

Izaak Walton League-Bush Lake



John Crampton
President-Izaak Walton League of America
Bush Lake Chapter
June 19, 2007

Izaak Walton League-Bush Lake

Mission

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.

Izaak Walton League-Bush Lake



Chapter goes back to 1926. It has been located on the north side of Bush Lake at “Sunset Point” since 1936

Approximately 100 members--- most are from Bloomington, Edina, Eden Prairie, South Minneapolis



Bush Lake



Bush Lake- small lake with good water quality



Secchi disk readings from 11' to 20'

Water Quality



Shoreline buffers with native plantings help filter water entering the lake. Dead trees provide bird habitat



Raingardens and use of rain barrels prevent run-off and increase infiltration

Water Quality



Preventing erosion and run-off



Water Quality



Frequent street sweeping helps eliminate debris
in the run-off (especially chlorides)

Water Quality Monitoring



Training water quality monitors for Minnesota River, Black Dog Lake, Nine Mile Creek, Bush Lake, Normandale Lake, Hyland Lake, Starring Lake

Volunteers from scout troops, schools, service organizations, and retirees



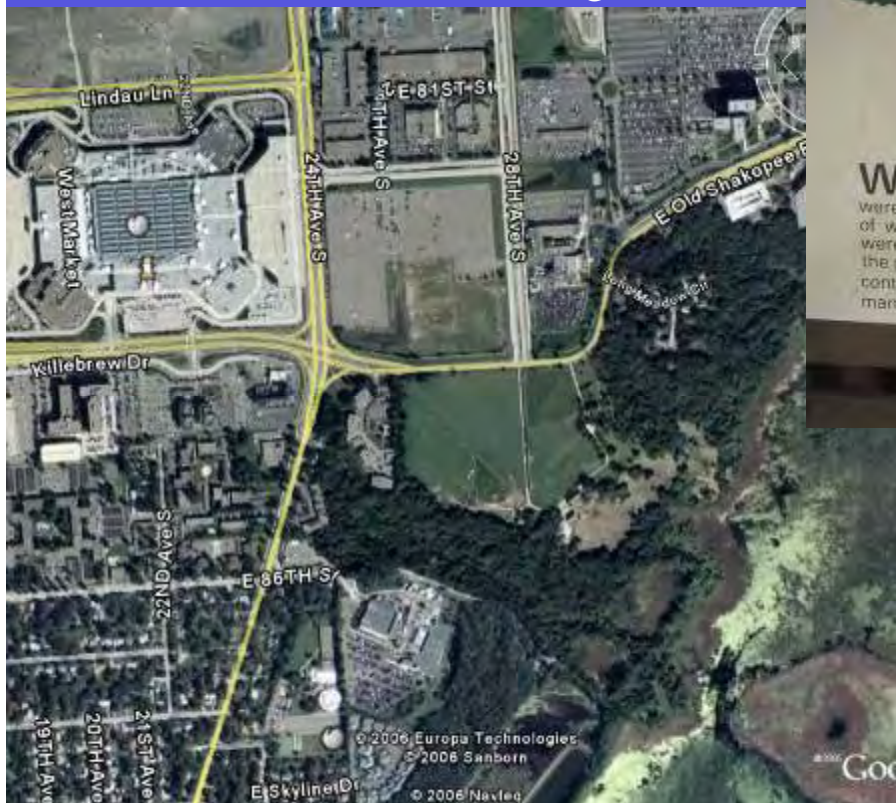
Sponsor biological monitoring of Nine Mile Creek by Hopkins High School students using VSM-IVP

Izaak Walton Creek-Bloomington



Izaak Walton Creek-Bloomington

Izaak Walton Creek is so-named because it fed into bass-rearing ponds built by the Minneapolis Chapter of the Izaak Walton League in 1927. Today it is the Bass Ponds area of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge



Izaak Walton Creek-Bloomington



Volunteers
clean up
headwater
springs by
removing
junked air
conditioners,
microwaves,
TVs, and tons
of garbage



December 2006

Izaak Walton Creek-Bloomington



Volunteers from the Sierra Club, Izaak Walton League, Trinity School, Groves Academy, U of M Dept. of Entomology, and Boy Scouts spent thousands of hours studying the creek, picking up litter and getting rid of buckthorn and other invasive species.

Native watercress indicated cold, clean water. Entomologists from the U of MN found a sufficient quantity and variety of invertebrates. The only question- “were water temperatures cold enough to support trout?



