

DeZiel Heating and Air Conditioning

New location, same skilled service from local family owned business

By Brenda Erdahl

DeZiel Heating & A/C is now conducting business out of its new location on the east side of Buffalo off Highway 55.

The family-owned company has been completely moved in since November 1. Located across from Buffalo Rock Winery at 4375 Hwy. 55 SE, DeZiel's new home offers additional office space, storage and an inviting outdoor environment for employees and doggie mascot, Louie.

Dana DeZiel called the new space "private and peaceful," but the biggest benefit is the space. The pandemic has caused some equipment delays, but now that they have a second building on site for overflow storage, they can pre-order equipment to have on hand in emergency situations, Dana said. It all comes back to DeZiel's foremost goal, to provide the best possible service to their customers.

Highly trained and skilled

Since 1998, owners Dana and Mike DeZiel, along with their knowledgeable staff have made it their business to serve the residents of Wright County and the West Metro with all of their HVAC needs. Their technicians go through rigorous training before stepping a foot through your door.



This is the scene every Tuesday and Thursday morning during twice weekly training sessions that keep DeZiel Technicians up to date with the most current technology in the industry.

"Before we send a technician out in their own truck, they spend a week at Ultimate Tech Academy," Dana said. This high intensity training is required twice – once in the winter and once in the summer – and gives DeZiel technicians in-depth knowledge about furnaces and AC units. DeZiel technicians continue their training every Tuesday and Thursday morning. These classes keep technicians up to date with the



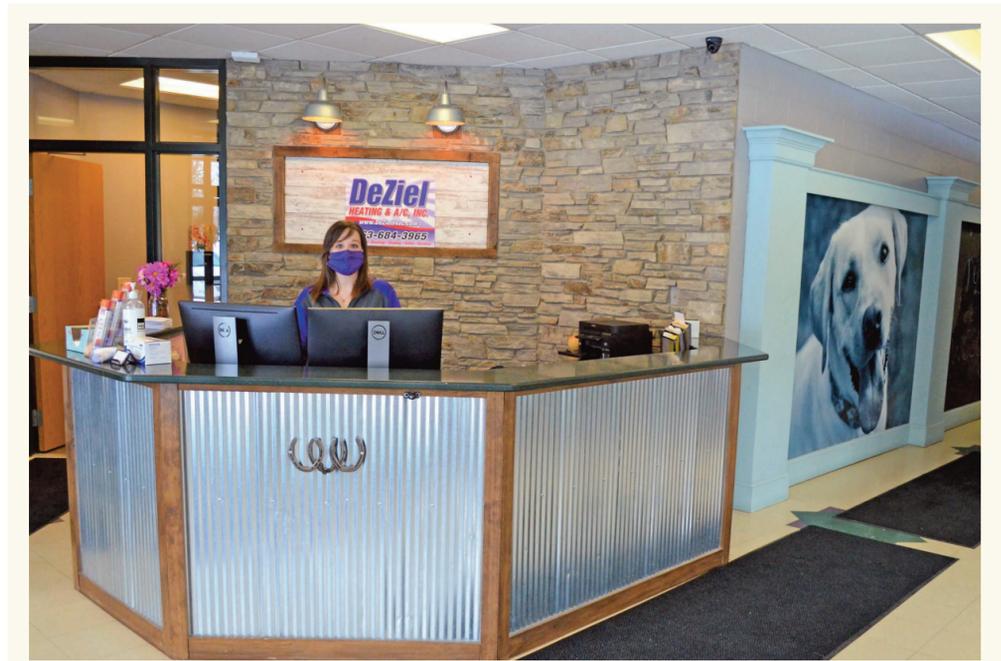
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most current technology in the industry. They also provide an opportunity to share situations they have come across personally, gather trouble shooting ideas and talk about real life experiences. Distributors are welcome at these trainings to provide knowledge of their equipment to the DeZiel crew.

"This is very helpful when it comes time to fix equipment," Dana said. "We pride ourselves on keeping our staff up to date with today's equipment."

