



Letter from the LSIA Board

March 14, 2009

Dear Lake Sarah Neighbor,

Grants

In January 2009, LSIA applied for a DNR grant to offset Lake Sarah resident's cost of treating Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) and Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). We were not awarded a grant. We did, however, gain valuable insights that will help improve our chances for grant awards in the future.

Comprehensive Community Approach

LSIA is working with the DNR and the Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission to address all facets and resources required to eradicate or significantly reduce CLP and EWM. Reducing the internal phosphorous loading, algae blooms and material die-off these weeds are causing, and nutrient loading from external sources, are all critical to improving Lake Sarah's water quality and clarity. Achieving these goals will benefit lake habitat, increase game fish population, reduce rough fish (carp, bullhead, etc.), enhance our enjoyment of the lake and increase our property values.

Everyone living in and using Lake Sarah's watershed needs to take an active role in practices that will help reduce nutrient loading into Lake Sarah. LSIA will make recommendations to the entire Lake Sarah community explaining the steps needed to achieve these initiatives. A joint effort from the entire community will be necessary to win grant approvals.

LSIA will work to obtain grants and corporate donations to offset costs for treating Lake Sarah in 2010 and beyond, but grants will not cover all the costs. LSIA will be asking for **tax-deductible contributions** from residents and businesses in the Lake Sarah watershed later this year or in early 2010. Contributions from lakeshore property owners will play a significant role in obtaining the necessary funding.

Treating Shoreline in 2009

If you have already contracted to treat weeds on your own shoreline this season those contracts are still valid, and we recommend you proceed with the treatment. The linear foot treatment allowance may be reduced by the DNR. If you have not contracted to treat your individual shoreline, you still can. Information packets were mailed earlier from several vendors. LSIA recommends contracting individually only for the 2009 season.

If you are NOT an LSIA member, please reconsider

Your Voice Is Important! Preserving Lake Sarah's health is an incredible responsibility. Become a member or consider rejoining - we welcome your involvement. If you have questions or need information, contact an LSIA Board member.

**Sincerely,
LSIA Board Members**

Second Annual LSIA Garage Sale

Donations and Volunteers Needed!



The second annual LSIA Garage Sale is set for Thursday through Saturday, May 21-23, 2009. The purpose is to raise money to help with weed control and make our lake beautiful once again..

We need items to sell and volunteers! Last year, only about 10 families contributed and helped raise about \$1,000 after expenses. If you think of how many people belong to Lake Sarah Association, and as spring is approaching, will be cleaning out their garages, closets etc., just think of how much we can raise. Let's try to raise several thousand dollars this year! Your donation is tax deductible and you will be given a receipt.

You are the best person to determine how much your item(s) are worth, so we ask that you mark them. If you have tables that we can use, that would be appreciated. Each family will be assigned a number so they can pick up any unsold items after the garage sale.

WHERE: Bob Beadle's farm, 6075 Hwy 55, Greenfield, MN

SETUP TIME: 4:00 pm - 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday evening, May 20th

GARAGE SALE: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, May 21- May 23rd

Donated items need to be in good condition and saleable; no computers or items that would be hard to sell.

Consignment items: we will advertise your consignment items. Please put a picture, requested price, and phone number on a poster board. If you sell the item, we request 10% of sale price.

Volunteers are needed to put in some time over the 3 day garage sale - please contact Carol Beasecker at (763) 477-5490.

LSIA Board Elections - Sunday, July 26, 2009

Annual elections are held at the Summer LSIA meeting before the picnic

The LSIA Board Elections are held annually at the Summer LSIA Meeting before the LSIA Picnic. This year's Summer LSIA Meeting is on Sunday, July 26th, at Shady Beach Circle.

The Lake Sarah Improvement Association is always looking for more volunteers. **The success of LSIA is directly tied to the active involvement of the surrounding lake area homeowners.**

At the Spring LSIA Meeting (Thursday, April 23rd), a Nominating Committee will be formed. If you are interested in serving on the LSIA Board, please notify a current Board member who will forward it on to the Nominating Committee.

The LSIA Board positions up for election are:

- **Vice President**
- **Treasurer**
- **3 Directors**

LSIA Membership Report—Record Breaking Year

Jerry Wise, Membership Director

Thanks to all who joined the Lake Sarah Improvement Association, we have hit an all time high with 172 members!

And we broke another record - we now have 145 trash program participants, the savings being one of the many benefits of belonging to the LSIA; in fact, in most cases it pays for the membership.

