The Koronis Lake Association will be holding our annual picnic at Veterans Park on Saturday, August 22nd from 5-7pm. It’s a great way to meet your neighbors from around the lake. KLA provides the hot dogs and ice cream. We ask that everyone bring a dish to pass. We had a great turnout last year and a lot of good food! Reminders will be going out in August. Make the date on your calendar. We hope to see you there!

Fourth Of July Boat Parade

The boat parade will start at 2 pm. Please register your entry with Koronis Ministries earlier to receive a number. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. You may call 320-243-4544 or e-mail office@koronisministries.com to register.

We are hoping for a great amount of boats to help celebrate the 4th on Saturday. We are so thrilled to be having the fireworks on the 4th this year also. Starting at dusk from 1st Island. Enjoy the wonderful celebration on Lake Koronis. See page 7 for pictures from last year.

KLA Annual Meeting

Our annual KLA meeting will be held at Veterans Park this year. July 11th. Starting with rolls, juice and coffee at 8:30 followed by our meeting with very interesting speakers. We will be nominating and voting for directors at this meeting also. It is so good to see so many wanting to preserve our lake and keep it beautiful for years to come. Hope to see you there. Tell your neighbors!! See Page 5 for the agenda of this year’s meeting.
Thank You For Your Support

“The KLA Board would like to thank the Lake Koronis residents, families, businesses and organizations listed below who contributed to our association for 2015.”