Safety is No. 1

Safety is the No. 1 reason DeZiel technicians undergo such constant training. In the fall and winter, furnace upkeep is foremost on their minds. Most furnace manufacturers recommend yearly maintenance to ensure safety, keep equipment working properly and prolong the life of the system, Mike said. DeZiel technicians follow a 25-point check list when they come into your home to perform a maintenance inspection. Not only do they check the amount of carbon monoxide in your furnace's exhaust, they do everything they can to make sure your furnace



Office Manager Jessica Carter greets customers in the entry of DeZiel's spacious new headquarters located at 4375 Hwy. 55 SE, Buffalo. For more information visit DeZiel Heating & A/C at www.dezielvac.com or call 763-684-3965 for an appointment.

a working air conditioner can be just as important as a working furnace in the winter.

Service Partner Plan

Fortunately, DeZiel Heating & A/C makes it easy for customers to remember to have their system checked by offering a service partner plan for \$9.99 a month. By becoming a service partner, customers will receive a call every fall and spring to remind them. As part of the partner plan, DeZiel technicians will also check your air conditioner. DeZiel recommends air conditioners and furnaces be inspected once a year to maintain maximum efficiency.

The cost of the program covers two system checks per year. Members also receive a 10 percent discount on parts and become a priority customer.

"The going rate for a tune-up is \$115, so it's a good value," Mike said.

If a problem does arise, DeZiel Heating & A/C has someone available 24 hours to fix it.

"We pride ourselves on our very fast response, and if there is an emergency, we're even faster," Mike said. "We strive for excellence, putting our customers' best interests first, and we treat each and every home we enter as our own."

Being certified NATE, which stands for North American Technician Excellence, means DeZiel technicians can offer a faster and more accurate diagnosis.

Mike himself carries master competency cards in gas, refrigeration, sheet metal and hot water steam, something not many people in the business can claim.

Indoor Air Quality

DeZiel also offers Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) protection packages that include duct cleaning and a variety of indoor air quality solutions such as humidifiers, air cleaners, UV lights and air exchangers. Packages vary in price and financing is available.

Community minded

As an added incentive, for every installation DeZiel does in Buffalo, they donate \$25 to the local food shelf or local animal shelter.

"So, help our community thrive and grow by buying locally," Mike said.

Happy customers

"I have been a business owner for over 30 years, and I can easily say that Mike Deziel gives exceptional service plus he was here when he said he would be! I am very pleased with Mike and his work. I will most certainly call him again if the need arises and will refer him to everyone who is in need of a talented and trustworthy professional that takes his work seriously. I can't say enough great things about my experience with him and with Service Magic!! Thank You so very much," an Annandale customer said.

"Incredibly impressed with the

honesty and information provided by this company. Would highly recommend," a Plymouth customer said.

"Very professional!! They called me back right away and even did work on a Saturday! I would highly recommend them," a Montrose customer said.

"Mike and his crew were fabulous to work with – patiently answered my hundreds of questions about a new furnace and its installation in my house. They worked very hard to make sure we were happy with everything. Installation was tricky in our house and Mike went above and beyond to make sure I was happy with how the venting system looked on the outside of my house. He is always quickly available by phone or email and happy to answer any questions...No reservations in recommending DeZiel Heating & Air Conditioning at all! AAAAAA++++," an Edina customer said.

Make an appointment today

For more information visit DeZiel Heating & A/C at www.dezielvac.com or call 763-684-3965 for an appointment.

Employment opportunities

The DeZiel crew is always looking for new members to add to their heating and A/C family. They are hiring for a variety of positions, so if you are looking for a career change, give them a call.

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Fishing Report



The Northern Pike and Walleye season wraps up on Sunday, Feb. 28 and all permanent fish houses must be off the ice at that time. Since the cold spell, anglers have been enjoying free reign on area lakes that sport anywhere from eight to 22 inches of ice. Shane Patch at H&H in Maple Lake said people have been driving one-ton trucks pulling Ice Castle fish houses pretty much wherever they want. But with the warm weather this week, area fishing experts predict ice conditions are going to deteriorate fast. Crappies continue to bite in 15 to 20 feet of water on Little Maple and Pleasant has been producing some pike and bass. The occasional Walleye can be found on Clearwater and Buffalo. Starting March 1, anglers are going to need a new fishing license to wet their lines on Minnesota lakes, and be sure to check out the new rules regarding how married couples purchase combined angling and hunting licenses.

