



FILIA, P.O. Box 135, Aitkin, MN 56431 • [FILIALake@gmail.com](mailto:FILIALake@gmail.com) • [FarmIslandLake.org](http://FarmIslandLake.org)

--- The Aitkin County Fish House Parade has been Cancelled ---

*2 more members needed!*

## Membership

We have 233 paid members - 63% of 367 lake property owners. We only need 2 more to surpass last year's paid membership of 234. Can't remember if you paid? Included in this newsletter is a list of current members, and a current membership list is on the website.

- 72 members have paid into the AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) fund.

- 74 paid members have used the online payment option on the website.

- A large membership base provides us with a strong voice when it comes to the affairs involving lakeshore ownership, including grant applications, government, county and local agency activities.



## Fall 2020 Gillnet Survey Results

The gillnet graph is below and is also posted on our website at Newsletters/Lake Info, link:

<https://www.farmislandlake.org/newsletters-1>. The graph on the website is bigger and easier to read.

**From:** Bruesewitz, Rick (DNR) <[rick.bruesewitz@state.mn.us](mailto:rick.bruesewitz@state.mn.us)>

**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2020 11:38 AM

**To:** [cherylhmcdonough@gmail.com](mailto:cherylhmcdonough@gmail.com)

**Subject:** RE: Farm Island Lake Update for newsletter

Hi Cheryl,

We have heard nothing of additional observations of zebra mussels. No news good news, I guess.

Regarding fisheries stuff, we did conduct a gill net only survey this summer and saw pretty much normal catches almost all around. The two exceptions were for Smallmouth Bass (highest we've observed) and Rock Bass (second highest observed). While the Rock Bass have always been common in Farm Island, Smallmouth Bass are relatively new and have been increasing since we first saw one in 2013. While not currently abundant, they now appear to be more common. Note that it appears that Largemouth Bass were captured just below normal levels for Farm Island. There is a chart below that compares the 2020 and 2018 catches with the norms for Farm Island.

Regarding fall electrofishing, we completed this assessment of juvenile Walleye near the end of September. While young of year walleye were scarce (no fry stocking this spring due to Covid 19), we did observe some from natural reproduction, which suggests we should see some in our future gill net assessments. I would not expect the 2020 year class to be strong at all, but it will contribute some to future catches.

More importantly, we did observe a good number of yearling and two year old fish, now measuring from about 8 to 12 inches. This is consistent with observations from the summer gillnet assessment too. The 2019 year class is one where we also added some fingerlings since electrofishing catches were not all that high last fall. It looks like the

combination of fry and fingerling stocking was successful last year. That being the case, I don't think there is a need at this point to consider additional stocking this fall.

Feel free to contact me if you have further questions.

