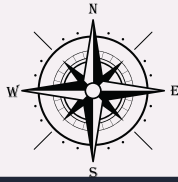


OKAUCHEE LAKE

SPRING 2026 MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



NEWSLETTER



SPRAYING PERMIT INFORMATION

The OLMD has obtained a permit for the 2026 season from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to apply herbicides for the control of aquatic plants in Okauchee Lake. A copy of this application is available for your review at www.olmd.org. Any questions you may have can be emailed to info@olmd.org. This notice is required under Chapter NR 107 of the WI Administrative Code.

MUSKRAT CONTROL PROGRAM

To avoid shoreline damage from muskrats or beavers, contact Arnold Groehler 262-490-9363 or jmgroehler@aol.com as soon as you see them!



GOOSE OILING & CONTROL

PERMIT # 1787532



Please visit our website for more information about our lake and further details about the information listed in this newsletter

www.olmd.org



OLMD
P.O. BOX 526
OKAUCHEE, WI 53069



Welcome to the Summer

While it is not Summer yet, can you feel it? Have you started cleaning your garden beds, and wondered at the marvelous rhythms of the season? We love Fall, with its eye-popping colors, and the quiet of Winter as we can finally walk on water. We love Spring, with its promise of new life, but we live for the Summer when we share our blessings and lakefront with friends and family.

OLMD is deep into its Spring cleaning, making sure our fleet is ready to serve by assembling a great crew to maintain water quality and to stem the progress of invasive plant species. Our Operation Manager, Brady Millikan, plans a holistic approach to enhance lake quality and ensure great recreational opportunities for riparian owners, boaters, and anglers. We benefit from the wonderful work done by our trapper, Arnold Groehler, to minimize the impact upon shoreline erosion created by muskrats & beavers and look forward to a new chapter in managing a nuisance goose population. (See the note on this effort in the Newsletter.)

Okauchee Lake is part of a river system and chain of lakes running from the Northern Kettle Moraine through Okauchee Lake, and finally, to the Rock River and the Mighty Mississippi. We need to understand this whole system to best manage our incredible resource. We have launched efforts to help us better control the introduction of invasive plant species at ramps, and to study our lake and system, while meeting the challenges of the future. Play your part by using the correct fertilizers to minimize phosphorous, planting gardens at water's edge, and using the lake safely and respectfully. Whether cruising on a pontoon boat or having fun on a wake enhanced boat the lake is for all to enjoy.

Keep your eye on our website (www.olmd.org) for updates and ways in which you can continue to preserve Okauchee Lake as a wonderful gem in this unique glacial lake region.

Your Okauchee Lake Management District Commissioners

2026 COMMISSIONERS

TOM GODAR - CHAIRPERSON 608-577-9235
THOMAS.GODAR@HUSCHBLACKWELL.COM

DOUG LARSON - COUNTY REP / TREASURER
414-531-2324 DUGAN1212@YAHOO.COM

JOHN FOLEY - LAKE OPERATIONS
262-269-6291 JJFOLEY4444@GMAIL.COM

BRUCE MUELLER - VILLAGE OF LAC LA BELLE REP
414-704-5420 BRUCETRC@WI.RR.COM


BRIAN SICHI - SECRETARY
262-737-4244 BRIAN@SICHI.COM

NEW FOR 2026 VISIT THE WEBSITE AND SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GOOSE EGG OILING




www.olmd.org/goose-control/

**MANAGING CANADA GOOSE POPULATIONS ON OKAUCHEE LAKE:
March 1st through June 30th annually**

HUMANE & EFFECTIVE PRACTICES




Only to be performed by Arnold Groehler - OLMD authorized contractor

-  **REDUCE NUISANCE ISSUES**
Less aggressive behavior, quieter.
-  **CLEANER LAKES & LAWNS**
Less droppings and waste.
-  **MANAGE LOCAL NUMBERS**
Gently limit population growth.

WHAT IS EGG OILING (ADDLING)?