So what does having more members mean? Hopefully it stands for increased interest in the lake and in the Association itself. As you know the lake quality needs help and the Association is always looking for volunteers.

Turn over of lakeshore properties has been relatively high over the last year, and I know of many properties for sale. One of the reasons given is the deteriorating condition of the lake quality. Some would say that lowers the value of their property, when it is just the opposite. Doing something about the problem will increase the value of your property. The clean up of Lake Sarah has been the top priority of the Board for the last nine years, but it takes more than just the efforts of a few people. It is the very reason you should join the Association and get involved or at the least contribute to the tax deductible fund. Yes, it's also going to take money.

If you haven't joined LSIA, please consider becoming a member. Once you are an LSIA member, you qualify for trash program savings which generally pays for your membership. If you did not receive your membership letter or have misplaced it, you



can find a LSIA membership application form on www.lakesarah.com. Please complete the membership application form, make your check payable to LSIA for \$35, and mail it to:

**Lake Sarah Improvement Association
P.O. Box 25
Loretto, MN 55357-0025**

The annual membership fee is used to:

- support water quality improvement and weed control programs
- coordinate three yearly membership meetings
- coordinate the July 4th Boat Parade/Decorating Contest and the annual LSIA summer picnic
- publish 2-3 newsletters and the Lake Sarah Area Directory each year
- Promote a normal water level on Lake Sarah, remove or mark menaces to navigation, and promote safe and proper utilization of the lake.

For additional information about an LSIA membership, please contact Jerry Wise, LSIA Membership Director.

Lake Sarah Draft TMDL Study

Targeted for May 1, 2009

The draft of the Lake Sarah TMDL Study is targeted for delivery on May 1, 2009.

At the December, 2008 Lake Sarah Stakeholder Committee meeting, John Barten said the tentative date for the completion of the Lake Sarah TMDL Study has been moved to May 1. EPA approval of the draft plan should take an additional 3 to 5 months.

Lake Sarah Dance Pavilion Posters

Bob Beadle & Brad Spencer

Hey, do these dance posters bring back memories of the Lake Sarah Pavilion?

Many of you remember the Lake Sarah Pavilion, built by Sydney and Ben Mitchell, near the Lake Sarah train platform.



Notice in the poster above - 'Men in U.S. Uniform Admitted Free'.



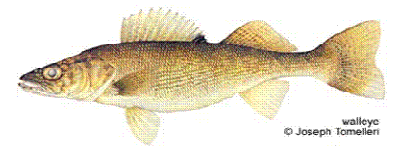
Thanks to Bob Beadle for sharing these two posters he saved from the good old days.

If you have any pictures or memorabilia of the Lake Sarah Pavilion that you'd be willing to share, please give Brad Spencer a call.

LSIA Board and Committee Chairs

<u>Title</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Active Committees</u>	<u>Committee Chairperson</u>
President	2010	Len Nadasdy	Safety & Navigation	Mike Peterson
Vice President	2009	Dan Cady	Water Level	Mike Peterson
Secretary	2010	Ann Slavec	Water Quality / TMDL	Harold Burrows
Treasurer	2009	Greg Hani	DNR / Conservation	Joe Slavec
Director	2010	Jerry Wise	Grants and Funding	Dan Cady
Director	2009	Joe Slavec	LSIA Membership	Jerry Wise
Director	2010	Mike Peterson	LSIA Group Residential Trash Program	Jerry Wise
Director	2010	Harold Burrows	LSIA Directory	Jerry Wise
Director	2009	Rick Pratt	LSIA Membership Database	Cheryl Wise
			LSIA Newsletter	volunteer needed
			LSIA Picnic	volunteer needed
			July 4th Boat Parade/Decorating Contest	volunteer needed
			Lake Sarah Ice Clean Up Event	volunteer needed

Please refer to your LSIA Membership Directory for contact addresses and phone numbers.



LAKE SARAH FISHERY HEALTH

Joe Slavec, Director

The health of the fishery has been a buzz among the ice-fishing enthusiasts on the lake this winter. While plenty of crappies and sun fish are present in the lake – the size seems to be declining and may be the result of over fishing. With 110 permanent ice-houses on the lake last year and near that many again this year, it's simple math to understand that the pressure is too great to sustain a healthy fishery of pan fish, crappies in particular.

Several years ago, the MN DNR lowered the limit statewide of how many crappies an angler could keep in one outing – leaving sun fish at 15 and lowering crappies to 10. While this has helped in some remote lakes, local lakes with hoards of ice-fisherman many times will come back several times in the same day. This was evidenced by the Turn In Poachers (TIP) bust on our lake two years ago.

