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The Official Newspaper of
Otter Tail Lakes
Property Owners
Association

Volume 55 - No. 4
– July 2026 –



Lakeshore News



First Annual Walker Lake Boat Parade. Submitted by OTLPOA Director Mike Wendt



First July 4 Celebration.
Submitted by OTLPOA Director Dan Carlisle



Blanche Lake Boat Parade - more on pages 6-7. Submitted by OTLPOA Director Ken Wentz

250

Celebrating 250 Years of
AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE
and **THOSE WHO FIGHT**
TO PROTECT IT

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Good Luck To All Area Fisherpeople!



Lakeshore News

The Official Newspaper of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association

Volume 56 - No. 4 • July 2026 • Battle Lake, MN



Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association (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.

– OTLPOA Board of Directors –

President –

Eric Gerken (Otter Tail Lake)egerken31@gmail.com - 320-491-1277

Vice President –

Mark Long (Deer Lake)mdlongmark@outlook.com - 701-640-1033

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Pat Hunke (Otter Tail Lake)phunke@hunkestransfer.com - 218-639-4910

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Jeff Skogenjeffskogen@gmail.com - 303-898-2501

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Round Lake Director –

Steve MouritsenSteve.mouritsen@wellsfargo.com - 612-237-6927

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Steve YoungSlyoung5@arvig.net - 218-371-9289



Meet New Directors Devon Gemelli and Steve Young

– OTLPOA President's Eric Gerken's Corner –



Greetings Everyone!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Fourth of July filled with family, friends, and time on beautiful Otter Tail Lake. It's hard to believe we're already well into another summer season. Whether you've been enjoying early morning fishing, afternoons on the water or relaxing evenings at the cabin, I hope you've had the opportunity to appreci-

ate just how fortunate we are to call this incredible lakes community home. Thank you to everyone who continues to do their part to keep OTLPOA clean, safe and enjoyable for all.

As we move into the busiest part of the summer, I'd like to encourage everyone to get involved in one of our favorite annual traditions — our **Lake Clean-Up Day Saturday, August 1** (see page 5 for more details). This year's event will be headquartered at Beach Bums on the southwest side of Otter Tail Lake. Gather your family, friends, neighbors, or even your favorite fishing crew and get your team signed up at WWW.OTLPOA.COM. After a morning of helping keep our lakes beautiful, join

us back at Beach Bums for food, prizes and a chance to visit with fellow lake enthusiasts. Every volunteer and every bag of debris collected makes a real difference in preserving the beauty of our lakes and rivers for generations to come.

Please also mark your calendars for our **Annual Association Meeting on Thursday, August 20 at Thumper Pond**. It's a great opportunity to hear updates on the work your association has been doing, learn about upcoming projects, and share your thoughts and ideas. I hope to see many familiar faces along with some new ones. Thank you for your continued support and for helping make OTLPOA such a special

place. Enjoy the rest of your summer, stay safe on the water and I'll see you on the lake!

Enjoy the Lakes!



SAFETY IS IN YOUR HANDS. EVERY DIG. EVERY TIME.

OTLPOA 2026 Meetings

Mark Your Calendars!

July 23 • August 27

September 24 • October 22

Ottertail City Community Center 6 p.m.

If any member wants to address the board with any questions or issues, please notify secretary or any board member to be added to the agenda.

Annual Meeting Date & Location To Be Announced (more detail to come)

Calendar of Events 2026

July 10	Relay for Life of East Otter Tail County in Perham
July 11-12	Phelps Mill Arts Festival
TBA	Downtown Fergus Falls Shop Move'n Groove
July 15-18	West Otter Tail County Fair - Fergus Falls
July 18	Ottertail Business & Community Association Annual Auction
July 21	Ottertail Music In The Park 6 p.m. - Rick Adams
July 23-26	East Otter Tail County Fair - Perham
July 23-25	Battle Lake's Wenonga Days
July 29-August 2	Vergas' Loony Days
August 4	Ottertail Music In The Park 6 p.m. - Katie Baker & Sam Babler
August 6-8	WE Fest - Detroit Lakes
August 7-8	Silver Sage Pro Rodeo - Clitherall
August 7-9	Parkers Prairie Fall Festival & Bull Ride
August 8	Otterfest Art & Craft Affair - Battle Lake
August 15	Vining Watermelon Day
August 18	Ottertail Music In The Park 6 p.m. - "Lucky Penny"
August 22	Millerville Butter Days Clitherall Summer Festival
August	Perham Crazy Days
August 15-16	Perham Pioneer Days
September 4-5	Underwood's Harvest Festival
September 5	Battle Lake Area Community Fund's Gathering of Planes
September 11-13	Lake Region Pioneer Threshermen's Reunion - Dalton
September	Woodstack - Prospect House & Museum, Battle Lake
December 5	Otterdazzle

Check website for more details –

Battle Lake	www.lakesconnect.org/calendar
Otter Tail County	ottertailcounty.gov/otc-events
Ottertail	visitottertailmn.com
Perham	perham.com

While at the lake, check out some of these area events and support our advertisers!

Events are subject to change.
To submit an event, contact blreview@arvig.net

REMEMBER
WHEN ...
by OTLPOA Board Members Dan Carlisle and Jeff Skogen



Do you remember The Glass Bar?



It operated pre-1957 and was located on Highway 78 just east of Otter Tail Lake. Ok, how about Herf's 78 Club? Yes, The Glass Bar became Herf's 78 Club from April 1957 to about 1975. After that, it became The Beaver Trap. Many people enjoyed the libations, dancing and listening to live music.

I believe Big Fish Kayaks, Ice Cream and Mini Golf is on that property today.



Explore and enjoy all that is to be offered in our lakes country.



How Otter Tail County Got Its Name

Before there were roads in the wilderness area, the best method of transportation was by water; and as the Leaf Lakes drain towards the Gulf of Mexico. Otter Tail Lake toward Hudson Bay by way of the Red River of the North.

The early explorer would portage from Leaf Lake (Leaf City) to Portage Lake to Donald Lake to Pelican Bay on Otter Tail Lake and be on his way through Canada to Hudson Bay.

The first explorers through this area about 1750 were a Frenchman and an Englishman. They met with a band of Indians on the shore of "Lac de la Queue de la Outer", which roughly translates to "Lake of the Otters Tail".

This is on record in the archives of Congress, and I would think that it was called that for many years before that as the name derives from the sand bar shaped like an otter's tail where the Otter Tail River enters Otter Tail Lake (on the northeast end of the lake) and now over two centuries later the otter's tail sand bar is still there.

DID YOU KNOW... That all of the following spell "Otter Tail" with two words?
Otter Tail County
Otter Tail Lake
Otter Tail River
Otter Tail Township

There is only ONE official government entity that is a single word, and that is the City of "Ottertail".



Northeast end of Otter Tail Lake

Remember To Take Your Trash When You Leave To Help Keep Our Lakes Cleans!

Facts About and On VRBO



Otter Tail County offers over 350 rentals including over 100 lakefront Vrbo listings, with hubs in Battle Lake and Ottertail. Properties range from cozy wood-paneled lakefront cabins to modern retreats with amenities like hot tubs, private sandy beaches and boat docks. Options range from cozy two-bedroom cabins to spacious six-bedroom retreats near top destinations like Glendalough State Park. Popular local areas great for accessing West Battle Lake, Eagle Lake and Glendalough State Park. Centrally located right on Otter Tail Lake and near the Thumper Pond Golf Course.

