

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



ELRA Newsletter

Summer 20

ELRA Annual Meeting

The Annual ELRA annual meeting will be held on **Saturday, July 28, 2018** at the Emily City Hall starting with an **8:30 a.m.** social period with the business meeting beginning at **9:00 a.m.** Light refreshments will be provided. Your lake association needs your participation to be effective.

Our guest speaker this year is Bethany Bethke. She is a fisheries research biologist for the MN DNR working out of the Duluth - French River office. She graduated from North Carolina State University with a M.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Science and a B.S. at South Dakota State University. She also works with the MAISRC on research projects related to AIS and sport fish.

A "silent auction" is also planned. Bring items to donate for sale or come to bid! Proceeds go towards EWM control.

Business Meeting Agenda items include:

- Eurasian water milfoil control strategies
- Fish Stocking report
- Zebra Mussel Report
- 2019 Budget
- Board elections - **Three** Director positions are open this year

All members are eligible to vote (one vote per property) and present actions for consideration. **Plan to attend now!**

ELRA Board Position Opportunities!

At this year's annual meeting three Board of Director positions will need to be filled. Current board members Doug Tarasar, Kristi McLain and Mark Drewitz will be retiring from their positions. They have served on your lake board many years and **we thank them** for their service!

President's Notes

Challenges

ELRA continues with the control program for Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). Thus far, our efforts appear to be working in Emily. However, more EWM was evident this year in M which will require treatment.

Other Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) remain a concern with zebra mussels, starry stonewort and curly leaf pondweed being found in other lakes. All those who enjoy our lake and river need to be vigilant in ensuring that transport and introduction to our waters is not taking place. Ensure you are following the decontamination and prevention processes. Learn how to identify AIS species in case you notice a suspicious looking plant. The links below give good information on these issues:

[EWM Identification](#)
[Curly Leaf Pondweed](#)
[Starry Stonewort](#)

What should you do if you find something? Per the MN DNR "If you think you have discovered an invasive species that has not already been confirmed in your lake, [contact your a DNR aquatic invasive species specialist.](#)" Please cc ELRA at elra@emilylakes.org on any suspected find.

Members Response

With the concerns facing our waters due to EWM and the need for control, at last year's annual meeting the decision was made to increase membership dues to \$50. The concern was always that when dues are increased member numbers decrease. However, it has been especially gratifying to see how our members have responded as ELRA has seen a membership increase greater than 20% membership increase! Each member helps to meet the ongoing needs of our waters as well as

Board Members Deb Hansen and Russ Boverhuis, who both joined the Board after being elected last year share their experiences and observations on ELRA and serving as a Board Member.

Deb Hansen

"My husband and I have been coming to Emily for approximately 25 years, and prior to that my in-laws had a place at the Emily campground, in fact, we bought their little trailer from them, and that's how we got our start in Emily. Bill and I have always cherished our time in Emily, whether it was camping in a teeny, tiny trailer, to a travel trailer to the cabin that we built on Lake Mary.

The lake and its resources were why we're here, there was a time, when Bill would catch his limit of walleyes, sadly that isn't the case anymore, we would like to restore our lakes to its one time greatness, even if we can't catch our limit, a walleye on the line is a lot of fun!

We also want to protect these waters not only for ourselves, but for our children and grandchildren and for all future generations, but it does take time and commitment, this is the reason I've become a board member, plus it's a great way to meet your neighbors, and it's a fun group of people!"

Russ Boverhuis

"My wife and I have been members of ELRA for years. I had never given much thought about being on the board because I ASSUMED there would always be someone there to fill the board spots. Last year I heard ELRA needed board members so I volunteered to fill one of the spots; a decision I have not regretted. Since joining the board I had a chance to REALLY meet the people working for all the ELRA members and discovered what ELRA does for all us. I found good people on the board from Emily and other areas of the state and learned firsthand what the board oversees - milfoil control, boat inspections, water testing, education, fishing stocking. Being on the board also gave me the opportunity to learn what other associations are doing by attending a few meetings and meeting other people from nearby lake associations. For me, being on the board has been a great experience."

Contact the Board at elra@emilylakes.org to obtain more information or volunteer your name for placement on this year's ballot.

Eurasian Water Milfoil Update

ELRA engaged the services of PLM for treatment of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) again in 2018. Surveys were completed of both Emily and Mary (see maps posted on ELRA web site).

No areas were found requiring treatment on Emily. However, the ELRA Board plans to proceed with caution and will be checking within 30 days to see if EWM has re-appeared and may just have not been visible yet due to this year's growing and weather conditions. EWM control requires a long-term continuous commitment.

position us for future challenges. Additionally many members submitted additional donations to help meet the threat.

Recruiting of members continues so it is not too late for you to join. You may pay via the web site (with an additional processing fee) or send your check for \$50.00 (or more) to ELRA, P. O. Box 111, Emily, MN 56447.

Boat Parade - July 7 at 1:00 p.m.



This year's boat parade will be on Saturday, July 7, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Decorate your watercraft in the finest red, white, and blue and join us for a fun day on the lakes. If you are unable to participate in the parade, please cheer from the shore.

Watercraft in the parade will assemble near the Little Pine River entrance in Mary. The lead boat will be piloted by ELRA Board member Wayne Gapseiwicz. His pontoon will be displaying a sign for ELRA (Emily Lakes and Rivers Association).

The parade will circle Mary Lake, cruise through the river, and then circle Emily Lake. Join us for this fun event!

You're Invited.....

Wayne and Nancy Gapseiwicz invite all ELRA members and guests as well as Boat Parade participants for a post-parade gathering!

Please join your ELRA friends for hot dogs and lemonade from 2:00 p.m. till 3:30 p.m. after our boat parade at the **Pine Resort** on the west side of Lake Emily. Feel free to use any of the open docks.

If lemonade isn't your drink then B Y O B.

Zebra Mussel Inspections

ELRA participates with Crow Wing County for the testing of veligers (larvae form of the zebra mussel). **Doug Tarasar** takes samples which are tested to determine if the veligers are present. This is an "early warning system" for the presence of zebra mussels. The Crow Wing County AIS program pays for the test. Thus far no veligers have been detected.



Remember to check your docks, boats, lifts, etc. for any presence of zebra mussels. Should you find any report to the Minnesota DNR at (218-203-4354) and to ELRA at elra@emilylakes.org.

8.8 acres of treatment area was proposed by PLM on Mary. This is an increase from last year's level. The Board has given PLM the go-ahead to treat the areas as shown on the map posted on ELRA's web site.

How's fishing?



These pictures (courtesy of Lake Emily Resort) would indicate fishing is good!

Both of these trophy fish were released back into the water.



This n That

The top of the newsletter picture is courtesy of John McConnell showing a scene over Mary Lake one Saturday.

A reminder to make sure your friends and guests can find you as well as emergency personnel. Make sure your address sign is visible! Foliage grows fast!

Be alert to and remind guests of the no-wake areas

Observe safe speeds this busy holiday

Have a great rest of your summer!

Newsletter Copy

You can download a copy of this newsletter in a PDF format from the ELRA web site at www.emilylakes.org.

Emily Lakes And River Association, PO Box 111, Emily, MN 56447

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by elra@emilylakes.org