Izaak Walton Creek-Bloomington

On June 15, 2007 biologists from the DNR and the USF&W released 1,450 brook trout fingerlings into Izaak Walton Creek in an effort to re-stock it for trout....

Lower half of the creek and valley is owned by the USF&W and the top half is owned by the City of Bloomington and MAC

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Creek near Mall of America becomes a trout stream again

By CHRIS NISKANEN St. Paul Pioneer Press
Article Last Updated: 06/16/2007 02:12:27 PM CDT

BLOOMINGTON, Minn.—The Mall of America got the most unlikely eco-neighbor Friday—a stocking of rare native trout.

A previously unknown trout stream—with headwaters just 800 feet from Bloomingdale's at MOA—was stocked by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources with 1,450 ecologically sensitive brook trout.

About two dozen volunteers carried 2-inch trout in pails from a special truck and gently released them into the chilly stream, which gurgles out of the ground near Old Shakopee Road and travels eight-tenths of a mile to the Minnesota River.

While jets roared overhead, the volunteers—many of whom helped clean up and study the creek—expressed amazement that a cold stream could still exist in an urban jungle.

"To be able to rehab a trout stream in a metro area is a big deal," said Josh Tierney, a teacher at Groves Academy, a St. Louis Park school that surveyed plants in and near the stream. "And trout fishing is a big deal to me."

The creek officially has no name, but it's popularly called Ike's Creek after the Izaak Walton League conservation group that raised fish in nearby ponds in the early 1900s.

The city of Bloomington and a handful of private landowners own the creek's upper half. The lower half is part of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

Two years ago, refuge biologist Vicki Sherry was surveying the creek when she noticed the water was unusually cold and saw

“Sustainability is Smart Business”



Businesses like IKEA have shown there is a smarter way by building raingardens to control storm water run-off and allow for greater infiltration

If built using traditional methods Phase II of the MOA along with adjacent development will likely destroy the trout in Izaak Walton Creek with storm water run-off



“Sustainability is Smart Business”

The success of future developments will depend on how they interact with the natural environment in which they are located.... particularly with regard to scarce water resources



Housing development in Lakeville uses porous pavement and commons areas as play fields and as rain gardens to prevent run-off (*Emmons and Olivier Resources*)



“Sustainability is Smart Business”



This ?

OR

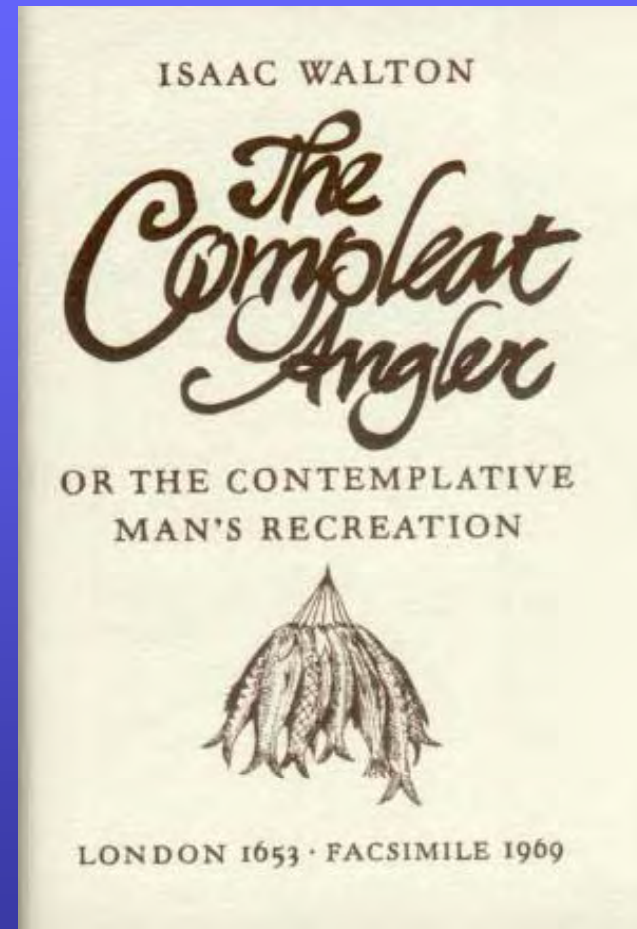
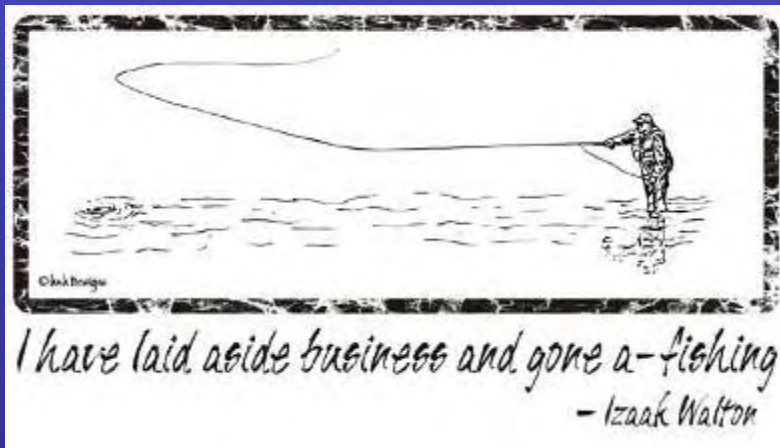


