



Lake Washburn Association

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As of April 21, we have received 140 memberships for 1995. This is a marked improvement over 1994 when we had only received 74 memberships by mid-April. It would be nice to see the Lake Washburn Association represented by a majority of property owners on the lake. We really think our goal of over 200 memberships this year is within reach.

We appreciate the many positive comments we received on our January newsletter. Please note the article elsewhere which deals with the concerns/questions which were raised by members on their returned application forms.

We have 319 property owners on Lake Washburn or with legal access to the lake on our mailing list. We are pleased to report that only 6 winter newsletters were returned as non-deliverable by the postoffice. We appreciate your keeping us informed of address changes, property changes, etc. With everyone's help our membership listing will become even more accurate.

A special thank you to Aldo Abelliera who designed our updated newsletter heading. Aldo is a new Lake Washburn property owner (West Washburn Road-Patron Drive) and has volunteered to help with the newspaper layout.

JUNE GENERAL MEETING

Our first meeting for 1995 will be Saturday, June 10, 9:00 am at the Town Hall in Outing. Coffee and rolls will be served, followed by our meeting.

Jean Johnson has arranged for Ron Sanow of the DNR forestry division to talk to us regarding the best management practices for water quality in forest management.

We hope you will attend this meeting to hear about the impact of property owners practices relative to pesticides and gardening, as well as a chance to visit with your fellow Lake Washburn residents. A door prize will be given away at the close of the meeting...you must be present to win.

BOAT CHECK - MEMORIAL DAY

The first boat monitoring weekend will be Memorial Day. Volunteers are needed for this project. This is a great way to inform people of the dangers of Eurasian milfoil, to meet Lake Washburn residents and make them aware of our Association.

Greg Bosch is in charge of the boat monitoring program. Please say yes when he calls you or contact Greg at 218-792-5649 or 612-755-2873 and volunteer to spend a few hours during the weekend on this project.

SPAGHETTI DINNER AND GENERAL MEETING

Mark your calendars now for the annual Spaghetti Dinner to be held on Saturday, August 12, at the Town Hall. We will start serving at 6:00 pm, followed by the general meeting about 7:15 pm.

The menu will consist of spaghetti and meatsauce, salad, garlic bread, bars, coffee and koolaid. Tentative prices are \$5.00 per adult, \$2.50 per child under 12, or \$12.50 per immediate family.

We thank Jan Hron for heading up this event. If you would like to help with this project, please contact Jan at 218-792-5517.

We hope to see you there!!

OUTING BRIDGE

Caution is the word in Outing! The long discussed Highway 6 bridge replacement is becoming a reality. The area to be used has been cleared and construction is underway.

The new bridge will make for some changes in the Outing area, but there will still be some park area and bike paths. The roadway will be about 60-70 feet from the water and the bridge will be 3 feet higher than the current bridge.

The new construction, including bridge and roadwork, will provide 3200 feet of new roadway. The estimated total cost of the project is \$650K.

A minimum of 40 good weather working days will be required to complete the project, according to DOT officials.

The current bridge will be removed when the new bridge is open for traffic.

Please show the Highway Department workers Northern Minnesota courtesy!!

TREASURER'S REPORT

by George Fortmeyer

Response to our January membership drive has been better than ever. We have more members signed up at this time in 1995 than for any recent year. As of April 21, 1995, we have 140 members of the Lake Washburn Association.

While your board of directors is pleased with the response so far, we would like to remind those who have not yet submitted their dues for 1995 that we have a very real need to have more of our property owners join us. Not only do we need the funds (our rainy day fund if you will) but we also need the force of numbers whenever we deal with the state or county governments on behalf of Lake Washburn people. We need your participation! We still have fewer than half the owners on Lake Washburn as members of the association.

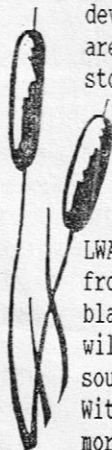
If you haven't paid your \$10.00 dues for 1995, please do it NOW. The dollar amount is trivial (83 cents a month) but your membership is worth a premium when counted as "our voice" when we need help or redress from various government agencies. We need to be a power when dealing with them. If we get less than half the people on Lake Washburn to participate we really don't have the clout we need to get the attention of the bureaucrats or elected officials.

So I'd like to encourage you, please send your membership renewal or new membership applications now.