Recognizing that we have something special in our lake, e.g. a fantastic crappie fishery, our local DNR toyed with the idea of increasing the size of crappies that would be legal to keep from Lake Sarah. This idea faded, I suppose,

because of not much local support. But maybe it's time to revisit this idea. I would like to bring this idea to the next LSIA meeting and welcome your input. Please email me at mplsgarage@yahoo.com.

The average size of the crappies this year has been 8-9". I believe an 11" slot or better would be appropriate and help keep our crappie population from being overfished – stunting growth in future fish.

Continued reports of small walleye are sporadic but it is evident that they are growing and are definitely present.

Please continue your monetary support for Lake Sarah Walleye Project. I believe now that our best success is stocking the walleye fingerlings in the fall. If we can continue to raise \$1000 every year, we can continue to stock 1000 walleye fingerlings each fall. They have an expected survival rate of about 40% - maybe better in our lake as we do not have the presence of muskies.

Five Things You Can Do On

Carrie Maurer-Ackerman, Courtney Kowalczyk, Erica LeMoine, Molly Zins

Reprinted from the Minnesota Waters Spring Newsletter

Have you been looking for an opportunity to step up and play a role in long term-water resource protection? Listed below are five actions you can take to protect and improve our lakes and rivers. The actions are aimed at residents with shoreland property, but they can also be effective in non-shoreland areas, because wherever we live, water flows downhill from our property and eventually ends up in a lake, river, or wetland.

Under each action we've included websites that you can visit for more details. One good general-purpose site is www.shorelandmanagement.org, developed by the University of Minnesota Extension Water Resources Center .

1. CONTROL POLLUTANTS BY REDUCING, CAPTURING, AND FILTERING STORMWATER RUNOFF

What is stormwater runoff?

Stormwater runoff is water that flows off the landscape as a result of rain or snowmelt. When rain water or snow melt is not absorbed into the ground it becomes surface or stormwater runoff because it can flow into surface waters (lakes or rivers) or into storm drains that dump into lakes and rivers. Storm water runoff carries dirt, nutrients, fertilizers, pet waste, oil, and other pollutants it picks up along the way, depositing them into lakes and rivers. Large amounts of runoff can also cause erosion problems.

What can you do?

Reduce the amount pollutants running off your property by reducing the amount impervious surfaces and the amount of grass lawn on your property. Impervious surfaces, such as pavement, roofs, walkways and roads, do not allow rainwater to seep through to the soil underneath, so instead the water runs, unfiltered, into lakes and rivers. Turf grass also acts as a relatively impervious surface because its roots are short and compacted, and do not allow rain water to soak into the ground as well as native plants and trees. Turf grass also has shallow roots that do not absorb nutrients and water as well as native vegetation. In place of traditional impervious materials that are commonly used to build walkways, driveways, etc., use pervious pavement. Materials such as pavers

can be made to be permeable and allow water to seep through into the ground. Reduce the size of your lawn by keeping trees and shrubs and replace a portion of your lawn with native vegetation.



Capture stormwater runoff and prevent it from reaching lakes and rivers by installing rain gardens and rain barrels. A rain garden is a shallow depression in your yard that is planted with water-tolerant plants. Rain gardens collect and filter water that runs off from your house and yard. A rain barrel is a large barrel or other large container that is placed under a gutter downspout by a house or building to collect the water that runs off of the roof. This water can be used to water plants in your yard.

Filter stormwater by creating or preserving a natural shoreline and shoreline buffers. Creating or preserving a shoreline that is landscaped with native plants, instead of a manicured lawn or a sand beach, allows water to soak into the ground rather than running off into the lake. One of the easiest ways to create a natural shoreline is to select an area along the shore and leave it alone. Stop mowing it and allow natural vegetation to return. If you have an area that requires a shoreline restoration, use native shoreland plants for that area and leave ice ridges in place. An ice ridge is a mound of earth that forms when the ice cover on a water body pushes against the shore as it expands and contracts. Ice ridges act as a natural barrier between lawns and the lake. Reduce or minimize the size of sand beaches and replace the rest of the shoreline with vegetation.