This?

Founding Philosophy



Izaak Walton
1593-1683



The Compleat Angler is a combination of manual and meditation. "Angling may be said to be so like the mathematics that it can never be fully learnt."

Founding 1922



Will Dilg, founder and first President of IWLAA
Early IKEs touring Winneshiek Bottoms of Upper Mississippi River



Formed in 1922 by 54 Chicago area hunters and anglers who met to discuss their concerns over declining fish and wildlife populations and the rampant pollution spewed by a developing nation, the Izaak Walton League has the longest history of any group involved in protecting the Upper Mississippi River, Boundary Waters Canoe Area and other wilderness areas in the U.S.

IWLA- Early Work



Bass Ponds- Minneapolis Chapter 1927

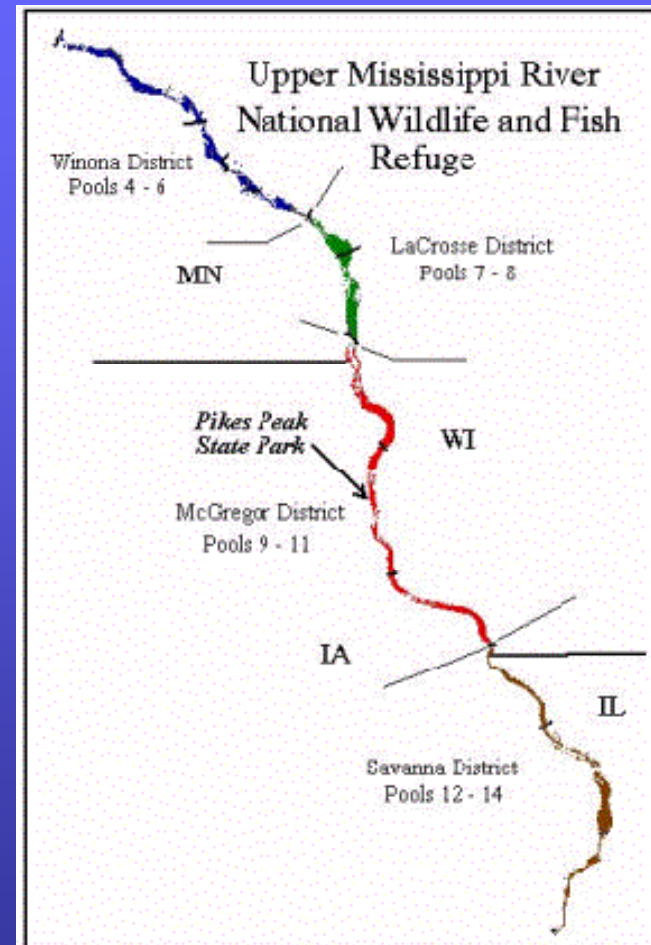


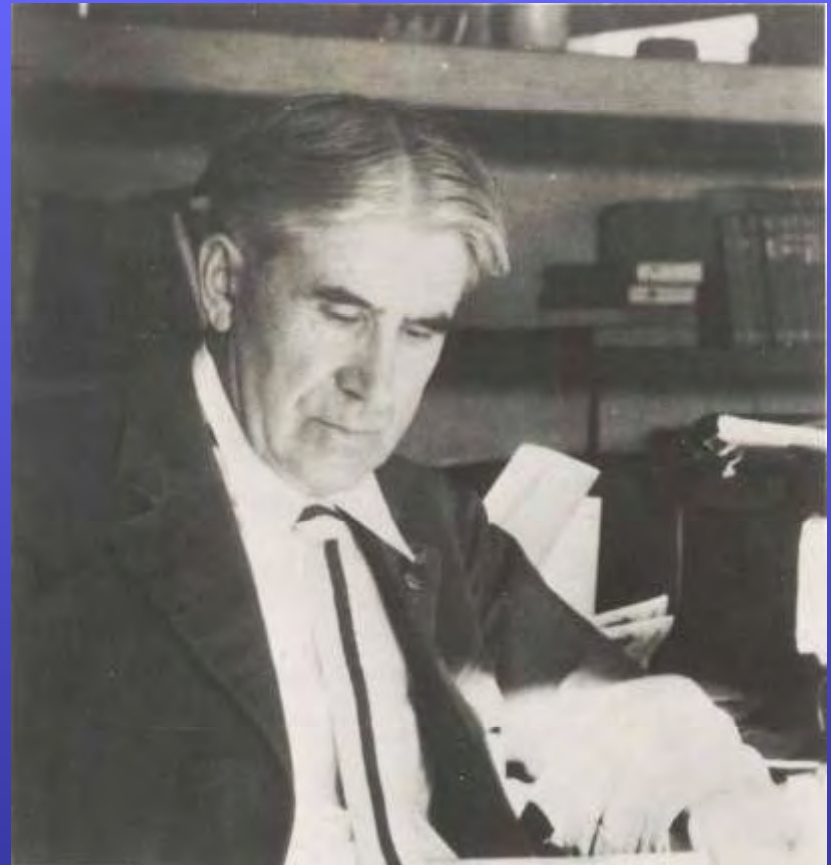
Figure 1. Map of the Upper Mississippi Refuge and limits of Districts.

Upper Mississippi River Wildlife Refuge, 1924

IWLA Leaders



Herbert Hoover

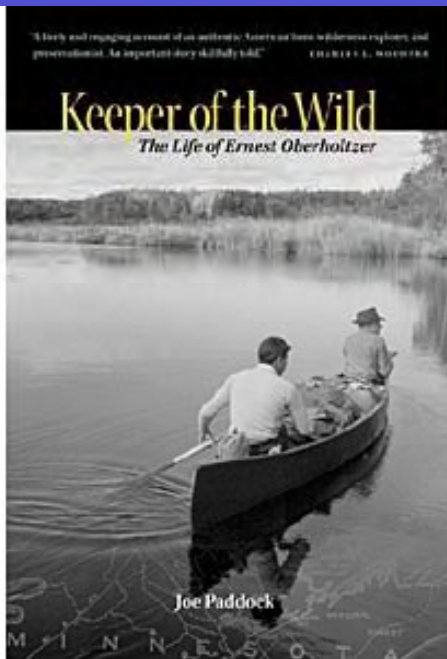


Zane Grey

IWLA Leaders



"Moving to Rainy Lake was one of the dreams of my life - like a bright thread running through my life."
- Ober



