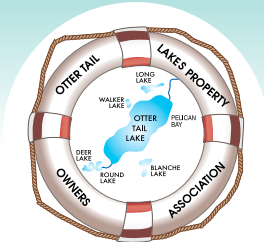


# Lakeshore News

The Official Newspaper of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association



February 2023  
Vol. 53, No. 1

## Enjoying The Winter



Photos Submitted By: Amber Olson

## OTLPOA makes donations to the Ottetail Fire Department



Pictured: Stuart Fleischauer (R), asst. fire chief of Ottetail fire department, receiving a check for \$1,500 from OTLPOA President, Roger Anderson.

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# Lakeshore News

The Official Newspaper of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association

Volume 53, No. 1
February 2023
Battle Lake, MN 56515

## OTTER TAIL LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION (OTLPOA) MISSION STATEMENT

The object and purpose of this corporation shall be to promote the community welfare and civic development of all areas of Otter Tail County bordering on or approximate to the shoreline of Otter Tail Lake and such other land areas further removed therefrom as its members shall from time to time determine, and to assist the property owners within said area in the preservation of their civic areas and those of Otter Tail Lake itself, including the planting and promulgation of fish therein and the protection and preservation of wildlife on the land areas adjacent to Otter Tail Lake as may be determined by the members, to promote and develop the horticultural development of the areas described, to promote the cultural and social lives of the inhabitants of said area and to provide a vehicle by which legal or political problems common to the areas and the inhabitants thereof, including tax problems, may be resolved in any manner provided by law for the common welfare of the members of this corporation; and to that and this corporation may acquire by purchase or other means such real or personal property as may be necessary in carrying out its stated objectives and to mortgage or sell or exchange the same and to do any and all other acts permitted by the laws of the State of Minnesota in furtherance of its stated purposes.

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# president's corner

Roger Anderson | OTLPOA President



It is with a heavy heart that I write this month's President's Corner. As many of you know, we lost a dear friend and long-time supporter of Ottertail Lakes Property Owners Association on January 7. Scott Simdorn was on our board for many years and served as President for three of those years. Due to dense fog and limited visibility, Scott's

snowmobile plunged into the river opening at the north end of Otter Tail Lake. Rescuers were on the scene very quickly and made efforts to resuscitate, however, Scott passed shortly thereafter. Anyone who knew Scott knew what a great person he was. Always willing to lend a hand to anyone in need and always with a smile. He will be sorely missed by all.

With Scott's passing, we are again reminded of the need for safety on our lakes. Ice safety is especially important as this winter has dealt us ideal conditions for snowmobiling, fishing, and many other frozen lake activities. Each of us is responsible for keeping our lakes clean and free of debris. If visibility is limited during the day or at night, please slow down and

be aware of your surroundings. One of your board members has already begun discussions with the DNR to somehow mark open water effectively on our lakes.

COR Powersports hosted races on Otter Tail Lake on January 7-8. It was a great event with over 150 riders competing. The event was sponsored by many local businesses and the Otter Trail Riders Snowmobile Club helped coordinate the event. Check out Otter Trail Riders Snowmobile Club on Facebook for more information and schedule of events.

As we look forward to 2023, I wish you all a wonderful rest of the winter. And as always, remember to be good stewards of our lakes and please stay safe.

HELP US GROW OUR WALLEYE POPULATION BY ONLY KEEPING 14"-19" WALLEYES.

PLEASE RELEASE SMALLER/LARGER FISH.

ALSO, LIMIT YOUR BAG TO 4 FISH RATHER THAN 6 FISH

Thank You

OTTER TAIL LAKES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

**MARK YOUR**  
**Calendars**

**2023**  
**Board**  
**Meeting**  
**Dates**

# OTLPOA MEETING

**April 27<sup>th</sup> | May 25<sup>th</sup> | June 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**July 27<sup>th</sup> | Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> | Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> | Oct 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**OTTERTAIL CITY COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**Meeting at 6:30pm**

## 2023 Calendar of Events

April 27	OTLPOA Board Meeting
May 11	Walleye, Sauger & Northern Pike Opener
May 25	OTLPOA Board Meeting
June 3	Lake Region Run (Fergus Falls)
June 3	Muskellunge Opener
June 3	City wide cleanup day (Ottertail City)
June 9	Hazardous waste mobile collection (Ottertail City)
June 9-10	Summerfest (Fergus Falls)
June 10	Running Wild Trail Run, Maplewood State Park
June 14	18th Turtle Fest (Perham)
June 22	OTLPOA Board Meeting
July 8-9	Phelps Mill Arts Festival
July 14	Relay for Life of East Otter Tail County (Perham)
July 13	Shop Move'n Groove (Downtown Fergus Falls)
July 15	Ottertail Annual Auction
July 15	Ottertail Business & Community Association Annual Auction
July 19-22	West Ottertail County Fair (Fergus Falls)
July 20-23	East Ottertail County Fair (Perham)
July 21-23	Wenonga days
July 27	OTLPOA Board Meeting
Aug. 3-5	WE Fest (Detroit Lakes)
Aug. 4-6	Parkers Prairie Falls Festival and Bull Ride
Aug. 11-13	Vergas Loony Days
Aug. 11	Rod and Gun Club Demo Derby (Ottertail City)
Aug. 12	Otter Fest (Ottertail City)
Aug. 24	OTLPOA Board Meeting
Aug. 25-26	Barnsville Potato Days
Sept. 28	OTLPOA Board Meeting

**EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

To submit an event, please contact us at:

**results@themidweek.com**



Photos Submitted By: Debbie Ness

## Scott A. Simdorn

Scott Alan Simdorn, age 64 of Ottertail, MN, died unexpectedly in a tragic accident on Saturday, January 7, 2023, after foggy conditions caused him to run his snowmobile into a section of open water on Otter Tail Lake.

Scott was born on September 12, 1958, in Breckenridge, MN to Gerald and Carol Betty (Breuer) Simdorn. He resided on a farm with his family just outside of Wahpeton, ND until moving to Otter Tail Lake in 2006.

He attended school and graduated from Wyndemere High School in 1976. He received an associate degree in Electronics from North Dakota State School of Science in Wahpeton, ND in 1979. After graduation he worked at Minn-Dak for over a decade before moving into sales. He started his own company, Control Dynamics, which was later bought out by Swanson Flo Systems, where he continued to work for over 25 years.

In 1993, he married Jeanette "Netty", and immediately began sharing his life not only with her, but her children. Most know that being a stepfather is a hard role to have but he never once thought of it that way, he always said he was blessed to have gotten a whole family in a single day.

In his retirement, he served as the President of the Otter Tail Lakes Property Owner's Association, started collecting cars and became a member of the Classic Car Clubs associated with them. However, his primary retirement job was being 'Papa Scotty' and the neighbor/friend who was always up for a good time.

Scott will be most remembered for his infectious personality and his ability to close the six degrees of separation with any stranger he met. He always knew someone who knew someone who was related to, or once worked with someone you knew. He loved music, especially Polka – he called it 'Mental Sunshine', and played the accordion, concertina, and organ. He played in various bands for many years and recently loved any opportunity to jam out with any fellow polka folks who crossed his path. Scott loved living on the lake and enjoyed time on the pontoon and watching his grandkids jump off the dock and play in the sand. In the winter he was an avid fisherman, preferring the 'night bite' hours in the fish house with all his buddies. He tinkered endlessly to keep his old cars running and was known to be able to fix just about anything.

