



[www.bigpinelake-crosslake.com](http://www.bigpinelake-crosslake.com)

## 2019 Spring Newsletter

Spring Greetings!

As air and water temperatures continue to climb, the Big Pine Lake Association's (BPLA) Board of Directors wishes our members a happy spring season. Our last BPLA newsletter was sent in early December of 2018 and not too much has happened since then, so this newsletter is much shorter than the last one. If you need to refresh your memory on anything that was covered in the last BPLA newsletter, just click on the following link: [2018 BPLA Holiday Newsletter](#)

**Newsletter Distribution:** In the interest of timeliness and efficiency, we continue to distribute BPLA newsletters to association members via email, so please be sure to let us know if your email address changes. We will continue to post each BPLA newsletter on our website for public consumption at [www.bigpinelake-crosslake.com](http://www.bigpinelake-crosslake.com) a few weeks after it is distributed to members via email.

**BPLA Memberships:** The benefits of membership in BPLA are listed on our website at [BPLA Membership Benefits](#). Annual memberships are effective from May 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year. We currently have just under 50 paid memberships that will end on April 30, 2019; membership renewals for 2019 are due beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>. The price of an annual membership remains at the bargain price of only \$25.00. New members may join our association at any time during the year for the full membership price. Simply mail your payment to: Big Pine Lake Association, PO Box 756, Crosslake, MN 56442. Please note that annual membership payment may be combined with payment for participation in the 2019 BPLA Environmental Mosquito Management program offered below.

**2019 Environmental Mosquito Management (EMM) Program:** According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, 30 West Nile Virus (WNV) disease cases were diagnosed in Minnesota in 2017. Thirteen (43%) had neuroinvasive presentations that resulted in one death. The majority of cases reported symptom onset in July, August, or September.

Given the continued threat of WNV and the cost-effective comfort that our mosquito control program provides participants, we are pleased to offer subscriptions to the 2019 BPLA EMM Program. This program is sponsored and administered by BPLA on behalf of its members at no additional cost beyond the annual program subscription fee. **Non-BPLA members are also welcome to subscribe for an additional administrative fee of \$10.00.**

BPLA is currently in its final year of a three-year contract with our current EMM service provider, Clarke Environmental. Pricing remains the same as last year, at \$515.00 plus tax. Highlights of the BPLA 2019 EMM program, provided by [Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management, Inc.](#) include:

- (9) Truck-based Ultra Low Volume (ULV) treatments if your property is large enough to accommodate the truck
- (9) Backpack-based Barrier Control treatments around the property
- Treatments control mosquitoes, no-see-ums/sandflies, and flying midges for up to seven days
- Comprehensive insurance coverage for BPLA
- Program Consulting and Quality Control Staff
- Citizen Mosquito Hotline: (800) 942-2555
- Local, state, and federal regulatory compliance
- Digital customer database record keeping
- **Seasonal subscriptions MUST be paid to BPLA no later than May 17, 2019 in order to participate in the 2019 EMM program**



Please send payment to: Big Pine Lake Association, PO Box 756, Crosslake, MN 56442

- BPLA Members: \$550.41 (\$515.00 + 6.875% tax)
- Non-Members: \$561.09 (\$525.00 + 6.875% tax)
- **NOTE: You may include \$25.00 for a new BPLA Membership or a Membership renewal with your EMM subscription for a total of \$575.41 (\$550.41 + \$25.00)**
- For questions or to report issues with your service, please contact Ken Ormsbee at (612) 963-1660 or [ken.ormsbee.ii@gmail.com](mailto:ken.ormsbee.ii@gmail.com)

As usual, 2019 applications will commence the week before Memorial Day weekend and continue through the end of August:

- May 23
- June 6, 20, 27
- July 1, 18
- August 1, 15, 29

**Water Quality Monitoring:** The first water quality sampling for 2019 begins on May 20<sup>th</sup>. BPLA has now been participating in the monthly water quality monitoring program, sponsored by the Whitefish Area Property Owners Association (WAPOA), for eight years. The information generated has shown a general trend toward clearer lake water; thanks to all for your efforts in limiting phosphorus runoff into our lake. The 2019 Kickoff meeting will be held from 9:00 - 10:15 a.m. on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) office near the Pine River Dam in Crosslake. We welcome any volunteers who might be interested in assisting in the water quality sampling process. It requires a boat and about one hour of time per month for lake water sampling, plus sample drop-off at the USACE office on Monday morning. Please contact Scott Eichhorst at [spe@nextera.net](mailto:spe@nextera.net) if you are interested in helping.

**Lake Level Minnesota Program and Summer Lake Levels:** No changes have occurred since the BPLA 2018 Holiday Newsletter was distributed last December.



**Pine River Fish Passage Project:** No changes have occurred since the BPLA 2018 Holiday Newsletter was distributed last December.

**Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS):** No changes have occurred since the BPLA 2018 Holiday Newsletter was distributed last December, but AIS management will continue to be a high-priority issue for BPLA in 2019.

**Social Events and Activities:** The BPLA social events that are planned for 2019 include the following:

1. **Family Fishing Contest:** Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. Please note that this year's contest falls on a Friday since most will already be at the lake with Independence Day falling on a Thursday this year. As always, volunteers are both welcomed and needed. More details will follow on upcoming planning meetings, volunteering needs, and event details. If you have questions, please contactCarolynn Duncan at [bestemor@hickorytech.net](mailto:bestemor@hickorytech.net) or Ann Korchik at [ann.korchik@gmail.com](mailto:ann.korchik@gmail.com).
2. **Independence Day Boat Parade:** Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. This date was chosen because it is the same day as the Crosslake fireworks. Please join in the parade with your boat or wave to the boaters from shore. Decorating your boat is purely optional and we will be following the previous plan of gathering on the lake near the Cedar Chest at 1:50 p.m. to form into a single-file procession.
3. **Annual Meeting:** Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the Crosslake Community Center. Coffee, juice, and pastries will be served at 9:30 a.m.

**Treasurer's Report:** The balance of BPLA's operating account as of March 31, 2019 was \$3,879.51. The balance of the Subordinate Service District (SSD) account for dam maintenance as of January 1, 2019 was \$80,095.98. The next posting of Crow Wing County assessment collections for the SSD account will occur in August 2019. Currently, \$75,000.00 of the SSD fund is committed as non-state matching funds for the Pine River Fish Passage Project (PRFPP).

We continue to welcome your ideas and suggestions for making our association more effective and valuable for all members. We welcome your involvement in ongoing projects, activities, and events that improve property values and our lake-living experience – now and for years to come. Please let us know if you might be willing to help.

Thanks in advance!

Your Big Pine Lake Association Board of Directors