

# *Welcome to Horsehead Lake*



Horsehead Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District #1  
8/31/2020

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## Introduction

This welcome guide is written for new members of the Horsehead Lake Protection and Restoration District. Its intent is to provide information to new owners about our lake, district and surrounding area. This document satisfies the recommended Management Goal 4, Item 2 (Increase the Horsehead Lake District's Capacity to Communicate with Lake Stakeholders....) of the Horsehead Lake Comprehensive Management Plan<sup>1</sup>.

The Horsehead Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District strives to inform our membership of all activities related to lake management. This is accomplished by spring and fall newsletters, our annual meeting and our website. The website contains the latest information on our lake programs and historical documents. Please take some time to browse our website:

<https://www.horseheadlake-wi.org/>

You can help us out with communication as well by providing your email address information to [horseheadlakePRD@gmail.com](mailto:horseheadlakePRD@gmail.com). This will save our mailing costs.

## History

Horsehead Lake remained relatively undeveloped for many years. With only precipitation and springs regulating the water depth, enjoyment of the lake was limited due to drastic variability in the water level. Some landowners were inconvenienced often when excessive amounts of water poured out of Horsehead Lake causing flooding.

Prior to the creation of the lake district, Horsehead Lake had a homeowners association which was purely voluntary. Funding was obtained by donations and fund raisers. As with all voluntary organizations, some people were willing to donate their time and money, others simply benefitted from the improvements. During this time, the old dam feeding Horsehead Creek was in disrepair and the state was recommending that a new dam be erected. Work could not start until the residents in the area provided capital to initiate the project. This funding was matched by the state and town of Lake Tomahawk.

Your Horsehead Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District #1 (HLPRD) was formed in 1975 in response to that need. The purpose of the district is to protect and improve the ecological and recreational uses of the lake. The district was the first district to be created in the state of Wisconsin. The purpose of a district is to maintain, protect, and improve the quality of a lake and its watershed for the mutual good of the members and the lake environment.<sup>2</sup> Lake districts are established by town, county or village boards, or city councils, and usually based on a formal petition of lake area owners. Lake District formation and operations must comply with Chapter 33 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The boundaries of a lake district usually include the property of all riparian owners and can include off-lake property that benefits from the lake or affects the lake's watershed. For HLPRD, the boundaries are County D to the north, Bluebird Road to the west, Kildare Road to the south and Route 47 to the east.

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<sup>1</sup> Horsehead Lake Comprehensive Management Plan, Onterra LLC, HLPRD, WDNR Grant Program LPL-1644-17, January 2020

<sup>2</sup> University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point > CNR Associated Programs > UW-Extension Lakes > Lake Districts, <https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/organizations/districts/default.aspx>  
Horsehead Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District #1

Lake districts are governmental bodies with elected commissioners and annual budgets funded from tax levies or special assessments. Districts also have some capabilities to regulate lake use, such as local boating ordinances and sewage management. Within a lake district, all property owners share in the cost of management activities undertaken by the district. Property owners can participate in the activities of the district. Activities performed by the district can be found in the “People of the Lakes” guide<sup>3</sup>. There are 5 commissioners for the HLPDRD. Three elected commissioners representing the lake district residents along with a commissioner representing the Town of Lake Tomahawk and an Oneida County commissioner.

## Annual Meetings

Election of commissioners and approval of the budget is accomplished at an annual meeting which must be held between May 22 and September 8 each year. Our HLPDRD annual meetings are usually held on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of August. This is an open meeting and all residents are invited. Details about the meeting time and agenda can be found on the Lake Association website prior to the meeting. Please join us to meet with the other Horsehead Lake area residents and for interesting updates on lake maintenance, wildlife, and recreation. We are always looking for volunteers to help in maintaining our lake.

HLPDRD gets its funding from property taxes. Once an annual budget is approved, it is included in the Oneida property tax assessment. Below is an example of a proposed budget<sup>4</sup> (final tax levy) and a comparison to prior year tax levies. The proposed budget and related mill rate will fluctuate depending on the approved work to be done.

*Table 1-HLPDRD proposed budget*

<b>Mill Rate Calculation</b>	<b>Proposed FY '20 -'21 Taxes</b>	<b>Approved FY '19 -'20 Taxes</b>	<b>Approved FY '18 -'19 Taxes</b>
<b>Equalized Property Value**</b>	<b>\$23,502,476.00</b>	<b>\$22,467,009.00</b>	<b>\$21,566,170.00</b>
<b>Final Tax Levy</b>	<b>\$14,302.40</b>	<b>\$6,165.90</b>	<b>\$24,807.47</b>
<b>Mill Rate/1000**</b>	<b>\$0.6085</b>	<b>\$0.2744</b>	<b>\$1.1503</b>
<b>Horsehead Lake District Tax on \$100,000 Property**</b>	<b>\$60.85</b>	<b>\$27.44</b>	<b>\$115.03</b>
<b>Notes:</b>			
<b>** To be updated when State publishes Equalized Property Value</b>			

## Lake Management

HLPDRD continues to actively manage the work on our lake. Several studies were contracted with various environmental consulting firms to periodically evaluate the aquatic conditions on our lake. In addition, HLPDRD maintains the aeration system used to maintain the oxygen levels in the lake during the winter conditions. HLPDRD periodically purchases and stocks panfish in our lake. The DNR has also stocked gamefish on our lake. HLPDRD also contracts with weed harvesters in the event that the weeds become an impediment to recreational boat traffic during the summer. HLPDRD also conducts lake water sampling for the DNR. As mentioned in the introduction, HLPDRD communicates our activities to the residents via newsletters, meetings and our website.

