

Maple Lake Improvement District

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2026



Website: www.maplelakedistrict.com / Email: info@maplelakedistrict.com / Mailing address: PO Box 41, Mentor, MN 56736



We know that the subject of wakesurf boats has been in the last few newsletters, but the board just wanted to remind boaters of the recommended no wake zone on Maple Lake and the effects that the larger wakes have on our lake.

Here are some key operational guidelines from a University of MN study on the effects of wakesurf boats on shorelines and lake bottoms:

- **Depth Requirements:** A minimum of 20 ft deep is recommended to reduce turbidity as shallower water (e.g., 14 ft) can cause significant sediment disturbance.

- **Distance from Shore:** Operate at least 500 ft from shorelines, docks and other structures to protect against intense wake energy

- **Safety and Erosion:** Operating in deeper, central parts of lakes prevents shoreline erosion and damage to aquatic habitats

Maple Lake struggles with the larger wakes created by wake boats because our lake is long and narrow and VERY shallow (14 feet at the deepest spot), so we see quite a bit of effects from the wakes of these boats.

The recommended area for wake boats to operate on Maple Lake is

shown in the blue area on the map below – **500 feet from shore.**

As wake sports grow in popularity it's vital to safeguard our lakes for future generations while keeping them accessible for recreation.

The Maple Lake Board wants everyone to have fun while boating on the lake, but keep in mind other's property and other boats on the lake.

2025-2026 Board Members

President: Loren Abel (2027)
12039 Maple Lake Dr SE, Mentor, MN
Ph: 701-741-1147

Vice President: Kip Fontaine (2028)
33335 173rd Ave SE, Mentor, MN
Ph: 218-280-6507

Marlow Jacobson (2028)
35261 Shalom Dr, Mentor, MN
Ph: 218-766-3779

Jim Baune (2026)
12227 Maple Lake Dr SE, Mentor, MN
Ph: 218-779-5295

Wayne Johnson (2029)
609 Cherry Rd, Thief River Falls, MN
Ph: 218-686-8307

Derek Thibert (2029)
PO Box 358, Red Lake Falls, MN
Ph: 218-253-2171

Adelle Christianson (2027)
12888 Maple Lake Dr SE, Mentor, MN
Ph: 218-684-5918



Fishing on Maple Lake

According to the MNDNR 2024 survey utilizing gill nets, it was found that there is a high number of Northern Pike in Maple Lake. Most fish are small, but there is a good opportunity to catch quality pike. The average size of the pike captured was 23 inches, but one 37-inch fish was measured. Additionally, 25% of the pike surveyed were over 26 inches.

Walleye numbers were well above average for the lake and the average size was about 13 inches. About 25% of the Walleye captured in 2024 were over 15 inches and 15% were over 20 inches. There should be good numbers of Walleyes in the lake for years to come as each year the DNR stocks about 1,500,000 Walleye fry (newly hatched fish that are ready to be stocked)



Bluegill numbers continue to be good in the lake with plenty of fish over eight inches available for anglers to catch. Black Crappie up to 12 inches long were measured and in moderate numbers.

Enjoy fishing on Maple Lake this summer and don't forget to "Take a Kid Fishing".

Upcoming Events

*Farmers Market begins May 23rd from 8:00 am – noon until September 5th. Then 9:00-11:00 am for the remainder of Sept.

* Johnny Holm Band at the Maple Lake Pavilion, Sunday, May 24th @ 7:30 pm

*Maple Lake Improvement District Annual Meeting, Saturday, July 11th at 9:00 am, with rolls and coffee starting at 8:30 am.

Mosquito Spraying

Maple Lake Improvement District provides mosquito spraying for the residents in the district. The sprays are scheduled every 2 weeks, usually on a Wednesday and we try to schedule the sprays before holidays. If the summer is especially wet, more sprays will be added. The schedule for 2026:

May 20
June 3, 17
July 1, 15, 29
August 12, 26



Keep The Bear Away

Last year there were quite a few bears sighted in the area. Here are a few tips to minimize bear problems.

DO:

- Remove bird feeders in the spring.
- Store your trash can in a secure area, such as a sturdy shed or garage, and put it out on the morning of garbage pickup, not the night before
- Store meat scraps and fish entrails in the freezer until trash pickup day.
- Clean grills and store them in a secure location, such as a sturdy shed or garage

DON'T:

- Don't feed the bears.
- Don't leave pet food outside.

The Maple Lake Improvement District Board wants everyone to have a fun and safe summer!

Annual Meeting

The Maple Lake Improvement District's Annual Meeting will be on Saturday, July 11, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Mentor Community Center with rolls and coffee served at 8:30 am.

One Open Board Seat

There will be an election for 1 open board seat at the annual meeting. If you would like to be on the ballot to become a board member, please contact a board member, or email info@maplelakedistrict.com before June 1st.

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 to sign up. The Board would also like to let all property owners know that if there are concerns, there is a spot on the website to send messages to the board. *Follow us on Facebook!*

Useful Websites & Phone Numbers

Polk County Planning & Zoning

Ph: 218-281-5700

<https://www.co.polk.mn.us/196/Planning-Zoning>

Polk County Assessor

Ph: 218-281-4186

<https://www.co.polk.mn.us/171/Assessor>

Polk County Sheriff

Ph: 218-281-0431

<https://www.co.polk.mn.us/221/Sheriffs-Office>

Minnesota DNR

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>

RMB Labs

Ph: 218-846-1465

<https://www.rmbel.info/>

Polk County First Alert System

<https://member.everbridge.net/892807736729932/login>