



City of East Gull Lake  
 10790 Squaw Point Rd  
 East Gull Lake MN 56401

MAYOR  
 Dave Kavanaugh

COUNCIL MEMBERS  
 Carol Demgen  
 Dennis Lang  
 Rob Mason  
 James Ruttger

## Spring 2012

### Mayor's Message

Spring certainly sprung early this year! Ice-out on area lakes was at least a week earlier than the earliest ice-out on record! I hope you have been able to get out and enjoy both the nice early spring and our trail system. The City completed another section of trail last fall extending the length of the trail to the west on County Road 77 and to the south on County Road 18.



We have noticed a considerable increase in the number of permits being issued at City Hall this spring. After several quieter years it is nice to see this increase. On the other hand, we have a quiet year as far as road and trail work with no projects planned for this summer.

Hope to see many of you out and about this summer. Enjoy!

*Sincerely, Dave Kavanaugh, Mayor*

### Camp Confidence

Hello Neighbors,



Confidence Learning Center has always strived to be a good neighbor. This is a good opportunity for us to share with you some interesting facts about Camp. The great relationship we have with our neighbors has always helped us deal with any small problems that arise. Many East Gull Lake residents have become involved in Camp in many ways. Many of you attend our annual fund raisers including the June Golf and Fishing Classics along with the Mariucci Fiesta. Others volunteer, make donations to, or attend our annual auction sales. We would like to invite you to continue that tradition and invite you to stop by to learn more about the nationally recognized program which is right in your back yard.

Camp was formed in 1968 with the mission of serving people with developmental disabilities in an outdoor setting year around. Our goal is to enhance self confidence, raise self esteem and help our campers develop skills to become contributing community members. At the rate of 10,000 camper days per year, we are rapidly approaching the half a million mark.

Camp's website ([www.campconfidence.com](http://www.campconfidence.com)) can answer practically every question you have about the operation. To see the fun day to day activities and pictures, visit our Facebook page. As Executive Director, I am always happy to conduct a personal tour or arrange for one of our staff to show you what a great place this is.

We strive to be as unobtrusive as possible on the lake with our Campers. We

#### IN THIS ISSUE

Mayor's Welcome	1
Camp Confidence	1
News from Cass County	2
MN Power Rewards	2
Our Trails	3
Staffs' Corner	3
November Elections	3
Calendar of Events	3
Camp Confidence (Cont.)	4

## News from Cass County



Last Saturday I was working in my **shirt** sleeves and basking in the hero worship that can only come from a three-year old grandson. Today, I shoveled snow and mailed a check to the IRS. Life in Minnesota is full of changes and challenges and I wouldn't have it any other way!

The 2010 Federal census data has resulted in significant changes to state legislative and commissioner districts in Cass County. While we remain entirely within the 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congressional District, we are now located in 2 state senate districts and 3 state representative districts. The boundaries of all 5 Cass County Commissioner Districts have changed.

For East Gull Lake, this means we are now in State Senate District 9 and House District 9A. Neither district has an incumbent residing within the new district.

Cass County Commissioner District 1 has shrunk geographically and now includes the cities of East Gull Lake, Lakeshore and Pillager, and the townships of Fairview and Sylvan. As a result of this re-districting, I will need to stand for re-election this fall instead of in 2014. I have enjoyed representing the people of District 1 these past 2 years and do intend to run for re-election this fall.

For more complete information on voter registration, precinct boundaries, voting information and redistricting, visit [www.cass.voter@co.cass.mn.us](http://www.cass.voter@co.cass.mn.us)

Another opportunity in Cass County is the availability of grant money for the protection of critical and vulnerable shore lands through conservation easements. The following information is excerpted from the 2012 Cass County tax newsletter:

- ◆ Do you own minimally developed shore land? Do you want to preserve the natural value of this shore land for future generations to enjoy?
- ◆ The Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation, along with the Cass County Environmental Services, has grant money available through the Legacy Amendment to assist conservation minded shore-land property owners in using conservation easements.
- ◆ In a conservation easement, the landowner retains ownership of the land but gives up future development rights on the land to a qualifying unit of government or non-profit organization. Future building sites can be set aside and current buildings can remain, but no additional development may be undertaken. In return, the IRS may allow a charitable deduction for the value of the easement. When sold or passed on to heirs, the easement stays in place.

Grants of up to \$15,000 are available to assist landowners in putting an easement into place. For more information, contact, contact Cass County Environmental Services at 218-547-7241.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your County Commissioner. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, I can be reached at [neal.egl@scicable.com](mailto:neal.egl@scicable.com) or by phone at 218.829.7208.

