

OUTDOORS

DNR: Open burning encouraged

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources encourages homeowners to complete necessary open burning now, as restrictions will take effect shortly after snowmelt occurs.

“Warm temperatures will continue to erode the snowpack in the next few weeks,” said Larry Himanga, DNR fire prevention coordinator. “This will expose last year’s leaves and other yard waste. The safest way to dispose of this vegetation is to recycle or compost it.”

Homeowners who choose to burn should do so under the safest conditions, when snow is still on the ground. A DNR burning permit is not required when there are at least 3 inches of continuous snow cover. The cover drastically reduces the chance a fire will escape and burn unintended areas. Check local city and municipal regulations; many are more stringent.

Spring fire

restrictions will soon take effect and will severely limit open burning until summer green up occurs. Traditionally, most wildfires occur in April and May. More than 95 percent of these fires are caused by human error. Due to the high fire incidence during this period, the DNR initiates burning restrictions to coincide with this annual fire season.

The restrictions are weather dependent, but normally last from four to six weeks until there is sufficient green vegetative growth. Historically, spring fire restrictions dramatically decrease the number and size of accidental fires.

By burning prior to snowmelt, homeowners can reduce the potential for an escaped fire, which could endanger homes and property. And, if the DNR or a fire department has to respond to an escaped fire, the homeowner is responsible for the cost.



The DNR is encouraging property owners to burn now while the snow can help avoid wildfires later in the season.

WSI rises higher

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The WSI for the International Falls area was 189 on Wednesday, increasing from last week’s WSI of 182, reports Larry Petersen, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources area wildlife manager in International Falls.



Larry Petersen

It was 144 last year at this date, and 42 two years ago, notes Petersen.

The average WSI for this date is about 116. Petersen reports the harshest winter experienced by Borderland in the mid 1990s had an index of 196 on this date.

All the winter severity data dates from 1966 to present.

The snow depth is around 16-20 inches in the International Falls vicinity.

“Deer will be dispersing from wintering areas now and will be seeking food where snow has melted such as roadways and fields,” Petersen told The Journal.

The winter severity index is a standardized number the DNR uses when considering impacts of the winter on deer. It is calculated using temperature and snow depth in the period from Nov. 1 through April 30 or whenever winter ends. Every day the daily low temperature is zero or below is one point, and every day the snow depth is 15 inches or deeper in an open aspen woods is one point. The points are added each week until winter ends.



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**International Voyageurs Snowmobile Club**

wishes to extend a thank you to our  
2014 Individual/Family and Associate Members

Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 p.m.  
3rd Tuesday of the month at Almost Lindy’s banquet room.

**Everyone Welcome!**

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

Almost Lindy’s  
American Woods & Waters Realty  
Americinn  
Ash Trail Lodge  
Bennett Repair / Paul Bennett  
Boise  
Border State Bank  
Bremer Bank  
Crane Lake Voyageurs Snowmobile Club  
CVB  
Falls Lumber Company Inc  
Int’l Dental Arts  
J2M Apparel Company  
Kec’s Kove  
Mel’s Corner Service  
Napa Auto Parts  
North Star Publishing/ The Journal  
Northern Auto Parts  
Northern Lumber Yard Inc  
Outdoorsman’s Headquarters  
Outpost  
Rainy Lake One Stop  
Ranier Liquor Store  
Roadhouse  
Rocky Ledge Resort LLC  
Sandy Point Lodge  
Soundnorth  
The Loons Nest  
Thunderbird Lodge  
Trustar FCU  
Voyageur Marine  
Voyageur Motel  
Voyageurs National Park Assc

**INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY MEMBERS**

Amerud, David  
Anderson, Doyle & Ila Stish  
Arnold, John & Dinah  
Arnold, Randy & Shannon  
Bacon, Chad  
Bahr, Clayton & Lisa  
Belanger, Lynn  
Bergstrom, Bill  
Bigler, Jim & Mary  
Bolstad, Dave  
Boyum, Kevin  
Briggs, Kalsie

