November 2025 Newsletter

Message from the LLAA Foundation Board

To our Long Lake Area Association (LLAA) members, property owners, and friends, please consider making a donation to the **Long Lake Area Association Foundation** in support our essential Environmental Stewardship activities and programs!

Our 2025 fundraising goal is $45,000. Your donation is essential for us to be able to address threats to the water quality of Long Lake and to avoid accessing our reserve accounts. As environmental and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) threats increase, the cost to

address those threats are also increasing. The Foundation's expenses for the current year to date were over $35,000.

Protecting Long Lake from AIS infestation, monitoring and managing water quality, the ongoing cos mitigating AIS currently within the lake, and fishery management is **expensive** and these costs are **partially covered** by State and Township resources.

To be blunt: Combating AIS is expensive—and costs are climbing yearly.

Annually, the LLAA Foundation funds support the following critical efforts:

Watercraft inspection/education at the South and North accesses:

▪ State funds for staffing AIS Inspection at lake accesses are minimal and spread thinly across m Hubbard County lakes. In 2025 the LLAA Foundation provided **$26,208**, *the majority of funding f AIS inspection*. We receive additional funding from the State and two townships (Hubbard and Henrietta) to help support our commitment to AIS Inspection at Long Lake accesses.

Starry Stonewort (SSW) and Zebra Mussel monitoring and mitigation:

- SSW is a new and rapidly evolving AIS infestation at the south end Long Lake discovered in 2023, we are still battling it. The Foundation has already pledged **$10,000** to this effort which includes surveys and diving to identify conditions of existing SSW infestation and work to mitigate it as well as to monitor for new outbreaks.
- Regarding zebra mussels, during the last fiscal year, we spent over **$700** on monitoring efforts. Unfortunately, expenses related to zebra mussels are not going away, and the costs will most certainly increase over time.

Maintenance costs for the CD3 machine at the South Access:

- While the CD3 Machine was provided with a grant to the Township of Hubbard, ongoing operational costs are the responsibility of the Foundation and are estimated to be cost **$1,400 to $2,000 annually.**

Fish Stocking:

- The Foundation has spent **$6,000** this fiscal year for the stocking of perch and walleye. Walleye is stocked every two years, and there is some logic in increasing our perch stocking levels, perhaps each year. We are working with the DNR to determine the best way to support the fisheries.

Water quality monitoring:

- We contract with RMB Environmental Labs to measure the physical properties of the water including metrics for chloride, nitrates, total suspended solids and volatile solids, as well as chlorophyll-a and total phosphorus to ascertain the health of the lake. Those services cost the Foundation nearly $1,000 annually. Additionally, every five years or more often if warranted, we contract for a professional aquatic vegetation survey to understand changes in the native vegetation and to do early detection. The 2023 professional survey discovered the Starry Stonewort (SSW) at the south access. The cost of that survey was **$4825**.

The LLAA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization. Your contribution is a qualified tax-deductible donation. Donations can be made three ways:

LLAA website **(www.longlakeliving.org**): click on the "DONATE" at the bottom of the page. Return the donation form from the website and your check via the USPS. Make the check out to the **LLAA Foundation**. Please mail it to LLAA Foundation, PO Box 808, Park Rapids, MN 56470
Thank you for your generosity,

Caren S. Martin, LLAA Foundation President, and the
LLAA Foundation Board of Directors: Jim Seifert (Secretary/Treasurer), Todd Hoffman, Darrell Johnston, and Carolynne White

If you need to confirm your payment status, please contact our treasurer, Jim Seifert, at **treasurer@longlakeliving.org**

Scenes from around Long Lake.
Wakeboarding at sunset. Granddaughter, Cecile Lorenzen, visiting from Des Moines. Grandson, James Hancock, visiting from NY City and enjoyed fishing. Sent by Terry Hancock from south end of Long Lake.

Summer people leave for home and the turkeys move in to clean up the lawns!

Learn about your LLAA Board of Directors on this website page:

www.longlakeliving.org/p/board-member.html

Learn about your LLAA Foundation Board of Directors on this website page:
www.longlakeliving.org/long-lake-area-association-foundation-llaaf/board-of-directors/

Missed a Newsletter 2025, or want to read it again?

Follow this link to see a list the last 12 newsletters

Volunteer Opportunity:

Donor Data & Reporting Specialist

As with most of our volunteer work, it can be done remotely and on your schedule.

