

**ANNUAL
MEETING
@ LUTHER
CREST:**

**Saturday, July 29th
@ 9:00 a.m.**

**Come Join Us –
Breakfast Will Be
Served!**

fun facts **ABOUT LAKE CARLOS:**

As of 2022 here are the Lake Carlos fun facts. Did you know there were:

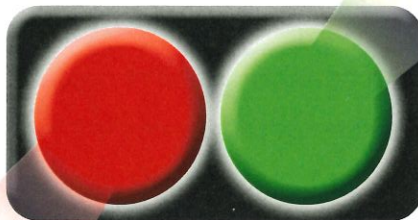
- 419 Houses on the lake
- 37 Boat Houses
- 258 Pontoons and Tritoons
- 124 Fishing Boats
- 108 Wood Boats and Runabouts
- 46 Kayaks and Canoes
- 36 Wakeboards
- 10 Sailboats
- In 1950 there were 13 resort/lodges on Lake Carlos

*Thanks to a former
LCAA member for
these "FUN FACTS"*

WALLEYE STOCKING

On May 13, 2023 LCAA completed a Walleye stocking project, putting approximately 4,000 walleye fingerlings (6 to 7 inches long) into the lake at the west-side lake access on County Road 11. LCAA was lucky to find a supplier that had fish available for the project. Most of the supplier ponds had frozen out over the long winter. LCAA monitored and funded the project that cost the lake association \$5,000.00.

LCAA's hope is to improve Walleye fishing on Lake Carlos. We continue to work with the Minnesota DNR. It had suspended Lake Carlos stocking to evaluate the success of previous stocking efforts. We hope to get DNR participation in future stocking projects.



CHANNEL NAVIGATION LIGHTS

It became apparent that our channels needed navigation lights to better mark channel locations. Red and green flashing channel markers, used internationally and throughout the United States and Minnesota mark channels for night time navigation. LCAA took the lead to reach out to the Douglas County Sheriff's Department, and Lakes Darling and LeHommeDieu joined in this effort.

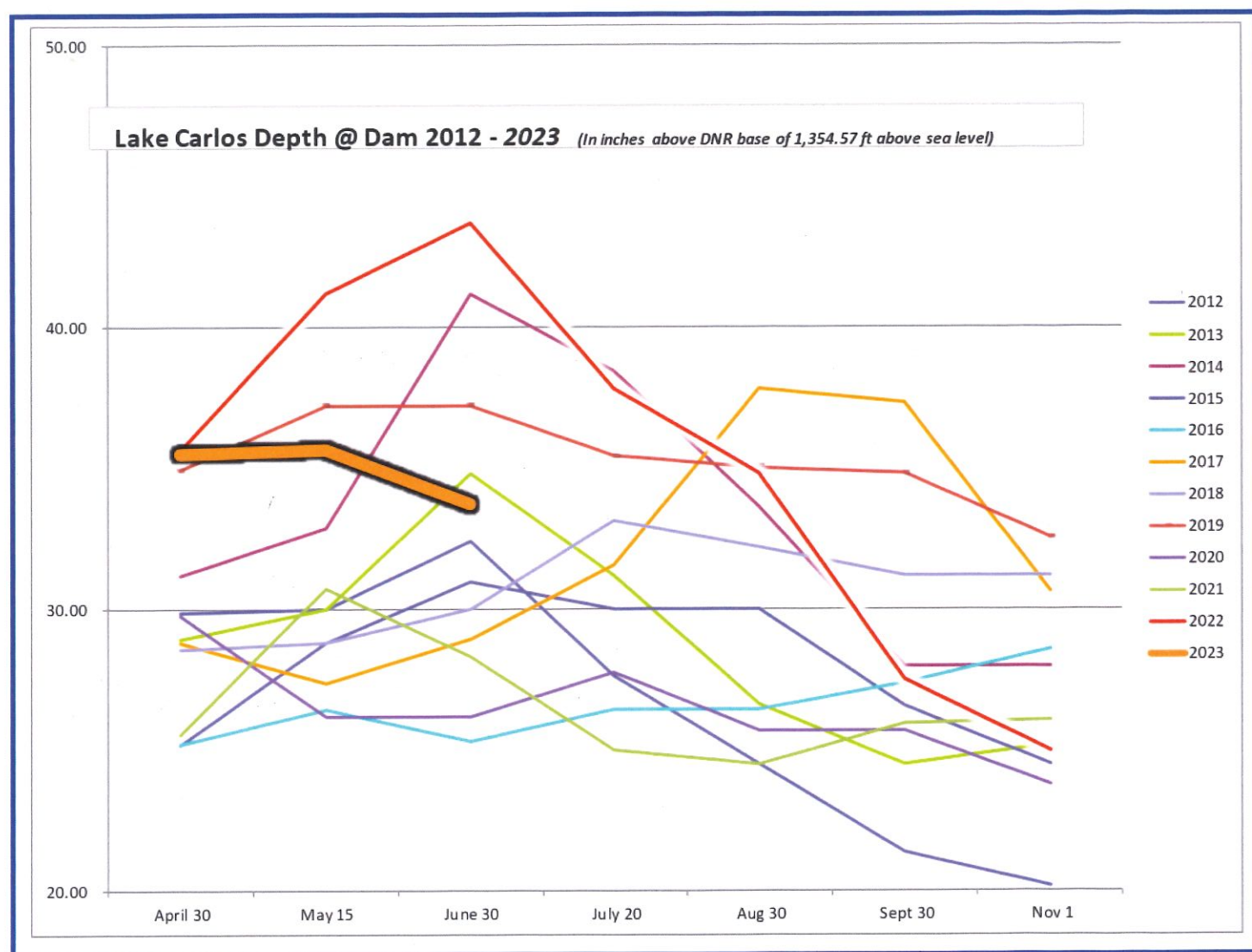
Because the Sheriff's Department had not budgeted for the project, the lake associations agreed to purchase the buoy lights which should be installed and functional in the next few weeks. Lake channels between Carlos-Darling, Carlos - LeHomme Dieu, and Le Homme Dieu - Geneva, along with buoys between Little and Big Darling, and LeHommeDieu and its bay will be included in the project. Red and green solar channel lights will be visible for up to two miles. Along with this project, we are working on proper channel placement of the buoys.