<sup>3</sup> “People of the Lakes: A Guide for Wisconsin Lake Organizations”, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition 2018, <https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/organizations/guide.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> 20200701 HLPDRD Budget draft.pdf, D.Averback, HLPDRD archives  
Horsehead Lake Protection &  
Rehabilitation District #1

## Lake Ecology and Aquatic Life

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Horsehead Lake is a shallow headwater drainage lake with an average depth of 8 feet and a maximum depth of 11 feet. This means that our lake is fed primarily by underground springs and has no inlets. The lake has one outlet on the south end of the lake which empties into Horsehead Creek. The amount of flow from the underground

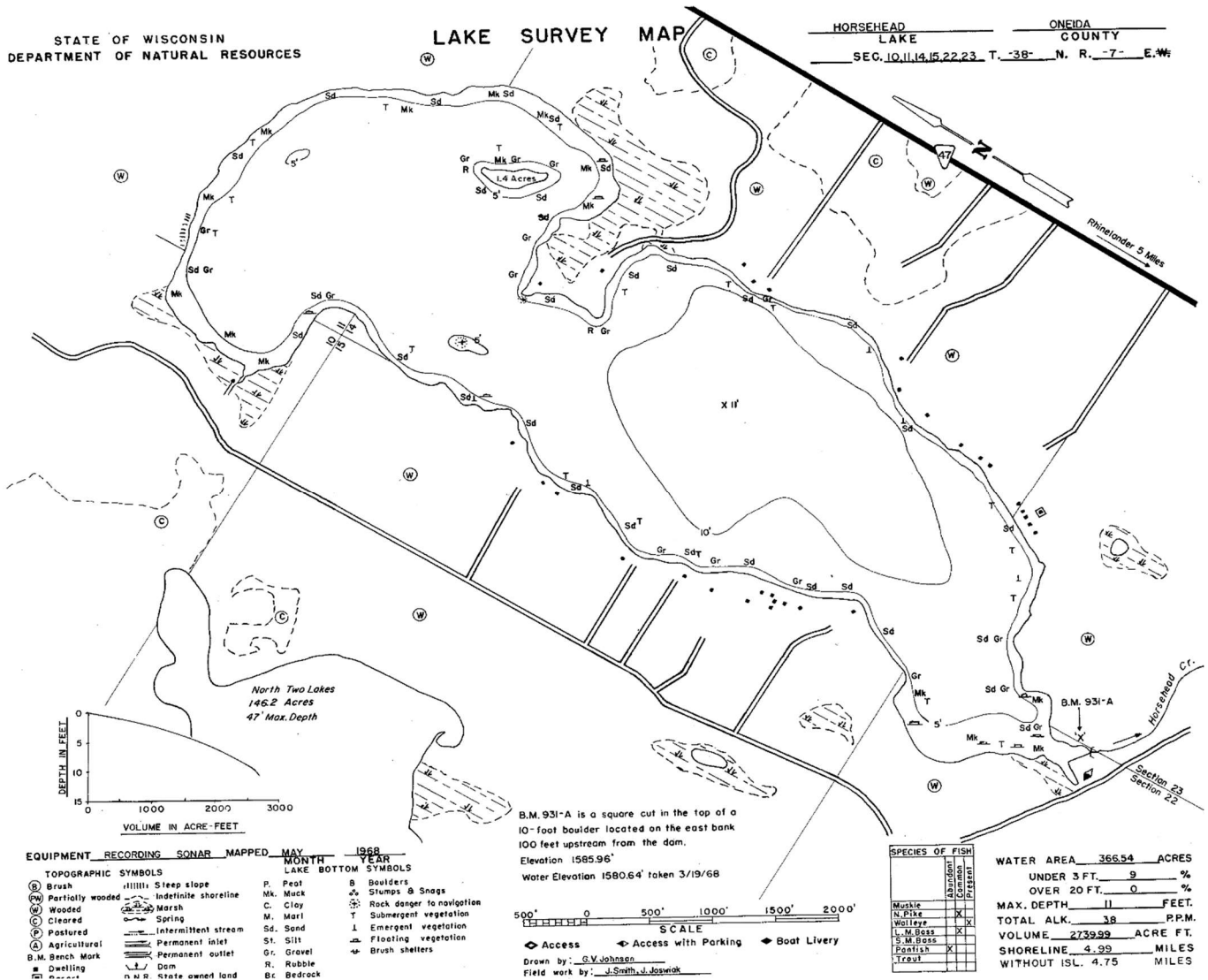


Figure 1. DNR map of Horsehead Lake

springs is sufficient to flush our lake every 120 days. The lake itself is 386 acres in size and has 5 miles of shoreline. The deepest part of the lake is in the center of the south portion of the lake<sup>5</sup>.

All lakes are measured by their trophic state, oligotrophic (low productivity), mesotrophic (intermediate level of productivity) and eutrophic (very fertile). Our lake is transitioning from mesotrophic to a eutrophic lake which means it has a high biological productivity. It is dominated by

<sup>5</sup> Wisconsin DNR, Horsehead Lake contour map, <https://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/maps/DNR/1588000a.pdf>  
Horsehead Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District #1



aquatic plants with some algae. During the summer, this plant growth can reach the surface necessitating weed harvesting. The HLPRD obtains permits and contract weed harvesting in July as required.