Local Insights and Regulations

- **Property Vibe:** Listings often include coveted Minnesota lake-life amenities such as private sandy beaches, docks for boat lifts, and proximity to golf courses and local hotspots (e.g., Zorbaz on Otter Tail Lake).
- **Local Compliance:** Otter Tail County requires vacation home rentals to be licensed and meet safety standards (e.g., specific fire escapes, water quality testing, and septic limits). Licensed rentals undergo safety inspections, and the county operates a 24/7 complaint hotline at (800) 723-8394.
- **Where to Look:** Browse availability directly on Vrbo's Otter Tail County Guide or explore listings near the Otter Tail Lake area.

Renting Your Vacation House

Vacation home rentals in Otter Tail County are governed by the Vacation Home Rental Ordinance. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish a licensing program for vacation home rentals that allows for private vacation home rentals while also mitigating possible adverse impacts to the public's health, safety, and general welfare and quality of life of surrounding properties, as well as water and environmental quality.

License Application –

Step 1: Vacation Home Rental Application (VHR Application)

Step 2: Review page three on plan review application to ensure standard requirements are being met at your rental property.

Step 3: Mail Application and Payment due to Otter Tail County Public Health

*If standards are not met you may be denied for a VHR License in Otter Tail County

Water Testing Requirements –

Make sure you have completed a water test with a certified lab for the following contaminants Nitrates and Coliform Bacteria. Local Water Testing Information with RMB Labs

Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (STTS) –

(c) A certificate of compliance for an existing system is valid for three years from the date of issuance unless the local unit of government finds evidence of an imminent threat to public health or safety requiring removal and abatement under section 145A.04, subdivision 8.

(d) A certificate of compliance for a new system is valid for five years from the date of issuance unless the local unit of government finds evidence of an imminent threat to public health or safety requiring removal and abatement under section 145A.04, subdivision 8.

Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Compliance Inspection –

Learn about inspections for new and existing septic systems Subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) compliance inspections are conducted for:

- Newly installed systems — To determine if the design and installation meet current rule requirements,

and if the system will protect public health and minimize effects on groundwater.

- Existing systems — To determine whether the system is functioning properly to protect public health and groundwater. Existing system inspections do not check for system size, horizontal setbacks (i.e., property lines, wells, and buildings), estimated longevity, current usage, or past system abuse.

Individuals conducting compliance inspections must be certified by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and either operate under an SSTS inspection business license, or act as a qualified employee of a local government.

Septic Inspector Search –

<https://webapp.pca.state.mn.us/ssts/business-search>

Septic Fact Sheet –

Please help us be SepticSmart by taking steps to ensure that our septic system continues to operate as expected – helping protect the environment and ensuring a good stay. Whatever goes down our toilet, sink, or shower pipes ends up in our septic system and affects how well it works. Please do your part to be SepticSmart by taking these simple steps:

- **Think at the Sink!** Please keep grease, fats, harmful chemicals, and hair out of the drain. They can clog or damage our system and can cause an expensive plumbing mess.
- **Don't Overload the Commode!** Please do not flush non-degradable items such as dental floss, diapers, wipes, hygiene products, or hair.
- **Be WaterWise!** Stagger use of water-based appliances among house guests. All of the water in this home's pipes ends up in the septic system. Efficient water use improves the operation of a septic system and reduces the risk of failure.
- **Be Mindful of Guests!** If there are more people staying in our home than our septic system was designed to support, your guests may overload the system and mess up your stay. This is one reason why we cannot accept more than the maximum number of guests.
- **When in Doubt, Follow an Easy Rule of Thumb:** Do not flush anything besides human waste and toilet paper

For all questions on your septic compliance status please call the Otter Tail County Land and Resource Department

Vacation Home Rental Complaint Hotline

Otter Tail County has a thriving expansion of vacation homes for rent, and licensed vacation rental home owners are committed to being good neighbors.

To report noise, parking, trash or other problems with a vacation rental; or to report and unlicensed rental home in your neighborhood please call the Complaint Hotline. The phone line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We are here to help. Complaint Hotline: 800-723-8394

Contact Information

Environmental Health

Phone: 218-998-8115

Email: eh@ottertailcounty.gov

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OTLPOA Lakes Clean-Up Day Official Rules –

1. The OTLPOA Clean-Up Day event is sponsored by the Ottertail Lakes Property Owners Association, Inc. and the Otter tail Lakes Property Owners Association Foundation.
2. The event objective is to clean up and remove debri from our As- sociation lakes and to educate the public about our lake associ- ation and Foundation.
3. Participants in the Clean-Up Day event (hereafter “event”) do so voluntarily and agree to abide by and be bound by the rules es- tablished for the event as set forth herein and as may be amended or later created.
4. All participants must abide by all laws of the State of Minnesota, including those laws that pertain to boating, swimming, diving, invasive species, respecting habitat and general recreation on the water.
5. The event headquarters will be on the shore/docks at Beach- Bums Bar on Otter Tail Lake from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the day of the event.
6. The competition portion of the event will officially begin at 9 am and conclude at 3 p.m. Participants will be on the honor system when it comes to respecting these times.
7. Participants must register for the event either by downloading and completing the registration form that is available on the OTLPOA website or by registering in person on the morning of the event. One registered participant from each team will be fur- nished with a wrist band that must be worn during the event and during the photographing of their “catch.”
8. No debri or trash may be accumulated in advance of the official start time. However, scouting and pre-locating debri to be re- moved during the event is permitted and is actually encouraged.
9. Participants may use whatever means they desire to remove debri from the water, including but not limited to, ropes, winches, hoists, buckets, nets, inflatable ballasts and mental telepathy. Care should be taken to not damage native vegetation or other natural habitat. Any body of water that is part of the Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association may be the subject of cleanup/debri removal activity for this event. These include the Otter Tail River north and the following lakes: Otter Tail, Long, Walker, Blanche, Deer, Round and Pelican Bay.
10. When teams and/or individual participants have concluded their harvest of debri on event day (prior to 3 p.m.) they must take a photograph that shows the entirety of the debri with at least one team member being visible with their wrist band. This photo must be submitted prior to 3:30 p.m. to the Event Committee by mes- sage or email to 218-639-3972; text; dcarliisle@toddwaden a.coop (email). The photo may also be taken with a Polaroid or other similar camera and submitted in person by the 3:30 p.m. submission deadline.
11. After a team has concluded their harvest activity on the day of the event, they must dispose of all debri, trash and other objects removed from the lakes, in the dumpster provided for the event by Otter Tail County Solid Waste which will be located at the Event Headquarters at Beach Bums Bar on Otter Tail Lake. Bat- teries must be separated and not mixed in with the general dumpster contents.
12. The OTLPOA will designate three individuals who will constitute the “Event Committee” for this event. The “Event Committee” will be responsible for administering the event; interpreting in their sole dis- cretion, the event rules; resolving any questions or disputes that may arise before, during and after the event; judging the submitted photographs that depict the debri harvested and awarding prizes.
13. All event participants will receive a gift certificate to a local restaurant.
14. Event photos submitted will be ranked by the Event Committee based upon their interpretation of the volume of harvested debri depicted in the photos.
15. The team that submits the top ranked photo as determined by the Event Committee, in its sole judg- ment, will be awarded five hundred dollars (\$500) and the second place team will be awarded two hundred fifty dollars (\$250). The “most unique” item harvested during the event will be awarded a two hundred fifty dollar (\$250) cash prize.
16. All participants, except those winning a cash prize, will be eligible to win a raffle prize. The raffle process and number of prizes awarded will be determined in the sole discretion of the Event Com- mittee. If a participant wins a prize, they are ineligible to be drawn for any additional prizes.
17. By participating in the event, participants acknowledge that certain activities related to the event may be dangerous or present certain hazards to their health, including but not limited to: boating, swimming, snorkeling, scuba diving, handling sharp, heavy or rusty objects and related activities. Participants understand the risk exists of a boating accident, drowning, receiving cuts and abrasions, sun/heat exposure, hypothermia, and other non-enumerated injuries. Nonetheless, participants who wish to engage in the event agree to indemnify and hold harmless, the OTLPOA, its officers, Direc- tors, agents and assigns and others working at the event from any injury, damage or other liability arising from or that is related to the event, whether known or unknown, foreseeable or not foreseeable and regardless of whether said injury, damage or liability arises at a later date.