The project is a good example of how the lake associations can work together to accomplish needed improvements for lake users.

High Water CHART

Unusually high-water levels in 2022 gave way to a return to more normal readings in 2023. Our unusually dry June, with little rain, saw lake levels falling through mid-July. Though within the normal range, Lake Carlos has dropped to just below the normal high-water levels.

Please remember that Douglas County may impose no-wake restrictions on the lakes if water levels rise above normal levels. The local press and the LCAA website www.lakecarlos.org will advise if this were to occur. To protect shorelines, watercraft would be restricted to slow, no-wake speeds near shorelines.





wake boat **OPERATION** regulations and suggestions

- Stay to the center of a body of water, and avoid narrow channels or thoroughfares, if possible.
- Always stay at least 150' away from shorelines (300 feet during "no wake" restrictions), docks, or fixed objects.
- Respect the shoreline and leave immediately and graciously if the property owner requests it.
- Avoid "working a shoreline", in which repeated runs bombard the shoreline with waves.
- When possible, present the non-surfing side of the wakeboard boat to the closest shoreline.
- Avoid gradual turns close to shore.

PLEASE SHADE YOUR WHITE LIGHTS

LCAA has been out-front in asking lake residents to dim bright white security lights. These white lights ruin the night sky for your neighbors and for residents across the lake. One way to reduce the problem is to have the security light shaded. The shaded lights will continue to provide security on your property while preventing light pollution beyond it. LCAA continues to receive complaints about bright white security lights from neighbors and residents across the lake from Carlos Villas. We are asking the Carlos Villas management to dim or shade their security lights.





jet skis

One of the biggest concerns of lake residents involves the operation of Jet Skis. Fun though they may be, they can also cause disruption. Regulations are in place to provide for safe operation of Personal Water Craft (PWC), including Jet Skis. The regulations are also there to emphasize the need to respect others on the lake and residents living on the lakes. *Please note the following regulations:*