Rick

**Rick Bruesewitz**

Aitkin Area Fisheries Supervisor | Division of Fish and Wildlife - Fisheries

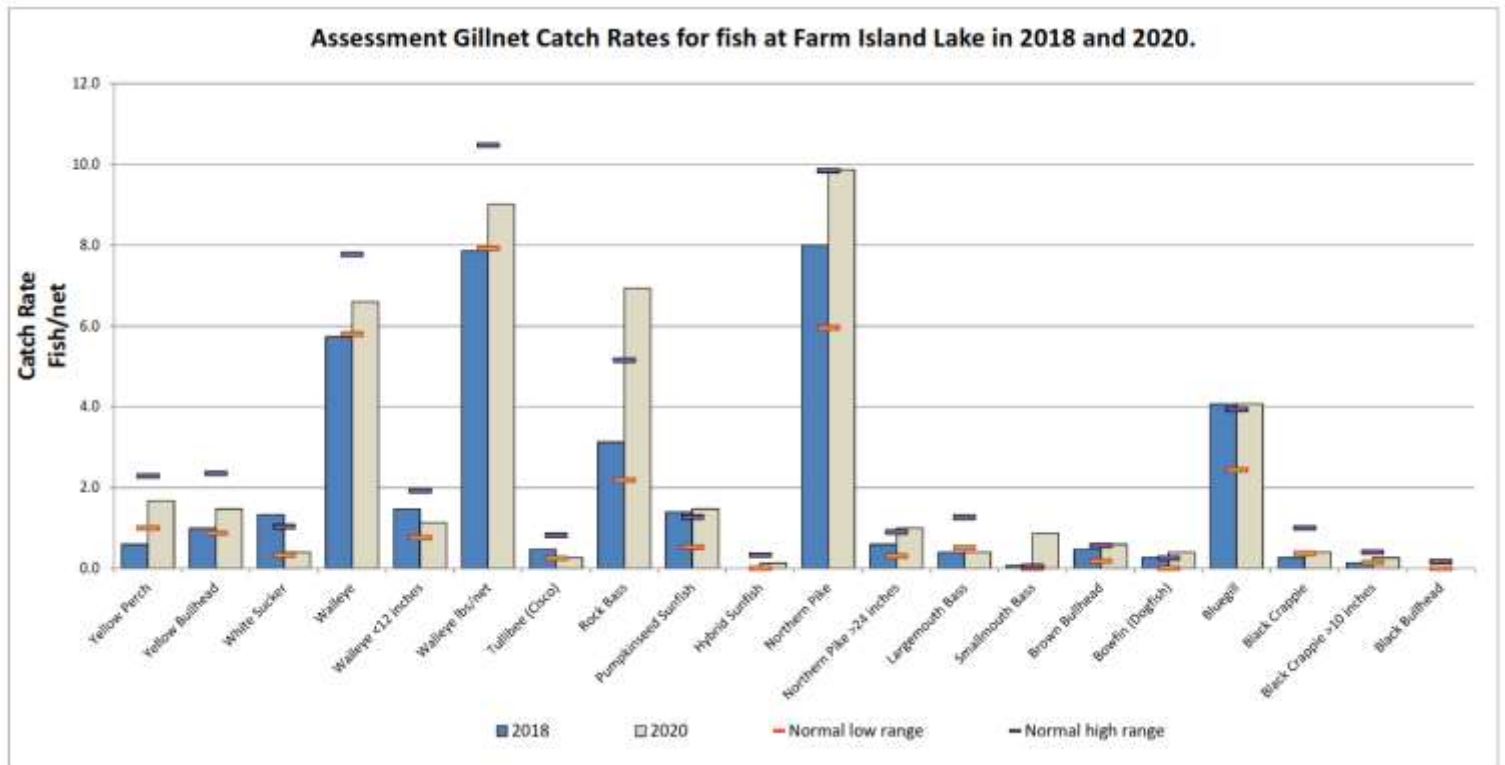
**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources**

1200 Minnesota Avenue, Aitkin, MN 56431

218-429-3037

[Rick.bruesewitz@state.mn.us](mailto:Rick.bruesewitz@state.mn.us)

[mndnr.gov](http://mndnr.gov)



## Zebra Mussel Update

Latest update from DNR AIS Tim Plude, dated Oct 8, 2020:

I sampled Little Pine and I was informed yesterday that it did not have any veligers in that sample....

The only zm reports I have seen have been forwarded from you. DNR Fisheries were out on FIL this year and they did not find any zm on their gear. ...One zm note is that Tamefish has seen their first zebra mussels this summer, so the Ripple River starting from Bay Lake is infested all the way down to Little Pine (listed as connected water infestation) and I will continue to monitor downstream as the mussels will likely continue to move downstream.

I hope this info helps.

-Tim

**Tim Plude**

Invasive Species Specialist | Ecological & Water Resources

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources**

1601 Minnesota Dr.  
Brainerd, MN 56401  
Phone: 218-203-4354  
Email: [timothy.plude@state.mn.us](mailto:timothy.plude@state.mn.us)



**Shore Captains Needed**

**We currently need 2 Shore Captains; one for the northwest shore and one for the south shore.** Anyone who is interested please contact a board member or send us an email. If the area where you live currently has a Shore Captain and you would like to be one - the areas can be divided up.

Shore Captains are Farm Island Lake residents who have volunteered to help provide lake users and residents with lake related information by:

- Welcoming new residents and making them aware of lake issues(e.g. Invasive Species controls) and opportunities.
- Helping disseminate late breaking news(e.g. no-wake order in 2012 due to high water).
- Providing input to the FILIA board on issues and opportunities based on feedback from their area.

