
CHIP CHAT

NEWSLETTER OF THE BIG CHIP LAKE ASSOCIATION

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Independence on Big Chip

The annual Fourth of July flotilla was held on Big Chip this year.

Participants cruised in high style in watercraft decked out in red, white and blue. The flotilla began at the south end of the lake and made their way to the north end, despite the seemingly endless rain.

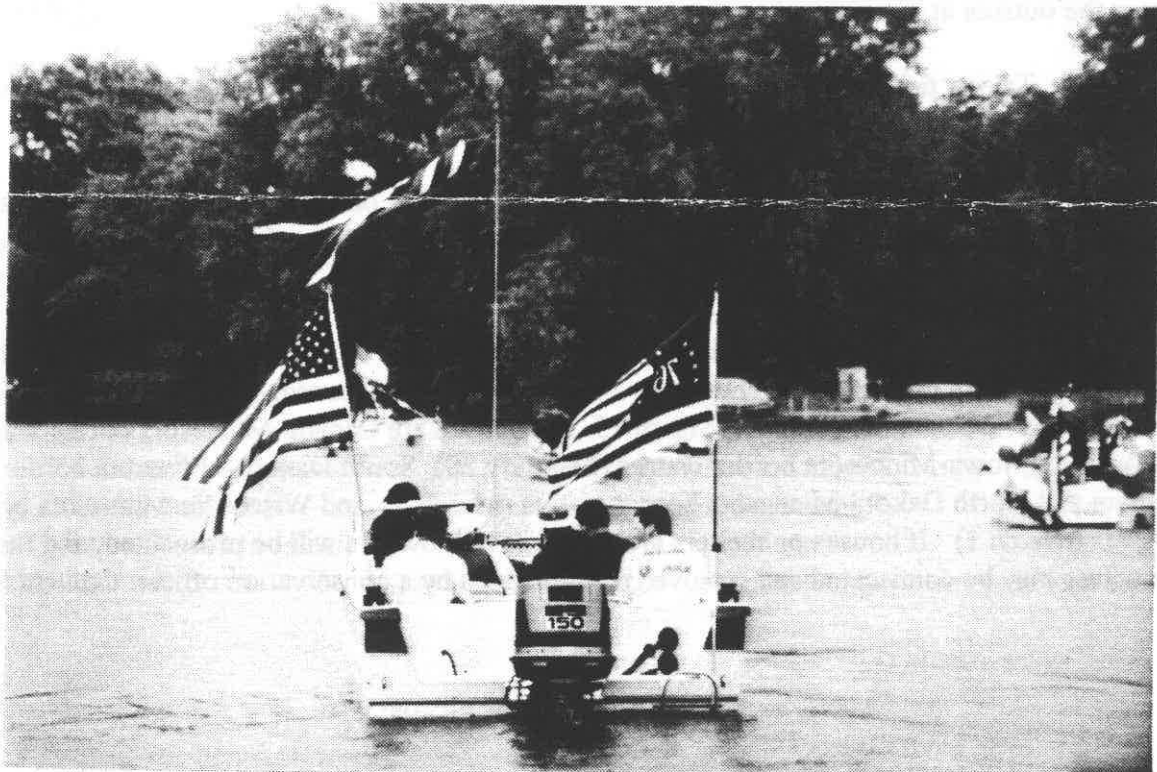
A big thanks to Jody Hanson for organizing the event. Those wishing to participate in next year's flotilla should watch for details in the spring issue of Chip Chat.

Lakeshore Directories

The first edition of the Big Chip Lakeshore Directory is now available. Directories list property owners and property addresses in alphabetical order and by order of location on the lake.

Copies may be obtained by sending a written request to the Big Chip Lake Association at P.O. Box 457, Brandon, MN 56315.

Any corrections or additions should be submitted to the same address.



The following information contains excerpts from the 1995 Minnesota Fishing Regulations Handbook and the Minnesota Snowmobile Handbook published by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and had been partially re-printed here by permission of the DNR. A copy of these Handbooks are available at the Douglas County Licensing Office, or by contacting the DNR Information Center at 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155, 1-800-766-6000. For complete regulations, consult the state statutes and rules.

MINNESOTA FISHING

FISH HOUSES, DARK HOUSES AND PORTABLE SHELTERS

The following regulations apply to fish houses, dark houses, and portable shelters used on all Minnesota waters, unless otherwise indicated by the DNR.

* All shelters, which include dark houses, fish houses and portable shelters, places on the ice of Minnesota waters must have the complete name and complete address of the owner plainly and legibly printed on the outside in letters and figures at least 3 inches in height. Dark houses, fish houses, and portable shelters placed on the ice for shelter while fishing must be licensed. A metal tag, furnished with the license, must be attached to the exterior side of the door not more than 6 inches below the top of the door. On structures with openings other than doors, the tag must be attached to the material to the right of the opening when facing the structure, no more than 6 inches below the top of the opening.

* Dark houses, fish houses, and portable shelters must have a door that can be opened from the outside at any time when in use.

* Taking fish by angling or with tip-ups is prohibited while spearing fish in a dark house, fish house, or portable shelter.

* Dark houses, fish houses, and portable shelters must be removed from the ice no later than midnight on February 29 south of Minnesota Highway 200 from the North Dakota border to U.S. Highway 2 and east to the Wisconsin border.

* Dark houses, fish houses, and portable shelters north of Minnesota Highway 200 from the North Dakota border to U.S. Highway 2 and east to the Wisconsin border must be removed from the ice no later than midnight, March 15. Exceptions are Canada-Minnesota border waters (March 31), Iowa-Minnesota border waters (February 20), South Dakota-Minnesota border waters and North Dakota-Minnesota border waters (March 5), and Wisconsin-Minnesota border waters (March 1). If houses or shelters are not removed, owners will be prosecuted, and the structure may be confiscated and removed, or destroyed by a conservation officer. Contents of the