Buffalo Lake: Anglers are catching crappies and the occasional Walleye on Buffalo Lake. As is typical this time of year, they are finicky eaters, so use a variety of baits to see what they are hungry for.

Pulaski: The bite has been slow.

Rock Lake: Last weekend Rock was the destination lake in the area. Anglers are catching crappies and Walleye.

Constance Lake: Constance Lake has been producing pike, sunfish and the occasional perch. They've been biting both deep and shallow on all the lakes, so you just have to bounce around until you find that hot spot.

Little Maple Lake: The crappies continue to bite on Little Maple in 15 to 20 feet of water.

Big Maple Lake: Northern Pike continue to bite on Big Maple along the weeds. While the pike aren't big, there are plenty of them.

Clearwater Lake: Clearwater has been producing panfish, northern and Walleye in 15 to 30 feet of water.

Lake Francis: Pike and crappies have been biting in 10 to 20 feet of water.

Pleasant Lake: Anglers have been catching panfish and bass off the north access in 10 to 15 feet of water.

Ramsey Lake: The bite is slow.

Cedar Lake: The bite has been slow as is typical this time of year.

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PHOTO of the MONTH



The next time you break out the camera to capture that memory, be set to send it to "The Lakes Country Lure" with a brief description of the catch and who is in the photo. We may publish it here!

ICE FISHING THE DIRTY DOZEN

By Jerry Carlson

I started counting my list of pan-fish lakes that I frequent during the winter months. Although there are quite a number that get visited each year, I do have my favorites. Twelve of them to be exact. I call them my Dirty Dozen.

I will readily admit that not one of these lakes is perfect in terms of always being productive. In fact, some of my Dirty Dozen occasionally go through a year or two that they are not worth much at all. However, because of their reliability over the years, they always get checked and are never crossed off of my list.

A couple of these lakes on my favorites list are early season locations. They are shallow, develop ice early and have fishable locations that are within walking distance of the landing. They are also close enough to home that I don't have to drive long distances to spend a few hours on the ice.

Close to home is important to me. Although I will occasionally do a long day on the ice, I prefer to make shorter trips, get my fish cleaned and be sitting in front of the fire long before the sun goes down.

Timing is pretty important when it comes to choosing which lake I am heading to. Since a couple of them are relatively deep, it takes longer for the ice to develop. It also takes longer for the fish to congregate in the deep-water haunts that are popular a little later in the winter.

Flowage is another factor to consider. When a lake has water flowing through it, dangerous conditions can persist for quite some time. Testing the current areas is not something I want to do. I will happily be patient and wait for safer ice.

Because of the depth I am faced with on a couple of the deep lakes, I will do some retying before I ever get to the ice. When fishing in very deep water, the lighter jigs that worked well when fishing shallow don't cut it in deep



Advocate

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water. It takes too long to drop down to the fish and light jigs lose their feel in deep water. Tungsten does help.

I highly recommend the retying preparation be done at home. My fingers work much better in my workshop than they do on the ice. Having multiple rods rigged for the conditions I anticipate finding is very important to me. If I should break off or need a different appeal, having a couple of back-up rods rigged and ready often saves the day.

The last couple of years, I have found the small jigging spoons, like Clam's Pinhead Minnow, are ideal choices for my mid-winter, deep-water crappies. They drop

fast, show up well on electronics, and are very appealing to finicky fish.

Not all lakes are created equal nor do they operate on same timeline. Some are good early and then slowly dwindle in their productivity as the winter wears on. Others seem to be at their best a little later in the year when oxygen levels in the shallows go down and the panfish head to deeper water.

For this reason, I like having my options. I like having my Dirty Dozen favorite lakes and enjoy checking them out on an annual basis to see which ones are producing the best. And then, I plan my excursions accordingly. Fish are always biting somewhere.

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Local water 'Clear' of special regulations for now

Research projects and angler surveys scheduled for Clearwater Lake

By Joe Stewig
Area Fisheries Manager

Clearwater Lake: Clearwater Lake is a 3,158-acre lake located just north of the City of Annandale along the border of Wright and Stearns County.