2015 KLA MEMBERSHIPS
Ackerman, Tom & Yancy
Alwin, Jodie
Ampe, Peter & Donna
Anderson, Algerone & Linda
Anderson, Karla
Anderson, Mike & Rita
Anderson, Paul & Julie
Arend, Robert & Sue
Arnold, Art & Teresa
Baker, Merrill & Barbara
Balik, Bill & Janell
Bast, Jeannette
Becker, Tim & Edie
Behrends, Scott & Annette
Benson, Keith & Sarah
Biedewald, Jerry
Blagen, Merrily
Bormann, Gerald & Priscilla
Brock, Steve & Vicki
Brown, Dave & Judy
Brown, Lori & Skip Hagen
Buer, Philip & Romell
Burlingame, Todd & Mary
Burton, Matthew & Amy
Cameron, Dave
Campbell, Jack & Linda
Carr, Mike
Casky, Steve & Heidi & Tom Skotnicki
Christopherson, Vinal & Bev
Clendenen, Charles & Debbi
Condon, Gary & Delores
Dahy, Ralph & Kris
Domeier, Connie
Drimmel, Jim
Dundore, Steven & Jean
Ebnert, Roland & Mary
Edmonson, George & Ann Murray
Ellingson, Alden & Jeanette
Ellis, Jim & Nancy
Elseth, Jim & Lois
Engelmann, Roger & Peggy
Enninga, Daryl & Pamela
Erdmann, Andrew & Vicki
Erdmann, Jeff & Ann
Ernst, Steve
Fangmeier, Harold & Agnus
Farnum, Kevin & Carlyn
Felling, Jim & Becky
Fischback, Scott & Michelle
Freking, Gene & Marge
Fuchs, Rick
Fuchs, Virgil & Jane
Gaspard, Dale & Terri
Gerlach, Pat
Getzel, Joan
Giff, Jim & Tammy
Grages, Don & Mardonna
Grave, Earl & Pat
Grimsgard, Eric & Melissa
Grotto, Von & Kris
Gustafson, Harold & Beverly
Haag, Paul & Sheila
Haagenson, Dean
Haagenson, Steve & Kris
Hahn, Gilbert & Judy
Hammer, Dave & Cheryl
Hammer, David & Kathleen
Handt, Mary
Hansen, Wayne & Pat
Hansen, Calvin & Nancy
Hansen, M.H. & Colleen
Hansen, Steve & Chris
Hedrickson, Dorothy
Heitke, Shari
Hendrickson, Richard & Jean Ann
Hendrickson, Tom
Herfindahl, Grant & Hege
Hess, James & Marjorie
Hess, Roger & Sharon
Hofmann, Jeff & Kathy
Holm, James & Teresa
Hunter, Gerald & Donna
Huselid, Boyd & Kathy
Ingalsbe, Dave & Barb
Jacobson, David & Stacy
Jensen, Barb & Valerie
Johnson, Dick & Carol
Johnson, Russ & Susan
Johnson, Todd & Lois
Johnson, Tom & Kari
Kahle, Warren
Kahle, Wayne & Margaret
Keller, Bill & Diane
Klein, John & Deanna
Kobienia, Brian & Kimberly
Kosel, Gary & Carol
Kramer, Eugene & Carol
Kroells, Jeff & Carleen
Kuera, Brent & Rachel
Langmo, Greg & Karen
Langmo, Keith & Barb
Larson, Howard & Janice
Larson, John & Marcia
Larson, Kirby & Sally
Laubach, Priscilla
Lehman Don & Helen
Lien, Yolanda
Lindblom, Tim & Bev
Lindmeyer, Gary & Jean
Lindquist, Darrel & Jean
Lindseth, Michael & Karlene
Lokkesmo, Brian & Kay
Loepper, Manual & Lil
Lorentzen, Ronald & Patricia
Lura, Paul & Carol
Macon, Marty
Maile, Keith & Sandi
Martinka, Jim & Kris
Masog, Paul & Michelle
Mason, Darrol & Dianne
Mathiowetz, Brian & Ronda
Mathiowetz, Mary Lou
Mayer, Louis & Lillian
Meyer, Dale & Shirley
Meyer, Michael
Milinkovich, Jim
Minar, Gushman
Moldaschel, Charles
Mor, John & Donna
Mueller, Norma
Murphy, Kathy & George Daniels
Naujokas, Otto & Nancy
Nelson, Phyllis
Nonweiller, Gene & Ann
Nugent, Lora Lee
Olmstead, Lee & Melissa
Olmstead, Rich & Kathy
Olson, Jay & Sandy
Olson, Christopher & Kathleen
Opdahl, Clark & Cindy
Osley, David & Karen
Pederson, Bob & Susan
Peterson, Neoma
Peterson, Ron & Rosie
Peterson, Steve & Mary Wilkins
Pietsch, Brandon & Elizabeth
Pietsch, Don & Eileen
Plath, Helen
Putzke, Michael & Susie
Quigley, Tim & Pam
Reinke, Randy
Revier, Charles & Helen
Rittenhouse, Art & Diane
Rome, Dave & Jan
Salz, Gary & Vicky
Sames, Michael & Susan
Scanlon, Leon & Cheryl
Schafer, Randy & Susan
Schmidt, Don & Judy
Schmit, Jim & Lynn
Schmitt Kris & Penny
Schrupp, Timothy & Megan
Schuelke, Harry
Schwarze, Bill & Liz
Sein, Kim & Nancy
Setterberg, Carol
Setterholm, Glen & Carol
Shaw, Tom & Linda
Slack, David & Mary
Solum, Allan & Pat
Sonstegard, Jean
Stanley, Bert & Karen Berg
Strate, David & Betty
Strate, Richard
Sullivan, Steve & Arlene
Thein, Gary & Deborah
Theilen, Harold & Patricia
Thompson, Jay
Thompson, Jim & Rosanne
Thompson, Trent & Judith
Thyen, Wally & Darlene
Tibbits, Jason & Sara
Tollaksen, Allen & LaDonna
Tomasek, Patricia
Topp, Carol
Torborg, Daniel
Torborg, Jim & Vicky
Truwe, Lee
Truwe, Todd & Shelly
Vagle, Virg & Pat
Vandenber, Robert & Bonita
Vanderpool, Elaine
Vermeulen, Anthony & Heather
Warner, Susan
Webb, Ed & Kathy
Weinzetl, James
Welter, Carolyn
Wendroth, Lyle & Cindy
Werlinger, Barb
White, Richard
Wiese, Donald
Wilson, Craig & Linda
Winston, Andrew
Winter, Joseph & Mary
Wurm, Douglas
Zacrep, John & Lori

