

The Buoys are IN!

As we reported last year, we placed buoys around the lake to mark the boundary between the “traffic lane” and the slow-no-wake area close to shore in accordance with Town of East Troy ordinances. In most cases, per the ordinance, the buoys will be 200 feet from shore. Where 200 feet is not practical, the traffic lane shall be as indicated by buoys placed for that specific purpose. The term “traffic lane” simply means an area where you can go faster than the slow-no-wake speed. Between the shore and the buoys, boaters are restricted to operate below slow-no-wake speed. Slow-no-wake speed means the minimum speed necessary to maintain steerage.

The District has worked with the DNR to create a buoy map and has permits for these buoy locations. [Find the map on LBMD.org](#). Please note that the buoys may need location adjustments. We will work with the DNR to make any appropriate adjustments. If you own a buoy that is in good shape and would like to donate it to the District, please let us know at <https://lbmd.org/contact-us/> If you would like to continue placing your private buoy, it will need to be placed in line with the District buoys and DNR approved. Find the forms on the WiDNR website. If you do not have your own permit, you may be ticketed for having an unpermitted buoy.

Harvest Start Date & Reminders

Aquatic plant harvesting by the LBMD will begin no later than **June 15, 2026**, and will conclude in **mid-September**. Operations will take place strictly within DNR-permitted areas.

Manual Harvesting Guidelines: If you choose to manually harvest aquatic plants around your pier or swimming area, please follow these steps to ensure proper disposal:

- **Collect:** Gather all harvested plant refuse
- **Place:** Set the collection on your pier
- **Notify:** Call the LBMD at **262-363-5359**

Our team will pick up the refuse as we make our scheduled rounds.

Important: Please do **not** harvest plants and allow them to float away. Floating plants can reroot themselves and become problematic—particularly if they are invasive species.

Walworth County Sheriff’s Office recently took delivery of the new Dive boat for the Walworth County Dive Rescue Team which was acquired with ARPA funding. During its initial testing, County Board Chair & LBMD Commissioner Rick Stacey was invited on a short tour and ride to see and experience some of the boat’s features. The Dive Team is enthusiastic with the new features and safety improvements. The boat was designed for safety, performance and longevity. The boat will be used for emergency situations on all county lakes.



LAKE BEULAH MANAGEMENT DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:

PATRICK BERGIN, CHAIRMAN, *TERM TO 2028*

JESS DYNEK, VICE CHAIR, *TERM TO 2028*

CHRIS KUBICEK, TREASURER, *TERM TO 2027*

VALERIE JOHNSON, SECRETARY, *TERM TO 2026*

JOHN RUSSELL, COMMISSIONER, *TERM TO 2027*

TODD JONES, COMMISSIONER, *TOWN APPOINTED*

RICK STACEY, COMMISSIONER, *COUNTY APPOINTED*

MISSION

The primary goal of the Lake Beulah Management District (“LBMD”) is to improve or protect the quality of Lake Beulah.

Wis. Stat. §33.11

LBMD Mailing Address:

PO BOX 71

East Troy, WI 53120

WWW.LBMD.ORG

The Beulah Heights Culvert Replacement Project

continues to move forward without any significant setbacks or delays. The Town of East Troy continues to provide regular construction updates through weekly meetings, along with detailed progress reports posted on the Town website and Facebook page for residents who would like additional information.

The temporary roadway is expected to be completed shortly, allowing crews to begin dewatering operations and removal of the existing culvert. The roadway remains fully closed to through traffic while excavation, culvert installation, and related infrastructure improvements are completed. Residents who temporarily lose lake access during construction will be provided launch passes.

Residents are encouraged to subscribe to notifications through the Town website to stay informed on the latest project updates. Text message notifications are also available.

**Update on PET180006A N8831 STRINGERS
BRIDGE RD Owner West Rod Cottage Industries,
LLC/John Stoss, Applicant**

West Rod's application to rezone the N8831 parcel from C4 to C2 and for a Conditional Use permit to create a commercial marina with 8 parking stalls, 8 commercial mooring spaces and 2 personal mooring spaces was granted in 2025 by the Walworth County Zoning Agency ("WCZA"). As you know from our earlier communications, LBMD opposed the establishment of a commercial marina on the property. For a recap of our arguments against the marina, please see the LBMD Spring 2025 newsletter and review the filings at <https://lbmd.org/litigation/>.

