property Owner living**

**at lake property address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address of Property** House/Street # \_\_\_\_\_

(this is the blue house number/street for your lake home) City/State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Summer "mailing" address (5/15 – 8/30):** House/Street # \_\_\_\_\_

(must be valid US Postal deliverable address) City/State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Winter mailing address (9/1-5/15):** House/Street # \_\_\_\_\_

City/State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Email: (please print legibly)** \_\_\_\_\_

Notification of date for tent caterpillar/worm spraying, updates of possible lake changing issues, etc. (If you don't personally have an email address, you can substitute one for a family member who will let you know of these notifications).

### Annual Dues (Jan.-Dec.)

- Membership \$25.00
- Foundation \$10.00
- Worm Payment \$30.00

**Includes \$10 donation to OTLPOA Foundation** \$ **65.00**

### Additional support for the Foundation (tax deductible)

**\$10.00** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$20.00** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$50.00** \_\_\_\_\_ **Other** \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The OTLPOA Foundation was established to obtain financial resources to maintain water quality for recreation, fishing, and enjoyment when Government resources are not provided.

**(Total enclosed)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: OTLPOA and mail to: PO Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515

Or visit [www.OTLPOA.com](http://www.OTLPOA.com) to pay by credit card (under the membership section)

**How can the association better serve you?** (On another sheet of paper)

What lake related topic or issue is most important to you? How do you think our Association can help?

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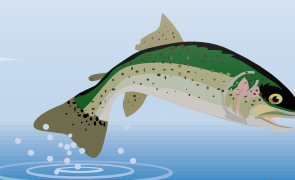
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# BUOYS

The OTLPOA established a buoy program to alert watercraft users of rocks that may be present in the water. The buoy are located in areas that may have the largest threat to cause damage to a watercraft. The buoy are placed and removed by a local docks and lift provider.



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## It's Worth a Try

By: Ross Hagemeister

My dad, Dick Hagemeister bought Aspen Wall Point (most folks refer to the point as Amor Point) on Otter Tail Lake in the middle 1980's. There was a quaint cabin on that point. It was skinned in an early 20th century pine lap-siding and painted a subtle blue-gray. The interior had a perfect period fir-strip floor and smelled like a cabin ought to smell—a mixture of age, boxelder musk, and lake air. Whenever we arrived at the cabin dad would say, "No fishing till the grass is mowed." Forty five minutes behind the push mower and the lawn was trimmed and my brothers and I were ready to fish. Every spring around Memorial Day, we'd fish walleye off the dock. The fish were in shallow grazing on spawning shiners—lots of them. There were weekends we'd catch more than 100 walleye off the dock. They usually weren't large, but it didn't matter because they were walleye and that was good enough!

Times have changed. My Dad replaced the cabin with a home in the early 90's, and sold the home 8 years ago. I still continue to fish Otter Tail Lake, but not from a dock with my brothers. Instead, I started a guide service 26 years ago and have been guiding on the lake ever since. For years and years, walleye were numerous, relatively easy to find and not hard to catch with a little patience, effort, and luck. Admittedly, it was the perfect time to start a fishing guide service. Otter Tail also boasted a large jumbo perch population; if you weren't catching walleye you were catching perch and visa versa. There was always something to catch. It was truly a first-rate fishing lake!

Skip forward to the present: I took a fellow fishing this morning named Roger. I didn't ask Roger his age, but figured him to be in his middle to upper 60's, and his family had a cabin on the lake since he was 3. He showed me black and white photos of the walleye he used to catch throughout the years, on Otter Tail Lake. There were antique photos of groups of eater walleye hanging on rope stringers and an image of Roger the boy, hugging a large walleye. It was fun to see the photos and I enjoyed hearing and learning about the lake in the old days—and about the fishing. I asked him if he'd been catching many walleye this year and his answer was all too familiar. He said he just can't get them any more—that it's very difficult. I hear that same defeating sentiment from lots of folks, many of whom are very good fishermen. To be frank, skill level shouldn't have a lot of bearing in this conversation because it wasn't long ago when nearly anyone with a rod and reel could catch a few walleye from Otter Tail Lake. All said and done, the fishing has turned south.

Where have the walleye gone? That's a good question and there is a list of reasons that, when combined, seem to make a recipe for poop soup. I try not to mire myself in loose theories and skepticisms, however. There is no single source or glaring reason for the population decline. What I do know, for certain, is that the once robust walleye population of Otter Tail Lake has gone away.

This isn't a tired fisherman's excuse that walleye are not coming easily. Instead, it's a call to attention that Otter Tail Lake, the lake once heralded as the number 2 walleye lake in

Minnesota is in troubled waters. After spending more than 2 and a half decades making OtterTail Lake and the fish in it, a study, I am disturbed. Moreover, there doesn't seem to be an end to the decline. I'd like to see Roger catch fish on Otter Tail Lake again so it's time to be proactive rather than passive. No more watching, waiting, and hoping. It's time to skip past the reasons for the population crash and instead invest energy into a solution. It's worth a try.

