

# Maple Lake Improvement District

## NEWSLETTER

Spring 2020



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

### Polk County AIS Taskforce

The Polk County Aquatic Invasive Species Taskforce (AIS) consists of members from around the county, including a representative from the MLID Board. They have budgeted for a Boat Cleaning Unit to clean boats before they are launched into Polk County lakes for purchase this year or next. This unit will make it possible to vacuum any residual water remaining in the boat from previous use. It has a storage tank that will hold the water and will be disposed of at a proper site. A tentative site will be the Maple Lake East Shore boat landing, and will be available to boat owners heading to Union Lake also.

At present, the taskforce has installed an Internet Landing Installed Device Sensor (I-LIDS) at the East Shore boat landing. I-LIDS is a stand-alone video capture system

that is designed to provide unattended monitoring of boats coming in and out.

The taskforce has also installed a Tool Outpost, which includes tools to clean weeds and debris from boats & trailers.

Zebra mussel monitoring is also being done by placing zebra mussel kits out on the lake to survey for zebra mussels. Those are checked periodically throughout the summer months.



The taskforce hires boat inspectors for county launch sites each summer. If you are interested, contact Jacob Snyder at Polk Co. Environmental Services office in Crookston.

### 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!*

### Annual Meeting

The Maple Lake Improvement District's Annual Meeting will be on Saturday, July 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Mentor Community Center with rolls and coffee served at 8:30 a.m.

You will hear from representatives from the Polk County Sheriff's Department, Assessor, Planning & Zoning and your County Commissioner. Reps from the MN DNR, Polk Soil & Water, Red Lake Watershed and your local township will be present with a report for the attendees.

There will be an election for 2 open board seats. If you would like to be on the ballot to become a board member, please contact a board member, or Sec'y Bonnie Abel at [bonnierabel@gmail.com](mailto:bonnierabel@gmail.com) before June 1st.



*(This is a picture of the Tool Outpost and the I-LIDS camera that are installed at the East Shore boat landing.)*

# Aerator & Lake Oxygen Levels

Thanks to a group of great volunteers, the aerator was installed on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. This is installed each year to insure there is plenty of oxygen in the lake to prevent winter fish kill.



The oxygen level was tested on March 7<sup>th</sup> and on the Maple Bay end of the lake, where the aerator is installed, it measured 1.2 mg/L in deep water and 1.7 mg/L at 4 ft down from the surface of the ice. On the east end near the floating dock, it measured 3.4 mg/L in deep water and at the 4 ft level it was 4.4 mg/L. These levels were reported to the DNR and they said the levels were acceptable during late season ice conditions.

The ice was about 26" thick with about 9" of frozen slush on top.

## Boating Safety and Etiquette

### A few boating safety tips and regulations from the DNR:

- Wear your life jacket and make sure children wear there's.
- Stay sober – Booze and boating don't mix.
- Be weather aware – don't let a storm sneak up on you.
- Water-skiing, tubing and wake surfing are prohibited between 1/2 hour after sunset to sunrise the following day.
- Operation of jet skis is permitted

only from 9:30 am to 1 hour before sunset.

### Boating Etiquette

- Own your own wake and stay at least 200 feet from the shoreline and other boaters.
- Keep tunes in check. Sound is amplified over the water so keep the music at a decent level.
- Do not throw garbage overboard.

***Boating is all about having fun!  
Everyone be safe!***

## Large Boat Canopies

In September, a group of property owners 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. A resolution was eventually submitted to the Polk County Commissioners to have an ordinance written up to regulate the size of these canopies. Board members discussed the matter at a Polk County Commission meeting in February and the County Attorney responded with the County's decision on the matter

***Issue: Can the County regulate the size, construction and use of large fabric and metal structures being installed over docks and boat lifts on public waters within the County?***

## 2019-2020 Board Members

**President:** Brian Floan (2020)  
12417 Maple Lake Dr SE  
Mentor, MN  
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**V President:** Michael Moore (2021)  
34643 E. Trinity Point Rd  
Mentor, MN  
Ph: 218-687-3637

Loren Abel (2023)  
12039 Maple Lake Dr SE  
Mentor, MN  
Ph: 218-574-2010

Jim Baune (2022)  
12227 Maple Lake Dr SE  
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Ph: 218-779-5295

Roger Behm (2020)  
13012 Elmer Hanson Dr SE  
Mentor, MN  
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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



***Answer from County Attorney: "I believe that the county does not have the power to regulate such structures, as their regulation is preempted by statutes and rules currently in effect and promulgated at the state level."***

The Board would like to take this opportunity to ask property owners to be considerate and take into account the sight lines of your neighbors' view of the lake when placing your boat lifts and canopies.

Thank you