2014 Businesses/Organizations
A & C Farm Service Inc.
Ark Agency
Bank of the West
Bug-Bee Hive Resort
Central MN Credit Union
Farmers & Merchants State Bank
Haines Electric
James Anderson Insurancy
Koronis Ministries
M & M Lumber
Patrick Flanders Realty
Paynesville Press
Sandy Point Park
Steel Insurance Services
Teal’s Market
Voss Plumbing & Heating
West Central Sanitation

Newsletter Advertisers
Affordable Pumping
Amundson & Johnson – Attorneys at Law
Bugbee Hive Resort
Centex
Centra Care Health – Paynesville
Central Minnesota Insurance
Dea Haagenson – RE/MAX Realty
Eat & Treats
Gabrielson Excavating
Granite Realty
James Street Market
JB Wimmer Landscaping and Garden Center
Jennings Well Drilling Inc
Koronis Ministries
Kraemer Refrigeration Heating & A/C
M & M Lumber
Nathie’s Marine & Sports Center
Patrick Flanders Realty
Paynesville Chevrolet – Buick
Paynesville Community Education
Paynesville Liquor
Paynesville Total Entertainment Center
PJS TV & Appliance
Queen Bee’s Bar & Grill
R & S Excavating
Ron & Judy’s Restaurant
Sellars Heating & Air Conditioning
State Farm Insurance
Torborg Equipment
Voss Plumbing Heating & Air Conditioning
Watkins/Kimball Veterinary Clinics
West Central Sanitation

PAYNESVILLE’S TOTAL ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
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208 West James St. • Paynesville

Check out our Wine Making!!

Tanning Beds & Lotions
Large Selection of Previously Viewed Games & DVDs!
We Have X360, Wii, PS3, Games

HOURS
Mon-Thurs.: 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri. & Sat.: 8:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sun: Noon - 8 p.m.
Koronis Lake Association Financial Summary 2014

Cash and Investments, beginning $56,269

Revenue

Membership Dues $19,310
Fireworks Donations $12,830
AIS Donations $17,610
Interest Income $102
Other $250
Total Revenue $50,102

Expenses

Newsletters, Postage, Printing, etc. $4,162
Meetings – Board etc. $1,269
Office Expense $1,816
Web Site $1,297
Insurance $997
AIS $22,040
Boat Parade $225
Buoy Maintenance $400
Erosion Projects $3,971
Fireworks $6,000
Lake Access Cleanup $102
Lifeguards $2,000
Public Dock $1,500
Second Island Project $5,000
Total Expenses $50,779

Expenses Over Revenue $677

Cash and Investments, ending $55,592

Seeking Board Members

The Koronis Lake Association is seeking nominations for Board positions to fill expiring terms. The nominees for the two year positions are considered and elected at the summer KLA Membership meeting which will be held on Saturday July 11th at Veteran's Park. For more information or to suggest a nomination please contact us at our website email:
koronislakeassoc@gmail.com

Thank you to all our volunteers and supporters past, present and future!

Queen Bee’s Bar Grill
121 W. James St. • Paynesville • 320-243-3975
Hours: Mon–Fri. 9 am– 2 am; Sat. 10 am–2 am • Sun: 11 am - ?
PIZZA PICKUP & DELIVERY
~ Monday Night - All-You-Can-Eat Chicken
~ Tuesday Night - Bingo @ 6:30 p.m.
~ Outside Patio
~ Off-Site Food & Catering available
~ Liquor Catering

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Proud Supporter of the Koronis Lake Association

Dean Haagenson
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dean@deanhaagenson.com
www.deanhaagenson.com

“Beyond Expectations”
**Koronis Lake Association Annual Meeting Minutes**

**July 12, 2014**

Alex Naujokas

Rolls and Coffee were served at 8:30 A.M. at the Community Park.

President Karen Langmo welcomed members to the 43rd KLA annual meeting. There were approximately 54 members present. Guest speakers were Jeff Forester of Minnesota Lakes and River Advocates, Darby Nelson, who is an author and aquatic ecologist, and Pat Meagher, who is a member of the Paynesville Township Board. KLA board members present included Ken Hess, Sue Eyre, Bert Stanley, Shari Heitke, Kevin Farnum, Becky Felling, Diane Rittenhouse, Karen Langmo, Peter Jacobsen and Jim Elseth.

