

Beaver Lake February 2023 News

Security Report

Boating season is just around the corner so please take some time to review the 2023 boating regulations and Nebraska laws. Beaver Lake rules and regulations fall under the Nebraska state statute 37-1268 (violation of boating act regulations.) Legislature mandates that **anyone born after December 31, 1985** must pass and possess a certificate from an approved boating safety course before they are allowed to operate a boat or a personal water craft (PWC) also known as a jet-ski. This state course is also offered to anyone who wishes to learn more about boating safety. The course may offer a discount through your insurance company. Classes can now be taken online at the Nebraska Game & Parks Website under Boating Education.



Before bringing your boat in to obtain a 2023 Beaver Lake sticker, please check your boat and registration. Make sure you have your lot numbers in place, your registration, and your vessel with you when you bring it in to sticker. The primary lot owner/lessee must be the only name on the registration, and he/she must be present to sticker. If other names are on the registration, your boat sticker will be denied. In-Transits require a \$250 deposit. However, handwritten or private party bills of sale require Board approval. See BLA website. Also make sure the state and lot numbers are 3 inches or larger in size and are in the correct location. Otherwise, you will be refused. No new wake surf stickers will be issued. If you did not have one last year, you will not receive one this year. Your name can be placed on the existing wait list by calling the security office.

Check the BLA Website for Boat Ramp and Boat Sticker Hours. They will be posted soon.

Primary stickers are \$50 this year. Secondary stickers remain \$50. Stickers for wake surf boats are \$100. Only cash or checks are accepted.

All boats on the water must have a 2023 sticker by May 1, 2023.

Boats creating a wake must stay 90' from shore on the main lake. Wake boats must remain 200' from shore while surfing. Buoys on the main lake remain at 75'. Please see your current boating regulations and BLA Handbook for new buoy requirements and for complete boating rules and regulations.

Please be aware that your boat can be inspected for invasive species **each time you launch**. A zebra mussel questionnaire must also be filled out before stickering your first watercraft. The questionnaire is available at the boat ramp and the Beaver Lake website. When you register an out of state vessel, Nebraska Game & Parks is requiring an Invasive Species Sticker to be purchased. If your vessel is from out-of-state, please check the Nebraska Game and Parks Website to obtain your sticker before stickering here at Beaver Lake. (<http://outdoornebraska.gov/boating/>)

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Spot checks will be made by law enforcement for unsafe operation and underage drinking or under the influence. Remember, the legal limit of blood alcohol content is .08% for anyone 21 years of age and over. Minor under the influence will be defined as anyone under the age of 21 years of age, exhibiting the effects of having consumed alcoholic liquor by breath, possession of, or close proximity to alcoholic liquor. This means, if you're under 21 years of age and you're on a vessel where alcoholic liquor is in view, you will be checked for M.U.I. **Please boat responsibly.**

The maximum speed limit on our lake is 45 mph per State regulation. The speed is limited to 5 mph / no wake, from ½ hour after sunset until ½ hour before sunrise and/or when the yellow flashing light at the east end of the clubhouse beach is illuminated.

Attention Property Owners Who Lease and Lessees:

If you are leasing a property at Beaver Lake this season, you are required to come to the BLA office with your lease before stickering your vessel(s). Your current lease needs to be on file at the BLA office every year prior to visiting the boat ramp and stickering your vessel.

Remember while enjoying the beach and common areas, there are NO pets, glass containers or smoking allowed on the beach or common areas near the beach area.

The speed limit on the roads within the Beaver Lake area is 25 mph – so please watch your speed. There are kids out playing and individuals who like to walk and jog at all hours of the day and night. As a safety concern, if you are going to be walking and jogging early in the morning or during the nighttime hours, please wear some sort of light or reflective clothing or carry a light for your protection.

There is a curfew on noise in the Beaver Lake Association area from 10:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and midnight to 8:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Home maintenance and repair are excluded. Also, noxious or offensive noises would be classified as fireworks, barking dogs, (in a continuous pattern), loud vehicles or boats, etc. Any time one violates another's peace within reason it's classified as disturbing the peace. The disturbing the peace violation carries a fine of \$50-\$500. The extra loud fireworks or explosions that occur are classified as offensive and are cited as such. If the fireworks are found to exceed what Nebraska regulates, a state charge of possession of an explosive device could be issued, which is a felony.