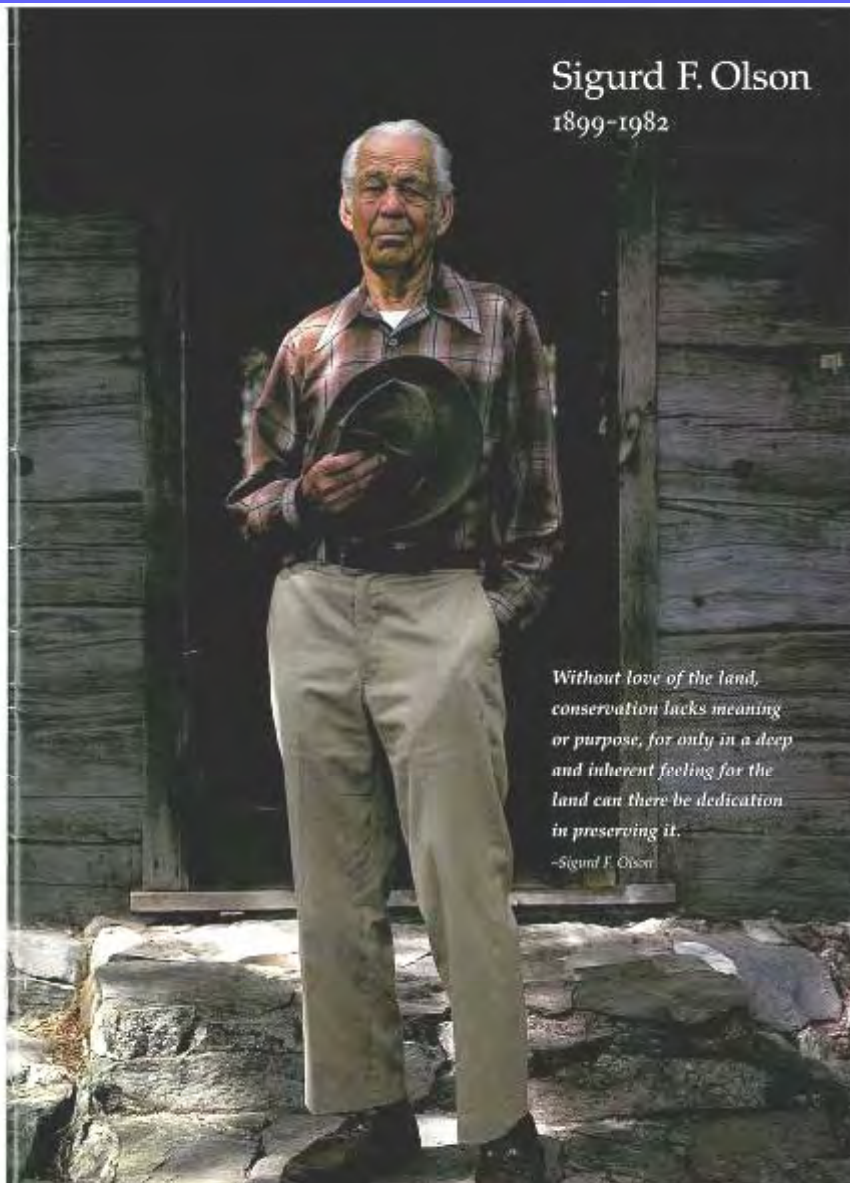
Ernest Oberholtzer

Moved to Mallard Island in Rainey Lake near International Falls after WW I

Led fight to prevent damming of the Rainey River and boundary lakes and rivers

Founder of the Superior-Quetico Association

IWLA Leaders



Sigurd F. Olson
1899-1982

*Without love of the land,
conservation lacks meaning
or purpose, for only in a deep
and inherent feeling for the
land can there be dedication
in preserving it.*
-Sigurd F. Olson

Sig Olson

Wilderness guide --- guided Will Dilg through the Boundary Waters in 1922

Teacher at Ely Junior College

Popular author: *The Singing Wilderness* (1956), *Listening Point* (1958), *The Lonely Land* (1961)

Leader of IWLA, Wilderness Society, and National Parks Association

Led fight for *Wilderness Act of 1964* and for the protection of the *Boundary Waters Canoe Area*

IWLA Leaders



Aldo Leopold

- Graduated from Yale School of Forestry
- Worked as a biologist and ecologist for the U.S. Forest Service
- Founded Gila National Forest in NM, first designated wilderness area in U.S.
- Taught - U of Wisconsin
- Founded the Wilderness Society in 1935
- Wrote "*A Sand County Almanac*" (1949)

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."

