

## Welcome to the Town of Spider Lake

The Town of Spider Lake is in the heart of Wisconsin's Northwoods. Our wildlife is abundant, our lakes pristine, and our forest is beautiful. On moonless nights you can see the Milky Way. If you're really lucky, you may even see the Northern Lights. Frequently, you can see all the night sky has to offer reflected in calm water.



Residents and visitors enjoy a wide variety of outdoor activities on the Town's many lakes and in the Chequamegon National Forest. Many activities, such as fishing, cross country skiing and mountain biking are world class. Both the Birkebeiner Trail and the CAMBA mountain biking trail system cross the Town, and those who enjoy snowmobiling and riding ATVs will also find many trails to explore. While limited motorsports are allowed on some lakes, other lakes are dedicated Quiet Lakes. The Town of Spider Lake has something for everyone who enjoys the outdoors!

### Our Town Governance

The Town of Spider Lake (TOSL) is governed by the **Board of Supervisors**. Supervisors are elected by the residents of the Town, and are responsible for promoting the health, safety and well-being of the Town's citizens by:

- Establishing services required by the citizens
- Establishing ordinances by which the citizens and visitors agree to abide
- Assessing property values, creating an annual budget, establishing the tax levy and collecting taxes
- Overseeing the activities of all Town committees and the Plan and Review Commission.

### Our Town's Comprehensive Plan

Originally created in 2002 by 25 Town of Spider Lake (TOSL) community members, the Plan is updated periodically. The 2025 [Comprehensive Plan](#):

- Defines the *unique qualities* which make up the "Northwoods Character" that we, as citizens of the TOSL, *value* in our community.
- Articulates how the "Northwoods Character" represents *a valuable asset* to our community.
- Represents *our community's vision* for the development of our natural, social, and economic resources over the next 20 years.
- Contains a *wealth of information* about our Town and the significant factors affecting the quality of life for its residents. It includes information such as demographics, housing trends, natural resources, land use and the Town's implementation plans.

The Town of Spider Lake is a gem:

- We are a community of full-time (24%) and seasonal (76%) households.
- The majority of the development (dwellings) is on lake and river shorelines.
- The Town's population has increased gradually and steadily over the decades, likely continuing at a similar pace.
- Owners and visitors appreciate the Town's environment, and enjoy the outdoor recreation opportunities available.



### Our Town Ordinances and Resolutions

The Town of Spider Lake (TOSL) Ordinances and Resolutions implement the vision laid out in our [Comprehensive Plan](#). They enable and support the 'Northwoods Character' we cherish. Specifically, they:

- **Provide a framework** to guide the Town government, property owners and visitor activities within the Town.
- **Balance the rights** of the community with individual property owner rights.
- **Are "complaint-based"**, meaning if neighbors are not bothered by a resident/owner's activities, there is no need to complain.
- **Are adopted** and administered by the TOSL Board of Supervisors, except for Land Use Ordinance 17-88, administered by the Plan and Review Commission (P&RC).
- **Differ in certain areas** from County or State zoning requirements.

### Our Town Departments

The Town of Spider Lake (TOSL) operates several departments to serve the community including:

- Zoning and Building
- Health and Safety
- Roads
- Facilities and Solid Waste
- Finance and Insurance

These departments can be reached at:  
Spider Lake Town Hall  
10896 W Town Hall Rd  
Hayward, WI 54843  
Phone: (715) 462-3977

### Our Town Zoning

The Town of Spider Lake oversees regulations regarding changes to homes (See [the Uniform Dwelling Code](#)) and changes to property and shorelines (see [the Land Use Ordinance 17-88](#)).

## Our Town's Unique Characteristics

What differentiates the Town of Spider Lake from other Wisconsin towns?

- The Town of Spider Lake has its own Land Use ordinance including shoreline regulations which are more restrictive than the Sawyer County or WI State Statues. Enforcing these ordinances protects the natural resources of the town and gives the town a distinctive Northwoods character look and feel.
- Boaters must observe a 10 mph speed limit at all times with the exception of 11AM-3PM on Clam Lake, Ghost Lake and most of the Spider Chain of Lakes. During these hours in these areas, waterskiing and higher boating speed is allowed.
- There are designated routes and trails for ATV/UTV and snowmobile use. The Town's roads are not open to ATV/UTV traffic unless specified in Ordinance 01-01.



# TOWN OF Spider Lake At-A-Glance

May 2025



See the Town's website for the most up-to-date information. Questions? Just ask! Visit [www.townofspiderlakewi.gov](http://www.townofspiderlakewi.gov).

**Please do your part to keep the Town of Spider Lake safe for people and wildlife, and its lakes and forests clean and free of invasives.**

EMERGENCY DIAL	9 1 1
ROAD ISSUES	715-418-9969
CLERK / TOWN HALL	715-462-3977

## Boating

**Speed limit of 10 mph** on all lakes (making them 'Quiet Lakes')

**Except for :**

**11 am to 3 pm** on the Spider Lake Chain (except Fawn), Lower Clam and Ghost Lakes (Ord. #02-2024 on website has more specifics).

- All other Wisconsin boating regulations apply.



## ATV and Snowmobiles

- TOSL supports use on the County-wide trail system.
- **ATVs not permitted on Town Roads** or State Hwy 77.
- See the Sawyer County Snowmobile and ATV Alliance website ([www.sawycountyalliance.com](http://www.sawycountyalliance.com)) and download the TrailTrekker app for trail maps.
- Ord. #01-01 on the website has ATV/UTV specifics.



## Solid Waste / Recycling

Located behind the Fire Department building west of Town Hall. \$5 per bag for garbage; free recycling.

**HOURS:**

Summer: (May 15 through October 15)  
Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday 10 am-4 pm.  
Year-Round: Saturdays 10 AM-4 PM



## Fire / Fireworks / Burning

- **Fireworks permits are required** by the Town and issued by the Fire Department. See the Town website.
- **Burn permits are required** (annually) by the DNR (no charge). Apply on the DNR website ([www.dnr.wisconsin.gov](http://www.dnr.wisconsin.gov)); search Burn Permit.

## Noise / Nuisance

- The Town falls under Sawyer County's Public Human Health Hazards Ordinance.
- Noise or nuisance complaints: call Sawyer County Sheriff non-Emergency Dispatch: 715-634-5213

## Zoning / Land Use

- The Town of Spider Lake has village powers and administers its own land use/zoning ordinance.
- **Land Use (Building) Permits are required.**
- Details and Application Forms are on Town website.

## Shorelines / Lighting

- Statewide 35-foot setback followed  
Do not mow/disturb except within 30' view corridor.
- Outdoor lighting should be shielded, with light directed downward to avoid unnecessary glare.



## Questions?

- Visit [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on the Town website (under the Community tab). Or...
- Click the 'Contact Us' tab on the Town website (lower right side of the page) and let us know what's on your mind. Or...
- Call the Town Hall at 715-462-3977. We'll get back to you!

**Enjoy the Outdoors- Responsibly!**