Numbers to remember:

Cass County Non-Emergency #	402-296-9370
Emergency	911
Beaver Lake Security Office	402-235-2243
Maintenance Pager #	402-235-2242

Thank you and stay safe!
Ofc. Becklun



BLA Introduces Electronic Voting

New in 2023, for our annual Beaver Lake Association meeting and election, we will offer electronic ballots via email. E-voting will be available for all regular members if they so choose.

Information with details and instructions were sent via U.S. Mail to members very soon.

Paper ballots to fill out manually will still be available for those who decide not to take advantage of e-voting.

All regular members get one ballot per lot owned, whether voting by email or by paper ballot. Either way, your vote is confidential.

2023 Board of Directors Election Notice

This serves as your public notice of these important election dates.

Please keep these important dates in mind!

Friday, March 24, 2023 4:00pm BLA Office
Final date and time for BLA property owners to declare candidacy for BLA Board of Directors

Thursday, April 20, 2023 7:30pm Board Meeting – BLA Clubhouse
* Board acceptance of candidates and Three-minute speeches by Board Candidates

Friday, May 12, 2023 4:00pm BLA Office
Final date and time for BLA members to declare write-in candidacy for BLA Board of Directors

Sunday, May 21, 2023 3:00pm Annual Meeting – BLA Clubhouse
* Balloting closed at call to order of BLA Annual Meeting.
* Election results announced prior to the close of the BLA Annual Meeting

***Please see the Beaver Lake Association Handbook
on the website for complete Election Procedures***

Election Procedures

Please visit the Beaver Lake website
www.beaverlakene.org
to view the latest edition of
the Beaver Lake Handbook.
Election Procedures are in Section VII

Fishing Club News

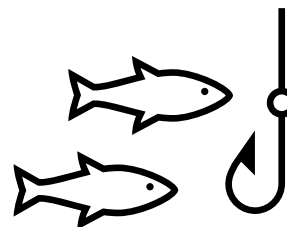
The 2023 fishing season is under way and the reports I'm getting are that the hard water fish are being finicky. Crappie and bluegill are the main fish being caught. A good combination of small and large crappie are coming in through the ice, which is a good sign for the future. I've been told of a 17-inch crappie being landed. What a giant! Rumor has it the bite is very light and to use the smallest jigs you have.

Last year looks to be the best year for crappie in both size and numbers based on Creel Surveys. Bass numbers were down with only an occasional big fish being landed. Small mouth seemed to be good with a decent number of big fish being caught. Wiper numbers were also good with lots of medium sized fish available to those fortunate enough to figure out a successful pattern for them. The catfish are here if you are patient enough to fish for them with numerous fish caught above 30 and 40 pounds. The 15–20-pound cats are being caught more frequently. Muskies are still the hardest fish to catch with only a handful caught each year. But when you catch one it's usually a large fish. Something you'll always remember for sure! Walleyes are very abundant and becoming easier to catch with larger numbers of them exceeding 5-6-pounds. To help keep better track of fish being caught on a size and numbers perspective for stocking purposes, please take a few moments to send in report on what you catch each outing. Here is a link for the creel surveys which is located at the bottom of the Beaver Lake web page <https://www.beaverlakene.org/fish-creel-survey/>.

For the fourth year in a row the Fishing Club is proud to offer a chance for your graduating senior to be selected for a scholarship. For more information please contact Stacey Plevel at (402) 297-4075 or staceyplevel@windstream.net. All applications are due by April 1, 2023.

Last year we had a record number of members with 116. Fishing Club meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Free beer at every meeting, so come have a cold one and see what we are all about. Below is the list of people who make the events and tournaments for our awesome fishing club happen.

President: Paul Warner
Vice President: Jason Cockle
Treasurer: Chuck Sweeney
Tournament Director: Russ Parmer
Stocking Manager: Dan O'Brien
Spaghetti Feed Coordinator: Kent Nelson
Kids Derby Coordinator: Jason Cockle
Member Fish Fry Coordinator: Richard Randall
Raffle Coordinator: Chad Bennett
Social Media Coordinator: Stacy Plevel



And last but not least, our schedule of Fishing Club events and tournaments.

