

JOIN US!

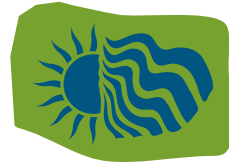
Your support makes a difference.

We must remain vigilant to keep new invasive plants, animals and viruses out of Lake Minnetonka.

Why membership matters:

- ◆ No other organization serves as the VOICE for lakeshore owners and businesses.
 - ◆ The Lake Minnetonka Association is a strong advocate for reasonable use and regulation.
 - ◆ The Lake Minnetonka Association is a valued source of information and updates on issues that impact the lake, its residents and businesses.
- Your tax-deductible contribution will strengthen our mission to promote lake preservation, protection and restoration, and the reasonable use and regulation of Lake Minnetonka.

Flip to the other side of this flap—and join today!



**LAKE
MINNETONKA
ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 248
Excelsior, MN 55331

The Mission of the

Lake Minnetonka Association:

The Lake Minnetonka Association, a nonprofit organization, works to promote the preservation, protection, and reasonable use of Lake Minnetonka through volunteers, lakeshore owners, and businesses. The Lake Minnetonka Association serves as an information resource and advocate for the Lake Minnetonka community.

www.LMAassociation.org

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WINTER 2023



On The Lake

NEWSLETTER **UPDATE**

LAKE MINNETONKA ASSOCIATION • The VOICE for Lake Minnetonka Lakeshore Owners and Businesses

Working to preserve and protect Lake Minnetonka in 2023 and into the future...

Serving as a steward of Lake Minnetonka's cultural and natural legacy is no small task, but every year the Lake Minnetonka Association and its members are making Lake Minnetonka a healthier and better place to live.

In 2023, the Lake Minnetonka Association will:

- Work proactively to keep starry stonewort out of Lake Minnetonka, and if found, will implement a rapid response plan to eradicate it.
- Stop invasive flowering rush from spreading to other parts of the lake.
- Continue our "Remote AIS Inspection System" to monitor boat launches.
- Expand our management of Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed to new bays that join our Bay Treatment Program.
- Team with local partners to keep our lake clean from trash.
- Host special events and educational workshops about Lake Minnetonka's natural and cultural legacy.
- Keep our members and lake residents informed of important issues through our quarterly newsletters.
- Represent the interests of Lake Minnetonka at state and local boards and agencies.

Our members make it possible for us to keep the lake healthy and to advocate for all lake residents and lake users. If you are not a member already, join with other Lake Minnetonka residents and become one today!



Can the **BATTLE** to **ELIMINATE AIS** in Lake Minnetonka be **Won?**

Most invasive plants are spread by fragmentation. Fragments of aquatic invasive species (AIS) can be carried by boaters from untreated to treated bays, so all 37 bays on Lake Minnetonka will need to participate in the Bay Treatment Program before eradication is possible. Improved monitoring of boats and trailers at launches will also be needed to prevent new species of AIS from entering the lake or the reintroduction of existing species.

In 2022, the Lake Minnetonka Association piloted a "Remote AIS Inspection System" to look for AIS on boats when entering and leaving Maxwell Bay. This year, we hope to install similar systems at one or two other launches. Last summer, the Lake Minnetonka Association also expanded its invasive starry stonewort inspections to include diver-assisted surveys. Early detection and elimination of this weed will save Lake Minnetonka property owners hundreds-of-thousands of dollars.

Essentially, no property or income taxes are used to control invasive weeds on Lake Minnetonka. All of the work being done is due to the financial support of our members and contributors. The Lake Minnetonka Association is the only organization with the expertise, partnerships, and willingness to take on the important role of being the steward for Lake Minnetonka. Yes, the battle against AIS can be won and, yes, together we can protect the legacy of Lake Minnetonka.

In a word, **YES**. But it is a battle that requires diligence, innovation, and, perhaps most importantly, the ongoing support of lakeshore property owners.

It was not until the Lake Minnetonka Association's Bay Treatment Program was started and the money needed to treat invasive Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed was raised by lakeshore property owners, that invasive weeds began to be controlled. Today, invasive weeds are no longer a nuisance and native plant diversity is returning in the bays participating in the program.

