

Maple Lake Improvement District

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2024



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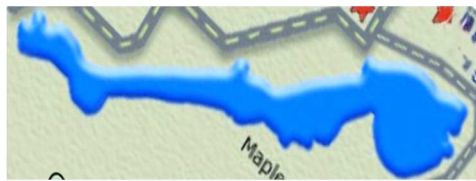
Wake Boat Effects on Shoreline

The Maple Lake Improvement District (MLID) works to support the long-term preservation of Maple Lake. This includes water quality, preventing spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), preserving shoreline/preventing shoreline erosion, and more.

Lake property owners have contacted board members to report damage to their shorelines from the large waves from wake boat's and the MLID recognizes the need to address this.

Wake boats create large, consistent waves using ballasts that can hold up to 5,000 pounds of water. Unlike waves influenced by wind and average boats, these boats generate stronger wave energy impacting many MN small lakes.

The MLID is a member of a group called MN Lakes and Rivers (MLR) and their last newsletter focused on this subject. Maple Lake is not the only lake that struggles with this, but because our lake is long and narrow and VERY shallow (14 feet at the deepest spot), we see quite a bit of effects from the wakes of these boats.



MLR and other partners helped to fund critical research on wake dynamics. The Study investigated: *What is the recommended distance for wake boats from shore?*

The study confirmed that waves from wake boats need 600 ft from shore to

diminish, where average boats only need 200 ft.



Some lakes have adopted rules for wake boats: Lake Minnetonka adopted an ordinance establishing a 5-mph limit and a 300-foot no-wake zone from shore to protect sensitive areas. While one very small, shallow lake has approved a lake-wide ban. Others have distributed maps promoting awareness among boaters by indicating safe areas for wake boating.

The Maple Lake Board recommends, while generating an artificial wake, average boats stay 200 ft from shore and wake boats stay 500 ft from shore and maintain a no wake zone under these distances. Exit and enter your mooring place at a 90-degree angle at 5 mph to prevent your wake from damaging the shoreline, with the exception of when pulling a skier.

MLR is participating in developing the curriculum to be taught to boaters in MN, for responsible watercraft operation and incorporating the latest scientific data regarding wake boats and the recommended 600-foot distance from shore.

Here are some guidelines for wake boat drivers to follow:

-Keep your speed below 5-mph until you reach 300 feet from shore (the length of a

2024-2025 Board Members

President: Loren Abel (2027)
12039 Maple Lake Dr SE, Mentor, MN
Ph: 218-574-2345

Vice President: Michael Moore (2025)
34643 E. Trinity Point Rd, Mentor, MN
Ph: 218-687-3637

Marlow Jacobson (2028)
35261 Shalom Dr, Mentor, MN
Ph: 218-766-3779

Jim Baune (2026)
12227 Maple Lake Dr SE, Mentor, MN
Ph: 218-779-5295

Kip Fontaine (2028)
33335 173rd Ave SE, Mentor, MN
Ph: 218-280-6507

Brian Wavra (2025)
3802 Cherry St #G25, Grand Forks, ND
Ph: 218-773-3083

Adelle Christianson (2027)
12888 Maple Lake Dr SE, Mentor, MN
Ph: 218-684-5918

football field)

-Avoid sudden turns. Power down to turn and return along the same path to reduce erratic waves.

-If a surfer falls, power down and slowly turn back to assist.

-Be mindful of other boaters giving space and ensure your waves won't disrupt smaller boats or casual users.

-Keep music at a low volume & point speakers down to maintain and peaceful environment for all water users.

As wake sports grow in popularity it's vital to safeguard our lakes for future generations while keeping them accessible for recreation.

2024 Annual Meeting Update

The Annual Meeting of the Maple Lake Improvement District was held on July 13th at the Mentor Community Center. Representatives from various agencies gave reports: Polk County Sheriff, Polk County Assessor, DNR Game Warden, Godfrey and Woodside Township Representatives.

President Brian Floan completed his final term on the board and the board extended their sympathy and acknowledged the passing of Board Member, Roger Behm. Kip Fontaine and Marlow Jacobson were elected to 4-year terms. And Brian Wavra was appointed at the August meeting to fill a 1-year term of Jon Bohm, who resigned from the board.

President Floan gave an annual update.

2024 - 2025 Budget

Administration Costs	\$16,000.00
Aeration Electric	\$1,250.00
Repair & Maint/Aerators	\$500.00
Annual Meeting	\$500.00
Communications	\$2,100.00
Ditch cleaning	\$500.00
Insurance	\$2,200.00
Lake Mgm Plan & Water Quality	\$1,200.00
Dues	\$300.00
Mosquito Spraying	\$19,500.00
Street Lighting	\$24,000.00
	\$68,050.00

2025 - 2026 Directory

The MLID Directory will be published again this spring. Please let us know of any changes to address, owners, phone numbers, etc.

Send your changes to:
info@maplelakedistrict.com

Notifications From MLID

The MLID Board would like to have the ability to send out notices to the property owners and to send future newsletters electronically. If you would like to receive notices and electronic newsletters, please go to: www.maplelakedistrict.com to sign up and if there are concerns, there is a spot on the website to send messages to the board. *Follow us on Facebook!*

Aerator Installation and Safety

In January of each year, the board installs aerators. Aeration keeps the ice open and adds oxygen to the lake to reduce the likelihood of a fish kill. **THIN ICE** signs are installed all around the open water area and it is **VERY IMPORTANT** to keep off the ice near the open water! **Do not drive snowmobiles near the open water or between the open water and the shore!**



Biking/Pedestrian Path Update

The Polk County Engineer, Rich Sanders, attended our last trail committee meeting and confirmed that it would be possible to add a bike/ped trail along Hwy 12 from Maple Bay to the Pavilion. This trail would be totally separate from the road as he said it could be built on the high side of the ditch.

Since Polk County is planning construction on Hwy 12 from Maple Bay to the Pavilion in 2026, the bids will include a trail on the high side of the ditch

Useful Websites & Phone Numbers

Polk County Planning & Zoning

Ph: 218-281-5700

<https://www.co.polk.mn.us/196/Planning-Zoning>

Polk County Assessor

Ph: 218-281-4186

<https://www.co.polk.mn.us/171/Assessor>

Polk County Sheriff

Ph: 218-281-0431

<https://www.co.polk.mn.us/221/Sheriffs-Office>

Minnesota DNR

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>

RMB Labs

Ph: 218-846-1465

<https://www.rmbel.info/>

Polk County First Alert System

<https://member.everbridge.net/892807736729932/login>

Vacancy on MLID Board in 2025

If you are interested in serving on the board, let us know as there is an opening available in June 2025.

and Mr. Sanders said that he will secure funding for this through grants.



The remainder of the trail has yet to be figured out, but another committee meeting is planned to look at maps and decide where the best place for the rest of the trail should be located.

