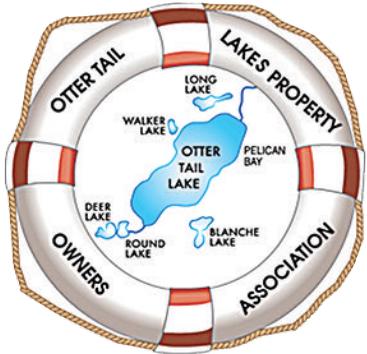
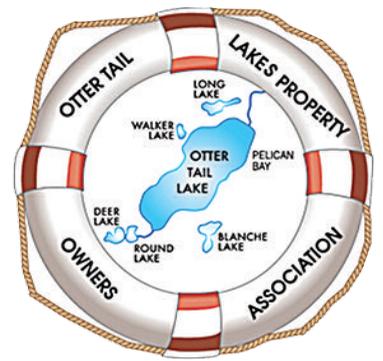


PR SRT STD  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PERMIT NO. 8  
 ANNANDALE, MN  
 56302

The Official Newspaper of  
 Otter Tail Lakes  
 Property Owners  
 Association

Volume 55 - No. 5  
 - August 2025 -



# Lakeshore News



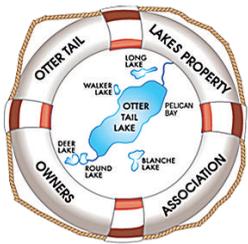
Fun on the Water - The Steve Vertin family and friends on Otter Tail Lake July 6.  
 Moon Over Water - Otter Tail Lake July 9 at 9:35 p.m.  
 Submitted photo by Richard Geurts

• **What's Inside** •

Mission Statement, Board of Directors, President's Corner

Check Out Website..... **2**  
 Calendar of Events, OTC COLLA Meetings and more ..... **3**  
 Boating Etiquette - Unspoken Rules Of The Water ..... **4**  
 Public Water Access Rules and Area Locations..... **5**  
 Know Your Buoys, Signs and Lights..... **6-7**  
 Fall Fertilizing Shoreline Lawns ..... **8**

Swimmers Itch 101: What Every Lake Lover Needs To Know ..... **9**  
 MN's State Fruit - Honeycrisp Apple, Recipe Corner, Church Directory ..... **10**  
 Ottertail City Playground, William O. Douglas Canoe Trail ..... **11**  
 Land Transfers, Unwanted Medications - Take It To The Box ..... **12**  
 Roadside Gawker..... **13**  
 1st Annual Lakes and River Clean-Up Results..... **14-15**  
 Waiting For Swimmers..... **16**



# Lakeshore News

The Official Newspaper of Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association

Volume 55 - No. 5 • August 2025 • Battle Lake, MN



## 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.

## – OTLPOA Board of Directors –

- President –**  
Eric Gerken (Otter Tail Lake) .....egerken31@gmail.com - 320-491-1277
- Vice President –**  
Mark Long (Deer Lake) .....mdlongmark@outlook.com - 701-640-1033
- Treasurer –**  
Pat Hunke (Otter Tail Lake) .....phunke@hunkestransfer.com - 218-639-4910
- Secretary –**  
Becky Kemling (Otter Tail River N) ....beckykemling@msn.com - 218-371-9095
- Website Manager –**  
Tom Kuder .....tom.kuder@gmail.com - 612-747-5021

- Blanche Lake Directors –**  
Ken Wentz .....kmwjmw@gmail.com - 760-885-9668  
Jeff Skogen .....jeffskogen@gmail.com - 303-898-2501

- Long Lake Director –**  
Paul Oxberry .....poxberry@outlook.com - 612-703-3116

- Round Lake Director –**  
Steve Mouritsen .....Steve.mouritsen@wellsfargo.com - 612-237-6927

- Walker Lake Director –**  
Mike Wendt .....MWendt3853@outlook.com

- Otter Tail Lake Directors –**  
Dan Carlisle .....dcarlisle@toddwadena.coop - 218-639-3972  
Duane Hanson .....duanehanson55@gmail.com - 701-367-4249  
Debbie Ness .....deb@yourresort.com - 218-495-2468  
Julie Swanson .....julieswansonproperties@gmail.com - 218-282-0044  
Jerame Tysdal .....otproperties@arvig.net

## Check Out Our OTLPOA Website At [OTLPOA.com](http://OTLPOA.com)



## – OTLPOA President’s Eric Gerken’s Corner –



### Wow! Summer Has Flown By!

This year we received above average rainfall in July. This rain has left the lakes higher than we usually see as we enter August and it gives us more reason to enjoy time on the water as Labor Day weekend approaches.

Our annual OTPOA meeting was August 7. We had a nice turnout at Thumper Pond and I'd like to encourage even more members to take the opportunity to attend the annual meeting, meet fellow members and learn more about what your board does for you.

At this year's meeting featured speakers were Jordan Rasmusson, District 9 Senator and the Otter Tail County Sheriff's Water Patrol members, Troy Lee and Ethen Soland. I thanked them for their participation and encouragement you to do the same if you encounter them.

- Topics Discussed:
- Legislative updates affecting lake property owners
  - Water safety, patrol initiatives and the new Minnesota boating certification.

- Environmental concerns including invasive species and water quality

I also want to thank all of you who came out to support our first annual cleanup day on the lakes, it was a big success this year and we look forward to next year's exciting additions.

Cherish the memories you've created in 2025, as you look forward to the rest of this summer! As always, have a safe day on the water!

### Clarity Lake Water Readings (July 27)

|                                     |               |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Blanche.....                        | 11'           |
| Deer.....                           | 15'           |
| Long.....                           | 6'            |
| Otter Tail.....                     | 11' and 11.5' |
| (2 readings at different locations) |               |
| Round.....                          | 9'            |
| Walker.....                         | 8.5'          |

# OTLPOA 2025 Meetings

Mark Your Calendars!

August 28 • September 25

October 23

**Ottertail City Community Center 6 p.m.**

If any member wants to address the board with any questions or issues, please notify secretary or any board member to be added to the agenda.

## Calendar of Events 2025

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| August 16-17  | Perham Pioneer Days                                      |
| August 7-9    | WE Fest - Detroit Lakes                                  |
| August 8-9    | Silver Sage Pro Rodeo - Clitherall                       |
| August 9      | Art & Craft Affair - Battle Lake                         |
| August        | Rod & Gun Club Demo Derby - Ottertail                    |
| August        | Ottertail City's Otter Fest                              |
| August 18     | Vining Watermelon Day                                    |
| August 29-20  | Underwood's Harvest Festival                             |
| August 30     | Battle Lake Area Community Fund's<br>Gathering of Planes |
| September 5-7 | Lake Region Pioneer Threshermen's<br>Reunion - Dalton    |
| September 13  | Woodstack - Prospect House & Museum,<br>Battle Lake      |

Events are subject to change.

To submit an event, contact [blreview@arvig.net](mailto:blreview@arvig.net)



## (COLA) Meetings 2025

Speakers for summer meetings normally the 3rd Thursdays of May, June, July and August at the Ottertail City Community Center have been announced.

Featured presenters at June, July, August Ottertail Community Center meetings:

**August 21 - Darren Newville**, East Otter Tail Soil & Water Conservation District, District Manager. Darren will present an update on the One Watershed, One Plan program. The East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) was named SWCD of the Year for 2024.

OTC COLA summer meetings are an excellent opportunity access materials and information to bring back to Lake Associations and to network with other lake property owners.

## Lake Sampling Dates

The lake sampling dates for the 2025 Season are August 18 and September 22

A reminder: If you have been using the courier drop off site on Lake Marion that location is no longer in use. The new location is 43620 Round Lake Rd., Ottertail MN. There is a small garage on the opposite side of the address where the samples coolers will be collected.

If you have used the Battle Lake site or taken the samples directly to the lab in Detroit Lakes, that has not changed.

## AIS Handbooks Available

The enthusiastically acclaimed AIS Handbook sponsored by the Otter Tail County AIS Task Force is now available. The Handbook will be distributed to lake property owners, resort owners, and civic organizations in Otter Tail County. Quantities can be reserved from Otter Tail County Land & Resource 218-998-8095. Besides disseminating AIS prevention best practices in the Handbooks, the AIS prevention information will also be published in area newspapers and included in social media posts.

## Explore The Latest In AIS Research

What's inside our latest newsletter?