### Here are a few ideas:

- Stocking—Lake association stocking of fingerlings or yearling walleye.
- Voluntary Size Restrictions or Slot limits—This would not be governed or enforced, but a highly recommended measure. Give back to the lake and it will give back in to you! Signs would be posted at public access points around the lake.
- Voluntary Keeper Limits—Keep only the fish that you can use. A 4 walleye limit would be strongly encouraged.
- Review and possibly dismantle the current DNR special regulation on northern pike for OtterTail Lake—All northern pike under 30" are to be released. Should it be removed?

This article is only a speck of what needs to be said about where the walleye have gone on Otter Tail Lake. There's just not enough space here. This a conversation that is quickly gaining momentum and I wanted to include all of you—anglers, Otter Tail Lake property owners, visitors, guests, and fishing youth (the next generation of anglers). Otter Tail Lake is an amazing ecosystem and can be restored and rebuilt with some help and care. And hopefully, someday, we'll be able to all catch walleye off the dock again.

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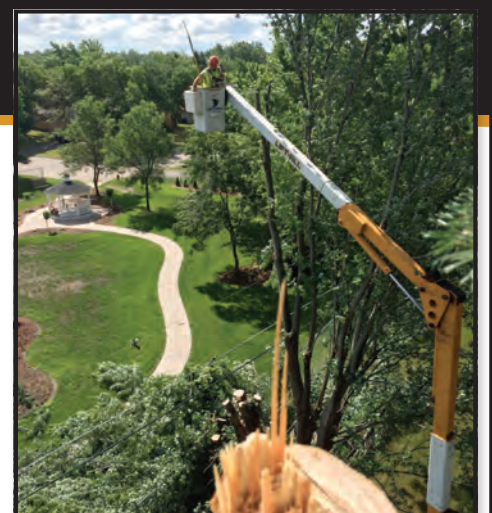
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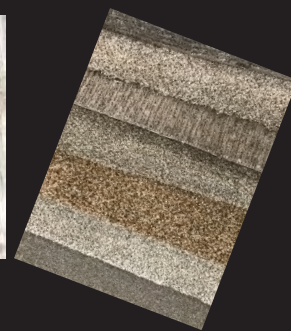
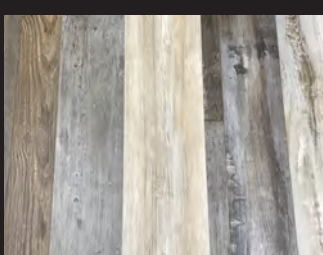
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## Otter Tail Lake's Property Owner's Assoc. Inc. Board Meeting Minutes

**Apr. 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021 7:00 PM**

### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order by President Anderson Members present: Kemling, Hunke, Feters, Cave, Bope, Simdorn, Ness, Wentz, Mouritsen, Overturf, Anderson, and Gerken. Absent: Gedde, Rizk, Snyder

**Approval of Agenda** – Motion approved unanimously as distributed

**Approval of Minutes** – Motion approved unanimously as distributed

**Approval of Bills** – Motion approved unanimously as distributed, **500.00 donation to**

**Glendalough Park approved**

**Presidents Report** – Introduction of Eric Osberg to discuss Governors fishing opener, discussed schedule of events. He advised the board that the area will be busier than normal and asked if anyone wanted to volunteer at public accesses.

### Committee Reports

**Membership** – Currently 911 members as of April meeting. Lynn Cave volunteered to use county land transfer information to identify new owners and contact them for membership.

**Auditing/Finance** – 2021 Budget will be sent to all board members.

**DNR/GOV'T** – Shoreland Mgmt. Ordinance revision Public meeting May 10<sup>th</sup> at Bigwood event center.

**Water Testing/COLA** – Wentz advised 2 more water testers needed for Ottetail, Gerken and Ness may do testing on Ottetail. Overturf was added to COLA committee.

### Communications

**Website** – Nothing at this time.

**Lakeshore News** – Discussed April Issue, we will discuss again at Oct. 2021 meeting to see if we want to continue April edition going forward.

**Worm** – Simdorn advised we need to sign contract for spraying and pay down payment. If we don't spray chemicals will be held until next year. We have had good response from worm mailing.

**Foundation** – Mouritsen advised they need up to 3 more board members, Pastor Rob resigned due to move. Discussion regarding minutes and board needs to be following by- laws for 501C.

**Rearing Pond** – Rob discussed Rearing Pond, deed is done, he should have soon. Memorial Day grand opening still planned, signs for border, rules, maps and welcome are going up. There will be 3 picnic tables throughout the property. **A motion was made and approved to pay from WCI funds up to 500.00 for sign costs. No funds from OTLPOA are being used for this.**

**Social** – committee will be meeting to explore annual meeting options. Due to covid-19 costs and protocols we will not be using Zion Church, looking at Amor Park.