Secretary’s Report: A motion was made by Arlene Sullivan and seconded by Carol Setterberg to approve the July 13, 2013 secretary’s report. The motion was passed.

Treasurer’s Report: A motion made by Tom Hendrickson and seconded by Sue Warner to approve the July 13, 2013 financial report. The motion was passed.

Paynesville Township Report: Pat Meagher, member of the Paynesville Township Board, spoke of the township’s involvement with the KLA. He claimed that there has been no need to spray for army caterpillars around the lake the past 3 summers, as it has not been an issue. The township typically covers 60% of the cost for that project.

Mr. Meagher spoke about Winther Island and the township’s involvement with it. They have been cutting trails on the island, along with spraying the buckthorn. They are attempting to get a new outhouse on the island, but it is not an easy process. They are also looking into having overnight camping, which the county restricts at this point. He also spoke about the potential of Winther Island becoming involved with the Minnesota Land Trust, so that it always remains natural.

Many of the members asked questions and expressed issues that deal with the Paynesville township. Pat answered these questions and addressed the concerns of the members.

...Minutes on page 5
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
KORONIS LAKE ASSOCIATION —
SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2015

8:30 Rolls, Coffee and Registration
9:00 Call to Order – Karen Langmo,
KLA President
9:05 Secretary’s Report
9:15 Paynesville Township Report
9:20 Committee Reports
Community Involvement
– Diane Rittenhouse
Membership – Karen Langmo
AIS Inspection/Education
– Kevin Farnum
Shoreline Restoration and Storm
Water Management Grant
– Bert Stanley/Shari Heitke
Lake Quality Improvement
– Ken Hess/Sue Eyre/Shari Heitke

9:45 Election of four directors
- nominations will be taken for
two new directors;
Ken Hess and Shari Heitke have
agreed to another 3 year term

9:55 North Fork Crow River
Watershed Report – Tara Ostendorf
10:10 presentation of erosion
project – Heidi Caskey
10:20 Nick Brown – DNR Aquatic
Invasive Species Specialist, South-
ern Region – regulations and
benefits of Aquatic Plants
11:00 Questions/Comments/
Meeting Adjourned

July 2015  KLA Newsletter Page 5

Community Involvement: Diane
reported that the fireworks that
were shown over the lake on July
5, 2014 were a success. She spoke
about the KLA potluck picnic that
is to take place on August 23, 2014
from 5-7 P.M. at Veteran’s Park. This
goal of this event is to help those
who use and enjoy the lake to get
to know each other. Overall, Dianne
spoke about how the KLA is involved
in the community.

Membership: Karen spoke about
the number of members that are in-
volved with the KLA. She has been
researching ways to recruit more
members. She claimed that 37%
of people around the lake are mem-
ers. The KLA would like to see this
number increase. There are 229
regular members and 18 businesses
that are members.

Kevin reported that we are still at
risk as the hours of inspection still
didn’t deliver inspection 24 hours
a day, but that we were doing the
best that we can with our resources
and we found that 1% of the boats
inspected were in violation of the
law and still had their plugs in place.
This is lower than what DNR has
been finding as they just issued a
report stating that they were finding
26% in violation. Also ¼ boats
had not been out of the water even
5 days, but zebra mussels need 21
days. DNR says 5 days is sufficient
but their data for this is not substan-
tiated.

For the Year 2014 the program is
completely managed by NFCRWD.
(Thanks)

We anticipate 3900 hours of in-
spection across the watershed, with
more launch’s inspected. We have

...Minutes on page 6
budgeted $43,000. The donor list is the same as last year. This year KLA and the watershed both received grants from the DNR, but the amount was roughly the same as the total last year. The high water this year, although not good for runoff into the lake, has slowed down transient boat traffic and we suspect helped to reduce our risk from this our major source of risk.

Kevin thanked the members of KLA for allowing us to do our best. He requested that they talk about AIS to their neighbors and make believers out of others. Read-up on issue.

