

# The Lake Riley Launch

March 2016

*An email newsletter for  
Lake Riley Improvement Association Members*

## Lake Dates.

**The 2016 Lake Riley Improvement Association (LRIA) annual meeting will be held on Monday, April 25th from 7-9 p.m.** It will be held again at the Chanhassen American Legion, 290 Lake Drive East, Chanhassen, MN 55317. The board is working to make sure there is not another meeting taking place in the same room, as there was last year. Come for an informal social hour of dinner with your Lake Riley neighbors beforehand at 5:30 p.m. It is a wonderful sign of spring to reconnect with your lake neighbors and turn your attention to lake matters once again.

**Open water!** The third-earliest open water came fast this year with the warmth this spring. Thanks to John Bushey for keeping this chart current!

Earliest Ice-out dates:

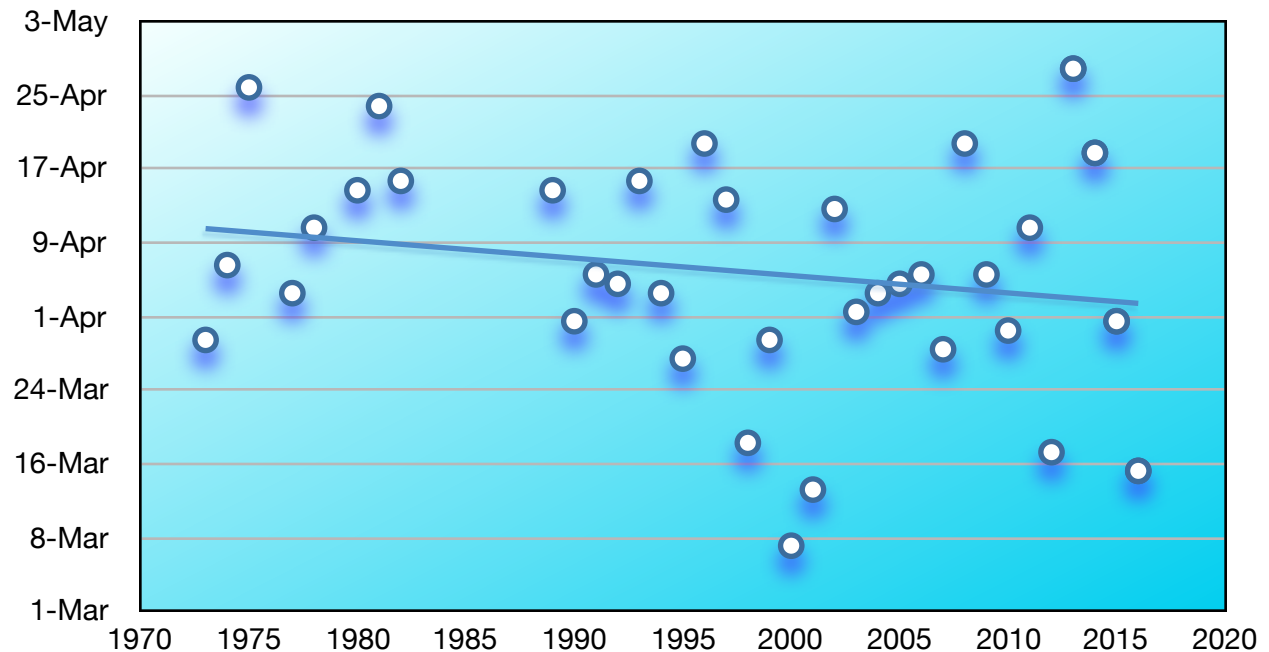
2000 - March 8

2001 - March 14

**2016 - March 16**

Our latest Ice-out was on April 28th, 2013, a whopping 44 days later! Although Lake Riley is not included, the Minnesota DNR has a nice chart that will show the [2016 Lake Ice Out Dates](#).

## Lake Riley Iceout Dates



**Boating Season.** Now that the ice is out, boating season begins! As always, check the Minnesota DNR [Boating Guide](#) if you have any questions. The Minneapolis Star Tribune reported in January that Minnesota saw a [10-year high in boating fatalities last year](#). Warm weather and low gas prices brought loads of Minnesotans out boating, but so many of the fatalities and injuries were preventable. Read the article and use smart, safe practices with your friends and family when you're boating this summer. Be safe out there, and see you on the lake!

**Watershed News.** The RPBCWD has approved funding of an alum treatment for Lake Riley in 2016. This method for reducing the amount of phosphorous in the sediment of the lake available as nutrient for weed

growth has been discussed and under consideration since the mid-2000s. More information and details will be provided at the Annual LRIA meeting in April.

Michelle Jordan, Water Quality & Outreach Coordinator for our Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District, has reached out to the community seeking input for their new 10-year plan. Michelle writes, *"The watershed district developed an online survey to collect public concerns and ideas about water resources as a part of our watershed management plan update process. We are trying to reach as many members of the community as possible, and we're hoping you can help."* Here is a [link to the survey](#), which takes less than 10 minutes to complete. On May 18th there will be a public hearing for Riley Creek Watershed residents on the 10 Year Plan Project from 6-8pm at the Chanhassen Library. Please participate! Also, 2016 Cost Share grants are available from the District for projects that help improve water quality. The Application deadline is April 15. If you have any questions please contact Michelle Jordan at 952-607-6481.

**Another Successful Polar Plunge.** While the balmy 70 degree temperature made it seem a little less daunting, the thinning ice caused a change in the icy water "plunge" tactics. The participants had to run into the water from shore, rather than jump in from the ice. The [Eden Prairie Polar Plunge website](#) reports that 785 Plungers raised more than \$210,000 from the Riley plunge on March 12, all for Special Olympics Minnesota! It was loads of fun to watch.

**Message Board.** George Adzick has a small sailboat "...that we never use (Sunfish class.) Wondering if there is a family on the lake who might want it for some summer fun with their children et al. It has a small hole that I will repair; otherwise all set to go. It is a Riley boat so free of charge to any folks who want to use it on Riley." Contact George at [adzick@umn.edu](mailto:adzick@umn.edu) if you're interested. What a deal!



This e-newsletter is planned for publication in March, June, September and December. If you have questions, comments or ideas about this bulletin - or if you need to add or update an email address - please contact Anne Florenzano at 952-937-5354 or [anneflorenzano@gmail.com](mailto:anneflorenzano@gmail.com)