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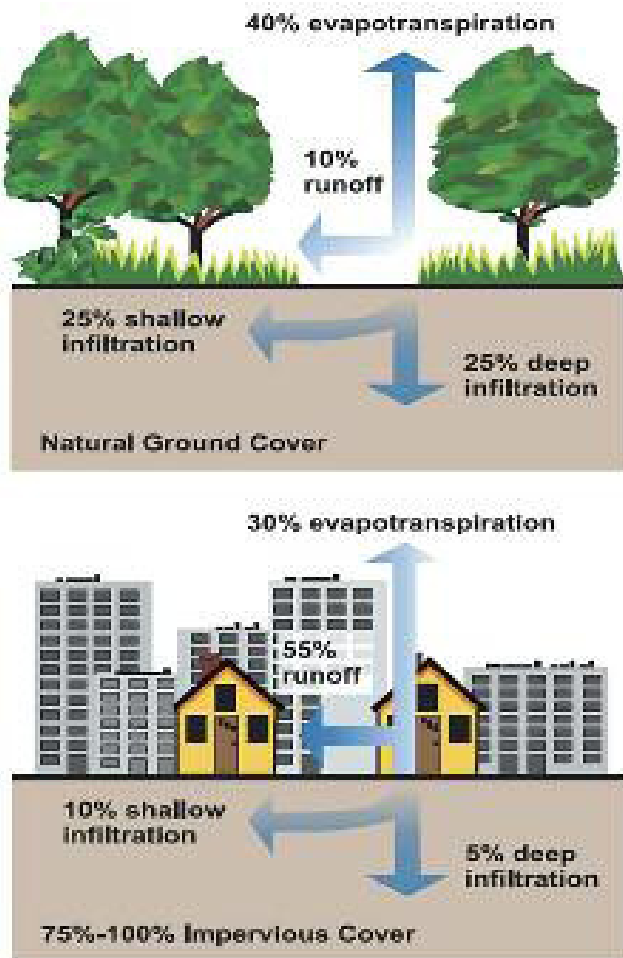
Land to Protect the Water

Contact the local government offices in your area for grant opportunities. Funding may be available for shoreline restoration projects through your local Soil and Water Conservation District, Watershed District, or County office. *For more information please visit the following sites:*

Natural Shorelines

http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/publications/waters/shoreland_rules_fact_sheet_natural_shorelines.pdf

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IMPERVIOUS COVER AND SURFACE RUNOFF



Impervious cover in a watershed results in increased surface runoff. As little as 10 percent impervious cover in a watershed can result in stream degradation.

Source: http://www.epa.gov/npdcs/pubs/nps_urban-facts_final.pdf

Blue Thumb: Planting for Clean Water
www.bluethumb.org

How Can I Create a Rain Garden?

http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/components/DD8241_4.pdf

Managing Runoff in Shoreland Areas

http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/publications/waters/shoreland_rules_fact_sheet_managing_runoff.pdf

2. LEARN WHAT YOU CAN AND CANNOT DO ON SHORELINES

Why is it important to know what is and is not allowed ?

Shoreland rules and laws were put in place to help protect lakes and rivers and to protect personal properties along the shoreline. Shoreland rules also help protect shoreland habitat and vegetation that are important for wildlife and fish. Some activities that shoreland laws may affect are:

- How close you can build a house, shed or garage to a lake / river
- How many trees you can cut down between your house and the lake/river
- The amount of dirt, soil, or sand that is brought in or removed for any purpose along the shoreline
- The size of staircases and board walks built to gain access to the lake/river

Where can you find out what is and is not allowed?

Call your local unit of government: if you live within city limits, call the city offices. If you don't, call your county offices. Some townships also regulate shorelands. The state of Minnesota sets the minimum rules for shoreland management, but your local unit of government writes and enforces the ordinances for your area. Local ordinances must be at least as protective as the state's rules. Check with your local government office and local land use ordinances before starting any building or major landscaping projects within the shoreland area. Remember, it's your responsibility to get a permit, if it is required, before you begin the project.

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3. KEEP AND PROTECT NATIVE AQUATIC PLANTS

What are native aquatic plants and why are they important?

Aquatic plants are plants that have adapted to and live in water or wet soil. There are three types of aquatic plant communities: emergent, floating leaf and submergent vegetation. Emergent plants located in shallow waters with leaves and flowers above the water surface. They stabilize sediments and may reduce the impacts of boat wakes and waves. Floating-leaf plants are located in shallow waters. Submergent plants are located in deep water (20 feet or more) and the entire plant is under water. Floating-leaf and submergent plants provide habitat for fish and wildlife, while also helping increase water clarity. Overgrowth of non-native aquatic plants may harm property values, limit recreation, contribute to toxic algal blooms, and require costly removal.

