



PINE LAKES PRESS

OTCPLID Board wants to keep members informed with a short version of the Pine Lakes Press. The website is slow developing and we encourage you to go to www.pinelakeslid.org, much more at www.ottertailcountycola.org

On Little Pine...

The Rinse Station at Paul Miller Park is now connected to the well at Paul Miller Park. There were small setbacks, but with much appreciated cooperation from the City of Perham the Aquatic Invasive Task Force completed the pilot project for OT County, the first in Minnesota. Three more are being planned. The Rinse Station, available 24/7, is for you to rinse boats, etc. to comply with AIS prevention laws to CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY. Water is not drawn from the lake, so the water can be used to transport bait.

and on Big Pine ...

On May 9, 65 acres of Curly Leaf Pondweed were treated at \$37,520. This is the 19th year we have treated to keep CLP controlled, with the exception of 2022 when it wasn't allowed. We continue to apply for DNR grants as available. It will never be eliminated. It's important to keep invasives out of our lakes! Starry Stonewort has been found in counties on three sides of OTC & other AIS could appear.

Around "The Pines"...

MN DNR completed the rock dams or rapids on Little & Big Pine, Rush & Otter Tail Lakes. They are beautiful areas; water levels are just the same. Walleyes & sturgeon are in all of them. A \$4 million grant is secured to go under two Hwy 10 crossings & fish will use OT River to spawn past Detroit Lakes & return. Sturgeon Specialist Nick Kludt will have pictures & details at the Annual Meeting. Nick lives in Perham & knows the area well.

Pete Guck from East Otter Tail Soil & Water, Perham area native, also knows the Pines well. SWCD filled their schedule with shoreline improvement projects for 2024. Pete can explain options for the future. OTCPLID's grant for up to \$1000 in matching funds relies on SWCD approval of a project.

The LID Fishing Committee will report on progress to reduce the walleye limit to 4, crappies to 5 & sunfish to 10, as voted at last year's Annual Meeting. The LID Board submitted a letter to DNR & the proposal is in the process of being approved.

Water testing with COLA & our own tests report we are within parameters for our ecoregion. Zebra Mussels make lakes clearer & poor ice conditions made it easier for weeds (vegetation) to grow. Nobody likes weeds, but Mother Nature is in control!

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CLEAN your boat or jet ski

DRAIN your live well

DRY for 5 days