BOAT CUSHIONS NOT LEGAL

Boat cushions will no longer be accepted as legal personal flotation devices (PFDs). A Coast Guard approved life jacket will be required for every boater. The DNR is putting this regulation into effect as a safety measure. Life jackets are effective life-saving devices, however, only when they are worn by the boaters and not stowed under a bench.



HIGHWAY CLEANUP MAY 27

LWA will be cleaning up Highway 48 from Highway 6 to the end of the blacktop on Saturday, May 27. We will meet at the Campground at the south end of the lake at 9:00 am. With many hands it shouldn't take more than one hour. Be sure to dress for the weather!! You may want to wear gloves to protect yourself from cuts, etc.

Any questions, please contact Jean Johnson at 218-792-5432.

CAMP PORTAGE APPLICATIONS DUE

A reminder that applications for Deep Portage Aquatics Camp are due now. LWA is offering two \$100 scholarships (camp costs about \$275) to children/grandchildren, age 10-14, of any LWA member. Those interested may apply by submitting a 100 word or less essay as to why they would like to attend the camp. Send essays to Youth Camp Essay, Lake Washburn Association, Box 26, Outing, MN, 56662.

More information can be found in your February newsletter or by contacting Lynn Peterson, Deep Portage Aquatics Youth Camp, Rt. 1, Box 129, Hackensack, MN 56452.

CATCH & RELEASE

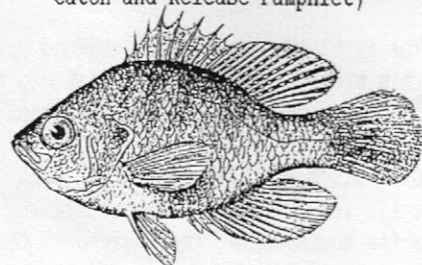
Catch and release is an effective way for anglers to maintain the quality of fishing in Lake Washburn. It works by returning medium sized fish after they've been caught, so they can grow larger and be caught again.

A fish, however, that is released and dies, does no good for anyone. To help make sure the fish survive, a) use barbless hooks; b) grasp the fish at the back of the head, behind, not under, the gill covers; c) cut the line if the fish is throat hooked; d) gently slide the fish into the water, do not toss; e) don't place fish in the livewell if you plan to release them.

Catch and release works only if fewer keepers are killed. It is a standard of self restraint that says fish are more important alive than they are as fillets. Stop fishing when the legal limit is met. Keeping a few fish for a meal is fine, but the future of fishing depends on anglers recognizing that fishing has a lot more value than meat on the table.

Fishing offers solitude, the challenge of mastering a skill, a chance to get outside with friends and family and an opportunity to watch wildlife and enjoy the outdoors. Few outdoor sports take you so far from the pressures of work as fishing where the only disturbance is a kingfisher chattering on a branch and the only deadline is the sun setting on the horizon.

(Information taken from the DNR Catch and Release Pamphlet)



THE WALLEYE AND STOCKING

What is the allure of this blank-eyed fish? Is it the fight or the taste of wallet fillets? Or is it the sport of finding and outwitting this elusive and fish? Whatever the reason, Minnesota anglers keep about 3.5 million walleye, totalling 4 million pounds each year.

The best way to maintain walleye numbers is to protect the lakes and streams they inhabit through existing laws limiting pollution. Shoreland zoning and related laws aid walleye and other fish by controlling lake development and protecting aquatic plants that walleye use for cover. It is particularly important to protect rocky spawning shoals from pollution & sedimentation.

Many anglers complain that the fish are getting smaller. Several things may work towards this but the most noticeable is fishing pressure. More anglers are spending more time at their sport, they are also better educated in fishing techniques and better outfitted. This pressure is like a mower blade, chopping off the seed and blossom and leaving the stubble -- the smaller walleye. Our lakes produce as many pounds of fish as ever, but there are more anglers for those pounds.

Stocking a lot of small fish does not guarantee catching a lot of big fish. Minnesota's hatcheries and rearing ponds each year produce 2-5 million walleye fingerlings and millions of fry. One DNR report stated "There is no evidence that the walleye population of the stocked natural walleye lakes sampled were increased over that which might occur naturally without stocking." Stocked walleye may compete for food with other game fish, such as small/largemouth bass. This results in fewer bass. And since the bass is a more efficient predator of sunfish than the walleye, stocking may result in the stunting of the panfish.

Despite its limitations, stocking is useful for some purposes such as:

- + Walleye are introduced to lakes that have been "rehabilitated", where undesirable fish have been removed.
- + Walleye fry are put in heavily used lakes that occasionally winter-kill.
- + Walleye are put in lakes with all the elements necessary for survival except suitable spawning areas.



