

# Maple Lake Improvement District

## NEWSLETTER

Fall 2019



Website: [www.maplelakedistrict.com](http://www.maplelakedistrict.com) / Email: [info@maplelakedistrict.com](mailto:info@maplelakedistrict.com) / Mailing address: PO Box 41, Mentor, MN 56736

## 2019 Annual Meeting Update

The Annual Meeting of the Maple Lake Improvement District was held on July 13<sup>th</sup> at the Mentor Community Center. It was well attended by property owners and there were representatives from many agencies present to give reports.

Polk County Sheriff, Jim Tadman and Chief Deputy Michael Norland reported on the patrolling of Maple Lake. They said that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July was busy on the lake and they made many contacts ranging from after-hours jet skiers, sitting on the edge of a moving boat, checking life jackets and they continue to watch the sandbar closely. Children under 16 driving golf carts has been a big problem on the roads around Maple Lake and Sheriff Tadman said that he did stop a few over the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

Assessor, Mark Lansverk introduced Patty Flaa, the new appraiser for the Maple Lake area. Mr. Lansverk told the group that a state sales study showed that our valuations were 23% low and they had to bump them up. If a resident is unhappy with their valuation, please contact their office in the allotted timeframe so they can look into your concern.

Jacob Snyder, with Polk County Planning and Zoning said that shoreline zoning is regulated within 1000 feet from the shoreline and that building permits are required for just about any building project, so always check with their office if you are doing any changes.

He reported that they will be doing an inventory of campers that are parked on lake lots this summer, due to complaints of campers on properties.

Gerald Jacobson, County Commissioner, reported that Polk County is doing well and looking at a 3% levy increase. Jerry told the group that a project to redo the East Shore parking and boat landing will be completed this summer by widening the road, putting in diagonal parking and doing some landscaping.

Kelsey Hedlund from the East Polk Soil and Water told the group that there was cost sharing available through EPSW for shoreline restoration and rain garden projects. Contact EPSW if you would like an application for funding. *(As of August, funding for 3 shoreline restorations & 1 rain garden have been approved for Maple Lake residents)*

Corey Hanson, with the Red Lake Watershed District reported on water quality and let the group know that this year the water testing showed that the water quality of Maple Lake has improved and meets standards for deep lakes.

President Brian Floan gave an update of the last year and Brian Wavra and Loren Abel were elected to another term on the board.

Next year's Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2020 at the Mentor Community Center.

## Notifications From MLID

The MLID Board would like to have the ability to send out notices to the property owners and to send future newsletters electronically. If you would like to receive notices and electronic newsletters, please go to: [www.maplelakedistrict.com](http://www.maplelakedistrict.com) to sign up. *Follow us on Facebook!*

## Concerned Neighbors

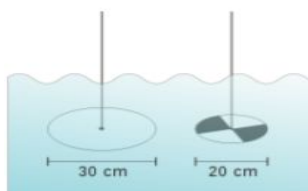
A group of property owners recently brought to the attention of the Board, a concern regarding the installation of what they believe to be excessively large boat/pontoon in-lake canopies/temporary like structures. In their opinion, these canopies affect the use and enjoyment of properties located adjacent and nearby, by reducing and/or eliminating lake views.

The owners have requested the Board to look into this matter further and determine, whose jurisdiction these are under and if regulations are warranted.

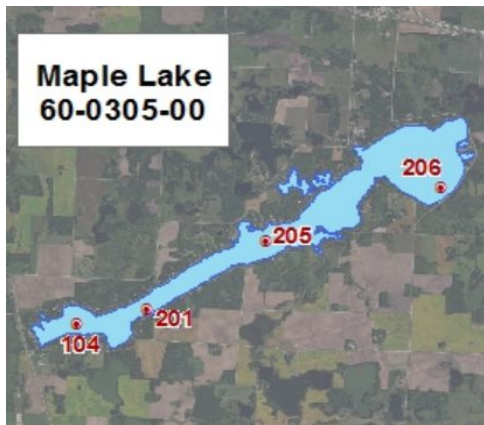
The Board agreed to investigate this matter over the next few months.

# 2019 Water Clarity

Thank you to Loren Abel and members of the board for collecting water samples 4 times this summer. Each test is done at the same spot on the lake each time in order to get historical readings of what transpires over the summer in that part of the lake.



There is a test called the Secchi Test which tests the clarity of the lake by dropping down a white disk (Secchi Disk) until it disappears (*results below*).



SECCHI DEPTH		SITE LOCATION			
CHART		104	201	205	206
TEST DATE	6/2/2019	5.5 ft	6 ft	7 ft	6.5 ft
	7/8/2019	3.5 ft	3.5 ft	3.6 ft	4 ft
	7/28/2019	3 ft	3 ft	2.9 ft	2.8 ft
	9/15/2019	3 ft	3 ft	3 ft	3 ft

To see the results of other tests that are run on the samples, go to RMB Lab's website: <https://www.rmbel.info/data/>

## Ice Fishing and Ice Safety

With winter right around the corner, it will soon be time to bundle up and grab your fishing rod and bait bucket and enjoy a true Minnesota tradition—ice fishing.

It's an adventure to hang out around an ice hole with friends and family, telling stories and holding your fishing rod as you wait for a bite. And it's thrilling when your bobber suddenly vanishes down the hole, and you pull a fish from the water with a splash!

With all the fun, there are still things to remember – always have your fishing license with you and a be safe on the ice!

### ICE SAFETY TIPS

Ice is never 100 percent safe. Take these steps to minimize risk when ice fishing:

- Check the thermometer. Air temperature and recent weather patterns can significantly impact ice quality. Just because the ice was safe on a certain date last year doesn't mean it will be safe this year.
- Check current ice reports and learn about any known hazardous areas.

- Let someone know where you are going and when you expect to be back. Carry a cell phone and/or personal locator beacon in case of trouble.



- Always bring an ice safety kit with you on the ice: rope, ice picks, ice chisel or auger and tape measure. Check ice thickness at regular intervals. Know how to use the ice picks to rescue yourself and the rope to rescue others.
- Wear a life jacket or float coat when you are on the ice (except when in a vehicle). If you fall in, a foam-filled vest or coat will keep your head above water and provide some insulation against the effects of cold water.

## Red Lake Watershed District Water Tests

Corey Hanson with the Red Lake Watershed District tested the lake this summer for algae toxins. He did this because of the concern about the algae toxins that were found last year.

It was good news to see that all samples collected throughout the summer showed zero algae toxins and Corey anticipates doing similar testing next summer also.

## 2018-2019 Board Members

**President:** Brian Floan (2020)  
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**Vice President:** Michael Moore (2021)  
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Loren Abel (2023)  
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Roger Behm (2020)  
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Dwight Kouba (2021)  
1504 Walnut St, Grand Forks, ND  
Ph: 701-740-3639

Brian Wavra (2023)  
1118 21<sup>st</sup> St NW, East Grand Forks, MN  
Ph: 218-773-3083

## General Ice Thickness Guidelines

**Ice is Never 100% Safe!**

4" 5-7" 8-12" 12-15"

Minimum Ice Thickness Guidelines for New Clear Ice Only

mn DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES [mndnr.gov/icesafety](http://mndnr.gov/icesafety)