A HUMANE & SANCTIONED METHOD



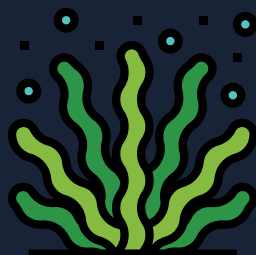
1. Locate Nest
2. Safely Remove Eggs (Check for Embryo Development)
3. Thoroughly Coat with Non-Toxic Oil (e.g., Corn Oil)
4. Return to Nest

STOPS EGGS FROM HATCHING NATURALLY.
Geese will not typically re-nest this season.



DISTRICT MEETINGS

Okauchee Lake Management District Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of every month from March through October at 7pm @ the Village of Lac La Belle Hall, located at the junction of Brown Street and CTH K. Check the website at www.olmd.org for agendas, minutes and updates. Please reserve the date of August 24th 2026 on your calendar for the Annual Meeting. All are welcome to attend. We hope to see you soon!



WEED MANAGEMENT 2026

A friendly reminder to make sure weed piles are both visible and accessible for the barges to collect. Placement at the end of the pier/dock is typically preferable, shoreline pile is acceptable if pier collection is not feasible and if barge accessible. If a container is used to hold weeds for pick up, please use one with holes to drain water from weeds.

Barging operations (weed pick up from pier) are due to begin just before Memorial Day weekend and will run Monday-Friday (with exception of holidays) until Mid September.

If you hire outside companies/individuals to collect your weeds, please remind these groups that our barge and crews will not pick up trash, rocks, large mud clots, tree limbs and fallen leaves.

Thank you for not feeding us bread



Why Not?

Bread makes our tummies hurt and makes us ill. Bread does not contain the right nutrition or calories that we need to survive. It makes us think we are full and then we don't eat the food we need.

It also pollutes our water and causes nasty surface algae, which kills our fish friends and gives us diseases.

What Should We Eat?

Half cut seedless grapes, chopped lettuce, birdseed, peas, corn, and oats.

OLMD GRANTED OVER \$16,000 IN WI DNR SURFACE WATER GRANTS

FOR THE 2026 FISCAL YEAR, OLMD WAS AWARDED THREE GRANTS FOR A TOTAL VALUE OF \$16,780. THESE GRANTS WILL HELP US MAXIMIZE THE USE OF OLMD FUNDS BY PROVIDING BETWEEN 66% AND 75% OF PROJECT COSTS FOR PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE OKAUCHEE LAKE WATER QUALITY.

THE FIRST GRANT AWARDED IS FOR OUR PUBLIC LAUNCH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CLEAN BOATS CLEAN WATERS PROGRAM TO PROVIDE INSPECTION OF BOATS COMING ONTO AND OFF FROM THE LAKE. THIS PROGRAM WILL BE EXECUTED BY THE WAUKESHA COUNTY AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES OFFICE.

THE OTHER TWO GRANTS ARE TO DO A TWO-PHASE STUDY OF THE DATA THAT HAS BEEN COLLECTED ON WATER QUALITY. THE FIRST PHASE IS TO AGGREGATE THE EXISTING DATA AND BEGIN ANALYSIS OF THAT DATA. THE SECOND PHASE OF THE PROJECT IS TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC POINTS OF POTENTIAL POLLUTANTS TO BE CANDIDATES FOR FUTURE WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS. THESE PROJECTS WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE STATE GRANT PROGRAM CAN BE FOUND ON THE WISCONSIN DNR SITE AT [HTTPS://DNR.WISCONSIN.GOV/AID/SURFACEWATER.HTML](https://DNR.WISCONSIN.GOV/AID/SURFACEWATER.HTML)

[HTTPS://DNR.WISCONSIN.GOV/EDUCATION/OUTDOORSKILLS/SAFETYEDUCATION](https://DNR.WISCONSIN.GOV/EDUCATION/OUTDOORSKILLS/SAFETYEDUCATION)

Visit the WI DNR site for boater safety education and regulations!



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Be A Good Steward.
Clean. Drain. Dry.
StopAquaticHitchhikers.org



Okauchee Fireworks

Okauchee Lake Independence Day Celebration Fireworks

Date: July 4th, 2026

Time: 9:30 pm approx

Location: Inland Park

In front of The Golden Mast Restaurant On Okauchee Lake



Okauchee Fireworks...