**Zebra mussels' impact on walleye**

**MAISRC's new research chair: Dan Larkin**

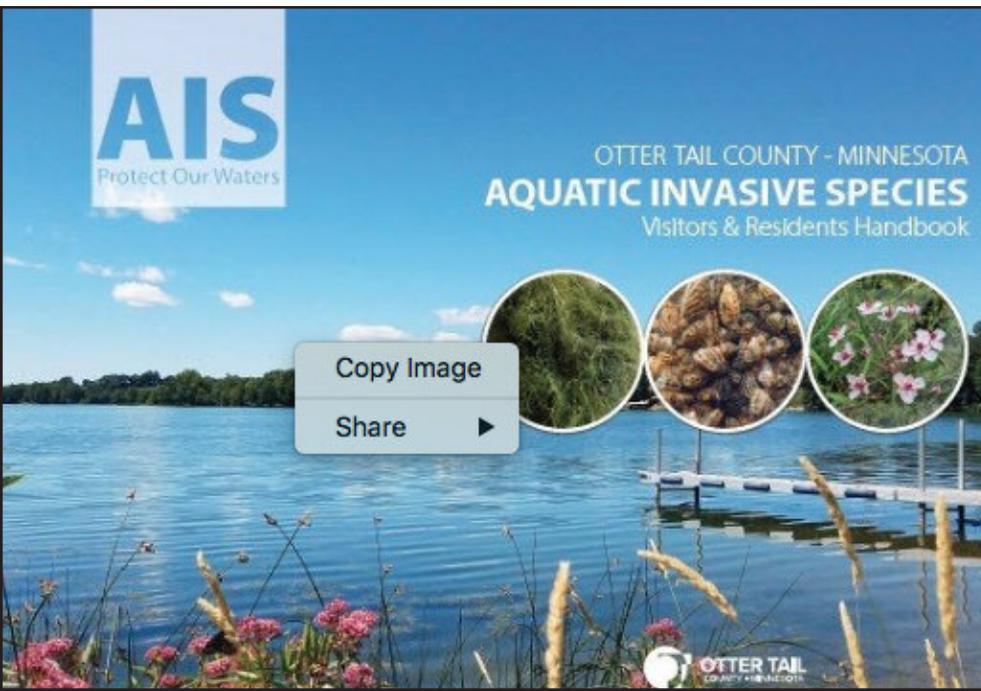
**Lab to Lakes updates**

**Recent news: Swimmer's itch**

**NEW column:** Ask the AIS Experts! To ask MAISRC researchers your questions for inclusion in future newsletters, use the form online

<https://form.asana.com/?k=CaYyEUoGsM-37twll7obww&d=939683240123509>

Don't miss out on these stories and other important updates. Click below to read the full newsletter and stay engaged in protecting Minnesota's waters.



# Boating Etiquette – The Unspoken Rules Of The Water



Recreational boating has an etiquette – the customary code of accepted behavior on and around the water. Boating etiquette is about safe behavior, as well as what's socially accepted. Here are some of the basics to help you navigate the boating world with ease while not creating a stir among fellow users of the water.

## Top 10 rules to respectful boating – make the right kind of waves

Remember, these are guidelines and should not serve as a replacement for learning the rules, regulations and laws for your local body of water. Whether you're a novice or veteran boater, learn more by taking a boating safety course.

**Respect the ramp.** Good boating etiquette starts before you enter the water - at the dock. Prepare your boat and equipment before getting into position to launch. Anything else is disrespectful to fellow boaters.

**Own your wake.** The fastest way to make the wrong kinds of waves is to literally throw a big, obtrusive wave at another boat, swimmer, angler or shoreline owner. This is much more than being a nuisance or disrupting others' experience on the water. It's dangerous to those unable to tolerate a large wake. Stay at least 200 feet from the shoreline and other boaters.

**Keep the tunes in check.** Sound is amplified over the water, so keep the music at a decent level. Not only is it a disturbance to others but the operator may not hear the spotter.

**Pack in. Pack out.** Seems like common sense, right? Yet shorelines are still lined with trash being thrown overboard. Take care of the body of water you love and dispose of any trash you have. Do not throw it overboard!

**Slow your roll.** Does the body of water you're on have a speed limit or slow-no-wake restriction? It's your responsibility to know it and respect it. You are responsible for any damage you cause to other people's property.

**Rules of the road.** Become familiar with waterway markers and navigation rules, which dictate how you operate your vessel in order to prevent collision.

**Be prepared.** If you are the captain, you need to be prepared with the safety rules for your craft and make your guests aware as well. Know state and local laws for the body of water you're on. Set a good example by always wearing a life jacket and have enough life jackets for each person onboard. Beyond that, make sure to have the appropriate fit.

**Fuel and go.** At the fuel dock, get fuel, pay your bill and move out of the way. If you need to buy additional supplies, relocate your boat. Don't forget to run your blower before starting.

**Anchoring and mooring.** Enter an anchorage or mooring area at a slow speed. Don't create a wake that will disrupt other anchored boats. The first boat sets the tone. Mimic how they tie off, how much line you use and how much distance you allow between you and other boats. The bigger the boat, the more space you should give yourself.

**Be polite – give a wave.** When passing another boat, give a little wave hello. Boating is all about having fun and being part of the boating community. Embrace it, enjoy it, and share it for generations to come.

## Own Your Wake for everyone's sake Wake Awareness

Almost every motorboat can create a wake, which is why boaters must be aware of the dangers wakes present and the damage they can do. While common courtesy dictates boaters should control their wakes, there are consequences beyond how wakes may affect people. So, what do boaters really need to know when it comes to owning their wake?

Under Minnesota law, the damage your wake causes is treated the same as damage caused by an actual collision. Personal watercrafts (PWC) must stay at least 150 feet from shore. There is no required distance for boats, but by staying at least 200 feet from shore or other structures boaters can reduce the likelihood their wakes will cause damage.

**Be aware of your environment and what's going on around you – this applies to everyone on and around the water.** Have a designated lookout to keep an eye out for other boats, objects, and swimmers. If crossing a wake, cross at low speeds and keep a close lookout for skiers and towables. Comply with all signs and respect barriers. This includes speed limits, no-wake zones, and underwater obstructions.

**Stay at least 200 feet away from shorelines, docks or other structures. Backing a boat up to a riverbank or lakeshore can damage the area and lead to erosion. Travel slowly in shallow waters.** Travel slowly in shallow waters and avoid boating in water less than 2½ feet deep. High speeds near shorelines lead to large wakes that cause shoreline erosion. Check local ordinances, restrictions, closures, and permit requirements for the body of water you are on. Ask permission from the landowner(s) before crossing private property.

*Your membership makes a difference! Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association is primarily member supported, so we rely on your contributions to protect our lakes and advocate on behalf of property owners.*

# Public Water Access Rules and Area Locations

Minnesota has approximately 3,000 public water access sites, 375 fishing piers and shore fishing sites and 35 state water trails. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), federal agencies and local government units share in the ownership and operation of these facilities.

DNR public water access sites are usually open 24 hours a day however, access sites owned by others may have different hours and rules. Most trailer access sites have concrete launch ramps and are designed for launching watercraft up to 18 ft. in length. There are some boat ramps that can handle larger boats. There are typically no launch fees unless the access is located within a park requiring a vehicle permit.

The following activities are unlawful at public water access sites: littering, camping, overnight mooring, shooting/hunting, fires, storage of watercraft, vehicles, or equipment of any kind, and consuming alcoholic beverages. See Minnesota Rules, chapter 6218 for complete rules.

Public water accesses are open 24 hours a day unless posted otherwise. They are available for both trailer and carry-in. 12-18 foot boats can be launched at most launch ramps; some can handle larger boats. There are no launch fees, unless the access is located within a park requiring a vehicle permit.

Free maps of the public water access sites and state water trails are available at [mndnr.gov](http://mndnr.gov) and through the DNR Information Center. To report a problem, contact the site administrator or the DNR Information Center at 651-296-6157 or 888-MINNDNR (646-6367) or email [info.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:info.dnr@state.mn.us).