In 1966, a study, "Surface Water Resources of Oneida County" provided this description of Horsehead Lake.

"A soft water spring lake having neutral, clear water of moderate transparency. Sand is the pre-dominant littoral material (80 percent) with some gravel and muck. The shoreline is pre-dominantly upland (85 percent) with a coniferous bog wetland adjoining portions of the lake basin. Submergent vegetation is moderate in density. Muskellunge, northern pike, walleye, large mouth bass, perch, bluegill, crappie, rock bass, pumpkinseed and sucker are fish species found in this lake. Winterkill conditions are known to occur in this lake. Public access with parking, as well as, that of the wilderness type are available. Twenty dwellings, private campground and a boysT camp are located on the lakeshore. Mallard and black duck use this lake as a nesting site. Puddle ducks and diving ducks make use of this lake on their fall migration."<sup>6</sup> The study recorded the surface acres as 355.9 with a maximum depth of 17 feet.

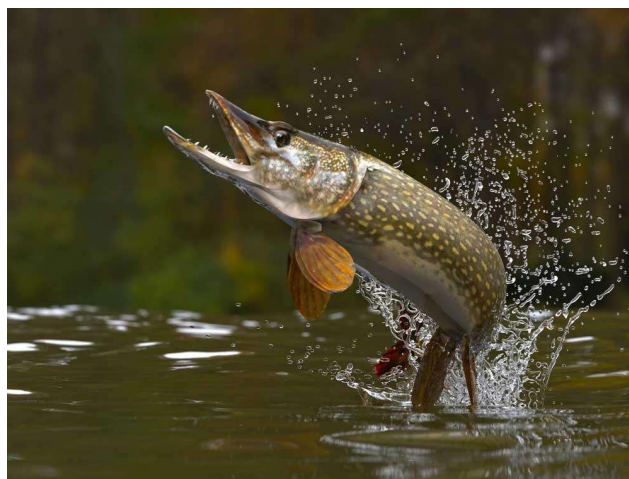
In the 1970's, a study of the lake sediments was conducted.<sup>7</sup> It was determined that the lake contained channels that originally were up to 30 feet deep. From 1966 to present, the maximum depth of our lake has shrunk about 6 feet. The lake sedimentation has filled in the deep channels and now the lake is essentially pan shaped with more uniform depths.

## Fishing

Horsehead Lake is a year-round site for recreational fishing. The lake naturally hosts largemouth bass and northern pike. HLPRD periodically purchases and stocks panfish in our lake. The DNR has also stocked gamefish on our lake. WI requires all people over the age of 15 to have a fishing license in order to fish legally. Fishing licenses are available for purchase at local retailers or bait stores or you can purchase one online at <https://gowild.wi.gov/>.

Alas, we do not have walleyes or muskellunge in our lake. Our lake environment is not conducive to reproduction of walleye and muskellunge.

As with all fisheries, the species size varies on many conditions. All of the species currently in Horsehead Lake can tolerate low oxygen conditions caused by a heavy ice cover that we periodically experience in northern Wisconsin. Since the lake is fairly shallow,



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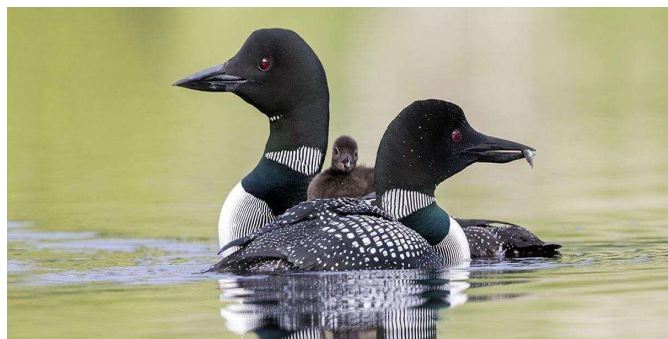
<sup>6</sup> Surface water resources of Oneida County / by Lloyd M. Andrews ... Andrews, Lloyd M, page 47  
<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=wu.89094233004&view=plaintext&seq=51>

<sup>7</sup> Horsehead Lake Feasibility Study, C.J. Mastaglio, 4/1/1976, HLPRD archive

an aeration system provides oxygen for the fish during the winter. **Please be aware of the thin ice and open water around the aeration system when it is operating.**

## Wildlife

We also have a number of other animals and birds that rely on our lake. Eagles and osprey fish our lake pretty much year round. We have loons nesting in our waters, you can usually see them swimming and diving on the lake. Sometimes, you can see their young resting on the parents backs, please don't disturb them. If they are constantly moving away from you and tremoloing, you are too close for their comfort.



We also have ducks, geese and blue herons. As for animals in the water, you will probably see muskrats, turtles, watersnakes (non-venomous) and frogs along the shoreline.

On shore, you will certainly see many species of squirrel, chipmunks, rabbits and foxes. There are also a number of deer that follow trails around the lake. It's not surprising to see a doe with her fawns in your yard (usually around the bird feeders). By the way, feeding deer in Oneida County is prohibited in order to reduce the propagation of chronic wasting disease. Bears are rarely seen around the lake, but they have been observed. It's good practice to keep your household garbage in a waste receptacle to keep the animals from going thru your trash.

For the birdwatcher, there are plenty of birds to be seen around the lake. Regular visitors are wrens, nuthatches, robins and blue jays. We have a number of different woodpeckers in our area, the largest is the pileated woodpecker. You can hear them pounding on our trees. They also like wood siding, unfortunately.

