

JOIN US!

Your support makes a difference.

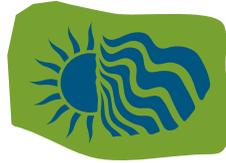
We must remain vigilant to keep new invasive plants, animals and viruses out of Lake Minnetonka.

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.LMAssociation.org



On The Lake

NEWSLETTER **UPDATE**

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

Treated bays are becoming healthier

The Fall 2018 plant surveys found that native aquatic plants are rebounding in bays treated to control Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed.

The science and technology for managing invasive species with herbicides has grown dramatically over the past few years. We now have more tools that allow us to better manage invasive species; making it possible to restore native plant communities and control nuisance Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed. In the bays treated, the amount of Eurasian watermilfoil has decreased dramatically and the variety and number of native plant species have rebounded.

Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed grows and spreads fast. So fast, they can choke out native plants and reduce the amount of light that reaches into the lake. This aggressive growth kills off other native aquatic plants and when the native plants can't grow, aquatic animals that rely on them for food and shelter have trouble surviving.

The most common native plants found in Lake Minnetonka are coontail, water stargrass, and wild celery. While unmanaged native plants can be a nuisance to recreation, diverse native plant communities support a healthy native fish and animal community.

Native plants are important because they:

- Provide food for aquatic animals and birds
- Provide fish and wildlife habitat
- Improve water quality
- Stabilize the shoreline and lake bottoms

With the hard work and dedication of our Bay Captains and contributions from lakeshore residents, businesses and others, Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed are under control in the bays treated and the health of the lake is improving. To them we are grateful.



From our Executive Director

The Lake Minnetonka Association looks forward to continuing its efforts to protect and improve the Lake and preserve its legacy.

In 2018, North Arm Bay rejoined St. Albans, Carson/St. Louis, Carmans, Grays, and Gideons Bays in efforts to control Eurasian watermilfoil and curlyleaf pondweed. Treatments have kept all of the bays open for maximum enjoyment of the lake, and native plants are rebounding.

Last year, following several complaints about the amount of weeds washing up on beaches and shorelines, the Lake Minnetonka Association partnered with Tonka Bay Marina to understand why. The result of our investigation found the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District's (LMCD) weed harvesting program may be doing more harm than good and was possibly contributing to the spread of invasive plants, such as flowing rush. After considerable discussion, the LMCD decided to suspend its weed harvesting program in 2019 while they evaluate it and update their plan for controlling aquatic invasive species.

We continue to hear great reviews about last year's workshops and special events. So, this year we plan to expand our workshops to include more topics to help homeowners manage their shorelines and beaches and will be continuing our lake history series, and the lake clean-up event at Cruiser's Cove. New in 2019, the Lake Minnetonka Association will be implementing an early detection program to look for Starry Stonewort and other invasive species threatening Lake Minnetonka. These are just a few of the events planned for 2019.

Every year many people become members of the Lake Minnetonka Association, making our organization even stronger and allowing us to help improve and protect Lake Minnetonka and preserve its legacy.



Eric Evenson

Please Support Our Business Members

- ◆ Al & Alma's Supper Club
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- ◆ Bayside Marine
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- ◆ Don Stodola Well Drilling Co.
- ◆ Excelsior Bay Harbor
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- ◆ Greenwood Marina
- ◆ Howard's Point Marina
- ◆ Kowalski's Market
- ◆ Lafayette Club
- ◆ Lakeshore Weekly News
- ◆ Life's A Beach Shoreline Services
- ◆ Lindbo Landing Marina
- ◆ Lord Fletcher's Old Lake Lodge
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- ◆ Candi & Scott Stabeck - Lakes
- ◆ Sotheby's International Realty
- ◆ Tonka Bay Marina, Inc.

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LMA BOARD MEMBERS

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Caution: Ice is never considered 100% safe.

In Minnesota, we embrace the winter – and one of the best ways to do that is with some quality time out on the ice. Whether you're ice skating, ice fishing, playing hockey, or just going for a stroll on the ice, keep these safety tips in mind.

The ice is never completely safe. Stay alert whenever you're on the ice.

- The DNR recommends a minimum of 4" for people to safely walk on the ice.
- Wear your PFD (life jacket) when on the ice.
- Carry a set of ice rescue claws.
- Never go on the ice alone.
- Let someone know where you will be on the lake and when you plan to return home.
- Avoid channels, creeks, rivers or anywhere there is moving water.
- Check ice conditions with a local bait shop or Sheriff's Department.
- Physically check the ice where you plan to skate with a chisel or drill. Ice conditions vary even within a few feet.
- If you break through the ice, don't panic. Turn around and exit the same direction you came from. Call 911 and seek warm, dry shelter.



Hennepin County Sheriff's Office

How does Ice form on Lakes?

On small shallow lakes, ice will begin to form during cold, calm conditions as a thin film. This typically begins to occur when the water temperature at the surface dips below freezing (32° F). The ice surface will continue to grow if winds remain calm and temperatures remain below freezing. If these conditions are met, the ice cover will continue to grow thicker over the winter.

On larger lakes, like Lake Minnetonka, the process is much more complicated, because disturbance from the wind is much more likely. Ice on these larger lakes will tend to form first near the shores where the water is shallow. Here, it forms in a process that is similar to that of small lakes. As the water continues to cool, small ice particles called frazil will start to form in the water. The frazil (an amorphous accumulation of ice crystals) then collects at the surface of the lake as slush, forming into frazil pans. These pans are typically the size of dinner plates or larger. When enough pans are formed, disturbance from the wind will be reduced and it can lead to ice cover formation.

In both cases, the thickness of the ice cover will depend on numerous factors, however; it is heavily controlled by the snow depth on the ice. Snow acts as an insulator, which slows ice thickening. Conversely, ice thickness can increase dramatically when the ice cover is bare.

Minnesota State Climate Office
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Ecological and Water Resources

Please indicate the Annual Lake Minnetonka Association Membership Contribution you would prefer:

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

\$ _____ Annual Lake Minnetonka Association Membership Contribution amount

\$ _____ Other (or) 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



Become a member today!

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