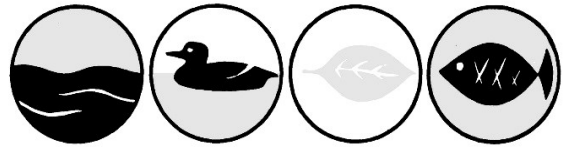


N.I.C.C.



June 2023 Newsletter



Our first Nature Night of 2023 on Wednesday May 17, Jordan Marcelain, member of NICC, shared his experience answering questions. Honey bees are not endangered. They are not native to the US. They are originally from Europe and came over with the pilgrims in the 1600's. Did you know there are only 7 species of honey bees?

Did you know it takes 60,000 bees, 55,000 miles and 2,000,000 flowers to get about 1 pound honey? There are 20,000 species of bees in the world with only 7 species of honey bees. Pollinators and conservation go hand in hand. For many honey bees, the pollination season begins in California as more than 80 billion U.S. honey bees arrive to pollinate nearly one million acres of almond crops. During the short growing season of mid-February to mid-March, approximately 85% of all available managed hives make their way to California to pollinate a massive 80% of the world's almonds. Since almonds are 100% dependent on honey bee pollination, this is considered to be the largest event in migratory beekeeping and pollination.

Honey bees, beekeepers, and the honey industry are direct contributors to the success of the world's agriculture. Today, the honey industry faces many challenges, such as hive loss, drought, pesticide and shrinking forage areas. Here are a few ways you can help the honey bees.

1. Plant bee-friendly flowers and flowering herbs in your garden and yard.
2. Let the weeds grow-you may not like them but bees love them! Reduce the use of pesticides to treat your lawn or garden while flowers are in bloom.
3. Bees are thirsty. Put a shallow basin of fresh water with marbles or rocks in it for the bees to land on.
4. Donate to an organization dedicated to helping protect and promote honey bees and other pollinators.
5. Support the beekeepers that care for honey bees by purchasing and eating honey.

Join us on June 20 for our second Nature Night on boating safety by the Coast Guard Auxiliary.



On Saturday, May 13th we held our Spring highway cleanup of Grasslake Road from Route 83 to Route 59.

While Ellen Ipsen cleaned both sides of the highway by herself on a sunny day prior to May 13th, the crew focused their efforts on the southeast and northeast corners of Route 59 and Grasslake Road. With the high winds we have been experiencing, these wooded corners were filled with flying debris such as plastic bags, cardboard, signs, etc.

This year's crew consisted of Ellen Ipsen, Billy Burns and Laura Golonka. Thank you, guys!

A special thank you to Ellen for going solo and cleaning both sides of the road!!



After our highway clean-up we went to the club grounds where the crew was already in full swing. Bill, Jessie and Maddie Szmegalski, Phil and Sue Schultz, Laura and Ken Golonka, and Billy Burns got to it!

The Szmegalski family picked up branches around the grounds and Bill started mowing. Maddie, Jessie, Sue and Laura worked on cleaning the house. Jessie, Sue and Maddie also worked on the gardens around the house, pulling weeds and raking leaves. Phil fixed the hot water heater. Then Ken and Phil worked on turning the water back on. After much maintenance, replacing the pump switch, they found a leak. One of the pipes under the bathroom floor had burst over the winter. Although they drained the tank and lines, there must have been a little water in that line. After pulling a portion of the floor up, they repaired the line. Phil came back the next day and replaced a portion of the bathroom floor, and Sue washed the floors.

To keep us going, Jessie made homemade cupcakes and rice krispie treats with chocolate on the top. That is exactly what we needed to keep going...sugar!

Thank you to all who came out and worked so hard.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June 12	General/Board Meeting 7 pm	NICC Club Grounds
June 20	Nature Night 6:30 pm	NICC Club Grounds
July 10	General/Board Meeting 7 pm	NICC Club Grounds
July 15	Outdoor Education Day	NICC Club Grounds
Aug 14	General/Board Meeting 7 pm	NICC Club Grounds
Sept. 11	General/Board Meeting 7 pm	NICC Club Grounds
Oct. 9	General/Board Meeting 7 pm	NICC Club Grounds
Nov. 13	General/Board Meeting 7 pm	NICC Club Grounds



Ashley Grimon
Lisa Lannan
Jason Udelhofen

The greatest reward for serving others is the satisfaction found in your own heart.