## Shoreline Erosion

As mentioned earlier, our lake used to be lowered during the winter between 18 and 36 inches. Recently, the residents decided to retain the current water level year round. For some, this could mean erosion of their shoreline. HLPD recommends that you follow good practice in maintaining your shoreline. There are plenty of articles on the right way to protect and manage your shoreline. There are also a number of landscapers and consultants that can guide you on proper practices. HLPD suggests that riparian owners consider natural shoreline practices when conducting restorations. The use of natural shoreline habitats provide the following benefits:

- Helps water clarity by holding sediment in place.
- Takes up nutrients that would be used by algae.
- Provides shelter for wildlife and provides food and nesting areas.
- Reduces erosion and runoff.
- Provides spawning beds in sedges /emergent plants for fish.<sup>8</sup>

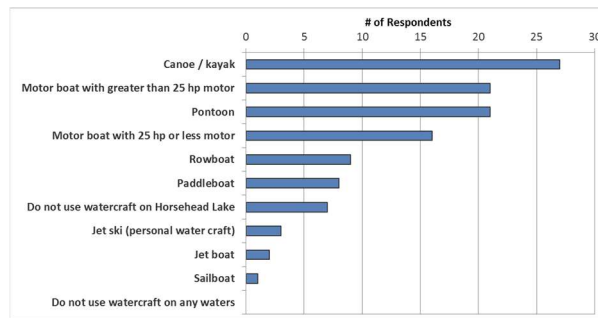
Per state regulations, you may be required to obtain a permit for shoreline work.

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<sup>8</sup> "Shoreline buffers and erosion control", Patrick Goggin, [UW Extension Lakes/WI Lakes Partnership, https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Documents/programs/lakeleaders/crew7/kemp\\_station\\_september\\_2008/Shoreland%20buffers%20and%20erosion%20control.pdf](https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Documents/programs/lakeleaders/crew7/kemp_station_september_2008/Shoreland%20buffers%20and%20erosion%20control.pdf)

## Boating and Water Regulations

Horsehead Lake is a wake lake, allowing motored boats and recreational watercraft including jet skis. The public boat launch is located off Kildeer Road. A recent survey showed the wide range of boating recreation enjoyed on Horsehead Lake:



Horsehead Lake is governed by the Wisconsin DNR boating and fishing regulations. There are currently no Horsehead Lake specific regulations. Anyone born on or after January 1, 1989 is required to complete a boating safety course to legally operate a motorized boat or personal watercraft (PWC) on Wisconsin waters. This course can be completed online at:

<https://dnr.wi.gov/education/outdoorSkills/idCheck.html#tabx2>

\*Basic boating tips can be found on the district website under “Boating Tips.”

For general information about boating regulations, please contact the Wisconsin DNR. Their website on boating regulations is:

<https://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/LE/LE0301.pdf>

Just a highlight some regulations to remember that affect our lake:

- Do not operate your vessel within 100 feet of a shoreline, dock, raft, pier or restricted area greater than **slow, no wake speed**. **For Personal Watercraft (PWC) the restriction is within 200 feet of the shoreline,**
- It is illegal to operate a vessel in a negligent or reckless manner. Examples of this are racing (unless sanctioned), creating hazardous wakes or wave condition, chasing or harassing wildlife and steering toward another object and swerving to avoid a collision,
- Operating a vessel while intoxicated or under the influence of a controlled substance,

If you encounter an inconsiderate boater, try to obtain the boat registration number or the address of the boater. We have been advised by the local DNR conservation warden to let them know of any complaints. While the warden may not be on the lake at the time, they can look up the identity of the person(s) and contact them regarding the incident. Generally, wardens can tell whether the problem is a lack of knowledge of the rules or further enforcement may be necessary.



## Clean Boats, Clean Waters

The Lake Association participates in the WI DNR's ***Clean Boats, Clean Waters*** program which helps prevent the spread of invasive species. You may be approached at the boat launch by volunteers who may ask you if you are aware of invasive species and how to avoid transferring them between lakes. In order to avoid the spread of invasive species, please make it a habit to:

- \*Inspect your boat, trailer and equipment
- \*Remove any attached aquatic plants, animals, and mud.
- \*Drain all water from boats, vehicles, and equipment (including live wells and containers holding your catch).
- \*Never move live fish away from a waterbody



We currently believe that we have a good handle on aquatic invasive species in our lake. We regularly check for Eurasian Milfoil and other AIS on our lake. We believe that prevention is more cost effective than eradication. In order to save your taxpayer dollars, we need your help in managing the introduction of AIS. If you believe you have found an invasive species, please contact the DNR and one of our HLPD commissioners.

We are always looking for volunteers to help in checking boats at the launch. If you are interested in spending a couple of hours helping us by checking boats entering and leaving the lake, please contact the commissioners for details.

## Boat Launch

The boat launch on Horsehead Lake is located on Kildeer Road on the south end of the lake. The launch maintained by the Wisconsin DNR. Your commissioners have contacts within the DNR should there be a problem with the boat launch. Contact a commissioner if you find an issue with the boat launch facility.

Our boat landing is shallow with a sand bottom. Power loading your boat can push the sand into a berm making it difficult for others to load their boat. Please avoid power loading your boat. There is also a perpendicular current flow to the launch.

