



# Hook, Line, and Sinker

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## CLEAR LAKE UPDATE

# Walkway to pier repaired

It's summer and it has been hot. The lake really shows it too. With the lack of rain and the heat, the lake has turned very green and has a pretty bad odor. This combination seems to be keeping the fishing pressure down. I have not heard any reports of people catching a lot of fish. There have been people fishing, but I have not seen any catching. This is probably in the best interest of the lake anyway. It has always been a better lake for ice fishing.

Earlier this month we repaired the walkway to the fishing pier. We started on this last year but waited for the new pier to be installed to finish the job. We had planned on getting this done in one afternoon but it would seem that most everyone forgot about it. Only two of us showed up. We did get some help from one of the locals, but he was a little dinged up so he had to rest a lot. We did manage to get about half of it done that first night. The next night we did get more help and managed to finish the project. All that is needed yet is some more walkway to meet the pier.



## E.E. Mecklenburg / NUASF Scholarship

In May we awarded the first scholarship to a local student. The fund continues to grow. We recently received a \$1,000 donation from the Lost Dog and Fox Hunters Club and we continue to receive smaller donations from members. When you pay your dues you may add any type of donation and this is also tax deductible

## Club Fishing Contest

There has been some discussion on having a Club Fishing Contest again this summer. Well, the summer is starting to wind down. At our next meeting we need to set a date. Last year it was held at Dick Petermann's place on the river. We hope to be able to do it there again. It is a very nice spot and everyone who attended had a good time. If you have any interest, be sure to attend the next meeting.

## Club Calendar

- July 26th.....Meeting at Club House • 7:30 p.m.
- August ???.....Repair Fish Houses
- August 30th.....Meeting at Club House • 7:30 p.m.
- September 14-16.....*River Blast* at Riverside Park

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"PIT STOP" ON FARM TIRE SERVICE

## From the President . . .

Sleepy Eye Lake has sure been the hot topic of conversation the last couple of weeks. Hopefully we will see a resolution to the controversy soon. NUASF has come out squarely in agreement with the Sleepy Eye Sportsman's Club on this matter and our wishes have been passed on to the DNR.

On a more pleasant note, Clear Lake is sure looking good for fish population. Because of weeds, the fishing is a real challenge which should make for some great Winter angling for all of us. It has been a long haul.

The club thanks all of the volunteers who have helped at the various activities and worked at the food booth. One thing that should be noted is for all the hard work that went on for the walkway repair out at Clear Lake. The car show was a big success and it looks like we have been doing real good at Texaco during Heritagefest.

Our kids fishing contest is on the 18th and we expect a big turnout.

Don't forget about the meeting on the 26th. We have several topics that need input from our membership. We may have to talk about Lake Sleepy Eye and what, if anything we should do beyond telling the DNR where we stand. We will also be discussing "Riverblast" which is scheduled for the 14th thru the 16th of September.

Bring a friend or prospective new member and receive a free refreshment at the meeting for both you and the prospect. See you at the kids fishing contest and the next meeting.

## Fish Houses Need Attention

Two of our fish houses are in desperate need of some repairs. The brown house being the worst of the two. This house will need almost a complete rebuild. We are planning to do this sometime in August. The siding and the roof need to be replaced and it will have to be painted. The big house also needs some attention. This house has not been used for three years. We will have to give the inside a thorough cleaning and the exterior needs paint really bad. We will most likely set a date for these projects at the next meeting.

## Food Stand 2001

The food stand is up and running for the year. Our first date was July 1st at the car show. We had a very good day with sales of about \$800. We also ran both weekends of Heritagefest. The first weekend was very good. We did not have a report on the second weekend as of this writing. A special thanks to all the members who have helped make the stand a great fundraiser for us. We have two more weekends coming up but not until October, so keep it in the back of your mind. we will need your help again. A special thanks to Jerry Carlson for all the work he does coordinating.

## Club Clothing for Sale

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The Hook Line and Sinker is published monthly by copy haus for the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of respective writers and not to be construed as the opinion of the NUASF or its members. Send all correspondence and submissions to Mike Deinken, Editor, 1022 Spring Street, New Ulm, Minnesota 56073.

**The NUASF Board**

President - Scott Sparlin (359-2346); Vice-President - Jerry Carlson (354-8869); Secretary / Treasurer - Mike Deinken (359-9650); Board Members: Jim Huelke (354-3654), Dave Mecklenburg (794-7859), Ken Sutherland (354-4140).

# Mercury: a Little Goes a Very Long Way

By Sam Burgardt / Environment • Winter 2000 • Part II of III

**M**ercury respects no boundaries. Thirty percent of the mercury in northeastern Minnesota lakes is estimated to be from natural sources and 30 percent from global pollution. Regional pollution accounts for the rest.

Mercury use in the United States has dropped greatly during the past 30 years as mercury-free alternatives have been developed. The MPCA has paid special attention to mercury since the early 1990s. By 1999, Minnesota had reduced its mercury emissions by about half, but nearly all of these reductions we're associated with use and disposal of intentionally used mercury. We still have a way to go to eliminate pollution from mercury-containing devices, coal-fired power plants (coal contains traces of mercury), taconite plants (mercury vapor is released when the ore is pelletized) and other sources.

Mercury-related regulatory, technical-assistance and educational programs abound, both within Minnesota and elsewhere. Among these are the federal Clean Air and Clean Water acts, Minnesota's land application permits for sewage sludge and air toxins review programs, its mercury reduction law and the Lake Superior Binational Program (see <http://www.glnpo.net/glnpo/lakesuperior/pubs.html>).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is tracking the mercury problem on many fronts (See <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/bns/mercury/index.html>), and recently decided to regulate coal-fired power plants' emissions. The EPA also provides advice on reducing mercury pollution (see <http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/p2/mercpam.html>).

## Get it out — and use less energy

"We all share the blame for mercury pollution," notes MPCA scientist Edward Swain. "Altogether, product-related releases of mercury from use in our homes and business account for about a third of all emissions, about as much as those from coal-fired power plants. If we really want to help solve the problem, we'll get mercury-containing devices out of our homes, see that they're properly recycled, and use substantially less energy."

What can individuals and businesses do to eliminate this toxic metal from home and work environments? The MPCA web site contains lots of suggestions (go to <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/air/mercury-prevent.html>) including:

■ Avoid buying products and devices that contain mercury, including mercury-containing thermometers, blood-pressure cuffs, batteries and fishing lures and tip-ups with mercury switches. (Remember the now-banned "toxic tennis shoes"?) There are mercury-free substitutes for just about everything except fluorescent lamps, which are good for the environment because they use 50 to 75 percent less energy than standard bulb.

■ Swap your mercury thermometer for an alternative. Some HMOs offer reduced-cost digital thermometers to members who bring their mercury thermometers.

• Take any mercury-containing products, including spent fluorescent light tubes, to your local household hazardous waste collection site for disposal. Contact your local site or retailer to find out whether they accept fluorescent lamps or charge a fee. To find the facility in your area, visit the MPCA website at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/hhw.html#list>.

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