The lake has two public accesses (Black Pool and Bob's Bay) and two pay accesses (BJ's Bait and off of Hwy 24 near CR 39). The lake is very popular and like many lakes in the area offers many fishing opportunities. Clearwater Lake is primarily managed for Walleye and fry (1 – 2 million fish) are stocked during odd numbered years during the spring with the next scheduled stocking set for 2021. Walleye fingerlings are periodically stocked as well. Most recently in October 2019 when almost 56,000 fingerlings were stocked.

The most recent lake survey conducted in 2019 found below average numbers of Walleye; however the average size was good. Walleye caught ranged in length from 11 to 26 inches and averaged 17.5 inches and nearly 2 pounds. Walleye growth is above average for the area, taking three (3) years to reach 15 inches. Northern Pike abundance remains high although the average size was respectable at 22 inches and almost 2 ½ pounds. While anglers should encounter numerous pike under 26 inches, they also have a chance to catch larger fish as pike up to 35 inches were caught during the 2019 survey. Northern Pike growth is average for the area, taking six (6) years to reach 25 inches.

Clearwater Lake is one of the premier bass fisheries in the area and offers an excellent opportunity to catch big (> 20 inches) Largemouth Bass. As such the lake hosts 4 – 6 DNR permitted bass tournaments annually as well as numerous smaller local club tournaments. Largemouth Bass numbers in 2019 were slightly below average, however the population has been stable since 2005. Bass sampled in Annandale 2019 ranged in length from 5.5 – 20.5 inches with an average length and weight of 13 inches and about 1 ½ pounds. Thirty-four percent of the bass caught were longer than 15 inches, while the largest bass sampled was just over 20 inches. While we did not sample many bass over 20 inches in 2019 there are plenty roaming the lake so

there is a good chance to catch one over 20 inches.

Black Crappie and Bluegill are also popular species in Clearwater Lake and at certain times can provide excellent fishing. Based on summer surveys Black Crappie abundance appears to be low; however targeted sampling conducted in the spring of 2014 and 2015 showed that the crappie population was in good shape, but would probably benefit from a reduced bag limit to help sustain the size structure. During those surveys, we sampled 1,105 crappies that ranged from 5 – 15 inches with an average length of 10 inches. Sixty-two percent of the crappies collected were longer than eight (8) inches and 10% were longer than 10 inches. Crappie growth is above average for the area taking three (3) years to reach eight inches (8) and four (4) years to reach 10 inches. Bluegill abundance is average for the area; however the average size tends to be small. In 2019 a targeted Bluegill assessment was conducted and sampled 440 Bluegill ranging from 2 – 9 inches. Only 24% of the Bluegill caught were six (6) inches or longer and 2% were eight (8) inches or longer. Bluegill growth in Clearwater Lake is average, taking five (5) years to reach seven (7) inches.

Currently there are no special fishing regulations on the lake; however Black Crappie and Bluegill are two of the most sought after fish species on the lake and would probably benefit from a bag limit reduction in order to sustain (crappie) or enhance (sunfish) their existing size structures. We are planning a year-long angler survey running from December 2021 through October 2022 in order to update angler pressure and harvest estimates. The last such