- March 4th – Spaghetti Feed 5-8:00pm
- April 15th – Bass Tournament
- April 29th – Crappie Tournament
- May 6th – Carp Tournament
- May 13th – Bass Tournament
- June 3rd – Bass Tournament
- June 10th – Kids Derby
- July 15th – Membership Fish Fry
- July 28th – Evening Bass Tournament
- August 11th – Evening Bass Tourney
- August TBD – Catfish Tournament
- September 9th – Bass Tournament
- September 30th – Crappie Tournament
- October 14th – Bass Tournament
- November 4th – Crappie Tournament

Tight lines to you all this fishing season!!

Sincerely,

Paul Warner, Fishing Club President

Infrastructure Committee – Water Main Breaks

By Carol Goller and the Infrastructure Committee

An emergency water main break never happens at a convenient time, not for you and not for the repair crew. Unfortunately, many failures cannot be predicted or prevented.



Why Water Mains Fail

Pipes and valves can rupture when the nearby ground shifts. Breaks are normal after freezing and thawing; when there's abnormal precipitation or prolonged drought; when the water pressure suddenly fluctuates; and from simple ageing and normal long-term usage.



Valve technology has improved since Beaver Lake Association first placed its water distribution infrastructure. Upgrading is a must when replacing failed elements.

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Telltale Signs of a Failure

Sudden reduced water pressure or no pressure in your house generally means there's a water line break nearby. If you're out and about and notice water pooling where you wouldn't expect it, report these water conditions to the office at 402-235-2241 during business hours, or 402-235-2242 after hours.



How Long Will It Take to Repair a Water Break?

Many water main repairs can be effected in a few hours. Others can take longer. It depends on what the problem is, how hard the location is to access, environmental conditions, and possibly other factors. If a failure occurs during the middle of a stormy January night when crews have to dig through frozen ground and it's bitter cold and hard to see, it will take longer to fix than the same repair would under better conditions.

How Crews Fix Broken Water Pipes or Valves

After low or no pressure is reported, we figure out where the problem is. Once we've determined the location of the break, traffic along associated roadways have to be alerted and controlled until everything's resolved.

Also, nearby utility lines need to be identified and marked before excavation can begin. After digging is complete and we've closed the appropriate valves to temporarily shut off the flow of water in the pipe, we can assess what repairs are needed.

Failed component(s) may be pipe or valve. A broken pipe has to have a new section cut and fitted, and a broken valve will be replaced.

Beaver Lake schedules several valve replacements every year both as a preventative measure and to replace known nonfunctional valves. With those scheduled replacements, we are able to alert residents who will be affected by the short-term shutoff. An emergency outage can't be predicted, though, so unfortunately it may occur just after you shampoo your hair.

Crews work as expeditiously as they can. Calling to ask for updates from the office staff who aren't on site and don't know the current situation will not hurry anything along. Distracting the crews who are busy working is equally counterproductive. It's hard to be patient, but be assured we understand how important it is to restore service. We will get the work done as soon as we can.

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Can We Prevent Water Main Breaks?

In some cases, replacing senescent valves before they fail can prevent an emergency repair. But it isn't possible to predict ground shifts due to unseen subterranean forces or other natural or unpredictable events. Emergencies do happen as a matter of course, and that's why we try to keep replacement components available. Our goal is to maintain our water distribution system in good working order with as few outages as possible. We want to be ready any time we have a water line emergency, so you don't have to go without water any longer than necessary.

BLA Website Advertising

Now that the Beaver Lake Online News is our only source of official BLA News, we'd like to offer all area businesses a chance to advertise on the BLA Website.

Yellow Page ads can link directly to your company's website are very inexpensive.

Rotating Banner ads are also a great option & show on every page of the BLA Website.

Check out the BLA Website at <https://www.beaverlakene.org>.

Contact Jill at the BLA office for more information: jillp@beaverlakene.org

Important Sewer Information

Important Information! Please Read!!

Hello All, I would like to give you some important information concerning our wastewater system here at Beaver Lake. The sewer system is made up of a gravity and pressurized system. If you're on a gravity flow sewer main system, it's very important that you consider what you put down your drains and flush down your toilets. We ask that you avoid trying to flush any materials such as clothing, sweeper pads, personal hygiene items, large pieces of food, or anything that does not readily breakdown or dissolve. Discard those items in the household garbage. The reason for this is to avoid any blockages in the sewer mains or lift stations.