Briggs, Brian & Kallie  
Briggs, Kyra  
Briggs, Shaver  
Brooks, Lynton W  
Brown, Jim & Bee  
Brown, David  
Bruggeman, Bob & Cindy  
Budris, Bruce & Alicia  
Burgess, Ben & Franny  
Bzdok, Brent  
Bzdok, David & Ann  
Coombe, Chuck & Jen  
Cowman, Dean & Maria  
Cronin, David & Nancy  
Currier, John & Deb  
Dahlen, Zach  
Dahlin, Jeff & Michele  
Darvell, Jerry  
Dexter, Sandy & Sandy  
Dougherty, Tom  
Faulkner, Rick & LouAnne  
Fort, Mike & Bonnie  
Francis, Elwood  
Genell, Bill & Mary  
Giauque, Jim & Vicki  
Gore, Chris & Kathy Weix  
Hanson, Howard  
Harris, Jacob  
Hedstrom, Tyson & Kris  
Heibel, Mike & Nancy  
Helleloid, Charles & Kristen  
Hodel, Randy  
Jackson, Bob  
Jaksa, Pat & Julie  
Jean, Ron & Barb  
Jespersen, Scott & Julie  
Johnson, Darwin  
Johnson, John & Terry  
Jones, Gerald & Joel  
Kennedy, Kurt  
Kiner, Paul & Jill  
King, Doug & Ann  
Klowl, Jim & Jake  
Krueger, Ken & Jackie  
Kruse, Patrick  
Larson, Brent  
Larson, Lyle & Mary  
Leerssen, Rick & Robbie  
Leerssen, Ken & Amber

Leerssen, Randy  
Leerssen, Luke  
Lehto, Benjamin  
Leidner, Donald  
Lennox, Larry & Harmony  
Lewis, Mark & Crystal  
L’Herueux, Larry & Betsey  
Lindgren, Gordy & Karen  
Lindholm, Duane  
MacKenzie, Craig & Lisa  
Manka, Laura  
Mann, Troy & MaryAnn  
Marble, Rodney & Charlotte  
Mayer, Tom & Wendy  
Mershon, Joe  
Nelson, Gretchen  
O’leary, Mike & Dorothy  
Olson, Waylon  
Palm, Jeff  
Peters, David & Diane  
Peterson, Spencer  
Pierre, Kris & Kathleen  
Pullar, Tony  
Rasmussen, Wayne  
Roslee, Brian & Becky  
Rousseau, Bob & Lynette  
Saeland, Monty  
Sather, Ryan & Tina  
Schafer, Mac & Danae  
Schmidt, Ryan  
Schneider, Edward  
Seegert, Dan  
Slatinski, John & Beth  
Smith, Tom  
Staples, Jim & Betty  
Stevens, Keith & Jennifer  
Taylor, Nick  
Thomopoulos, Steve & Lillian Crandal  
Thrasher, Carl & Shaley  
Traska, Jami  
Vertina, Dan & Sheri  
Voigt, Eldon  
Walls, John & Tami  
Werner, Steve & Kristy  
Williams, Mike & Mary  
Zoupas, Howard & Donna

**Thank you also goes out to those that support behind the scenes.**

Landowners that allow trails to cross their property, Koochiching County Commissioners, Chris Chaney, Walt Buller, Dennis Jonson and crews, Mayor Wagner and City of Ranier, Mayor Anderson and City of Int’l Falls, DNR, Mike Ward and Voyageurs National Park, Laurel Beager & staff at The Journal, Jill Kiner, webmistress, Groomer operators: John Arnold, Bruce Budris, Jr, Ron Jean, Gordy Lindgren and Nick Taylor you guys do an excellent job! Last but certainly not least the volunteers that help along the way as well as IVSC Officers and their Families.

**“THANK YOU GOES OUT TO OUR CLUB MEMBERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT”**

IF you enjoy the sport of snowmobiling, why haven’t you joined a club?  
Check us out at [www.ridetheborder.com](http://www.ridetheborder.com)

*~ Thank You ~*



**4 UPCOMING AUCTIONS**

For complete list see  
[www.reinhardtauctions.com](http://www.reinhardtauctions.com) or  
call **218-845-2260**. MN Lic. #01-15

**Tues. April 15- 12:00, Brent & Marja Erickson-Grand Marais, MN**

2002 Cat 302.5 Mini and Cat 215 (96L) Excavators, Cat D3B Dozer; Drott 40 Feller-Buncher, Ranger 667D Grapple Skidder, Hahn H40 Harvester-Processor, Trucks and Trailers, Sporting, etc.



**Sat. April 26-10:00 am, Fred & Lorry Wass-Cook, MN**

Logging Equipment, Trucks, Pickups, Trailers, Contractor and Shop, Ammo., Coins, Sporting & Collectibles

**Tues. April 29-11:00 am, Robert Rybak- Big Falls, MN**

Home and Garages on Approx. 3.5 Acres within City of Big Falls,MN, Plus personal property



**Weds. April 30-10:00 am, Andy’s Sales and Service, Andy Barg- Littlefork, MN**



Business Buildings in Littlefork, MN, Repair Shop and Car wash within City of Littlefork, MN, Auto Repair and Shop Tools