Kevin reported that Stearns COLA also focuses on AIS. County will be now taking some actions with the money they will be receiving from the state. He said he needs all of us to talk to our county reps to be sure they see the importance of stopping AIS from spreading.

Shoreline Restoration and Stormwater Management Grant: SHE is working on organizing a project for lakeshore restoration and management that extends from Stone Gate Lodge to Koronis Ministries. This project aims to prevent erosion issues with stormwater runoff. The projects will take place in this area because it has the most impervious land on Lake Koronis. There is a meeting on August 8, 2014 at Ron and Judy's about the project.

Lake Quality Improvement: Ken has been working to contact landowners on the North Fork of the Crow river to Grove Lake. He would like to see wetland restoration projects to take place on these sites along the crow. This is because 93% of the phosphorus entering Lake Koronis comes from here. These projects would slow down the water and allow the phosphorus to settle and not go down the river. There are lots of potential projects on County Road 19, which runs from Lake Henry to Belgrade.

Ponds could be used as great location for waterfowl habitat.

Elections: The motion was made by Peter Jacobsen and seconded by Ken Hess to accept Jim Elseth, Karen Langmo, and Kevin Farnum to serve a 3 year term on the KLA board. The motion passed.

Speaker Jeff Forester: Jeff Forester is the executive director of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates. He spoke about the organization, as well as MN-COLA. He believes it is possible for us to be successful in terms of avoiding AIS and cleaning up our lakes. He stated that the best possibility for making change is to organize with other people to pass legislative laws regarding lake conservation.

Speaker Darby Nelson: Darby Nelson is an aquatic ecologist and author who wrote “For the Love of Lakes.” He actually participated in a tulibee study on Lake Koronis in the past. He spoke about the main factors that lead to water degradation. He believes that the relationship between people and lakes is different than relationships humans have with other natural earth landforms. It is difficult for humans to understand lakes because we do not see what is underneath, which is why we participate in their deterioration. He claimed that the most significant stressors of lakes is poor habitat conditions, phosphorus, AIS, and habitat complexity.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 P.M.

Signed, Alex Naujokas
Executive Secretary
Lake Koronis Subwatershed Protection Project Update

By Shari Heitke

Lake Koronis Subwatershed Protection Project per April Ryan is moving forward nicely. They have a number of great projects that they currently are working on. They include rainwater gardens, shoreline stabilization, and native buffer projects among others. SEH has completed the collection survey and soil information and have started specific designs at each project location. The next step is to meet with individual property owners to review the specific designs and obtain input. The tentative schedule for completion of the project is outlined below:

- **Finalize Designs**
  - End of June 2015
- **Obtain Construction Bids**
  - July 2015
- **Select Project & Award Contract**
  - July 2015
- **Construction**
  - July-October
- **Finalize Construction**
  - Spring 2016
Caskey Shoreline/Bank Stabilization Project

By Karen Langmo

Last Fall Steve & Heidi Caskey, Heidi’s brother Tom Skotnicki, along with Meeker County Soil and Water, Backyard Reflections, KLA and the North Fork Crow River Watershed District collaborated to participate with the repair of an eroded bank/gully on their property. Significant erosion had occurred over the years due to run-off. The KLA Board participated through partial funding with the project. One of the missions of KLA is to help our members with these kinds of projects. As you can see with the before and after pictures it was a success. Heidi will be presenting this project at our annual meeting.
Summer is finally here! Warm temperatures are becoming the norm and the Walleye’s are biting on Lake Koronis. Below are some highlights of a few upcoming events and updates on projects.

