



Big Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District

Comprehensive Plan Studies

The Big Cedar Lake PRD began planning and budgeting for comprehensive plan studies in 2023 and is working with Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) on the scope and execution of the plans. Phase I started in 2024 and will continue into 2025, along with the start of Phase II. The focus of these studies is to understand the following conditions of the lake.

- Morphology, hydrology and watershed conditions
- Lake water quality

- Groundwater
- Shoreline condition
- Septic systems
- Stormwater management
- Pollutant sources and loads
- Aquatic plant community and management
- Recreational use
- Fish and wildlife

The information from the studies will aid the PRD in making efficient and effective lake management decisions to promote actions that help achieve water quality and lake health.

To see the complete scope and documentation on Phase I and II, go to bigcedarlakeprd.org. Select **Lake Studies** then **Comprehensive Plans**.

There is also a document which is a presentation of initial findings from Phase I with a lot of information we hope you will find of value.

The final findings and recommendations are expected by 2026, after both phases of information gathering have been completed.

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Check Out our Updated Website!

The look and feel of the PRD website has changed! More importantly, information has been organized in what we feel are better categories so you can more easily find what you

are looking for. And we've added more information. Check out the PRD website at bigcedarlakeprd.org

At the Home page, scroll down to the **Subscribe**

section then sign up to receive meeting notices, and News & Notifications. Stay informed!

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News & Notifications!



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Wake Surfing

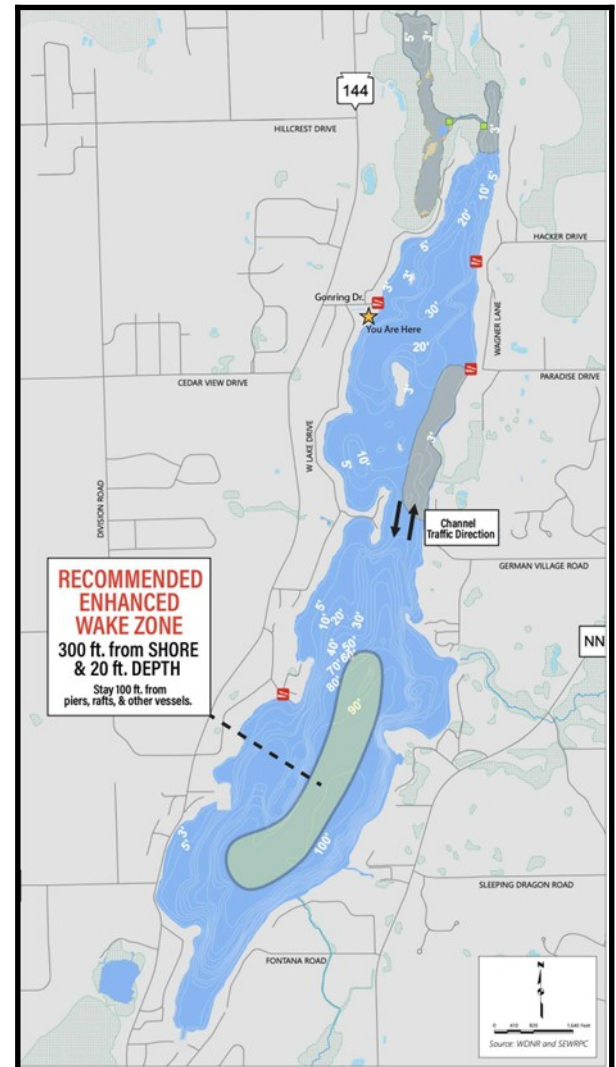
Wake surfing activities continue to be a concern for some lake district residents on Big Cedar Lake and other lakes in Wisconsin. We will continue with the recommended wake surfing zone in the south area of the lake for 2025; however, the PRD may determine to enact an ordinance rather than just remain with a recommendation. No specific decision has been made at the time of this newsletter. If the PRD chooses to consider an ordinance, please know there are many steps to go through in the process. A determination would need to be made on what the specifics of an ordinance would be, public meetings would be held, a DNR approval would be required, and a 60 day waiting period after DNR approval. It is a time intensive process and not one that can be completed quickly.

The current recommended zone can be viewed on the map.

Please make sure to let your kids, grandkids, or others participating in these activities know of the recommended area!

Current Recommendations:

- Stay in the Enhanced Wake Zone
- Stay at least 300 feet from shore
- Stay in a depth of at least 20 feet



Boater Safety Classes 2025

In Wisconsin anyone born on or after January 1, 1989, must successfully complete a boater safety course approved by the Wisconsin DNR in order to operate a motorboat or personal watercraft (PWC). A child must be the age of 12 before they can legally operate a motorboat on their own.

Boater Safety Classes are offered online through the Wisconsin DNR at www.boat-ed.com/wisconsin/

In person classes are offered at the PRD building this spring. Classes are in the evening and you must attend

all three days of the session for certification. The cost is \$10.

Two separate sessions are offered for 2025.

May 12, 13, and 14

6:00 — 9:00 p.m.

June 16, 17, 18

6:00 — 9:00 p.m.