IWLA Leaders



Bob Marshall (l) and Sig Olson (r) in Boundary Waters

Bob Marshall

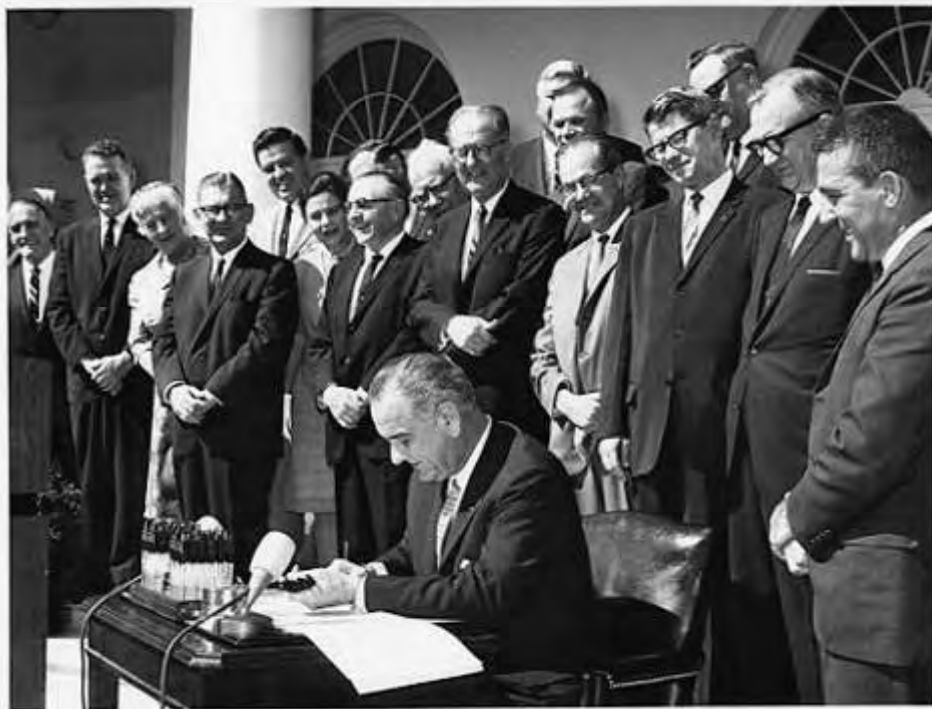
- NY native from Adirondacks - PhD in plant physiology from Johns Hopkins
- Worked for Forest Service in Montana, Washington and Alaska
- IWLA member and founder of the Wilderness Society
- Avid hiker --- founder of the Appalachian Trail
- Vision of “wilderness” as a value all people should experience

IWLA Leaders



Howard Zahnheiser