1. Annual Meeting – The KLA Annual Meeting is set for July 11th at 9:00 am, at the Veterans Park Shelter. The location is different from last year, so please take note of it. Veterans Park is located on the North side of the lake. The agenda for the meeting is enclosed along with the 2014 Financial Summary. Please review at your convenience. We will be having reports from our KLA Board committees, Paynesville Township and the North Fork Crow River Watershed District. There will also be two presentations. Heidi Caskey, a long time lake resident will present their bank/gully shoreline stabilization project. Caskey’s have been experiencing rapid run-off and significant erosion problems on their bank. KLA is very supportive of members regarding these types of projects and thought that presenting a recent project to our members would be informative. The second speaker will be Nick Brown from the DNR. Nick is the Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist for the Southern Region. As weeds have become more of an issue in the last few years, members, residents, and the KLA Board need to be informed of what can and can’t be done. Nick will be speaking to most of the regulations and benefits of aquatic plants in general. We hope to see as many as possible there.

2. Board Members – the KLA Board is now in need of two new members. Bert Stanley and Diane Rittenhouse are stepping down. They both have been members for many years and have contributed significantly. I would like to thank them for their service, they will be missed. The new terms will start after the annual meeting and are 3 years in length. Nominations will be taken formally at the annual meeting. If you are interested please feel free to contact me at karenlangmo@msn.com.

3. Membership/Dues – I am pleased to report that our response this year has been good. As of June 10th, we have had a 33% response. Thanks to you all. The board target is still a 40-50% participation rate. If you have not paid your dues we encourage you to do so. Membership forms can be downloaded from our website. We will also have forms at the annual meeting. The 2015 Membership Stickers will be mailed this month to all current 2015 members. Please read the articles in this issue to stay informed and up-to date on our events. Enjoy the summer and remember there is no place like Lake Koronis!
Water quality is primarily dependent on what happens on the land around the lake or along a river and within its watershed, the area of land that drains to a particular waterbody. It's the runoff from the land, and the pollution that is carried with it, that can determine the quality of the water. A healthy lake depends on a healthy watershed. A healthy lake doesn't just happen. It comes about when shoreline property owners and others living in the watershed take steps to insure the lake's health. Each lake has its own watershed or land that directly influences what comes into the lake. Each lake watershed is part of a larger watershed that influences water quality. Stearns County is covered by all or portions of four watershed districts (WD) which have some land use authority over development. These include: Clearwater River, North Fork Crow River, Sauk River, and Middle Fork Crow River.

While the land activity in the watershed contributes pollution to the lake, the shoreland zone is the lake's first line of defense. What you and your neighbors do—or don't do—on your shoreland property can have a significant impact on the quality of the lake. Managing water quality means appropriately managing the land use around the lake to reduce the amount of pollution that enters the lake. When you own shoreland you do have certain rights and privileges, such as the right to put out a dock to a navigable depth; to fish, boat, hunt, and swim; and to use the water for domestic purposes. But, these rights must be exercised in compliance with the rules of Stearns County, the watershed district, and the State of Minnesota. These rules are in place for the benefit of your health and safety and the health of the adjacent lake or stream. Along with those rights also comes the responsibility to protect, improve, and enhance the quality of the water for your enjoyment and that of future generations, keeping in mind that the water itself is a public resource for everyone to enjoy. That's called stewardship: the individual responsibility to manage one's life and property with regard for the rights of others. The lake is a living ecosystem and part of the larger ecosystem of all living plants and animals to which we also belong.

“...we must never forget that the land and the water are ours for the moment only, that generations will follow who must themselves live from the land and drink that water. It would not be enough to just leave something for them, we must also leave it a little better than we found it.”
— L. L’Amour

Modified for Stearns County from The Becker County Shoreland Guide to Lake Stewardship which was a collaborative project of the Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA), Becker County Planning & Zoning, Becker County Environmental Services, and the Pelican River Watershed District.

Curb Pollution: Reduce Phosphorus and Other Pollutants

Nitrogen, potash, and phosphorus are the nutrients necessary for plant growth. Phosphorus is the key nutrient needed for aquatic plant and algae growth. When excessive phosphorus reaches the lake, it fuels the overgrowth of aquatic plants and algae, those microscopic organisms that give water a greenish tinge and can cause blue-green scums along the shore. Excessive plant and algae growth decreases water clarity, interferes with the recreational use of the lake, and diminishes oxygen for fish. It generally causes declining water quality.