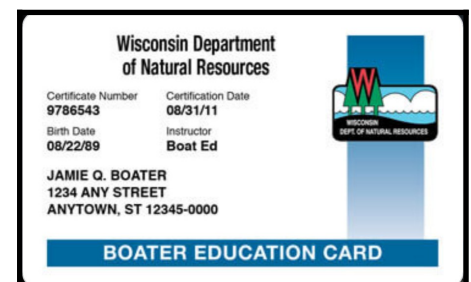
Sign up for in person classes through the Wisconsin DNR at gowild.wi.gov.

Online courses go to :

www.boat-ed.com/wisconsin/

In person classes go to :

gowild.wi.gov



Water Safety Patrol

The mission of Water Safety Patrol is to promote boater safety through education, enforcement, and active patrol.

Functions:

- Provide and maintain trained professional officers
- Promote boater safety through

the use of boating safety checks and enforcement of boater laws and ordinances

- Actively enforce boat registration laws
- Investigate all boating accidents
- Actively patrol all official scheduled boating events on the lake.

2024 information:

Total Patrol Hours: 1,338

Citations: 90

Warnings: 289

Know Your Buoys!



Channel Markers



Danger—Boats keep out



Informational marker



Diver—Stay 150 feet away



Mooring Buoy

Weed Harvesting

Harvesting usually starts by the middle of June and goes into September. Owners are responsible to collect shoreline weeds and can place them on the end of their pier for pickup. Weed pickup is Mondays and Fridays, weather permitting.

For more information on weed harvesting, check the PRD website

at bigcedarlakeprd.org. Go to the section **Services**, then select **Weed Harvesting**. Information includes the maps on where the PRD is allowed to cut.

Be sure to **Subscribe** to News & Notifications for updates!

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Big Cedar Lake Fishery

Big Cedar's fishery continues to be healthy due to the efforts of the local community and DNR. Unfortunately it appears that the DNR will no longer be stocking walleye. The Thursday Night Fishing Club continues to do so, as they have for the past 20 years. Last year they brought the Walleyes For Tomorrow Walleye Wagon and put in roughly 2 million fry. Additionally they stocked 7,300 extended length fingerlings at a cost of \$2.30 per fish. The club is hopeful to increase their stocking efforts. They will need additional funds to do this yearly, as they had been doing it on an every other year basis when the DNR did not stock.

Additionally fishing regulations have changed over the last 10 years which seems to be having positive results.

Current regulations are as follows:

- Panfish: 25 total with 10 of any one species.
- Northern Pike: 2 northern pike not between 25" - 35"
- Bass: 5 total over 14"
- Walleye: 3 total over 18"

For a complete list of The Wisconsin hook and line regulations go to dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/fishing/regulations.

Don't forget to trim up!

As our boats are getting bigger, so are the motors, which also means our boats are drafting deeper. Please remember to trim up when moving through shallow areas. These are sensitive areas that are important for fish habitat. As we are moving through them, even at slow speeds, we can cause damage and scarring to the habitat below. As we motor slowly around the outside of the lake enjoying the views we can unknowingly be causing harm to the bottom of the lake if we forget to trim our motors up.

Want to Know More?

Our newsletter has mentioned several areas managed by the PRD including the Comprehensive Plan Studies, Lake Patrol, and Weed Harvesting. Find out more detailed information and other PRD services at bigcedarlakeprd.org. Information includes:

- News & Notices
- Annual Meeting Information
- Ordinances and Guidelines
- Lake Quality and Watershed
- Invasive Species
- Launch Information
- Trash Collection
- Fishery Information

Planning any Reconstruction or Landscaping?

Before beginning any construction, including remodeling, reconstruction or any structural alterations, grading and landscaping, there may be a need to obtain a permit from Washington County as well as a permit from your local government (Town of West Bend or Town of Polk). The PRD is not involved with zoning ordinances or permits. You must

check with both the County and your respective town.

Search on their websites:

[Washington County](#)—
Permits and Applications

[Town of West Bend](#)—
Forms and Permits

[Town of Polk](#)—
Forms Permits & Applications



Summer Happenings

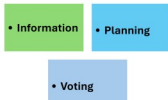


July 4, Big Cedar Lake Fireworks, brought to you by the BCL Yacht Club.

Please note — any private fireworks are not permitted by local town ordinances. There has been cover and boat damage in the past as well as debris in the lake. Be courteous to your neighbors!



CLYC Regattas — the Yacht Club has five regattas scheduled this season: Spring Regatta, May 10-11; AJX, June 20; Trac, June 27; C Invite, July 19-20; and Blue Chip, August 8-9.



BCL PRD Annual Meeting — Mark your calendar for the Annual Meeting, **Wednesday, August 20, 2025!** Property owners will receive more information two weeks prior to the meeting.

Big Cedar Lake PRD monthly meetings are held every **3rd Tuesday of the month** at the PRD office located at 4480 Gonring Dr. Check the website at bigcedarlakeprd.org for agendas, minutes and updates (dates subject to change).

Commissioners

Chris Genthe, Chairperson; bigcedarlakeprdchairperson@gmail.com

Christina Fiasca, Treasurer; christina.fiasca@gmail.com

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Matthew Haldemann, Commissioner; mattprd44@gmail.com

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Keith Stephan, Washington County Representative; kstephan60@yahoo.com

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