Shore Captains are provided with a brochure that they can hand out to new lake property owners along with a membership application. The Shore Captain brochure is on the website on the Contact/Calendar page.

Our goal is to have Shore Captains on the different shoreline areas of the lake. It is a wonderful way to get to know your neighbors and keep well-informed of happenings and news around the lake.

**Here is a list of our current Shore Captains with two open positions.**

Send an email to [FILIALake@gmail.com](mailto:FILIALake@gmail.com) to contact a Shore Captain.

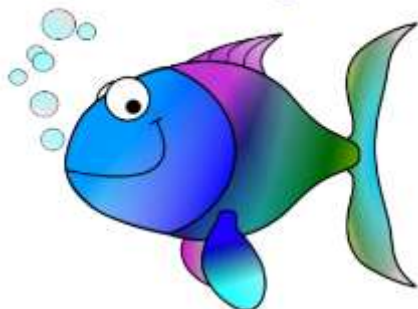
- Randy Feltmann .....Southwest Shore
- John Pierson ..... Johnson Point
- Dick Rees ..... Farm Island
- Gordon Vetsch .....Dahle Bay
- Denise Noling ..... East Shore
- Lowell Larson ..... Dummer’s Bay
- Sharon Mattison .....West Shore
- Karen Ulstad ..... West Shore
- Cindy & Tom Scott ..... Dummer’s Bay

**Open position**                      **Northwest**  
**Open position**                      **South**

**Boating and Fishing Regulations**

It’s never too late, or too early, to remind folks that the DNR Boating and Fishing Regulations are on our website under Useful Info <https://www.farmislandlake.org/useful-links> and are also listed on the DNR website.

**Don't Forget!**



- Remember to make sure when closing up your cabin/house to not to leave valuables where they can be seen.
- Remember that if you don’t have your driveways plowed the fire department can’t get in.
- Salt used on sidewalks, driveways and roadways during the winter can reach the lake, so please use sparingly.

## Ice Fishing is around the corner

- Check out the MN DNR's Ice Thickness Guidelines at: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/ice/thickness.html>.
- Trash left on the ice from ice fishing ends up in the lake, can potentially affect our water quality and can end up on your shoreline in the spring. Please respect the lake and the people and bring in your trash.

## COVID-19 numbers soar across state, Aitkin County

*Aitkin Independent Age article published on Nov. 18, 2020*

Cases of COVID-19 continued to spike around the state of Minnesota over the past week, including in Aitkin County.

As of Monday morning's [Nov. 16] Minnesota Department of Health update, Aitkin County had 520 confirmed cases of the virus, with 13 deaths. [FILIA Note: numbers continue to increase in Aitkin County].

The rise in cases over the last few weeks prompted Gov. Tim Walz to install new restrictions on the number of people at gatherings. **Read more:** [https://www.messagemedia.co/aitkin/coronavirus/covid-19-numbers-soar-across-state-county/article\\_52581652-29c7-11eb-a260-43c7b40b4da2.html](https://www.messagemedia.co/aitkin/coronavirus/covid-19-numbers-soar-across-state-county/article_52581652-29c7-11eb-a260-43c7b40b4da2.html)

## Aitkin County Clinics and Hospitals contact information

Given the pandemic situation, I thought it would be good to list our Aitkin County Clinics and Hospitals with their contact information. Sending out a heartfelt kudos to all of our healthcare workers!

Riverwood Hospital  
200 Bunker Hill Dr  
Aitkin, MN 56431  
218-927-2121

Aitkin Clinic  
200 Bunker Hill Dr  
Aitkin, MN 56431  
218-927-2157

McGregor Clinic  
2 E Center Ave  
McGregor, MN 55760  
218-768-4011

Garrison Clinic  
27278 State Highway 18  
Garrison, MN 56450  
320-525-3400

**Riverwood Healthcare Center in Aitkin** is a 25-bed, Critical Access Hospital with 3 primary care clinics in Aitkin, Garrison and McGregor. The medical staff includes 23 family and internal medicine providers, plus more than 50 physicians, some of whom are surgeons, who provide a wide range of specialty care in Aitkin.