Common courtesy should be followed when launching and retrieving vessels from the lake. Prepare your boat **before** pulling onto the launch lane. Untying ropes, loading gear onto the boat, fiddling with the motor, and any form of lingering or hanging out should be done off to the side to avoid blocking the ramp and creating unnecessary delays.

Trailer backing can be intimidating but is easily mastered with a little practice—but not at the ramp. It doesn't have to be pretty, but it does have to be quick. When tying off to the dock, be sure your boat is out of the right of way, giving other boaters space to launch and land while you park or wait for passengers.

When loading back on the trailer, be sure your boat is properly positioned and that it's latched, strapped, or tied down before driving off. I have witnessed boats fall completely off the trailer from lack of oversight.

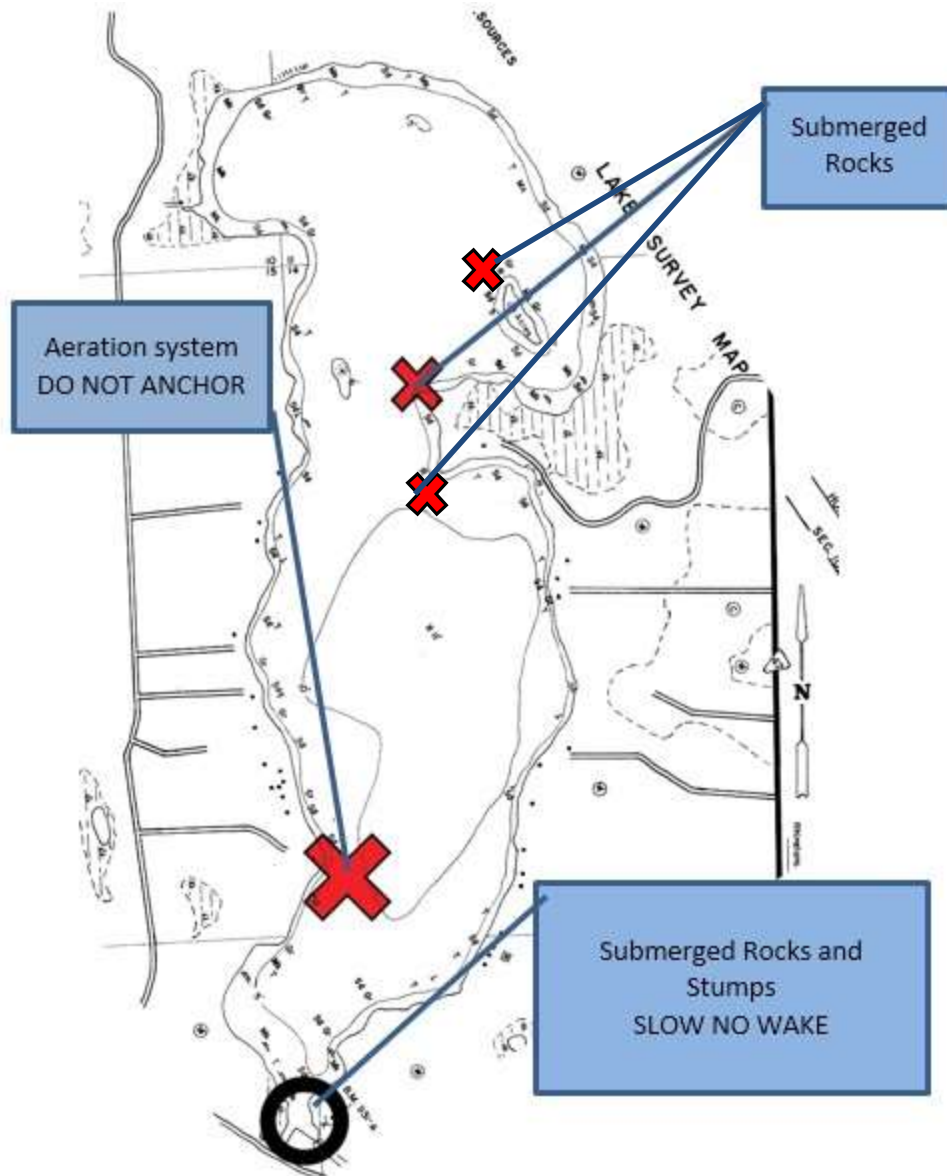
With all that said, have patience with others who are not as experienced as you. Keep in mind that you were in their position at one time in your life. Who knows, you might need their help someday.

The Horsehead Lake launch has parking spaces for about a half dozen vehicles and trailers. Please make sure when parking your trailer that you are not blocking the driving lanes going in and coming out of the launch. Please try to stay within one of the striped parking spaces. While we generally do not get a lot of traffic on the lake, be considerate of others when parking your boat trailers. Our launch does not require a parking sticker or charges a parking fee and no one is there to clean up after you leave. Please take all garbage and bait with you. Bait should be disposed in a proper receptacle.

## Lake Hazards

There are underwater hazards in our lake that could be impediments to safe travel. The lake depth is adjusted by the dam which can result in hazards being visible at certain times of the year but not at other times. Some of these objects are fixed in nature, such as the submerged rocks, stumps and the aeration system. There can be other hazards on the lake which may be fixed or floating. When boating or water skiing, please be alert to possible hazards. The following map points out some of the known hazards. If you are able, tow any floating hazards to the shore.

**BE AWARE THAT, DURING THE WINTER, AN AERATION SYSTEM MAINTAINS A SECTION OF OPEN WATER SURROUNDED BY THIN ICE.**



## Good Owner Habits

While we all want to have a great time and enjoy what the lake offers us, we do need to be considerate of others. Noise and light travels across the lake, so please minimize loud noises and the use of spot lights at night.