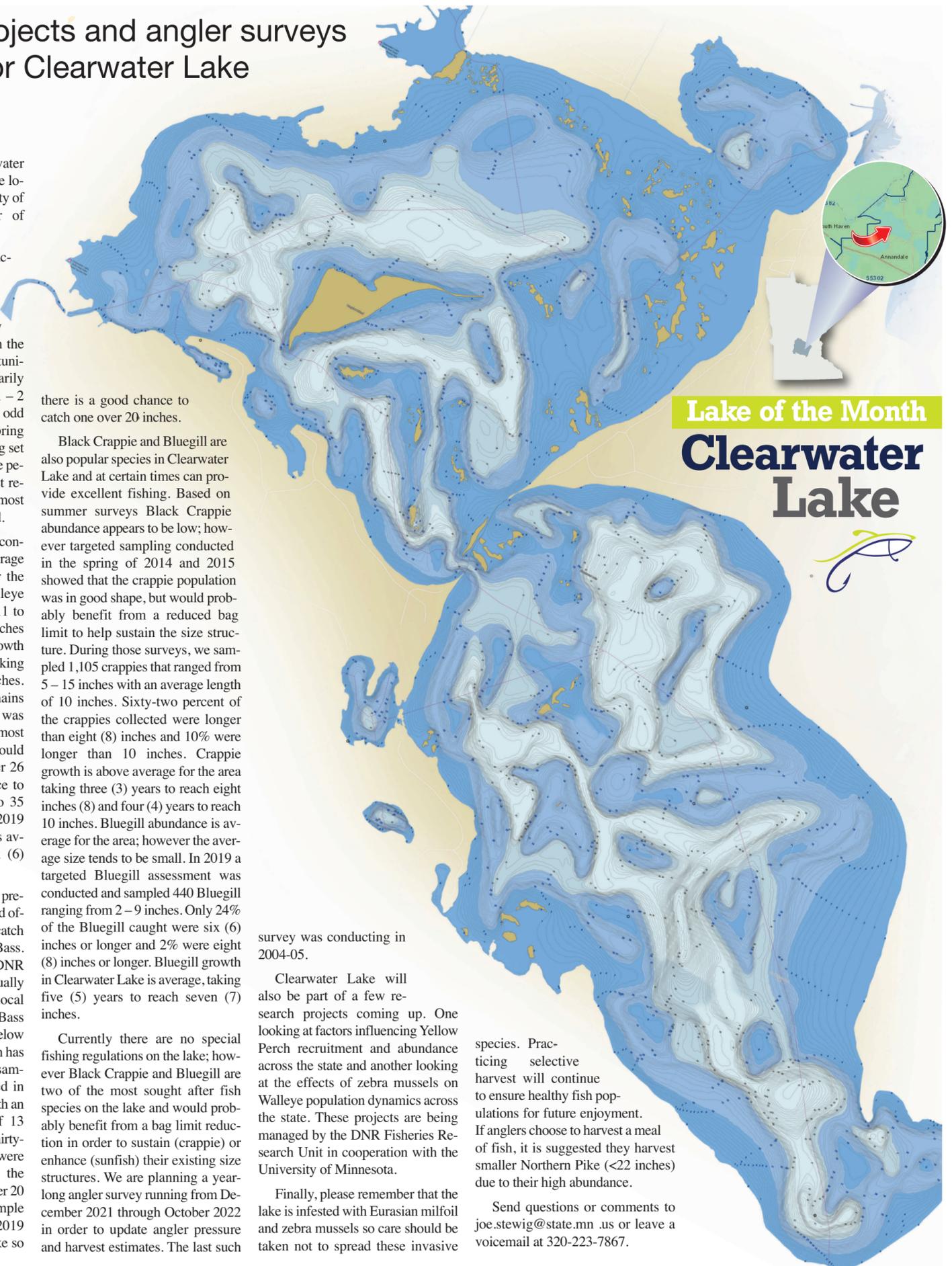
survey was conducting in 2004-05.

Clearwater Lake will also be part of a few research projects coming up. One looking at factors influencing Yellow Perch recruitment and abundance across the state and another looking at the effects of zebra mussels on Walleye population dynamics across the state. These projects are being managed by the DNR Fisheries Research Unit in cooperation with the University of Minnesota.

Finally, please remember that the lake is infested with Eurasian milfoil and zebra mussels so care should be taken not to spread these invasive

species. Practicing selective harvest will continue to ensure healthy fish populations for future enjoyment. If anglers choose to harvest a meal of fish, it is suggested they harvest smaller Northern Pike (<22 inches) due to their high abundance.

Send questions or comments to joe.stewig@state.mn.us or leave a voicemail at 320-223-7867.



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Combination Licenses

DNR adjusts rules how married couples must acquire in 2021

By the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Both members of married couples who want to purchase a combination angling or hunting license in person will need to be present at the sales location. On Feb. 18, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources began requiring both spouses to provide and verify their own complete customer records on file to purchase a combination license.

“These changes will bring the DNR into compliance with state and federal laws that require collecting this information for angling or hunting license sales,” said Steve Michaels, licensing program director. “The information helps prevent licenses being sold to people with violations or unpaid fines.”

Customers will continue to pay the same price for combination licenses, which are discounted compared with purchasing two individual licenses.