In 2017 and 2018, Riverwood ranked among the Top 20 Critical Access Hospitals in the USA. Riverwood also recently won the Press Ganey **2020 Guardian of Excellence Award**, the only Minnesota hospital to achieve this national recognition! This award recognizes our local top-performing healthcare center for being in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile for **patient experience in the Emergency Department**.

Riverwood welcomes any questions about services provided. For an appointment at any clinic, call (218) 927-2157 at Riverwood. FILIA has two association members serving as Riverwood Governing Board Members. They are Steve Wilson at (218) 513-6898 and Jared Lundgren at (612) 636-2151.

**THANK YOU Healthcare Heroes!**



## **Moose on Farm Island Lake!**

Thanks to association members Angie Ditty and Lowell and Carole Larson for submitting pictures of the moose that has been seen around Dummer's Bay, north side of lake, around October 9<sup>th</sup>. The young bull moose was also seen on the north side of Dahle Bay on October 9<sup>th</sup> by Arnie Reinhold. He has a video of the moose but I can't get it to run in this PDF, so please email me if you would like me to send it to you.







## BOARD MEMBER Opening

We have an open position for a Board of Directors (Board Member). Pat Holder has stepped down. The board members meet twice a year and attend the annual meeting held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of June. The board meetings are held the first Saturday in May and on Labor Day, from 9:00 – 11:00 AM, at The Joint Tavern & Eatery. It is a 3-year voluntary position and is a great way to be actively involved in the lake community and activities and in local county information.

We want to thank Pat Holder for his contributions to the lake and lake community.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cindy Chuhanic .....	President	Jim Hausauer	Denise Noling
Bill Haroldson .....	V.P.	Dennis Kraimer	Loren Rachey
Cheryl McDonough ...	Treasurer/Secretary	Gordon Vetsch	Open Position

Be Well. Be Safe.

Sincerely,

Cheryl McDonough  
FILIA Treasurer/Secretary  
[FILIALake@gmail.com](mailto:FILIALake@gmail.com)

Your questions and comments are welcome.

A festive holiday greeting with the words "Happy Holidays!" in a colorful, bubbly font. The letters are primarily red and green, with small hearts and dots as accents. The exclamation point is also red with a heart at its base.

## FarmIslandLake.org Contents

- [Home](#) Mission statement, map of Farm Island Lake, etc.
- [Membership](#) Members lists, application form
- [Online Store](#) Pay dues online
- [Newsletters/Lake Info](#)
- [Contact/Calendar](#) List of board members and shore captains, calendar of events
  - [Local Events](#)
- [Administrative](#) Financial reports (current & past), Bylaws,
  - [Meeting Minutes](#)
- [Aquatic Invasive Species](#)
  - [Score Your Shore](#)
  - [How to identify zebra mussels](#)
- [Useful Info](#) Boating and fishing regulations and other stuff
  - [Boating & Fishing Regulations](#)
  - [DNR Permitted Lake Service Providers](#)
- [History](#) No information here yet

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*Note: When government, local agency and county information is included we are serving as the messenger to keep you informed of their activities concerning Farm Island Lake.*



This year there have been well over 100 trumpeter swans enjoying the lake. They are resounding honkers, and fun to watch as they use their feet to dig up their meal from the lake bottom. They like to stand at the edge of the newly forming ice, and I've seen them fall in. Here they are flying over the big island, and then young and adults at our southwest shoreline.