When he wasn't fishing or working on an old car, Scott enjoyed time with his friends and family playing cards, dice or pull tabs at the bar. He had a special relationship with each of his grandchildren and they will forever remember the fun they had with their 'Papa Scotty'.

He was a beloved son, brother, father, Papa, friend, neighbor and will be greatly missed by all that knew him.

Scott is survived by his mother, Carol Betty (Breuer) Simdorn and her friend Harold Ford; his children, Nichole (Jonathan) Hager, Brian (Molly) Haan, Dustin (Jisun) Haan and their mother Jeanette; his grandchildren, Sam, Eli and Ivy Hager, Emmett and Keira Haan. He is also survived by his sister, Yvonne (Tom) Mauch; nephews, Justin (Rachel) Mauch, Brandon Mauch, David Mauch and Noah Simdorn; and grandnephew Miles Mauch.

He is preceded in death by his father, Gerald Simdorn; brother, Doug Simdorn; grandmother, Agnes Breuer; and uncle, Dennis Breuer.



Sept. 12, 1958-Jan. 7, 2023



# DNR Warns That Slush Weighs Down Ice, Increases Risk

The snowstorm that dropped heavy, wet snow across much of the state has significantly affected ice conditions, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Slush adds weight to the ice and its effects can be unpredictable. In some areas, slushy conditions are impacting travel on the ice, while in others — especially where ice was in the early stages of forming — the conditions are not adequate to support ice shelters and vehicles, resulting in break-throughs.

When on the ice, people should check the thickness for themselves and not rely on tracks in the snow or what they’ve heard second hand. When measuring the thickness of slush-covered ice, measure only the clear ice, not the slush or snow on top of it. While forecasted cold weather this week could help strengthen ice, it’s vital to check ice thickness regularly. The DNR recommends at least 5 to 7 inches of ice for snowmobiles, 7 to 8 inches for side-by-side all-terrain vehicles, and at least 20 inches for heavy-duty trucks pulling wheelhouses.

“The final week of December has become the unofficial kickoff to the ‘wheelhouse season,’ but just because you had your wheelhouse out during that week last year doesn’t necessarily mean it’ll be safe this year,” said Col. Rodmen Smith, director of the DNR Enforcement Division. “There are many tools to help you determine whether the ice is safe — augers, drills, spud bars and tape measures — but the calendar isn’t one of them.”

## General Ice Safety Guidelines

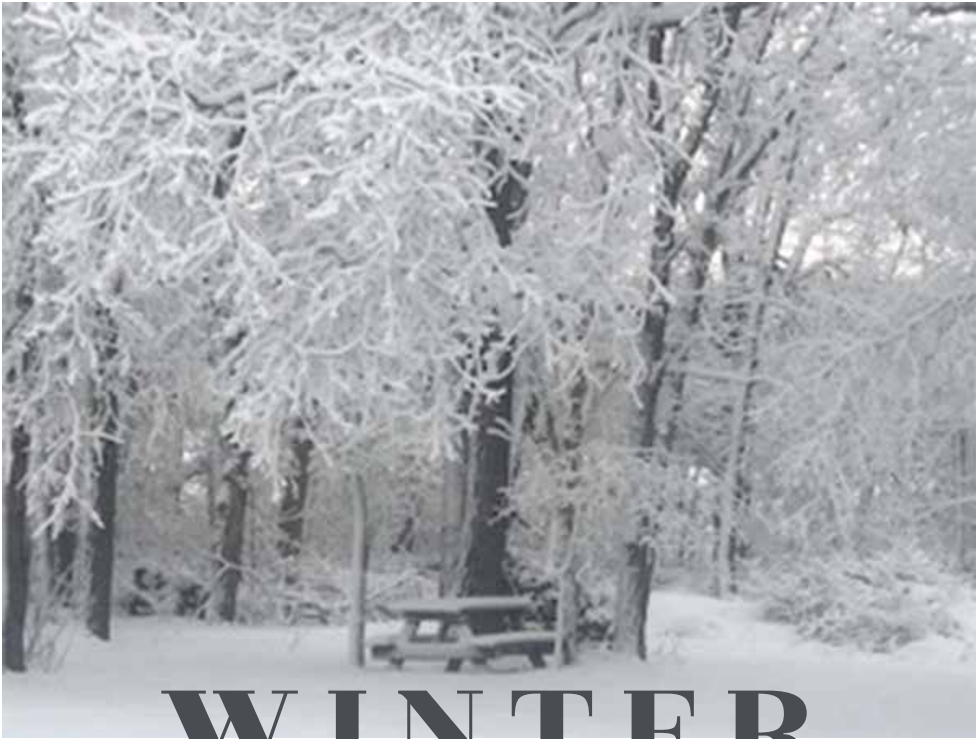
No ice can ever be considered “safe ice,” but following these guidelines ([mndnr.gov/safety/ice/thickness.html](https://mndnr.gov/safety/ice/thickness.html)) can help minimize the risk:

- Always wear a life jacket or float coat on the ice (except when in a vehicle).
- Carry ice picks, rope, an ice chisel and tape measure.
- Check ice thickness often; conditions can change quickly.
- Bring a cell phone or personal locator beacon.
- Don’t go out alone; let someone know about trip plans and expected return time.
- Before heading out, inquire about conditions and known hazards with local experts.

### The minimum ice thickness guidelines for new, clear ice are:

- 4+ inches for ice fishing or other activities on foot.
- 5-7 inches for a snowmobile or a small ATV.
- 7-8 inches for a side-by-side ATV
- 9-12 inches for a car.
- 13-17 inches for a truck.
- 20+ inches for a large truck with a wheelhouse shelter.
- Double these minimums for white or snow-covered ice.

Source: MN Department of Natural Resources



# WINTER

Photos Submitted By: Debbie Ness

# New DNR Tool Provides Health Information For Thousands Of Lakes

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has created a new online tool, called the Watershed Health Assessment Framework for Lakes (WHAF for Lakes), providing easy access to water quality and health information for thousands of Minnesota lakes.

WHAF for Lakes is part of the DNR’s Watershed Health Assessment Framework([mndnr.gov/whaf/about/watershed-reports.html](https://mndnr.gov/whaf/about/watershed-reports.html)) and is funded by the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

“Our staff did very innovative work over the past year to create this valuable new tool,” Ecological and Water Resources Division Director Katie Smith said. “WHAF for Lakes will benefit anyone who wants to know more about a particular lake’s water quality and the health of the aquatic habitat and community in that lake. It will also help guide decisions about lake protection and restoration.”

Users can compare a lake’s health measures to other nearby lakes. Along with graphics showing lakes’ relative water quality, biology, and hydrology, WHAF for Lakes includes information about basic lake characteristics and lake stewardship. Quick access to this information will help Minnesotans, local government, and water resource agencies work together on comprehensive watershed management efforts.