When purchasing a combination license in person, both spouses must be present, and, if age 21 or older, also must provide their current Minnesota driver’s licenses or identification cards. If both spouses are not present, the person present may purchase their part of the license and their spouse may obtain their license at a later date at no additional charge.

If a spouse does not have a record on file with the DNR, that spouse can create one with their full name, birth date, social security number. If they are a Minnesota resident age 21 or older, they also will need a current Minnesota driver’s license or current Minnesota identification card. They can create their record anywhere DNR licenses are sold, or call the DNR license center at 877-348-0498 or 651-297-1230 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. New resident customer records for people age 21 and over cannot be created online.

“Thank you to all our license purchasers for patience adjusting to these changes and for buying a license,” Michaels said. “Your license dollars pay for a great deal of DNR conservation work and leverage more federal funding that supports hunting and fishing opportunities and habitat work.”

The Maple Lake MESSENGER

From the pages of the Maple Lake Messenger. Subscribe Today! MapleLakeMessenger.com/subscribe



As of Feb. 18, both members of a married couple need to be present when buying a combination angling or hunting license. Photo submitted

Combination licenses available to married couples from DNR

- Angling, valid for fishing.
 - Conservation angling, valid for half the possession limit, per spouse.
 - Sports, valid for fishing for both spouses and small game hunting for one spouse.
 - Super Sports, valid for fishing for both spouses, small game for one spouse, includes two state trout stamps, and waterfowl and pheasant stamps for one spouse. It also offers the choice of a firearm, archery or muzzle-loader deer license for one spouse.
 - Family non-resident angling, valid for one or both parents and dependent children under age 16.
- More information about purchasing licenses, including license agent locations, is available on the DNR website. Questions about licenses can be directed to the DNR Information Center at 888-646-6367, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, or via email at info.dnr@state.mn.us.

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TEACHER of the MONTH



JESSICA MILLER

By Tom Westman

Jessica Miller, a Kindergarten teacher at Annandale Elementary School has been voted the March Teacher of the Month, receiving 102 votes out of 383 entries.

"Jessica Miller is a phenomenal teacher," said AES Principal Jon Klippenes. "She is innovative, connects well with students and has a huge heart. She is an excellent leader in the school and her instruction is top-notch."

Education

Miller, a 1999 Annandale High School graduate, went on to get her Elementary Education degree from St. Cloud State University, graduating in 2003. In 2014 Miller received a Master's in Teaching and Learning from St. Mary's University.

Kindergarten all the way

In 2005 Miller took a kindergarten position at the Princeton Primary School and taught there for five years. In 2011, wanting to teach in Annandale where her children were going to school, she took a kindergarten position at Bendix Elementary, the school she herself attended.

"Kindergarten is the only grade that I have ever taught and I love it," Miller said. "I have known that I wanted to only teach kindergarten since I was a kindergartener myself."

Miller's favorite part about each day is forming relationships and making connections with her students and their families.

"They make me laugh every day and I enjoy seeing the joy and excitement through the eyes of a 5-year-old," Miller said. "It keeps me



young and kindergarten is simply the best."

Family

Miller is the daughter of Richard & Karen Johnson and was born in the small town of Dent, Minnesota, about 150 miles north and west of Annandale.

Miller and her husband Chad have been married for 18 years and make their home in St. Augusta with their children Mason, Madison and Maverick.

Likes Annandale

"I appreciate that the Annandale community is supportive, encouraging and can rally around anyone who needs help," Miller said. "It is an honor to work here."



Submitted photo



PEGGY MARQUETTE

By Brenda Erdahl

Peggy Marquette, a first-grade teacher at St. Timothy School in Maple Lake, has been voted the March Teacher of the Month.

Marquette has spent the last 23 years teaching students, and they've all been at St. Timothy's. She holds a BA in Elementary Education from the College of St. Benedict, a Masters of Education from the University of St. Thomas and a Minnesota Reading License.

Marquette said she has always wanted to work with children and was inspired by the many teachers in her life over the years.

"I enjoy working with children, helping them reach goals, and seeing progress they have made. I also enjoy their enthusiasm and energy. I have a passion for reading and books and love to share that with my first graders as they become more accomplished readers," she said.

