



Gilbert Lake Association Newsletter

Vol. 12, Issue 1, Spring, 2011

<http://www.gilbertlake.org>

Next Meeting

The next Gilbert Lake Association meeting is **Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level meeting room at the Northland Arboretum building.**

Agenda:

- CW County shoreland ordinance revisions – Mitch Brinks, Chris Pence from Crow Wing County
- Riverside Drive update (the last?)
- Aquatic Invasive Species classes
- Water monitoring summaries
- Lakescaping and books
- Election of new president
- Any other new or old business

Action at 2010 Meeting

Action at 2010 meeting

- Discussion of Riverside Drive
- Election of Craig Nathan as Vice President and President-elect
- Lakescaping and books

A Parting Word from the President ...

I've had the pleasure of serving as the President of the Gilbert Lake Association since 1999 (I think – I've lost track). Of course, I never thought I'd be in this position a dozen years later, but here I am. Now that Craig Nathan has generously agreed to serve as the Association's new president, I hope we can come up with a process to transition to new officers on a more frequent basis. Anything

longer than a few years creates burnout and disinterest, and that's not good for anyone.

During the past dozen years, Gilbert Lake has faced many, many issues, both good and bad, including:

- continued development around and on the lake, including commercial rezoning issues;
- creation of a public park on Gilbert 3;
- fishing surveys and new regulations;
- problems with both high and low water;
- annexation issues;
- creation of the first shoreland ordinance for Brainerd;
- creation of an Association website;
- increased threat of invasive species and plants damaging our lake;
- stable or improving water quality in the lake, with some water quality problems on Gilbert 1' and
- last but not least, Riverside Drive.

Most of these issues were caused by external forces or things out of our control. One issue in our control, however, is the need to "lakescape" our properties. *We can* control the amount of nutrients we allow into our lake from our properties, and the easiest way to do that is through buffer strips on our shorelines. Compared to 10 years ago, we have more natural shorelines on our lake, but we still have mowed lawns that reach near the water and allow nutrients to flow into our lake. Please consider the benefits to you (less mowing, fewer geese, and more wildflowers) and the benefits to the lake (less algae, fewer weeds and clearer water) when you consider your landscaping this spring.

Finally, as Craig Nathan begins his tenure, please support him by generously giving your time to Association projects when asked.

– Paul Jacobsen

Gilbert Lake Association
c/o Paul and Sally Jacobsen
16118 Birchwood Lane
Brainerd, MN 56401

Gilbert Lake Resident

JOIN THE GILBERT LAKE ASSOCIATION!

Please come to the annual meeting or return the following to
16118 Birchwood Lane, Brainerd, MN 56401

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email address _____

Sign my family up as a member - \$25 _____

Make check payable to the *Gilbert Lake Association*