

September 2015
E-Newsletter



Pelican Lake, Ottertail Co, MN

Greetings!

A Beautiful Sunrise on Pelican Lake



Thanks to Dave Bergeson for the picture

Calendar for Balance of 2015

12/16/15 5:00 p.m. PGOLID Board Meeting, Jay Elshaug residence.

[Complete PGOLID schedule](#)

PLPOA Member's Breakfast/Annual Meeting

We filled the Fair Hills dining hall this year for the PLPOA Annual Meeting!!

The PLPOA Member's Breakfast/Annual Meeting was held at Fair Hills on July 28. There were two very important speakers. The first was Greg

Palmer with Greater Minnesota Gas (GMG). He shared information on the progress on installation of the natural gas infrastructure around Pelican Lake. He is looking for information from beach property owners on their desire to have the line service their lake properties. GMG is working with John Kruse, PLPOA Communications Chairman, to keep us informed of the progress.

[GMG WEBSITE](#)

The second speaker was Jeff Forester, Executive Director of Lakes and Rivers Advocates, who is working at the State level to communicate the interests of the lake and river property owners and has been successful to cause change. You can find Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates on the web.

[Lakes and Rivers Advocates-MLR](#)

[Aldie Kelsven](#)

Pelican Lakes 2015 Resident Survey

Last week the Pelican Lake Property Owners Association (PLPOA) invited you to complete a survey of lake property owners. If you haven't already taken the survey, we encourage you to do so. The goal of this survey is to better understand the property owners of Pelican, Bass, Fish and Little Pelican Lakes and what PLPOA can do to serve them. There are 18 questions total and the entire survey should not take more than 7 minutes with a reasonable connection.

This is an anonymous online survey. Answers are not tracked to individual property owners. Please just have one principal owner per household complete the survey, representing the interests of the household. We appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey.

To fill out the survey, please follow this link:

[PLPOA 2015 SURVEY](#)

Please contact Moriya Rufer for questions:

[Moriya Rufer](#)

Natural Gas Progress Report

Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. (GMG) is excited to begin our partnership with providing energy to the Pelican Lake area residents and businesses. We appreciate all of the offers to assist and helpful information that we have received from many different people in regard to bringing natural gas to your area.

GMG is nearing the completion of the main lines being installed in the public right-of-way followed by the installation of service lines to those property owners who have chosen to switch to natural gas. Please be assured that our restoration crews will be following up to begin repairing the right-of-way.

With fall already upon us, please know that it is not too late to sign up! We are continuing to take applications for service. Even if you have already closed up your property for the season and still wish to have natural gas installed we are happy to work with you to make that happen. Please call our office at (888) 931-3411 to learn more about switching to natural gas and to schedule an appointment with our design technician. Visit the GMG website for more information.

[GMG WEBSITE](#)

Nikki Kupser, Business Development

Muskie Issues

Critical review of Knapp et al. (2008), MN DNR Publication 166

This comprehensive review of the "Knapp paper" has been included in the PLPOA Editorials web page.

[KNAPP PAPER CRITICAL REVIEW](#)

See more Muskie related information and editorials on the PLPOA website Editorial Page. Several new items have been added to Muskie Bites and Fears.

[PLPOA Editorial Page](#)

Pelican Water Levels

Some people have been asking about the "highest and lowest" water on Pelican. Below is a copy of data from the MNDNR web site for Pelican....

Highest recorded: 1319.72 ft (08/25/1993)

Lowest recorded: 1314.78 ft (03/24/1938)

Recorded range: 4.94 ft

So the record high is 1.72 above ordinary high..

The record low is 3.22 feet below ordinary high.... We have a ways to go to set a record low....another 2.3 feet lower and we tie the record.....

[Dave Majkrzak](#)

More New Taxes!!

Re: Ottertail County Board of Commissioners-

Approval of additional transportation taxes affecting some Lake Association members.

As many of you are aware, the Minnesota Legislature did not approve any changes to the State Gasoline Tax during the 2015 session. The Otter Tail County Board, with the help of Citizen input Committees and numerous public hearings over the past two years, has identified a \$10 million+ shortfall in necessary funding for the adequate maintenance of Otter Tail County highways and roads during the next ten years.

To begin dealing with this short fall, the County Board, in accordance with existing State law, has approved the implementation as of January 1, 2016 of a dedicated local transportation county-wide sales and use tax of one-half of one percent on all retail sales occurring in Otter Tail County, and a special excise tax of \$20 per motor vehicle purchased or acquired from any person that is in the retail business of selling motor vehicles in Otter Tail County. This special excise tax on dealers will be in lieu of the new one-half percent increased sales tax.

In addition, the Board has also approved the implementation on January 1, 2016 of a wheelage tax for all motor vehicles licensed in Otter Tail County, which will initially be \$10 per vehicle, increasing to \$20 in 2018 (as permitted by existing State law).

If you don't reside in Otter Tail County, and don't license any motor vehicles in Otter Tail County, and don't buy any items from an Otter Tail County retailer that triggers a Minnesota Sales tax, you and many of your fellow Association members are not affected by these new taxes. However, many of the surrounding Minnesota Counties have already adopted (or intend to adopt) these type of additional taxes for similar reasons.

Because these new taxes will not by themselves solve the existing road maintenance funding shortage, the County Board is hopeful that the Minnesota Legislature will explore other additional solutions during the 2016 Legislative session.

[Jim Beckstrom](#)

County Road 9 Project

Evergreen Land Services has been actively contacting the approximately 60 land owners who are entitled to compensation from the County for the taking of small portions of their land for permanent roadway easements. Approximately 15% have already signed the County documents.

[Jim Beckstrom](#)

Sincerely,

[John Kruse](#)

PLPOA Communications Chairman