**Old Business** – Annual meeting discussed, social committee will look into options and report back to board.

**New Business** – Curly pond update in Ottetail Canal. Rob advised that curly pond was found and they will be treating the canal again this year. **A motion was made and approved to pay for this treatment from OTLPOA, approx. 729.00.**

Brad Carr and Ross Hagemeister want to attend our next meeting regarding slot limits, fishing on Ottetail. Kemling will discuss with Jim Wolters if he can attend a meeting later to discuss this issue.

Rental for meeting room has increased, motion made to approve payment to city for rental

**Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM | Next meeting May 27th 2021



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## WALKER LAKE WALLEYE HATCHERY

The Fergus Falls' Area DNR fisheries crew completed the annual Walleye egg take at the Walker Lake State Fish Hatchery. The hatchery is located at the inlet of the Dead River to Walker Lake and has been operated since 1974. It is one of twelve seasonal, cool water hatcheries operated by the DNR in Minnesota and only one of two spawn take sites to collect Red River Strain Walleye eggs. Walleyes are the only species of fish raised at the Walker Lake Hatchery.

Unfortunately, the Walker Lake Hatchery was closed to the public this spring due to COVID safety protocols. The Walker Lake Hatchery is historically open to the public to view the egg stripping process and tour the hatchery. Public tours of the hatchery are very popular in the past and even a tradition for some families. The hatchery tours should

resume in 2022.

In April, when water temperatures in the Dead River approach 45 to 50 degrees, Walleyes make a spawning migration from Otter Tail Lake into the river. DNR fisheries crews place a large funnel-shaped net into the river to capture Walleyes as they move upstream. Approximately 5,000 male Walleyes and 1,000 female Walleyes will be captured over the length of the spawn take. Each day, eggs are stripped from the female Walleyes and are fertilized with sperm from the male Walleyes. Eggs are then transferred to the hatchery where they are placed in "hatching" jars and the incubation process begins. Egg stripping continues until the annual quota is reached.

About 400 quarts of eggs are collected

and hatched each spring. Each quart consists of approximately 135,000 eggs. Eggs are held in the jars at a water temperature of 54 degrees F. After about two weeks, eggs will begin to hatch. The baby Walleyes that emerge from the eggs are referred to as a fry. Newly hatched fry are about the size of a mosquito. About 70% of the eggs will successfully hatch into fry. Walleye fry are stocked within one day of hatching. It is important to stock them soon after hatching as they need to feed to ensure survival. Fry eat tiny organisms that live in the water called zooplankton. Fry survival depends on numerous environmental variables, including suitable water temperature and the amount of zooplankton available.

The Walker Lake hatchery produces about thirty million Walleye fry on an

annual basis. Approximately twenty-three million fry are stocked into lakes with public accesses. Another seven million are stocked into shallow rearing ponds where they will grow into fingerlings. The 2021 fish stocking proposal for the Fergus Falls Fish Management Area identifies 50 lakes to be stocked with Walleye fry. Some of the lakes to be stocked with fry include Blanche, Buchanan, Dead, Lizzie, North and South Lida, Otter Tail, Orwell, Star, Pelican, East Battle, Prairie, West Leaf, North Turtle, Anna, Swan, and Fish by Weetown.

For questions or comments concerning local fisheries resources, contact MNDNR Fisheries at (218) 671-7931 or e-mail at [fergusfalls.fisheries@state.mn.us](mailto:fergusfalls.fisheries@state.mn.us)





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Carmen, showing off her first ever solo caught walleye On Ottertail Lake, with cheering excitement from kiddos, Camille & Sebastian. Here's to a fun-filled summer and more happy fishing!

*Photo submitted by Sean Callinan*



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### 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](http://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](mailto:glendalough.statepark@state.mn.us)

25287 Whitetail Lane, Battle Lake, MN 56515

[www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_parks/glendalough](http://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.



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## Why You Should Ditch Balloons if You Love the Environment

There's no arguing that balloon releases are beautiful and playing with water balloons is fun—and the intent behind them is admittedly positive—but when the balloons make their way back down to the ground or in the water, there are serious consequences that most people never see.



### Litter

When balloons make their descent, the best we can hope for is that they become nothing more than unsightly litter. Unfortunately, plastic pollution is a real problem—especially in the world's oceans, lakes and rivers—and balloons only add to the mess.

The two most commonly used balloon types are latex and mylar. Owing to its biodegradability, latex is widely considered a safe option. However, testing has shown that decomposition can take anywhere from six months to four years—giving it plenty of time to cause harm. Mylar balloons are composed of synthetic nylon with a metallic coating. They are non-biodegradable, and therefore altogether ill-advised.

### Animals

Both marine and terrestrial animals frequently mistake deflated balloons as food. Sea turtles are particularly vulnerable, as balloons are easily confused for their jellyfish prey. Once ingested, balloons can cause stomach or intestinal blockages, eventually leading to starvation.

