



8/17/2023

Hello Garfield Lake Association Members,

The GLA Board meeting was held Tuesday, Wednesday August 16, 2023, as we continue to discuss and work on ways to Keep Garfield Healthy, the GLA Mission. Shown below are the items we discussed at that meeting.

Great News Again The July AIS – Zebra Mussel testing came back negative!! The last positive test for Zebra Mussel Villagers was July 2020 where they found 2 very small villagers. We have seen none in the 7 tests we have done since then. Many thanks to all of our members who support our AIS Boat Landing Inspection and take proper care when transporting their boats and fishing gear to and from other lakes. It's working.

We did hear of a report last month where the Garfield boat inspector found a boat entering the lake, so Greg and Ron went to check this out and found the following:

- The incident took place July 8th.
- The zebra mussels were attached to the floats of the pontoon and bunks of the trailer.
- The pontoon was purchased used from the Bemidji area and hadn't been placed on a waterbody yet this year – per the owner statement.
- The mussels were all dead. The inspector was unable to collect a viable sample due to the mussels “crumbling to dust”.
- Launch was denied, and the boater left the access informing the inspector they would get the pontoon decontaminated.
- With no viable samples collected, law enforcement was not contacted – however the survey containing the violation (with images) was submitted to the state for follow-up.

Many thanks to Aaron Anderson, Environmental Specialist, Hubbard County, who manages the inspection program. We also give many thanks to the City of Laporte, Hart Lake Township, Lakeport Township, and the Garfield Lake Ice Racers who all help fund Garfield's boat launch inspection. Without their funding Garfield would have less than 1/4th the inspection hours we have. Greg, Mike and Charlie have agreed to “stay in contact” with these different groups to assure us that we have our funding requests in on time. Also, many thanks to all of our members for your support. Keep it up!!

The GLA has asked several of our members if they would help us form a “Garfield Social Committee” to help on welcoming both members and non-members to the lake and getting to meet “others” around the lake. They have met several times and you will be receiving messages from them from time to time about different social functions we are planning to do around the lake for those that are interested. We look forward to that and many thanks for their help!

Greg and one of our members are going to meet with the head of Hubbard County Fisheries September 7 and discuss how the DNR and the GLA can address the huge increase in northern pike in Garfield. Per the latest fish survey, Garfield has the greatest number of northern pike per acreage of any lake in Hubbard County and if left unchecked could significantly hurt the population of other game fish.

We have 2 new members who have “stepped up” and volunteered to help on various activities within the GLA. They are Mike and Diane Frank. Diane will help out on the technical sides like the GLA website, address books and membership rosters and Mike will help in AIS monitoring, Hubbard County COLA and other projects as they come up. Many thanks to both of you. If any of our members are interested in “helping out” please get a hold of any of the Board members. Their emails and phone numbers are on the web site.

It was suggested that we get some type of sign up at the boat landing showing the location and phone numbers of the decontamination sites around the area. We will look into that.

If any of our members have questions or comments regarding anything within the GLA and or issues around the lake, we encourage you to contact any one of us and or reply to this email. Our contact information is on the website, and we are always looking for advise and input from our members and non-members.

Many thanks for your help and support in “Keeping Garfield Healthy”.

Ron