



MLA NEWSLETTER – FALL 2022

MLA MEETING UPDATES

Meeting [minutes](#) from the September 3 member meeting are online now. As you look forward to next year and plan your weekends, take note of the dates on our 2023 events calendar. Member meetings are at 9:00 AM at the McKenzie Landing, on Big McKenzie Lake, 1350 Cty Hwy E.

2023 EVENTS CALENDER

- April 29 – Roadside Clean-up
- May 27 – 1st Member Meeting
- June 24 – 2nd Meeting – Annual Meeting
- July 4 – Boat Parade
- July 29 – 3rd Member Meeting
- August 5 -- Booya
- September 2 – 4th Member Meeting

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Do you have questions or suggestions as to meeting topics, speakers, special events and, in general, any project that maintains, protects or enhances the health of the McKenzie Lakes? Ask any MLA Board member. Board members' contact information is on the website home page under the "about" tab.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2022

The McKenzie Lakes Association and its' volunteers were very busy in 2022! The following two pages outline the accomplishments of 2022. The work couldn't be done without all of the volunteers, so thank you to everyone who helped out.

McKenzie Lakes Association Accomplishments 2022

The McKenzie Lakes Association (MLA) and its volunteers were very busy in 2022. The following is a list of accomplishments and activities completed or performed. This list is not necessarily all inclusive of MLA volunteer activities as there are many others working to protect our lakes in their own silent way.

- MLA contracted with the Town of Scott to hire Clean Boat/Clean Water boat inspectors at Big McKenzie (BM), Middle McKenzie (MM), and Lower McKenzie (LM) public boat landings between May and September. All weekends and the major holidays had boat inspectors at the public landings to remind boaters to inspect, clean, and decontaminate their boats.
- MLA volunteers provided Clean Boat/Clean Water inspectors at the BM, MM, and LM boat landings during times when paid inspectors were not present.
- Members of MLA serve on the Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Conference Board, responsible for the annual NW Wisconsin Lakes conference in June.
- Members of MLA serve on the WI DNR Zebra Mussels Management Committee.
- Members of MLA presented programs to the Burnett and Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Associations on our efforts to contain Zebra Mussels (ZM).
- MLA coordinated the monitoring of ZM status in the McKenzie Lakes which included the following.
 - 37 volunteers deployed and monitored sampler plates on the three lakes, the creek on Section 1 Rd between MM and LM, and the reservoir at the south end of BM.
 - Volunteers from each of the three lakes, donating many hours and miles, maintained the decontamination stations at the three public boat landings.
- MLA volunteers completed a shoreline survey on BM and MM (also the island) for Purple Loosestrife and treated any found.
- MLA volunteers performed water clarity tests (Secchi) disk readings during the summer months on all three lakes and reported the results in the DNR SWIMS database.
- MLA volunteers performed water testing on all three lakes which included temperature monitoring and water sample collections which were sent to the Wisconsin state laboratory to monitor chlorophyll and phosphorous levels in the lake.
- MLA volunteers contributed and maintained the MLA website to keep members informed about the Association's activities.

- MLA Healthy Lakes “fish sticks” grant (fish/wildlife shoreline habitat project) has seven shoreland sites, six land owners, on BM and MM signed up; winter weather cooperating, the selected contractor will install January 2023.
- MLA members and friends of the Association generously volunteered and helped prepare, plan, and staff the very successful 2022 Booya Fundraiser in August. A record net profit of \$6,794.80 is partially funding the updated 5-year Aquatic Plant Management Plan on the three lakes.
- MLA volunteers maintained and placed the shallow water buoys on BM.
- Volunteers placed signs warning boaters to stay away from known loon nesting sites.
- MLA volunteers completed the review and goal setting process for the updated five-year Aquatic Plant Management Plan; sections to target were concerns regarding Yellow Iris, Zebra Mussels, and Chinese Mystery Snails and Banded Mystery Snails. As part of the process, MLA provided the public with an open comment hour.
- MLA members and lake friends volunteered for the 1-day roadside clean-up; volunteers worked picking up debris around the three lakes and adjacent county roads.

- ***A big thanks to all of the dedicated volunteers and donors who made this a very successful year for the Association.***