



GUIDE TO

Lake Protection and Management

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Freshwater Society
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Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Forward

The need for a 2nd edition of a lake management and protection guide, after seven printings of the first edition, is testimonial to its acceptance and use to help conserve and wisely use our 15, 291 lakes and their millions of feet of shoreline. Proper management of such valuable natural resources is a duty of all of us.

But, two economic gains are easily forgotten while concentrating on the actual management of lakes and their shorelines. These are (1) the economic gain of proper lake management, and (2) the value of having congenial, satisfied, and compatible neighbors on adjacent shorelines.

Any of us who have owned shoreline on a Minnesota lake know the value of the property being “on the water”, be it lake, pond, wetland, river, or stream. It is difficult to place a dollar amount on lakeshore, but land’s value is often increased dramatically if it’s located near water, especially pristine water. Properly-managed lake and shorelines will add to the value of the premium price of water-front property.

Then, there’s the value of being a good neighbor and having good neighbors. Lake property with congenial, caring, and cooperative neighbors is “worth its price in gold” though difficult to quantify in dollars and cents, it’s an added value to the property.

Be a good neighbor who shares in proper lake management and who manages his own shoreline as well. It does pay off.

Dick Gray
Founder, Freshwater Society

COVER PHOTO: RICHARD HAUG

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

Minnesota’s famed 10,000 lakes have been a source of pride and enjoyment for countless generations, but the pressures of population, development, and pollution are threatening the health of these natural treasures.

This guide, now in its second edition, provides some of the basics and specifics that concerned citizens need to help lakes survive and thrive. It describes how lakes work, how various lake problems occur, what individuals and groups can do to protect and improve lakes, and where advice and assistance can be obtained.

FRESHWATER SOCIETY



Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. What is a Lake?	1	IX. Lake and Watershed Management: Taking Action	15
II. What is a Watershed?	1	1. Set Goals	15
III. How do Lakes Work?	2	2. Find Partners and Assess Levels of Commitment	15
1. A Physical Look at Lakes	2	3. Acquire Background Knowledge	15
2. A Biological Look at Lakes	2	4. Determine the Current Status of the Lake	16
3. A Chemical Look at Lakes	4	5. Develop a Lake Management Plan	16
IV. How do Watersheds Work?	5	6. Voice Your Concerns	16
1. Hydrology	5	7. Decide How to Proceed	16
2. Pollutant Loading	5	X. Lake Restoration: What's Involved?	17
V. What Can Go Wrong In Lakes?	6	1. Re-evaluate Goals	17
1. Eutrophication: The Weeds Take Over	6	2. Pursue a Higher Level of Organization	17
2. Sedimentation: The Lake Fills In	7	3. Explore Financing Sources	17
3. Acidification: Air Pollution Affects Lakes	7	4. Conduct a Lake Study	18
4. Toxic Contamination:		5. Prepare an Implementation Plan	18
Excess Chemicals Contaminate Lakes	8	XI. Lake Restoration: What Can Be Done?	19
5. Exotic Species Infestation: The Aliens Have Arrived	8	In-Lake Techniques	19
VI. What Can You Do To Take Care Of Your Lake?	9	1. Physical Measures	19
1. Lake and Watershed Stewardship: An Attitude	9	2. Chemical Measures	20
2. Lake Management: A Process	9	3. Biological Measures	20
3. Lake Restoration: Corrective Action	9	Watershed Management Techniques	21
VII. Lake and Watershed Stewardship:		1. On-site Best Management Practices	21
What Can An Individual Do?	10	2. Off-site Watershed Management Techniques	22
1. Plan Wisely Before Building	10	3. Non-structural Best Management Practices	23
2. Minimize Waterfront Alterations	11	XII. What Are the Benefits of Lake Protection?	24
3. Modify Yard Care	12	Glossary	25
4. Take Care of Your On Site Wastewater Treatment System	12	Appendix	26
5. Reduce Runoff from Your Yard	13	Checklist of Stewardship Practices for Lake Protection	26
6. Modify Boating, Swimming and Fishing Practices	13	References and Additional Sources of Information	26
VIII. Lake and Watershed Management: What Is It?	14	Web Sites	27
Two Philosophies of Lake Management	14	Organizations	27
1. The "Quick-Fix" Approach	14	Funding Sources	27
2. Long-Term Lake Management	14		