

LAKE WAVES



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Illinois Lake Management Association

Lake Waves April 2018

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The Illinois Lake Management Association
is a nonprofit organization whose mission is
to promote understanding and comprehensive
management of lake and watershed ecosystems.

Membership is open to all.



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Editor's Notes

Hello all you lake lovers out there! Once again, a great annual Conference has come and passed, the Spring season is slowly creeping in and a new edition of *Lake Waves* is finally here! A summary of the Conference along with select photos are provided for your enjoyment and remembrance of an absolutely fabulous event held in Bloomington, Illinois. For all of you who were fortunate to attend, we thank you for your continued support; and for those unfortunate “lakers” who were not able to come due to other extenuating circumstances...there is always next year in Crystal Lake! Warmer weather is rapidly approaching and the excitement is mounting for everyone to get outside and enjoy the water.

There have been some great ILMA activities this winter that included a workshop on how to develop a Lake Management Plan. On February 24, a workshop was conducted by the Lake County Health Department (Lakes Unit) and the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) at the Lake County Permit Center in Libertyville, IL entitled “Get it in Writing: Developing Your Lake Management Plan”. The workshop was very well attended and there is talk of conducting another one in the future. In addition, a “Lakes Forum” will be conducted on April 13th by the Lake County Health Department and ILMA at the Lake County Permit Center that features three excellent speakers on various lake related topics! So, as you can see, there have been, and continue to be, many opportunities to learn more about managing and enjoying lakes while getting to meet up with new and familiar faces.

Be sure to regularly visit the new and improved look of the ILMA website at www.ilma-lakes.org and don't forget to check the [ILMA Facebook page](#) and the Illinois Lakes Blog at <https://illinoislakes.wordpress.com> for new and interesting updates! Also, the 34th Annual Conference may be many months away, but be sure to mark your calendars to be in Crystal Lake IL from March 14-16, 2019.

Enjoy and protect your Lake!
Peter Berrini, Lake Waves Editor



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear ILMA Members,

The 33rd Annual ILMA Conference in Bloomington was completed successfully! On behalf of the board, I wish to thank the members, exhibitors, attendees, and especially the Conference Committee members for their contributions and dedication for another fun and educational conference.

Conference Acknowledgments

The first thank you goes to the fabulous Parke Hotel conference staff. I'm not sure how many of you had the opportunity to interact with them, but they continually went above and beyond with their cheerful service and troubleshooting during the entire event to make it successful.

Although ILMA is always a team effort, three individuals are absolutely instrumental in the conference planning and executing process: Bryan Cross, Leonard Dane, and Dick Hilton. Bryan Cross handles the conference programming, making sure all technical devices are up and running, slide shows are ready, and speaker presentations are prepared for moderators. Leonard Dane puts in so much work behind the scenes to keep the entire conference organized, especially with the exhibitors and raffle items. He's also a tremendous wealth of ILMA knowledge that helps so much to make sure we continue to improve the conference offerings every year. And finally, what's left to be said about Dick Hilton's tireless efforts? Year after year, he makes it all happen. Board and membership packets, name badges, front desk registrations, and trouble shooting. The board cannot express enough gratitude for all the dedication and service these three provide.

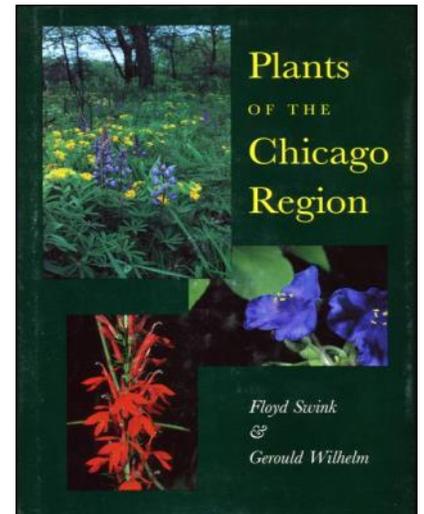
Board Changes

It is bittersweet as former board members complete their terms and new board members begin theirs. We thank the outgoing board members – Rich Bahr, Sharon Osterby, and Nancy Schumm for their service to ILMA. We welcome Joe Bartletti, Alana Bartolai, and Brian Valleskey as incoming board members. A full list of Officers and Directors can be found on the ILMA website: www.ilma-lakes.org/officers

Upcoming Events

The Conference Committee has started to plan the next ILMA Conference in Crystal Lake for March 2019. We have several talks already lined up and have the keynote speaker scheduled with Jerry Wilhelm. All of you

wetland and plant people may know him as the author of Plants of the Chicago Region. His talk will be on The Ecology and Culture of Water will be one of the highlights of the Crystal Lake Conference. He will also be available after the keynote speech to autograph any of his books that you may own.