What can you do?

Learn to identify both native and non-native aquatic vegetation, and monitor your water body. Leave native aquatic vegetation in place, remove non-native vegetation, or if vegetation is absent, contact the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources about planting native aquatic vegetation. The Minnesota DNR regulates the management of aquatic vegetation. *For more information please visit the following sites:*

Managing Aquatic Plants in Minnesota Lakes

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG6955.html>

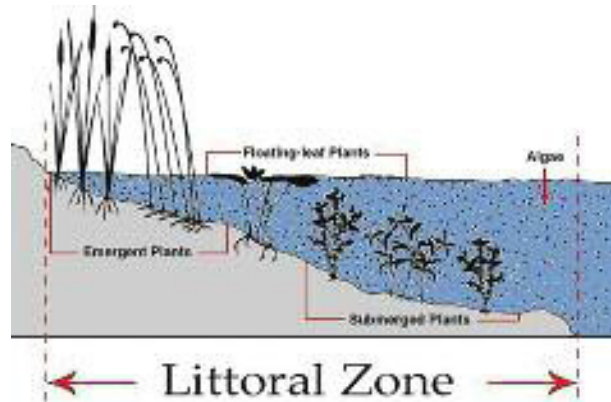
A Guide to Aquatic Plants

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/apg/index.html>

4. ENJOY WATER RECREATION RESPONSIBLY

How does recreation impact water quality?

Recreation is one of the main reasons people want to live on and use lakes and rivers. Along with the increase in recreation comes the increased threat of degrading our water resources by our actions. Water-based recreation can include swimming, canoeing, kayaking, boating, snowmobiling, fishing, and many others. It not only includes activities that take place directly in the water, but also along the shoreline such as hiking, camping, using a beach, dock or deck. Unfortunately some of the activities we love can negatively impact the quality of lakes and rivers. Water-based activities can still be enjoyed, but we can be conscious of our actions and act



The Littoral Zone is the area around a lake that is shallow enough to grow plants, usually less than 15 feet in depth

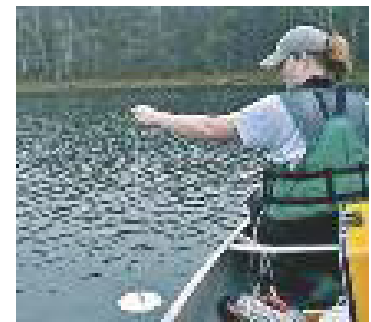
Source: *A Field Guide to Identification of Minnesota Aquatic Plants*, UMN Extension Service, May be ordered from <http://shop.extension.umn.edu>

responsibly to minimize their impact to water. Negative impacts to water from our actions can include:

- Increased phosphorous from the ash of campfires located near the water
- Shoreline erosion and disturbance to wildlife habitat as a result of heavy wave action caused by high-speed boating
- Damage to aquatic plants from boat propellers
- Damage to the banks of the shore from ATV's, snow mobiles, cars and trucks accessing frozen water during the winter
- Water pollution from gas, oil, metals, and other chemicals from motorized watercraft
- Water pollution from humans (soap, shampoo, garbage)
- Increased runoff and erosion from sand beaches

What can you do?

Follow the local watercraft rules and noise enforcement ordinances. Make sure that your recreation activities do not create permanent damage to the water and the landscape that surrounds it. When swimming, do not use soap or shampoo in the water. Be sure to maintain your recreational vehicles so there are no oil or gas leaks into your lake or river. Respect no-wake zones and reduce your boat speed. Plan your docks and decks to minimize impact on your water resource. Locate campfires away from the lake or line the bottom of your fire pit so phosphorous from the ash does not absorb into the ground. Enjoy one of the many non-motorized water sports which minimize impact on lakes, streams and wildlife, such as canoeing,



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kayaking or sailing. For more information please visit the following sites:

Minnesota Boating Guide

<http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/regulations/boatwater/boatingguide.pdf>

Limiting Impact of Recreation on Water Quality

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/components/DD6946e.html>

5. MANAGE WASTE SAFELY

What are septic systems and how do they affect water quality?

Septic systems function to recycle wastewater back into the environment through an on-site filtering system. Septic tanks have bacteria in them that break down solids into a sludge, the sludge settles to the bottom of the tank, and the liquid percolates through the tile, stone, and soil of the septic field that naturally filter out the pollutants. If the septic system is not properly maintained and fails, the solids clog the septic field, and the liquid comes to the surface as standing human waste water. This human waste water, containing harmful bacteria and nutrients, will run off into the nearest water body, and can make swimmers sick. The excess nutrients will also fuel the growth of algae and lower water quality. Septic systems may also fail if they are improperly installed; located too close to groundwater, stream or lake; and/or are old and not working properly.