A lake’s watershed includes all land and surface water upstream of a lake outlet that contribute water to that lake. Land uses within a watershed influence lake health. Alterations of the land, the shoreline, and nearshore vegetation affect the quality of the water and the health of the aquatic community in a particular lake.

“A healthy lake is one that is nearest to its natural state — free from pollution and with a natural shoreline that protects the bank and filters runoff — which allows it to withstand changing conditions and seasonal fluctuations,” Smith said. “Healthy lakes depend on people who value these resources and invest in the protection and restoration of the water, watershed, and biology.”

WHAF for Lakes can be accessed by searching for a particular watershed([arcgis.dnr.state.mn.us/ewr/whaflakes](https://arcgis.dnr.state.mn.us/ewr/whaflakes)), exploring watershed health with the WHAF Map ([arcgis.dnr.state.mn.us/ewr/whaf2](https://arcgis.dnr.state.mn.us/ewr/whaf2)), or using the DNR’s popular LakeFinder page ([mndnr.gov/lakefind](https://mndnr.gov/lakefind)).





Photos Submitted By: Ken Wentz

# Maplewood State Park



**PARK HIGHLIGHTS**

- Camping
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Horseback Trails

**HORSE CAMPING:**

Campsites in the equestrian campgrounds can be reserved by phone or online. Some sites are able to accommodate additional campers (up to three). Please contact the park for approval. To reserve by phone, call 866-85PARKS.

**FIREWOOD RESTRICTIONS INFORMATION:**

Minnesota has enacted legislation that restricts firewood being brought to or used on DNR lands. Complete information and lists of vendors and locations where approved firewood is available are posted on the DNR Web site.

**BIRDERS:**

Bird Checklist available on our website for Maplewood State Park.



- The maple forest turns brilliant shades of orange, gold, and red in the fall.
- Eight major lakes and many ponds offer water lovers places to swim, fish, boat, and simply relax.
- Lake Lida has a sandy beach and large picnic areas for visitors.
- Drive along the scenic route to observe the wildlife: the park is host to 150 bird species and 50 species of mammals.
- The extensive trail system attracts hikers, horseback riders, and cross-country skiers.
- The only entrance to the park is located off highway 108 east of Pelican Rapids.

**Lodging**

- Camper Cabins, 5 cabins. Three year-round cabins with electricity; one of these is wheelchair accessible. Also one seasonal cabin with electricity and one seasonal cabin without electricity. The accessible cabin sleeps 5; the other four cabins sleep 6. Pets not allowed. More information on camper cabins.

**Recreation Facilities**

- Picnic Area with picnic shelter
- Picnic Shelter Open Shelter Available for rent.
- Golf Course 3 within 10 miles

**Camping**

- Drive-in Sites, 71 sites
- Electric Sites, 32 sites
- RV Length Limit 50' Length is measured from front of tow vehicle to rear of vehicle being towed.
- Backpack Sites, 3 sites
- Horse Camp, 24 sites, 200 Maximum Capacity. For reservations, contact the state park reservation service by phone or online. Some sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Group Camp, 1 Site - Accommodates up to 30 people. Site located in a remote, semi-wooded area between Bass and Beers Lakes. Vault toilets available. Water is approximately ½ mile away. Drive-in site that will accommodate tents, small trailers, or campers.

**When staff are present, the Ranger Station will be open intermittently open for window service. No official office hours currently available. Use the self-registration kiosk at the park office. Leave a message if you get our voicemail, and we'll call you back.**

39721 Park Entrance Rd., Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

E-mail: [maplewood.statepark@state.mn.us](mailto:maplewood.statepark@state.mn.us)

218-863-8383 • [www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_parks/maplewood](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/maplewood)

The park entrance is located 7 mi. east of Pelican Rapids on State Hwy 108.

Lake Name	Health Score	Water Quality Score	Hydrology Score	Acres	Shore Miles
Blanche	60	59	70	1295.9	5.6
Deer	65	54	76	447.1	3.9
Long	65	57	77	766.8	7.5
Otter Tail	55	55	63	14078.7	23.7
Otter Tail River (Red River)	65	67	75	313.2	9.1
Round	50	37	78	172.5	2
Walker	50	40	80	578.5	4.8



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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association Inc. 2023 Membership (Check one)

**Property Owner Member:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Associate Member:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Owners Lake Property) (Does not own lake property or shares ownership)

**Name of Property Owner living at lake property address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address of Property** House/Street # \_\_\_\_\_  
(this is the blue house number/street for your lake home) City/State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Summer "mailing" address (5/15 – 8/30):** House/Street # \_\_\_\_\_  
(must be valid US Postal deliverable address) City/State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Winter mailing address (9/1-5/15):** House/Street # \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Email: (please print legibly)** \_\_\_\_\_  
Notification of date for tent caterpillar/worm spraying, updates of possible lake changing issues, etc. (If you don't personally have an email address, you can substitute one for a family member who will let you know of these notifications).

**Annual Dues (Jan.-Dec.)**  
• **Membership \$35.00**  
• **Foundation \$10.00**  
• **Worm Payment \$30.00**  
*Includes \$10 donation to OTLPOA Foundation* \$ **75.00**

**Additional support for the Foundation (tax deductible)**  
**\$10.00** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$20.00** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$50.00** \_\_\_\_\_ **Other** \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
The OTLPOA Foundation was established to obtain financial resources to maintain water quality for recreation, fishing, and enjoyment when Government resources are not provided.  
**(Total enclosed)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: OTLPOA and mail to: PO Box 21, Battle Lake, MN 56515  
Or visit [www.OTLPOA.com](http://www.OTLPOA.com) to pay by credit card (under the membership section)

**How can the association better serve you?** (On another sheet of paper)  
What lake related topic or issue is most important to you? How do you think our Association can help?

## WHAT DOES A MEMBERSHIP INCLUDE?

Five issues of Lakeshore News

Lakeshore directory that is published every two years

Continental breakfast at the Annual Meetings

Representation at Minnesota Lakes & Rivers -&- Coalition of Lake Associations (which includes water testing of our lakes)

Establishment of AIS monitoring system (ILIDS)





# Ice Fishing For Crappie

Crappie fishing is a big part of Minnesota’s fishing scene.

In fact, a recent study determined that only the walleye surpasses the crappie as the state’s favorite fish to catch. This is due, in part, to the crappie’s fine flavor and its prevalence in most Minnesota lakes and many rivers.

If you have never tried crappie fishing now is great time to start.

Most Minnesota lakes and rivers contain crappie but not all so, if you intend to target crappie, a good place to start is our LakeFinder tool, which contains fish population information for more than 4,500 fishing lakes.

There is no single answer for where to fish. All lakes are different in terms of shape, depth, bottom contours, oxygen levels and other biological factors. That said, the mouths of shallow bays that lead to deeper water can be a good place to start. That’s because after ice forms water temperatures in shallow bays are colder than deeper water and crappie respond to this change by moving to deeper water to conserve energy and find forage.

Crappie also can be found on or near drop-offs, shelves, points, narrows, weedy flats or other types of structure. Crappie typically aren’t found near the surface or the bottom. Instead, they tend to suspend somewhere in between, often slightly deeper than suspended bluegills.

