



P.O. Box 343
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR LAKE LIDA PROPERTY OWNERS!

- *Two new board members will be elected in August
- *Your LLID stocked over 800 pounds of walleye fingerlings in 2024
- *MN DNR stocked another 1,300 pounds of carry-over walleye in 2024
- *The DNR has committed to more aggressive stocking for the next 3 years
- *LLID will receive a \$5,500 grant from the DNR for South Lida curly-leaf pondweed treatment
- *LLID has applied and is waiting for word on a significant lake management grant
- *Your LLID helped fund and improve drainage in Moonlight Bay
- *Treatment for curly-leaf pondweed is effective and continues in 2025
- *Annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 16, 2025

MISSION STATEMENT

To preserve and protect Lida Lakes and to increase and enhance the use and enjoyment of the lakes. It is in the property owners and public interest that a lake improvement program is established to: preserve the natural character of the lakes and their shoreline environment where feasible and practical; improve the quality of water in the lakes; provide for reasonable assurance of water in the lakes, where feasible and practicable; and to assure protection of the lakes from detrimental effects of human activities and certain natural processes.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Hilber	Chair	eyemaj@gmail.com
Brian Graftaas	Vice Chair	graftaas@gmail.com
David Braton	Secretary	braton41764@gmail.com
Zach Herrmann	Treasurer	zherrmann1984@gmail.com
Dee Dee Stephenson	Director	ddstephenson5@gmail.com
Sheldon Poss	Director	sheldonposs61@gmail.com
Mike Spangler	Director	mikespangler41@gmail.com
Moriya Rufer	Lake Coordinator	mrufer@houstoneng.com

2025 BOARD MEETINGS & ANNUAL * MEETING

ALL MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR 9 AM
AT THE LIDA TOWNSHIP BUILDING
42206 230TH AVENUE
PELICAN RAPIDS, MN 56572

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025
SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025
*SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025

MESSAGE FROM LLID CHAIR – DAVID HILBER

WE NEED YOU. As the Lida Lakes Improvement District (LLID) approaches the end of its fourth year, for the first time, we will be electing new board members. We need volunteers to step forward, to put your name up for election as a board member, to play a role in the future of the LLID. This is the last year that Sheldon Poss and I can serve on our board per our bylaws. So, we need at least two LLID members to run for the board. One resident (year-round) and one seasonal. Being a board member is not time consuming. We hold 5 board meetings each year, with occasional email or in person discussions depending on projects we are addressing. In this newsletter you will see what we have been doing this year, including over \$10K of walleye stocking in North and South Lida, survey and treatment of Curly-Leaf Pondweed on both lakes (aided this year by a \$5.5K grant from the MN DNR), and a pending grant request for \$57K to aid in performing a comprehensive lake-shed assessment of our lakes. Please step forward and take an active part in protecting and caring for our beautiful lakes.



Take the Short LLID Survey !
Visit **lakelidalid.com**
and click Membership Survey under "Programs"

NEW BOARD MEMBERS WANTED!

Two founding members of the board of LLID will be completing terms in August. Joining your LLID board is important for the lake and all residents and seasonal property owners! Simply submit your name and a short biography to lakelidalid@gmail.com by April 25, 2025 to be eligible.

LAKE COORDINATOR REPORT - MORIYA RUFER

I am happy to report we are optimistic for the Lida Lakes heading into 2025. The Lida Lake Property Owners Association applied for a grant from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) in January. This grant was available to non-profit organizations to study and improve water quality. The funds come from the state's Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment funds (<https://www.legacy.mn.gov/clean-water-fund>). We should hear back about the grant by the end of March. If we are awarded the funding, the LLPOA and Lida Lakes Improvement District would complete a comprehensive study to identify risks to the lake and sources of nutrients that can affect water quality. We would then identify projects that can be implemented to improve the lake. In June of 2024 we completed an aquatic plant survey to document invasive curly-leaf pondweed at its peak growth. We identified curly-leaf pondweed in both North and South Lida Lakes. These areas will be targeted for herbicide treatment this May. The treatment date will depend on ice out timing and weather. We will keep you updated when we have a potential date. We also received a grant for \$5,500 from the DNR to offset some of the treatment costs in South Lida. Happy Spring!



