Beaver Lake January 2025 News

Security Updates

*** NEW for 2025!**

Important Announcement: New Watercraft Pre-Approval Process

We are pleased to inform you about a new update regarding the acquisition of watercraft in our community. To enhance safety and compliance, we are introducing a pre-approval process for all new watercraft purchases.

Starting January 1, 2025, all "new-to-you" watercraft must submit a pre-approval request before bringing the watercraft into our community. This ensures that all new watercraft adhere to our safety and environmental standards.

How to Submit a Pre-Approval Request:

1. Complete the Watercraft Pre-Approval Form available at https://forms.office.com/r/3QcHJi0tRV
2. Provide detailed information about the watercraft, including type, size, and safety features.
3. Submit the completed form online.

Once your request is reviewed, you will receive confirmation from the Beaver Lake Patrol office. Please ensure all newly purchased watercraft are approved before use to avoid any inconvenience.

We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining the safety and integrity of our community. Should you have any questions, please contact the BLA Patrol Office at 402-235-2243.

Thank you for your attention to this important update.

*** Pet License Due Date Update**

We would like to inform you of an important update regarding pet licensing within our community. The due date for obtaining or renewing pet licenses has been changed to May 1st. To make the process more convenient, licenses can now be obtained online.

How to Obtain/Renew Your Pet License Online:

1. Visit: Home - Beaver Lake Association website.
2. Complete the required information AND submit the necessary documentation. https://forms.office.com/r/uA7c419086
3. Pay the applicable fees online. Pay Online - Beaver Lake Association Please be sure to select 'Other' and on the second page, Select Pet License.

Should you want to print your form and submit it by mail or drop-off at the Clubhouse, the form is also located on our website in the Forms section for your convenience.

Please ensure that your pet licenses are up to date by the new due date to avoid any penalties. If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out to us at: Beaver Lake Patrol 402.235.2243 or Beaver Lake Association Office 402.235.2241

Reba Graf, Patrol Director

Nature & Garden Club

When the weather turns colder, I find myself splitting my attention between our outdoor friends, outdoor activities with the family and planning for next year's gardens.

Outdoor Friends

We live in nature. All around us are birds and animals that must survive the winter. Birds, for example, while it varies by species, normally eat ¼ to ½ their weight each day to survive. In winter they need even more. Providing a source of food and water (like a heated bird bath) can be both fun and entertaining family fun. You can even involve the family in creating your own bird feeders. The following link has some great ideas, including using pinecones, bread and recycled paper plates: https://happyhooligans.ca/32-homemade-bird-feeders/

In addition to creating bird feeders with the kids, you can make your own treats for the birds. There are lots of recipes on line. Just search outdoor wild bird food recipes to see lots of ideas, including videos.

Outdoor Family Activities

- Ice skating – I searched and found over a dozen places to skate near us. If you have never been to the rink downtown, it's pretty amazing. In addition to the rink, there is lots to explore… or you could go shopping in the Old Market.
- Nature walks – a few places near by include Fontenelle Forest in Bellevue, Wabash Trace Nature Trail in CB or Mahoney State Park in Ashland.
- Looking at lights – starting right here at Beaver Lake. Many of our neighbors have out done themselves this year. There are also numerous places like Santa's Rock N Lights in Papillion. The following link has a map and even information about a scavenger hunt. https://familyfuninomaha.com/christmas-light-displays-omaha/
- Decorating our own yards and trees.

Planning for Next Year's Garden

After the holidays is a perfect time to start thinking about spring. If you have a vegetable or flower garden: What went well last year? What didn't go well last year? What do you think you want to change this year? And are you going to start seeds indoors? If so, what and when to start? Or if you haven't planted a vegetable or flower garden and want to start, what better way than to enlist the assistance of your neighbors in the N&G Club.

Meeting dates in 2025 will be:

- April 24th
- May 22nd
- June 26th
- July 24th
- August 28th
- Sept 25th
- Oct 23rd

Janet Houston really outdid herself last year with some amazing programs. If you like gardening or learning more about the wildlife that lives around us, think about becoming a member. Beaver Lake Nature and Garden Club dues are $10.00 a person for the year. If you would like more information, you can email janet.m.houston@gmail.com

Always feel free to just come to a meeting and join.