-  Water Access (Trailer)
-  Water Access (Carry in)
-  Fishing Pier
-  Shore Fishing
-  Dam (on State Water Trail)
-  Lake with Access
-  Lake With No Access
-  Accessible Access (see text side for more information)
-  River with Access
-  River or Stream
-  State Water Trail

*Lake Area*  
Docks & Lifts  
WWW.LAKEAREADOCKS.COM

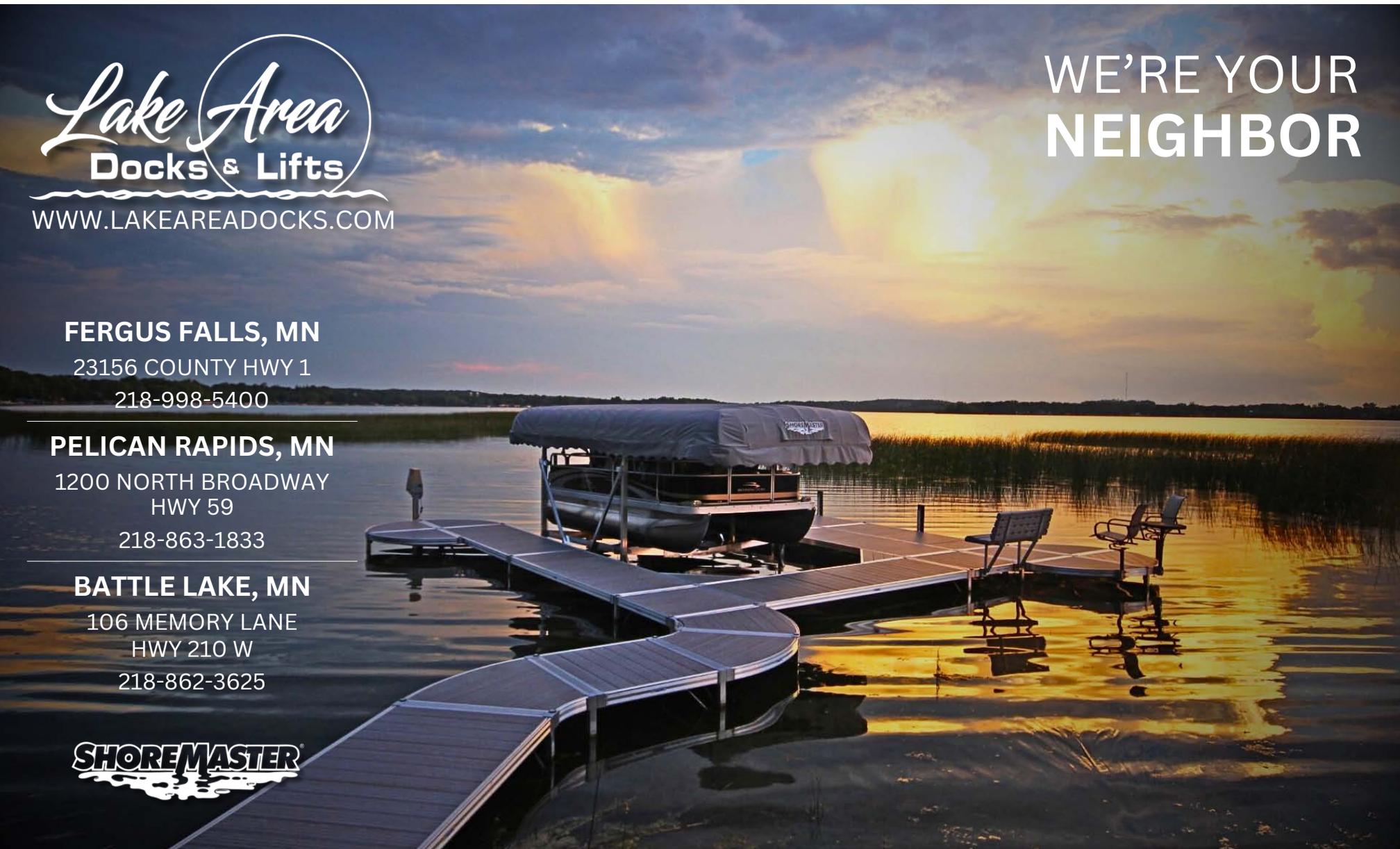
**FERGUS FALLS, MN**  
23156 COUNTY HWY 1  
218-998-5400

**PELICAN RAPIDS, MN**  
1200 NORTH BROADWAY  
HWY 59  
218-863-1833

**BATTLE LAKE, MN**  
106 MEMORY LANE  
HWY 210 W  
218-862-3625



WE'RE YOUR  
NEIGHBOR



# Know Your Buoys, Signs And Lights



FLASHING WHITE

## REGULATORY BUOYS AND SIGNS

### Boats Keep Out

A white buoy or sign with an orange diamond and cross means that boats must keep out of the area. Black lettering on the buoy or sign gives the reason for the restriction, for example, SWIM AREA.



QUICK-FLASHING WHITE

### Danger

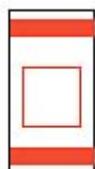
A white buoy or sign with an orange diamond warns boaters of danger—rocks, dams, rapids, etc. The source of danger will also be lettered in black. In winter, ice hazards may also be identified with this marker in the form of a sign.



FLASHING WHITE

### Controlled Area

A white buoy or sign with an orange circle and black lettering indicates controlled or restricted areas on the water. The most common restriction is slow no-wake speed. Slow no-wake means operating your boat at the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, but in no case greater than 5 mph.



FLASHING WHITE

### Information

A white buoy or sign with an orange rectangle provides the boater with information or directions. Information will be lettered in black.



FLASHING WHITE

### Mooring Buoys

Buoys designed for mooring boats are all-white with a blue stripe midway between the top and the waterline. A minimum of 16 square inches of white reflector, part of which must be visible from any direction, is required on all mooring buoys. (Obtain a permit from the county sheriff before placing a mooring buoy in the water.)

## Here are some tips on waterway markers:

- Waterway markers, especially buoys can move off station due to wind, waves, current, ice or other reasons.
- Buoys and other waterway markers may not be present outside of the normal boating season. Check locally before heading out.
- Red and green channel markers may be numbered: green (odd) and red (even).
- Size specifications for buoys:
  - For all buoys except mooring buoys, the minimum height above water is 36 inches and the minimum diameter is 9 inches.
  - For mooring buoys the maximum size is 24 inches in diameter, if spherical, or a maximum of 24 inches wide if some other shape. Mooring buoys must extend at least 8 inches above the water.

## WATERWAY MARKERS—AIDS TO NAVIGATION

Waterway markers show navigable channels, denote unsafe areas, direct traffic, control speed, protect resources and serve other functions.

Official markers are usually placed by the U.S. Coast Guard, state, county or local governmental unit. Private markers of any type may not be placed in the water overnight without a permit from the county sheriff.

If a buoy or sign is lighted, it will usually display the color and flash characteristics noted on following pages. “Flashing” means not more than 30 flashes per minute. “Quick-flashing” means at least 60 flashes per minute and generally indicates caution or danger.

### Channel Marker Buoys

- All-green and all-red companion buoys indicate that the boating channel is between them.
- Red buoy is on the right side of the channel when facing upstream.



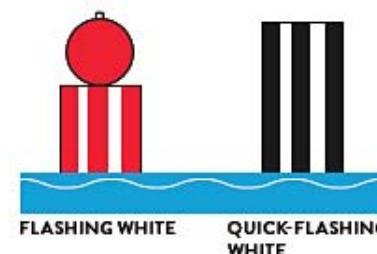
FLASHING GREEN

FLASHING RED

Signs can be substituted. For example, a green square sign is the same as a green buoy and red triangular sign is the same as a red buoy—these are often called “daymarks.” They can be used to mark each side of a channel, which is common on the Mississippi River below the Twin Cities. A red-white octagonal sign can be used to mark the center of a channel.

### Red and white and black and white buoys

- Red-white striped buoys (usually with a red topmark) indicate the center of a channel and should be passed closely on either side.
- Black and white striped buoys (formerly red-white striped) indicate there is a shoreward obstruction and that you should not pass between it and the nearest shore.



FLASHING WHITE

QUICK-FLASHING WHITE



if you  
**SEE**  
something  
**SAY**  
something™

Report suspicious activity  
call **911**

Did you **SEE** something you thought was suspicious?

Then **SAY** something to local authorities.