Loss of habitat and increasing fishing pressure will continue to be the biggest issues in walleye management. Regulations must prevent water pollution, control agricultural runoff, restrict lakeshore development and control the clearing of aquatic vegetation. Even with these regulations anglers and fish managers must still contend with fishing pressure. Anglers appear to have two choices --1) put up with reduced quality of walleye fishing, or 2) reduce kill of fish through catch and release or size/number limits.

Walleye stocking, that popularly imagined panacea, is a useful tool in correcting problems and maintaining fisheries in special circumstances on a modest scale. But it isn't the answer for walleye fishing statewide.

(Information taken from "Walleye: Minnesota's Fish" pamphlet, DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife)



CATCHING HOT WEATHER CRAPPIES

Dawn, dusk and "cabbage" are tips Wayne Eller, a DNR conservation officer, offers to those who want to catch crappies in midsummer. According to Eller, the bigger fish are caught in the early morning and in the evening. He likes to fish near patches of Richardson's or curly-leaf pondweed, two aquatic plants that anglers commonly call "cabbage". Look for crappies in deep water along the weed edges. If there are bulrushes along the shoreline, it's even better.

From June through early September, anglers should look for crappies at 17 feet in clear lakes and move deeper until they find a school. In dark water lakes try about 14 feet. At sunrise and sunset, crappies in all lakes move to shallower water. He suggests using a 1/32 ounce pink leadhead jig with a yellow marabou or plastic twister tie

to a 4 pound test line. Eller also has good luck using white jigs.

Crappies will suspend in the water column. They look upward, and will rise several feet to strike a lure. If drifting, let your boat drift through a promising area and drop a hook baited with a minnow over the side. When you find a school of active crappies, anchor and start fishing in earnest.

(Information from Fish and Wildlife Today, DNR)



Don't Be Caught Without Your PFD

EXOTICS CONTROL REPORT GOOD NEWS

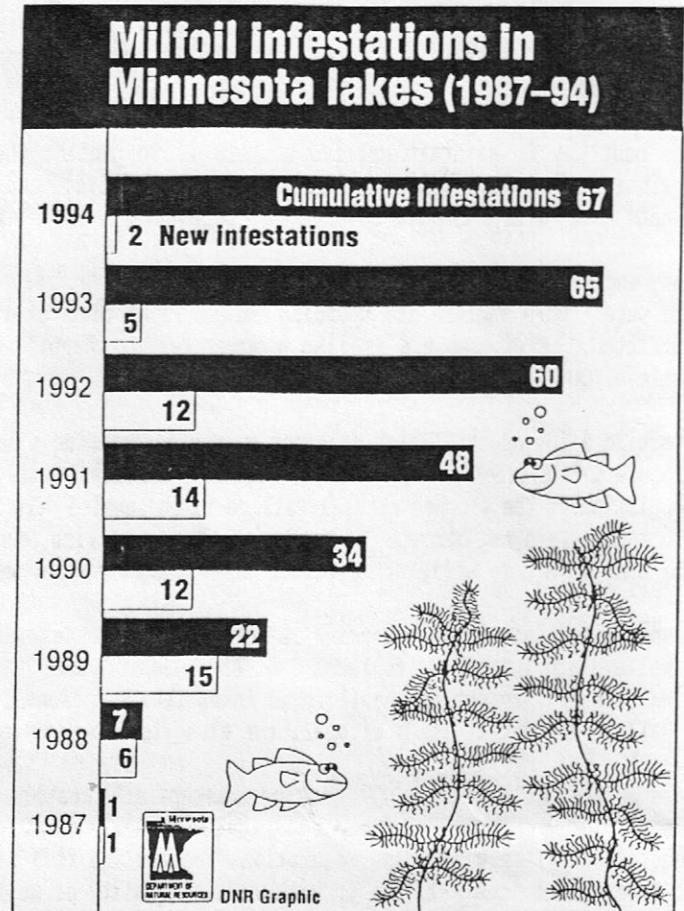
Minnesota's most infamous exotic plant was well contained in 1994. The spread of Eurasian watermilfoil declined for the fourth straight year with only two confirmed new infestations reported in 1994. This is the lowest rate of milfoil spread since it was first discovered in Minnesota in 1987.