We are actively working on Points of Discussion (“PODs”) and other educational offerings through out 2018 and early 2019 to maximize the benefits that ILMA offers. Watch your email box for upcoming announcements. For the 2020 Conference, we asked a poll question on the conference format – 1 day vs. 2 day and spring vs. fall. Resoundingly, a 2-day option is the choice by membership, so we will continue as a 2-day format. The conference committee will be discussing the spring vs. fall option as we look for available locations.

In closing, we urge membership to continue to share your thoughts and suggestions about your needs from ILMA as we continue to serve the ILMA community. Thank you for all that you do to keep ILMA vibrant and productive.

Sincerely,
Karen K. Clementi,
ILMA President

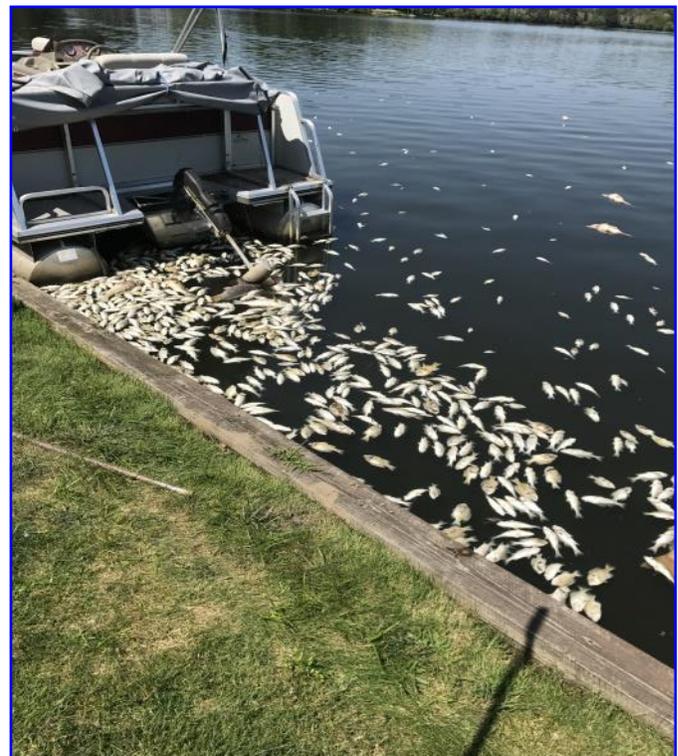
Fish Kills in Lakes

By Leonard Dane

Fish kills can be natural or caused by pollution. Natural fish kills are caused by stressed fish succumbing to a pathogen or low dissolved oxygen in the water. Pathogens are naturally present in the environment and may not affect the fish until they become stressed. There are generally three times of the year when fish kills occur – winter, spring, and summer.

The winter fish kill is generally caused by low oxygen stress. As a lake goes through turnover in the fall, it becomes fully oxygenated prior to ice-up. Aquatic organisms consume the oxygen and while sunlight penetrates the ice, plants and algae produce oxygen. However, once snow covers the ice and blocks sunlight, less oxygen is produced than is being consumed through respiration by fish, plants, and bacteria decaying organic matter. If there is a prolonged period of snow cover, fish become stressed as the oxygen becomes depleted. Also involved is the simultaneous rise in carbon dioxide from ordinary respiration of fish, plants, and bacteria and an increase in hydrogen sulfide, a poisonous gas, which is a product of bacterial respiration in the absence of oxygen. Fish require less oxygen during the winter to maintain life. However, if the oxygen dips too low, and the carbon dioxide (which acts as an anesthetic to fish) rises to an anesthetic level, and hydrogen sulfide rises to a poisonous level, the fish get hit from three different directions at once, and winterkills occur. In general, winter kills affect many sizes and species of fish.