## Farm Island Lake Improvement Association Membership 2020

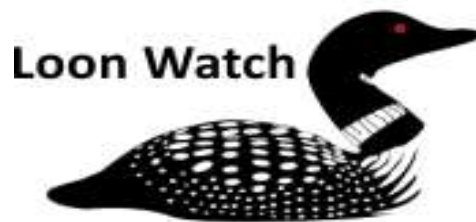
**233 members as of November 18, 2020**

Accola, Mikel & Melanie  
Althoff, Chad & Tresa  
Amrhein, Terry & Dorla  
Anderson Family Residential Trust  
Anderson, Greg & Diane  
Anderson, Julie  
Anderson, Mark  
Archambeau, Judy  
Arndt, Dave & Jennifer  
Arndt, Joseph Farm Island Lake Partnership  
Balko, Tim & Tracy  
Ball, Dennis & Sharon  
Bateson, George & Ann  
Bearon, Carole  
Bencini, Lon & Deb  
Bensen, Mike & Paula  
Bergslien, Patricia & Myron  
Blake, Gary & Kelly  
Bohn, James  
Boudreau, David & Laura  
Bouquet, Gregory & Dawn  
Brandt, Robert & Dorothy  
Brewster, Linda & David  
Brown, David & Renea  
Buechele, Don & Doreen  
Burnison, Russ & Trish  
Cannady, Doug & Judy  
Carbone, Catherine & John Buchmeier  
Chmelik, Marvin & Joanne  
Christy, Judith  
Chuhanic, Ed & Cindy  
Cowan, Rob & Pam  
Dahlquist, Christopher & Jeanie  
Danielson, Steven Jr. & Katy  
Danielson, Steve & Roxanne  
Dickison, Kevin & Kim  
Diedrich, Bill & Karen  
Ditty, Dave & Angie  
Dosser, Carolyn  
Dosser, Paul & Linda  
Doty, Gary & Jody Nelson  
Doty, Tom & Jeanette  
Elkin, Bill & Alice  
Engh, Jim & Julie  
Englebert, Erin & Brookes

*Thank you for your membership!  
You are the best!*



Erickson, Ron & Helen  
Fahey, Michael & Linda  
Fawley, Craig & Sharon  
Feldstein, Thomas & Mary Ellen  
Feltmann, Douglas & Sandra  
Feltmann, Randy & Faye  
FIRM-Farm Island Repair & Marine, Scott Boyd  
Fjerstad, Mark & Kim Curless  
Foley, John & Shari  
Fragodt, Brian & Joy  
Frederick, Todd & Keri  
Freeman, Maurice & Arlene  
Fritz, Robert & Susan  
Furth, John & Allison  
Furuly (Anne Utschig)  
Geist, Gary & Mary Joan  
G.H. Grove Cabin LLC  
Gilson, Scott & Pam  
Gracek, Ray & Alice  
Grailer, Tom & Traci  
Green, Mark & Julie  
Griesel, Wayne  
Ham, Darrell & Carol  
Hanna, Connie; Scott & Jen Nordquist; Brian & Laurie Klepinger  
Haroldson, Bill  
Haroldson, Debbie  
Harrington, Michael & Wendy  
Hasbrouck, Chris & Meg  
Hausauer, Jim & Nancy  
Hayes, James & Cindy  
Henrickson, Dennis & Candy  
Hesse, Steven & Sally  
Highum, Andrew & Sonja  
Hoelzer, Greg & Marybeth  
Hoffman, Michael & Denise  
Holder, Patrick & Maryann  
Holst, Brad & Vickie  
Holter, Steve & Lynn  
House, Nathan & Susie  
Hreha, Blake & Amanda  
Hutterer, Vincent & Doreen  
Jaeger, Doug & Laura  
Jamar, Jeff & Laura  
Johnson, Dick & Phyllis  
Johnson, Dennis & Kelley  
Johnson, Elmer & Babs, Farm Island Lake Resort & Campground  
Johnson, Tom & Mary  
Johnson, Larry & Janet  
Jost, Ron & Jean



The last loon I saw was around the 1<sup>st</sup> week of November. The adult loons were gone around the 1<sup>st</sup> week of October.

Juntti, Glen & Barbara  
Keatts, Andy & Deb  
Keisling, Steve  
Kise, Kayla & John  
Klein, Doug & Stacey  
Knott, Randy & Jan  
Kobielush, David & Linda  
Koester, Todd & Kate  
Knotek, Mikal, Kelle, and Bob & Jan  
Knutson, Brian & Debbie  
Kraimer, Denny & Chris  
Kuchenmeister, Randy & Tracy  
Kuchera, Todd & Tami  
Lallier, Richard & Kathi  
Landgren, Ted  
Lapp, Gerald & Judi  
Larson, Lowell & Carole  
Larson, Sean & Linda and Mike Lund  
Larson, Tom & Rachel  
Lavigne, Larry & Jule  
Lensegrav, John & Lisa  
Leonard, Gary & Rea  
Loew, Patrick & Nancy Jo  
Long, Gerry & Judy  
Long, Lisa & Lori  
Luker, Mark  
Luker, Rebecca  
Lund, James & Denell  
Lux, Ronald & Carol  
Maciej, Scott & Lexi  
McLain, Janis  
MacLeod, Les & Judy  
Macmillan, Mike & Carol  
Maksymkiw, Lisa & Mike  
Martin, Craig & Rebekah  
Martin, Ron & Wendy  
Martinson, John & Sara Fisher  
Matthias, Don & Judy  
Mattison, Robert & Sharon, Ulstad, Karen  
McLain, Janis  
Michaelis, John & Mair  
Muelhbauer, Gerald & Pamela  
McCormick, Joe & Ashley  
McDonough, Kevin & Cheryl  
McGuire, Curt & Jenny  
Meyer, Bob & Beth  
Meyer, Tim & Deb  
Mikkonen, John & Carolyn  
Moey, Lee