WANTED

Debris Removed from Our Lakes Clean-Up Our Lakes Contest



Prizes Awarded for Most Debris Removed(\$500/\$250)

\$250 Prize Award for the Most Unique Item

**Awards For Each Participating Team*

August 1, 2026

Award Reception at Beach Bums 3:30 p.m.

Register Online at WWW.OTLPOA.COM

Contact a Lakes Association Board Member for More Information

OTLPOA Lakes Clean-Up Day Registration Form - August 1, 2026

Name of Team _____

Names of Individual Team Members _____

Name of Lake(s) To Clean-Up _____

Contact Name, Address, Phone, Email _____

OTLPOA Members*? Yes _____ No _____ *If not, please consider joining!

Clean, Drain and Dispose To Stop Invasive Species From Spreading!

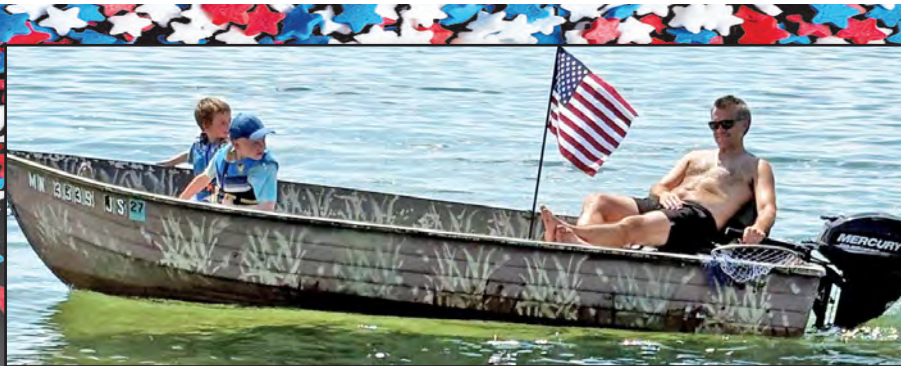


Blanche Lake



Submitted photos by OTLPOA Director Ken Wentz





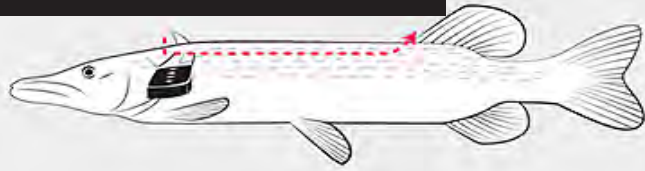
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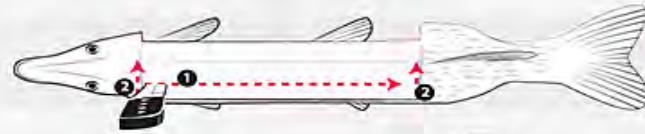
Filleting Northern Pike



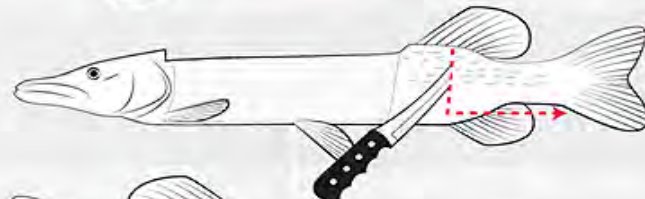
1 | Position the pike belly down on the cutting board. Hold the fish's head down against with your gloved off hand. With the center of the blade, cut down behind the skull to the backbone, but not through it. Turn the blade 90 degrees toward the tail of the pike, and following the backbone, cut back to the front of the rear fin. Turn the blade up and cut out the top creating boneless fillet #1.



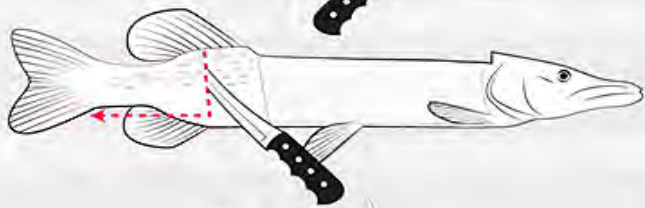
2 | Turn the pike on its side with the cut you've just made facing you. You will see three sets of bones. With the curved portion of the blade follow along outside top set of bones carefully carving the back end of your first cut. Cut down to the bones behind the gill and ahead of the rear fin to remove this slab of flesh for fillet #2.



3 | Flip the pike over and repeat steps 1 and 2 on the other side to create fillet #3.



4 | With the pike still positioned on its side, cut straight down at the front of the adipose fin until you contact the backbone. Turn the knife 90 degrees, and cut back following the backbone through the tail for fillet #4.



5 | Turn pike over, and repeat step 4 on the other side for fillet #5.



Note: Skin all five fillets by laying a fillet skin side down on the cutting board. Hold the very back edge of the fillet with your off hand, and carefully slide the edge of the knife between the flesh and the skin. This is where the sharp, flexible blade of the knife is critical. Flexing the blade so it is flat with the skin and the cutting board, slide the knife toward the front of the fillet separating it from the skin.

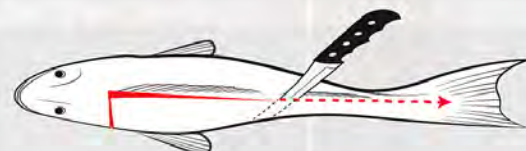
Filleting Panfish



1 | Hold the fish's head down against the board with your gloved off hand. With the curved portion of the blade, a couple of inches back from the knife tip, make a cut from above the top of the gill plate down and back on a straight line that comes behind the pectoral fin. Make the cut in one slice, pulling the knife handle back toward you. Use care not to cut through the backbone, just down to it.



2 | Insert the knife about an inch into the top of the fish perpendicular to the top of your first cut, being sure to stay on the same side of the backbone. Slice back toward the rear of the fish down to the top of the rib cage, but not through it. Use the dorsal fin as a guide and carefully feel the tip of the knife bouncing across the top of each rib.



3 | At the back of the rib cage, push the knife all the way through the fish and continue cutting, using the backbone as a guide, all the way through the fish's tail. The sign of the "perfect" cut is part of the tail will come away with this fillet, and part will be left attached to the fillet on the other side of the fish.



4 | With your off hand, lift the top of the fillet away from the backbone, and using the curved portion of the blade, carve the fillet away from the fish following down along the outside of the ribs. Work toward the fish's belly. The resulting fillet should be boneless. If you accidentally cut through a rib, just carve it out from the fillet.



5 | Flip the fish over and repeat steps 1-2-3 on the other side.



6 | Lay a fillet skin side down on the cutting board. Hold the tail or the very back edge of the fillet with your off hand, and carefully slide the edge of the knife between the flesh and the skin. This is where the sharp, flexible blade of the knife is critical. Flexing the blade so it is flat with the skin and the cutting board, slide the knife toward the front of the fillet separating it from the skin.

