



# Izaak Walton League of America- Bush Lake Chapter

Newsletter - Fall 2010

[www.bushlakeikes.org](http://www.bushlakeikes.org)

*We are an organization made up of community-minded volunteers who share an appreciation for the outdoors and outdoor experiences, and want future generations to be able to enjoy and appreciate our natural world.*

## **Invasive Plants in Bush Lake need our attention:**

If you swim or paddle in Bush Lake, you may have noticed the rapid spread of some invasive underwater lake plants over the past few years. The two invasive non-native plant types (Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curly-leaf Pondweed) cause difficulty with recreation (swimming/paddling) and can negatively affect water quality (increasing in-lake nutrient cycling). If left unchecked, the lake will become choked with vegetation, greatly restricting recreation and water quality in the lake.

Members of the Bush Lake Chapter are partnering with the City of Bloomington and DNR-Ecological Services to plan and fund long-term control measures for these invasive plants. Persistent Ikes members brought this issue to the City Council with a control plan using effective chemical treatments, approximate costs and sources of potential funding, and the Council members were supportive of taking action. The lake treatments should take place over the next three to five years. In the upcoming year, two whole-lake plant surveys will need to be completed before the treatment process can begin.

Individual chapter members can donate to the chapter for future invasive plant control efforts - donations to the chapter (501©(3) non-profit) are tax deductible. For more info, contact [bushlake@bushlakeikes.org](mailto:bushlake@bushlakeikes.org).

## **Boundary Waters Presentation @ REI – January 22<sup>nd</sup> (Saturday) @ 7pm**

Wilderness historian Kevin Proescholdt will present “*Sigurd Olson, the Boundary Waters and the National Wilderness Movement*” at the Community Room in the REI-Bloomington store.

Famous Izaak Walton League member *Sigurd F. Olson*, whose evocative books on the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness continue to be purchased by canoeing enthusiasts, also had a remarkable conservation career that helped launch his writing career. He began that work as a young man in the 1920s, and by the early 1950s he had catapulted to the national stage. This conservation career in turn helped launch his celebrated writing career. This presentation tells the story of Sigurd Olson, the conservation of the BWCAW, and how both intertwined with the national wilderness movement.

Plan on attending! Volunteers are welcome to help with room setup and meeting/presentation logistics. To volunteer a little time, contact Gregg Thompson at [bushlake@bushlakeikes.org](mailto:bushlake@bushlakeikes.org).

Register to attend the **free** presentation at: [www.rei.com/event/14092/session/17175/01242011](http://www.rei.com/event/14092/session/17175/01242011)



## **Find the Bush Lake Chapter on Facebook!**

If you become a friend of our chapter (Bush Lake Chapter – IWLA), you can receive easy periodic updates to interesting outdoor-related programs and issues, and see what else members are doing to follow our mission.

## Izaak Walton Summer Camp Opportunities Available:

Looking for an outdoors-focus summer camp in northern Minnesota for ages 9-16?  
Great experiences for youth **and** parents/grandparents as well.

Izaak Walton Camp at the Deep Portage Learning Center near Hackensack, MN features:

- Fish Identification and Printing
- Freshwater Testing & Macro-invertebrate Search
- Fly Fishing and Tying
- Canoe Skills
- Lake Adventure
- Shoreline Management
- Bog Walk
- Land Navigation
- Outdoor Survival
- Campout and Cookout
- Intro to Archery
- Intro to Firearms Safety
- Invasive Species Watch
- Natural Resource Planning
- Sustainable Living
- Environmental Advocacy 101
- Climbing Wall
- Campfire Songs and Stories



More camp info: [www.deep-portage.org/ike.html](http://www.deep-portage.org/ike.html)

The Bush Lake Chapter has limited funding available for student scholarships, awards are based on scholarship request application and essay – to apply, contact [bushlake@bushlakeikes.org](mailto:bushlake@bushlakeikes.org)

## College Scholarships Available:

Two Minnesota college students were recently awarded \$750 scholarships from the Izaak Walton - Minnesota Division Scholarship Fund to complete their degrees in natural resources related programs. The Bush Lake Chapter helps to build funding for this unique scholarship program.

If you know a college student who is pursuing a degree in Environmental Education, Environmental Law, Wildlife Management or some program whose primary focus is conservation of resources or environmental science, suggest applying. Applications are due by May 15<sup>th</sup> every year.

Scholarship information is available at: [www.minnesotaikes.org](http://www.minnesotaikes.org)

The mission of the Izaak Walton League:

*To **conserve, maintain, protect and restore** the soil, forest, water, and other natural resources of the United States and other lands; To **promote the means and opportunities** for the education of the public with respect to such resources and their enjoyment and wholesome utilization.*