*Neal Gaalswyk, Cass County Commissioner*

### MN Power Reward Program

**\$75 Reward when MN Power rounds up and recycles ...**

... your qualifying Refrigerator or Freezer and up to 3 qualifying window A/C's (\$50.00 for refrigerator or freezer only)

It's as easy as 1-2-3...

Call **866.552.6755** or visit [www.mnpower.com/RefrigeratorRecycling](http://www.mnpower.com/RefrigeratorRecycling) to place your order for appliance pickup by a MN Power contractor.

Make sure someone is home who is at least 18 years old on the date of selected pickup. Units must be in working condition and easily accessible for removal from your home.

Present MN Power **\$75 Reward** coupon or have your account information available.

## Our Trails



Welcome to spring after a winter that was certainly one to remember. The new East Gull Lake trails as well as the existing trails have received more use on a year around basis than I could have ever imagined. The newly seeded grass is

coming in nicely and with a little sweeping to clean up some areas that have some minor washouts we should be ready for a busy season.

We currently do not have any additional expansion plans of more trails in East Gull Lake, but maintaining the trails and possibly adding some trail head enhancements could be in the works.

A couple of years ago we had a couple approach us with the idea of adding some benches to the trail in some of the more scenic areas. They had an idea that perhaps some people would like to sponsor benches in memorial for someone special or perhaps some other enhancement to the trails. Our committee discussed it and thought it was a great idea. I believe we should create a list of some enhancements and get some pricing so people would have some options to consider. What a better way to leave a legacy to your family or memorialize someone special.

There are currently meetings taking place to discuss the continuation of the trails around the west side of Gull lake through Fairview Township, Lakeshore and Nisswa to eventually link up to the Paul Bunyan Trail. Please urge your friends and neighbors to support this project as it will take a great effort to get it done. Enjoy the trails this summer and we appreciate all the great comments we have gotten from those that are using it daily.

*Best Wishes,  
Rob Mason*

*East Gull Lake City Council and Trail Committee*

## November Elections

This November there are two City Council positions and one Mayor position up for election. The polls will be open on November 6<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm. It is expected to be an extremely busy election season. Therefore, if you can vote during the slower times, (mid-morning and mid-afternoon) you may not have to wait in line as long. If you need to update your Minnesota Voter registration or pick up an Application for Absentee Ballots, they are available at City Hall. See you at the polls!

## Staff Corner

The City is continuing to offer an alternative to paying your utility bill by check. Direct debit allows you the convenience of paying your bill electronically through the Automated Clearing House (ACH). We have several residents already signed up but would like to see more residents join.

**The form is located on our website:**

[www.eastgulllake.govoffice.com](http://www.eastgulllake.govoffice.com)

## Calendar of Events

**Council Meeting:** First Tuesday of month, 7:00 p.m.; June 5<sup>th</sup>, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>, & Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Planning & Zoning:** Last Tuesday of month, 6:30 p.m., May 29<sup>th</sup>, June 26<sup>th</sup>, July 31<sup>st</sup>, Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>, & Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Safety:** As needed, see calendar on website.

**Wastewater & Roads:** Third Wednesday of month as needed, 3:00 p.m., July 18<sup>th</sup>, & Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Budget:** As needed, 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, Aug. 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>. See calendar on website for updates..

**Park & Trails:** Last Tuesday of month as needed, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 p.m.

**See the Calendar section on the website for additional meetings and updates.**



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We're on the Web!  
[www.eastgulllake.govoffice.com](http://www.eastgulllake.govoffice.com)

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## Camp Confidence (continued from page 1)



*A fishing out on Lake Sylvan  
at Confidence Learning  
Center*

release our fish and make a continuous effort to maintain the integrity of Sylvan Lake. Personally, I am a homeowner on Sylvan Lake and have taken on the unofficial responsibility of being the “Access Watchdog”. Over the years we have had many developers offer to purchase any or all of the 144 acres that encompasses Confidence Learning Center. The agreement we signed when we purchased the property says it can only be used as a not for profit area. You have our assurances that this non-profit status is a permanent attachment to this area.

Camp provides outdoor recreation for people with developmental disabilities, usually over 10,000 camper days per year. We have a wonderful program staff—11 year around employees reinforced by summer interns and special staff for our deaf and hard of hearing camp. With your support, we hope to continue this great up north tradition for persons of all ages with developmental disabilities.

*Jeff Olson  
Executive Director  
Confidence Learning Center*