

JOIN US!

Your support makes a difference.

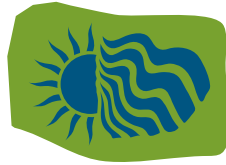
We must remain vigilant to keep new invasive plants, animals and viruses out of Lake Minnetonka.

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 2024



On The Lake

NEWSLETTER **UPDATE**

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

LET'S MAKE A REAL SPLASH IN 2024

HELP US MAKE AN IMPACT!

New Projects | Programs | Educational Workshops | Events

In 2024, the Lake Minnetonka Association will:

- ◆ Continue to treat invasive weeds in participating bays
- ◆ Work to proactively keep starry stonewort out of Lake Minnetonka
- ◆ Implement an aggressive invasive flowering rush removal program
- ◆ Educate homeowners, service providers, and businesses about the danger of electric shock drowning
- ◆ Team with local partners to keep our lake clean from trash
- ◆ Host special events and educational workshops
- ◆ Keep our members and lake residents informed of important issues
- ◆ Join other local and region-wide organizations to extend and strengthen the VOICE of Lake Minnetonka Association members

**Thank you to the members of the Lake Minnetonka Association.
YOU ARE THE STEWARDS OF THE LAKE!**

JOIN US in protecting the lake we love! *Look inside...*

The Winter that Almost Wasn't

The winter of 2023-2024 may likely break the record of the warmest winter on record, last held in 1877-1878. According to the MnDNR, "ice-on" occurred very late this year (on January 13, 2024). While "ice-on" records only date back to 1978, temperature records show that the last time ice would have formed so late on Lake Minnetonka was the first week of January 1878. The earliest "ice-off" was March 11, 1878. If temperatures remain above average, this year may break the record of the earliest "ice-off", as well as the shortest period of ice cover on record.

National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration predicts a 50/50 chance of normal precipitation through April. Frost levels are shallow and soil moisture levels remain low, so soil will be better able to absorb much of the spring rainfall. Lake Minnetonka levels remain about a foot below average. With normal to below-normal rainfall, the lake will likely remain low at the beginning of the boating season.

ICE QUAKES

Several people reported loud "booms" that shook their homes in Orono and the south lake area last January. It is likely they were caused by what geomorphologists call a cryoseism, frost quake, or ice quake. **Cryoseisms** are caused when soil soaked by water suddenly freezes and the water expands and cracks. Loud booms can also be caused when large sheets of ice break apart suddenly.

In January, weather conditions met all the requirements for an ice cryoseism:

1. A region must be susceptible to cold air masses.
2. The ground must undergo saturation from thaw or liquid precipitation prior to an intruding cold air mass.
3. Most frost quakes are associated with minor snow cover on the ground without a significant amount of snow to insulate the ground (i.e., less than 6 inches).
4. A rapid temperature drop from around freezing to below 0° F, which occurs on a timescale of 16 to 48 hours.

Please Support Our Business Members

- ◆ Abra Kadabra Environmental Services
- ◆ Al & Alma's Supper Club & Charter Cruises
- ◆ Back Channel Brewing Co.
- ◆ Blue Lagoon Marine, Inc.
- ◆ Caribbean Marina
- ◆ Carisch, Inc.
- ◆ ClosingWithConnor.com
- ◆ Continental Diamond
- ◆ Dock & Lift Services
- ◆ Don Stodola Well Drilling Co.
- ◆ Electric Shores
- ◆ Excelsior Brewing Company
- ◆ Fineline Lakeshore Service
- ◆ Greenwood Marina
- ◆ Jim Paul's Valley Buick GMC
- ◆ Kowalski's Market
- ◆ LakeRestore.com
- ◆ Life's a Beach Shoreline Services
- ◆ Lindbo Landing Marina
- ◆ Lord Fletcher's Old Lake Lodge
- ◆ MarineMax Minnesota
- ◆ Jeff Marwede Lakes Area Realty
- ◆ Maynards
- ◆ Minnetonka Bargeman
- ◆ Minnetonka Marina
- ◆ MN Inboard Water Sports
- ◆ My Service Pro 612 Plumber
- ◆ Navarre True Value Hardware
- ◆ North Shore Marina
- ◆ Otten Bros. Garden Ctr & Landscaping
- ◆ PaddleTap
- ◆ Paradise Charter Cruises
- ◆ Domino's-Serving the Western Suburbs
- ◆ PLM Lake & Land Mgmt., Corp.
- ◆ Rockvram Boat Yards
- ◆ RSI Marine
- ◆ Schervens Financial
- ◆ Stönwérk
- ◆ Candi & Scott Stabeck - Edina Realty, Wayzata/Lake Minnetonka
- ◆ Tonka Bay Marina, Inc.
- ◆ Touchstone Accent Lighting
- ◆ Waterfront Restoration
- ◆ Wave Armor