We are very pleased to report that the court ruled in LBMD's favor stating:

Because the WCZA failed to require compliance with the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, failed to require necessary variances, and approved a use that was not shown to be lawful under the applicable zoning scheme, its decision was unreasonable and rested upon an incorrect theory of law. Accordingly, the grant of the conditional use permit must be reversed.

To summarize even more briefly, *the Court adopted each and every one of our arguments in full and rejected the County's position in its entirety.*

This is an important victory in terms of protecting the sensitive areas of our lake from commercial development and in legal terms. From a legal standpoint, the court absolutely rejected the WCZA's mistaken premise that Act 67 allowed it to disregard shoreland zoning restrictions so long as conditions were nominally imposed. The preservation of these shoreland zoning restrictions is critical to the health of Lake Beulah.

Our strategy moving forward will likely depend on several factors, including: (1) whether the County pursues an appeal; (2) whether the County complies with the court's order reversing the conditional use permit during any appeal; and (3) whether West Rod continues to operate the marina.

More geese again this year? Canada geese populations have increased after being nearly extinct in the mid-20th century. While they were once migratory, warmer winters have led many to stay year-round. This change, combined with human-created environments like manicured lawns down to the water's edge, has resulted in geese overpopulating our lakes. Goose droppings contain high levels of phosphorus and nitrogen, which can contribute to poor water quality. If overabundant, these nutrients fuel algal blooms in water bodies, which can harm aquatic life by depleting oxygen and releasing toxins. Goose feces also pose a potential health risks due to bacteria and parasites, though the risk to humans is low unless they handle the waste. Lake Beulah is again participating in the USDA sponsored goose mitigation efforts, but we need some help in terms of both volunteers and in terms of access to property. To permit the USDA and volunteers associated with LBMD to access your property, please complete the form on the website. Or use our easy Google form: <https://forms.gle/G7r3qgzYvPEAETHx9>

BEFORE YOU DIG IN, ASK WHERE TO BEGIN

Walworth County Land Use
and Resource Management Department (LURM)
(262) 741-4972

WI Department of Natural Resources (WI-DNR)
(262) 574-2136

Walworth County Shoreland Zoning

Before you consider summer projects it is important to know what rules and regulations apply to your property. The term IMPERVIOUS SURFACE is often mentioned. You ask, what is an impervious surface? This term includes, but is not limited to homes, porches, garages, sheds, boathouse, decks, patios, driveways, parking areas, sidewalks, stairways, retaining walls, firepits. The County impervious surface standards apply to the construction, reconstruction, expansion, replacement and/or relocation of ANY impervious surface located within 300 feet of the ordinary high-water mark. Along with permitting, an impervious surface review must accompany the permit.

Stairway or Walkway

County Zoning Code reads: One stairway, walkway or lift may be permitted in the shore yard provided it is necessary to access the shoreline, is located within the view/access corridor and is more than 60 inches wide. There are additional rules and requirements concerning canopies, roofs and open and closed railings, landings and other structures. A zoning permit and land disturbance permit are required.

Piers, Wharves and Docks

Per Town of East Troy Ordinance, it is required to permit for structures placed in navigable waters, including piers, moorings and other navigational devices. The Town of East Troy requires permits for structures placed in navigable waters including piers, moorings and other navigational devices. The ordinance ensures that these structures do not materially obstruct navigation and do not harm significant fish or wildlife habitats or sensitive environmental areas. For more detailed information including the latest rules and regulations, visit the Town of East Troy website.

Lake Beulah Bottom Lake Sonar Update

In early April 2026, the Lake Beulah Management District (**LBMD**) partnered with Lake and Pond, LLC to conduct a comprehensive sonar study of the lake bottom. The primary goal of this study was to capture an updated topology of Lake Beulah to better inform our conservation efforts and the public.

Study Results

The full findings are available the website at www.lbmd.org. The data includes several specialized measurements to help residents and officials understand the lake's current state:

- **Depth Bathymetry:** A detailed map identifying water depths throughout the lake.
- **Relative Sediment Hardness:** A report measuring the composition and firmness of the bottom surface.
- **Vegetated Biovolume Heat Map:** A visual guide measuring the density and volume of aquatic plant life.

We hope you find this information useful. By providing a clearer picture of Lake Beulah’s underwater landscape, we can work together to better understand and protect the lake we all enjoy.

THE WILMERS LANDING BOAT LAUNCH KIOSK IS NOW OPEN!