Please Support Our Business Members

- ◆ Al & Alma's Supper Club & Charter Cruises
- ◆ Back Channel Brewing Co.
- ◆ Blue Lagoon Marine, Inc.
- ◆ Caribbean Marina
- ◆ Carisch, Inc.
- ◆ ClosingWithConor.com
- ◆ Continental Diamond
- ◆ Dock & Lift Services
- ◆ Don Stodola Well Drilling Co.
- ◆ Excelsior Brewing Company
- ◆ FineLine Lakeshore Service
- ◆ Greenwood Marina
- ◆ Jim Paul's Valley Buick GMC
- ◆ Kowalski's Market
- ◆ Lafayette Club
- ◆ Life's a Beach Shoreline Services
- ◆ Lindbo Landing Marina
- ◆ Lord Fletcher's Old Lake Lodge
- ◆ MarineMax Minnesota
- ◆ Maynards
- ◆ Minnetonka Bargeman
- ◆ MN Inboard Water Sports
- ◆ Museum of Lake Minnetonka
- ◆ My Service Pro 612 Plumber
- ◆ Navarre True Value Hardware
- ◆ North Shore Marina
- ◆ Otten Bros. Garden Center & Landscaping
- ◆ Paradise Charter Cruises
- ◆ PLM Lake & Land Mgmt., Corp.
- ◆ Rockvum Boat Yards
- ◆ RSI Marine
- ◆ Candi & Scott Stabeck – Edina Realty, Wayzata/Lake Minnetonka
- ◆ Tonka Bay Marina, Inc.
- ◆ Touchstone Accent Lighting
- ◆ Waterfront Restoration
- ◆ Wave Armor

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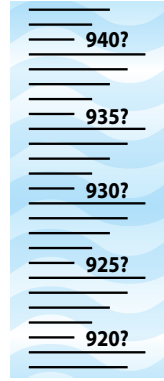
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Tom Frahm, President (Lost Lake)
Rob Roy, Vice President (St. Albans Bay)
Lee Harren, Treasurer/Secretary
CPA/Retired (Stubbs Bay)
Judd Brackett (Gideons Bay)
Terry Bryce (Grays Bay)
Josh Leddy (Seton Lake)
Amanda Walsh (West Arm Bay)
Denise Westman (Echo Bay)



Low water levels remain possible through Spring

The National Weather Service has reduced the Lake Minnetonka area from a severe drought to a moderate drought. Long term forecasts favor a 50/50 chance of normal precipitation over the next three months. While

moisture content in snow varies, a rule of thumb is one foot of snow equals one inch of water. Rate of thaw, soil moisture, evaporation rate, and other factors play a role in how much water gets to the lake. While it is hard to predict what the lake levels will be this spring, Lake Minnetonka was about 25 inches below its normal level when the lake froze over, so a lower than normal lake level this spring at ice-off is possible. If water levels do not rise above 928 ft., the LMCD Board may declare a low water emergency.



Legislative Update

Legislators are currently considering a bill to expand Boater Education and Certification in Minnesota. Efforts to pass this legislation failed in

2022; however, the bill was backed by both parties and had broad industry and community support. If passed by the House and Senate, the Governor is expected to sign the bill into law. Legislation may also be introduced to increase fines for transporting aquatic invasive species (AIS), and more money for AIS research, monitoring and control. Finally, the University of Minnesota recently completed fieldwork to study the impact of boat wakes on shorelines and lake bottoms. While the study results may not be released before the end of session, this is a controversial issue and will likely receive some sort of attention at the legislature.

Remember NO ICE IS COMPLETELY SAFE!

The Hennepin County Sheriff's Office would like to remind the public that although it has been very cold lately, ice is never considered completely safe. This year, while ice may be thick in some parts of the lake, it can be quite thin in other parts. Ice thickness can vary due to thickness of snow cover, water current, underwater springs, decaying vegetation, and even schools of carp! Always use caution when venturing onto the ice, and check ice conditions in advance by calling a local marina or bait shop. To report a non-emergency water/ice safety hazard or crime, call the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center at 952-258-5321. For emergencies, call 911.

Change of Leadership at the LMCD

In late fall, the Executive Director and the attorney representing the LMCD resigned and the LMCD Board President opted not to seek reappointment. While the LMCD has seen its share of controversies in the past, it is not known what triggered the recent resignations. At their December 14th meeting, LMCD Board members stressed the importance of being very deliberate in selecting a new Executive Director and that the change in leadership created an opportunity for the board to reflect on how to improve the organization.

I want to support the Lake Minnetonka Association at the following membership level:

Basic (\$50 - \$199) Sustaining (\$200 - \$499) Captain (\$500 - \$999) Commodore (\$1,000 +) Business (\$350)

\$ _____ Annual Lake Minnetonka Association Membership Contribution amount
\$ _____ Other (on) additional contribution

\$ _____ **TOTAL**

Make checks payable to: **Lake Minnetonka Association**

You may also contribute online: www.LMAssociation.org

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Bay: _____

Phone: _____

It's easy to become a member!

Simply complete, detach and send the form at right with your contribution to:

The Lake Minnetonka Association
P.O. Box 248, Excelsior, MN 55331

or visit our Website: www.LMAssociation.org



LAKE MINNETONKA ASSOCIATION

Become a member today!

I would like to learn more about how my bay can join the Lake Minnetonka Association's Bay Treatment Program to control Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed in my bay.

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.
The Lake Minnetonka Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