We're looking for a detail-oriented **Donor Data & Reporting Specialist** to join our team as a volunteer. This essential role supports our fundraising and financial reporting by ensuring our donor records are up to date and are our reports are accurate.

Your main responsibilities will include:

- Maintaining donor records in **Aplos Donor Management Software**.
- Exporting data from Aplos and using **Microsoft Excel** to create customized reports and dashboards.
- Analyzing donor trends, campaign performance, and gift history to provide insights for our team.

This role requires a commitment of about 5-10 hours per month.

What we're looking for:

- Experience with **cloud-based database systems** like Aplos, QuickBooks, or Salesforce.
- Strong familiarity with **Microsoft Excel**, including functions like filtering, sorting, and pivot tables.
- A proactive attitude and a desire to learn new systems and solve problems.

If you're organized, enjoy working with data, and want to support our mission, we'd love to hear from you.

To learn more or apply, please contact James Seifert at treasurer@longlakeliving.org.

Keep Long Lake Healthy and Beautiful for Generations

Life on the lake is truly precious. Keeping the lake healthy and protected ***takes money and volunteer investment*** and will pay dividends for our children and grandchildren.

Serve on the Board:

▪ The lake is divided into six Neighborhoods with a Director and Alternate elected to represent each neighborhood plus two At-Large Director voted on by all LLAA members. Consider this

commitment. The LLAA needs your insights and voice. Board terms are 2 years and are surprisingly less painful than you might imagine!

Join a committee:

▪ Communications, Community, Environmental Stewardship (AIS monitoring, Shoreline Management, Water Quality Monitoring) Fisheries, Membership and Elections and other supportive roles are just some of the ways you could get involved in demonstrating your love and appreciation of Long Lake. It takes the dedicated help of many to make the LLAA and LLAA Foundation work. Learn more by visiting our new website at www.longlakeliving.org or contact the board via email at: volunteer@longlakeliving.org

Encourage, demonstrate, and abide by AIS best practices:

▪ Clean, Drain, and Dry your boats, toys, and equipment before putting them in the lake; use the free Watercraft Decontamination station to clean tiny and sometimes invisible invasive creatures off your boat; learn what AIS species look like and monitor your shoreline. Please call the decontamination station (218-616-1631) to schedule your decontamination before moving your boat, boat lift or dock to another lake or into Long Lake.

Be a good lake steward:

Please abide by the newly provided Wake Map that is posted in our access kiosks and on our website (www.longlakeliving.org) when enjoying the water! According to recent studies, damage from the wake of your motorized craft occurs in less than 20 feet of water depth, degrading the habitat for fish and water fowl. To learn more: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/boatwater/own-your-wake.html

Being a good steward of the lake also means being a good steward of your land! What happens on your shoreline affects the water clarity of Long Lake. Our lake is fortunate to have several Shoreline Advisors available if you have questions about what to plant along your shore. You can contact them by emailing us at office@longlakeliving.org

QR code link to the video

LAKE STEWARD

Use the QR code to view the video about being a lake steward.

Please contact our team for a site visit to explore stewardship interest and if existing features already meet the qualifications or what more could be added for your property to become a lake steward. Winter is a good time to plan for your spring planting.

Email stewardship@longlakeliving.org
We can visit as long as no snow on the ground.
PS: Look for more details in December as people will order their trees/shurbs/seeds through the HCSWCD website and pick them up from the hcswcd in 2026 in May.

LLAA is an all volunteer organization. It runs only with your help.

This year we had over 97 volunteers including 5 kids workin our association. But more Volunteers are always needed

Email us at volunteer@longlakeliving.org and tell us how you can help the LI

Join the fun and build the community!

Two Long Lake Facebook Options

★ *Follow one or both!* ★

Facebook Page: Longlakeliving 1

- Official Long Lake Area Association (LLAA) Facebook page
- Public page (Long Lake property owners & general public)
- Content:
  - Managed by LLAA communications team
  - Info: LLAA mission, membership, lake stewardship, AIS, events, fisheries, etc.

★ *Follow one or both!* ★

Facebook Page: Longlakeleisure 2

- Private group page & lake community-focused purpose
- Requirements to join: Long Lake property ownership & application
- Content:
  - Followers of private group post content
  - Posts span classified ads, wildlife, weather, lost & found, etc.
  - Most LLAA Facebook posts are reposted on this page