LakeFinder includes underwater topographic maps that show a lake’s contours and can help you find some of these prime locations.

Those who fish with an underwater camera or sonar unit clearly have an advantage in determining where crappie are or aren’t. A schooling species, crappie often are on the move.

That’s why many savvy anglers who find a school of crappie also drills holes in nearby deeper and shallower water. They do this because if the school moves, they can perhaps find them again. The nice thing about crappies is that if you find them, you generally can catch them.

Source: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/gofishing/ice-fishing-crappie.html>



A crappie being pulled from a hole in the ice after being hooked.



Photos Submitted By: Debbie Ness

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# Otter Tail County Receives \$366,000 Grant To Fund Enhancements To Phelps Mill County Park

People who enjoy the historic Phelps Mill Park area will soon have their experiences enhanced, once recommendations are approved to fund \$366,000 of improvements at the beautiful County park.

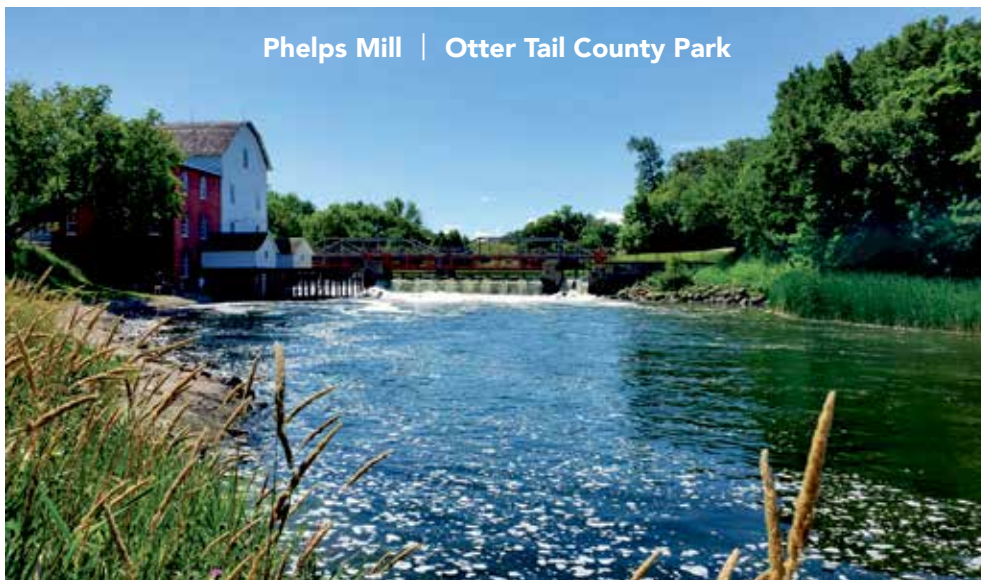
The Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission (GMRPTC) recently completed its application review process and chose Phelps Mill County Park and 13 other parks and trails around the state for \$11.4 million in funding for fiscal year 2024. The GMRPTC will now recommend that the Minnesota Legislature approve funding through the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund, one of four funds created by the 2008 Minnesota Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. The Legislature has annually approved GMRPTC recommendations since Legacy Funds are already dedicated and may only be spent to support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance.

“We are excited to have been selected for this grant from the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission, which will allow us to make enhancements to the popular park,” said Kevin Fellbaum, Otter Tail County Parks and Trails Director. “Area residents and visitors already enjoy the history and beauty of Phelps Mill, and this needed funding will make their visits better than ever.”

State-wide 14 parks and trails were recommended for \$11,398,765 in Fiscal Year 2024 funding. “Legacy Funding is a far-reaching gift that Minnesotans had the foresight to create to enhance their enjoyment of the outdoors,” said Mattson. “Without Legacy dollars, many of these projects simply would not happen or would take many years before coming to fruition.”

For more information about the park and trail system in Otter Tail County go to [ottertailcountymn.us/parks-and-trails](https://ottertailcountymn.us/parks-and-trails) and plan to attend the Phelps Mill historic mill building ribbon cutting ceremony this summer.

Source: <https://ottertailcountymn.us/>



Phelps Mill | Otter Tail County Park

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## Snowmobile Safety Tips

### Watch the weather and check trail conditions before riding

Don't ride in adverse weather conditions. Plan your trip and check the trails you'll be riding prior to departure. Check trail conditions and trail maps.



### Don't drink alcohol and ride

Alcohol is a factor in over 60% of all fatal accidents in Minnesota, as well as many non-deadly snowmobile accidents. Alcohol and drugs have a negative effect on the driver's vision, balance, coordination, and reaction time. **Don't ride with people who drink and ride!** Minnesota is part of a larger coalition of snowmobiling states that support 'Zero Alcohol' consumption before or during your ride.

### Never ride alone

Always ride with a friend on another snowmobile. This way if one machine is disabled, you have another to get help.

### Dress for safety & survival

Always wear a quality DOT helmet and facemask. Wear layers of clothing to keep warm and dry. Snowmobile suits, bibs, jackets, gloves and mittens should cut the wind, repel water and keep you ventilated.

### Slow down

Excessive speed is a major factor in many accidents, especially at night. To help avoid accidents, keep your night time speed under 40 MPH.

### Stay to the right

Almost every trail is a "two way" trail. So stay to the far right of the trail, especially on hills and corners. Obey all trail signs and cross roadways with extreme caution.

### Stay on the trail or stay home

Trespassing is a major complaint about snowmobilers and can result in trail closure. Always stay on designated snowmobile trails. Venturing off of trails can result in accidents. Only ride private property when you have landowners permission.

### Riding on ice - lakes & rivers

It is safest to avoid riding on lakes and rivers. If you must ride on ice, wear a life jacket over your outer clothing. Stay on the marked trail and stay off of ice that has moving water (current) near or under it - ice in these areas may be thin and weak.

### Take a Snowmobile Safety Training Course!

Designed to educate the student on basic snowmobile operation, laws and regulations, and safety.

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/snowmobiling/safety.html>

### Snowmobiles and ATVs are both allowed to ride shared use trails in winter!

- Both snowmobiles and ATVs are allowed to ride the Matthew Lourey State Trail and the Nemadji and St. Croix state forest trails in winter.

- ATVs are only allowed to ride when the air temperature is 30°F or below. This helps us keep trails sustainable and increases safety for everyone, including our trail groomers.

- Remember that you may encounter snowmobiles, ATVs and pedestrians on the trail.

## Tom Kuder Bio

Tom and his wife Kristi have been third-generation property owners on Otter Tail Lake since 1997, and moved here full-time from the Twin Cities in 2018.

Tom has had a long career as a marketing and sales executive in the software industry, working for companies large and small. In 2008 he formed Entente Marketing (entente1.com), a digital consulting agency providing affordable video marketing services.



As a volunteer, Tom has served as president of his church congregation, chair of the Bethlehem Music Series board, founder and board member of Mental Health Connect, and interim treasurer at Art Of The Lakes.

Besides volunteering and working part time, Tom enjoys fishing, golf, landscaping projects and visiting his grandchildren.

The DNR on Minnesota has added 13 new invasive species to their watch list. They are constantly working to ensure our Otter Tail County lakes are safe from these species.