In addition, all Beaver Lake Association homes are recommended to have a working sewage backflow prevention device located between the main sewer line and the house or the owner will assume the responsibility of flood damage inside the home should there be a sewer system malfunction. All newly constructed homes are required to have a backflow device before the house is connected to the system.

The pressurized system is very important in disposing of the sewage. We have 16 pump stations positioned strategically around the lake. These stations operate 24 hours a day 7 days a week. However, they are mechanical and can potentially fail due to various reasons. If you pass by one of these stations and see a red light on, we ask that you please notify us as soon as you can. If notified immediately we can avoid a possible sewage backup into nearby homes. The phone numbers to call are **402-235-2241** (Association office) or **402-235-2242** (Emergency Phone). If you live near a lift station and have any questions, please contact me at 402-235-2241 so we may address your concerns. With everyone's help and observation, especially after hours, the sewer system will work efficiently and serve everyone's needs. Thank you for your help.

Troy Weatherby, BLA Managing Director

Murray Volunteer Fire Department Fundraiser

Save the Date! The Beaver Lake Association is excited to help host the annual Beach Party and fundraiser for Murray Volunteer Fire & Rescue. The event this year will be held on **Saturday, August 19, 2023**. More information will be available in the June and July News. Thank you for supporting this outstanding event!

Summer Employment at BLA

The Beaver Lake Association is now accepting applications for full and part-time summer employment.

We need employees for: Coconuts, Lifeguards, Mowers, Security, and Boat Ramp.

Find the Application for Employment in the Forms section of the BLA Website: <https://www.beaverlakene.org/forms/>

Then drop your application off at the BLA office or in the drop box in the Clubhouse parking lot.

Questions? Call us at 402-235-2241.

Golf Cart, ATV, UTV Sticker Renewal

The 2023 **renewal for golf, utility, and all-terrain vehicle stickers** began January 3, 2023. If you already had your vehicle inspected and received a previous sticker, then you will not need to have it inspected again. Just mail a copy of your current insurance card for the golf, utility, or all-terrain vehicle to be renewed, along with \$50, to the BLA Office at 9410 Clubhouse Circle, Plattsmouth, NE 68048. A new sticker will be mailed back to you. Then, please make sure your new 2023 sticker is affixed to the license plate, or it will not be valid. If you have a new golf, utility, or all-terrain vehicle that hasn't been stickered before, then you need to call the Security at 402-235-2243 and make an appointment for an inspection.

From Your Friends at the BLA Office

2023 Dues and Water Rates

- Water and Sewer rates are now a base of \$18.75 for water and \$13.25 for sewer. Then each 1000 gallons after will be \$4.02 for water and \$2.74 for sewer.
- Dues rates for 2023 will be \$277.52 quarterly or \$1110.08 for the year.

2023 Calendar Reservations

2023 **Clubhouse, Pavilion & Pool** reservations can be made now.

2023 **Campground** reservations can be made starting Monday, March 27, 2023. The BLA campground will open Mid-April to the beginning of May, depending upon the weather.

Call the BLA office and speak to Heather about your reservation!

Pet Tags

Pet tags do not need to be renewed until the beginning of 2024. But if you have a new pet – or one who hasn't been tagged yet – please fill out the Pet Tag form in the [Forms Section](#) of the website. Tags will be \$5 for the remainder of 2023. Then renewal tags will be \$10 for 2 years at the beginning of 2024.

BLA Website: www.beaverlakene.org

The BLA Website is now your home for all official Beaver Lake News, Calendar info, Advertising, Handbook, Documents, Board & Committee minutes, and Information Make sure to check it regularly!

Online Payments

Don't forget you can now pay your Beaver Lake bills online by clicking [Pay Online](#) from the main menu of the website! Call the office if you have questions.

New Property Owners

- Check out the Beaver Lake Website! There is a plethora of useful information.
- You can also stop by the Beaver Lake Office for a Welcome Packet.
- We'd love to have you fill out a [Membership Information Form](#) if you haven't already!