



MANITOWOC COUNTY LAKES ASSOCIATION

“The Manitowoc County Lakes Association will protect and enhance the quality of area lakes and watersheds for the benefit of all.”

General Membership Meeting

4-23-26 6:30 pm

Room 300, Soil & Water Conservation Building
4219 Expo Drive, Manitowoc, WI 54245

MEETING MINUTES:

- Called to order by Jerry Corfman, President.

Amy Lentz, Executive Director of the Lakeshore Natural Resources Partnership (LNRP)

- LNRP works in an area from Port Washington north through Door County and east of Lake Winnebago.
- They help improve water quality.
- LNRP is currently looking for a Restoration Manager.
- LNRP was founded in 2003 as a grant distributor and has transitioned from there.
- In 2021 they launched endowment fund.
- LNRP has 2 focus areas. 1 Partner Groups and 2 Restoration Projects.
- There are currently 15 Partner Groups. They help with programming support, fiscal management and strategic planner. Friends of Stony Brook, Friends of Manitowoc River Watershed, Friends of Twin Rivers and Friends of Hika Bay are some of the Partner Groups.
- Restoration Projects focus on coastal resiliency (climate change long term), TMDL (nutrients reduction), and Restore the Shore (enhance lake shore habitat). A couple of local projects are Valley Creek in Port Washington—it is a coastal resiliency project—and Stony Brook in Chilton. They are working on restoring native trout and improving water quality. And a Carstens Lake nutrient reduction project.
- Carstens Lake is a research and development project. The Poseidon pellets will be placed within weeks. They are 15 pounds each. Amy should be able to get MCLA the baseline data for the project.
- A copy of the presentation is on the MCLA website.

Maria Lynch, MCLA Vice President, report on recent Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention

- They have a good website. witwaterweek@wisconsinlakes.org
- The conference centered around shoreline of which 30% should be native.
- Proper shoreline can improve oxygen.
- Restoration could be better than original.
- Oneida County has 85% top quality watershed.

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2025-2026 Officers:

President: Jerry Corfman

Vice President: Maria Lynch

Treasurer: Marcia Salm

Secretary: Scott Umland

Press Sec: Roger Vander Logt

Past President:

Tom Ward

Lake Directors

Bullhead Lake

Ron Gerrits

Carstens Lake

Brian Robley

Cedar Lake

Mary Ann Waldbauer

Mike Strebe

English Lake

Kim Braun

Gass Lake

Richard Blashka

Harpt and Tuma Lakes

Dan Dufek

Hartlaub Lake

Gene Weyer

Horseshoe Lake

Matt Piper

Lake Michigan

John S. Durbrow

Long Lake

Chuck Kiehn

Pigeon Lake

Randy Steinbruecker

Silver Lake

Brett Hubbart

Spring Lake

vacant

Wilke Lake

Fred Ruszkiewicz

General Business Meeting

- **Secretary's Report:** Reading of the last meeting minutes waived. They are on the MCLA website. Motion to accept by Roger Vander Logt, 2nd Gene Weyer and carried.

- **Treasurer's Report:**

\$11,165.17 balance in general account

\$6,332.96 balance in grant account

Memberships:

Individual and Family Member Units: 60

Lake Associations: 9

Website Ad Sponsors: 2 paid; 2 pay in fall in past years.

Individual Donors: 16

Motion to accept Roger Vander Logt, 2nd Maria Lynch and carried.

- **General discussion:**

- Jerry Corfman was contacted in March of 2024 by Peter Puleo regarding a Gass Lake sedimentation study project by Northwestern University in Illinois. That study was completed in June of 2024 and Peter recently sent Jerry a follow up report email on the findings of the deep and shallow core samples. Peter is still trying to piece together additional information and he is looking for possible history of the area. Our membership suggested contacting the Manitowoc County Historical Society and Rahr Museum. Jerry will pass those suggestions along to Peter.
- Jerry Corfman gave an update of the Silver Lake fish die off. He read parts of the email from Jason and Claire from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. There was strong evidence that Northern Pike, Perch and Crappie survived. They should spawn and start reproducing.
- Jerry Corfman presented Manitowoc County Soil and Water a check for \$1,000 from MCLA as a donation towards the mobile learning lab.
- Please get the articles for the MCLA newsletter together soon.

- **Future meetings:**

6-25-26, 8-27-26, 11-19-26 and 10-17-26 annual banquet at Autumn Ridge Golf Course hosted by Cedar Lake.

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Lake and Other Reports/Open Discussion

- **Bullhead Lake:** No Report
- **Carsten's Lake:** Water is murky and high. The aerator was run for the first time in 4 years. There was no evidence of any fish kill.
- **Cedar Lake:** The bag limit on pan fish is being changed to 10 and the bag limit on northern pike is being change to 2 and northern pike cannot be kept if it is between 25" and 35" long. The water is cloudy with a 10.5 Secchi disk reading. A wake enhancement ordinance was approved by the Township of Schleswig. It will apply to Cedar Lake and Wilke Lake. It was signed and sent to the DNR and County. A sign must be posted before it can be enforced.
- **Cedar Lake/Sanitary District 1, Township of Schleswig:** No Report
- **English Lake:** No Report
- **Gass Lake:** Sedimentation study should not affect the prior diversion project.
- **Harpt Lake:** No Report
- **Hartlaub Lake:** They observed 55 pelican, 2 loons but the migratory ducks seemed to be smaller this year.
- **Horseshoe Lake:** Water is cloudy. There were 15 loons on the lake on the lake last week. The discussion took place on the lake regarding a lake management plan. It may be tabled at this time. Lake is considered a 2-stage fishery and because of this the phosphorus reading should be 15 instead of 30 for other lakes. Their reading is under 20.
- **Kasbaum Lake:** No Report
- **Lake Michigan:** No Report
- **Long Lake:** Water quality appears to be good. The lake experienced plenty of ice fishing and early spring fishing. The northern pike appear to be

very healthy. There was a spring cleanup even on 4-18-26. There is a push to reestablish lake water testing. They had pelicans on the lake and the annual lake association meeting is on 6-27-26.

- **Pigeon Lake:** No Report
 - **Little Pigeon:** No Report
 - **Shoe Lake:** No Report
 - **Silver Lake:** No Report
 - **Spring Lake:** No Report
 - **Sy Lake:** No Report
 - **Tuma Lake:** No Report
 - **Twin Lake:** No Report
 - **Weyers Lake:** No Report
 - **Wilke Lake:** Water is high but it has been higher. There has been some fishing pressure. Water temperature was reported to be 58 degrees.
- **Soil and Water**
They will again be selling pollinator seed packets. If there seems to be enough interest, they hope to put together a shoreline seed packet. There are grants possible for shoreline improvement projects. A presentation was given explaining the mobile learning lab set up, equipment, clean boat clean water, picture of wrap and planning of it and educational information. Water testing quality is completed and should go out shortly.
- **Manitowoc County Fish and Game**
The organization received The Conservation Organization of the Year award. They are among the oldest conservation organizations in the United States. They are having a hasenpfeffer feed on 5-13-26 at Lincoln Park, Cabin 1, in Manitowoc and the public is welcome. MCF&G is holding a hog wild meat raffle on 5-17-26 at Tapped on the Lakeshore from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. They don't expect a fulltime warden until January 2027.

Motion to adjourn made by Roger Vander Logt; 2nd by Chuck Kiehn and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott Umland,
MCLA Secretary