NORTHERN –

Caught from cold water, the firm, white flesh of northern pike or chain pickerel will rival fillets from any freshwater fish. Some think pike is the best eating of all! However, the pike's bones layout differently than any other fish, so a special method of filleting is required. The result will be five boneless fillets from each pike.

EQUIPMENT –

1. Fillet Knife – must have a flexible blade that will hold its edge. Grip of hard material such as wood, plastic, etc. is desirable as it provides the best feel. Some filleting techniques especially require "feel" which soft grips inhibit. Shorter blades are also more sensitive, but for filleting fish it's better to have a blade that's too long rather than too short; 8- to 10-inch blades are most common.

2. Filleting Glove - the same kind of fillet glove used in commercial meat processing prevents nicks and cuts to the off hand and enhances grip on slippery fish and fillets.

3. Cutting Board – the bigger the fillet board the better. Surface should be smooth to allow for easiest skinning and cleaning.

4. Vacuum Sealer - for any fillets you're not going to cook and eat immediately, vacuum sealing is by far the best way to preserve quality in the freezer for the longest time.

5. Trash Receptacle – for entrails.

PANFISH –

Panfish aka: bluegills, sunfish, crappies, bream, perch, shell crackers, pumpkinseeds, slabs and even smaller walleyes are called "pan" fish for a reason. Properly filleted and fried, they eat s-o-o-o-o good! Here's a simple filleting technique for slabs, sunnies, perch, bass or anything else. It's fast, easy, and clean up is a cinch. That way you get to the eating all the sooner!

Walleye Fillet Directions

This method of filleting takes a little more time and yields slightly less meat but avoids the extra step of cutting out rib bones.

- 1 First, slice vertically behind the gills and the pectoral fin down to the backbone but not through it.



- 2 Next, turn the knife toward the tail and cut along the dorsal fin just to the top of the rib cage. Cut slowly and peel the fish back so that you make sure you're not cutting ribs. Cut through where the dotted line shows, the fillet will fold at the middle of the fish.



- 3 Finally, work the fillet knife over the ribs to the bottom of the fish and free the fillet. Removing the skin is all that is left.



Anglers Catch State Record Fish

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has certified nine new state record fish this spring.

Of the nine records certified so far this spring, two have been in the weight category, which requires the angler to harvest the fish and have it weighed on a certified scale. Seven of the records have been in the catch-and-release category, which requires the angler to provide photos of the fish, with clear length measurements and species identification, and ensure that the fish was released in good condition by making sure it's not bleeding heavily and can swim away on its own.

Bigmouth buffalo: Ryan Bauman of Golden Valley caught and released a bigmouth buffalo that was 36.25 inches long from Sweeney Lake in Hennepin County on April 14. The fish topped the previous record by more than 2 inches.

Black crappie: David Selle of Lino Lakes harvested a black crappie that weighed 4 pounds, 1 ounce on May 3 from Cedar Lake in Rice County. Selle's catch bested the previous record by a little more than an ounce.

Blue sucker: Joe Busch of Cottage Grove caught and released a blue sucker that was 31.25 inches long on May 16 from the Mississippi River in Dakota County. This was the first blue sucker reported that has met the minimum length requirement since the species' addition to the record fish program in 2024.

Bluegill sunfish: Chris Mulcahey of Waterville harvested a bluegill sunfish that weighed 2 pounds on May 29 from Big Stone Lake in Big Stone County. Mulcahey's fish was 3 ounces heavier than the previous record holder.

Lake sturgeon: Travis Keating of Fargo, North Dakota, caught and released a lake sturgeon that was 80 inches long on April 18 from the Rainy River in Lake of the Woods County. The fish added 2 inches to the record length.

Lake trout (two records): Two anglers caught and released record lake trout this spring, both from Lake Superior in Lake County. The first angler was Matthew Hammer of White Bear Township, who caught a lake trout that was 44 inches long on April 13. The fish eked out a new record by .75 inches over the previous record-holder. Then, Joe Bouta of Benson caught and released a lake trout that was 45.5 inches long on May 9. The fish bested Hammer's record by 1.5 inches.

Rainbow trout: Sadie Spatafore of Maple Grove caught and released a steelhead rainbow trout that was 30 inches long on May 10 from the Stewart River in Lake County. Sadie improved upon the previous record, which was set by her older sister, Lucy, by 1.5 inches.

Shortnose gar: Isaac Richart of Northfield caught and released a shortnose gar that was 30.5 inches long from the Minnesota River in Scott County on June 6. This is the first shortnose gar reported that has met the minimum length requirement since the DNR added the species to the record fish program in 2024.

More information

The record fish program has been managed by the Minnesota DNR, and its predecessor fisheries management agencies, for around 100 years. In 2024, the Minnesota DNR expanded the record fish program by allowing anglers to earn catch-and-release records for 18 species, up from the four species that had been recognized in a previous version of the catch-and-release record program. That change was made in response to the increasing popularity of catch-and-release fishing and to raise the profile of native rough fish.

Also in 2024, the Minnesota DNR refreshed some categories for weight records, by keeping a separate list of records for fish established before 1980 based on weights not documented on state-certified scales.

Requirements for getting a fish certified as a record, minimum length requirements, application forms and lists of current record fish are available on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/recordfish).



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

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StopAquaticHitchhikers.org

Learning About Orioles In MN

The Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) is a vibrant, medium-sized songbird in the blackbird family. Famous for the male's striking fire-orange and black plumage, this beloved backyard visitor is a highly anticipated migrant throughout the eastern and central United States during the spring and summer breeding season.



Identification –

Males: Brilliant orange on the underparts, shoulders, and rump, offset by a solid jet-black head, back, and wings with distinct white wing bars.

Females and Immatures: Muted yellowish-orange underparts, olive-brown backs, and grayish heads with two white wing bars. Size: 6.5 to 8 inches long with a wingspan of 9 to 12 inches.

Habitat and Behavior –

Range: Breeds across eastern North America, frequently found in open deciduous woodlands, river edges, parks, and suburban backyards.

Diet: Omnivorous. They forage high in treetops for caterpillars, beetles, and spiders, but readily visit backyard feeders.

Nesting: Females weave incredible, hanging pouch-like nests that dangle from the slender, drooping branches of tall deciduous trees like maples or elms.

How to Attract Them to Your Yard –

These birds have a major sweet tooth. You can attract them to your yard during their spring migration and summer residency by offering:

Fresh fruit: Cut halves of oranges or apples placed on dedicated platform feeders. Jelly: Small dishes of grape jelly.

Nectar: Oriole-specific nectar feeders (which are similar to hummingbird feeders but feature larger perches and feeding ports).

Learn more about their migratory patterns, habitat conservation, and specific vocalizations through the Cornell Lab of Ornithology or the Audubon Field Guide.

~ RECIPE CORNER ~



Ham and Jack Pudgy Pie Recipe

2 slices sourdough bread
2 tablespoons diced fully cooked ham
2 tablespoons canned sliced mushrooms
3 tablespoons shredded pepper jack cheese
1 tablespoon salsa

Place 1 slice bread in a greased sandwich iron. Top with ham, mushrooms, cheese, salsa and remaining bread slice. Close iron.