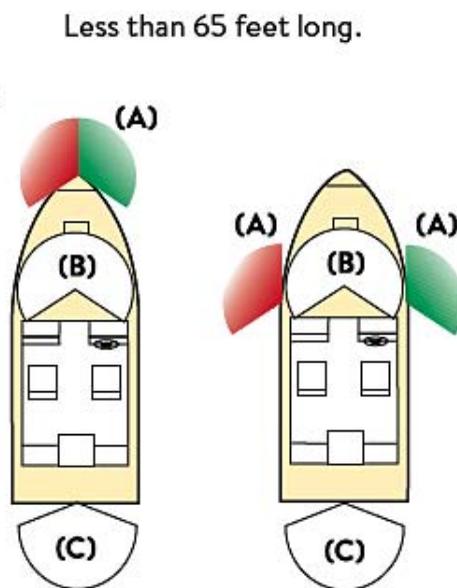
## The Boating Safety Seven

1. Wear your life jacket
2. Take a boating safety class
3. Carry all required safety gear
4. Use your engine cut-off device
5. File a float plan
6. Be aware of weather and water conditions
7. Boat sober, and be considerate of others



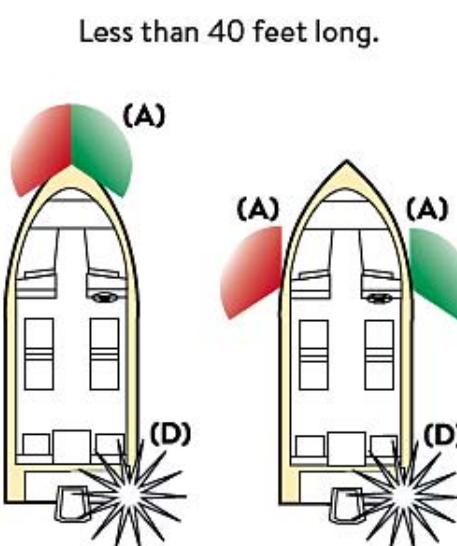
**Motorboats less than 65 feet long** while underway, including sailboats operating under engine power, require lights that are:

- Either separate 112.5° red and green side lights or a combination 225° red and green bow light. (A)
- A 225° masthead white light on the forward half of the boat, placed at least 3 feet above the red-green lights, showing 112.5° to each side and visible for 2 miles. (B)
- On boats 40 to 65 feet long, this light (B) must be at least 9 feet above the gunwale.
- A 135° white light on the stern half of the craft showing 67.5° to each side. (C) This light may be carried off the center line.
- When at anchor, only one 360° white light is necessary.



**OPTIONAL: Motorboats less than 40 feet long** while underway, including sailboats operating under engine power, may follow the lighting requirements below or the requirements listed in the previous section:

- Either separate 112.5° red and green side lights or a combination 225° red and green bow light. (A)
- A 360° white stern (rear) light. When at anchor, only the 360° white light is necessary. (D)



## MUFFLERS/NOISE LIMITS

- All watercraft motors must have a muffler, underwater exhaust, or other device that suppresses the sound of the motor to levels noted below.
- It is unlawful to modify, equip, sell or operate a motorboat (except under a permit from the county sheriff or U.S. Coast Guard) that exceeds the levels noted below.
- It is illegal to sell or have an altered muffler, muffler cutout, muffler bypass, or any other device designed or installed so that it can be used to continually or intermittently bypass any muffler or muffler system, or to reduce or eliminate the effectiveness of a muffler or muffler system.

## NOISE LEVEL TESTING

**Pass-by Test:** Noise level test usually performed at a distance of 50 feet—an equivalent reading may be taken at other distances.

- Boats manufactured before January 1, 1982: **84 dBA**
- Boats manufactured January 1, 1982 and after: **82 dBA**

**Stationary Idle Test:** Noise level test taken at 4 feet above the water and at least 4 feet behind the transom of the boat.

- Boats manufactured before January 1, 1982: **86 dBA**
- Boats manufactured January 1, 1982 and after: **84 dBA**

Officers and deputies may use either or both of these tests at their discretion.

## NONMOTORIZED BOAT NAVIGATION LIGHT REQUIREMENTS

- Must at least carry a white lantern or flashlight.
- Light should be strong enough so that other boats around the horizon can see it at least 2 miles away.
- Light must be displayed in sufficient time to avoid a collision with another watercraft.
- Canoes, sailboats, etc., that are operating under power must follow the lighting rules for motorboats.



## VISIBILITY RULES

- White lights must be visible for 2 miles on a dark, clear night (with one exception under the International Rules).
- Combination or side lights must be visible for 1 mile.
- Combination or side lights must shine red to port (left side) and green to starboard (right side).
- Combination lights must be attached so the light shows from directly ahead to 22.5° to the rear of the beam (midpoint of the boat) on the respective side.
- Lights may be detachable and need only be displayed from sunset to sunrise.

## LIGHTING NOTES

- Check navigation light sockets and wiring for corrosion.
- Boats on waters subject to U.S. jurisdiction may also display navigation lights under current federal inland regulations.
- All accessory lighting such as docking lights, spotlights or accent lights must not impact navigation light visibility as required by law.

## FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

All fire extinguishers must be U.S. Coast Guard-approved, fully charged, and readily accessible.

Motorboats carrying or using fuel or other flammable fluid in an enclosure are required to have a Type B, U.S. Coast Guard-approved fire extinguisher(s) on board.

## WHISTLES/HORNS REQUIREMENTS

- Motorboats 16 feet to less than 26 feet long must be equipped with a hand-, mouth-, or power-operated whistle or horn capable of producing a continuous sound for two seconds and audible for at least one-half mile.
- Motorboats 26 feet to less than 40 feet long must be equipped with a hand- or power-operated horn or whistle capable of producing a continuous sound for two seconds and audible for at least 1 mile.
- Motorboats 40 feet or longer must be equipped with a power-operated horn or whistle capable of producing a continuous sound for at least two seconds and audible for at least 1 mile.
- The only boat that can carry a siren is a government patrol craft.

## NAVIGATION LIGHTS

Navigation lights must be on from sunset to sunrise.

**Let's Keep Our Lakes Clean  
All Year! Join OTLPOA!**

# Fall Fertilizing Near Lakes, What To Look For, Soil Tests

Changes in lake habitat, ecology and conditions coupled with technological advances Fall fertilizing near lakes requires careful attention to avoid polluting the water. Prioritize phosphorus-free fertilizers, maintain a buffer zone of at least 15-25 feet from the water, and avoid fertilizing before heavy rain. Fall fertilization is beneficial for lawns as it helps plants store nutrients for the next year, but responsible application is crucial to protect lake ecosystems.

## Key Considerations for Fall Fertilizing Near Lakes:

**Phosphorus-Free Fertilizer:** Minnesota law prohibits the use of phosphorus-containing fertilizers on lawns, according to the Minnesota Stormwater Manual.

**Buffer Zones:** Maintain a 15-25 foot buffer strip of unfertilized vegetation along the shoreline to minimize runoff into the lake.

**Timing:** Avoid fertilizing before heavy rainfall, and consider applying fertilizer in the fall when the grass is actively growing but before the ground freezes.

**Application:** Use a spreader with a shield or guard to direct fertilizer towards the lawn and away from impervious surfaces like sidewalks and driveways, says the Minnesota Extension.

**Slow-Release Nitrogen:** Opt for fertilizers with at least 25-35% slow-release nitrogen to reduce the risk of runoff, says the Michigan State University.

**Soil Testing:** Conduct a soil test to determine the specific nutrient needs of your lawn and avoid over-fertilization.

**Professional Services:** If using a professional lawn care service, ensure they are aware of and follow lake-friendly fertilization practices, according to the Michigan State University.

**Proper Storage:** Store fertilizers in a dry place and seal bags properly to prevent spills and leaks, recommends the Wentworth Watershed Association.



### Will phosphorus-free fertilizer keep my lawn healthy?

Soils in most parts of Minnesota already have an adequate amount of phosphorus to grow a healthy lawn. In these instances, adding more phosphorus with fertilizer is not needed and will not benefit your lawn.

Get a soil test if you want to know your lawn's phosphorus levels —

### What To Look For ...

On any bag or box of fertilizer, there is a string of three numbers. The middle number indicates the phosphorus content and should read "0".



### How Do I Find Out What My Soil Needs?

If you are concerned that your lawn may need phosphorus, a soil test is a good idea.

Instructions on soil testing are available through the University of Minnesota Soil Testing Laboratory: [soiltest.cfans.umn.edu](http://soiltest.cfans.umn.edu) or 612-625-3101.

The U of M charges \$15 per sample to analyze basic nutrition for lawns. The soil test results will include fertilizer recommendations.

A list of laboratories certified for soil testing by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture can be found at [www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us), then search "soil testing labs".