Jet Ski Regulations

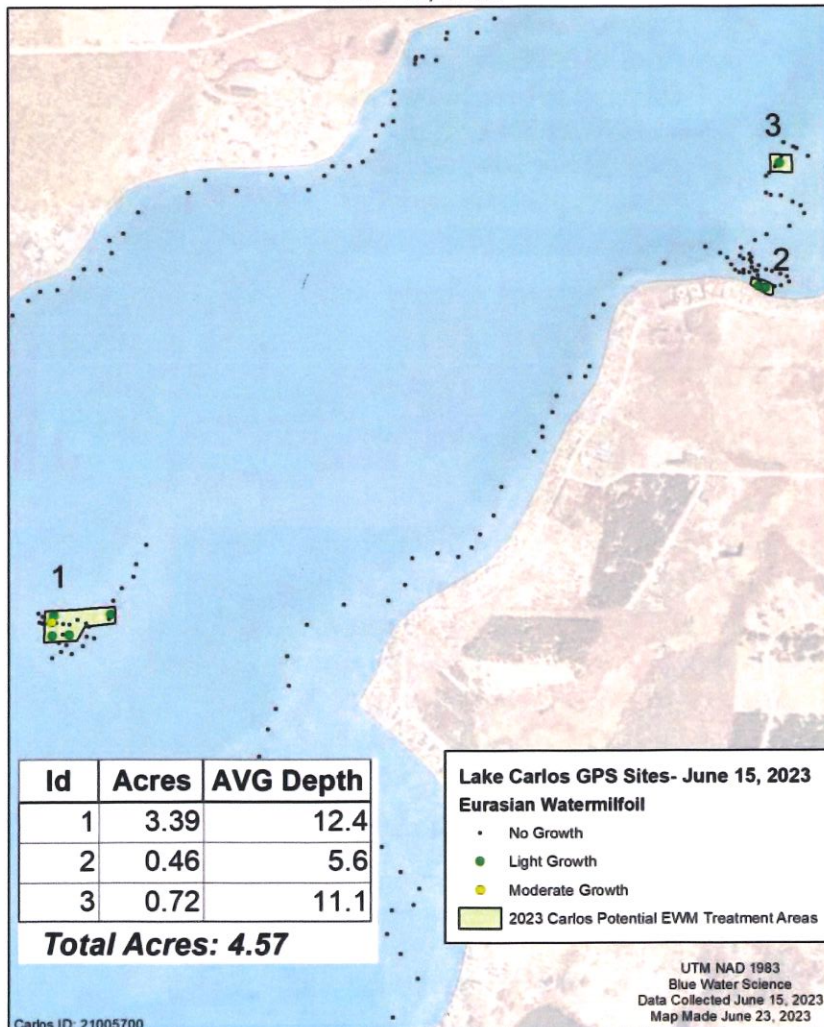
- Jet skis must operate at closed throttle (no wake speed) when within 150 feet of a dock, shoreline (including channel areas), swimmers, rafts, or a non-motorized or anchored watercraft or through emergent or floating vegetation.
- Operation is only allowed between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 1 hour before sunset.
- Life jackets must be worn by all on board.
- No one under 13 years old may operate a PWC (Jet Ski) and those under 18 must have a permit or be accompanied by an adult.
- When "no wake" regulations are in place, they apply to jet skis too. Jet Skis must stay 300 hundred feet from the lake shore, including channel areas.

AQUATIC SPECIES SURVEY (AIS)

LCAA completed its annual lake survey in May 2023. A number of spots were identified identifying "very light" Eurasian Milfoil infestation. These areas will be treated to eliminate this aquatic invasive species (AIS).

LCAA has completed lake-wide surveys for the last several years. This year, AIS were identified in nine spots around the lake. LCAA is arranging to have these areas treated to eradicate these weeds. Property owners in the vicinity of the eradication are being asked to authorize the action as per DNR requirements. The lake-survey and eradication process is another example of how LCAA monitors and takes action to protect Lake Carlos.

Lake Carlos Eurasian Watermilfoil Growth And Proposed Treatment
June 15, 2023



ALASD TO MAKE PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

For many years, LCAA has been concerned about the Alexandria Lakes Area Sanitary District (ALASD) water treatment plant located on the far end of Lake Winona. The discharge from the plant enters Lake Winona and then flows downstream through Lakes Agnes, Henry, and then into Lakes LeHommeDieu and Carlos. The plant helped our lakes by replacing septic tanks that oftentimes ended up draining into and polluting our lakes.

Over the years, the size of the district expanded to include many users that were not initially anticipated in the district. The growth of the Alexandria area also increased the users and the resulting quantity of discharge into the lakes.

ALASD recently committed to make a major upgrade of the plant facility. As a result, the water discharge will be cleaner and cause less downstream pollution. Strict environmental regulations also influenced ALASD's decision to spend \$67.4 million dollars to upgrade its system. This is a great relief to the many residents on the lakes impacted by the discharge. LCAA appreciates ALASD's commitment to our community.

zebra MUSSELS

Aquatic Invasive Species

The initial heavy infestation of Zebra mussels has plateaued, and this AIS has become part of our lake ecosystem. Early problems, like encrustation on metal dock legs, and shell cuts near the shore, have lessened. The good news is that the Zebra mussels help keep the lake clear. The bad news is that any AIS alter the ecosystem and the long-term consequences are unknown.

LCAA
LAKE CARLOS
AREA ASSOCIATION

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MEMBERSHIP & FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS CRITICAL

Your LCAA Board is working hard to stay on top of issues and represent the interests of all property owners on Lake Carlos. Please help by doing your part. Pay your lake association dues and make an extra contribution if you can. (For the first time in thirty years, LCAA is raising its dues from \$30.00 to \$50.00 per year. This reflects the financial needs to run the association and brings us into conformity with the other lake associations in our area.)

PLEASE JOIN YOUR LAKE ASSOCIATION

You can pay by check, or on-line at: www.lakecarlos.org
Please provide your email address for future correspondence.

Your contribution is tax deductible. *Thank you* for being a member!