Moormeier, Reed & Jayne  
Morris, Fay & Dick  
Moser, Todd & Amy  
Munzel, Jeffrey & Victoria  
Murray, Barry & Joyce  
Nardini, Eugene & Donna  
Nelson, Reed & Joan  
Ness, Wayne & Mary  
Netz, David & Barbara  
Noling, Dennis & Denise  
Norberg, Richard & Nathalyn  
Norgren, Jim & Judy  
Oare, Les & Susan  
Oare, Scott & Robbin  
O'Brien, John & Karin  
Olson, Ross & William Hudson  
Perrine, Pat & Judy, Aaron & Stephanie  
Peters, Gordon & Muriel  
Peterson, Steve & Pat  
Peterson, Rozanne  
Poser, Richard & Sue  
Rachey, Loren & Diane  
Rapp, Amy & Charles  
Rasmussen, Jim & Roma Lee  
Redner, Scott & Dee  
Reinhard, Arnie & Connie  
Reinke, Robert & Diane  
Reisetter, Tom, Doreen, Dan & Ann  
Remme, Doug & Sue  
Rezac, Terrance  
Roiger, Lavonne  
Rolley, Jeremy & Leah  
Romenesko, Stuart & Sherry  
Ronhovde, Jim & Janice  
Rose, Mike & Family  
Russell, John & Sue  
Ryan, Tim & Sue  
Scharmann, Phil & Lori  
Scheele, Scott & Cheryl  
Schiffler, Roger & Sharon  
Schifsky, Mark & Peg  
Schifsky, Steve & Dawn  
Schlichte, Robert & Kathy  
Schmidt, Wade & Tonya  
Scott, Thomas & Diana  
Schultz, Robert  
Seiger, Gary & Cheryl  
Selbo, David & Stephanie  
Seltun, Jay & Kelly

Sherburne, Jim & Mary  
Shikowsky, Steve & Pam  
Smalley, Matt & Angela  
Smith, Tom & Gerri  
Spargo, Scott & Anne Butzer  
Steffl, Neil & Nancy  
Stevenson, Gary & Mary  
Stippel, Roger & Lucy  
Stovern, Bryan & Lauren  
Streetar, Jim & Carol  
Strohmayr, Tim & Chris  
Sullivan, Nancy or Sheila  
Summer Breeze Resort - Cathyann LaPlante Family  
Swenson, Don & Barb  
Sylvester, Kathy  
Tack, Russell  
Thoen, Larry & Cindy  
Thorson, Doug & Cris  
Trick, Carol  
Thomas, Ward & Joyce  
Tyson, David & Jane and Daleiden, Doug & Antoinette  
Ulseth, Randy & Jackie  
Utterberg, Tom & Carol  
Vander Vorste, Merlin & Jean; Todd & Lorie Anderson  
Vetsch, Gordon & Laurie  
Vetsch, Thomas & Connie  
Vollmer, Steve & Cindy  
Von Bargaen, Dennis & Annette  
Walter, William & Karen  
Westendorf, Dean & Mary  
Wilmo, Wesley & Sylvia  
Wilson, Sandy  
Wilson, Stephen & Julie  
Young, Keath & Lesley  
Yunker, Matt & Tara  
Zazverskey, John & Mary  
Zelixon, Lily & Alex  
Zeilinger, Ken & Deb  
Zelenak, Brian  
Zingsheim, Tom & Mimi  
Zumwinkle, David