The strings or ribbons attached to balloons can be just as dangerous. Birds become entangled, and sea turtles, seals, and dolphins have flippers and fins snared—their movement is restricted and their ability to feed compromised. These entanglements can cause infections, amputations, starvation, drowning, and death.

### Helium

Although it is the second most abundant element in the universe, helium is relatively rare on earth. It cannot be manufactured, and once it's released into the atmosphere, it quickly escapes into space. Helium is very important—we use it in MRI scanners, fiber optics, welding, cooling nuclear reactors, cryogenics, lasers, LCDs, rare document preservation, and breathing ventilators for infants. We need affordable helium for these products, and simply can't continue to waste it on balloons.

### What to Use Instead of Balloons

A world without balloons doesn't have to be devoid of color or joy. There are plenty of eco-friendly alternatives we can use.

When commemorating lost loved ones, consider floating a small number of native flowers or flower petals down a river or stream to provide a sense of letting go. You can also light candles, plant trees, or spread wildflower seed bombs. If you must release something into the air, use flying wish papers. They create very little ash and give you the same effect of a balloon release without hurting the environment.

For parties, opt for decorations that can be reused or recycled. Tissue paper pompoms—or better yet, reusable fabric bunting or fabric tassels—are not only adorably eye-catching, they can be made at home in a flash. And kids love joining in on the DIY fun. If you're looking for something a little more interactive, ribbon dancers and pinwheels are both fantastic options. Not only are they beautiful, but they also require people to move around to enjoy them!

It's time for our love affair with balloons to come to an end. We don't need them. There are so many other ways to celebrate—ways that don't kill wildlife and waste precious natural resources. So I challenge you, the next time you consider buying balloons, choose an alternative. The planet will thank you.

Source: <https://earth911.com/living-well-being/balloons-environment/>

## Veterans and Family Tribute Dedication was held on May 31, 2021



God's Acres  
Zion Lutheran Church of Amor  
May 31, 2021 at 2pm

### SPECIAL THANKS

#### Tribute Committee

Mick Baumann - Chair  
Gary Harrington  
Dale Johnson  
Jane Baumgartner  
Chuck Erickson  
Rob Bope

The committee would like to express our sincere APPRECIATION to everyone who purchased blocks, donated or volunteered their time and resources to help fund and build this Tribute. Thank you also to the Zion Congregation for your support of this God's Acres special project!

Today and always, we honor the sacrifices made by our Veterans and we thank not only them, but their families who have also sacrificed so much to keep America Free.



# THANK YOU!

## ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL



# God's Acres

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RECREATION AND MEDITATION AREA  
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Play & Picnic Areas - Walking Trails - Disc Golf

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Amor Drone Airpost - GA GA Ball - Labyrinth

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Groups over 20 please call church office  
for reservations: 218-495-2563

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**\$44,900**

Wonderful 10 Acre Lot with hardwoods and planted pine with stream running through it! Just of CO HWY 52 and near intersection of CO HWY 67 in Deer Creek Township. Currently Raw Land with an Easement for access. Fantastic opportunity to build your home in the woods or have your own hunting land. Hurry... this one may not last!

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# The Rearing Pond Trails Dedication

## Held on May 29, 2021







Photos submitted by Ken Wentz

Nestled between Otter Tail and Blanche lakes, the 58 acres of woods and paths known informally as Rearing Pond Trail have been an oasis for residents and visitors of the area.

Developed by the DNR in the late 40s and early 50s as a fish rearing pond that refused to hold water, the land instead has been enjoyed by families and wildlife for generations.

When the DNR scheduled this piece of land for public auction, the Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association stepped forward with an alternate plan. The association, in conjunction with West Central Initiative raised \$90,000 to help the Otter Tail Water Management District purchase the land from the DNR and maintain it as it currently exists through volunteer support.

## Special Thanks

### Rearing Pond Committee

Steve Nelson - Lake Blanche/Originator	Ken Wentz (OTLPOA)
Rob Bope - Chair (OTLPOA)	Fred Rizk (OTLPOA)
Alex Kvidt (OTWMD)	Becky Kemling (OTLPOA)
Nancy Johnson (OTWMD)	Lynn Cave (OTLPOA)
Rebecca Petersen (WCI)	Tom Gedde (OTLPOA)
Scott Simdorn (OTLPOA)	Debbie Ness (OTLPOA)
Roger Anderson (OTLPOA)	

The Committee would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to all of our donors! Because of your generosity this property will remain undeveloped in its natural state for future generations to enjoy!

We also would like to thank the local volunteers who have been mowing the trails for years and have agreed to continue maintaining the property. Thank you for all you do!



## Artist Mary Jo Wentz and the bench she designed for The Rearing Pond

Photo submitted by Ken Wentz



Rob, chairman of The Rearing Pond project, keeping tabs on his volunteers.

Photo submitted by Mary Jo Wentz



Working at The Rearing Pond, in preparation for the May 29th celebration/dedication of The Rearing Pond Trails. The group was installing boundary, rules, and map signs as well as the posts for the dedication sign.

