

Found

A big floating raft/toy animal was found on the west shoreline. You can email at pythonh50@gmail.com to claim it.

Shirts Plus pickup date is July 9

The Farm Island Lake clothing and apparel has a new pickup date of July 9th. Everyone will receive an email notification from Shirts Plus as soon as their order is ready. Email is the best communication for contacting them. They are open Tuesday-Friday from 10am - 4pm every week for pickup during those hours.

info@shirtsplusofaitkin.com

Boat Parade

There were at least 54 boats in the 4th of July parade yesterday. We had some marvelous decorations! Here are a few pictures courtesy of Greg Anderson, who took these with a drone.



Increased efforts to keep Minnesota's waterways safe from boaters under the influence of drugs and alcohol are on tap, with hundreds of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources conservation officers and other public safety personnel planning extra patrols July 2-4.

The extra attention is part of Operation Dry Water, a nationwide campaign to highlight the dangers of boating under the influence of drugs and alcohol and call attention to the heavy penalties associated with boating while intoxicated (BWI).

While forecasted warm weather will make the water an appealing place to be over the long Fourth of July weekend, officials warn boaters to choose something other than alcohol when they get thirsty. Across the nation, including in Minnesota, BWI is the leading contributing factor in boating accidents and fatalities. In 2020, nine of the 16 boating fatalities – more than 56 percent – in Minnesota involved alcohol, an increase from the six-year average of 44 percent.

Operation Dry Water coincides with the Fourth of July holiday weekend, when waterways are particularly busy and BWI-related injuries and deaths tend to spike.

"We have absolutely no tolerance for boaters who choose to operate while under the influence. They endanger their own lives, but also the lives of every other boater on the water," said Lt. Adam Block, DNR Enforcement boating law administrator. "The penalties associated with boating under the influence have never been higher, but they pale in comparison to losing your life or ending someone else's life because of a choice you made."

Minnesota's BWI laws are among the strongest in the country, and a relatively new law means people convicted of drinking and driving – whether they're driving a boat, motor vehicle or recreational vehicle – lose their privilege to operate any of them.

The majority of fatal boating accidents turn deadly because people don't have on a life jacket. Intoxication often is what causes them to end up in the water in the first place. The legal blood alcohol limit for boaters is .08, but public safety officials encourage boaters to leave alcohol on shore and boat sober on "dry water."

"Planning ahead can alleviate all of the issues associated with boating under the influence," Block said. "If you're going to partake while you're on the water, make sure you've lined up a sober ride – both on the boat and on the way home."

For more information on Operation Dry Water and boating safety, visit www.operationdrywater.org and www.mndnr.gov/boatingsafety.

Operation Dry Water activities are sponsored by the National Association of Boating Law Administrators in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard.

We have 218 association members. We only need 18 to beat last year's count of 235 members. About 30% have paid online and 30% have paid toward the AIS fund. Thank you for your membership! Current member list is on your website. An application is below and on your website.

Be well! Be safe! Have fun!

Sincerely,
Cheryl McDonough
FILIA Treasurer/Secretary
FILIALake@gmail.com
FarmIslandLake.org

FILIA

PO Box 135
Aitkin, MN 56431

- The FILIA Board Members, in order to fulfill our mission of stewardship for Farm Island Lake, strive to maintain good communications and collaborative efforts with lake association members and Aitkin County and state agencies such as the DNR, Aitkin Area Fisheries, Aitkin County Soil & Water Conservation District, and Invasive Species Specialists, to name a few.
- The FILIA board members act in good faith as volunteers and assume no responsibility for the boat parade or any other FILIA activity.

.....Cut here

FILIA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

FarmIslandLake.org

BECOME A MEMBER AND HELP PRESERVE AND ENHANCE FARM ISLAND LAKE

Dues are **\$25.00** a year per property owner from January to December.

You can pay online at your FILIA website, or bring this form to the annual meeting, or mail it to:

Farm Island Lake Improvement Association (or FILIA)

Date: _____

**PO Box 135
Aitkin, MN 56431**

Name _____

Home Address _____

No need to write your home address if your correct address is on your check.

Lake Address _____

Phone-best year-round contact phone(s) _____

Email-best year-round contact email(s) _____

Your email addresses will be used to send you newsletters and other FILIA news. It will not be sold or shared.

Additional money for the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Fund \$ _____