"On The Lake" is a publication of the Lake Minnetonka Association, P.O. Box 248, Excelsior, MN 55331
Issue 2024: 1 • February

How to Contact the LMA
Eric Evenson, Executive Director
Phone: 952-470-4449
E-Mail: info@LMAssociation.org
Website: www.LMAAssociation.org

LMA BOARD MEMBERS
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ELECTRIC SHOCK DROWNING

The Little-Known Killer!

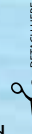
Electric Shock Drowning (ESD) can occur when swimmers are exposed to electric currents in the water. In some cases, the shock itself is fatal, since the person will suffocate when their diaphragm is paralyzed. In others it incapacitates the swimmer, causing them to drown. Individuals trying to rescue a victim, may also be injured or die. ESD can be caused by faulty wiring on lifts, weed thrusters, irrigation pumps, or wherever alternating current (AC) power is used near a body of water. Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs), such as those found in bathrooms and kitchens, are not designed for use in or near waterbodies. Special GFCIs marked "WP" are available for outdoor use.

The National Electrical Code lays out strict requirements for electrical installations in or near water, whether it is a single-family dwelling with a private dock, boat launch, or a large commercial marina.

You should NEVER purposefully put yourself, or any other family member, friend, neighbor, guest, pet, etc., in danger by using or leaving an electrical device connected in or near water.

Tips for Preventing Electrical Shock Drownings:

- Do not swim around docks, boats, or any electrical equipment (irrigation pumps, weed thrusters, aerators, etc.) using AC power – STAY AT LEAST 150 FEET AWAY, as recommended by the Electric Shock Drowning Prevention Association. Be aware, current may be leaking from a neighbor's dock, boat, or electrical equipment.
- Use only sound, marine-grade extension cords if connected to shore-power and DO NOT bury or let cords, plugs or connectors sit in the water or on the lake bottom.
- Unplug or disconnect equipment if anyone will be swimming or entering the water, including dock installers and other service providers, within 150 feet of electrical equipment (don't just shut them off).
- Inspect all outdoor and boat electrical systems frequently and after any electrical storms or violent weather.
- Install and test, as recommended by the manufacturer, all ground fault protection units approved for outdoor use on docks or any devices used in or near water. Only allow electrical work and inspection by licensed personnel knowledgeable with NFPA 70 (NEC) and NFPA 303 requirements.
- Have your boat inspected and/or serviced by an American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC) certified electrician or technician. Boats with AC electrical systems should have isolation transformers or equipment leakage circuit interrupter protection, and comply with ABYC standards.



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 (or) additional contribution

\$ _____ **TOTAL**

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

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.

The Lake Minnetonka Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Bay: _____

Phone: _____



TO CONTRIBUTE ONLINE
Scan the QR code with your mobile phone's camera or visit www.LMAAssociation.org

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.

For more information visit: ElectricShockDrowning.org

Sources: US Boating, MN Department of Labor and Industry, Electric Shock Drowning Prevention Association

An Early Spring... Means More Weeds

Late freeze, clear ice, early spring, warm temperatures and low water could cause more weed growth and algae blooms in 2024. The bays that have joined the Lake Minnetonka Association's Bay Treatment Program will be less impacted, but it is likely they will also see more weed growth than normal – especially invasive curlyleaf pondweed (CLP). If water levels are low this summer, cattails can grow further into the lake, Eurasian watermilfoil and CLP may mat earlier, and toxic blue-green algae blooms are more likely to increase.

The Lake Minnetonka Association will continue to treat weeds in the bays enrolled in our Bay Treatment Program. For more questions about weed treatments, contact the Lake Minnetonka Association at: info@LMAssociation.org.

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.LMAAssociation.org



Become a member today!