Volunteers, from the left: Rob Bope, Fred Rizk, Scott Nelson, and Rick Mudge. Picture taken by volunteer Ken Wentz.

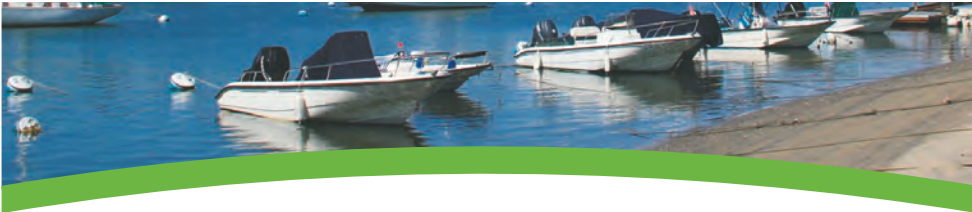
Photo submitted by Mary Jo Wentz



Rick and Fred installing a "Rules and Map Location" Sign

Photo submitted by Mary Jo Wentz





## Recreational Boating: Stay Safe on the Water

With more than 11 million recreational vessels registered in the U.S., millions of Americans are enjoying time on and in the water.

In 2017, the U.S. Coast Guard reported 4,291 boating incidents that resulted in 658 deaths, 2,629 injuries and about \$46 million in property damage. Stay safe by being prepared and using the appropriate equipment, whether enjoying a ride on a motorized boat, paddling a kayak or wakeboarding.

### Life Jackets Are Essential

Life jackets are at the core of safe boating, whether using a motorized or non-motorized vessel. The U.S. Coast Guard reports 76% of boating deaths in 2017 were due to drowning, and 84% of the victims were not wearing a life jacket.

While regulations on life jacket use vary from state to state, the Wear It program of the National Safe Boating Council promotes boating safety by encouraging boaters to wear life jackets any time they are on a boat, motorized or non-motorized.

Good swimmers still need life jackets. When people fall off a boat, they may become disoriented, injured or unconscious. Life jackets can keep victims' heads above water so they can breathe and be rescued more easily. Every child should wear a life jacket at all times when boating.

Choose the right life jacket for the activities you will be doing. Double check to make sure the life jackets are U.S. Coast Guard approved and fit correctly:

- Make sure the jacket is a proper fit for your size and weight
- Make sure the jacket is properly fastened
- Hold your arms straight up over your head, ask a friend to grasp the tops of the arm openings and gently pull up; make sure there is no excess room above the openings and that the jacket does not ride up over your chin or face

### Get Educated, Reduce Risks

The National Safe Boating Council encourages following these boating safety tips to help minimize risks:

- Take a National Association of Boating Law Administrators safety course
- Be familiar with the boating state laws
- Know the "Rules of the Road"
- When operating a motorized boat, know about carbon monoxide; this odorless, colorless poisonous gas is emitted by all combustion engines and onboard motor generators

### Be Prepared

Before setting out:

- Check that your equipment is in good working order; get a free vessel safety check with your local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadron
- Review a pre-departure checklist to ensure you have everything you need in your boat, including a tool kit and first-aid kit
- Before you leave, always file a float plan with someone you trust
- Dress properly and bring an extra set of clothes in case you get wet
- Don't forget the sunscreen and know the signs of heat illnesses

### Exercise Good Judgment

- Respect your limits and keep within your limits to avoid injury
- Don't drink and drive a boat; alcohol affects judgment, vision, balance and coordination
- Once on the water, use common sense; in a split second, a situation can arise or the weather can turn
- If you notice storm clouds, a sudden temperature drop or wind speed increasing, play it safe and get off the water

### Safety Tips for Water Skiers, Tubers and Wakeboarders

Skiing, tubing and wakeboarding are popular water sports, but they also can be dangerous with participants traveling at high speeds. Remember to take the following steps to minimize the risks:

- Learn how to get up out of the water and how to safely use the tow rope
- Always have a spotter in the boat, and go over basic hand signals
- Make certain the towline is not caught in the propeller or wrapped around you prior to beginning
- Wait for the propeller to stop before getting back on the boat
- Enjoy these activities during daylight hours only



Source: <https://www.nsc.org/community-safety/safety-topics/seasonal-safety/summer-safety/boating>





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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](mailto:secretary@otlpoa.com)



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## 2021 Walleye Fry Stocking – Lakes

