



NEWSLETTER

Note from the President

The 2025 lake season is here. The LMA held their first meeting of the year in May. There are many things happening around the lake this year. I hope you are able to partake in the fun and festivities.

The loons are here and we are excited to let you know that the nesting platform near Bann's is once again in use. They are beautiful birds and we try to aid them with successful nesting by adding nesting platforms as well as posting signs to stay back. Please feel free to enjoy their beauty and observe the nesting and hatch, but remember to do it from a distance.

We will again be giving the kids free LMA t-shirts on the 4th of July. Have the kids and grandchildren down on your dock. We don't want to miss anyone! Watch our Facebook page for more details.

The LMA is once again hosting the McGregor school Kid's Fishing day on 6/30. We partner with the Minnewawa Sportsmen's Club to make this event an enjoyable and educational day for the Kids to catch and release panfish, while learning the importance of becoming good stewards of the lake. It is a popular event and they are treated to lunch and given a t-shirt to remember their fun day. Connie Antonsen supplies the bait and extra tackle in honor of Larry Antonsen (past LMA board member). Larry loved to fish and I am sure he smiles from heaven to see this event happen each year!

Fundraising is continuing for the new harvester. The down payment has been made and production will begin soon. We expect delivery May of 2026. We have an excellent team working on fundraising! The old harvester has been sold and they will take possession when our new machine arrives next May. It is wonderful to see all of the pieces to this project fit together. The sale of the old harvester. The generosity of people donating funds. The hours of work people are putting forth to ensure this project happens on the timeline that has been created. What a wonderful group of people that have taken on this huge task and are making it happen! There are so many talented people on this lake that are willing to step up and share their talent. The combination of all of these things is bringing this huge task to reality! We are truly blessed.

The LMA BBQ will be August 9, 2025 from 1-4 at Bann's. This is the event of the year! Be sure to save this date. What a great afternoon spent together visiting with friends and neighbors that all love Lake Minnewawa. Bann's is an awesome supporter of the LMA and are so kind to allow us to have the BBQ there. Come and enjoy the day. Meet new friends, catch up with old friends, eat some good food, watch the kids play games, bid on the silent auction items, buy yourself some awesome Lake Minnewawa apparel all while supporting your lake association!

See you on the lake,
Sue Westberg
LMA President





Loon Nesting Project



The Loon nesting program continues for the 2025 Season. It all started with 3 nesting platforms in 2021 and an additional platform was added in 2023. It typically can take 3- 5 years for loons to accept the platforms as a nesting site. We have been lucky and had great success at the platform placed near Bann's. Loons have nested on the Bann's platform location each year since 2021 and hatched baby loons each year. The other platforms have had loons investigate the platforms but no nesting as of yet. The loon platforms give the loons a more secure nesting site that floats with water changes and provides protection from predators. The platforms are placed on the lake with help from Willey's Marine the week after ice out. Loons arrive on the lake right after ice out and begin looking for nesting sites. At the Bann's platform location, the loons are typically on the platform within a few days. The LMA places signs to warn boaters that there are loon nesting platforms in use and to please stay back to allow the loon privacy. The LMA is a member of the MN Loon Friendly Lake registration and enrolled in the Loon Watchers program. They keep loon data including counts and activity records of the loon population on Lake Minnewawa. Submitted by: Greg Pfeifer

NEW LMA APPAREL IS HERE!



Fishery Update: Walleye Fry



The management of the Lake Minnewawa fishery continues in conjunction with the MN DNR. On Thursday, May 8th 1.15 million walleye fry went into Minnewawa in the continued stocking efforts. An additional 120,000 fry were placed in the adjoining Horseshoe Lake. The LMA greatly appreciated the hard work of the MN DNR! This on-going partnership between the LMA and MN DNR has produced wonderful results with the increase in the walleye population and developing appropriate fishing limits. Other improvements have been the construction of the Weirs dam / fish ladder at the outlet of Lake Minnewawa. Reminder of current fishing limits on Minnewawa. Walleye possession is limited to 3 and sunfish has a daily limit of 10. Northern Pike possession is 10 of which 2 can be over 26" and all fish from 22" to 26" must be immediately released. Please check the 2025 MN Fishing Regulations for all rules and requirements.

By Greg Pfeifer



Be a proud member of the LMA!

Fly your flag to show others how important it is to support a lake association that makes things happen! Need a flag? Purchase one for \$25 at the LMA apparel store. 763-355-7652.