Cook over a hot campfire until golden brown and cheese is melted, 3-6 minutes, turning occasionally.
4 large ears sweet corn in husks



Grilled Corn In Husks Recipe

1/4 cup butter, softened
2 tablespoons minced fresh parsley
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
Shop Recipe

Carefully peel back husks from corn to within 1 in. of bottom; remove silk. Soak in cold water for 20 minutes; drain. Pat corn dry. Combine the butter and parsley; spread over corn. Rewrap corn in husks and secure with string.

Grill corn, covered, over medium heat until tender, turning often, 20-25 minutes. Sprinkle with cheese.



We're looking for your favorite recipe to share

Submit to Battle Lake Review at blreview@arvig.net

Lakes Area Church Directory

~ Baptist ~

Basswood Baptist Church BGC 
38188 340th St., Richville 218-495-3771
Bert Holmquist, Pastor 218-4953800
Sundays – Sunday School 9:30 a.m., refreshments following
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Potluck Dinner (2nd Sunday)
Wednesdays – Bible Study, Youth Group and Kids Club 7 p.m.
Thursdays (third) – Ladies' Bible Study
Saturdays (first) – Men's Prayer Breakfast 7 a.m.

First Baptist Church

An American Baptist Church
"Little Brown Church on the Hill"
121 Lake Ave. N., Battle Lake 218-864-5319
www.firstbaptistbattlake.org
Sundays – Worship services 9:30 a.m.

~ C & M Alliance ~

Battle Lake Alliance Church 
401 W. Gilbertson St. 218-864-5539
John Weiher, Pastor www.battlake.org
Sundays – Worship Service 10 a.m. or online

For updated information on church schedules, check their websites.

~ Catholic ~

ST. JAMES, ST. EDWARDS and OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CATHOLIC CHURCHES Father George Michael 218-864-5619

St. James Catholic (Maine) 
32009 Cty. Hwy. 74, Underwood
Mass – Saturdays 4 p.m. and Wednesdays 9 a.m.; Potluck 5 p.m.
Confessions – Saturdays 3:30 p.m. and Wednesdays 8 a.m.
Holy Hour – Wednesdays 8 a.m.
Bible Study – Fridays 9 a.m.
Sewing Group – Tuesdays 9 a.m.

St. Edwards Catholic Church 
201 Douglas Ave., Henning
Mass – Sundays 8 a.m. and Fridays 8:30 a.m.
Confessions – Sundays 7:30 a.m. and Fridays 8 a.m.
Holy Hour – Fridays 9 a.m.

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic 
407 N. Lake Ave., Battle Lake
Mass – Sundays 10:30 a.m. and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.
Confessions – Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays 8 a.m.
Holy Hour/Adoration – Thursdays 9 a.m.
Men of Mary – Saturdays 8 a.m.
Sunday School – Sundays 9:15 a.m.
Mission Sewing – Tuesdays 9:30 a.m.
Wednesdays – Faith Formation 5:30 p.m.
– Parish Notes –
Battle Lake Good Samaritan Center – Rosary Mondays 3:15

~ Lutheran ~

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH 
Battle Lake Campus - 98 Hidden Meadows Dr., Battle Lake
Pastor Nick Laven Visit bethellutheran.church
Sunday Worship – 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH 
Lynn Melchior, Pastor
505 W. Holdt St., Battle Lake - 218-864-5686
Thursdays – TOPS 8 a.m.
Sundays – Worship 10 a.m. (and online)
Communion 1st and 4th
Coffee Fellowship 11 a.m.
Mondays – Quilters 9 a.m.

SVERDRUP LUTHERAN CHURCH 
Tammy Jacobson, Pastor
www.SverdrupLutheran.org
209 Southern Ave. E., Underwood 218-8826-6919
Sundays – Worship 9 a.m.

TINGVOLD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Tammy Jacobson, Pastor 218-826-6487
2801 Cty. Rd. 35, Underwood
Sundays – Worship: Sept.-May 11 a.m., June-Aug. 10:30 a.m.

Join Them For Worship At
Any Of These Churches!

~ Lutheran ~

ZION LUTHERAN-AMOR 
office@zionamor.org 36051 Co. Hwy. 74, Battle Lake
Chris Mathiason, Pastor
www.zionamor.org 218-495-2563
Sundays – Worship 9 a.m. (Traditional with Communion 1st and 4th; Contemporary with Prairie Team 2nd and 3rd); Fellowship 10 a.m.
Tuesdays – Bible Study 10 a.m.; Chair Yoga 12 noon
Wednesdays – Bridge 1 p.m.; Praise Team 4 p.m. (2nd and 3rd)
Thursdays – Chair Yoga 1 p.m.

~ Methodist ~

Ottertail United Methodist Church 
104 Shores Drive, Ottertail 218-367-2270
Ricardo Alcoser, Pastor
Sunday – Worship 8:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship following.

Richville United Methodist Church
130 SW 1st Ave., Richville Rod Turnquist, Pastor
Sundays – Worship 10:30 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship following (2nd and 4th Sundays).
Wednesdays – School 6 p.m.

~ Presbyterian ~

Maine Presbyterian Church 
30761 Co. Hwy. 45 Underwood - 218-495-2539
www.maine-presbyterianchurch.org
Sunday Worship – June-August 9:30 a.m. September-May 10 a.m. Communion 1st Sunday
Coffee following worship June-August.

The Otter Tail River State Water Trail is 157 river miles of Minnesota's eighth-longest river. Most of the river is peaceful and slow-moving, but there are also rock rapids, dangerous dams and fast-moving water through culverts with little or no headroom. It is critical for paddlers to carefully review maps and understand hazard locations. The river begins in Elbow Lake in Becker County and encounters a number of lakes as it flows westward. At Breckenridge, it joins with the Red River of the North to form the Minnesota-North Dakota boundary. There are no major rapids. This river is unique because it starts by flowing south, and then flows north after it joins the Bois de Sioux River in Breckenridge.

Plan Ahead For Any Emergency - Download Smart911* App Today!

- Land Tranfers (June 11, 2026 to July 10, 2026) -

Name	Description	Sale Date	Seller	Buyer	Sale Amount	Type
Amor Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	6/12/2026	CALVIN & NANCY DOCKTER REV FAM	TROY GILLESPIE	\$ 528,000.00	Seasonal Rec
Amor Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	6/26/2026	STEPHAN MELSTED & C ANDERSON	JUSTIN & DANA SYNDER	\$ 510,000.00	Seasonal Rec
Everts Twp	560239 - W BATTLE-FF	6/29/2026	RICHARD K RICHTER ET AL	RYAN & WENDY HANSON	\$ 899,000.00	Seasonal Rec
Girard Twp	560138 - E BATTLE-FF	6/10/2026	CAROL A KRAMER TST	DAVID DEPUYDT	\$ 905,000.00	Residential
Otter Tail Twp	560209 - BUCHANAN-FF	6/15/2026	GREG A ANDERSON	JOANNE MURPHY	\$ 443,000.00	Multi Manuf
Otter Tail Twp	560209 - BUCHANAN-FF	6/30/2026	MATTHEW SMITH	RHONDA & RORY KOEHLER	\$ 877,500.00	Residential
Otter Tail Twp	560210 - LONG(O T & RUSH)-FF	6/12/2026	JAMES T MOHAGEN	BRANDON & DARCY POOLE	\$ 378,000.00	Seasonal Rec
Otter Tail Twp	560210 - LONG(O T & RUSH)-FF	6/12/2026	MATTHEW REID	JENNIFER & VICTOR POPPLER	\$ 75,000.00	Seasonal Rec
Ottertail City	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	6/18/2026	LOREN ELLEFSON	RITCHIE & JOY LARSON	\$ 1,207,500.00	Seasonal Rec

Did You Know About Otter Tail Lake ...

