

LOST LAKE RCD - Lake Management

LOST LAKE



*The RCD Board & Staff
Wish You a Safe and
Happy Holiday Season!*



FISH STOCKING

The RCD stocked the following fish recently, as follows:

- Walleye 6"- 8" 300
- Small Mouth Bass 5"- 8" 400
- Muskie 10"- 12" 30

LAKE DREDGING UPDATE

The Illinois EPA has approved our second round of silt testing, which means that we can move ahead with our hydraulic dredge project. Scott Brown from Wendler Engineering and Joe Rush, our aquatic management consultant are currently working on a bid spec that should be completed in January. Once a contractor is secured, we will have a more definitive timeline for completion. We will continue to provide updates as this highly anticipated project progresses.

CONTROLLED BURN

TNC Nachusa Orland Track, located north of the creek near the dam and north of the RCD property, is planning a controlled burn in February of 2023. A notice will be sent out to the community prior to the burn.

-Bill Winebaugh, RCD President

ICE FISHING SAFETY

We cannot stress enough the importance of safety when ice fishing. To borrow the "be prepared" motto, when you're properly prepared for the experience, ice fishing is a fun outdoor activity. Below are some guidelines to help you "be prepared."

Ice Facts

- New ice is usually stronger than old ice. Four inches of clear, newly formed ice may support one person on foot, while a foot or more of old, partially thawed ice may not.
- Ice seldom freezes uniformly. It may be a foot thick in one location and only an inch or two just a few feet away.
- Ice formed over flowing water and currents is often dangerous. This is especially true near streams, bridges and culverts. Also, the ice outside river bends is usually weaker due to the undermining effects of the faster current.
- The insulating effect of snow slows down the freezing process. The extra weight also reduces how much weight the ice sheet can support. Also, ice near shore can be weaker than ice that is farther out.
- Booming and cracking ice isn't necessarily dangerous. It only means that the ice is expanding and contracting as the temperature changes.
- Schools of fish or flocks of waterfowl can also adversely affect the relative safety of ice. The movement of fish can bring warm water up from the bottom of the lake. In the past, this has opened holes in the ice causing snowmobiles and cars to break through.

Ice Thickness

Here are the ice thickness safety guidelines:

- 2" or less - STAY OFF
- 4" - Ice fishing or other activities on foot



- 5" - Snowmobile or ATV
- 8" - 12" - Car or small pickup
- 12" - 15" - Medium truck

Note: These guidelines are for new, clear solid ice and many factors other than thickness can cause ice to be unsafe.

Note: White ice or "snow ice" is only about half as strong as new clear ice. Double the above thickness guidelines when traveling on white ice.

Additional Safety Tips:

- It's a good idea to always carry with you a rope or flotation device to help someone who may have fallen through the ice. Remember NOT to approach the area where someone has fallen through, as this ice will be quite vulnerable to weight.
- Wear a personal flotation device (life vest) under your winter gear.
- Carry a pair of ice picks. It's very difficult to pull yourself back onto the surface of slippery ice while weighted down with heavy clothing. The ice picks really help pulling yourself back onto solid ice.