

NEW WEBSITE DESIGN UNDER CONSTRUCTION!

The lakelidalid.com website is currently under redesign by our webmaster Tony Flippance. Tony has worked with the LLID since our inception and the Board feels it is time to make improvements to locate valued information. The new website will be up shortly. The Communications Committee also plans to update our Facebook Page with timely information, photos of the lake and important updates. Both our website and Facebook page are valued social media tools to keep property owners informed.

2026 BUDGET

(Note: Due to space limitations in the newsletter the budget descriptions have been condensed. Details are available on the website at lakelidalid.com.)

Zach Herrmann,
Treasurer



INCOME	
Estimated Carry-Over	\$150
2026 LLID User Fee (\$65/Parcel)	\$54,340
Income Subtotal	\$54,490
 EXPENSES (ESTIMATED)	
Administrative (Insurance, Website, Mailings, Legal Notices, Dues)	\$6,040
Recreational (Fisheries, Support, and Water Navigation)	\$18,000
Aquatic Invasive Species (Survey, Treatment, Public Notices)	\$26,340
Planning and Research.....	\$3,750
<i>(Water Quality Sampling/Testing, Water Quality Assessment/Modeling, Lake Management Update, Lake Coordinator Assistance/Member Concerns)</i>	
Contingency Fund	\$300
Expenses Subtotal (Estimated)	\$54,430
YEAR END BALANCE	\$60

REVAMPED DNR ACCESS IN 2026/2027 –JEFF FJESTAD/MN DNR

The DNR is working out the details for renovations to the access on North Lida. They have a feasibility design and are waiting on the required cultural and resource review which are scheduled for the spring of 2026. The design is waiting on the completion of that review to finish the final drawing. There could be a later 2026 build, but realistically, construction in 2027 is more optimal.

The new access will have the latest in best management practices, such as dedicated AIS pull off for cleaning watercraft, improve parking stalls with wider and longer spaces, ADA improvements including the portable toilet and ADA accessible parking space closer to the ramp, better storm water drainage to improve runoff and improved storm water retention on the site. There will also be a solar light near the top of the ramp. The ramp will be in the same area to minimize significant shoreline disturbance and loss of parking. Follow the LLID webpage and newsletters as well as other sources for updates on this project.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission statement for LLID is to preserve and protect Lida Lakes and to increase and enhance the use and enjoyment of the lakes. It is in the property owners and public interest that a lake improvement district program is established to: preserve the natural character of the lakes and their shoreline environment where feasible and practical; improve the quality of water in the lakes; provide for reasonable assurance of water in the lakes where feasible and practicable; and to assure protection of the lakes from detrimental effects of human activities and certain natural processes.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brian Graftaas	Chair	(Second Term Expires 2026)
Dee Dee Stephenson	Vice Chair	(First Term Expires 2027)
Zach Herrmann	Treasurer	(Second Term Expires 2027)
David Braton	Secretary	(Second Term Expires 2026)
Mike Spangler	Director	(First Term Expires 2027)
Marshall Johnson	Director	(First Term Expires 2028)
Roger Sundby	Director	(First Term Expires 2028)

2026 BOARD MEETINGS
AND *ANNUAL MEETING

ALL MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR 9 AM AT THE LIDA TOWNSHIP BUILDING
42206 230TH AVE., PELICAN RAPIDS
SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026
SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026
***SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026**



P.O. Box 343
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

Lake Lida Newsletter - April 2026

Your LAKE LIDA LID Continues
“Improvements” in 2025-2026!



1447 Pounds of Adult Walleye
and 2,380,000 Fry Stocked
by MN DNR!



1700 Pounds of Adult Walleye
Stocked by LLID in 2025!



Lida received \$57,000 State Grant for Water Quality Study!

PLUS, LAKE LIDA IS SEEING IMPACT OF EFFECTIVE CURLEY-LEAF PONDWEED TREATMENT!

TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS TO BE ELECTED AT THE 2026 AUGUST ANNUAL MEETING!
Brian Graftaas and David Braton will be completing their terms on the LLID Board in August. The Board will need a full-time resident to fill Braton’s term and a seasonal property owner to fill Graftaas’ term. Joining your LLID board is important for the lake. Simply submit your name and short biography to lakelidalid@gmail.com by June 12, 2026.

MESSAGE FROM LLID CHAIR - BRIAN GRAFTAAS



The past year has been especially productive for the Lida Lakes Improvement District (LLID):

- We received a \$57,000 grant from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) to fund a comprehensive lakeshed assessment. The assessment is helping us identify nutrient sources and other risks that affect Lida's water quality — and will guide future improvement projects. Our Lake Coordinator, Moriya Rufer, will present the report at our annual meeting on August 15. We hope to see you there.
- Curly-leaf pondweed treatment has been effective and will continue in 2026, although we are treating a smaller area than in past years. We received a \$5,000 grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to help fund these treatments.
- LLID stocked 1,200 pounds of yearling walleye in North Lida and 500 pounds in South Lida. The DNR provided additional stocking, bringing the 2025 total to 3,147 pounds — an estimated 15,000 walleyes. The Fishing Committee also launched a donation program through the LLPOA so

individuals and businesses can contribute to our stocking fund. Contributions in 2025 totaled over \$3,200. To donate: <https://donorbox.org/lake-lida-fisheries-donation>.

