

**Horseshoe Lake Public Inland Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District**  
**10th Annual Meeting to be held at Beaver Town Hall**  
**9:00 AM August 16, 2025**

**Agenda**

- “State of the Lake” update on ongoing projects and grants
- Review of 2025 expenses
- Recommended wake restrictions during high-water periods
- Review boating rules and shoreline management concerns
- Polk County Lake patrol options
- Review & approve proposed 2026 budget
- Election of one commissioner

**2025 Estimated Expenses:**

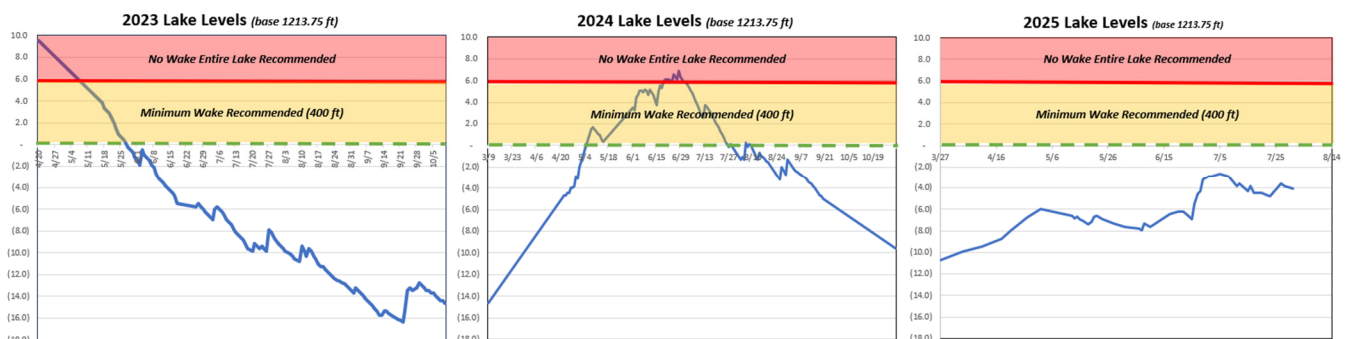
- Lake Monitoring/Surveys: Actual expenditures for lake management activities will be around \$4,875 but we received \$11,188 grant reimbursement for 2024 in January.
- Clean Water/Clean Boats: Our expenses will be around \$2,000 (no grant in 2025), but we received \$2250 reimbursement in January for 2024 expenses and volunteer hours.
- Invasive Species Control: No chemical treatment in 2025. We hired four divers from the DiveGuys to pull hybrid milfoil in June and also had LEAPS spend an afternoon diving. We released beetles for biological control of Purple Loosestrife in July (limited costs are in lake monitoring line item).
- Boat Landing: Township installed new pads at landing and added more gravel. The Lake District commissions vote to spend up to \$1000 to replace decking on the donated dock at landing (all labor volunteered). We are also working on updating the signage at the landing.
- Current balances as of July 30: \$4,292.92 in checking plus \$11,823.09 in short-term CDs. We also have a \$12,000 CD for our AIS Emergency Reserve Fund we inherited from the Lake Association.

**Recommended wake restrictions during high-water periods**

There was significant shoreline erosion during the periods of high water in 2023 and 2024. A committee was established at the 2024 Annual meeting to review concerns about continued erosion of the lakeshore by boating activity, especially at times with high water levels. Using actual lake height data from those two years - three recommended wake “stages” were established to reduce damage during high water periods.

- **NORMAL** (Standard WI DNR wake restrictions)
- **CAUTION** (No wake within 400 ft. of shore) when levels reach 1313.75 ft above sea level
- **CRITICAL** (No Wake on entire lake) when levels reach 1314.25 ft above sea level (6” above Caution)

The lake has not reached these levels in 2025 yet, but in 2023 we would have been in CRITICAL range until May 6 and then in CAUTION range through May 25. In 2024, we were at CAUTION level from May 5 to June 17 and CRITICAL from June 18-July 6.



We want to review this data at the annual meeting and decide if we want the township to pass these wake restrictions as an official ordinance or leave as a recommendation.

