

Big Chip Shoreowners' Association

Newsletter from the Board July, 2006

Board of Directors

Wayne Carstens, President
10021 Big Chip Rd. NW
320-834-2401

Mary Bednarz, Secretary
10430 Shorewood Ln NW
320-524-2382

Jeanne Gillespie
10781 Big Chip Rd. NW
320-834-2966

Jim Adam
10511 Big Chip Rd. NW
320-834-2920

Lowell Anderson
10988 Co. Rd. 12 NW
320-834-6055

Don Bakken
10823 Big Chip Rd. NW
320-834-6280

Paul Maack
10267 Big Chip Rd. NW
320-834-2971

Glen Matejka
10769 Big Chip Rd. NW
320-834-2818

Tom Woessner
10549 Shorewood Ln. NW
612-387-0006

Following is a list of section captains. Please feel free to contact yours with questions or concerns

Section Captains	Phone #
<u>Lowell Anderson</u>	834-6055
11092 thru 10988 Cty Rd 12	
Includes Roers and Erickson	
<u>Dave Pederson</u>	834-2401
9642 thru 10077 Big Chip Road	
<u>Ron Roering</u>	834-3531
10095 thru 10379 Big Chip Road	
<u>John Gilson</u>	834-2777
10405 thru 10571 Big Chip Road	
<u>Jim Otto</u>	834-2363
10593 thru 10739 Big Chip Road	
<u>Dennis Lund</u>	834-2797
10745 thru 10793 Big Chip Road	
<u>Ken Nelson</u>	834-2775
10797 thru 10849 Big Chip Road	
<u>Wayne Carstens</u>	834-2310
10321 Cty Rd 58 NW and	
8435 thru 8618 Sara Road	
<u>Adrian Ledermann</u>	834-4418
8610 thru 8558 Sara Road	
<u>Wayne Carstens</u>	834-2310
11973 thru 13007 Cty Rd 58 and	
8633 thru 8845 Cty Rd 7 NW	

The board would like to thank the retiring members for their many contributions to the association and its members for the past few years. Dave Pederson and Lowell Zwiers have worked very hard to improve the association and its activities. We will miss them as we attempt to continue the efforts.

Wayne Carstens has agreed to take over the president's duties and has already made an impact by starting a private walleye stocking program. Please see the related article inside.

In addition to the board members several of your neighbors are engaged in activities to monitor the ever changing condition of the lake. Dave Bednarz has been checking on the lake depth for many years and Jim Otto does clear water testing. Others have stepped up to the plate by volunteering to be section captains. Over the past two years, the lake properties were divided into manageable sections for the prime purpose of sharing information and welcoming new owners. Their responsibilities include

1. Evaluating the need for tentworm spraying in their section
2. Obtaining signatures for waiver forms for worm control
3. Watching for milfoil on the lake
4. Forwarding comments and questions to the board
5. Visiting new owners, as well as non-association members to inform them of our role on the lake

The board is also looking into the possibility of reserving space on the Douglas County Lakes Association web site as a way to improve communication. Another source we can offer is a group emailing of up to date and pertinent information. We have many email addresses and could use the internet effectively to share that information. We will keep you posted.

<u>Lee Rossmann</u>	524-2795
11805 thru 11897 Strom Drive and	
9897 thru 9958 Chippewa Heights	
<u>Pete Wood</u>	524-2647
9989, 9999 and 10397 Chippewa Heights	
11174 thru 11376 Wallen Heights	
<u>Mary Bednarz</u>	524-2382
10402 thru 10798 Shorewood Lane	
<u>Gene Gravium</u>	524-2025
10810 thru 11196 Shorewood Lane and	
10677, 10431 Chippewa Heights	
<u>Bob Beattie</u>	834-4427
10276, 10650 and 9601 thru 9801	
Nursery Lane	
11109 and 11451 Chippewa Heights	
11419 and 11421 Kimberly Road	
11902 and 11916 Cty Rd 12	

Minutes of 2006 Annual Meeting
June 17th

Meeting called to order

Secretary minutes and treasurer's reports read and approved

Introduction of board members

Wayne Carstens introduced as new president

Lowell Zwiers and Dave Pederson will be resigning from board

Jim Adam has volunteered to be on the board and to be DCLA
representative

Glenn Matejka has volunteered to be on the board

Old Business

Section divisions for lake communications; see article

Tentworm control; see article

Walleye stocking; see article

Chippewa Watershed; see article

Central Lakes Sewer District; see article

New Business - None, Motion to adjourned made, seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report