Lake	Quota	Lake	Quota
*ANNA*	373,000	Lizzie	1,506,500
*BIG PELICAN*	1,625,000	Long (Stalker)	236,000
Blanche	1,002,000	*MIDDLE LEAF*	181,000
Block	132,000	North Lida	1,190,000
Buchanan	835,000	*NORTH TURTLE*	1,454,000
Clear	153,000	Orwell	626,000
*CRYSTAL*	674,000	Otter Tail	3,250,000
Dead	6,537,000	*PRAIRIE*	801,000
Dayton Hollow	139,000	Portage	148,000
Deer	306,000	*RED RIVER LAKE*	276,000
*EAST BATTLE*	825,000	Round (Maine)	35,000
*EAST LEAF*	113,000	*ROUND (RUSH)*	220,000
East Lost	327,000	Rush	1,662,000
East Silent	58,000	Sand	100,000
East Spirit	246,000	Sewell	168,000
East Twin	189,000	Stuart	407,000
Ethel	69,000	South Lida	178,000
Fish (Parkers Prairie)	428,000	*SOUTH TURTLE*	597,000
Fish (Weetown)	1,776,000	*STAR*	2,813,000
*FRANKLIN*	749,000	Swan	371,000
Heilberger	97,000	Walker	342,000
Jim	58,000	*WEST LEAF*	256,000
Johnson	165,000	West Lost	692,000
Jolly Ann	131,000	West Silent	119,000
Leek (Trowbridge)	272,000		113,788 fry/lb



## Leave Fireworks to the Experts

Summer is synonymous with barbecues, parades and fireworks. The National Safety Council advises everyone to enjoy fireworks at public displays conducted by professionals, and not to use any fireworks at home. They may be legal but they are not safe.

In 2017, eight people died and over 12,000 were injured badly enough to require medical treatment after fireworks-related incidents. Of these, 50% of the injuries were to children and young adults under age 20. Over two-thirds (67%) of injuries took place from June 16 to July 16. And while the majority of these incidents were due to amateurs attempting to use professional-grade, homemade or other illegal fireworks or explosives, an estimated 1,200 injuries were from less powerful devices like small firecrackers and sparklers.

Additionally, fireworks start an average of 18,500 fires each year, including 1,300 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires and nearly 17,000 other fires.

### If You Choose to Use Legal Fireworks

If consumer fireworks are legal to buy where you live and you choose to use them, be sure to follow the following safety tips:

- Never allow young children to handle fireworks
- Older children should use them only under close adult supervision
- Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol
- Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eye wear
- Never hold lighted fireworks in your hands
- Never light them indoors
- Only use them away from people, houses and flammable material
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person
- Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting
- Never ignite devices in a container
- Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks
- Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding
- Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire
- Never use illegal fireworks

Better yet, grab a blanket and a patch of lawn, kick back and let the experts handle the fireworks show.

### Sparklers Are Dangerous

Every year, young children can be found along parade routes and at festivals with sparklers in hand, but sparklers are a lot more dangerous than most people think.

Sparklers burn at about 2,000 degrees – hot enough to melt some metals. Sparklers can quickly ignite clothing, and children have received severe burns from dropping sparklers on their feet. According to the National Fire Protection Association, sparklers alone account for more than 25% of emergency room visits for fireworks injuries. For children under 5 years of age, sparklers accounted for nearly half of the total estimated injuries.

Consider using safer alternatives, such as glow sticks, confetti poppers or colored streamers.

Source: MN Department of Natural Resources

## 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!*

 Indicates Barrier-Free Access

## 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  
 blfirstlutheran.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 Church of Amor - ELCA**  
 36051 Co. Hwy. 74, Amor  
 Hwy. 1 and 74, 10 miles north of Battle Lake  
 James Gronbeck, Pastor • Church - 218-495-2563  
 Email: zionamoroffice@prtcl.com  
 Website: www.zionamor.org  
 Facebook - Zion Amor  
 YouTube - Zion Lutheran Amor


Sunday Worship Services 8:15 am and 10:00 am  
 Traditional Service 1st and 4th Sundays  
 Contemporary Service 2nd and 3rd Sundays (Praise Team)  
 Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays  
 Bible Study - Tuesday 10:00 am  
 Covid-19 social distancing protocol in place.  
 Services live streamed on Facebook and uploaded to YouTube.

## 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

## 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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 11	Outdoor Summer Concert at the RTC - The Heartshakers (Fergus Falls)
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	Outdoor Summer Concert at the RTC - Tonic Sol Fa (Fergus Falls)
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 1	Outdoor Summer Concert at the RTC - I Am...He Said (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 22	Outdoor Summer Concert at the RTC - Purple Hulls (Fergus Falls)
Aug 24	Music In The Park - TBA (Ottertail City)
Aug 26	OTLPOA Board Meeting
Aug 27-28	Barnsville Potato Days Festival
Aug 29	Outdoor Summer Concert at the RTC - Harmonious Wail (Fergus Falls)

### ONGONG EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

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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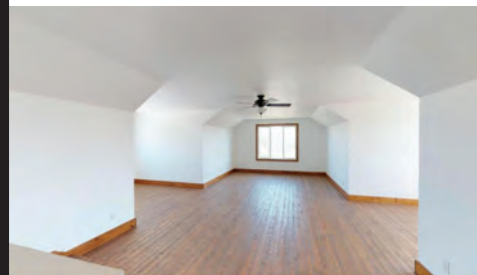