Is a historically rich, 13,725-acre lake with human habitation dating back 11,000 years, featuring a unique sandbar resembling an otter's tail. Named by French explorers around 1750, it was a pivotal fur-trading region, formerly contested by the Dakota and Ojibwe tribes.

Ancient and Native History –

- Early Inhabitants:** Human presence dates back to the end of the last Ice Age, with findings including 7,500-year-old remains near the Pelican River.
- Dakota and Ojibwe:** The area was historically home to the Dakota, who were systematically pushed out by the Ojibwe in the late 1700s and early 1800s.
- Name Origin:** Around 1750, French explorers named the area "Lac de la Queue de la Outer" (Lake of the Otter's Tail) due to a distinctive sandbar formation.

Settlement and Fur Trade –

- Trading Posts:** The region was a hub for fur traders (beaver, bear, wolf) in the 18th

century, with posts established nearby, such as at Leaf Lake.

- Otter Tail City:** Initially serving as the county seat with a US Land Office in the 1850s, this town was a crucial, bustling settlement on the lake's northeast end before the rail-road bypassed it, causing the town to decline in favor of Fergus Falls.

Modern Era –

- Recreation Hub:** By the 1960s–1980s, the lake became popular for sailing, particularly Hobie Cat racing, and remains a premier walleye fishing destination today.

For Your Safety, We Strongly Recommend Everyone On Board Wears A Life Jacket At All Times!

Join Your Neighbors and Preserve Our Lakes



Become an OTLPOA Member today! Your membership makes a difference. Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association is primarily member supported, so we rely on your contributions to protect our lakes and advocate on behalf of property owners.

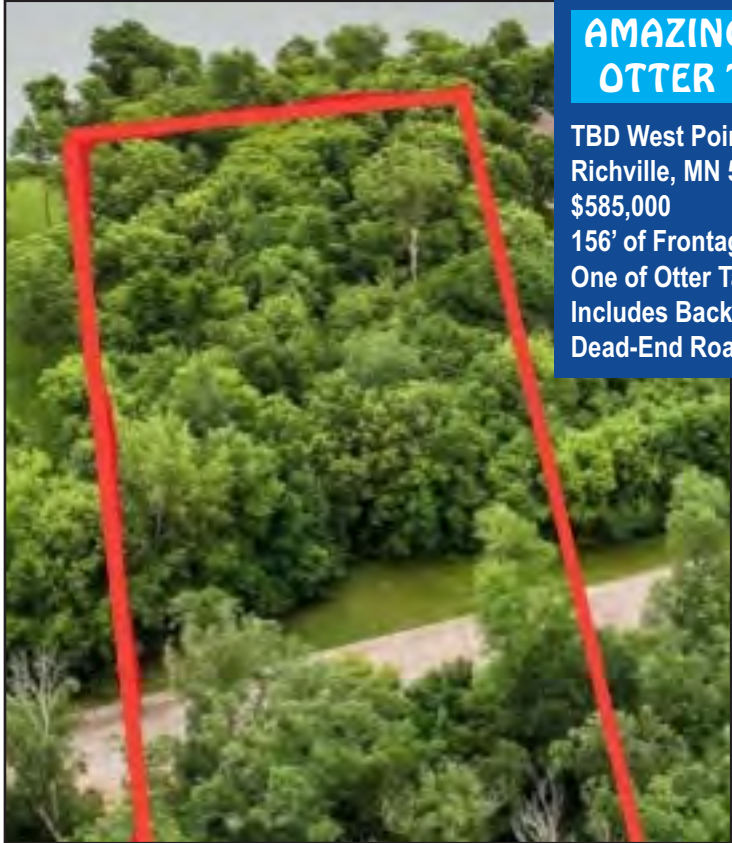
OTLPOA is made up of lakeshore owners, community partners and civic leaders who understand the importance of stewardship and who want to protect and preserve our lakes' beauty and legacy. As a member, you'll help promote the community welfare and civic development of all areas of Otter Tail County bordering on or approximate to the shoreline of Otter Tail Lake.

Your annual membership includes:

- Access to information and resources to help you care for our lakes**
- Representation at state, regional and local organizations**
- Five issues of Lakeshore News each year**
- Lakeshore directory, published every two years**
- An open Annual Meeting**

To join, visit otlpoa.com/24-join and complete the online membership form. Or, watch your mail for a registration letter from us this month.

Thank you!



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Unwanted Live Bait (Minnows, Leeches or Worms) Never Release In Any Waterbody, Put In Trash!

Swimmer's Itch Knowledge

What is Swimmer's Itch?

Swimmer's itch is a **temporary skin rash** that is caused by an allergic reaction to microscopic parasites that are carried by waterfowl, semi-aquatic mammals, and snails. As a part of their life cycle, these parasites are released by infected snails into the water, where they may come in contact with people and burrow into their skin.

The good news is the organism that causes swimmer's itch cannot complete its life history in the human body. Your body's immune system detects it as a foreign protein, then attacks and kills it shortly after it penetrates your skin. The itching and **welts are not caused by the organism living under your skin, but by an allergic reaction.**

Not everyone is sensitive to swimmer's itch. Some people show no symptoms of swimmer's itch even though others swimming at the same time and place break out severely. Much like poison ivy, however, your sensitivity to swimmer's itch will increase with each exposure. There are several over the counter remedies your pharmacist can recommend to help relieve the discomfort, but see your physician for a definitive diagnosis.

Read more about Swimmer's Itch from the Minnesota Department of Health at www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/swimitch/index.html

Where does it come from?

The organism that causes swimmer's itch has a complicated life history.

1. It starts out as a worm (parasite) in the intestinal lining of aquatic birds and mammals (host).
2. The worms lay eggs inside the host animal.
3. The eggs are eliminated by the host and drop to the bottom of the lake.
4. Then the eggs hatch into miracidia that swim around in the water until they find a snail.
5. Once they find a snail, they live inside them and develop into cercariae.
6. The snails then release the cercariae back into the water where they look for another host - aquatic birds, mammals or humans.
7. When the cercariae find a potential host, they burrow into the host's skin.
8. If the host is suitable, the life cycle starts all over again.
9. **Humans are not a suitable host and the cercariae die after penetrating the skin.**

Swimmer's itch is not spread from person to person. It is found throughout the world, and in many ways, it is similar to other naturally occurring nuisances in the outdoors that cause allergic reactions - things like poison ivy.

Reducing the odds of getting swimmer's itch

The parasite that causes swimmer's itch only lives for a day or so and typically swim around in the upper few inches of lake water. This increases their chances of coming into contact with a duck. Once the parasite is in the duck, it easily moves around the

lake, and ultimately along the shoreline.

There are actions you can take to help reduce your odds of getting swimmer's itch.