In addition, no spread of the European ruffe or zebra mussel to inland lakes was discovered. The ruffe, which was originally discovered in the Duluth/Superior harbors is, however, spreading in Lake Superior.

The public access inspection efforts and intensified enforcement programs, as well as cooperation by Minnesota boaters, have combined to help curtail the spread of these exotics.

However, the spread of zebra mussels continue to increase in the Mississippi River and may move into the lower St. Croix River. Because these mussels are so prolific, enormous populations can build up quickly and upset the natural ecosystem of a lake or river, and harm industrial water users.

(Information from Focus 10,000, April, 1995)



WILDFLOWERS AND NATIVE PLANTS

Planting wildflowers to add color to your lake home? Here are some common questions and answers which may help you.

1) What is the difference between a wildflower and a native plant?

A wildflower is a plant that grows wild without human care. A native plant is one that was here before white settlers.

2) Are native plants easy to grow?

It depends on the plant. The brown-eyed susan and purple coneflower are easy to grow in a wide range of conditions. The orchid, however, needs very special conditions.

3) Can I plant native species and just leave them alone with no maintenance?

Like any plant in your landscape, natives require care, including management of insect pests and diseases. You can have a low-maintenance garden of natives but remember no planned landscape can keep its original good looks without your care.

4) Can you transplant native plants from the wild?

Any plant on the endangered or threatened species list may not, by law, be dug from the wild without a special permit. This list includes all orchids, trilliums, gentians, and lilies as well as lotus and trailing arbutus. Generally, native plants do not transplant well. Your best buy is to buy nursery stock or plant seed.

5) Are native plants better for the environment than other plants?

No plant is better than another - it all depends on the way you plan to use it. Natives give a natural, regional look to your home. However, they are not automatically more disease resistant, drought tolerant, hardier, or easier to grow. If they were, all our weeds would be natives!

(More information can be obtained from the Minnesota Extension Service publications available through your local extension office; call 612-625-2787 for county phone numbers.)

MEMBERS ASK

We would like to reply to some of our members questions and concerns stated on their returned membership forms:

1) We would like more specific information on how the association envisions the use of the funds being set aside for the noxious plant control?

In case milfoil or other noxious plant should be found in Lake Washburn, we would use this money to hire a company that specializes in removal of such plants to clean up our lake. Bay Lake, for example, found milfoil, hired a company immediately, and now has this problem under control.

2) What has happened to the land owned by the association?

The land was sold and has since been donated to the State of Minnesota. For further information, contact Jan Hron, 218-792-5517.

3) Aside from general activities to improve habitat, is the association currently involved in more specific activities, such as fish stocking?

The DNR stocks our lake yearly, as noted in the January newsletter. If we were to stock anything as an association, the amount we stock would be taken away from the amount the DNR stocks, making the result the same. This is an area we continue to pursue with the DNR.

4) If there is any change in Peninsula Road we would want to be notified.

The Association Board tries to keep in contact with the County and Township offices so that we can let you know of any changes being planned. With two news letters a year, a lot of information has to be passed "word of mouth". It is important that members let us know if they hear of anything they feel the association should be aware of.

5) Could you explain how to use (read) the buoys. Are you to go left, right, can you go in-between them?

The buoys on Lake Washburn are danger buoys only. They mark areas where boats should be very careful as rock exists very close to the water surface or the water is very shallow. You may go on either side of them but the preferred way is toward the lake, not the shore side. Buoys located close together or in a triangle mark an area where you should NOT go in-between them.

6) Due to snowmobiling, our private property has had destruction to new seedlings. We have planted over 5000 new seedlings the past 3 years. Snowmobilers ignore the no trespassing signs and kill the trees.

We don't like to think that Lake Washburn residents would purposely destroy private property. However, we know that snowmobilers come from all areas. It appears that education would be the key. In the meantime, anyone observing snowmobilers on posted property should try to obtain identification and/or contact the sheriff's office.

7) The East Lake rice bed was noted in the last newsletter. Please explain the reasons for the buoys in that area.

The buoys south of the East narrows are to keep boats from cutting across and damaging the rice bed. The rice bed improved last year, but needs our awareness to continue improving.

8) I am so pleased to learn that the Association is setting aside money to be used for ecological reasons and not using it in a frivolous manner.

We are pleased that you approve of our investing in the future of Lake Washburn by allotting money to combat exotics, noxious plants, etc. Please let us know of other projects you think may be of interest to the association.

9) What happened to the possibility of a directory of Lake Washburn property owners?