LAND TRANSFERS May 14, 2021 through June 11, 2021					
TWP_NAME	Lake Name	Property Type	Grantor	Grantee	Sale Price
EVERTS	SILVER(EVERTS)	SEASONAL RES REC	MAYER,THOMAS J & MARY L	BECKER,DEENA & CHRISTOPHER	\$505,000
GIRARD	BLANCHE	SEASONAL RES REC	W. FREMONT FRAZEE REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST AGRE	NIELSEN FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP	\$130,000
AMOR	WALKER	SEASONAL RES REC	WLP DEVELOPMENT, LLC	HERMAN,DAREN & DARCI	\$75,000
EVERTS	ROUND (EVERTS)	SEASONAL RES REC	KING,STEVEN W / MCINTIRE,DEBRA J	FOWLER,ALBERT & ANDREA	\$40,000
OTTER TAIL	LONG(OTCITY & TWP)	SEASONAL RES REC	BOLLAND,ARTHUR & ELAINE PATRICIA	DEUCHAR,DAVID A & LEAH M	\$40,000
AMOR	OTTERTAIL	SEASONAL RES REC	YOUNG FAMILY HOLDINGS, LLC	MYKLESTAD,ROGER A	\$325,000
OTTER TAIL	LONG(O T & RUSH)	SEASONAL RES REC	BRANDT,BRIAN	SNORTUM,JOSHUA P & MACKENZIE	\$56,500
OTTER TAIL	LONG(O T & RUSH)	SEASONAL RES REC	HILBORN,MICHAEL CHARLES & CYNTHIA DORENE	ORW HOLDINGS LLC	\$550,000
OTTER TAIL	OTTERTAIL	SEASONAL RES REC	HILBORN,MICHAEL CHARLES & CYNTHIA DORENE	ORW HOLDINGS LLC	\$550,000
OTTER TAIL	LONG(O T & RUSH)	SEASONAL RES REC	STADUM,DEBRA L	FROST,JEFFREY & SANDRA	\$240,000

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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.



## Boating Etiquette – The Unspoken Rules of the Water

Recreational boating has an etiquette – the customary code of accepted behavior on and around the water. Boating etiquette is about safe behavior, as well as what's socially accepted. Here are some of the basics to help you navigate the boating world with ease while not creating a stir among fellow users of the water.

### Top 10 Rules To Respectful Boating – Make The Right Kind Of Waves

Remember, these are guidelines and should not serve as a replacement for learning the rules, regulations and laws for your local body of water. Whether you're a novice or veteran boater, learn more by taking a boating safety course.

1. **Respect the ramp.** Good boating etiquette starts before you enter the water - at the dock. Prepare your boat and equipment before getting into position to launch. Anything else is disrespectful to fellow boaters.
2. **Own your wake.** The fastest way to make the wrong kinds of waves is to literally throw a big, obtrusive wave at another boat, swimmer, angler or shoreline owner. This is much more than being a nuisance or disrupting others' experience on the water. It's dangerous to those unable to tolerate a large wake. Stay at least 200 feet from the shoreline and other boaters.
3. **Keep the tunes in check.** Sound is amplified over the water, so keep the music at a decent level. Not only is it a disturbance to others but the operator may not hear the spotter.
4. **Pack in. Pack out.** Seems like common sense, right? Yet shorelines are still lined with trash being thrown overboard. Take care of the body of water you love and dispose of any trash you have. Do not throw it overboard!
5. **Slow your roll.** Does the body of water you're on have a speed limit or slow-no-wake restriction? It's your responsibility to know it and respect it. You are responsible for any damage you cause to other people's property.
6. **Rules of the road.** Become familiar with waterway markers and navigation rules, which dictate how you operate your vessel in order to prevent collision.
7. **Be prepared.** If you are the captain, you need to be prepared with the safety rules for your craft and make your guests aware as well. Know state and local laws for the body of water you're on. Set a good example by always wearing a life jacket and have enough life jackets for each person onboard. Beyond that, make sure to have the appropriate fit.
8. **Fuel and go.** At the fuel dock, get fuel, pay your bill and move out of the way. If you need to buy additional supplies, relocate your boat. Don't forget to run your blower before starting.
9. **Anchoring and mooring.** Enter an anchorage or mooring area at a slow speed. Don't create a wake that will disrupt other anchored boats. The first boat sets the tone. Mimic how they tie off, how much line you use and how much distance you allow between you and other boats. The busier the boat, the more space you should give yourself.
10. **Be polite – give a wave.** When passing another boat, give a little wave hello. Boating is all about having fun and being part of the boating community. Embrace it, enjoy it, and share it for generations to come.

Source: MN Department of Natural Resources



## SHARE YOUR PHOTOS WITH LAKESHORE NEWS!

Please submit to  
[connor@themidweek.com](mailto:connor@themidweek.com)  
with a brief description.