- Pennsylvania native
- IWLA leader who took over being president of the Wilderness Service in 1940
- Wrote the first draft of the Wilderness Act in 1956, sponsored by Hubert Humphrey
- Steered the bill through 18 congressional hearings and 65 revisions
- Died in 1964 just four months before the signing of the Wilderness Act



Wilderness Act



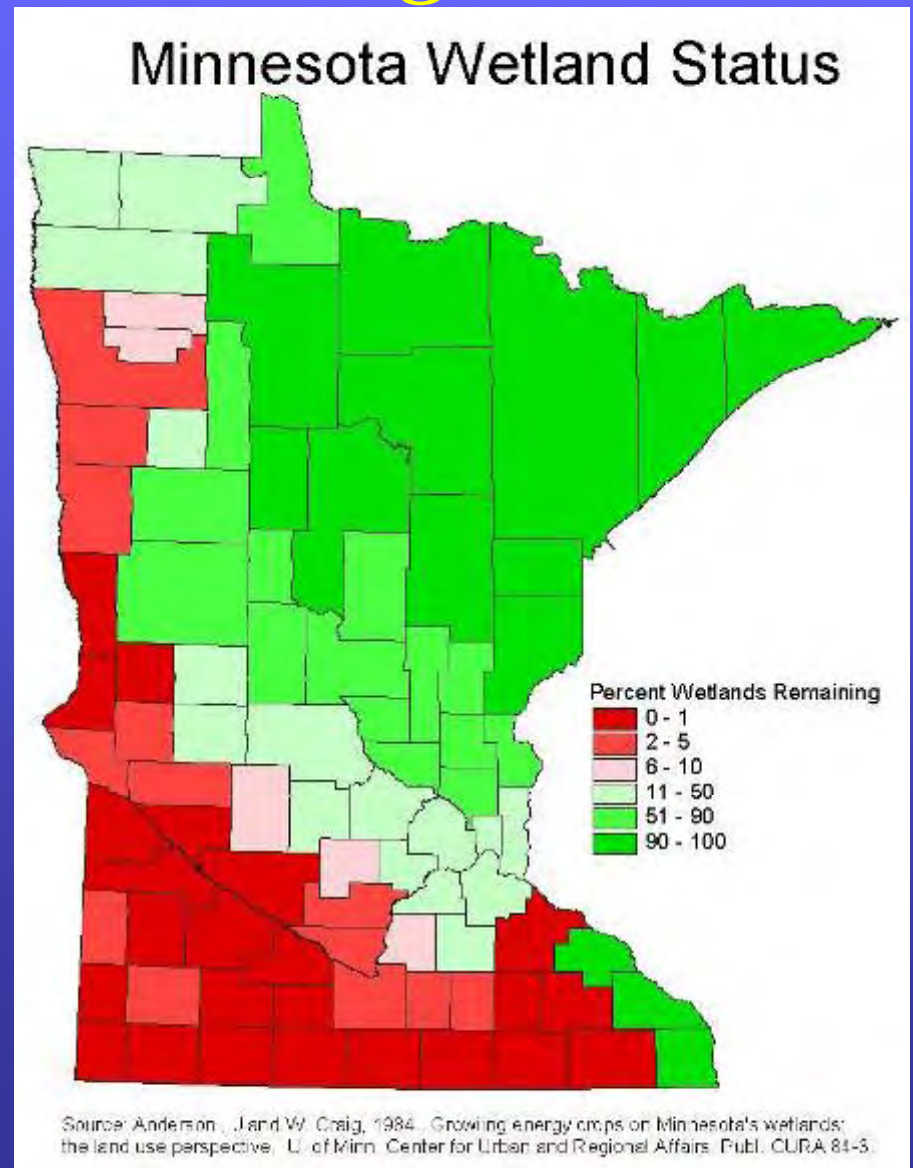
...an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.