## Thanks for keeping our lakes clean and safe!

**Service serving you best!**  
**FOOD MARKET**  
**OPEN 7 Days A Week!**

Cut to Order Meats Certified Angus Beef  
 Seafood and Freshwater Fish  
 Fresh Baked Bread and Cookies  
 Fruit and Gift Baskets  
 Party Trays Meat & Cheese, Fruit & Veggie

[www.servicefood.com](http://www.servicefood.com)  
**FULL SERVICE GROCERY STORE • LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED**  
 Fergus Falls • 218-998-9000 | Perham • 218-346-7800

**Proud To Be Printer Of This Newsletter!**

**You can take us anywhere you go ...  
 Check our website [battlereview.com](http://battlereview.com)**

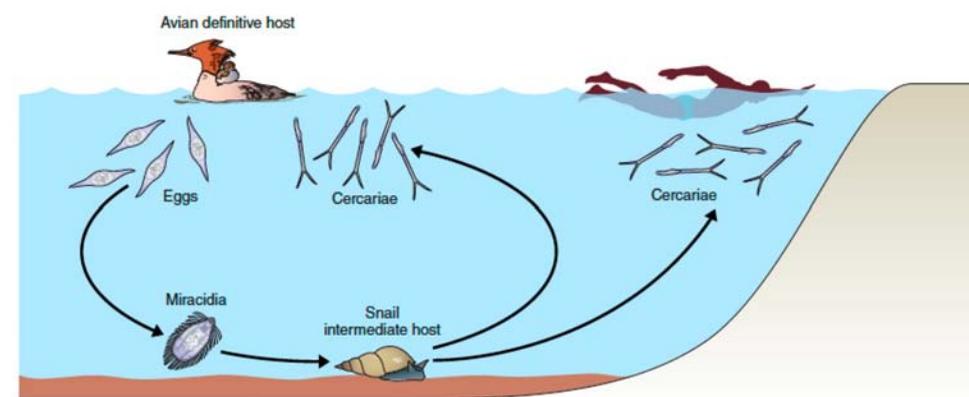
*Your Hometown Newspaper Since 1884 Plus More!*

114 Lake Ave. N. • PO Box 99 • Battle Lake, MN 56515-0099  
 218-864-5952 • [blreview@arvig.net](mailto:blreview@arvig.net)

# Swimmer's Itch 101: What Every Lake Lover Needs To Know

By Ava Schimnowski, Aquatic Plant Management Specialist Individual Placement /AmeriCorps member at Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife

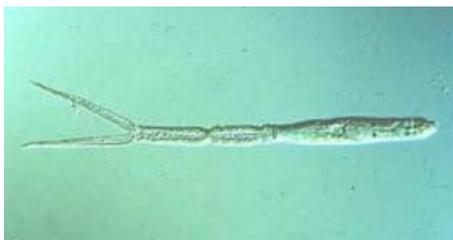
As the weather warms up and people begin to spend time in Minnesota's lakes, it's important to highlight a common ailment that plagues swimmers: Swimmer's itch. This temporary skin rash is caused by an allergic reaction to microscopic parasites carried by snails, semi-aquatic mammals, and birds.



## Life Cycle –

Swimmer's itch has a complicated life cycle. Here's a breakdown:

1. It starts as a worm (parasite) in the intestinal lining of aquatic birds and mammals (hosts).
2. The worms lay eggs inside the host animal.
3. The eggs are eliminated by the host and drop to the bottom of the lake.
4. Those eggs hatch into miracidia (larval stage of trematode worms) that swim around in the water until they find a snail.



## When is swimmer's itch season in MN?

Swimmer's itch is common around Minnesota's lakes in midsummer. Red, itchy welts appear on your skin within several hours of leaving the water. It may last a few days to several weeks, depending on your sensitivity.

## When is swimmer's itch the worst?

Swimmer's itch is typically at its worst about 48-72 hours after the initial exposure to the parasite. The itching can last for a week or more, with the most intense itching occurring in the first few days, according to MyHealth Alberta. Repeat exposure to the parasite can lead to faster and more severe reactions, with symptoms developing within hours instead of days.

### Breakdown –

#### Initial Exposure:

After the first exposure, it can take 1-2 weeks for the itching and rash to appear.

#### Repeat Exposure:

With subsequent exposures, the onset of symptoms is much faster, potentially within hours.

#### Peak Intensity:

The itching usually reaches its peak after 48-72 hours.

#### Duration:

The itching can last for several days, with most cases resolving within a week.

#### Severity:

The severity of symptoms varies depending on individual sensitivity and the number of parasites that burrow into the skin.

5. Once the miracidia find a snail, they live inside and develop into cercariae [pictured right] (free-swimming larval stage).
6. Next, the snails release the cercariae back into the water where they look for another host. These can include aquatic birds, mammals, or... humans.
7. When the cercariae find a potential host, they burrow into the host's skin. If the host is suitable, the life cycle starts all over again.
8. Luckily for us, humans are not a suitable host and the cercariae die after penetrating the skin. Our body's immune system detects the organism as a foreign protein, attacking and killing it shortly after it penetrates the skin. The itching and welts are not caused by the burrowing of the organism, but by an allergic reaction.

## Protecting yourself from swimmer's itch –

Now that we understand the mechanism of the ailment, here are some effective protection tips:

1. **Apply a water repellent substance** like petroleum jelly or waterproof sunscreen to reduce the ability of the cercariae from penetrating the skin.
2. **Dry off** with a towel as soon as you exit the water. Don't let the water evaporate off your skin, the organism in the water droplets will stay on you.
3. **Keep waterfowl away** from your dock and shoreline. Don't feed ducks and geese from your dock, as this attracts them and increases the risk of swimmer's itch.
4. **Avoid areas** where swimmer's itch is a known problem.
5. **Copper sulfate** may be used to kill the snails which are an intermediate host of the parasite. A permit from the DNR is required to use copper sulfate. It is important to note that the copper sulfate will only kill the snails present at the time of application, any snails which enter the area afterwards will not be affected.

By taking these precautions, you can enjoy Minnesota's beautiful lakes armed with this knowledge. Stay safe and happy swimming!

## Resources:

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.  
Centers for Disease Control  
Minnesota Department of Health

## Secondary Infections:

Scratching can lead to secondary bacterial infections, which may prolong the overall healing time.

## What is the difference between chiggers and swimmer's itch?

Chigger bites are usually located at points where clothing contacts the skin such as wrists, waist, ankles, etc. For swimmer's itch, itching is limited to points of cercarial entry and will not spread or develop into water blisters.

## What's the best way to get rid of swimmer's itch?

Apply a corticosteroid cream or an anti-itch lotion, such as those that contain calamine. Take an oral nonprescription antihistamine (Benadryl) or one with loratadine (Alavert, Claritin, others). The latter type causes less sleepiness than does Benadryl. Avoiding scratching the rash.

## Do mergansers cause swimmer's itch?

Common Merganser ducks are the species that most commonly carries the Swimmer's Itch flatworm in their digestive tract. Most all of the young Merganser chicks carry the flatworm while only half of the adult birds do. Merganser ducks can travel 1-2 miles along a shoreline each day.



# Minnesota State' Fruit - Honeycrisp Apple

The Minnesota State fruit is the Honeycrisp apple, officially adopted in 2006 thanks to petitioning from students at Anderson Elementary School in Bayport, MN.

It was developed by the University of Minnesota's apple breeding program in the 1960s, aiming for a winter-hardy apple with high quality. The Honeycrisp is known for its exceptional crispness and juicy texture, with a sweet-tart flavor.

### More about the Honeycrisp apple: Development:

The Honeycrisp was created from a cross between Macoun and Honeygold apples according to the Minnesota Secretary of State. It was released in 1991 and ranked as one of the highest quality apples due to its sweetness, firmness and tartness. The tree is hardy and able to survive normal Minnesota winters.



### Characteristics:

The apple is typically 60-90% red over a yellow background, with a crisp, juicy texture and a sweet-tart flavor, according to the Minnesota Secretary of State.

### Harvest:

In east central Minnesota, Honeycrisp apples are typically harvested from mid-September to mid-October, with the optimal time usually being the last week of September.

### State Symbol:

The Honeycrisp was adopted as the state fruit in 2006, according to the Minnesota Secretary of State.

## ~ RECIPE CORNER ~

### Lola Perpich's Minnesota Apple Pie

(adapted from Eleanor Ostman's "Always of Sunday")

Serves 8

#### Pastry:

- ½ cup corn oil
- ¼ cup cold whole milk
- 2 cups all-purpose flour plus 1 tablespoon
- 1 teaspoon salt

#### In liquid measuring cup combine oil and milk:

do not stir. In large mixing bowl combine 2 cups of flour and the salt. Add oil and milk. Mix. Shape pastry into a ball; divide into two pieces, 1 slightly larger than the other. Place larger piece between 2 sheets of wax or parchment paper. Roll out to 11-inch circle. Peel off top paper. Invert into 9-inch pie plate. Remove paper. Dust pastry lightly with remaining tablespoon of flour. Roll out remaining pastry between 2 sheets of wax or parchment paper to 10-inch circle; set aside.

#### Filling:

- 8 to 10 Honeycrisp apples
- ¾ cup brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- Zest of half a lemon plus 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons butter
- Several tablespoons of sugar combined with a few teaspoons of cinnamon

Peel and chop apples to ¾-inch cubes. In large mixing bowl combine apples, sugar, flour, cinnamon, and zest and lemon juice. Spoon into prepared pastry and dot with butter; cover with top pastry and flute edges. Slash top for steam to escape and sprinkle pastry with sugar and additional cinnamon. Bake in preheated 425-degree oven for 20 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350-degrees and bake for 30 additional minutes.