### **Invasive Species Update**

No milfoil areas large enough for chemical treatment in 2025. We hired four divers from the DiveGuys to pull hybrid milfoil in June from small areas showing up on our fall survey and also had LEAPS spend an afternoon diving to clean up in a couple of new areas. We released beetles for biological control of Purple Loosestrife in July (limited costs are in lake monitoring line item). Our initial plans for 2026 would be to potentially treat a couple of smaller areas (if we can get DNR approval), otherwise we plan to use divers to manually remove stray plants and small persistent areas to keep levels under control. We have no grants available going forward but will focus on finding new volunteers to use our SNUBA system to minimize what we need to spend hiring divers.

### **Boat Landing Update**

The township installed the new concrete pads at landing and added more gravel. The Lake District commissioners voted to spend up to \$1000 to replace decking on the donated dock at landing (not budgeted, but all labor volunteered). It should be completed in August.

### **Education on Boating Rules/Lake Patrol**

There have been a lot of questions regarding shoreline damage from the impact of boat wake. While part of the concern is about wake boats and jet skis, we are seeing damage caused by all types of boat not following the standard "Slow No-Wake within 100 feet of any dock, raft or pier". We have created a draft handout to help remind/educate boat operators what boating rules and wake requirements are on all WI lakes and will use this as a starting point for discussion at the annual meeting (see [hlake.org](http://hlake.org) for a copy to review ahead of time). Regarding enforcement, the Polk County Sheriff's Dept may have a program where we could "cost-share" for extra lake patrols in 2026 if we want to use lake district dollars to invest in that area.

### **Election of Board Commissioner:**

We need to elect one commissioner to a 3-year term (Steve Eichman's term is expiring). Anyone owning property within the district is eligible to run for the board of commissioners. **To nominate a candidate**, contact Joe Waldo at [hlake.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:hlake.treasurer@gmail.com) no later than 4PM August 14, 2025 to be added to the ballot.

### **Lake Directory/Website**

We maintain a lake directory with owner contact information but only share it with those who provide email information. Please send any changes to [hlake.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:hlake.treasurer@gmail.com). A form for new owners in on <http://hlake.org/> website. Russ Patten has taken over management of the [hlake.org](http://hlake.org) website and has updated it to a new format. Please reach out to him if you have any ideas for additional items you would like to see included on our new website ([russ.patten@hotmail.com](mailto:russ.patten@hotmail.com))

### **2026 Proposed Expense Budget:**

Below is the proposed Lake District budget for 2026. The final 2026 budget is established at the annual meeting.

- We are budgeting for lake management/monitoring (appr \$4,500), but the 2026 cost will be our final grant reimbursements for some of our 2025 expenses thanks to an extension of our 2023-45 control grant.
- We have already applied for a Clean Water/Clean Boats grant for 2026 and would expect to receive it.
- We are again budgeting \$6000 for Invasive Species control (10-year ave) but hoping we won't use it all.
- At this point – not planning on spending any additional dollars on boat landing.
- We are not initially budgeting dollars for Lake Patrol, but might decide to after our discussion at the annual meeting (Polk County is offering extra patrols on a cost-share basis if they can find staffing)
- Other costs – liability insurance, communications, misc expenses should be similar to 2025.
- We recommend holding tax levy at \$9,300 again and start working down our extra cash accumulated thanks to grants the past couple years. This amounts to under \$10 per \$100,000 in property value (\$93MM total)

Expense Category	2025 Budget	2025 Est Expense	2026 Est Budget
Required Lake Plans/Surveys*	\$ (1,250)	\$ (6,313)	\$ 1,500
Clean Water/Clean Boats*	\$ 1,000	\$ (250)	\$ 1,000
Invasive Species control*	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,338	\$ 6,000
Boat Landing Improvements	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,462	\$ -
Mailings, Meeting Exp, etc	\$ 600	\$ 657	\$ 750
Lake District Liability Insurance	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,319	\$ 1,400
Lake Patrol expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Misc Lake District Expenses	\$ 500	\$ 430	\$ 600
Interest, Landing donations, etc	\$ (300)	\$ (637)	\$ (450)
<b>Lake District Tax Revenue</b>	<b>\$ (9,300)</b>	<b>\$ (9,300)</b>	<b>\$ (9,300)</b>
<b>Total Net (after grants and taxes)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$9,294)</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>

Go to <http://hlake.org/> for more info on the lake district. Also – join and follow our Facebook page (search Horseshoe Lake Horseshoe Lake Public Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District)