



PLA NEWS

PERCH LAKE OWNERS ASSOCIATION

WINTER/SPRING 2025



Preserving Perch Lake: Educating, Advocating, and Protecting for a Sustainable Future.

MAPLE SYRUPING AT PERCH LAKE

DANIEL STATTELMAN-SCANLAN

The Sugar Maple tree is a dominant species in the Mesic northern forest around Perch lake.

In the spring time these trees produces a sweet sap that is great for making Syrup. For the past

20 years the Scanlan's have been tapping trees in their "Sugar Bush". This is often done mid March to Mid April when the snow is deep. They use snow shoes and drill holes in about 200 trees leaving a metal tap and bucket to collect the dripping sap.

This is collected most days when the temperatures gets below freezing at night and above freezing during the day. After they have a couple hundred gallons of sap they boil it down to make syrup. It takes 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of liquid gold syrup. This has become a fun tradition and many family and friends come up to help and learn.

If you happen to be up at the lake in the spring time stop over and say hello. They welcome extra hands to haul the sap and stoke the fire.

Several years ago there was a short radio story created about the Sugar camp.

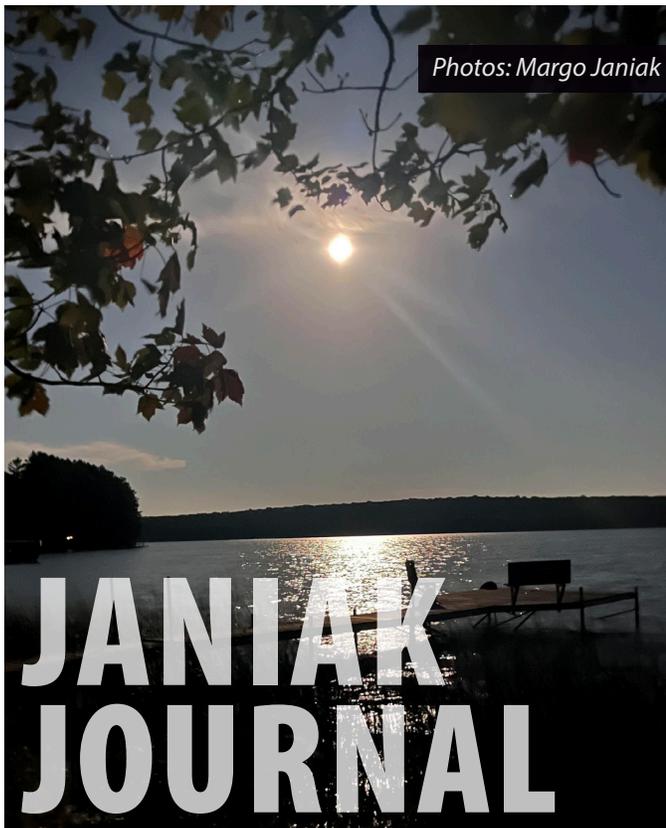
Feel free to go check out the Wisconsin Life story at <https://wisconsinlife.org/story/its-maple-syrup-time-in-the-midwest>.



Photo by Amanda Gilliland & Barrowed from the Wisconsin Life



Photo by Amanda Gilliland & Barrowed from the Wisconsin Life



Photos: Margo Janiak

JANI AK JOURNAL

ANNUAL ARRIVAL

Article By Cliff Janiak

I see that we arrived at Perch Lake April 6, which is quite a bit earlier than usual, this past spring. We can thank the light snowfall over the winter. The previous 2 winters had snow accumulation of over 200 inches, but this past winter was under 100 inches by most estimates. My pictures show our dock was in by April 10.

It is always so pleasant to arrive at the lake and live beyond constant highway noise and throngs of people. Of course there was not much green growth that early. There were subtle indications of spring for the first few weeks, then there's an explosion of new growth. Buds on the trees are more noticeable and the spring flowers start appearing. Watching the waterfowl migrate north is a great early spring activity. The spotting scope gets more use now vs the

rest of the year looking at the ducks, geese and other waterfowl on the lake. Our cabin opened up without any issues which is always a big plus. It is still a very busy time even in the best of times.

Spring time and fishing go together. Lake fishing for crappies before the walleye opener produced only a few crappies and perch. Brook trout fishing was productive the two times I went out. Spring walleye fishing was decent as long as you kept after it. The trees seem to leaf out overnight with that unique, chartreuse, spring color. Soon green is the most dominate color in our landscape except for the color of the water. Black flies and mosquitoes start to make their appearance but were very manageable, as far as I was concerned.

It was an outstanding year to view the northern lights. I don't remember the auroras being visible so frequently. September was the best month although we saw them through early November. Liked back into the cover. Woodcock numbers seem down again. I don't know if the migration has changed in the last few years or their numbers are down but we didn't flush very many. There were more deer roaming our area than we've seen in several years. Most of the bucks were only seen on trail cams after shooting hours. We didn't see a buck during the day. I didn't see any wolf this year which is the first time in many years. Not sure if those are related. Fall walleye fishing did not disappoint!

Then, remarkably, it was time to close up, with mid November looking like early April! Can't wait to get back!