Natural rainfall contains high amounts of phosphorus, which we can't control, but we can control our own shoreland practices that can contribute phosphorus to the lake. Excessive phosphorus can get into lakes from shoreland properties in a number of ways, including:

- excessive application to and runoff from lawns;
- decomposition of leaves and other plant material;
- erosion of soil, which has phosphorus particles attached to it;
- improper human and pet waste management, both of which contain high amounts of phosphorus; and
- the use of household products high in phosphorus.

Apply Fertilizer Sparingly. Use Zero-Phosphorus Lawn Fertilizer—It’s the Law in Minnesota

By law since 2005, Minnesota homeowners cannot use fertilizers containing phosphorus, except for exemptions for new lawns or when a soil test indicates a need for phosphorus.

When shopping for fertilizer, buy a brand that has a middle number of zero i.e. 22-0-15. The law did not prohibit retailers from selling phosphorous fertilizers, and even though most retailers are carrying more zero phosphorus fertilizers, it's up to you to make sure you comply with the law. If you have left over...
phosphorus fertilizer; using it on the garden is a good way to dispose of it.

Other herbicide and pesticide precautions to follow:

- Eliminate the use of fertilizers near water or wetlands.
- Before you consider fertilizing your lawn, aerate it first and see if that improves its health.
- Use the minimum amount needed to replenish the soil and apply at the right time of year, usually spring and early fall. Water lightly after fertilizing to ensure absorption by the roots before a heavy rainfall.
- Sweep fertilizer that has spilled on the driveway and other hard surfaces back onto the lawn to prevent runoff.

The shoreland zone where you live is the lake’s first line of defense against unwanted pollution.

Use Herbicides and Pesticides Sparingly, or Not at All

- Keep lawn healthy to avoid the need for herbicide applications.
- When necessary, use the least toxic and most degradable herbicide and follow directions carefully.
- Use corn gluten meal, a byproduct of the corn milling process, as a natural pre-emergent herbicide that stops the root growth of germinating plants. If you can’t find it in major retail stores, ask them to carry it.
- Remove dandelions and other unwanted plants from your lawn using hand-tools instead of chemical applications. If you feel you must use a herbicide for control, do not apply it to the whole lawn. Instead, use an applicator which allows you to direct a small spray towards each unwanted plant.
- Identify the pest and learn about the best way to control it; there are many methods of control other than pesticides. See Integrated Pest Management resources.
- When you use pesticides outside your house, on the lawn and in the garden, use them according to the instructions on the label to prevent spillage on the ground, where watering or rain can percolate it into the groundwater or wash it into the lake with runoff.

Do Not Dump Yard Waste

Grass clipping, leaves, and aquatic plant material that wash up on shore all contain phosphorus, which is released when the plant material decomposes. To prevent phosphorus from getting into the lake:

- Use a mulching lawn mower and leave grass clippings on the lawn as natural fertilizer.
- Collect and compost leaves and clippings, or haul them away from...
Healthy Lakes from page 11
the lake to a disposal site.

- Rake up aquatic plants, leaves, and other organic matter on the shore and dispose of away from the lake. Hint: It makes great mulch on the garden which can later be worked in as a soil amendment.
- Do not burn leaves near the lake; it destroys the organic matter releasing the phosphorus, which could then be washed into the lake.

Locate Fire Pits Away from the Shore and Dispose of Ash
The leftover ash from burning wood is very high in phosphorus. If the fire pit is located near the lake, rain can wash the ashes into the lake.

- Locate the fire pit at least 50 feet away from the lake; and,
- Remove ashes from the fire pit to prevent the phosphorus-loaded ashes from being blown or washed into the lake.

Pick Up Pet Waste
Improper disposal of pet waste not only jeopardizes water quality, but your health as well. Pet waste contains phosphorus and may contain disease causing organisms, which, if washed into the water, can make it unsafe for swimming.

- Pick up pet waste in the yard or near the shore and dispose of it properly.

Practice Low-Impact Boating
To reduce the pollution impact of motorized watercraft on the lake:

- When fueling the boat, take precautions not to overfill the fuel tank. If you do spill, wipe it up with a rag, do not hose into the water.
- Boat slowly; motors stir up sediments releasing nutrients that can lead to deterioration of water quality—a 50-horsepower motor operated full throttle can stir the water column to a depth of 15 feet.
- Keep your motor well-tuned; use four-cycle motors.

