



We hope your summer has started out with a bang. The weather has been outstanding in June and many of you have already been enjoying the water. Please join the Fish Hook Lake and River Association for the boat parade on July 4<sup>th</sup>. We ask that you follow social distancing guidelines while on the water or anytime you are enjoying the season. We want everyone to be safe and healthy.



**The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade will be held at 11:00 a.m. starting at the Red Bridge Park on the Fish Hook river.**



It is Membership Renewal time. We are asking former members to renew their memberships and also asking non-members to consider membership in our association. The cost is only \$35 a year, but the payback is large.

Shown below is a membership form. Please complete and mail it back to us. Your membership is appreciated.

**Your Fish Hook Lake and River Assn Membership** for 2020 (January 1 – December 31)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here if you are a current member and your information is current.

Telephone: (lake) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Add: \_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE: Please provide your email address and save us postage. We don't share your information.)

**Please send this registration and \$35.00 for your annual membership. Mail to: FHLRA P.O. Box 225, Park Rapids, MN 56470. Please include an additional \$20.00 or more for the environmental fund.**

(Note: If you want your AIS contribution to be tax deductible please write a separate check payable to the "City of Park Rapids, Treasurer." The check memo line should read: "AIS Fund for FHL&RA". Mail to City of Park Rapids 212 W 2nd St. Park Rapids, MN 56470 or include it with your membership check and we will take it to the City for you.)

**THE ANNUAL MEETING AND PIG ROAST HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL AUGUST.** We will let you know when and where it will be held in the near future.



Please click on this URL for information on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks display.

<https://business.parkrapids.com/events/details/4th-of-july-celebration-park-rapids-area-30517>

**The FREE Boat Decontamination Station is now open! Decon will be on-call seven days a week until sometime in Sept with the same phone number 218-252-6738. The hours are between 10 AM - 6 PM**

Here's a reminder of some of the rules established to help prevent the spread of AIS.

#### **Plants and animals**

- ▶ All aquatic vegetation must be removed from all equipment before leaving a body of water.
- ▶ Live aquatic vegetation may not be transported into Minnesota.
- ▶ Stocking of any live fish, live fish eggs, live amphibians, or other live aquatic organism into any Minnesota water is illegal unless a license or permit is issued.
- ▶ Dumping aquatic organisms in the water, on lake ice during the winter, or on shore is not permitted.

#### **Water**

- ▶ Water must be drained from boats and all other equipment when out of the water or upon entering the state.
- ▶ All drain plugs that may hold back water must be removed, and water draining devices must be open on all equipment during any out-of-water transport.

Transporting water that is still in live wells on fishing boats in one of the more common violations department game wardens still encounter. Instead, take a cooler with ice to transport catches home or to a fish cleaning station.

#### **Bait**

- ▶ Live aquatic bait may not be imported into the state. Purchase from Minnesota bait vendors to ensure that the bait and water is not harboring AIS or fish diseases.
- ▶ Live aquatic bait when in the state may be transported in water containers of five gallons or less in volume.

In the end, nobody wants to intentionally spread or introduce AIS, and game wardens would much rather see compliance with the laws than have to write tickets.