After the ice melts off a lake and the water temperatures rise, biological activity increases. The bacteria in the water respond to the rising water temperatures quicker than fish, which are already stressed from the winter. In addition, the sexually mature fish begin preparing for the spawning season, which compounds their stress levels. To cope with the extra stress the fish produce hormones called cortisols. However, these stress relieving hormones suppress the immune system making the fish more susceptible to disease. The most common disease is Columnaris disease. Caused by the bacterium *Flexibacter columnaris*, this disease is stress mediated meaning the worse the stress, the more fish are affected. The most common fish species affected are larger Bluegill, Crappie, Carp, and Bullheads.



Fish Kills in Lakes (continued)

The loss of fish starts slow and gradually peaks over a period of days and then tapers back off. It occurs in the spring when the water temperature reaches approximately 68° F, which is shortly before or during the spawning season. Although many other species of fish may be present in the lake, none will appear to be sick or dying. Columnaris disease can affect from 50 to several thousand fish depending on the size of the lake and the severity of the outbreak. The fish populations are almost never seriously affected and the disease will subside on its own as the first spawning period passes and the water temperatures begin to stabilize.

As summer progresses and water temperatures increase, the next type of fish kill can occur. Many lakes in Illinois are very fertile (i.e., high nutrient levels). The increased water temperature (which holds less oxygen than cooler water) and elevated fertility generally produce more aquatic life. Several cloudy days in a row can cause a collapse of the heavy population of one-celled organisms. The abnormally high levels of bacteria begin to decay the recently dead organisms. At this point, like in winter, the consumption of oxygen through biological processes may exceed oxygen production and may drive the oxygen level in the lake to near zero. Even if the oxygen does not go to zero, extended periods of low oxygen can place heavy stress on fish. After a week to 10 days a disease can break out. The first indication of this type of kill will be the fish coming to the surface in the early morning hours. Seldom, if ever, will a summer kill wipe out all of the fish in a lake. Typically the small fish (Bluegills and Green Sunfish) less than an inch and Bullheads survive and larger Largemouth Bass and Channel Catfish perish.

Fish kills can also be caused by pollution. Pollution can be from chemical spills running off into a body of water. Also, if aquatic herbicide treatments for plants and/or algae are completed when the water temperatures are too high and oxygen levels are too low, a fish kill can occur. A fish kill caused by pollution generally wipes out all species within 24 to 48 hours.

If a fish kill occurs on a lake or pond in your neighborhood it is recommended that the dead fish be collected and disposed of in the trash as soon as possible to eliminate the odor of decaying fish and the possibility of any health hazard. You should contact your local fisheries biologist to make him aware of your situation. Also, a fisheries survey should be conducted to determine the extent of the damage done by the fish kill before any stocking program is initiated.



Scenes from the 33rd Annual ILMA Conference

A recap by Peter Berrini

The 2018 Illinois Lake Management Association (ILMA) Annual Conference was held at the Parke Regency Hotel and Conference Center in Bloomington on March 22-24. The conference featured an excellent variety of speakers and topics from all areas of Illinois and the Midwest, and a total of 121 people were in attendance.

The keynote session featured Molly Flanagan, Great Lakes Alliance, whose presentation focused on the Threats and Opportunities facing the Great Lakes. The Alliance for the Great Lakes works across the region to ensure that the Great Lakes are healthy for all people and wildlife, forever. More than 40 million people depend on the Great Lakes for their drinking water and the Lakes provide recreational opportunities, jobs and quality of life for people across the region. Molly provided an overview of some of the biggest threats and opportunities currently facing the Great Lakes. She highlighted the Alliance's work to support the federal Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which has provided more than \$2 billion in more than 3,000 projects to clean up Great Lakes Areas of Concern. These projects are crucial for preventing and controlling invasive species, reducing nutrient runoff that contributes to harmful algal blooms and restoring habitat to protect native species. She also talked about the Alliance's policy work to stop the introduction of aquatic invasive species like Asian carp into the Great Lakes and prevent toxic algal blooms from poisoning drinking water and spoiling recreational pursuits.

Many other excellent presentations included topics related to Algae, Nutrients, Environmental Education, Watershed Management, Invasive Species, Developing and Sustaining Homeowners Associations, Dredging, Fish Habitat, and Climate Change. Representative photos are provided below.

A total of four student scholarships were presented at this year's Conference. The ILMA \$1,000 scholarship was awarded to Elizabeth Berg, who is a Graduate student at Loyola University of Chicago, and the Illinois EPA - Steve Kolsto \$1,000 Scholarship was awarded to Anthony Breitenbach, who is a Doctoral student at Illinois State University. The \$1,000 ILM Environments Scholarship was split and awarded to both Gare Ambrose-Igho and Jared Bilak at \$500 each. Gare is currently a graduate student at Illinois State University and Jared is a Doctoral candidate at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. The \$500 Robert Esser Student Achievement Scholarship was not awarded this year. The annual Secchi disk auction and conference bucket raffles go to support the annual scholarship funds.





