

Lake Owasso Association Annual Meeting – Thursday 04/23/26

Autumn Grove facility 7:04 – Call to Order

Introduction – Joe Bester

Tribute to passing of Juan (Nito) Quitevis

Board Members Present

Edward Roberts, Jill Roberts, Dan Kelsey, David Lutz, Scott Schultz, Joe Bester

Absent – Steve Youngquist, Andy Walz

Historical Lake Owasso photos - 1902 & 1937

Engagement Opportunity #1 Submit historical photos to info@lakeowasso.org

Move to approve 2025 board meeting minutes: D. Kelsey, 2nd E. Roberts, motion carried.

Ice out Dates: March ice-outs 3 years in a row, avg ice-out April 6 since 1950. Chart presented on extreme rain/drought periods since 1911. 1930's severe drought - same time period as installation of augmentation wells. Leak under Owasso explained per glacial substrate type.

Treasurer Report	2025	2024
Balance on 1/1/25	\$53,967	\$20,495
Contributions	\$25,525	\$88,322
Membership Fees	\$5,145	\$1,027
Total Receipts	\$30,670	\$89,349
Expenses		
Plant Control/Permits	\$32,029	\$51,708
Admin Exp.	\$1,097	\$1,270
Blue Water Science	\$2,900	\$2,900
Total Expenses	\$36,026	\$55,878
Balance on 12/31/25	\$48,611	\$53,967

Question on number of treatment participants (response about 170 out of about 230 homes on the lake)

Aquatic Plant/Algae Balance

As predicted an increase in native plants post fluridone - largeleaf pondweed (LLP) and flatstem pondweed but which also indicates a healthy lake. Contrast drawn between LLP (navigable) and matted EWM (unnavigable). Two other extremes presented: 1) Photos of Blackturn Pond (unnavigable with densely matted plants but clear water, and 2) a green lake absent from most plant life and very poor water clarity. Owasso treatment approach: to strike a balance between extremes.

Loon notes

Loons - visual predators where water clarity is important. Black & white plumage absent later in summer due to adult body molting or presence of juveniles only. Photo presented to distinguish molted adult vs juvenile - both gray but subtle differences. Adults undergo second molt (wings only) in Jan/Feb shortly after Gulf coast arrival.

AIS Update – EWM, zebra mussels (ZM), EWM, Starry stonewort (SSW), curlyleaf pondweed, carp. DNR AIS report; Enormous focus on SSW, repeat slide from last year underscoring how/why SSW is such a threat; if found early hand pulling is effective. No known SSW on Owasso Rake tossing encouraged for early detection or reemergence of EWM. 3rd year in a row for ZM detection plate deployment. Carp: only 81 captured in 2025; carp netting again in 2026

pending private access permission. **Volunteer Opportunity #2** Build a Rake Toss, learn to identify SSW & EWM, record findings.

Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (MLR)

MLR plays a major role in AIS deterrence – a strong voice for lake associations. Advocates for State money to Counties for watercraft inspections, and DNR grants. Statewide, MLR estimates Lake Associations spend \$8 million annually on AIS control. Recent LOA membership in MLR (\$125/year). Recent MLR win: 2-yr delay of 50% County AIS funding cut.

Boat Ramp Inspections

Not without limitations, yet inspections still offer single greatest AIS deterrent. A nearby Lake Assoc. spends 8-10k annually on incremental launch inspections. Should LOA consider a similar approach? Estimated cost: 30 hrs for \$1,000. In 2025 Ramsey County spent 102 hours at Owasso launch with 352 total inspections. Current initiative toward estimate of total number of annual launches on Owasso. Related: Prescribed burn (April) of restored shoreline between launch and beach. **Volunteer Opportunity #3** provide input on incremental LOA funded boat launch inspections.

2025 and 2026 treatment notes

Point Intercept aquatic plant survey performed June 2025 (Blue Water Science). Trace EWM found in far south bay. Touch up treatment Aug 2025. BWS slated for follow-up spot survey of south bay. Volunteer rake tosses by trestle in 2025 where EWM was heaviest pre fluridone.

Water Quality

Map presented of infiltration installs around Owasso over the past 20 years. Pavers removed from N Owasso Blvd. (excessive maintenance) transplanted to Woodbridge. Various catch basins, settling ponds and hydrodynamic separators installed. **DNR Lake Health Assessment Scores** web site displayed. Video on underwater debris removal from Old Ladies against underwater garbage (OLAUG). **Swimmer's Itch:** Spike in swimmers itch reported by researchers; problems on Pleasant Lake; possible association with Zebra Mussels. Diagram presented depicting parasites need for two hosts (waterfowl/snails). Ramsey County bi-weekly eColi testing data at beach presented. **Volunteer Opportunity #4** Reach out to swimmer's itch researchers for additional information Curt Blankespoor Jackson College Mich. & Amanda Schuermann MAIRSC

Geese harvesting

Effort needs a champion to coordinate between goose contractor and City of Shoreview. Geese nesting observations in south bay April 21.

Volunteer Opportunity #5 (for 2027 as 2026 is covered)

Coordinate with City of Shoreview and goose contractor:

Chris Heim Goose Crew – 507-272-7004 canadagoosemanagement@gmail.com

Courage Center will run again.

Wednesday evenings in July. Normally clockwise direction with a chase boat.

New Business

Feedback on Autumn Field site: “a little small” “hard to hear” “screen is small.”

“LOA website is a good resource for connection” www.lakeowasso.org Additional comment on wish for Facebook communication.

Adjourn

8:30 p.m.