**We're looking for your favorite recipe to share**

Submit to Battle Lake Review at [blreview@arvig.net](mailto:blreview@arvig.net)

# Lakes Area Church Directory

### ~ Baptist ~

**Basswood Baptist Church BGC**   
38188 340th St., Richville 218-495-3771  
Bert Holmquist, Pastor 218-4953800

**Sundays** – Sunday School 9:30 a.m., refreshments following  
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.  
Potluck Dinner (2nd Sunday)

**Wednesdays** – Bible Study, Youth Group and Kids Club 7 p.m.

**Thursdays (third)** – Ladies' Bible Study

**Saturdays (first)** – Men's Prayer Breakfast 7 a.m.

#### First Baptist Church

An American Baptist Church

"Little Brown Church on the Hill"

121 Lake Ave. N., Battle Lake 218-864-5319

[www.firstbaptistbattlelake.org](http://www.firstbaptistbattlelake.org)

**Sundays** – Worship services 9:30 a.m.

### ~ C & M Alliance ~

**Battle Lake Alliance Church**   
401 W. Gilbertson St. 218-864-5539  
[www.battlelake.org](http://www.battlelake.org)

**Sundays** – Worship Service 10 a.m. or online

**Wednesdays** – Kids 4 Truth Youth with meal 5:20 p.m.

Club 6-7:30 p.m.

### ~ Catholic ~

**St. James, St. Edwards and Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Churches** Father George Michael 218-864-5619

**St. James Catholic (Maine) -**  
32009 Cty. Hwy. 74, Underwood 

**Mass** – Saturdays 5 p.m. and Wednesdays 9 a.m.

**Confessions** – Saturdays 4:30 p.m. and Wednesdays 8 a.m.

**Holy Hour** – Wednesdays 8 a.m.

**Bible Study** – Fridays 9 a.m.

**Sewing Group** – Tuesdays 9 a.m.

**St. Edwards Catholic Church**  
201 Douglas Ave., Henning 

**Mass** – Sundays 8:30 a.m. and Fridays 8:30 a.m.

**Confessions** – Sundays 8 a.m. and Fridays 8 a.m.

**Holy Hour** – Friday 9 a.m.

**Our Lady of the Lake Catholic -**  
407 N. Lake Ave., Battle Lake 

**Mass** – Sundays 10:30 a.m. and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.

**Confessions** – Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays 8 a.m.

**Holy Hour** – Thursdays 9 a.m.

**Men of Mary** - Saturdays 8 a.m.

**Sunday School** – Sundays 9:15 a.m.

**Mission Sewing** – Tuesdays 9:30 a.m.

**Edge/Life Teen** – Wednesdays 5:30 p.m.

– Parish Notes –

**Battle Lake Good Samaritan Center** – Rosary Mondays 3:15 p.m. and Mass Tuesdays 3:15 p.m.

### ~ Lutheran ~

#### BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Battle Lake Campus - 21744 State Hwy. 78, Battle Lake  
Pastor Nick Laven Visit [bethellutheran.church](http://bethellutheran.church)

**Sunday Worship** – 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

**Sunday School** (all ages) 9:30 a.m.

#### Camp Nidaros Church

In The Woods

Stan Satre, Chaplain 218-205-1447

39411 Camp Nidaros Trail, Richville

**Sundays** – Worship in July 10 a.m. (Parking on Cty. Rd. 1)

#### FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lynn Melchior, Pastor

505 W. Holdt St., Battle Lake - 218-864-5686

**Thursdays** – TOPS 8 a.m.

**Sundays** – Worship 10 a.m. (and online)

Communion 1st and 4th

Coffee Fellowship 11 a.m.

**Mondays** – Quilters 9 a.m.

#### SVERDRUP LUTHERAN CHURCH

Tammy Jacobson, Pastor 

[www.SverdrupLutheran.org](http://www.SverdrupLutheran.org)

209 Southern Ave. E., Underwood 218-8826-6919

**Sundays** – Worship 9 a.m.

#### TINGVOLD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Tammy Jacobson, Pastor 218-826-6487

2801 Cty. Rd. 35, Underwood

**Sundays** – Worship: Sept.-May 11 a.m., June-Aug. 10:30 a.m.

### ~ Lutheran ~

#### ZION LUTHERAN-AMOR

office@zionamor.org 36051 Co. Hwy. 74, Battle Lake  
Chris Mathiason, Pastor

[www.zionamor.org](http://www.zionamor.org) 218-495-2563

**Sundays** – Confirmation 9 a.m. - 10th Graders; Worship 10 a.m.

(Traditional with Communion 1st and 4th; Contemporary with

Prairie Team 2nd and 3rd); Fellowship 11 a.m.

**Mondays** – Quilting 9 a.m.

**Tuesdays** – Bible Study 10 a.m.; Chair Yoga 12 noon

**Wednesdays** – Praise Team 4 p.m.

**Thursdays** – Chair Yoga 1 p.m.

### ~ Methodist ~

#### Ottertail United Methodist Church

104 Shores Drive, Ottertail 218-367-2270 

Ricardo Alcoser, Pastor

**Sunday** – Worship 8:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship following.

#### Richville United Methodist Church

130 SW 1st Ave., Richville Rod Turnquist, Pastor

**Sundays** – Worship 10:30 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship following (2nd and 4th Sundays).

**Wednesdays** – School 6 p.m.

### ~ Presbyterian ~

#### Maine Presbyterian Church

Bob Kersten, Pastor

30761 Co. Hwy. 45 Underwood - 218-495-2539

[www.mainepresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.mainepresbyterianchurch.org)

**Sunday Worship** – June-August 9:30 a.m. September-May

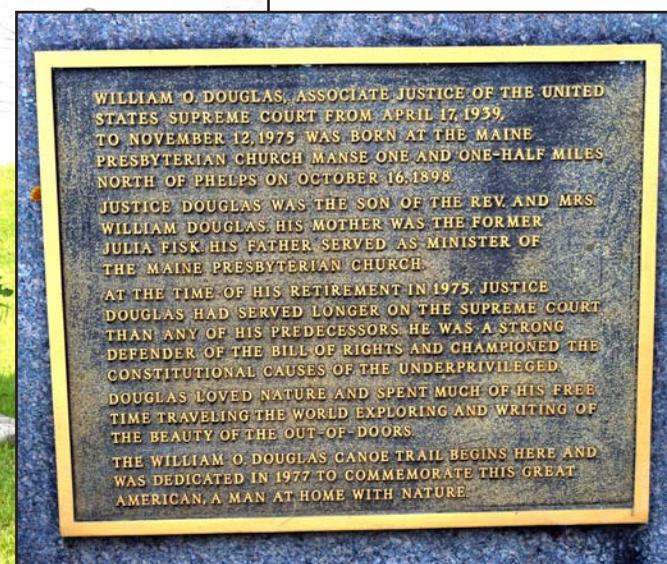
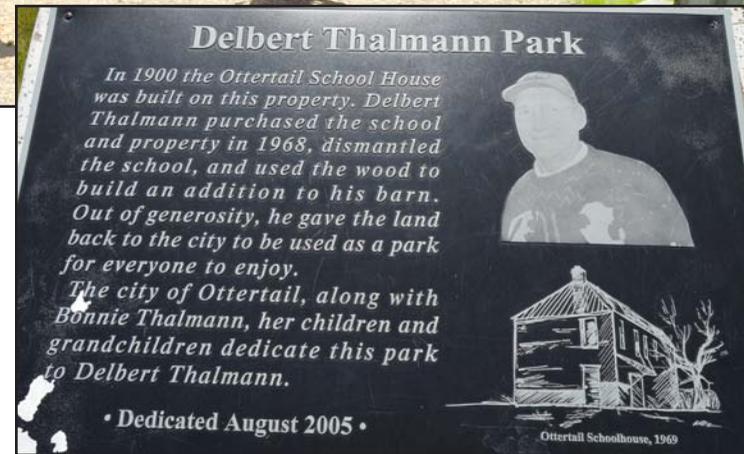
10 a.m. Communion 1st Sunday

Coffee following worship June-August.

**Join Us In Worship!**



**Ottertail City Offers Kids Fun In Memory Of Delbert Thalmann!**  
**Have You Visited The William O. Douglas Canoe Trail?**



William O. Douglas, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court from April 17, 1939, to November 12, 1975 was born at the Maine Presbyterian Church manse one and one-half miles north of Phelps October 16, 1898.