A new type of reed is something on our radar. The invasive species cause recreational, economic and ecological damage—changing how residents and visitors use and enjoy Minnesota waters.

Non-native Phragmites impacts:

- Replaces mixed wetland communities with monocultures causing changes in ecosystem processes, such as hydrology and nutrient cycles.
- Overtakes habitat and outcompetes native aquatic plants, potentially lowering diversity.
- Provides unsuitable shelter, food, and nesting habitat for native animals.
- Tall stands along shoreland areas block views of, and access to, open water.

What can you do? Clean, drain and dry your watercraft when moving from lake to lake. During ice fishing season make sure you do not dump bait water in the lake, take it and take it out.



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# Board Meeting Minutes

## OTTER TAIL LAKE’S PROPERTY OWNER’S ASSOC. INC. BOARD MEETING MINUTES Sept. 1st, 2022 Beach Bums 5:00pm

### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order by President Anderson. Members present: Wentz, Kemling, Mourtisen, Rizk, Oxberry, Hunke, Simdorn, Tysdal, Ness, Overturf. Absent: Long, Gerken, Snyder

**Approval of Agenda** – Unanimously approved as distributed  
**Approval of Minutes** – Unanimously approved as distributed  
**Approval of Bills** – Approved unanimously

**Presidents Report** – President Anderson welcomed OTLPOA foundation members and water testers and thanked them for their work over the past year.  
President Anderson requested Debbie Ness introduce guests Tom and Kristi Kuder. Debbie Ness made a motion to nominate Tom to the board, motion was 2nd and motion passed. Tom will fill one of the 2 open seats on the board.

### Committee Reports

**Membership** – Wentz reported we have 1052 members at this time. Discussed finding someone to help with membership, will continue discussion at next meeting.

**Auditing/Finance** – Nothing at this time

**DNR/GOV’T** – Nothing at this time

**Water Testing** – Blanch Lk.-8ft., Long Lk.-3 ft., Round Lk.-11 ft., Ottertail-10.5 ft., Walker Lk.-7 ft., Deer Lk.-10 ft.

**COLA** – Gary will have a report next meeting

**Communications/Lakeshore News** – Board will discuss issues and contract with Lakeshore News with Rick at our next meeting.

**Website** – Board will consider joining Ottertail Connections Facebook group, more discussion is needed. The Foundation presented Ken Wentz a check for \$2,000 for weed harvesting costs on Blanche Lake.

**Worm** – Nothing at this time

**Foundation** – Bernie Steeves discussed the foundation coordinating with MLR on Facebook, the OTLPOA board will continue to explore their own options regarding Facebook, social media.

**Old Business** - Scott Simdorn said he had received concerns about low lake levels and getting boats, pontoons out of Ottertail Lake.

Field dust blowing into Ottertail was discussed, the farmer involved said his irrigator went down and he was unable to keep the field wet and that the situation has been resolved.

**New Business** –

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 6:01pm

**Next meeting is Sept. 22nd 6:30pm**

## OTTER TAIL LAKE’S PROPERTY OWNER’S ASSOC. INC. BOARD MEETING MINUTES Sept. 22nd, 2022 6:30pm

### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order bu President Anderson. Members present: Anderson, Wentz, Kemling, Rizk, Oxberry, Hunke, Simdorn, Tysdal, Ness, Long, and Snyder. Absent: Gerken, Overturf, Mouritsen, Kuder

**Approval of Agenda** – Unanimously approved as distributed  
**Approval of Minutes** – Unanimously approved as distributed  
**Approval of Bills** – Approved unanimously

**Presidents Report** – President Anderson discussed concerns received by the board regarding swimmers itch. This has been an ongoing concern this summer around our lakes. We will continue to address this in the Lakeshore News.

### Committee Reports

**Membership** – Wentz reposted we have 1052 members at this time

**Auditing/Finacce** – Nothing at this time

**DNR/GOV’T** – Nothing at this time

**Water Testing** – Blanche Lk.-13 ft., Long Lk.-3 ft., Ottertail-10.5 ft., Walker Lk.-7 ft.

**COLA** – Secretary will email Cola newsletter to all board members.

**Communications/Lakeshore News** – Fred addressed board members sending pictures and articles for Lakeshore News, members will pick a month to be responsible for sending these to Midweek. Committee will meet with Rick to address content and pictures issues with this year’s issues as well as our contract for next year.

**Website** – Committee will reach out to Julie at Ottertail Connections Facebook to see if they will allow OTLPOA to share our content on their Facebook page.

**Worm** – Nothing at this time

**Foundation** – Ness will check on the exact details of the foundation boards plans regarding their Facebook page.

**Social** – Kemling discussed doing something different next year for Water Tester/ Foundation appreciation dinner. Will discuss more at April 2023 meeting.

**Old Business** – Wentz discussed the cost of the weed removal on Blanche Lake, the Foundation gave the Blanch Lake homeowners \$2,000.00 at our last meeting. The board’s policy on donations was discussed and the board feels we need a written policy to follow. Ness and Kemling will work on suggestions and report at the October meeting.

Kemling will check on having East Ottertail Soil and Water attend a meeting to discuss shoreline restorations and how to use the money we have.

Kemling requested membership committee submit duties and process for future committee members.

Donations to Ottertail Fire and Rescue and Battle Lake Rescue were approved.

Kemling made a motion to donate \$1,000.00 to U of M Aquatic Invasive Species Research Fund. Motion was approved unanimously by board.

**New Business** – Hunke discussed fishing on Ottertail, and concern about sturgeon in Ottertail. Anderson discussed Northern Pike slot limit on Ottertail, DNR is taking public input on this.

Jim Wolters will be attending our Oct. meeting to present more information.

Anderson requested the board send our legislators letters regarding changing limit on Walleye from 6 to 4. The board supports this change.

**Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm

**Next meeting is Oct. 27th 6:30pm**



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## Walleye:

Otter Tail Lake is a very popular walleye fishery. Angler reports received by DNR Fisheries from 2020 and 2021 indicated that walleye were hard to catch and that numbers of smaller walleye (<12") were very rare. A fish survey conducted by DNR Fisheries in the fall of 2021 showed that the walleye year class from 2019 (two-year-old fish) was weak and the 2020 (one-year old fish) was very weak. This validated what anglers were saying about the walleye population in Otter Tail Lake about smaller fish not being present. Walleye fry were stocked in Otter Tail Lake in the spring of 2019. Due to COVID-19, no walleye fry were stocked in the spring of 2020. Walleye stocking resumed again in 2021. According to angler reports in 2022, walleye fishing was very good and also reports of smaller walleye being caught by the end of the summer. The smaller fish were likely the result of the 2021 walleye stocking as these fish grew very quickly without competition from the 2020 fish. There were also reports of walleye caught from the 2022-year class. All good signs that smaller fish are present again in Otter Tail Lake.