The use of "common sense" practices by our lake residents are needed to avoid accelerating the lake aging process can be as important as high-tech rehabilitation efforts. These processes include the following:

1. Maintain naturally vegetated "buffer zones" along the shore,
2. Carefully monitor your septic system performance; update if necessary
3. Landscape to decrease erosion,
4. Divert runoff from construction sites,
5. Avoid the use of chemical fertilizers. "No person may intentionally apply turf fertilizer that is labeled as containing phosphorus or available phosphate."<sup>9</sup>
6. Keep lawn and garden waters from washing into the lake,
7. Avoid burning on the lake,
8. Operate motorized watercraft slowly in shallow, heavily sedimented areas of the lake.

## Campfires

What's better than having a campfire on the lake? NOTHING!!! But, please be careful with fire. Campfires are allowed anytime, except when Emergency Burning Restrictions are in effect. Burning debris in a fire ring is not considered a campfire and does require a DNR burn permit in our area. Keep in mind some safety tips.<sup>10</sup>

- Check the daily burning restrictions in your area (DNR website)<sup>11</sup>
- Keep a shovel and water source nearby.
- Never leave a campfire unattended.
- Fire should be no larger than necessary
- Drown, stir and feel method to extinguish the fire
- DROWN the fire again!!!!



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<sup>9</sup> Restrictions on the Sale, Display, and Use of Fertilizer Chapter 94.643 Wisconsin Statute

<sup>10</sup> Wildfire causes-Campfires, Wisconsin DNR, <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestFire/causes/campfires.html>

<sup>11</sup> Burning restrictions, wildfire and prescribed fire activity, Wisconsin DNR, <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestFire/restrictions.html>

## Burning & Fire Permits

Burning permits are required by the Wisconsin DNR in many parts of the state to conduct legal and responsible burning in the outdoors. Burning permits are free and easy to obtain. You can obtain a free permit online at: [www.dnr.wisconsin.gov](http://www.dnr.wisconsin.gov) or at a local DNR office. Before burning, checking the daily burning restrictions on the DNR website or on the sign posted outside the fire station.

During burning:

- \*Have a water source and firefighting tools handy.
- \*Keep the size of the fire small and manageable.
- \*Maintain a mineral soil firebreak around the burn area.
- \*Never leave your fire unattended.
- \*If weather conditions change for the worst, put the fire out.

ALLOWED FOR BURNING	NOT ALLOWED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brush</li><li>• Leaves</li><li>• Pine needles</li><li>• Grass</li><li>• Clean wood</li><li>• Unrecyclable paper</li><li>• Unrecyclable cardboard</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Garbage</li><li>• Plastics</li><li>• Shingles</li><li>• Foam</li><li>• Structures</li><li>• Furniture</li><li>• Wire</li><li>• Metal</li><li>• Electronics</li><li>• Vinyl products</li><li>• Rubber products</li><li>• Oil-based products</li><li>• Painted, stained or treated wood</li></ul>

## If your fire gets out of control, CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY

### Fireworks

Certain fireworks are legal in Wisconsin. State law allows the sale, possession and use, without a permit, of sparklers not exceeding 36 inches in length, stationary cones and fountains, toy snakes, smoke bombs, caps, noisemakers and confetti poppers with less than ¼ grain of explosive mixture. Possessing or using any other firework, including, for example, firecrackers, roman candles, bottle rockets and mortars, is illegal without a valid permit. A commonly used rule of thumb is that a permit is required, if the device explodes or leaves the ground. Please be considerate of your neighbors and pets when using fireworks. Fireworks can have a scary effect on the loons and other wildlife on our lake. We want them to stay around so the beauty and unique character of our lake is maintained. If you must use fireworks, please treat them as a potential fire hazard.



## Neighborhood Lighting Considerations

From: Sensible Shoreland Lighting by Liebel & Korth, UW-Extension

Waterfront properties are especially vulnerable to inconsiderate lighting due to glare off the water. The most common shoreland lights are attached to homes, garages, piers and other structures on waterfront residential property. While we may notice the glare from an unshielded garage light across the lake, it's unlikely that we've ever ventured across the lake at night to see how our own home lights the night. Let's start by making our own lighting sensible and unobtrusive, only then helping our neighbors "see the light."

Light Trespass: Glare is also the most common cause of light trespass. Light trespass is a light fixture on one property that illuminates an adjacent or nearby property. Light trespass is not a legal concept, but rather a description of the nuisance effect of improperly aimed lights on someone else's property. We all have seen streetlights, commercial lights or residential lights spilling over onto adjacent property, causing illumination where it was not meant to be. Poorly designed outdoor lighting shines onto neighborhood properties and bedroom windows, invading privacy and creating an unattractive look to an area. Because the waterfront is unobstructed, water reflects glare from shoreland lights over the water to trespass on distant properties.

### *Oneida County – Regulation of Pier/Berth Lighting*

The purpose of the pier/berth lighting regulation is to minimize light pollution of the shore land environment without significantly inhibiting safety and security. This section applies to all lighting on berthing structures or designed to illuminate those structures associated with berths (piers).

Light fixtures which do not conform to these provisions may be allowed with a conditional use permit upon a showing of special circumstances affecting safety, security, or general public interest. Non-conforming lighting in existence on the effective date of this section must be brought into compliance within five (5) years.