Manage Waste Properly
Take Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) to the Regional Facility
Many of the products that we use at home contain substances that are hazardous. Paints, cleaners, garden chemicals, automotive products and aerosol cans are all examples of products you may have around the home that are hazardous. When these products are no longer useful, they become household hazardous waste (HHW). Household hazardous waste not only threatens the health and safety of our families and ourselves, it can also cause damage to the air we breathe and fish and wildlife in our waters.

Products are considered hazardous when they have at least one of the following properties and words on the label:

- Flammable: The label may say “Combustible,” “Inflammable,” “Petroleum Distillates,” etc. These products could easily catch on fire.
- Toxic: “Poisonous,” “Harmful or fatal if swallowed,” etc. These products may cause immediate harm or cause long term health problems, such as cancer.
- Corrosive: “Acid,” “Lye,” “Alkali,” etc. These products can eat through skin or other materials, such as metal.
- Reactive: “Do not mix with other chemicals.” These products can react with other chemicals, possibly releasing toxic or flammable gases, igniting, or even exploding. Before buying or using a potentially hazardous product, read the entire label, buy the least hazardous product you can, purchase only the quantity you need to avoid storing, and follow the...
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use directions carefully. Store those products you do use in a safe place, away from heat, flames, cold temperatures, and in dry areas. Store in original containers.

Don’t Burn Garbage

Burning household garbage in burn barrels, wood stoves, and fire pits creates pollution that’s dangerous to human health and contaminates the air, water, and soil. It’s against the law in Minnesota.

Garbage today contains a lot of plastics; paper treated with chemicals, coatings, and ink; and many other chemicals. Backyard burning is a low-temperature fire that receives very little oxygen and produces lots of smoke. Under these conditions, a variety of toxic substances is produced and released primarily into the air close to ground level, where they are easily inhaled—with no pollution controls! Dioxin, a potent human carcinogen, is the major health risk posed by residential garbage burning. U.S. EPA research shows that burn barrels are the #1 source of dioxin in the U.S. Just one burn barrel can produce as much or more dioxin as a full-scale municipal waste combustor burning 200 tons/day.

• Instead of burning garbage, dispose of it properly.

• REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE. Reduce the amount of waste you create by buying products with less packaging and buying items that last longer instead of disposable ones. REUSE the durable packaging you get (like wash out that sour cream container and use it to put leftovers in). RECYCLE all the materials you can, like cardboard, newspapers, plastic grocery bags, cans and bottles.

Compost Waste

Composting is a natural process. You don’t need fancy equipment or expensive artificial additives to break down your organic scraps and turn them into something useful. All you need is: food, water, air/oxygen, and correct temperature. Like any simple recipe, you’ll get the best results if you use the right mix of ingredients to make your compost. The key materials are nitrogen-rich “greens,” carbon-rich “browns,” water, and air. All of these are essential, but they’re easy to mix together for quality compost.

Getting your own compost bin started can be boiled down to three simple steps:

1. Make a compost bin (or buy one).
2. Throw in your kitchen scraps and yard waste.
3. Mix it up with a shovel or pitchfork once in a while. It’s that easy!

Lay a base. Start with a layer of browns, laying down 4-6 inches of twigs or other coarse carbons on the bottom of the pile for good air circulation. Add Browns and Greens, and stir. Add water as you go (about the amount of a damp sponge).

Benefits:

• Improves soil structure
• Provides aeration
• Drought protection
• Reduces erosion
• And much more

Modified for Stearns County from The Becker County Shoreland Guide to Lake Stewardship which was a collaborative project of the Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA), Becker County Planning & Zoning, Becker County Environmental Services, and the Pelican River Watershed District. The full guide is available at: http://www.co.becker.mn.us/dept/planning_zoning/PDFs/Shoreland%20Guide.pdf

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“An Association formed to promote the protection and improvement of Lake Koronis”

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