Of those who responded, there were fewer than 35% who were in favor of such a directory. In order for the directory to be cost efficient it would take at least 50% participation.

If you have questions or concerns you would like to see addressed in the newsletter, please let us know. We can't promise to answer all, but we will do our best to direct you to an answer if possible.

FIRE NUMBERS

Be sure you know your fire number! It is must for emergency needs. The Association has purchased a fire number listing from the township with the current assigned numbers and owners names. Please check the book at one of our meetings or contact John Houston if you wish to verify your number.



POISON IVY AND ITS CONTROL

Poison ivy is a woody perennial shrub or vine that spreads by underground runners and by seeds. It grows in all types of soil and under all conditions of sun and shade. Contact with poison ivy can cause a variety of medical problems -- rash, breathing problems, temperature, etc. Spring is the time to control it.

It can be distinguished from other plants by its leaves which are always divided into three leaflets. It is these which are referred to in the old warning "Leaves of three, let it be." These leaves alternate at the stem, each leaflet is oval-shaped pointed at the tip and tapered at the base. The middle leaf has a longer leaf stem than the two side ones. The leaves' surfaces may be smooth or hairy, glossy or dull. They vary in color from yellowish-green and green to reddish-green. Poison-ivy fruits, which develop in the fall, are small white berries with sunken ribs.

The best control is with a herbicide containing triclopyr, a woody brush killer. It should be applied directly to the leaves of the poison ivy, not soaked into the ground. Apply the herbicide when the poison ivy is growing actively. Temperatures should be in the 60-85 degree range. Avoid windy days when droplets might drift onto foliage of nearby trees, shrubbery or garden plants. You may have to spray more than once as it is a tough plant to kill. Wait two weeks between applications. Some resprouting may occur several months later. Watch the area carefully for at least a year and repeat treatment as needed. Be very careful cutting down poison ivy. All of the parts of the plant are poisonous. Note too, that even the dead plants are poisonous. **NEVER BURN POISON IVY!!** Smoke and ash can carry toxins to the skin causing a rash. Inhaling the smoke can be worse.

Poison ivy may seem difficult to eliminate from your property, but you can do it with consistent, careful and conscientious effort.

BEAR FACTS!

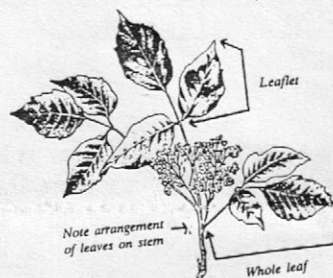
Last summer several bear incidents were reported around the lake (trashed bird feeders, scattered garbage, invaded porches, etc.). Here are some pointers on how to minimize bear problems:

- ◆ Keep garbage inside until pickup day
- ◆ Store barbecue grills indoors when not in use or clean thoroughly after each use.
- ◆ Keep all pet food inside
- ◆ Avoid using bird feeders during spring and summer, or, alternatively, post them out of reach of bears (at least 10 feet off the ground and 6 feet from trees or poles)

If you encounter a bear, don't panic, don't approach or try to shoot it. Be sure to leave the bear an escape route and keep people and pets away from the area. Go inside until the bear leaves (which it usually will do on its own if no food sources are present.)

If you have persistent bear problems, even after food sources are cleaned up, contact your area DNR office or conservation officer for assistance.

(Information from Ten Mile Lake Association Newsletter & Kent Solberg, Wildlife Damage Extension Specialist, Brainerd, MN)



POISON IVY

SKUNKS

So you have a black and white visitor to your lakeshore property? Some facts to remember:

- ◆ They are beneficial to people as they eat insect and rodent materials.
- ◆ They are a major carrier of rabies in the Upper Midwest.
- ◆ Skunks can be captured in live traps baited with pet food, sardines, or bread crust spread with peanut butter. Drape a section of old canvas over the trap before transporting.
- ◆ Clothing sprayed by a skunk can be treated to remove a PORTION of the odor. Materials which will not stain should be soaked in tomato juice, vinegar or lemon juice and rinsed with cold water.
- ◆ On pets and human hair, a light application of vanilla extract following a wash in tomato juice, vinegar or lemon juice, may aid in temporarily masking residual odor.
- ◆ Odors which have pervaded rooms or buildings may be masked with Neutroleum Alpha, available both in concentrated or water soluble form from pest control firms or restaurant supply houses.