– Submitted by Jody Kriegler

Is Fire Safety Your New Year's Resolution?

The New Year is upon us and this is the time when many of us resolve to make improvements in our lives. Most often, those improvements are focused on our health, which is definitely great, but we hope you will also consider focusing on fire safety in the home with these tips:

Make sure your smoke alarms are working! The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has found that three out of five home fire deaths are a result from fires in properties that did not have working smoke alarms. If you need some guidance on smoke alarms, contact us! Remember to test your smoke alarms once a month.

Never remove the battery in your smoke alarm (without immediately replacing it). Disabling a smoke alarm or removing the battery can be a fatal mistake.

Cooking is one of the main causes of home fires year after year. Never leave cooking food unattended and turn the handles of pots and pans on stoves inward to avoid accidents.

Don't use appliances with frayed cords or with outdated wiring.

Don't place space heaters too close (within three feet of) curtains, clothing, rugs, furniture, and other combustible surfaces. Also, don't leave space heaters running unattended – consider using heaters with automatic shut-offs.

It's important to make sure everyone in the home knows what to do in case of a fire. Make a fire escape plan with your family and practice that plan at least twice a year. Remember to teach your kids basic fire safety tips, like staying as low to the ground as possible, touching a door to see if it's hot before grabbing the doorknob, and knowing at least two ways out of every room in case of an emergency.

If you have children living in your home or visiting, look for fire and burn dangers from their point of view. Never leave lighters or matches where children can reach them.

Include your pet in your family's emergency plan and practice evacuating with them. Assign each pet to a family member who is responsible for evacuating them. When you leave your pets home alone, keep them in rooms near entrances where firefighters can easily find them.

We hope that you find these tips helpful and that you will incorporate them in your 2025 resolutions. From all of us at Murray Fire and Rescue, we wish you and yours a safe and Happy New Year!

Jodi Teal, Murray Volunteer Fire & Rescue

BLA Lots for Sale

Equestrian Lot E-6 is for sale. The asking price is $200,000. The lot is 5+ acres and is located on Rock Bluff Road and 27th Avenue. A for sale sign is placed on the frontage for identification.

Lot 1030 is also for sale. The address is 8893 Verdon Circle and it's a B lot. The asking price is $40,000. Look for the BLA For Sale sign.

Contact the Beaver Lake Office for more info or to make an offer: 402-235-2241

Women's Auxiliary Scholarship Information

Attention all Beaver Lake High School Seniors:

The Beaver Lake Ladies Auxiliary is offering two $300 scholarships for students living in the Beaver Lake Community. You must have a minimum 2.5 GPA, be a dependent of a Beaver Lake property owner in good standing and will be attending a college or technical school during the 2025/26 school term.

If you are interested in receiving an application form, see your counselors, or contact **Ann McGee,** by emailing annmcgee.mcgee@gmail.com soon. Completed applications are due back to me by March 15th.

BLA Brush Site Closing Soon

Another year has come and gone here at Beaver Lake and it's time once again to close the brush burning site. **The site will be closed as of January 6, 2025 and will open up again in the spring on March 3, 2025.** This will allow us time during the winter to burn the brush and prepare the site for opening in the spring. There has been an enormous amount of brush brought to the site which means a lot of cutting and cleaning has occurred out on the properties. This year at the site things have gone very well with the separation of leaves from the brush pile. We appreciate everybody's cooperation with following the guidelines to help keep the brush site under control. Please empty all your leaf bags (whether plastic or paper) and take them with you as they are not allowed to be discarded in the leaf pile per state regulations. As a reminder, please do not bring any grass clippings to the burn site as it is a violation of State regulations. As some have found out, the area is under surveillance, and you will be fined when you are caught in person or on camera disposing of items that are not allowed in the brush site. If you notice someone violating the posted rules, please observe the license # and contact the Association security office so we may discuss the problem with them. Thank you to everyone for taking care of this area so it can remain in operation. As a reminder, do not discard anything at this site other than trees, brush, and leaves. Please dispose of all other items in a proper manner and location. Once again thank you for not abusing this area. We look forward to seeing each of you again in the spring.

Election Notice

Important Election Information

Beaver Lake Association members have a choice of voting by proxy via email or in person at the clubhouse in our elections. All regular members get one ballot per fees-paying membership, whether voting by proxy or in person.

