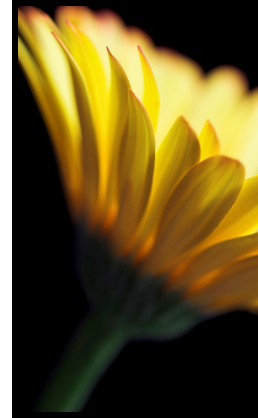


LAKE SARAH IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



Spring on Lake Sarah

LSIA Spring 2020 Newsletter



Upcoming Events

Please mark your calendar!

- **April 27 – Spring General Membership Meeting**
(currently on hold due to COVID-19)
 - 6:30 social hour/7:00pm
 - City of Independence Hall
- **July 4th - Boat Parade (more details to come!)**
 - 2:00pm gathering near the public landing
- **July 19 - Summer General Membership Meeting and Picnic!**
- **October 19 – Fall General Membership Meeting**
 - 6:30 social hour/7:00pm meeting
 - Caboose at the Choo Choo



Hello Spring!

We have made it through another winter and are all looking forward to a fun summer on and around the lake!

The Lake Sarah Improvement Association (LSIA) board decided last year to print and mail one of the 3 newsletters in 2020. In the recent past we have been sending out notices and newsletters all by email from the secure list we maintain. However, we are aware that only about 50% of the time do our correspondences actually get opened and read. We get it. People are busy and we all get lots of emails. So, we have printed and mailed our newsletter this spring. Please take a moment to read it and we look forward to another great year on Lake Sarah!

Spring Membership Meeting

Due to Covid 19 precautions, our spring meeting is currently on hold and could possibly be cancelled. We will send any further information out via email and the lakesarah.com website.

Please join us on Monday **April 27** for our annual spring general membership meeting! This is our biggest and most important meeting of the year because we discuss the water quality of Lake Sarah. Once again Eric Fieldseth from AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) Consultants will be presenting a brief update on our aquatic plant management. It's a great opportunity to learn more about the progress we have made in improving Lake Sarah and our goals for 2020.

Where: City of Independence Hall

Time: 6:30pm social time/ 7:00pm Meeting begins

Join Us!

Lake Sarah Neighborhood Directory



Did you know that LSIA updates and distributes a neighborhood directory every year? It's a wonderful way to know who your neighbors are and contact them. The 2019/2020 directory was distributed by email last fall. If you did not receive one and would like us to send one to you please send us an email with your request to lakesarahassociation@yahoo.com. We have a limited number of printed copies that will be available at the spring meeting.

If you notice that a change or correction is needed in the directory please send a note to the email address listed above. We will make the correction for the next edition this fall.

2020 Membership Drive

It's time to renew your LSIA membership! Once again, the annual membership fee is only \$35.00. Thank you to those who have already sent in their membership donation!

Our LSIA supports efforts to improve the water quality, adds fish (walleye!) to the lake every fall, provides a neighborhood directory annually, sponsors 3 general membership meetings a year and a number of community events such as the July 4th boat parade and the summer picnic!

So please help support our lake and community by renewing or joining LSIA. There is a membership form included in the newsletter. Please complete the form (including your current email) and mail it along with your tax-deductible check to the address listed.

There is an option to pay with PayPal on the lakesarah.com website. However, we prefer to receive a check along with the COMPLETED membership form so we can be sure we have accurate information for our database and directory. For administrative ease, please consider combining your membership fee with your \$150 lake treatment donation for a total donation of \$185.

Thank you!

New LSIA discount for paid members!

In addition to getting a discount on your trash pick up from Randy's Sanitation and water services from Finkens, we are happy to announce a new discount available to LSIA paid members!

Group Boat Storage Rate

As part of our ongoing effort to add value to the LSIA members, the LSIA board has partnered with a boat storage provider to obtain a group rate for the 2020 winter season (which we are in no rush to think about)

More information to follow, please contact Marcus Zahn at marcus.zahn@gmail.com to learn more.

Love Lake Sarah?

Do you care about our water quality?

Do you want to meet some new neighbors?

Come join the LSIA Board!!



The Lake Sarah Improvement Association is a group of residents who volunteer to protect and improve this wonderful lake we all share.

We are always looking for neighbors who can give a little bit of your precious time to work on the board. There are a number of opportunities to become involved.

We have about 4 board meetings a year and 3 general membership meetings. It is a great way to learn about the water quality of our lake, meet some great neighbors and donate some time

to this great lake and community which we all share and enjoy. Whether you are new to the lake or have been here many years, consider becoming part of a group dedicated to improving our lake. If you are interested and would like some more information please

contact Anne Horn at 612-889-0275 or send us an email at

lakesarahassociation@yahoo.com

The Bogs are Coming!

For the past several months, we have stared at the ice waiting for the water underneath to once-again emerge. Soon, the docks and lifts will be returning to their rightful place and residents and guests will recreate on Lake Sarah. But alas, an obstacle may loom:
BOGS!

Due to the higher water levels last fall, many residents experienced the occasional nuisance bog floating by or, in some cases, getting cozy with their docks, lifts, and/or shorelines. It is likely, we may see bogs meandering around the Lake again this spring.

If a floating bog becomes a nuisance, it is the responsibility of the property owner(s) where the bog is grounded to move the bog to an acceptable location or remove the bog altogether. Moving a floating bog away from your property or removing a bog from the lake requires a DNR aquatic plant management permit issued through the DNR Regional Fisheries Office.

Permits are free and take approximately 1-2 days to receive. The following is the link to the Minnesota DNR Permitting and Reporting System (MPARS):

<https://webapps11.dnr.state.mn.us/mpars/public/authentication/login>.

Additional information can be found on the DNR website: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us>

It is worth noting that bogs are generally very heavy. Cutting bogs into smaller pieces makes them easier to pull up on shore. Once dried, they are much easier to move.

Feel free to check the [Lake Sarah website](#) where additional information related to bogs may be posted. Additionally, should you need guidance or assistance with a troublesome bog, please feel free to reach out to the LSIA board volunteers.

Lake Treatment Update

2019 was another successful year for our Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) treatment efforts, thanks in no small part to resident involvement and the timely efforts from our partners at AIS Consulting, Aquatic Solutions, and the DNR. We were able to substantially knock down our primary AIS nemeses curly leaf pondweed and eurasian milfoil, and in so doing helped support a great year for lake use and navigation! Looking

forward, we will again be partnering with AIS Consulting and Aquatic Solutions to tackle the AIS treatment efforts in 2020. We will again be conducting a whole lake treatment to address new vegetation given its past success and economic savings relative to a piecemeal approach. We want to thank you all for your generous support of this effort, and as a reminder you can contribute to our efforts [HERE](#), or by sending a check for \$150 to our PO Box 25, Loretto, MN 55357.

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Grant Update

Fortin Consulting and our environmental consultant, Jenny Winkelman, conducted the first leg of our AIS grant effort in partnership with Hennepin County last summer. The first leg included public access observations, questioning, and assessments. It is safe to say we have learned a lot about Lake Sarah visitors in just a short time. This info will be of great value as we seek the best way to prevent the spread of new AIS to our shared resource, Lake Sarah. We hope to have some information on the findings to share at our spring kickoff meeting, and likewise expect leg two of the effort, a survey of lake homeowners, to also kick off at the spring meeting.

Please contact Marcus Zahn at marcus.zahn@gmail.com to learn more!

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Financial Report

Please view the most recent Lake Sarah Improvement Association financial report by clicking the link below

[Financial Statement](#)