## Northern Pike:

MNDNR Fisheries in early 2022 proposed to modify the existing 30" minimum length limit for Northern Pike on Otter Tail Lake to a 22" to 30" protected slot length limit. This regulation has been in place since 2003. Public input was taken both on-line and via emails, phone calls through-out the summer and at a public input meeting held on September 20th, 2022 in the City of Ottertail on the proposed change. After reviewing the comments received, a decision was made to not pursue the proposed regulation, rather adopt the Northern Pike Central Zone regulation for Otter Tail Lake. Beginning May 13th, 2023 the following regulation will be in place:

Northern Pike-Possession limit 10 with not more than two over 26". All from 22" - 26" must be immediately released. For dark house spearing-22" - 26" protected slot limit, ten fish bag with not more than two over 26" or one within 22" - 26" and one > 26").

Submitted by: Jim Wolters/Area Fisheries Supervisor  
[Jim.Wolters@state.mn.us](mailto:Jim.Wolters@state.mn.us) / 218-671-7954

## Postal Service Asks Customers to Clear Path to Mailboxes

### Keep Letter Carriers Safe As They Deliver Mail

The U.S. Postal Service is asking customers to please help letter carriers deliver mail safely by maintaining a clear path to mailboxes, clearing leaves, snow, and ice from sidewalks, stairs, and mailboxes.

"Leaves piled in front of mailboxes along with snow and ice make delivery dangerous and slow," said District Manager Anthony Williams. "Maintaining a clear path to the mailbox — including steps, porches, walkways and street approach — will help letter carriers maintain consistent delivery service and help them get the mail delivered."

Customers receiving door delivery should make sure their sidewalks, steps and porches are clear. Customers receiving curbside delivery should remove leaves and snow piles left by snowplows to keep access to their mailboxes clear for letter carriers.

Blue collection boxes also need to be kept clear for customers to deposit mail, and for the Postal Service to collect the mail for delivery. Residents and businesses with collection boxes near their property are asked to keep them clear of snow and ice. "We want our letter carriers to be safe," Williams added. "We can only do this with the help of our customers."

The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products, and services to fund its operations.

Source: <https://about.usps.com/newsroom/local-releases/mn/2022/1110-clear-path-to-mailboxes.htm>



LAND TRANSFERS

FEBRUARY 15, 2022 THROUGH FEBRUARY 2, 2023

Name	Description	Sale Date	Seller	Buyer	Sale Amount	Adj Sales Amount	Property Type
Amor Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	9/1/22	JON F & MARY M THEURER	THOMAS N MORSTAD	\$500,000	\$457,000	Seasonal Rec
Amor Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	9/6/22	RYAN M & ALICIA E DRAEGER	JACOB & SHEILA HERMANSON	\$560,000	\$553,000	Seasonal Rec
Amor Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	10/19/22	CHARLES E & BARBARA KEELER	CRAIG & SHERYL MCFARLAND	\$540,000	\$540,000	Residential
Amor Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	11/29/22	JAMES NYE TST	MARY PALM	\$439,000	\$439,000	Residential
Amor Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	12/9/22	JEFFREY & KATHERINE CARPENTER	JASON & VELDA SCHNEIDER	\$212,500	\$211,500	Seasonal Rec
Amor Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	12/16/22	PAMELA & DAVID AASNESS ET AL	RAMONA & ALYSSA BREUER	\$830,000	\$826,100	Seasonal Rec
Amor Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	12/23/22	MARK & KIM KURUC	MICHAEL & KRISTIN COMSTOCK	\$550,000	\$550,000	Seasonal Rec
Amor Twp	560310 - WALKER-FF	8/6/22	TROY JACKSON	RICK ADAMS	\$195,000	\$195,000	Seasonal Rec
Amor Twp	560310 - WALKER-FF	10/3/22	WLP DEVELOPMENT LLC	JOSHUA SVOBODNY	\$65,000	\$65,000	Seasonal Rec
Everts Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	9/19/22	CHESAPEAKE PROPERTIES LLC	JACK & ASHLEY LELWICA	\$490,000	\$490,000	Seasonal Rec
Everts Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	9/19/22	JACK T & ASHLEY G LELWICA ETAL	JACK & ASHLEY LELWICA	\$490,000	\$490,000	Seasonal Rec
Everts Twp	560298 - DEER-FF	8/5/22	KAREN MITZEL	CURTIS & SUSAN SCHERF	\$470,000	\$470,000	Residential
Everts Twp	560298 - DEER-FF	11/4/22	THOMAS & GAIL COLENZO	DAVID & JULIE ELLINGSON	\$352,500	\$350,500	Seasonal Rec
Everts Twp	560302 - SILVER(EVERTS)-FF	9/8/22	JEFFREY M & CHRISTA LIVERMONT	PURE BLISS ON SILVER LLC	\$410,000	\$372,500	Seasonal Rec
Everts Twp	560302 - SILVER(EVERTS)-FF	9/16/22	MERLIN D & KAREN L SONDROL	WILLIAM & MARY LISBURG	\$702,500	\$691,000	Residential
Everts Twp	560302 - SILVER(EVERTS)-FF	9/27/22	WILLIAM A & ELAINE M PEDROW	PAUL & SUSAN ROSS	\$350,000	\$350,000	Seasonal Rec
Everts Twp	560302 - SILVER(EVERTS)-FF	10/5/22	SPENCER & GERALYN SAWYER	GREGORY & SARAH LUBANSKY	\$190,000	\$190,000	Seasonal Rec
Everts Twp	560306 - ELBOW (EVERTS)-FF	9/23/22	DENNIS H SIMPSON	NEAL MCAMIS & MEREDITH CUNNINGHAM	\$432,000	\$423,850	Seasonal Rec
Everts Twp	560379 - N TURTLE-FF	10/6/22	KEITH QUANBECK	PAUL TYSVER	\$55,000	\$55,000	Seasonal Rec
Girard Twp	560138 - E BATTLE-FF	8/11/22	ROBERT J RICE & JODY M FALCK	MICHAEL J & CHRISTINA L RIEWER	\$280,000	\$279,650	Seasonal Rec
Girard Twp	560138 - E BATTLE-FF	10/6/22	HARVEY E & EILEEN F CHAPMAN	DAVID CORDES & MEGAN DAHLKE	\$250,000	\$247,000	Seasonal Rec
Girard Twp	560239 - W BATTLE-FF	9/23/22	AARON J PETERSON	STYART & CHRISTINE FLEISCHAUER	\$224,900	\$224,900	Seasonal Rec
Girard Twp	560239 - W BATTLE-FF	8/19/22	SANDRA ANN MAROHL	AARON M & KRISTIE JO MILLER	\$740,000	\$720,000	Residential
Girard Twp	560239 - W BATTLE-FF	9/29/22	REBECCA & ROBERT ECKDALE ET AL	2012 IRREVOCABLE TST FOR BRAD FEHR	\$675,000	\$674,000	Seasonal Rec
Otter Tail Twp	004712 - OTTERTAIL RIVER(OT)-F	12/28/22	CHAD & QUINN IWEN ET AL	NICHOLAS & DANIELLE MULLIN	\$85,000	\$85,000	Seasonal Rec
Otter Tail Twp	560209 - BUCHANAN-FF	9/16/22	JOHN L & CAROLINE ANN NELSON	KEVIN & TERRI KOUBA	\$715,000	\$697,000	Residential
Otter Tail Twp	560209 - BUCHANAN-FF	11/2/22	SHEILA A JANS TST	ALEC & RACHEL SPILLUM	\$529,000	\$513,030	Residential
Otter Tail Twp	560210 - LONG(O T & RUSH)-FF	8/12/22	JAMI & SHELLY HILLS	DONDI & KARLA STENDER	\$235,000	\$235,000	Seasonal Rec
Otter Tail Twp	560210 - LONG(O T & RUSH)-FF	10/13/22	DAVID C WIEBE	JERRY & JOY LAMPL	\$125,000	\$125,000	Seasonal Rec
Otter Tail Twp	560210 - LONG(O T & RUSH)-FF	10/14/22	TONETTE HANSON	BERNARD & JANICE DEMARAIS	\$221,000	\$216,350	Residential
Otter Tail Twp	560210 - LONG(O T & RUSH)-FF	12/7/22	DEREK & EMILY MARTIN	JEFFREY & JULIE SOHNS	\$297,500	\$297,500	Seasonal Rec
Otter Tail Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	8/15/22	ERIC D & JILL R ROTVOLD	STEPHANIE F ELLINGSON	\$400,000	\$399,000	Seasonal Rec
Otter Tail Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	9/1/22	EDWIN F & CYNTHIA J JANSSEN	MICHAEL & MARNI HAJICEK - CALLIE & DANIELLE HELGESON	\$800,000	\$800,000	Seasonal Rec
Otter Tail Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	10/6/22	DUANE M KUPFER TST	ANTON J & DARLA K THIEL	\$730,000	\$714,800	Seasonal Rec
Otter Tail Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	10/18/22	ROBERT & BARBARA TAYLOR TST	ROBERT & CHERY KEMPENICH	\$499,919	\$499,919	Seasonal Rec
Otter Tail Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	10/21/22	RICK L & DEBRA J JACOBSON	JPR-OT LLC	\$515,000	\$515,000	Residential
Otter Tail Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	10/25/22	BLUE LIBELLE PROPERTIES LLC	JEFFERY & SHERRY MEEK	\$252,000	\$252,000	Residential
Otter Tail Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	11/14/22	DALE BAKKO	KOREY & AIMEE SKOVHOLT	\$710,000	\$710,000	Residential
Otter Tail Twp	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	12/8/22	THE LODGE ON OTTERTAIL LK LLC	AARON VASA & KIMBERLY ANDERSON	\$799,000	\$795,000	Seasonal Rec
Ottertail City	560200 - DONALD (OT CITY)-FF	10/3/22	JAMES L & DEBBIE J FARRELL	JEREMY & MELISSA ELFSTRUM	\$215,000	\$215,000	Seasonal Rec
Ottertail City	560201 - LONG(OTCITY & TWP)-FF	8/26/22	VICKI ANN & DAVID M RICHTER	LEANN & TYLER LARSON	\$225,000	\$225,000	Residential
Ottertail City	560202 - PELICAN BAY (OT CITY-	10/28/22	STRAND REV TST	SHERRY & ROBERT MAYER	\$685,000	\$682,600	Seasonal Rec
Ottertail City	560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF	8/12/22	VANCE Q & DANA BIFFERT EMERSON	KEVIN & SHERI GALBREATH	\$790,000	\$790,000	Seasonal Rec