Dick Hilton and Dennis Gallo of the Wonder Lake MPOA were the winning bidders for the annual Secchi Disk Auction

The Frank Loftus, Lake Guardian, and Dick Hilton Watershed Awards were presented at the annual banquet. The Frank Loftus Award was presented to Steve Burgoon of the Tower Lakes Improvement Association. The recipient of the Lake Guardian Award was presented to Bryan Cross of Prairie Engineers, Inc. and the Dick Hilton Watershed Award was presented to Beth Baranski of the Jo Daviess County League of Women Voters. See write-ups and photos below:

Steve Burgoon: Recipient of the Frank Loftus Award

Steve Burgoon was nominated and approved by ILMA's board for his impressive lake protection resume. Steve served extensive terms on both the Tower Lakes Improvement Association (TLIA) Lake Committee and its' governing Board, and was instrumental in two major projects to protect and restore Tower Lakes: a shoreline effort, many years ago and TLIA's more recent and ongoing Silt Removal project. Steve has also dedicated untold hours to organizing and guiding efforts to connect local lake communities. Working with representatives from Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and Barrington Area Conservation Trust (BACT) he was key to establishing local working groups: The Tower Lakes Drain Partnership (TLDP) which became the 4 Lakes group and now is part of the CMAP 9 Lakes Watershed Plan. These connections and planning were key to the grants TLIA has received for the Dredging and Raingarden projects.



Scenes from the 32nd Annual ILMA Conference (continued)

(continued from previous page)

Steve and his wife Chris have raised five beautiful and accomplished children. Despite being a national sales manager for a housewares company, calling for more than a little travel, he had served as a Cub Scout and Boy Scout Leader for 13 years, soccer coach ... you get the idea! He participates in almost all community related volunteer activities like the Spring and Fall Clean-ups of TLIA's 46 acres of parks and shoreline. He has organized and waded-in our manual invasive aquatic plant control efforts and has served on the VLMP group since its' inception. The TLIA Community and ILMA is lucky to have Steve's leadership and spirit of volunteerism.



Steve Burgoon (middle) receiving the Frank Loftus Award

Bryan Cross: Recipient of the Lake Guardian Award

Each year the Illinois Lake Guardian Award is presented *in recognition of exceptional effort to enhance and preserve the quality of Illinois lakes.* The person receiving the 2018 award is Bryan Cross, who has been associated with ILMA and Illinois lakes for many years. As a consultant, ILMA Director and Officer, and professional in the field of Lake Management, this person's management skills has engineered near perfect solutions to issues confronting lake managers, lake users and lake communities throughout the State of Illinois.



Bryan Cross (right) receiving the Lake Guardian Award

The enthusiasm that is demonstrated by Bryan is contagious. His dedication to detail is a trademark approach that results in sensible solutions to both water quality and soil erosion issues in lakes and stream corridors. In presenting the award, Dick Hilton indicated that he has had the personal privilege of working with him and observing both his planning and organizational leadership skills, and that it was his extreme pleasure and honor to present to Mr. Bryan Cross, ILMA's 2018 Illinois Lake Guardian Award.

Beth Baranski: Recipient of Dick Hilton Watershed Award

Throughout her career, Beth has used her architectural education and research, writing and facilitation skills to promote thoughtful community development. Through her past posts, doing architectural preservation in the Chicago Office of John Vinci, serving as City of Galena Development Director, working as community development consultant and principal for Notheis & Baranski, Inc. and conducting special research and planning projects with Baranski Hammer & Associates, she has worked with property owners, citizens, and governmental entities to identify priorities, document consensus, and secure project funding with an ongoing focus on positive development that incorporates preservation and conservation values.



Beth Baransky (right) receiving the Dick Hilton Watershed Award



Beth has served on the Jo Daviess County Board, currently serves on the Unit 1 University of Illinois Extension Advisory Board, is an active member of the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation land trust, serves on the board of the Galena Foundation, is a founding member and current Director of the Jo Daviess County Horticultural Society, has recently joined the Jo Daviess County Soil & Water Conservation District board, and is Project Coordinator for a countywide water resource management effort being conducted by the League of Women Voters of Jo Daviess County.