### Fishing from the platform on Memorial Day Weekend by the Ottertail Dam

Photo submitted by Ken Wentz



### Memorial Day - Busy access on Ottertail Lake

Photo submitted by Ken Wentz



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# Swimming Lessons Taught by YMCA Instructors

Swimming lessons will meet five times for 45 minutes each time. (Preschool lessons are 30 minutes each.) Instructors will not have much time between lessons, so swimmers are asked to be ready to begin their lesson immediately at their start time. Parents are encouraged to stay and watch lessons. If parents leave the swimming area during lessons, they are asked to be back promptly at the end of the lesson. Instructors will not be able to supervise swimmers in the water who are not in a lesson. Swimming lessons meet regardless of weather. If it is unsafe to swim due to weather,safety skills will be taught in the shelter located near each beach.

**Cost:** \$57 Levels 1-6 (5 lessons of 45 minutes).  
**Cost:** \$45 Preschool (5 lessons of 30 minutes).  
**Locations:** Ottertail Lake at Amor Park Beach and West Battle Lake across from Lions Park in Battle Lake

**Advance registrations only. No registrations at the beach.**  
**Preschool** (approximate ages 2 1/2 to 5 years): Learn water adjustment skills, front and back float. Learn to move in the water on front and back. Learn to be comfortable in the water. Lessons meet Monday through Friday, five lessons of 30 minutes each. Limited enrollment; register early.

**Level 1:** Introduction to Water Skills (approximate ages 5-7): This level is ideal for the child who has not had previous swim instruction or is unable or uncomfortable with putting their entire face in the water. The purpose of this level is for students to become more comfortable in the water. Students will become proficient in skills such as entering and exiting the water safely, submerging entire face, using a life jacket, and beginning front and back float.

**Level 2:** Fundamental Aquatic Skills (approximate ages 7 & 8): This level is ideal for the child who is able to put their face in the water but is unable to independently float on their front and back. The purpose of this level is for students to begin to develop fundamental water skills. In this level,students will learn to swim unaided 15 feet on either their front or back as well as entering the water by jumping or stepping from the side, treading water, roll over from back to front and front to back.

**Level 3:** Stroke Development (approximate ages 8 & 9): In this level, students will continue to build on the fundamentals learned in the previous levels. The skills mastered in this level include rotary breathing, front and back crawl, butterfly kick and body motion, standing or kneeling dive, survival float, tread water for 30 seconds, as well as emergency situation Check Call Care.

**Level 4:** Stroke Improvement (approximate ages 9 & 10): In this level, students develop confidence in the skills learned in previous levels as well as improve other aquatic skills. The skills mastered in this level include swimming 25 yards of front and back crawl as well as 15 yards of butterfly,breaststroke, and elementary backstroke. In addition to these skills, water safety will also be implemented through the learning of a throwing assist, safe diving rules, and how to care for a choking victim.

**Level 5:** Stroke Refinement (approximate ages 9-12): In this level, students will further coordinate and refine skills they have learned in past levels. Students will master the following skills: front and back crawl, sidestroke, breaststroke, front flip turn, and elementary backstroke.

**Level 6:** Swimming and Skill Proficiency (approximate ages 11-13): In this level, students will focus on endurance and stroke technique. The purpose of this level is for students to refine strokes and be able to swim with ease, efficiency, power and effectiveness over great distances. Some skills for lifeguarding and fitness will be taught.



# Red Cross Swimming Lessons Fergus Falls Area Family YMCA Staff

Questions regarding location or registration, please call Tanya at 218-862-4603.

Questions about specific swimming skills and placement in class, please contact Taylor at 218-739-4489 ext. 211.

Please check one in the column below and please circle the level.

July 5-9: Ottertail Lake, Amor Park  
\_\_\_ 3:15-4:00pm Level 1 3 5  
\_\_\_ 4:05-4:50pm Level 2 4  
\_\_\_ 4:05-4:35pm Level Preschool

July 12-16: Ottertail Lake, Amor Park  
\_\_\_ 3:15-4:00pm Level 1 2 3 5  
\_\_\_ 4:05-4:50pm Level 1 4 6  
\_\_\_ 4:05-4:35pm Level Preschool

Registration Fee: \$57.00  
(Preschool lessons are \$45.00)

NO REGISTRATIONS AT THE BEACH.  
PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE.

\*Ottertail Lake lessons are at Amor Park



Ottertail Lake Owners Association Foundation will reimburse fees for those who successfully complete lessons.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Emergency Contact Information

Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
work \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
work \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach payment. Checks can be made payable to Battle Lake Community Education and mailed to Battle Lake Community Education, 402 W. Summit, Battle Lake, MN 56515.**

YMCA staff and Battle Lake Public School will take every step possible to provide adequate supervision. However, as with any physical activity, there is a certain amount of risk of injury. The participating individual, parent, or guardian agrees not to hold the YMCA, Battle Lake School, employees, contractors, and volunteers responsible for claims resulting from training, attendance in, or participation in swimming lessons.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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[ottertailcountymn.us/departments/aquatic-invasive-species](http://ottertailcountymn.us/departments/aquatic-invasive-species)



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