Lake Coordinator Moriya Rufer surveyed Lida Lakes in June. Board members Graftaas, Stephenson and Braton assisted.



LAKE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT - BRIAN GRAFTAAS



The Lake Management Committee meets monthly and consists of myself, Dee Dee Stephenson, Zach Herrmann, and Lake Coordinator Moriya Rufer. Moriya has been a great addition this past year as she brings a wealth of knowledge and has been key for the Lake Improvement District in applying and acquiring grants. **Clean Water project:** I have great news! After two years of delays, the Clean Water project that the LLID was helping fund in Moonlight Bay was completed in November 2024. This was a major source of phosphorous entering South Lida. This project was funded by the West Ottertail County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), Lida Township, the landowner, and the LLID. We had originally allocated \$3,000 to this project, but the SWCD ended up funding a larger percentage of the

project, bringing our costs down to \$1,233. We are pleased with the results, and are open to doing other Clean Water project with the SWCD in the future. **Keep it Clean:** the LLID participated in the Keep It Clean initiative (<https://keepitcleanmn.org>) for the second year. The Keep It Clean campaign addresses the growing problem of garbage and waste left on the ice by anglers and campers through education, legislation and enforcement. The Keep It Clean bill was signed into law in May 2023, making it illegal to place garbage and waste on or under the ice on Minnesota's lakes and rivers. The LLID had signs posted at the main access on North Lida and at Irv's Landing on South Lida. In addition to having posters at the Ice Hole bar and area bait shops. **CLP Treatment:** We're planning to treat for Curly-Leaf Pondweed (CLP) again this year; however, we are going to be using a different aquatic herbicide than we have used in the past. We've always used Aquathol K in previous years, which is very expensive but it targets CLP and does not harm native plants or the fish population. We have considered other herbicides in the past; however, chose against them because they would kill native plants – not just the CLP. There is a new chemical available, Flumioxazin, which is also targeting to CLP, and is cheaper than Aquathol K. The University of Minnesota has tested Flumioxazin and found it be effective for treating CLP, but would not harm native plants or the fish population. The DNR has also supported the use of Flumioxazin as a treatment of CLP. Also, we got a \$5,500 grant to help cover the cost of CLP treatment. We will be posting information about the areas treated on the website later this spring.



Moonlight Bay clean water project is complete!

FISHING COMMITTEE REPORT - MIKE SPANGLER, CHAIR

On October 11th, LLID stocked a total of 816 lbs. of walleye fingerlings (4" - 6") into North and South Lida Lakes. North Lida received 571 lbs. (17,136 fingerlings) and South Lida received 245 lbs. (7,344 fingerlings). In October and November, MN DNR stocked a total of 1319 lbs. of carry-over walleye (2 per pound). North Lida received 900 lbs. (1800 walleye) and South Lida received 419 lbs. (838 walleye). Beginning in 2025 the DNR proposed and approved a more aggressive lake management stocking plan.

North Lida: Stock walleye fry at a rate of 1,000 per littoral acre (2,380,000) on an annual basis for 3 years (2025, 2026, 2027). [Note: DNR stocked 500 walleye fry per littoral acre (1,190,000) for 3 years (2019, 2021, 2023).] The DNR has also designated North Lida Lake as a Carry-over Walleye Surplus Lake and will be doing additional stocking up to 1 lb. per littoral acre or 2,380 pounds of walleye for the duration of annual fry stocking.

South Lida: Stock carry-over walleye or large fingerlings at a rate of 1 lbs. per littoral acre (356 lbs.) on an annual basis for 3 years (2025, 2026, 2027). [Note: DNR stocked 500 walleye fry per littoral acre (178,000) for 3 years (2019, 2021, 2023).] The DNR has also designated South Lida Lake as a Carry-over Walleye Surplus Lake and will be doing additional stocking up to 2 lbs. per littoral acre or 712 pounds of walleye for the duration of annual large fingerling stocking. DNR will continue to conduct annual fall walleye electrofishing and plans to survey North & South Lida again in 2027.