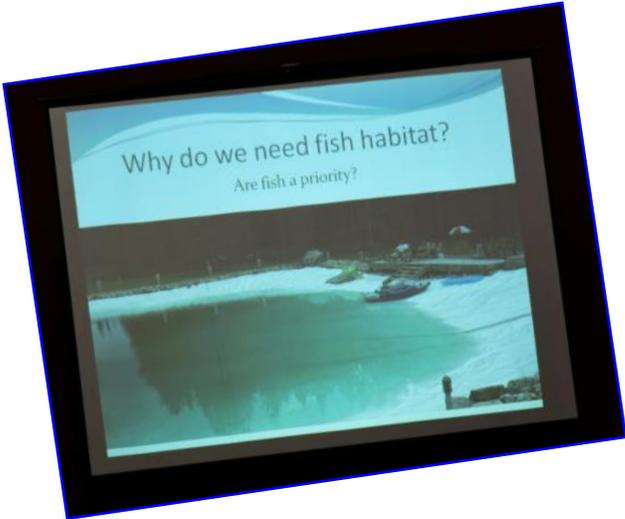


Outgoing Board member and President Rich Bahr handed over the reins to current Board member Karen Clementi to be this year's ILMA Board President. Current Board member Tim Gardner remains as the ILMA Treasurer, and newly elected Board members Joe Bartletti and Alana Bartolai were elected to be Recording Secretary and Membership Secretary respectively. Current Board member Michelle Nicol was elected Vice President. Brian Valleskey was the third newly elected Board member, while Peter Berrini agreed to remain for another year to cover for Nancy Schumm's final year. Many thanks to outgoing Rich Bahr, Sharon Osterby and Nancy Schumm for their service!

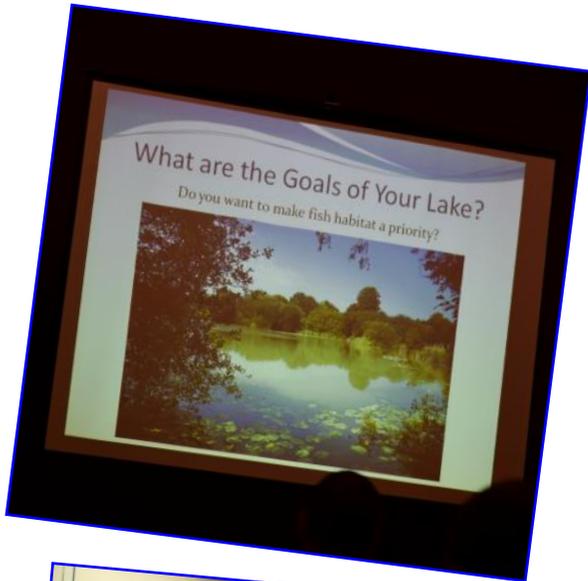
The annual bucket raffle conducted to raise funds for student scholarships was a huge success once again! Thank to everyone who generously participated!



Scenes from the 32nd Annual ILMA Conference (continued)



Scenes from the 32nd Annual ILMA Conference (continued)



Annual Photo Contest Winners



Winner: Ken Funk



Runner-Up: Dennis Gallo

Congratulations to our 2018 Photo Contest winners! Be sure to enter your favorite lake photo at next year's Conference. The winning photo gets printed on the cover of our Annual Conference Program!

A special thanks to the ILMA 2018 exhibitors and sponsors who helped make the Annual Conference a success!

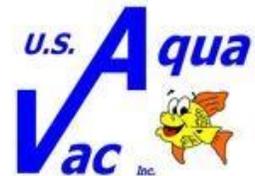


Exhibitors:

- Crop Production Services
- Xylem-YSI
- Clarke
- Cygnets Enterprises
- Endrizzi Contracting Inc.
- ENCAP, Inc
- Applied Biochemist
- HMG Engineers, Inc
- Marine Biochemists;
a Lonza Business
- Heartland Dredging
- Aquatic Control, Inc.
- CHAT Ltd
- Integrated Lakes Management
- US Aqua Vac, Inc.