What can you do?

Have your septic system inspected to make sure it is working properly and have it pumped at least every three years. Conserve and reduce the amount of water that

goes into your septic system. Properly dispose of harmful paints, oils, and other household chemicals instead of dumping them down the drain. Follow the local rules and regulations regarding your septic maintenance to insure it is in compliance.

Other Septic System Management Practices:

- Never enter the septic tank.
- Pump/clean solids from tank's manhole (not inspection pipes) regularly.
- Have baffles inspected at time of cleaning.
- Install and insulate risers to manhole access.
- Identify whether your tank has an effluent screen, and service as necessary.
- Do not use septic tank additives or cleaners.

Waste from pets and animals contains bacteria, phosphorus and nitrogen that is harmful to humans, fish and wildlife. Human contact with contaminated water can cause gastrointestinal, wound, or respiratory infections. Scientific American reported that the reason for 85% of beach closures and advisories is the detection of excessive fecal bacteria. If animal waste is not properly disposed of, it will run off into area water bodies and may cause algal blooms, reduce clarity, and deplete dissolved oxygen levels.

Clean up after your pet, bag it, and put it in the trash. Never place pet waste in a compost, storm drain or waterway. On farms, create a manure management plan that meets the requirements of Minnesota State 7020 feedlot rules. Discourage waterfowl from using your waterfront property by planting native shoreline vegetation or letting your lawn grow tall. Manicured lawns attract geese because they are able to see predators from a greater distance; and geese may prefer to feed on fertilized lawns because of the increased nutritional value. For more information please visit the following sites:

University of Minnesota Extension Service: Onsite Sewage Treatment Program

<http://septic.umn.edu/systemoptions/index.html>

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/DD7040.html>

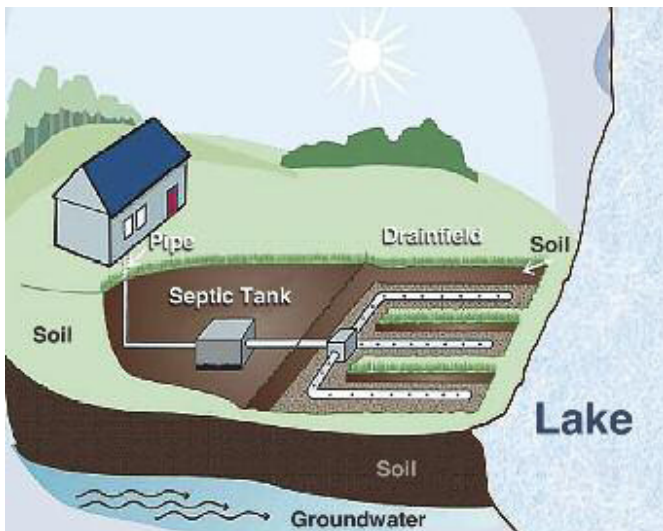
Animal Waste Management

<http://wrc.umn.edu/outreach/awm.html>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service Nutrient Management Planning <http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/ecs/nutrient/planning/planning.htm>

Managing Crops and Animals Near Shorelands

<http://www.shorelandmanagement.org/depth/bmp.pdf>

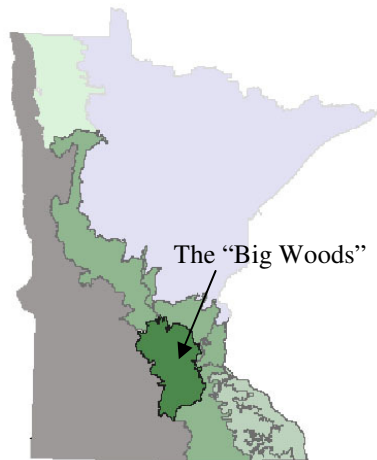


Source: http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/homeowner_guide_short.pdf

The “Big Woods”

When the first explorers came to what became Minnesota, they found a land with three very different personalities. To the north were the great forests of white pine and other conifers that later attracted armies of lumberjacks and made Minnesota a leading producer of lumber. To the south and west was the beginning of the Great Plains, the flat, fertile prairie that was broken into successful farms. And in south-central Minnesota was the dense broadleaf forest that settlers called the “**Big Woods.**”

The deciduous belt ran from the northwest to the southeast, thickening in the middle to form the Big Woods. Once covering 3,000 square miles, the Big Woods stretched from St. Cloud through the Mankato area. Its western border included the Minnesota River all the way eastward to the western edge of the Mississippi River.