2025 CONTAINMENT INSTALLATION:

Please come with family and friends to help!! The installation is scheduled for Thursday, May 8, and Friday, May 9.

CONTAINMENT REMOVAL REPORT:

On October 3 & 4, 2024, PLOA members and High School volunteers helped remove the containment system at Perch Lake. While we had great help on Friday, we could have used more assistance on Thursday. Thank you to everyone who supported this important effort to protect our lake from invasive species like Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). Your efforts help keep Perch Lake clean and healthy.

ALERT: EWM has now been detected in nearby Sunset Lake, just east of Iron River.

We all play a crucial role in preventing EWM from spreading to Perch Lake. In addition to the containment system, we ask all landowners to ensure that any boats entering the lake from their property are clean and inspected for weeds.

The PLOA is working on a fact sheet for property owners, which will be shared soon

HELPING WITH CONTAINMENT:

To donate to the 501c3 mail a check to Hal. He will send you a confirmation letter at the end of the year for tax verification.

Hal Petrimoulx
13108 Country Club Drive
Clio, MI 48420.

Important Dates for 2025:

May 8-9 Containment installation
July 9 th – PLOA Annual Meeting
October 2-3 – Containment Removal

Officers:

President: Daniel Stattelmann-Scanlan
Secretary: Colleen Quinn
Treasurer: Hal Petrimoulx

Committee Chairs:

Communications: Vacant – Please volunteer
Lake Management: Vacant – Please volunteer

Board Members:

Tom Haight
Ed Scanlan
Colleen Quinn
Cliff Janiak
Hal Petrimoulx
Debbie Haight
Liz Quinn
Daniel Stattelmann-Scanlan
Dave Horton



Photo: Cliff Janiak



Photo: Margo Janiak



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Photo: Margo Janiak



Photo: Amy Stirling

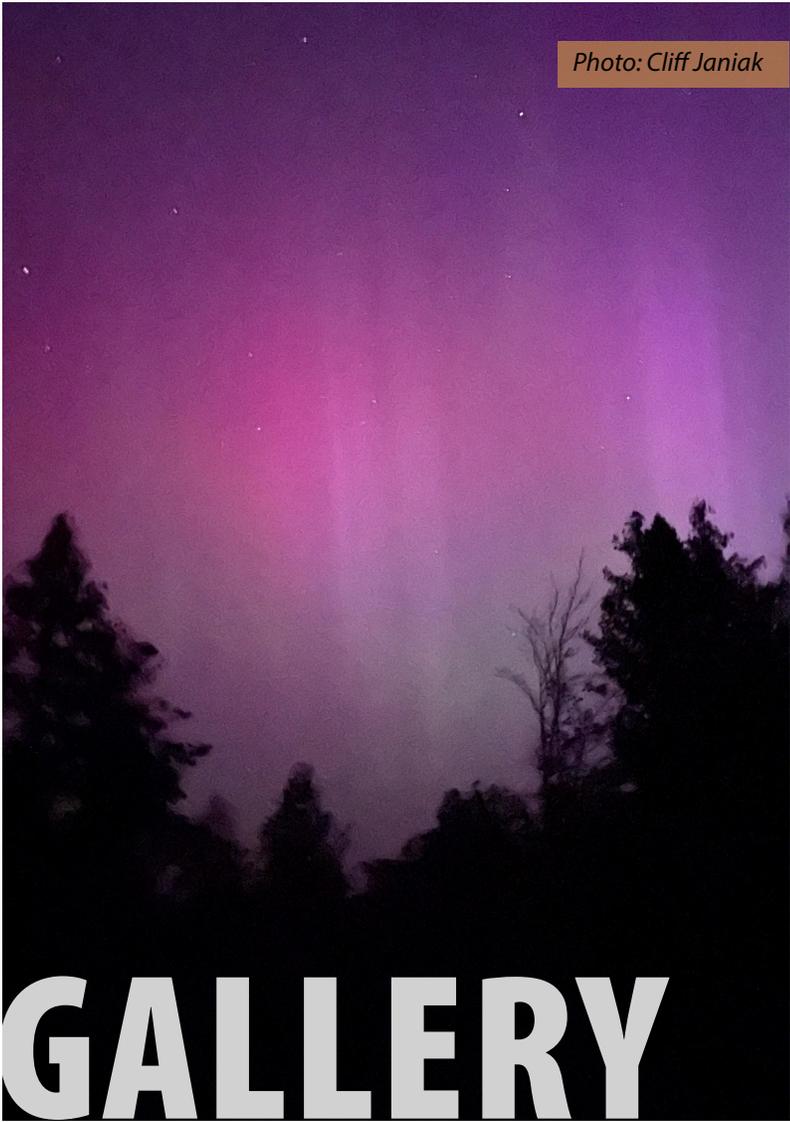


Photo: Cliff Janiak

GALLERY



Photo: Margo Janiak



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PLOA NEWS

WINTER/SPRING NEWSLETTER 2025
PERCH LAKE OWNERS ASSOCIATION



PLOA Membership dues are \$100 and can be mailed to Hal Petrimloux at
13108 Contry Club Drive, Clio, MI 48420



Perch Lake Owners Association
Daniel Stattelmann-Scanlan
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