- **Keep waterfowl away from your dock and shoreline.** If you are feeding waterfowl (ducks and geese) from your dock, stop. If ducks like to rest on your dock, do what you can to discourage them. You can try putting an owl windsock or statue on your dock and move it around occasionally, so the ducks don't become accustomed to it.
- **Stay out of the water by the shore.** The swimmer's itch organism may originate somewhere else in the lake and is being brought to your shoreline by wave action or currents. You may want to consider swimming from a raft or boat farther out from shore where you are less likely to come into contact with the parasite that causes swimmer's itch. Of course, this strategy may not be practical if you don't swim or have young children who want to play in the water near shore.
- **Apply a water repellent substance** such as petroleum jelly, waterproof sunscreen or other skin oils to reduce the ability of the parasite that causes swimmer's itch from penetrating the skin.
- **Rash guard clothing:** Wearing protective swimwear has been shown to create a physical barrier against parasite entry.
- **Dry off with a towel as soon as you get out of the water.** When you get out of the lake, **don't let the water evaporate off your skin.** The organism in the droplets of water on your skin will look for somewhere to go as the droplet of water evaporates.
- **Timing of swimming:** Concentrations of the parasite that can cause swimmer's itch are typically higher in the morning and in warm, shallow water. Swimming in deeper water and later in the day reduces risk.
- **Consult with your doctor on potential use of oral antihistamines to reduce or eliminate allergic response to exposure.**

Waterfowl and their role in swimmer's itch

In Minnesota, several species of waterfowl are hosts that sustain the parasite life-cycle. These include common mergansers, mallards, wood ducks and Canada geese.

All waterfowl species contribute to ecosystem biodiversity. For example, common mergansers serve as top-level aquatic predators, helping control populations of small fish and maintaining balanced lake ecosystems.

Removal of these birds may unintentionally disrupt food webs, potentially resulting in overabundant forage fish or increased pressure from invasive species. Widespread adoption of waterfowl removal could threaten regional populations, undermining broader conservation goals.

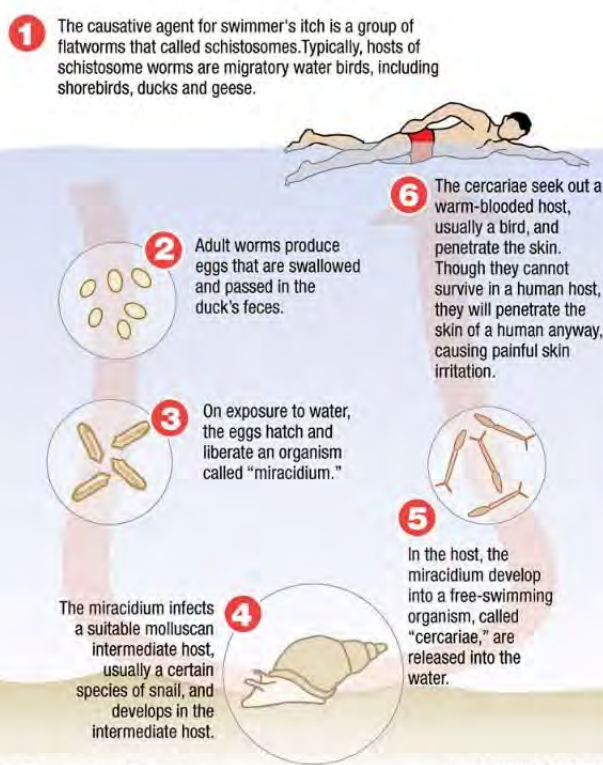
The science is not conclusive that removing waterfowl is an effective way to minimize swimmer's itch. Research findings suggest removal does not eliminate swimmer's itch unless all potential hosts are removed. Even brief presence of non-resident (migratory) birds can introduce or maintain parasite levels sufficient to cause swimmer's itch, reducing the long-term effectiveness of local brood removal.

However, there is scientific consensus that personal preventative methods (such as those listed above) are effective for people who are concerned about exposure to the swimmer's itch.

More information

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at www.cdc.gov/swimmers-itch/about/index.html

Swimmer's itch life cycle



SOURCE: Center for Disease Control and Prevention

NEWS TRIBUNE GRAPHICS

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Check For Invasive Species Before Buying Or Selling Docks, Lifts, Boats or Other Water Equipment

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds people to check boats and trailers, docks and boat lifts, and all other water-related equipment for aquatic invasive species, especially when buying or selling used equipment.

"Although we are past the initial spring shoreline equipment installation rush, the mid-season market for used equipment presents a much higher risk of spreading AIS," DNR Invasive Species Training Coordinator April Rust said. "This is because used docks, lifts, boats, trailers and swim rafts moved mid-season can carry attached AIS to waters that don't have zebra mussels or other invasive species."

Minnesota law requires that docks and lifts remain out of the water for at least 21 days before they can be placed into another waterbody. In addition, anyone who transports a dock or lift with attached zebra mussels from a shoreline property to another location for decontamination needs a free permit (mndnr.gov/invasives/ais_transport.html) to transport it legally.

The DNR recommends these steps:

- Look for zebra mussels on the posts, footings, wheels and underwater support bars of docks and lifts, as well as any parts of boats, pontoons and rafts that might have been submerged in water for an extended period. Ensure water is drained from equipment before transporting.
- Hire DNR-permitted lake service provider businesses (apps.dnr.state.mn.us/ais_business_training/lake_service_provider_permits/public_website_list) to install and remove docks, lifts, rafts, boats and other water-related equipment. They have been trained on Minnesota's aquatic invasive species laws and have experience identifying and removing invasive species.
- Contact an area DNR aquatic invasive species specialist (mndnr.gov/invasives/ais/contacts.html) to report any invasive species not already known to be in the water body.

Whether or not a lake has any invasive species, Minnesota law requires people to:

- **Clean** watercraft, trailers and equipment to remove aquatic plants and prohibited invasive species.
- **Drain** all water and leave drain plugs out during transport.
- **Dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash.
- **Never release** bait, plants or aquarium pets into Minnesota waters.
- **Dry docks, lifts and rafts for 21 days** before moving them from one water body to another.



These additional steps reduce the risk of spreading aquatic invasive species:

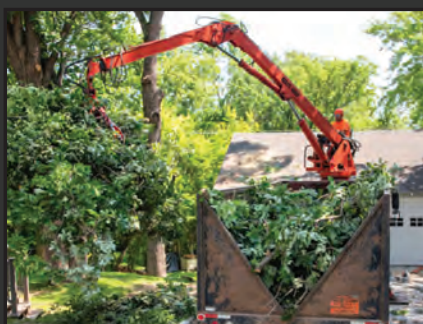
- **Decontaminate** watercraft and equipment – find free stations on the courtesy decontamination page of the DNR website (mndnr.gov/decon).
- **Spray** watercraft and equipment with high-pressure water or rinse with water if high-pressure water is not available.
- **Dry** watercraft and equipment for at least five days before using in another water body.

More information is available on the aquatic invasive species page of the DNR website (mndnr.gov/ais).

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STARWATCH

Summer 2026 offers spectacular stargazing in Minnesota featuring brilliant evening planets, the iconic Summer Triangle, and the Perseid meteor shower. Grab a lawn chair, escape city lights, and look out for these highlights in July and August.

July 2026 Highlights –

- **The Summer Triangle:** High in the east at nightfall, look for this massive formation of three bright stars: Vega (in Lyra), Deneb (in Cygnus), and Altair (in Aquila).
- **Evening Planets:** Brilliant Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, and ruddy Mars will be visible at dusk.
- **Mars and Jupiter:** In the morning skies, Mars and Jupiter are drawing closer together beneath the Pleiades star cluster.
- **The Scorpius Heart:** The red giant Antares dominates the southern horizon at nightfall.

August 2026 Highlights –

- **Perseid Meteor Shower:** This is the highlight of the summer! Peaking in the dark, early morning hours of August 12-13, expect up to a meteor a minute without the moon washing out the sky. 100-150 meteors per hour. Viewing conditions are exceptional. The peak coincides exactly with a New Moon, meaning there will be absolutely no moonlight to interfere with your viewing. Expect dark skies that are ideal for spotting faint streaks and bright fireballs
- **Mars Meets Jupiter:** The two planets have an incredibly close encounter in mid-August, passing by less than a moon's width of each other.
- **Constellation Watching:** The Teapot of Sagittarius will be at its highest and most visible in the southern sky.

