



Minnesotans *for Healthy Lakes*

November 21, 2005

Dear Members and Other Friends of Minnesotans for Healthy Lakes:

We would like to give you an update on what progress is being made at MHL.

- 1.) We launched our first mailing to lakeshore property owners in July and have had a good response. Nearly 600 property owners have joined MHL, signed petitions, or both. These represent over 140 lakes. It's a good start. We also have some corporate members and donors. A much larger mailing to 20,000 additional lakeshore property owners has been started in November and will continue over the next three months. We are hoping that many more property owners will join our cause as a result of this mail campaign.
- 2.) We attended an Open House at the State Capitol and introduced MHL to key senators and representatives.
- 3.) We have engaged Ewald Consulting to serve as our lobbyist. This is a very respected firm that has an excellent reputation at the capitol. They are working to schedule meetings with key people on the Environmental committees of both the State House and Senate. We have drafted statements of our concerns for presentation to them.
- 4.) We have added substantial information to our website. If you have not visited it recently, please do so as it will give you much valuable information. It includes the proposed Rule changes which the DNR is championing as well as the Key Issues that MHL is fighting for. Visit www.mnhealthylakes.org
- 5.) We incorporated as a Minnesota non-profit corporation in August and have held our first two Board of Directors meetings.
PLEASE NOTE: We are in need of two more Board Members as well as committee members. We need folks with some knowledge of marine ecosystems and who have a passion to see them maintained in a healthy state. If you are interested in volunteering 5 to 10 hours a month for this purpose, please contact us as soon as possible.
- 6.) We filed for non-profit status with the IRS in October. We expect that it will take a few months to obtain a determination from the IRS. If certified, we will be able to report that your membership dues and contributions are tax-deductible.
- 7.) We have confirmed the DNR schedule for the Rule Change process. They are planning to launch it by 1 January 2006, and expect to have the new, more restrictive rules in place for the 2007 field season. We will be doing everything we can to block this initiative.
- 8.) As part of the process of preparing to meet with our elected representatives, we are gathering numerous examples of permit denials and reductions by the DNR in which they are implementing the new rules, before they have been approved. If you have any such rejection/reduction letters from the DNR, we would appreciate receiving a copy.

We will keep you posted on developments as we move into the future. As the need for your further involvement becomes clearer, we will alert you to take the appropriate action. In the meantime, please monitor our website and urge your friends and neighbors to join MHL. We can't protect lakeshore property rights without your support!

Best Regards,

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MHL Executive Director

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