- Flashing and rotating lights are prohibited.
- Lighting inside a boathouse and intended to illuminate its interior is permitted.
- Lighting on exteriors of berthing structures shall be fitted with opaque shields to prevent direct visibility of the lamp to persons on public waters or adjacent lands more than 50 feet beyond the berthing structure.
- Lighting not mounted on a berthing structure but designed to illuminate a berthing structure or its immediate vicinity shall comply with the above bullet item.
- Lighting installed on, or intended to illuminate, seasonally- used berthing structures shall be turned off when not required for safety or security.

## Law Enforcement

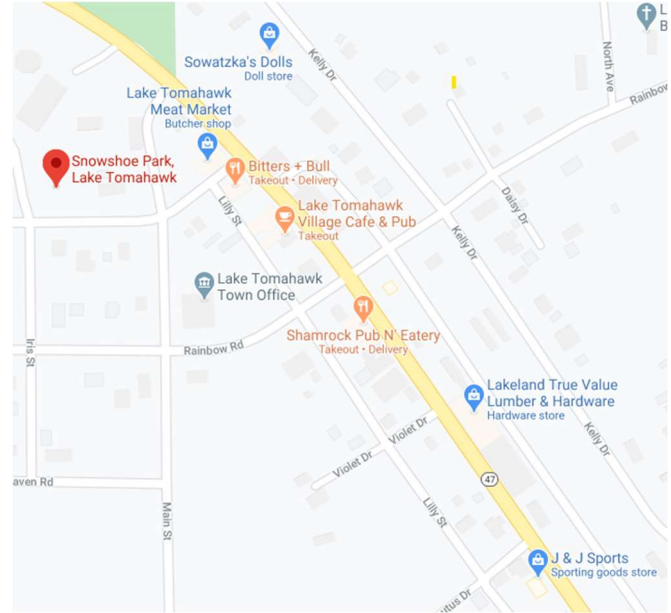
We do not have a local police force in the town of Lake Tomahawk, so if someone is disturbing the peace or you have other law enforcement needs - call the Oneida Co. Sheriff's Dept. @ 715-361-5100 or in an emergency, dial 911. Not all of our residents are full-timers, so we would like to stress keeping a watchful eye on your neighbor's property. Any suspicious activity should be reported to the Oneida County Sheriff.

## Nearby Towns

The great thing about Horsehead Lake is that it's in the north woods but close to everything. Horsehead Lake is part of the town of Lake Tomahawk. The lake is between north-south routes 51 and 47. Both of these roads are major arteries, so they are well maintained summer and winter.

## Lake Tomahawk

Lake Tomahawk is the world's capital of snowshoe baseball. Games are played every Monday night @7:30 PM from the end of June thru the end of August at Snowshoe Park. If you haven't attended a snowshoe baseball game, you have missed a great evening. The cost is free, although the local team exists on donations from their patrons. They offer food and soft drinks in the pavilion next to the ballpark for a reasonable price. I've heard that you can also pick up beverages from Bitters & Bull restaurant.



Speaking of beverages, there are several great restaurants in the town. Bitters & Bull, the Shamrock, Smiley's and Village Café offer extensive menus and most of them have fish fry's on Fridays. If a good hotdog is your preference, the Korner Drive Inn has great Chicago style dogs, as well as, burgers, shakes and ice cream. If you are looking for food to cook at home, the Lake Tomahawk Meat Market offer the best cuts of meat in the region. Be sure to buy some of their homemade smoked meats. Wow!

Lake Tomahawk also has their own hardware store, Lakeland True Value hardware which probably has everything a homeowner would need. For fishing and hunting, J & J Sports can supply you with bait and tackle. Usually the BP gas station offers the best prices for gas and has a sizable fast food market. The Butcher's Wife offers ice cream and coffee and Joy Bike Ride Rental can provide you with bikes and snowmobiles. Plus they both have a great assortment of clothes and jewelry.

Lake Tomahawk also boasts its own US Post Office located on Bradley Street across from the town information booth. Every year, Lake Tomahawk has a 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade down Bradley Street, all residents are invited to bring their chairs and watch the local parade. Lake Tom also hosts the World Musky Hunt at the end of August, the goal of the event is popularize the pursuit of the muskies and promote the Lake Tomahawk area. Grab your rods.

Lastly, Lake Tomahawk offers a boat launch which can get you on the Minocqua chain of lakes with over 5,000 acres of water and 15 miles of shoreline. Since we are part of the town of Lake Tomahawk, our residents can obtain an annual trailer sticker for the Lake Tomahawk launch. The first sticker is free, there is a \$10 charge for any additional trailer sticker. You can pick up the sticker(s) at J & J Sports or the Lake Tomahawk visitors center. Stickers for the season are available after April 1<sup>st</sup>.

There are a number of cross-country ski trails around the Horsehead Lake area, the closest is the McNaughton cross-country trail on Kildeer Road.

## Minocqua/Woodruff

The towns of Minocqua and Woodruff are approximately 15-20 minutes to the northwest of Horsehead Lake. These towns are flourishing tourist destinations, with a variety of accommodations – from rustic cabins to luxurious condominium suites, and campgrounds to bed and breakfasts. They also feature fine dining, unique shopping, attractions and historical museums, as well. It is also home to one of the largest concentrations of freshwater bodies in the world, providing endless outdoor recreational opportunities for four seasons of fun in the Northwoods.<sup>12</sup>

There are several full sized grocery stores in Minocqua. A Walmart is located on route 70 on the west side of town. The town of Woodruff boasts a small multi-screen movie theater.

