



**Bay Lake Improvement Association**  
P.O. Box 461 • Deerwood, MN 56444-0461

Greetings Bay Lake Neighbor,

If you spent the winter somewhere else I hope you were able to visit Bay Lake's brilliant, frozen beauty from time to time, at least in your mind. There are some great winter pictures on **BayLake.org**. Now the lake is blue and getting warmer again, and it's time to think about the lake we love. First priority is your BLIA membership. We need YOUR help to make sure Bay Lake remains the special place it has always been!

Our mission statement reads, "The Bay Lake Improvement Association (BLIA) exists to preserve and enhance the natural environment and the community of Bay Lake." A key strategy in fulfilling the mission is to help you stay informed, so let me mention just a few highlights of what has been going on at BLIA and the Bay Lake community:

- This spring Crow Wing County adopted revisions to its land use ordinance. A March 22, 2011, *Brainerd Daily Dispatch* article gives a brief overview, and the opening paragraph reads, "Hot-button issues on the ordinance revisions revolved around impervious surface, vegetation buffers, an increase in lot sizes on general development lake lots, phasing out of a one-time expansion for nonconforming structures and septic system setbacks." Read the full article at [brainerddispatch.com](http://brainerddispatch.com).
- Minnesota DNR Fisheries is developing a new lake management plan for our lake, and the BLIA fishing resources committee has been monitoring the process and working with DNR staff.
- BLIA continues its efforts to fight Eurasian water milfoil and to reduce the likelihood of zebra mussels making their way into the lake. Public access monitoring by volunteers and paid DNR staff is more important than ever. Consider giving a few hours of your time to help save Bay Lake. Thanks to all of you who volunteer. And please respond enthusiastically to the Environmental Fund donation request letter when you receive it.

Enclosed is a list of coming events. Note that the annual meeting is Saturday, July 2, at 9:30 a.m. Everyone will be at the lake that weekend, so it will be a great meeting. Come a half hour early to enjoy breakfast and socialize. Monthly board meeting dates are also listed, and members are welcome to attend those as well.

For much more information and frequent updates, visit **[BayLake.org](http://BayLake.org)**. Right on the landing page you'll find links to many important and interesting items, including a secure way to donate online. Also watch for the spring issue of the *Bay Lake Breezes* newsletter in your mail shortly.

Thanks for sending in your membership. Please insure that the next generations of your family join too, and encourage your neighbors and new residents to get involved.

I look forward to seeing you at Bay Lake.

Sincerely,

Chris Ruttger  
President