July 22, 2006

Balance as of June 17th

Checking	1302.34
CD matures Sept. 19th	2067.02
Savings	<u>2024.30</u>

Total	5393.66
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Expenses

Lowell Zwiers for annual meeting treats	28.27
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Income

Dues	290.00
Savings Interest	2.37

Totals	Checking	1564.07
	CD	2067.02
	Savings	<u>2026.67</u>
	Total	5657.76

Submitted

Jean Gillespie

I would like to encourage those who have forgotten to send this year's membership payment to do so soon

In August we will be sending reminders to those who have let it slip their minds, but hope to keep the mailing costs to a minimum by receiving payments from members before the 15th. The amount due is the same as last year, **\$20.00**. Our available funds were depleted a great deal by the cost of spraying for tentworms and we can only continue that activity if there are additional paid memberships. At the end of the newsletter is a form which you may send in to assure you are properly credited with your dues payment

The Chippewa River Watershed is a very large watershed draining 2080 square miles or 1,331,200 acres. A portion of eight counties make up the watershed, which includes the western ½ of Douglas County (all of Brandon Township).

Watersheds are used by state and federal governments as major players in the Clean Water Legacy and impaired water correction. One County commissioner and I, from Douglas County serve on the board which oversees the watershed staff.

Since 1998 the Chip Watershed has received grants from state and federal sources in the amount of \$1,600,000. This money has been used for water monitoring, education, and projects that improve or prevent impaired water. In Douglas County, since March of 2006, \$78,000 have been spent on projects with \$28,000 from Chip River, \$31,000 from State Cost Share Program and the balance by the land owner.

The Chip River watershed is now making available funds for shoreline restoration (Lakescaping) and possible low interest loans for sewer hook-up from house to street if the sewer district reaches construction, and/or replacement of old septic system.

For more information contact Glenn at 834-2818.

Save Our Bulrushes

Douglas County Lakes Association

Bulrushes (some people call them lake reeds) continue to disappear from Lake Chippewa. Bulrushes are very valuable to the lake! They provide fish habitat and act as filters – essentially helping to clean the lake. Bulrushes also add to the privacy of lake shore by keeping boats at a distance from the shore. Over the years many have been removed to create swimming and dock areas. Although this has created a more “desirable” lake shore in some eyes, it has not been good for the water quality of Lake Chippewa.

Lakescaping Douglas County Lakes

Lakescaping is the process of restoring (vegetating) a Shoreline in order to correct an erosion problem or to improve water quality of the lake. At the heart of every lakescaping concept is the creation of a buffer zone along the shoreline. A buffer zone is a natural strip of vegetation along a property's frontage that acts as a protective barrier and filters potential contaminants that may otherwise find free flow into the lake. Do you have a mowed yard to the water's edge? If you do, you may want to consider changing the landscape of your shoreline and incorporating landscaping techniques. Buffer zones benefit the lake and lakeshore owners in a number of ways.

1. Emergent vegetation, like bulrushes and cattails, reduce shoreline erosion caused by wind and boat traffic
2. The natural vegetation serves as a filter strip that helps prevent lawn fertilizer and pesticide runoff from reaching the lake.
3. Aquatic vegetation helps purify lake water by removing contaminants and by calming water which allows suspended soil particles to settle to the lake bottom.
4. Buffer zones reduce the amount of fertilizer and herbicide needed on a lakeshore property because the resulting lawn is smaller and native plants in the buffer zone do not need fertilizer or herbicides.
5. Buffer zones reduce the acreage of lawn and the amount of time needed for mowing and lawn maintenance.
6. Unmowed wildflowers, grasses and sedges along the shore create a biological barrier that will deter Canada geese from loitering the lawn.

For more go to www.dnr.state.mn.us/restoreyourshore

Remember that a permit is required to remove bulrushes. If you must remove a few and have received the required permit, please remove as few as possible. Please help preserve our remaining bulrushes by avoiding them when boating. It is certainly easier to keep our current bulrushes than it will be to re-establish them in the future for fish habitat and water filtering.
Let's all try to PRESERVE the lake!!!!