Sunset in BWCA

Conduct Educational Programs



Izaak Walton League-Bush Lake Chapter has hosted the MN Wetlands Summit at Normandale CC in 2006 and 2007, drawing approximately 350 people per event



Conduct Educational Programs

Local Educational Programs

Winter Bird Counts

Fishing in the Neighborhood (for kids)

“100 Things You Can Do to Reduce Energy Usage and Fight Global Warming”

“How the 2007 Farm Bill Affects Us All”

“Landscaping for Water Quality and Wildlife” (grant from Toro Corp)

Water Quality Monitoring

Training on Storm Water Run-Off for Citizens, Local City Employees and Elected Officials

More information, go to
www.bushlakeikes.org



Conduct Educational Programs



Local Educational Programs

(continued)

**Economics of Low-Impact
Development-Lakeville Case Study**

**How Water Quality Monitoring
Helps Clean Up Streams-Minnehaha
Creek Watershed District**

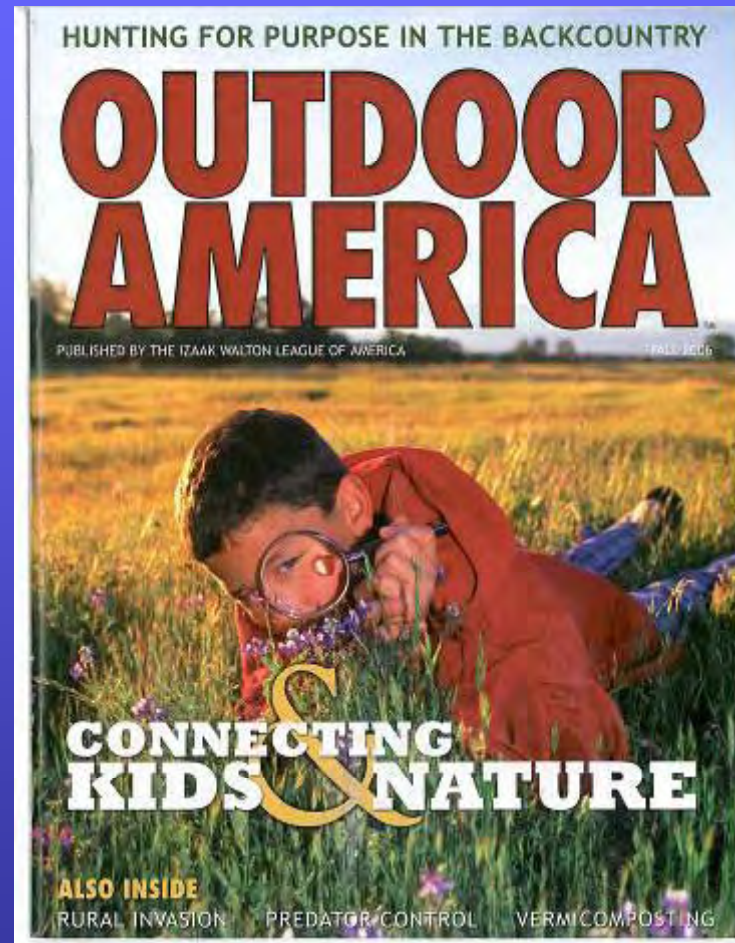
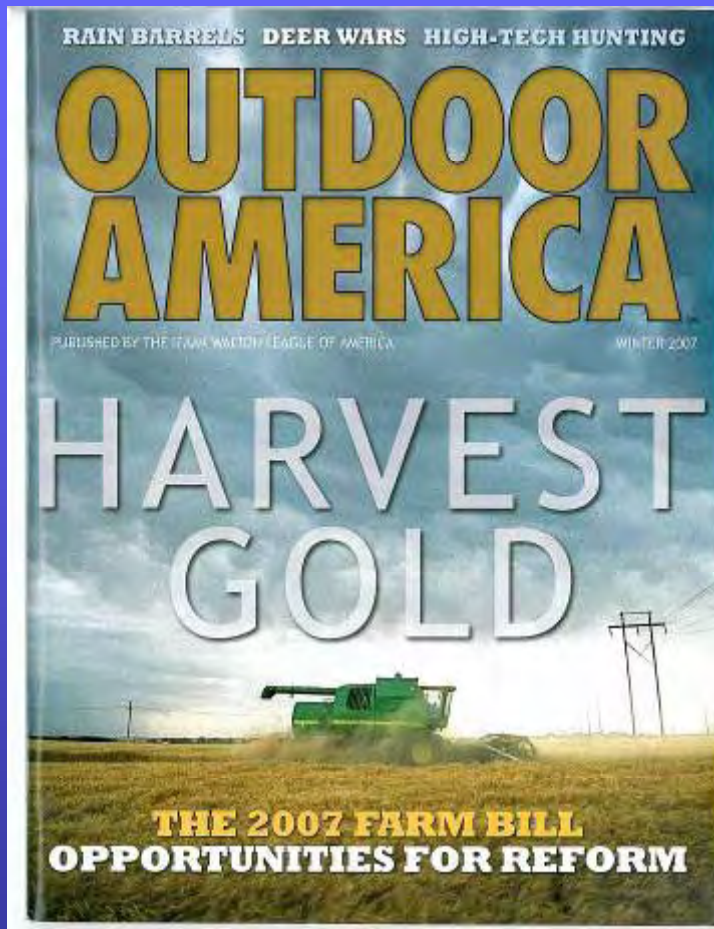
**Role of Hydrogen in Minnesota's
Energy Future**



