

OUTDOORS



DNR STAFF PHOTO

Public comment on a management plan for Garden Island is scheduled for Aug. 1.

Public review Aug. 1 for plans

Public invited to review Garden Island State Recreation Area; Zippel Bay State Park draft management plans Aug. 1

DNR STAFF REPORT

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Parks and Trails Division invites the public to review draft plans for state parks in the northwest region Thursday, Aug. 1.

■ From 1 to 4 p.m. The draft management plan for Garden Island State Recreation Area will be presented and discussed at the Sportsman's Lodge, 3244 Bur Oak Road NW, Baudette.

■ From 5 to 7 p.m. Zippel Bay State Park citizens planning committee will review the working draft of the updated management plan

at City Hall, 450 Main St., Williams.

Garden Island State Recreation Area (SRA) lies 18 miles north of Zippel Bay State Park in Lake of the Woods. It has 6.5 miles of undeveloped shoreline used by waterfowl and shorebirds as nesting, resting and feeding areas. The SRA also functions as a rest stop for boaters, with docks and picnic tables, and is a popular day trip for fishing parties.

Zippel Bay State Park is on Lake of the Woods, near the Canadian border. In addition to 50-plus drive-in campsites, 5 miles of hiking trails and a ma-

rina, the 3,000-acre park features swimming and beachcombing along miles of white sand in the company of white pelicans, double-crested cormorants and piping plovers.

The planning process for Garden Island SRA and Zippel Bay State Park began at an open house in Baudette in February and includes management plan development for nearby Franz Jevne State Park. Management plans set the direction for state parks and recreation areas for the next 15 to 20 years. They include recommendations for managing natural and cultural

resources and providing recreational and interpretative opportunities for park visitors.

The final draft plans for all three park units will be presented at an open house in Baudette on Thursday, Sept. 12.

For more information on either meeting, contact Molly MacGregor, DNR northwest regional planner, 218-308-2660 or molly.macgregor@state.mn.us. For more information about Minnesota state parks and trails, including virtual tours, visit www.mndnr.gov (http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/index.html).

High temperatures can bring harmful algal blooms

MPCA STAFF REPORT

When the summer sun shines and temperatures climb, conditions are ripe for Minnesota lakes to produce harmful algal blooms. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is reminding people that some types of algae can harm pets, livestock and even humans.

Algae, microscopic aquatic plants, are a natural part of any aquatic ecosystem. Most algae are harmless, but under the right conditions certain types of algae can pose health risks. People or animals may become sick if they touch or ingest affected water. In extreme cases, dogs and other animals have died after exposure to lake water containing toxic blue-green algae.

"High rainfall, which has been common throughout much of Minnesota this spring, results in nutrient-rich runoff entering our lakes, fueling algae growth," MPCA lakes ex-

pert Steve Heiskary said. "While spring and early summer temperatures were cooler than normal, lake temperatures have warmed rapidly. Given these conditions, we are likely to see blue-green algae blooms on many of our lakes."

There are many types of blue-green algae. They are found throughout Minnesota, but thrive particularly in warm, shallow, nutrient-rich lakes. Often blown toward downwind shorelines, it is under these conditions that humans and animals most often come in contact with blue-green algae and where the risk of algal toxins is greatest.

Not all blue-green algae are toxic, and there's no visual way to predict whether a blue-green algal bloom contains toxins and is harmful to humans or animals. But harmful blooms are sometimes said to look like pea soup, green paint, or floating mats of scum, and they often have a bad odor.

"You don't have to be an expert to recognize an algae bloom that might be harmful," Heiskary said. "If it looks bad and smells bad, don't take a chance. Stay out and keep children and pets away from the water until the bloom subsides."

An animal that has ingested toxins from an algal bloom can show a variety of symptoms, ranging from skin irritation, vomiting, severe disorders involving the circulatory, nervous and digestive systems, and severe skin lesions. In worst cases, the animal may suffer convulsions and die.

Humans are rarely affected, probably because the unpleasant odor and appearance of a blue-green algal bloom tend to keep people out of the water. But human health effects can include irritation of skin, eyes and nasal passages, and nausea and vomiting. Extreme cases can produce paralysis and respiratory failure.

These factors make it im-

portant to take a preventive approach to dealing with potentially harmful algal blooms. There are currently no short-term solutions to correct a blue-green algal bloom. Once a bloom occurs, the only option available is to wait for weather changes, such as significant rainfall, wind shifts or cooler temperatures, to disrupt the algae's growth.

Over the long term, the key to solving algae problems is to reduce the amount of phosphorus that is allowed to flow into lakes through runoff. Some sources of phosphorus include pet waste, lawn clippings and yard debris, and certain fertilizers. Phosphorus-containing fertilizers are now banned in Minnesota under most circumstances.

For more information, go to the MPCA's Blue-green Algae and Harmful Algal Blooms webpage (<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/zi-hy141d>) or call 651-296-6300 or 800-657-3864.

DNR: Purchase bear licenses by August 1

Youth licenses free until then

DNR STAFF REPORT

Hunters selected in this year's bear lottery must purchase their licenses by Thursday, Aug. 1, the Minne-

sota Department of Natural Resources said.

Licenses not purchased by the deadline will become available first-come, first-served at noon Wednesday, Aug. 7.

Youths age 10-12 can receive a free no-quota bear license until Aug. 1. No-quota

licenses will be available for purchase after Aug.1 but youth younger than 13 will have to pay the full price of \$44 because of an inadvertent change in state law that eliminated the 10-12 year old exemption from this fee.

Youths who purchase leftover licenses in regular bear

permit areas also will have to pay the adult price.

The free 10-12 youth bear licenses were not addressed when youth license simplification changes were approved during the last Legislative session. The DNR will propose changes to reinstate youth fee exemptions in 2014.



Saturday, December 21, 2013

2:00 performance

Orpheum Theatre, Mpls.

\$130 per person, includes main floor seating and Charter bus transportation.

All ages welcome

Tickets on sale in the Community Education Office

1515 11th Street

(218)283-2571 ext. 186

All checks will be held until September 16, 2013

Schedule: * All times are approximate.

5:30 a.m. Bus leaves FHS Student Parking Lot.

8:30 a.m. Quick Breakfast/Stretch at McDonalds in Cloquet

11 a.m. Shop/Lunch at Rosedale Mall

1 p.m. Leave the Mall

2 p.m. Phantom of the Opera

6:30 p.m. Dinner in Cloquet at Applebee's

11:00 p.m. Arrive in int'l Falls

First Come First Serve!!

Pick out your own seat upon payment & registration

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!

Only 52 seats available

First Lutheran Women's 40th Annual

Christmas in July Bazaar & Luncheon

Tuesday, July 23, 2013

Bazaar – 10:00 to 1:00

Salad Luncheon – 11:00 to 1:00



A Celebration of 40 Years of the Christmas in July Bazaar

Excellent Salad Luncheon – Best Cake Contest!

Art – Crafts - Quilts

Bake Sale – Garden Produce – Canned Goods

Raffle Items

First Lutheran Church, 123 Wayside Lane International Falls, MN

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Don't miss the Great Minnesota Shop Hop Aug. 2-18

*fabric, patterns and notions





NOTICE

As part of the ongoing maintenance program of their hydro facilities, H2O Power LP and Boise Inc will be conducting an assessment of the leakage of the International Dam spillway gates during the period July 23 - July 25.

The assessment will include a dye injection on the upstream side of the spillway. The dye may be visible depending on water conditions at the time. This dye is environmentally neutral and poses no risk to persons or the environment.

For further information, please contact us at info@h2opower.ca



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