Elm, basswood, sugar maple, and red oak rose high in the air to form a vast canopy that nearly obliterated the sun during the leafy summer months. These were thick, hardwood deciduous forests with a lower canopy containing shrubs of ironwood saplings and pagoda dogwood. The groundcover included many shade tolerant species - early meadow rue, bloodroot, false Solomons seal, cinnamon ferns, Virginia waterleaf, and the rare white trout lily.

Imagine a forest so thick that only slivers of sunlight pierced the canopy of leaves above. In the summer the woods were hot and humid with the shady areas filled with mosquitoes and gnats. Deer, bears, foxes, bobcats, and wolves roamed the woods, though seldom let themselves be seen. One settler said, “*There were nights when I'd hear a single wolf howl in the distance, then all up and down the*

river valley the cry would be taken up by other wolves with a sound both haunting and chilling. There were some nights we'd hear shrieking cries from deep in the woods that sounded like a woman screaming. We thought at the time they were bobcats (which had even seen in our yard), but I wonder if it might not have been cougars. Not many years ago a cougar and her two cubs were seen in our fields.”

A road through the woods must have looked like little more than a trail with the vegetation constantly trying to grow back over it and return it to the woods. How did the pioneers manage to get wagons through the woods with trees and underbrush so thick that to even walking the trail was difficult let alone making a trail that could let a wagon pass?

Fire played a large part in determining the boundaries of the Big Woods. Prairie fires, started by lightning or by Indians for hunting purposes, kept the broadleaf trees from invading the grasslands. At the same time, natural firebreaks - lakes, rivers, and rough terrain - prevented these fires from spreading into the forest itself.

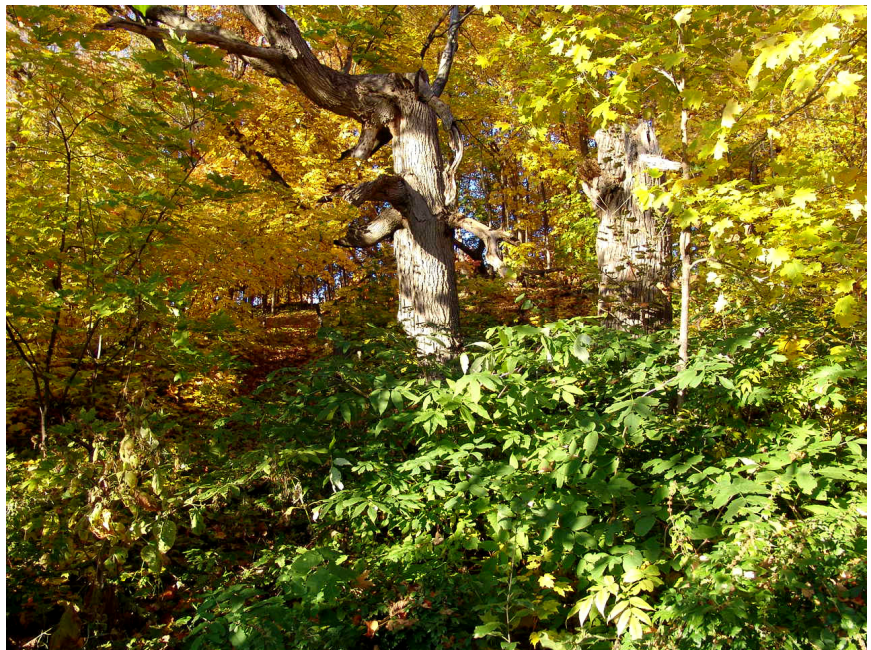


Photo taken on the Wise property on the south end of Lake Sarah.

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Thousands of years of slowly decomposing plant material produced a four-foot layer of topsoil. It is no wonder that European settlers considered the Big Woods prime agricultural land. Many of Minnesota's early settlers, who originated from forested areas in Europe, sought homesteads in the forest when they came to the prairies. These settlers believed that land that could not grow trees, such as prairie land, could not grow agricultural crops and support a family. They built their homesteads in the Big Woods, chopping down the trees to make room for agricultural fields and pastures.