**The Future of Cellulosic Ethanol
Production** by *Dr. Clarence Lehman*,
Professor of Ecology at the U of Minnesota
and co-author of the pioneering study that
appeared in the December 2006 issue of
Science.

More information, go to
www.bushlakeikes.org

National Advocacy-IWLA



www.iwla.org

State Advocacy-MN Division - IWLA



www.minnesotaiakes.org

State Advocacy-MN Division - IWLA

2007 Minnesota Legislature

- Renewable Energy Standards bill- **passed**
- Global Warming Mitigation bill- **passed**
- Constitutional Amendment- Dedicated Funding for Wetlands, Clean Water, Parks & Trails and Arts – *passed both houses and conference committee but didn't come up for final vote*

www.minnesotaike.org

Local Advocacy-MN Division - IWLA

Local Communities

Partner with:

- Scout groups and schools
- Minnesota River Valley Audubon Society (MRVAC)
- Sierra Club- North Star Chapter
- *Friends of the Minnesota Valley*
- Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
- Nine Mile Creek Watershed District
- Three Rivers Parks-Richardson Nature Center
- VBB-Vision for a Better Bloomington
- Fly fishing groups
- Congregations Caring for Creation
- U of Minnesota Entomology Department
- Hennepin County Environmental Services
- Minnesota DNR
- Bloomington Parks and Recreation and environmental advisory councils in local communities

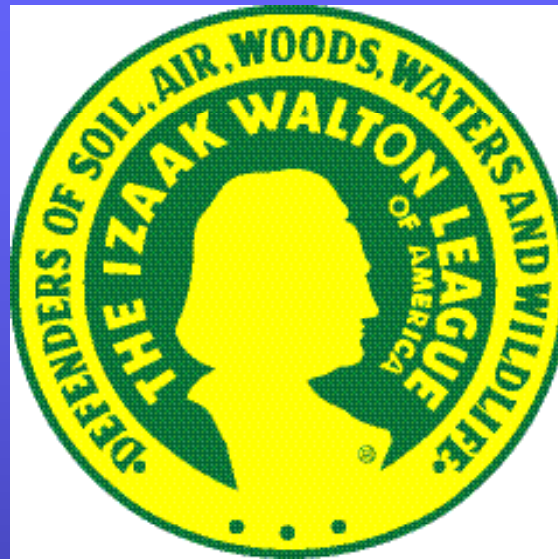
Local Advocacy-MN Division - IWLA

Local Businesses

Partner with:

- REI
- Toro Corporation Foundation
- Bass Pro Shops

Thank You



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