Justice Douglas was the son of the Rev. and Mrs. William Douglas, his mother was the former Julia Fisk. His father served as minister of the Maine Presbyterian Church.

At the time of his retirement in 1975, Justice Douglas had served longer on the Supreme Court than any of his predecessors. He was a strong defender of the Bill of Rights and championed the constitutional causes of the underprivileged.

Douglas loved nature and spent much of his free time traveling the world exploring and writing

of the beauty of the out-of-doors. The William O. Douglas Canoe Trail begins here and was dedicated in 1977 to commemorate this great American, a man at home with nature.

This historical marker is listed in this topic list: Government & Politics. A significant historical date for this entry is April 17, 1939.

It location is 46° 22.847'N, 95° 49.274' W. Marker is near Underwood, Minnesota, in Otter Tail County. It is in Maine Township. It is on County Highway 45, 0.6 miles west of 288th Street on the left when traveling north. Located on the southern edge of Phelps Mill County Park. Touch for map. Marker is at or near this postal address: 29029 Co Hwy 45, Underwood MN 56586, United States of America. Touch for directions.

# Unwanted Medications



Tossing or flushing old medications can pollute water and harm fish or wildlife. Otter Tail County residents have a safe, anonymous and free disposal option that minimizes risks to health and safety – Take it to the Box! Old or unused prescription and over-the-counter medications can be safely disposed of at a Take it to the Box drop box location.

- Ottertail Operations Center (Ottertail): 469 Main Street W.
- Pelican Rapids Police Department (Pelican Rapids): 315 N. Broadway
- Battle Lake Police Department (Battle Lake): 108 E. Main
- Henning Police Department (Henning): 607 2nd Street

These secure drop boxes are located at various law enforcement centers throughout the county. The boxes are accessible during regular business hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, unless posted otherwise.

**Instructions –**  
The program is 100% anonymous, no questions asked. Please follow these basic instructions:

- Locations –**
- Otter Tail County Sheriff’s Office (Fergus Falls): 417 Court Street South
  - Government Building (New York Mills): 118 N. Main Avenue
  - Perham Police Department (Perham): 525 W. Main Street
  - Parkers Prairie Police Department (Parkers Prairie): 102 N. Otter Avenue

- Leave medication in the original container
- Black out or remove your personal information from the label
- Leave the name of the medication on the container
- Drop the medication into the disposal box opening
- Absolutely no syringes, needles, or sharps accepted
- No mercury devices, household chemicals, or biohazardous waste

## - Land Transfers (July 1, 2025 to August 4, 2025) -

| Name       | Description           | Sale Date | Seller                | Buyer                           | Sale Amount   | Type         |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Amor Twp   | 560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF | 7/1/2025  | DEAN SCHMIT           | SHELDON HEIN & KELSEY SPANSWICK | \$ 500,000.00 | Seasonal Rec |
| Everts Twp | 560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF | 7/1/2025  | SEAN M CALLINAN ET AL | TERRY & LECIA SALQUIST          | \$ 725,000.00 | Residential  |
| Everts Twp | 560242 - OTTERTAIL-FF | 7/28/2025 | ANGELA BERKENSTOCK    | CHASE JENSEN                    | \$ 160,000.00 | SW Mobiles   |
| Girard Twp | 560138 - E BATTLE-FF  | 7/8/2025  | MARK A SABA           | THOMAS & TASHA TADEWALD         | \$ 550,000.00 | Seasonal Rec |
| Girard Twp | 560239 - W BATTLE-FF  | 7/11/2025 | MICHAEL KOTTEN TST    | NICKOLAS & DAWN SMITH           | \$ 877,000.00 | Residential  |

**SAY SOMETHING?**  
(Who to tell)  
Once you **see something**, how do you **say something**? Below are helpful hints on how to report it – it could save your life.

**Describing “Something Suspicious”**  
Tell the authorities who, when and where you saw something, and specifically what you saw. Be sure to note the number of the bus or train, or name of the transit station. Explain why you thought there was cause for suspicion.

**Tell...**

- POLICE OR SECURITY OFFICER
- EMPLOYEES OR OFFICIAL PERSONNEL
- TRANSIT DRIVERS
- CALL 9-1-1 IF NO ONE IS AVAILABLE.

**GET THE LEAD OUT**

Lead-free tackle protects our state bird, the common loon.

MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

www.pca.state.mn.us/leadout

Facebook: /leadoutMN  
Instagram: @leadoutMN



*Have you ever noticed all the unique items along our lake roads marking properties?*

Do you recognize where these are located ... Fire Number and Road Names?

Submit answers to [blreview@arvig.net](mailto:blreview@arvig.net) with Subject: Roadside Gawker Answers. Answers will be in February 2026 newsletter.



#1



#2



#3



#4

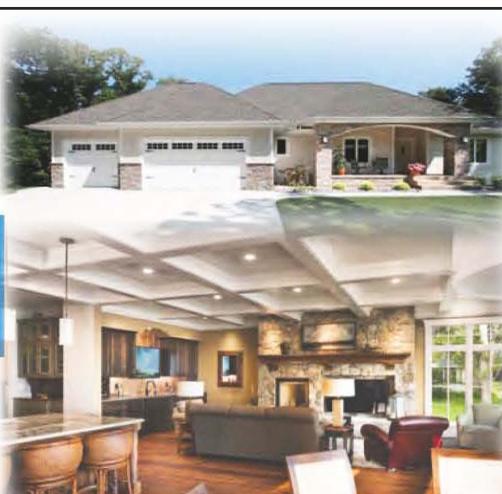


218-640-3713  
Battle Lake, MN

[www.daveerwinconstruction.com](http://www.daveerwinconstruction.com)

Dave Erwin Construction is a trusted and licensed contractor serving the Battle Lake, MN and surrounding area. We offer upscale construction services and unbeatable customer satisfaction.

*Distinctive Homes. Distinctive Values*



Follow us on Facebook

Providing a superior level of informed, professional and consistent real estate service to buyers and sellers in the lakes area!

|  |   |  |   |  |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| <br><b>John Good</b><br>Broker<br>218-731-000<br><a href="mailto:john@lakesfamilyres.com">john@lakesfamilyres.com</a>     | <br><b>Mark Stortroen</b><br>Assoc. Broker GRI<br>218-731-6315<br><a href="mailto:mark@ottertailres.com">mark@ottertailres.com</a> | <br><b>Deb Banta</b><br>Realtor<br>218-821-5678<br><a href="mailto:bantadeb43@gmail.com">bantadeb43@gmail.com</a>         | <br><b>Zach Good</b><br>Realtor<br>218-731-2761<br><a href="mailto:zach@lakesfamilyres.com">zach@lakesfamilyres.com</a>      | <br><b>Luke Mostue</b><br>Realtor<br>218-671-8457<br><a href="mailto:luke@lakesfamilyres.com">luke@lakesfamilyres.com</a> | <br><b>Shana Zimmerman</b><br>Realtor<br>218-770-6936<br><a href="mailto:shana@lakesfamilyres.com">shana@lakesfamilyres.com</a> | <br><b>Phyllis Tysver</b><br>Realtor<br>218-308-3775<br><a href="mailto:phyllis@lakesfamilyres.com">phyllis@lakesfamilyres.com</a> |
| <br><b>Todd Eklund</b><br>Realtor<br>320-808-1005<br><a href="mailto:todd@lakesfamilyres.com">todd@lakesfamilyres.com</a> | <br><b>Scott Schauff</b><br>Realtor<br>218-731-2813<br><a href="mailto:sschauff@prtcl.com">sschauff@prtcl.com</a>                  | <br><b>Samuel Herzog</b><br>Realtor<br>218-205-3573<br><a href="mailto:samuelphezog@gmail.com">samuelphezog@gmail.com</a> | <br><b>Chad Landmann</b><br>Realtor<br>218-731-28200<br><a href="mailto:chad@lakesfamilyres.com">chad@lakesfamilyres.com</a> |  |  |   |

**SAME GREAT PEOPLE, SAME GREAT SERVICE**  
**ONE GREAT TEAM!**

[www.lakesfamilyres.com](http://www.lakesfamilyres.com)

1811 E. Fir Ave. • Fergus Falls • 218-739-4460

# Lots Of Items Picked Up At First Lakes and River Clean-Up

OTLPOA's 1st Annual Lakes and River Clean-Up Event was Saturday, August 2. From 9 a.m.-3 p.m. teams competed in hauling trash/junk out of the OTLPOA lakes and river.

Entered in the battle for most trash were Blue Heron Haberman, The Beer Can Troubadours, The Lakeside Littler Lifters, Water Gophers, Clean Stream Dream Team, Sanford and Son, The Cabin Down Below and We're Not Trashy.