(Information from Agricultural Extension Service, University of Minnesota)

WETLANDS OVERVIEW

Minnesota currently has no overall plan for protecting, restoring, and managing wetlands, but development of a wetlands plan has been ongoing since 1993. This plan will be a comprehensive plan that can help guide people who make decisions affecting wetlands through the jungle of often conflicting wetlands definitions, regulations, procedures and policies.

A wetlands plan is likely to contain several elements, including such possibilities as:

1) Comprehensive, statewide wetlands goals and policies that coordinate the efforts of all state and federal agencies (currently 6) with regulatory and programmatic responsibilities for wetlands in Minnesota;

2) Regionalized goals and strategies for mitigation, restoration, etc., based on appropriate ecological, geographic and economic distinctions;

3) Model local wetlands plan or ordinance providing assistance for local adaptation and implementation of statewide and regionalized wetlands goals, policies and strategies;

4) Operational action plans for participating or affected agencies

5) Monitoring and evaluation process for plan implementation;

6) Education modules for plan implementation, such as user training and public education strategies.

Twenty resource groups around the state with 260 people participated in small group discussions this past year. A report is being prepared to describe the issues identified by the resource groups. This briefing report will focus on the scope and direction of issues to be addressed by Minnesota's wetlands conservation plan and should be available by mid-1995

It is planned that a detailed implementation blueprint will be completed by mid-1997.

(Information from Focus 10,000, April, 1995 & Fish & Wildlife Today, Summer, 1994)

LAKE WASHBURN ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

NAME: _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

LAKE ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____ FIRE NUMBER: _____

PHONE: _____

ROAD LOCATION (Please CHECK the road you reside on. If your road is not listed please write it in.)

Bear Paw Road Eastburn Road Lake George Road Longwood Point Plummer's Point Hwy 6 Other
 Birch Bay Road Fehr's Road Lois Lane Peninsula Road West Wasburn Road Hwy 48

I am interested in participating as marked:

Director Position Officer Position Natural Resources Water Quality Zoning/Planning Membership
 Highway Cleanup Boat Monitoring Buoy Markers Nominating Committee Auditing Committee Finance

1995 MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$10.00 NEW: _____ RENEWAL: _____

COMMENTS:

MAIL TO LAKE WASHBURN ASSOCIATION, BOX 26, OUTING, MN 56662

DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY 20, 1995	8:00 AM	DIRECTOR'S MEETING	TOWN HALL, OUTING
MAY 27, 1995	9:00 AM	HIGHWAY CLEANUP	MEET AT CAMPGROUND
MAY 27-29, 1995	ALL DAY	BOAT MONITORING	BOAT RAMP AT CAMPGROUND
JUNE 10, 1995	8:00 AM	DIRECTOR'S MEETING	TOWN HALL, OUTING
	9:00 AM	GENERAL MEETING	TOWN HALL, OUTING
JULY 1, 1995	9:00 AM	HIGHWAY CLEANUP	MEET AT CAMPGROUND
JULY 1-4, 1995 (TENTATIVE)	ALL DAY	BOAT MONITORING	BOAT RAMP AT CAMPGROUND
JULY 15, 1995	8:00 AM	DIRECTOR'S MEETING	TOWN HALL, OUTING
AUGUST 12, 1995	8:00 AM	DIRECTOR'S MEETING	TOWN HALL, OUTING
	6:00 PM	SPAGHETTI SUPPER	TOWN HALL, OUTING
	7:15 PM	GENERAL MEETING	TOWN HALL, OUTING
SEPTEMBER 23, 1995 (TENTATIVE)	8:00 AM	DIRECTOR'S MEETING	TOWN HALL, OUTING

WANTED!!

We would like to have some pictures in our newsletter. Do you have a picture you would like to share....it could be of a big fish or a special view. We are also looking for some stories about the "good old days" at Lake Washburn, or why you decided that Lake Washburn was the "up north" place for you. If you have a story you think would be of interest, please send it to Lake Washburn Newsletter, Lake Washburn Association, Box 26, Outing, MN 56662.

BURNING BRUSH?

You must obtain a burning permit before doing any burning outside of a burn barrel in Minnesota. Permits are available from fire wardens located throughout the state.

In our area contact:

---Howard/Barb Dutton
218-792-5473

---Jerry/Terry Anderson
218-792-5381

---Del/Beatrice Rocheleau
218-792-5196

---Lyle/Beverly Gaines
218-792-5160

LAKE WASHBURN ASSOCIATION
BOX 26, OUTING, MN 56662