David Boe caught and released a nice walleye early in ice fishing season.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE - KATIE GALL, CHAIR



The purpose of the communications committee is to keep all members informed of LLID initiatives, board action, member meetings and more. It is also the primary contact with local media. The committee strives to keep our website and Facebook page relevant to property owners and is continually reviewing tools to improve communication and better serve members. The recent Keep It Clean initiative was successful, and the Committee plans to expand efforts next year. Please check out our Facebook page as our goal is to provide the latest information along with year-round photos of our beautiful lake. Our Facebook page can be found at **Facebook.com/lakelidalid**.

2025 BUDGET

(Note: Due to space limitations in the newsletter the budget descriptions have been condensed. Details are available on the website at lakelidalid.com.)



INCOME		EXPENSES (ESTIMATED)	
Estimated Carry-Over	\$13,700	<u>Administrative</u> (Insurance, Website, Mailings, Legal Notices, Organizational Dues)	\$(5,640)
2025 LLID User Fee (\$50/Parcel)	\$41,800	<u>Clean Water Projects</u>	\$(3,000)
Income Subtotal	\$55,500	<u>Recreation</u> (Fisheries, Support and Water Navigation)	\$(16,500)
		<u>Aquatic Invasive Species</u> (Survey, Treatment, Public Notices)	\$(26,340)
		<u>Planning and Research</u> (Water Quality Sampling and Testing, Water Quality Assessment/Modeling, Lake Management Plan Update, Lake Coordinator Assistance/Member Concerns)	\$(3,750)
		<u>Contingency Fund</u>	\$(270)
		Expenses (Estimated) Subtotal	\$(55,500)
		<u>BALANCE</u>	<u>\$0</u>



Pictured: Zach Herrmann, Treasurer

2025 LLID ANNUAL MEETING - AGENDA ITEMS



The Board of Directors is seeking input from members of the LLID on the agenda for the 2025 Annual Meeting, to be held in August. As required by MN Statute 103B.571, the Annual Meeting of the LLID will include, at a minimum, the following items:

- Election of Directors
- Approval of the 2025 Budget
- Approval or disapproval of any projects having a cost in excess of \$5,000

If you have any items that you would like included for the 2025 Annual Meeting, please email them to lakelidalid@gmail.com by **April 22, 2025**. The Board of Directors will review any submitted requests and finalize the agenda during their regularly scheduled meeting on Saturday, April 26, 2025. Inclusion and time allowed for submitted agenda items is not guaranteed and will be determined by the Board of Directors. Property Owners will receive a mailing prior to the Annual Meeting outlining candidates for the Board, 2026 Budget and Proposed Agenda. ***If you have an item you would like included on the 2025 Annual Meeting Agenda it must be submitted by April 22, 2025. Send your request to: lakelidalid@gmail.com**

LLID'S FUTURE DEPENDS ON YOU!

Lida Lakes Improvement District is operated by property owners like you. Serving on the Board of Directors or Committees is important for the betterment of our lake. Two board positions will be up for election at the August 2025 annual meeting. Committees are also expanding. Are you interested in serving?

As required by MN Statute 103B.551, a majority of the board members must be residents of the LLID. With a 7-member board, 4 board members are residents of the lake and 3 are seasonal property owners. This year, 1 board seat for a resident member and 1 seat for seasonal residents will be on the ballot. The LLID will provide ballots for mail-in voting a minimum of 8-weeks ahead of the 2025 Annual Meeting. Due to logistics of developing packets for mailing, we require all candidates, including those up for re-election notify the LLID Board of Directors prior to the next board meeting April 26, 2025. A write-in option will also be available for candidates that decide to run after the April 26, 2025, deadline. **If you are interested in serving of the Board of Directors and would like your name included on the ballot, please email lakelidalid@gmail.com before April 25, 2025. Provide your name, lake address, permanent address, and a brief statement (one page maximum) describing yourself and purpose for wanting to serve the LLID.**