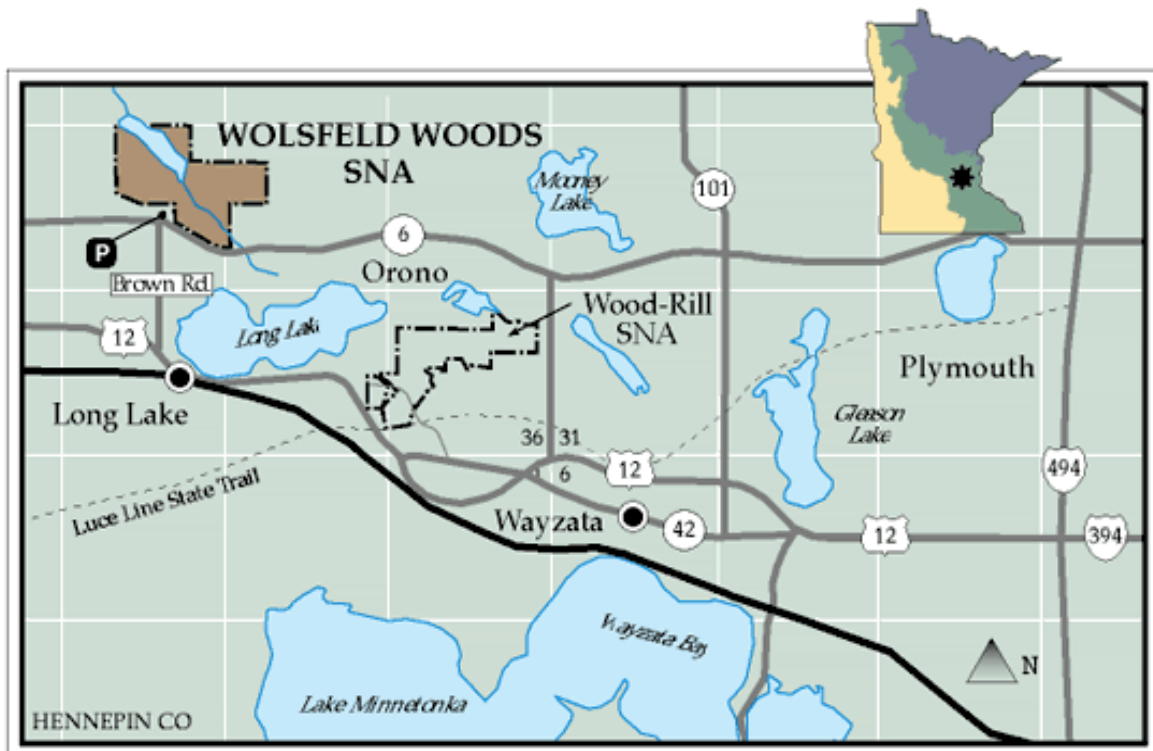


Photo taken off Hunter Drive in Medina

By the middle of the 1800s, however, these early settlers finally learned that tallgrass prairie soil was richer and could be broken with hard work. After this discovery, the tallgrass prairies were quickly settled and plowed under. The Big Woods and surrounding forest land fell to the axes of farmers who cut the trees to make their houses and barns and used the cleared lands for fields and pastures. Those who moved on to the prairie lands, in turn brought trees with them, bringing small pieces of forest to the prairie. By the 1930s, farmers had cleared most of the Big Woods for cropland, leaving

a patchwork of widely scattered 40 to 80 acre wood lots. Today only 1% of Minnesota's Big Woods remain; the largest of these lies east of Northfield at Nerstrand Woods State Park.

Another premier example of the original "Big Woods" is Wolsfeld Woods (221 acres), located just north of the city of Long Lake, off County Road 6. The Wolsfeld walking trail is approximately 1/2 mile long. Parking is available in the Trinity Lutheran church parking lot.



Lake Sarah Improvements Association
P.O. Box 25, Loretto, MN 55357-0025

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PERMIT NO 6

Place label here

House Checks—If you are planning an out-of-town trip, you can call West Hennepin Public Safety and put your house on their house check list. They will check your house while you are gone, and if there are any problems, they will contact you. To sign up for this, just call West Hennepin Public Safety at 763-479-0500.

2009 LSIA Calendar

Mark your calendars for these upcoming 2009 LSIA events!

LSIA Spring General Meeting

LSIA Garage Sale

LSIA Fourth of July Boat Parade

LSIA Picnic & Annual Meeting/Board Elections

LSIA Fall General Meeting

Thursday, April 23rd

Thurs-Sat, May 21-23rd

Saturday, July 4th

Sunday, July 26th

Thursday, October 22nd