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## Seven Things You Need To Know About Snowshoes

Source: <https://www.dickssportinggoods.com/protips/sports-and-activities/winter-sports/how-to-choose-snowshoes>



Walking through deep snow can be tough. With regular snow boots, you can sink and struggle with every step, making you wonder why you didn't opt for a cozy afternoon indoors instead.

But what if there was a better way? What if you could almost "float" across the snow as you explored the winter scenery?

That's where snowshoes come into play.

A snowshoe is a specialty piece of footwear that distributes your weight evenly, helping you stay above the snow. Snowshoes are ideal for a wide range of winter activities, including trail walking, hiking, backcountry exploring and even running.

## How to Buy Snowshoes

### 1. KNOW YOUR SNOWSHOE MATERIALS

There are two main types of snowshoe frames: aluminum and composite.

"Composite tends to be more compact and better for packed snow or icy conditions," says Dan Fischer, a buyer on the DICK'S Sporting Goods lodge team. "Aluminum-framed shoes tend to float better in deep powder, but tails can be attached to composite shoes to assist in floating."

### 2. FIND YOUR FIT

The most important factor when choosing snowshoe size is weight. Check the specs. On the DICK'S Sporting Goods website, the suggested "load" is typically listed with each snowshoe. Use that figure to guide your selection. Remember to account for the weight of your gear as well.

Generally, the heavier you are, the larger your snowshoes should be. Aluminum snowshoes can be as long as 36 inches. Composite snowshoes are more compact — the 8 by 22-inch size is typical. But you can add the aforementioned tails to extend the length and get more flotation.

It's also important to consider the type of snow and terrain you'll be traversing.

Choose larger snowshoes for light, powdery snow — they will help keep you afloat. You can go with smaller, more compact shoes for hard, packed-down snow. For steep, icy surfaces, use smaller snowshoes as well.

Finally, snowshoe sizes do vary by gender. Men's snowshoes are built larger to hold bigger boots and heavier weight. Women's snowshoes are generally smaller and narrower, which helps prevent stepping on the insides of the frames. You'll find kids' snowshoes designed for casual play as well as larger sizes with some of the same features you'd find on adult snowshoes.

### 3. UNDERSTAND BINDING BASICS

There are two main types of snowshoe bindings: free-rotation bindings and fixed bindings.

- Fixed-rotation bindings provide a secure fit that is ideal for clearing obstructions and walking backward.
- Free-rotation bindings pivot and move with the natural motion of your feet. They also prevent snow pile-up.

### 4. TYPES OF SNOWSHOE TRACTION

Snowshoes feature crampons, or cleats, to provide superior traction as you walk. These cleats may be located on various parts of the snowshoes:

- Toe Crampons: Located on the undersides of the bindings, these cleats pivot with your feet as you move.
- Heel Crampons: You will find the cleats underneath the decking. They are used help keep you steady as you traverse downhill.
- Side Rails/Traction Bars: Also located on the undersides of the decking, these provide lateral stability.

### 5. NEED A LIFT?

One of the coolest features snowshoes offer are heel lifts, also known as climbing bars. When climbing steep terrain, you can flip up wire bars under your heels to help reduce calf and Achilles strain.

### 6. WHAT TYPE OF FOOTWEAR SHOULD YOU WEAR WITH SNOWSHOES?

Good news: snowshoes are designed to work with virtually all types of boots and shoes. Some are even specifically designed for running shoes.

### 7. SNOWSHOE ACCESSORIES

There are a few accessories you'll want to have before you head out. Snow gaiters are important — they can help keep snow out of your boots. Another key accessory is a pair of snowshoe poles. They can give you the added stability you need to traverse difficult terrain, while also providing an upper-body workout.

While you can buy snowshoe poles and snowshoes individually, they are often sold together as part of a kit. Purchasing a kit is an easy way to ensure you have everything you need for your snow day activities. Most come with an additional travel bag for added convenience, too.