Cash Prizes were awarded for most items, second most items and most unique item(s) collected and removed. All registered teams were awarded a door prize at Beach Bums after the event. There were also prizes drawn for participants and folks helping with the event, as well as some tasty walleye, chicken and beverages served for all in attendance.

Running away with the top prize for most trash collected was The Clean Stream Dream Team with second most and unique items, both being awarded to The Lakeside Litter Lifters. Honorable mention, while not competing, went to the crew of Advanced Docks & Lifts barge who hoisted a large old bridge timber loaded with nails out of the water in front of the bridge at the access where the Otter Tail River runs out of the lake.

Special thanks go to all competing teams, OTLPOA Foundation for co-sponsoring and funding the event, Otter Tail County Water Patrol, Otter Tail County Dive Team, Advanced Docks & Lifts, Otter Tail County Solid Waste, Beach Bums, Thumper Pond, The Otter and Big Kayaks who all contributed in big ways to the event. Submitted by Dan Carlisle



# Carr's TREE SERVICE



Serving customers across Greater Minnesota with crews based out of the Ottertail, Alexandria, Rochester, Mankato, St. Cloud and Anoka areas. We provide a wide variety of tree services.



### Residential

Our Certified Arborists provide tree removal services in any location.



### Government/Municipal

We offer services for DNR, DOT, City, County, Township and State properties.



### Utility

We have all the right equipment to fulfill all utility line clearance jobs.



218-367-3355 • 888-470-3355

[www.carrstreeservice.com](http://www.carrstreeservice.com)



TRAQ Certified



# • Service Ads •

To place your ad, contact Ed Pawlenty at 651-270-3991 or publisher@battlelakereview.com

**Dave ERWIN CONSTRUCTION, INC.**  
 218-640-3713  
 Battle Lake, MN  
 www.daveerwinconstruction.com

Dave Erwin Construction is a trusted and licensed contractor serving the Battle Lake, MN and surrounding area. We offer upscale construction services and unbeatable customer satisfaction.

*Distinctive Homes. Distinctive Values*

**BUDKE SERVICES**  
 LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR

- ✓ Shrub Replacement
- ✓ Shrub Pruning
- ✓ Flowerbed Design
- ✓ Mulching
- ✓ Grass Seeding
- ✓ Lawn Mowing
- ✓ Paver Patio Repair
- ✓ Skid Steer
- ✓ Retaining Walls

**218-770-7065**

Ask the Experts at Esser!

**ESSER** **AIRESERV.**  
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
 Plumbing & Heating

218.346.3530 | 218.346.2138  
 EsserPlumbingandHeating.com

**50 YEARS** 1975-2025

**BOLL REALTY**

217 MN HIGHWAY 78 N, OTTERTAIL, MN **7 DAYS OPEN**

"LAKE HOMES, CABINS, LAND, HUNTING & COMMERCIAL... WE DO IT ALL"

218-367-2716

BOLL@ARVIG.NET WWW.BOLLREALTY.COM

HOW MUCH IS MY HOME Worth? FREE! SCAN ME

**Everts Lumber company**

**Quality Forest Products**

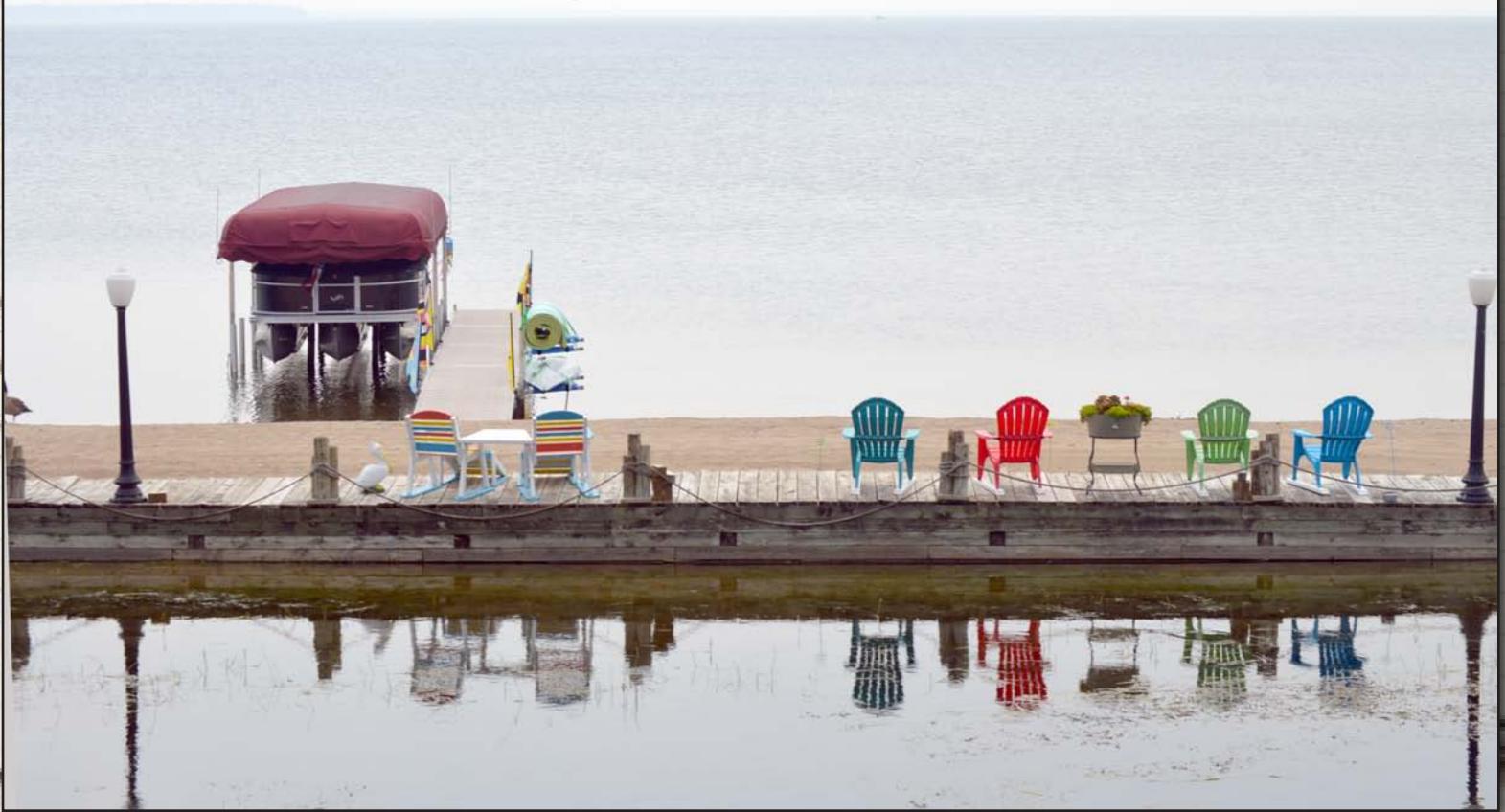
Hardware - Tools  
 Electrical - Plumbing  
 Windows & Doors  
 Millwork - Roofing  
 Dock Systems  
 Benjamin Moore Paint

**218-864-5983**  
**www.evertslumber.com**

**205 Lake Ave S - Battle Lake**  
 M-F 7:30am-5:00pm and Sat. 7:30am-noon



# Just Waiting For The Swimmers!



## • IMPORTANT NOTES •

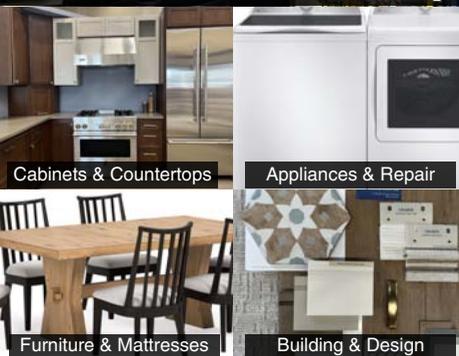
The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will collect your social security number when you apply for a non-commercial hunting or fishing license. License prices listed do not include any additional fees or the \$1 agent fee. Commercial licenses applications require a Federal Employer Identification number, Minnesota Tax Identification number or Social Security Number. Commercial licenses are issued at the DNR license center.

## Fergus HOME & HARDWARE

1005 N Tower Rd ~ Fergus Falls, MN 56537



if you have a HOME we can help



218-998-5070

Shop online: fergushh.com



# Share Your Memories At The Lake!



Submit your photos to [blreview@arvig.net](mailto:blreview@arvig.net)

note in subject line  
OTLPOA Lakeshore News  
Photos and include a brief description, when and by who!

February 2026 Newsletter Deadline is January 20th