During the summer, the area swells with tourists and there are plenty of outdoor activities for everyone. The Min-Aqua Bats water ski show is run every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. In the winter, the snowmobile trails open. There are over 1600 miles of trails in and around the Minocqua area. Minocqua Winter Park, just west of town, opens during the winter for skating, snowshoeing and cross country skiing. In the last 3 years, they have added a tubing hill.

The Howard Young Medical Center (240 Maple St, Woodruff) and Marshfield Medical Center (9576 WI-70, Minocqua) provide hospital care in the Minocqua/Woodruff area. There are a number of primary care and occupational health clinics in in the area.

For information about activities, stores and restaurants in Minocqua and Woodruff, check their town websites:

<https://www.minocqua.org/about-the-area/towns-and-counties/minocqua-wisconsin/>

## Rhineland

Rhineland is the county seat and the largest town in Oneida County. It boasts a number of grocery and department stores. Rhineland is unique in that it has a diversified economy with a blend of commercial, industrial and retail facilities. It takes approximately 20-30 minutes by car to the center of town via routes 47 and 8. Rhineland resides on the Wisconsin River. There is a dam in the center of town which creates the Rhineland Flowage and Boom Lake.

In Rhineland, Wisconsin, lucky visitors may come across a mysterious, mischievous beast known as the Hodag. This legendary creature has roamed the Northwoods for more than a century and has become the official symbol of Rhineland (while pulling a few pranks along the way).<sup>13</sup> There are a number of Hodag sightings in the town.

Ascension St. Mary's Hospital located at 2251 N Shore Dr. is the primary hospital located on the east side of Rhineland. There are a number of primary care and occupational health clinics in Rhineland.

For information about Rhineland, please check out their website:

<http://explorerhineland.com/>



<sup>12</sup> History of Minocqua, <https://www.minocqua.org/about-the-area/towns-and-counties/minocqua-wisconsin/>

<sup>13</sup> What's a Hodag, <http://explorerhineland.com/what-is-the-hodag/>

## Other Towns

There are plenty of other towns to visit within 30 minutes of Horsehead Lake. Arbor Vitae, Sayner, Saint Germain and Eagle River offer recreational activities, restaurants and unique retail shops. A little further away is Boulder Junction, Manitowish Waters and Mercer. They are all worth visiting.

During the year, special events, parades and art shows are held at all of these towns. A good source of the latest events is a Northwoods newspaper or by checking with the Oneida and Vilas county websites.

Oneida: <https://oneidacountywi.com/festivals-events/>

Vilas: <https://www.vilaswi.com/events/>

## Contact Information

		Telephone	Address
Deb Bursik	HLPRD Commissioner- <a href="#">Chairperson</a>	(920) 339-8265	7515 TROUT RD
Dave Averbeck	HLPRD Commissioner- Treasurer	(262) 422-6882	6482 BLUEBIRD RD S
Kevin Collins	HLPRD Commissioner- Secretary	(708) 925-2551 (cell)	6473 SOYCK CT
Mitchell Ives	Oneida County Representative	(715) 282-7342	
Larry Hoffman	Lake Tomahawk Town Representative	(563) 249-1273	
	Wisconsin DNR – Rhineland office	(715) 365-8900	107 Sutliff Ave, Rhineland, WI 54501
	Town of Lake Tomahawk Office	(715) 277-2257	7246 Main St., Lake Tomahawk, WI 54539
	Oneida County Sheriff	(715) 361-5100	2000 E. Winnebago Street Rhineland, WI 54501

## Resources for Your New Home:

### **Electric & Natural Gas-**

Wisconsin Public Service (WPS)

**800-450-7260 24 hours a day**

Electric Emergencies/Outages: **800-450-7240**

Gas Emergencies: **800-450-7280**

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

### **Landline Phone Services-**

Frontier Communications

**800-921-8101**

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

### **WIFI Service**

Frontier Communications

**800-921-8101**

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

Northwoods Connect

**715-544-8025**

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

Verizon Wireless

**800-922-0204**

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

### **Garbage Collection & Drop Off-**

#### **To establish weekly or biweekly garbage collection:**

Advanced Disposal

9113 County Road J, Minocqua, WI 54548

**715-356-9089**

For hazardous household waste disposal or disposal of large household items (Fees may apply):

Oneida County Solid Waste Department

7450 County Hwy K, Rhinelander, WI 54501

**715-282-4944**

Open Monday-Friday, 7:30a.m. – 4:30p.m. and Saturday, 8:00a.m. – 12:30p.m.

Accepted items include:

- Aerosols
- Gas, kerosene
- Paints, stains, thinners, varnishes
- Pesticides, herbicides, fungicides
- Pool chemicals

Horsehead Lake Protection &  
Rehabilitation District #1







## Emergency Resources

### Oneida County Sheriff

2000 E Winnebago St, Rhinelander, WI 54501

Non-Emergency: **715-361-5100**

**911**

### Lake Tomahawk Fire Department

7277 Bradley Street

Non-Emergency: **715-277-2332**

**911**

### Area Hospitals:

#### Ascension St. Mary's- Rhinelander

2251 N Shore Drive

**715-361-2000**

#### Howard Young Medical Center- Woodruff

240 Maple Street

**715-356-8000**

#### Marshfield Medical Center-Minocqua

9576 Hwy 70

**715-358-1710**

For changes to this document, please  
contact the HLPD secretary.