# Dealing With And Preventing Ice Dams

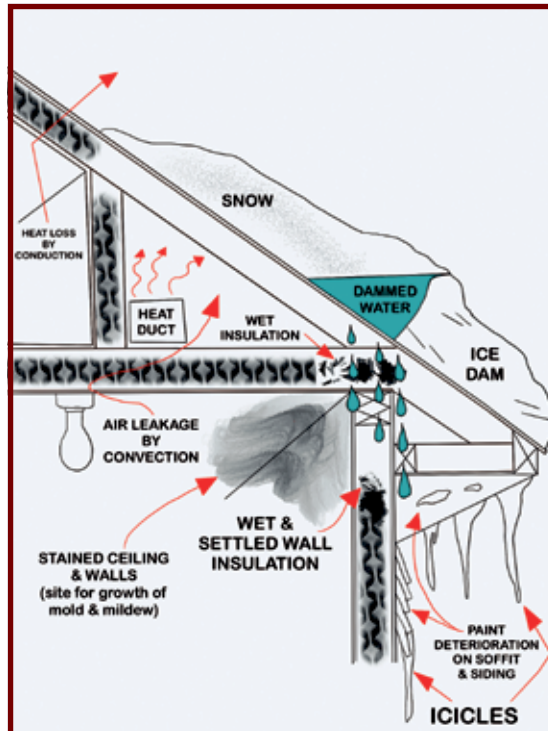
## What Is An Ice Dam?

An ice dam is a ridge of ice that forms at the edge of a roof and prevents melting snow (water) from draining off the roof. The water that backs up behind the dam can leak into a home and cause damage to walls, ceilings, insulation and other areas.

## Effects Of Ice Dams

Moisture entering the home from ice dams can lead to the growth of mold and mildew. These can cause respiratory problems.

- Prevent the growth of mold and mildew by immediately drying out portions of the house that are wet or damp.
- Take immediate action to get rid of the water source, clean the home environment and maintain its air quality.



## What Causes Ice Dams?

Nonuniform roof surface temperatures lead to ice dams.

Heat loss from a house, snow cover and outside temperatures interact to form ice dams. For ice dams to form there must be snow on the roof and, at the same time, higher portions of the roof's outside surface must be above 32 degrees F (freezing) while lower surfaces are below 32F. These are average temperatures over sustained periods of time. For a portion of the roof to be below freezing, outside temperatures must also be below freezing.

The snow on a roof surface that is above freezing will melt. As water flows down the roof it reaches the portion of the roof that is below 32F and freezes. This causes the ice dam.

The dam grows as it is fed by the melting snow above it, but it will limit itself to the portions of the roof that average below 32F. So the water above backs up behind the ice dam and remains a liquid. This water finds cracks and openings in the exterior roof covering and flows into the attic space. From the attic it could flow into exterior walls or through the ceiling insulation and stain the ceiling finish.

## What Causes Different Roof Surface Temperatures?

Since most ice dams form at the edge of the roof, there must be a heat source warming the roof elsewhere. This heat primarily comes from the house. In rare instances, increased heat from the sun may cause these temperature differences.

Source: <https://extension.umn.edu/protecting-home-rain-and-ice/dealing-and-preventing-ice-dams#:~:text=An%20ice%20dam%20is%20a,ceilings%2C%20insulation%20and%20other%20areas.>

# Fishing



Photos Submitted By: Amber Olson



### SEASONAL UPDATE

**Water:** Water is off in the campground for the season until May 12, 2023. Water is available year-round at the park office.

**Drinking Water:** Water is off in the campground for the season until May 12, 2023. Water is available year-round at the park office.

**Bathroom Facilities:** Trail center restrooms are open year-round! Modern restroom facilities in the campground are closed for season until May 12, 2023. Vault toilets in the park are open year-round. Facilities are wheelchair accessible.

**Showers:** Showers are closed for season until May 12, 2023. Showers are wheelchair accessible.

**DUMP STATION: NONE**

**CAMPGROUNDS:** Cart-in campground is open year-round. Camper Cabins and Yurts are open year-round, but just weekends between Nov. 1 and March 31. The group camp is closed until May 5, 2023. Canoe sites are closed for season until April 28, 2023.

**ELECTRIC SITES:** One RV electric site is available after October 3 by calling the park. All camper cabins have electricity.

### SPECIAL NOTES FOR RV CAMPERS:

There is no RV camping in park in summer. Private RV campground is nearby.

**Trail Notes:** The park has 11 miles of hiking trail, 5.5 miles of surfaced bike trail and 2.2 miles of mountain bike trails. In winter, park maintains 7 miles of groomed, easy to intermediate, level cross-country ski trails and 1-2 miles of snowshoe trails.

**Season Rentals:** Bicycle, rowboat, canoe, kayak, paddleboat, and stand up paddleboard rental is closed for season. Winter rentals (cross-country skis and snowshoes) are available when conditions allow.

**Naturalist Programs and Park Tours:** Check the park Events Calendar on the park web page for more information on programs.

**Buildings and Attractions:** Historic Lodge and Dining Hall are available to rent year round and can be reserved by calling the park. Discounted winter rates apply from November 1 to April 30. Molly Stark Picnic Shelter is closed for season.

Nestled in the transition zone between prairie and hardwood forest, Glendalough offers a true respite from civilization. Crystal clear Annie Battle Lake is a 335-acre, non-motorized "Heritage Fishery" that provides a tranquil fishing experience second to none. Special regulations sustain a steady supply of large sunfish, crappie, and the occasional walleye for the frying pan, and large bass for the camera. Near the pristine shores of this lake are a cart-in campground and canoe-in campsites, all free from the traffic and noise of traditional drive-in camping.

Annie can also be the starting point for an exploration of the park by canoe or kayak on the connecting creeks. The restored historic Glendalough Lodge on the north side of the lake details the park's history as a private retreat and game farm for the Minneapolis Tribune.

Numerous hiking trails, including two interpretive trails, meander along five lakes, through rich woods and blooming prairies. Wildlife abounds year-round, and there are many observation decks along the trails. Trails are groomed in winter for skiing and snowshoeing. Picnicking and swimming is available on two sandy lakes.

Migrating monarchs should be highly visible along the Prairie Hill Trail from mid-August through Labor Day. Vehicle permits are required and can be purchased at the park. For more information, call the park at 218-864-0110.

**VIRTUAL TOUR** Take a panoramic virtual tour of Glendalough State Park. Peek inside the Glendalough Lodge, marvel at a vibrant prairie sunset, check out the unique canoe-in group campsite, and more. It's a great tool to help you plan your next trip to the park! Take the high speed panoramic tour or the low speed/accessible tour. [www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_parks/glendalough](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/glendalough) click on the Panoramic Tour or the Snapshot Tour under Park Notes.

**Hours: Best time to contact the park is:**

**Daily from 1pm - 4pm**

**218-864-0110 • fax: 218-864-0587**

**email: [glendalough.statepark@state.mn.us](mailto:glendalough.statepark@state.mn.us)**

**25287 Whitetail Lane, Battle Lake, MN 56515**

**[www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_parks/glendalough](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/glendalough)**

**From the town of Battle Lake, go 1.5 miles north on State Hwy. #78 and 1.8 miles east on Otter Tail Co. Hwy #16 to the park entrance.**





# THE BEAUTY OF WINTER



Photos Submitted By: Amber Olson