Sponsors only (didn't exhibit):

- Hey and Associates, Inc.
- Rollins Aquatic Solutions



UPCOMING EVENTS

April 13, 2018: Lakes Forum, Lake County Health Department, Libertyville, IL

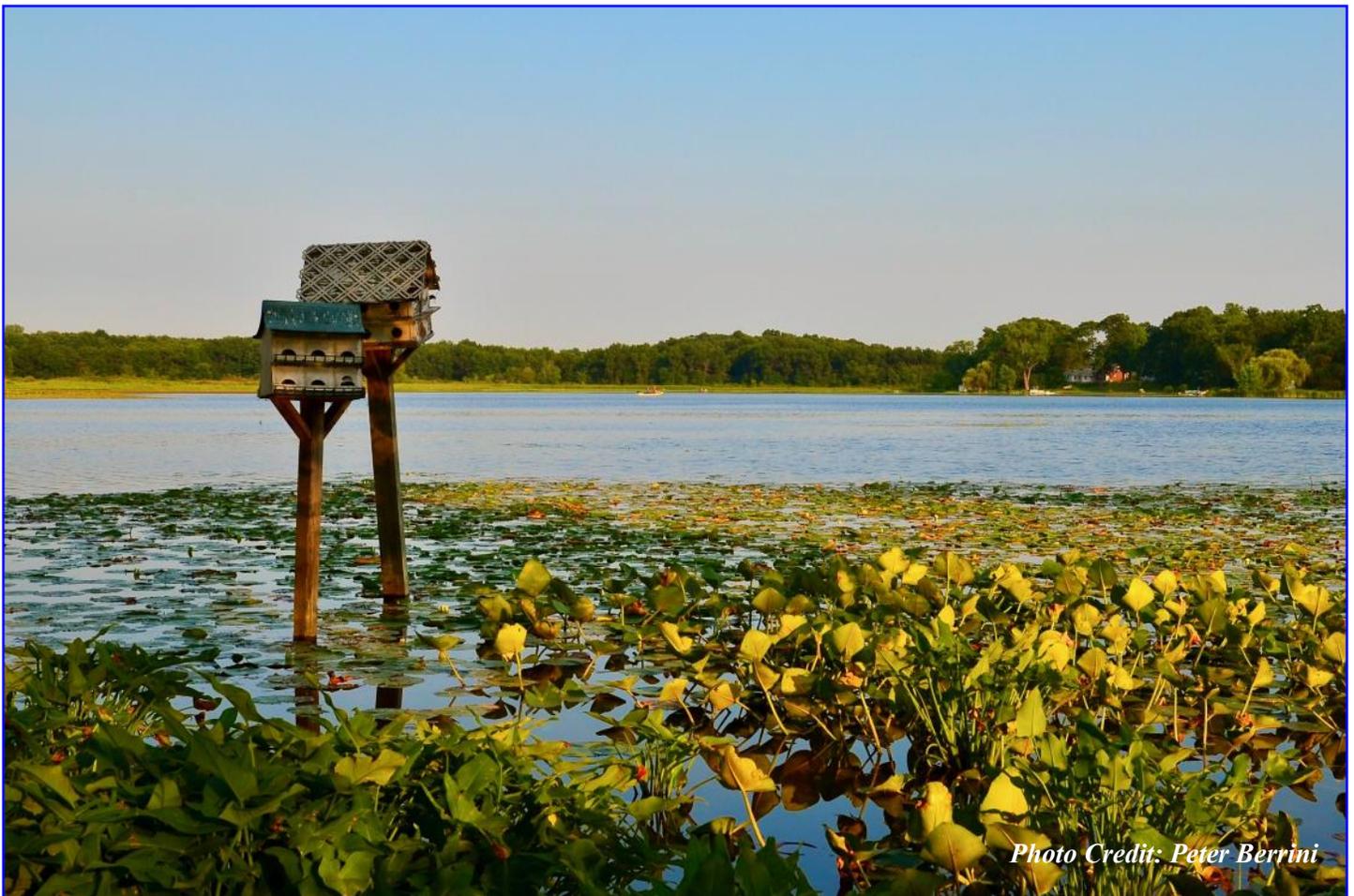
May 9, 2018: Urban BMP Workshop, Bridgeview Park, Springfield, IL

July 2018: Lakes Appreciation Month and “Secchi Dip-In”, North American Lake Management Society

October 29 - November 2, 2018, NALMS Conference in Cincinnati, OH

March 14-16, 2019; 34th Annual ILMA Conference, Crystal Lake, IL

ILMA Pods and Workshops to be Announced



Mark your calendar!



Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center
Crystal Lake, Illinois

34th Annual ILMA Conference



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