@OkaucheeFireworksFund



venmo

THE GOLDEN MAST WILL BE COLLECTING DONATIONS AT THEIR ANNUAL LIVING ON THE LAKE PARTY ON WEDNESDAY MAY 20TH.

GOOD NEIGHBOR WAKE BOAT SUGGESTIONS:



OUR AMAZING FIREWORKS DISPLAY IS FUNDED BY DONATIONS FROM RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES. 100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES DIRECTLY TO THE FIREWORKS.



1. MIDDLE RUNS ALL DAY

PLEASE SURF IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAKE IN ORDER TO GIVE YOUR WAKES TIME TO DISSIPATE BEFORE LANDING ON SHORE OR SMASHING SOMEONE'S BOAT AGAINST THEIR DOCK.

2. SHORELINE COURTESY

IF THE CONDITIONS ARE NO GOOD OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAKE AND YOU NEED TO RUN A SHORELINE, MAKE SURE YOU RUN DOWN AS FAR AS YOU CAN AND DON'T KEEP RIDING THE SAME SHORT RUN OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

3. KEEP THE TUNES DOWN

WE ALL LIKE TO ENJOY SOME MUSIC WHILE OUT ON THE WATER BUT UNLESS THERE ARE NO OTHER SOULS AROUND, TRY TO KEEP THE VOLUME DOWN A BIT. MAYBE NOT EVERYONE AROUND LIKES METALLICA AS MUCH AS YOU DO...

4. BACK OFF

THIS IS A NO-BRAINER BUT DON'T FOLLOW ANOTHER WAKESURF BOAT (OR ANY BOAT FOR THAT MATTER) TOO CLOSELY. WHETHER IT'S BEHIND OR ON THE SIDE, JUST KEEP YOUR DISTANCE PLEASE!

5. EYES FORWARD

IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE CAPTAIN, KEEP YOUR EYES FORWARD AND DRIVE SAFE.

6. TRIM IT LOW

IF YOUR VESSEL HAS TRIM TABS, MAKE SURE YOU KEEP THEM WHERE YOU CAN STILL GET A CLEAR VIEW OF WHAT LIES AHEAD.

7. OBEY NO WAKE

EVERY BOATER KNOWS THE BUOYS THAT MARK OFF SPACES WHERE WAKES ARE NOT WELCOME. BE AWARE OF THEM.

8. BE RESPECTFUL

GIVING RESPECT GETS YOU RESPECT. USE YOUR BRAIN WHILE ON THE WATER AND DON'T BE THE ONE THAT MAKES SOMEONE DISLIKE ALL WAKESURFERS!

IF YOU FOLLOW THIS LIST AND USE SOME COMMON SENSE, YOU'LL NOT ONLY HAVE A SOLID DAY ON THE WATER, BUT THE OTHER PEOPLE ON THE LAKE WILL TOO. BE COOL AND SHARE THE LAKE.



Being a courteous neighbor goes a long way in creating a safe environment for the myriad of activities on the lake and a pleasant environment for everyone on the water. We thank you all for your cooperation!

PLEASE DON'T BLOW LEAVES INTO THE LAKE



HOW TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE OLMD

EVERY MONTH FROM MARCH - OCTOBER, THE OLMD HOLDS A BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING. MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC & ALL RIPARIAN OWNERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE!

EACH YEAR WE IDENTIFY MORE NEEDS TO WORK ON THAN OUR 5 VOLUNTEER COMMISSIONERS ARE ABLE TO TAKE ON. WE INVITE ANYONE INTERESTED IN HELPING WITH THE WORK OF THE OLMD TO REACH OUT. THIS CAN BE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES TO GET INVOLVED IN THE STEWARDSHIP OF OUR LAKE.

**IF INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING WITH THE OLMD, PLEASE SEND A MESSAGE TO
BRIAN SICH, OLMD SECRETARY**

OLMDVOLUNTEER@SICH.COM