This marks the end of my second term on the board, and I'm proud of what we've accomplished together over the past five years. Under our by-laws, David Braton and I are not eligible to run again, so we are recruiting new board members. If you care about protecting water quality, strengthening fisheries, and preserving the character of our lakes, please consider serving — or encourage a neighbor who would be a great fit. Your time and perspective can make a lasting difference for Lida today and for generations to come.

YOUR OPINION IS VALUED! PLEASE TAKE A QUICK 5 MINUTE SURVEY

To improve our lakes and ensure your board is working for you, we need your opinion. By using your phone camera on the QR code to the right you can be redirected to a quick survey on your concerns and care for Lake Lida. The results of the survey will be part of our water quality study. The survey can also be accessed on our website, www.lakelidalid.com.



LAKE COORDINATOR REPORT - MORIYA RUFER



The Lida Lake Property Owners Association applied for and received a grant from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) in June of 2025. This grant was available to non-profit organizations to study and improve water quality. The funds come from the state's Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment funds (<https://www.legacy.mn.gov/clean-water-fund>). The study is now complete and the report is being written. Full results will be presented at the LLID Annual Meeting on August 15.

Along with the water quality study, the LLID is conducting a survey of residents to help gather information about your concerns and care for the lake. Please scan the QR code (above) to complete the survey. Approximate time to complete is 5 minutes.

In June of 2025 we completed an aquatic plant survey to document invasive curly-leaf pondweed at its peak growth. We identified curly-leaf pondweed in both North and South Lida Lakes. The densest area is in South Lida right where you boat in from North Lida. These areas will be targeted for herbicide treatment this May. LLID also received a grant for \$5,000 from the DNR to offset some of the treatment costs in North Lida.



This committee meets monthly to review items related to water quality, shoreline issues, and grant opportunities. The committee includes me, along with Marshall Johnson, Brian Graftaas and Moriya Rufer, our Lake Coordinator. Lake Model Grant- In 2025 the LLID was awarded a grant to establish a Lake Plan. The Plan will be presented at the Annual Meeting in August. This plan will provide necessary information to make decisions on potential projects that will improve water quality and shoreline management over the next several years. We are excited to put this plan in place and move forward with other opportunities to enhance Lida Lakes. Part of this process involved a survey and feedback from landowners. This information will guide ideas for education and other ways to improve the water quality and shoreline. It will help the LLID concentrate on areas that are important to landowners. Keep It Clean - the LLID continues to participate in this initiative with notices to local bait shops and establishments in the area to provide reminders for anglers and boaters to keep the lakes clean. CLP Treatment- the LLID continues to treat curly-leaf pondweed and will again, spend approximately \$10,000 of our budget on spring treatment, which has

proven to be highly effective in recent years. A new chemical was used in 2025, and we were pleased with the results. We are not able to totally eradicate this weed, but we see reliable results with consistent treatment and aggressively look for patches of weeds to treat. We work with the DNR to find areas suitable for treatment. We continue to monitor areas and treat those areas each year when funding is available. We also apply for grants for such treatment and have been successful in winning those grants from year to year. This is an area where Moriya is extremely helpful with her knowledge of this process and the available funds. At the June meeting, there will be education to the membership on various lake weeds. We hope to see you there!

FISHING COMMITTEE REPORT - MIKE SPANGLER, CHAIR

On October 15th and 16th, LLID stocked a total of 1700 lbs. of walleye yearlings (8" - 9") into North and South Lida Lakes. North Lida received 1200 lbs. (9600 yearlings) and South Lida received 500 lbs. (5000 yearlings). From October to November, MN DNR stocked a total of 1447 lbs. of adult carry - over walleye (1.2 per pound). North Lida received 1012 lbs. (1214 walleye) and South Lida received 435 lbs. (522 walleye) of adult carry - over walleye. In May of last spring MN DNR also stocked North Lida with walleye fry at a rate of 1000 per littoral acre (2,380,000 fry). The next walleye summer netting survey will be in 2027.

Mid-September, on Noth Lida, MN DNR conducted their annual fall walleye young of year (YOY) electrofishing survey. The results show some promise

with a 16.5 young of year / hr. on time. We need to reach 40 fish or more / hr. on time to indicate a strong year class. The last time North Lida had a strong natural year class was 2014 with 47 young of year walleye/hr. on time. As a side note, zebra mussels were discovered in North Lida, July 2013. Zebra mussels have had a negative effect over time on both walleye natural reproduction and stocked walleye fry. Basically, the walleye fry starves to death due to zebra mussels filtering most of, if not all, the zooplankton and other microorganisms out of the water column. That is why you now see water clarity readings in the spring over 30 feet on North and South Lida. Hopefully, zebra mussel population peaked, and will begin to decline to lower levels, leading to more and stronger year classes in the future.

Panfish (Crappie, Bluegill and Bass) seem to be doing well. Populations and size structure are respectable. MN DNR do panfish spring netting surveys every 3 years. The next survey will be in 2027.



Support Our Fishery and Donate Today!

The LLID would like to say a big Thank You to everyone that donated to additional stocking funds in 2025. Thanks to your generosity, over \$3,200 dollars were raised in 2025 through the Lake Lida Property Owners Association (LLPOA) to enhance stocking that was funded by the LLID. We look forward to an even bigger impact through your generosity in 2026! To make a contribution to the 2026 initiative, please scan the QR code to the right with your phone, or visit the following website. <https://donorbox.org/lake-lida-fisheries-donation>.