Volunteers Needed

There are many ways to support the lake association. While it is important to be a LMA member and give financial support, it is also extremely important to help out by volunteering. You do not need to make a huge time consuming commitment. It is not necessary to be a full fledged board member that attends monthly meetings. What we really need are short term volunteers. Do you have time to help launch or clean up the harvester? Work at the LMA BBQ? Help set up or tear down the tents? Would you be interested in SCAP testing next spring? How about lend a hand launching the loon nesting platforms? Help out with Kids Fishing day? The opportunities to volunteer are endless. A small time commitment of a few hours can really help! If you have a little time we would love to have you!

Please contact: Sue Westberg

Phone: 651-587-2614

Email: Swestb1069@hotmail.com

Important Dates in 2025

- Kids Fishing Day June 30
- Kids t-shirt giveaway 7/4
- Fireworks on Big Sandy 7/4 10:15 pm
- LMA Annual Meeting 8/2 10am at the Sportsmen's Clubhouse
- LMA BBQ 8/9 at Bann's 1-4pm
- LMA monthly meetings 9 am
- At Bann's 5/10, 6/14, 7/12, 9/13, 10/11



New Harvester

Lake Minnewawa Association Launches Fundraising Campaign for New Harvester

Dear Lake Minnewawa Community,

We are excited to announce the launch of our fundraising campaign to acquire a new harvester, a crucial step in supporting our ongoing water quality programs. The Lake Minnewawa Association (LMA) has been dedicated to preserving and enhancing the beauty and health of Lake Minnewawa since 1961. Our mission includes controlling pollution, maintaining stable water levels, ensuring water safety, and promoting the overall beautification of our beloved lake

Why We Need a New Harvester

Our current harvester, although well-maintained, is beginning to show signs of aging. Frequent repairs are becoming necessary, and we believe now is the right time to invest in a new machine. This proactive approach will allow us to trade in or sell our existing harvester while it still holds optimal value.

The new harvester will ensure that we can continue to provide clear and unobstructed navigation paths on the lake, enhancing the recreational experience for all.

Goals of the Fundraising Campaign

Our primary goal is to raise sufficient funds to purchase a state-of-the-art harvester from Aquarius Systems, a trusted partner known for their reliable and responsive service. The new harvester will be equipped with the latest features to optimize our water quality program, ensuring that we can effectively manage aquatic vegetation and maintain the pristine condition of Lake Minnewawa.

Past Successes of Our Programs

Over the years, our water quality programs have achieved significant milestones:

- **Reduction of Excessive Nutrients:** Through targeted efforts, we have successfully reduced phosphorus levels in the lake, addressing one of the primary causes of water quality degradation
- **Improved Navigation:** Our weed harvesting operations have consistently ensured clear and safe navigation paths, enhancing the overall boating experience
- **Community Engagement:** We have hosted numerous educational events and volunteer activities, fostering a strong sense of community and shared responsibility for the lake's health



New Harvester (continued)

Water Quality Improvements

Our efforts have led to measurable improvements in water quality:

- **Water Clarity:** The average water clarity has improved from 2.5 meters to 3.5 meters over the past five years
- **Phosphorus Levels:** We have reduced phosphorus concentrations by 20%, significantly decreasing the risk of algal blooms
- **Aquatic Vegetation Management:** Effective harvesting has maintained healthy aquatic plant populations, ensuring balanced ecosystems

How You Can Help

We invite all community members to participate in this important campaign. Your contributions will directly impact the health and enjoyment of our lake for generations to come. Here are a few ways you can support us:

- **Donate:** Every dollar counts! Contributions of any size are greatly appreciated.
- **Spread the Word:** Share our campaign with friends, family, and neighbors. The more people we reach, the closer we get to our goal.
- **Volunteer:** Join our fundraising team or help with events. Your time and effort are invaluable.

Upcoming Events

To continue our campaign, we will be hosting a series of events, including a naming contest, our annual picnic and others throughout the summer. These events are not only great opportunities to support the cause but also to connect with fellow lake enthusiasts.

Stay Informed

We will keep you updated on our progress through our website and social media channels. Look out for regular updates, success stories, and ways you can get involved.

Thank you to all who have chosen to help support this effort to date and for your continued support and dedication to preserving the beauty of Lake Minnewawa. Together, we can ensure that our lake remains a vibrant and cherished resource for all.

Warm regards,

The Lake Minnewawa Association