Stargazing Tips and Local Events –

- **Dark Sky Viewing:** To see the fainter stars and the Perseids clearly, get far away from Battle Lake and other city light pollution. Look into heading to the nearby Gendalough State Park, which is known for its dark, open night skies.
- **Planetarium Guidance:** Check ahead with the Bell Museum in the Twin Cities or the Marshall W. Alworth Planetarium in Duluth for their latest schedules and seasonal star maps before heading out.

To Catch The Late-July Meteor Showers –

The best time to look is late in the evening July 29th through the early morning hours of

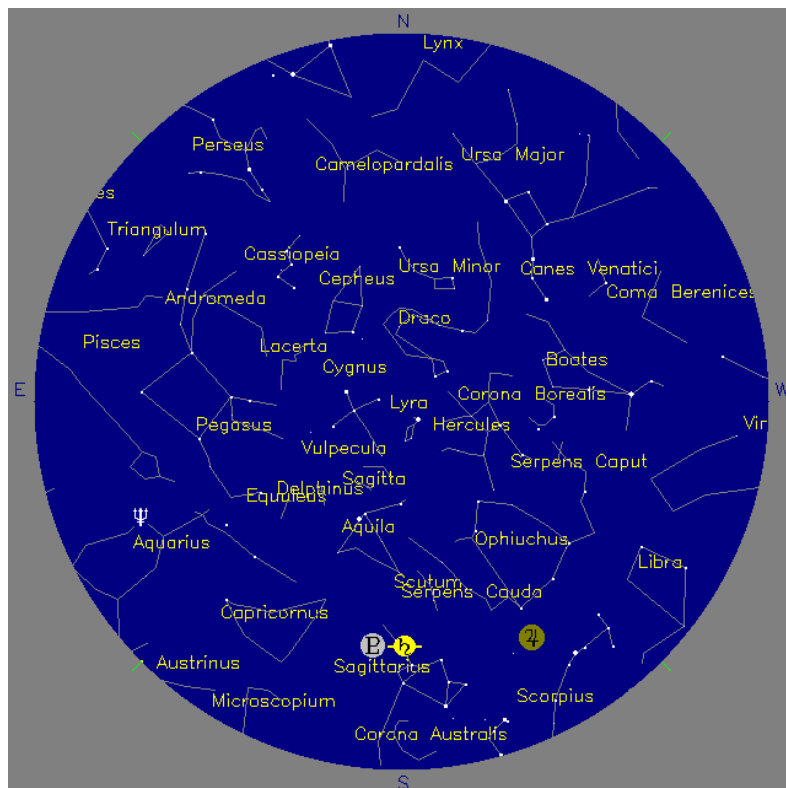
July 30th. During this window, you can view the overlapping Southern Delta Aquariids and Alpha Capricornids, which together produce up to 20–30 meteors per hour.

- **When to Watch Optimal Time:** Between midnight and 3:00 a.m. local time, when the shower's radiant point is highest in the sky.
- **Duration:** These showers remain active through late August, but peak sharply on the night of July 29th.
- **Where to Look -**
 - **Southern Hemisphere:** Provides the best overall viewing, as the constellation Aquarius (the radiant) appears higher in the sky.
 - **Northern Hemisphere:** Look toward the southern sky, halfway up from the horizon.
 - **Location:** Maximize your visibility by escaping city light pollution and finding a dark, open area.

Helpful Tips –

- Let your eyes adjust: It takes about 20–30 minutes for your eyes to adapt to the dark, so avoid looking at your phone during this time.
- No equipment needed: Telescopes or binoculars actually restrict your field of view; you are better off using just your naked eye and a comfortable reclining chair.

To check local visibility, cloud cover and find the darkest viewing spots near you, consult the Dark Sky International Finder or track fireball activity levels on the American Meteor Society website.



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Minnesota DNR Seeks Input On Proposed Special Fishing Regulations

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is asking for input on several special fishing regulation proposals.

Each year, the Minnesota DNR reviews existing fishing regulations, proposes new special regulations that apply to individual waters and asks the public for input about the proposals. All new special regulations are reviewed on a regular basis to evaluate effectiveness.

The DNR is proposing either new regulations or changes to existing experimental and special fishing regulations for the 2027 fishing season that address the following:

- Cedar Lake near Annandale (Wright County) – sunfish
- Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area Mine Pits (Crow Wing) – northern pike
- German Lake (Otter Tail County) – sunfish
- Hovde Lake (Cass County) – sunfish
- Mink and Somers lakes (Wright County) – sunfish, walleye and minnows
- Namakan Reservoir lakes (St. Louis County) – walleye
- North Ten Mile and South Ten Mile lakes (Otter Tail County) – sunfish
- Pine Lake (Cass County) – northern pike
- Pleasant Lake (Stearns County) – sunfish
- Rush Lake (Otter Tail County) – sunfish

Notifications of the proposed changes to fishing regulations have been posted at the accesses on each lake included in the proposal.

The Minnesota DNR is taking input on these proposed changes via an online questionnaire (mndnr.gov/fishing/special-fishing-regulations-input.html) through Wednesday, September 30.

If people prefer, they may comment directly to the appropriate area office by email, U.S. mail, or phone about individual regulation proposals. Contact information for each area office is available on the area fisheries office webpage (mndnr.gov/areas/fisheries).

Public meetings will be held in September to discuss the proposals and accept comments. Details on the meetings will be posted on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/fishregs) by August 15.

WARNING: IT'S HOT OUTSIDE!

DONT WALK YOUR DOG ON PAVEMENT!

PROTECT YOUR PAWS!

ASPHALT GETS DANGEROUSLY HOT in seconds

THE DANGER



135°F / 57°C

HOT PAVEMENT BURNS!

THE WARNING



STOP! CHECK THE GROUND

**HOT SUN**

**HEAT WAVE**

ALWAYS CHECK: 7-SECOND RULE. Test the ground with your hand; if it's too hot for you, it's **TOO HOT FOR YOUR DOG!**

WALK EARLY, LATE, OR STICK TO GRASS/SHADE!

 **#PROTECTTHEPAWS**

Thanks For Being An OTLPOA Member!



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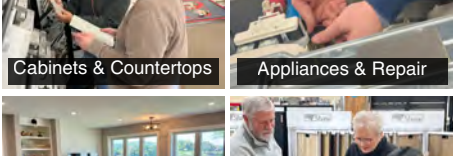
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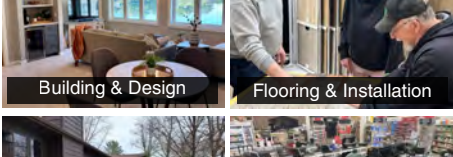
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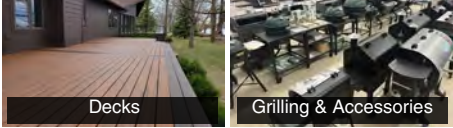
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• IMPORTANT NOTES •

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will collect your social security number when you apply for a non-commercial hunting or fishing license.

License prices listed do not include any additional fees or the \$1 agent fee.

Commercial licenses applications require a Federal Employer Identification number, Minnesota Tax Identification number or Social Security Number. Commercial licenses are issued at the DNR license center.

Share Your Memories At The Lake!



Submit your photos to blreview@arvig.net

note in subject line
OTLPOA Lakeshore News
Photos and include a brief description, when and by who!