Marquette is a Maple Lake alumni herself, graduating first from St. Timothy's then Maple Lake High School. She is married to Kevin and they

have three sons. Alex is a senior at the University of St. Thomas, Zach is a sophomore at the University of Mary and Sam is a sophomore at Maple Lake High School.

Marquette garnered 22 votes in the community-wide poll posted on the Messenger website.



Photo by Brenda Erdahl

Mrs. Marquette said she loves working with children and helping them reach her goals.

VOTE by March 14

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LAKE Country Calendar

March



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>March is the month of spring and with it come a lot of activity in nature. Birds migrate. Animals begin to mate.</p>	1 • Ann. City Council Meeting 7 pm	2	3 • Pioneer Park Potluck 6:30 pm • South Haven C.C. Meeting 7 pm • Silver Creek Twp Meeting 7 pm • Corinna Twp Meeting 7 pm • M. L. Chamber Meeting Noon	4 • Legion Riders Meeting M.L. Legion Club 7 pm	5	6
7	8	9 • Chatham Twp Meeting 7 pm • M.L. City Council Meeting 7 pm • Late Start - M.L. School District	10 • Hasty-Silver Creek Sportsmen's Club Meeting 8 pm	11 • Sons of the A.L. Meets 8 pm • Lions Club Meets at The V 7 pm	12 • Girl Scout Day	13 Maple Lake Drive thru! St. Patrick's Day Parade 1:30 pm start • March New Moon
14	15	16 • Corinna Twp Meeting 7 pm • Albion Twp Meeting 7 pm • M.L. Twp Meeting 7 pm	17 • St. Patrick's Day	18 • W.C. Saddle Club Meets 7:30pm • M.L. Legion Auxiliary Meets 7pm	19	20 Spring Begins • First Saturday of March Madness
Daylight Savings Time	21	22 AD DEADLINE for April Lure • School Board-Annandale 7 pm Spring Break- March 22-26 M.L. School District	23 • School Board-Annandale 7 pm	24	25 • Wear Purple Day - Epilepsy Awareness Day	26 April Lure Published
28 Full Moon - Full Worm Moon	29 Spring Break- March 29-April 2 Annandale School District	30 • Wright Co. Snowmobile Ass. Meeting, M.L. Legion 7:30 pm	31	1	2	All events posted to this calendar may be affected by COVID-19. Please check with these events by calling or visiting their website.

Meeting Locations

- Albion Twp.**
Albion Township meet at Township Hall-2235 Co. Road 6 Annandale
- Ann. City Council**
Annandale City Council meet at City Hall- 30 Cedar St. E.
- Ann. Chamber**
Annandale Chamber of Commerce meets at various locations in Annandale. See Chamber website for info.
- Ann. School Board**
Annandale School Board meet in community room -655 Park St.

- Chatham Twp.**
Chatham Township meet at Township Hall -1695 Eldridge Ave., Buffalo
- Corinna Twp.**
Corinna Township meet at Township Hall- 9801 Ireland Ave., Annandale
- HSC Sportsman**
Hasty-Silver Creek Sportsman Club meet at the Club-10917 Duffield Ave. NW, Maple Lake
- Legion Riders**
Meet at Maple Lake Legion
- M.L. Chamber**
Maple Lake Chamber of Commerce meet at various locations in Maple Lake. See Chamber website for info.

- M.L. City Council**
Maple Lake City Council meet at Maple Lake City Hall-10 Maple Ave.
- M.L.L. Auxiliary**
Maple Lake Legion Auxiliary meet at Maple Lake Legion
- M.L. School Board**
Maple Lake School Board meets in Maple Lake District office board room
- M.L. Twp.**
Maple Lake Township meet at Maple Lake Township Hall-6298 Bishop Ave. NW, Buffalo
- Silver Creek Twp.**
Silver Creek Township meet at Township Hall-3827 134th St., Monticello

- Sons of the A.L.**
Sons of the American Legion meet at Maple Lake Legion
- South Haven C.C.**
South Haven City Council meet at City Hall-521 Oak Ave.
- W.C. Snow Assoc.**
Wright County Snowmobile Association meet at Maple Lake Legion
- W.C. Saddle Club**
Wright Saddle Club meets at Club-25 Co. Rd 8 S., Maple Lake

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