 **CASH AND CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED.**

 **RECEIPT MUST BE PLACED**
printed side up on the driver's side of the dash.

 **HAPPY BOATING!**

2026 BOAT LAUNCH FEES

TYPE OF PERMIT	FEE
Parking without launching	\$10
Non-motorized or non-trailerred craft	\$10 resident/non-resident
Motorized crafts less than 20 feet	\$15 resident/non-resident
Motorized craft between 20 and 26 feet	\$20 resident/non-resident
Motorized craft greater than 26 feet	\$25 resident/non-resident
Annual Pass	
Motorized craft less than 20 feet	\$150
Motorized craft between 20 feet and 26 feet	\$200
Motorized craft greater than 26 feet	\$250
Commercial Pass	\$300

The Town of East Troy manages the Lake Beulah Boat Launch.

Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

N9330 Stewart School Road
East Troy, WI

Phone:
(262) 642-5386



LAKE BEULAH FIREWORKS - 2026

FRIDAY, JULY 3 (RAIN DATE JULY 4) * DUSK * Main Lake



A Donation of \$60.00 or More is Encouraged.....

This year marks the USA's 250th birthday—and we are planning a bigger fireworks show to celebrate. Our cost to purchase the fireworks has risen significantly so your increased donation is greatly appreciated.

If you are first-time participant, your donation truly makes a difference.

Help light up the sky! Make this an evening to remember!

100% of Your Donation Funds the Fireworks Show

HOW TO DONATE

VENMO: @daleroble-treasurer **ZELLE:** lakebeulahfireworks@gmail.com

CHECK: LAKE BEULAH FIREWORKS PO BOX 528 EAST TROY, WI 53120

QUESTIONS: LAKEBEULAHFIREWORKS@GMAIL.COM

Thanks to the Following Local Businesses for Making this Evening Possible

ENVIROCON SNOW & LANDSCAPE KUTSCH CONSTRUCTION ProFab WELDING, LLC.



BLUE GREEN ALGAE

"When in doubt, stay out!" Lake Beulah, like all lakes in Wisconsin, is susceptible to the presence of Blue Green Algae, also know scientifically as Cyanobacteria. In a large enough concentration, Cyanobacteria can become a Hazardous Algae Bloom (HAB). HABs are caused when a combination of factors exist which include:

- **Nutrient Enrichment:** High levels of nutrients, particularly nitrogen and phosphorus, in the water promote the growth of cyanobacteria. These nutrients can come from sources such as agricultural runoff, sewage, and industrial waste.
- **Warm Water Temperatures:** Cyanobacteria thrive in warm water temperatures, typically between 60 and 86°F (16 and 30°C).
- **Still Water Conditions:** Calm or stagnant water allows cyanobacteria to accumulate and form blooms.
- **Sunlight:** Cyanobacteria require sunlight for photosynthesis and growth.
- **pH Levels:** Slightly alkaline pH levels (7.5-9.5) can favor the growth of cyanobacteria.
- **Other Factors:** Additional factors that may contribute to blue-green algae blooms include: Invasive species, Changes in water chemistry, Climate change, and Lack of water circulation.

It's important to note that not all blue-green algae blooms are harmful, but some can produce toxins that can be dangerous to humans, animals, and aquatic ecosystems. Blue-green algae can be identified with visual inspection by experienced persons. There is an educational document prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to help you identify potential HABs and appropriate safety steps.

Find on the website:

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02421clr.pdf

LBMD has established a protocol if someone suspects the presence of a HAB on Lake Beulah. If you have a concern, please call or email LBMD Commissioner, John Russell: jrussell@LBMD.onmicrosoft.com. Someone will visit the area of concern to make visual observations and perform water sampling for analysis if necessary.

SCAN before you SWIM

A blue-green algae bloom may be present. Blue-green algae can produce toxins that can make people and animals sick.

Be alert! Avoid water that:



Is discolored or streaky



Looks like spilled paint or pea soup



Has floating scum, globs, or mats



Has small green dots floating in it

- ✓ **Do not swallow lake water or touch foam, scum, or algal mats.**
- ✓ **Do not let pets swim in scummy water or lick algae off their fur.**
- ✓ **Rinse fish with fresh, clean water and throw away guts before cooking and eating.**
- ✓ **Do not swim in areas where you cannot see your feet in knee-deep water.**

For questions, call _____



To learn more about blue-green algae, visit www.dhs.wi.gov and search "algae."



Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Division of Public Health
Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health
P-02421CLR (09/2022)

LBMD.ORG