Members who choose to vote by proxy must register each year on our website. Annual registration is available between January 1 and the last Friday in April. If you own multiple lots, register each one separately.

Proxy Voting

When you register to e-vote, you will need to provide your lot number, name of registered lot owner, and an email you can access during election weekend.

Be sure your lot number is correct. Be sure you can access that email during election weekend.

On the Friday evening of election weekend, you will receive an email with a link to your electronic ballot. Multiple lot registrants will receive separate emails for each lot. You will have until 3 pm on election Sunday to vote.

To vote, click the link to open your ballot, select your choices, confirm, and submit.

About two weeks before the annual meeting and election, all members will receive a notice of annual meeting and election, along with the list of candidates and their bios.

- ► Signing up for our email newsletter does NOT register you to e-vote.
- ► Previous registration to e-vote does NOT register you to e-vote in subsequent elections. Annual registration keeps our voter lists up to date.
- ► If you register to e-vote by proxy, you will be ineligible to vote in person too.

Those who do not register to e-vote by proxy may vote in person at the clubhouse on the day of the election.

Remember, if you want to vote by proxy in the coming election, registration begins in January.

For details about our election procedures, see Section VII, Election Procedures in our Handbook: Home > Information > BLA Handbook;
or contact the office at 402-235-2241 or info@beaverlakene.org.

Anyone interested in serving on the Election Committee should apply online or contact the office at 402-235-2241.

Winter Snow Removal Reminders

As winter approaches, there are a few things I would like to remind everyone about. Nobody likes to deal with removing pesky snow in the winter, but it must be done. As we accomplish the snow removal for the Association, we must get the snow as far off the road as possible, especially if there are continuing back-to-back snowfalls. Remember, that if you have a parking area near the road, please get your vehicle as far from the road as possible to avoid damage from flying snow, ice, rocks, etc. When the snow is blowing and it is dark out, it is hard for the drivers to see everything, but the job must be accomplished. As far as mailboxes around the lake are concerned, expect that there may be some damage to them. Many times, the boxes are broken due to heavy, wet snow or a good volume of snow hitting them. Please understand that when it is that cold out, plastic mailboxes don't stand up to the task. We also find that many of the mailboxes have rotten posts that break off. Per the Beaver Lake Handbook, if a mailbox is broken due to snow hitting it, the responsibility of repair lies with the property owner. If the BLA snowplow backs into or hits the box, the Association will repair it. If your mailbox has been knocked over, please contact us and I will review the case to see if it has been hit by a truck or the flying snow. Snow removal is a dangerous and exhausting task. Please be vigilant and get away from the street when you see or hear a snowplow approaching. This will keep you safe because that driver may not see you, depending on the conditions. Lastly, everyone knows how frustrating it is when the plow goes by and puts snow in your driveway. Please do not shovel or blow the snow back out into the road. Throw it or blow it off in the yard. We may come by 2 or 3 times depending on the longevity of the snowfall and it will wind up back in your driveway. We appreciate everyone's patience during these snowfall events. Be safe and have a great fall and winter.

Troy Weatherby, BLA Managing Director

Committee Positions Open

Position openings on the Election Committee and Infrastructure Committee

The Board of Directors are now taking applications from property owners who want to serve as members of the Election Committee or Infrastructure Committee beginning in 2025. Both committees are important to the operation of the Association. Please read about the committee functions by going to the Beaver Lake website, www.beaverlakene.org under the About BLA tab. Under the same tab you will find a dropdown tab, where it says join a committee. Here, you can fill out the application and submit it to the Beaver Lake Association office.

Please have your application submitted by January 7, 2025, to be considered for a position. Thank you and we look forward to meeting with you.

Beaver Lake Association
Board of Directors

Beaver Lake Association

Important Sewer 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. (See picture above.) 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, Managing Director

From Your Friends at the BLA Office

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.
- Sign up for Beaver Lake emails on the front page of the Website so you can read the monthly newsletter and be notified of emergencies.
- We'd love to have you fill out a Membership Information Form if you haven't already!

Calendar Reservations

Looking ahead! Property owners will be able to make **2025 reservations for the three pavilions starting Thursday, January 2, 2025.** You can also begin making 2026 Clubhouse reservations starting that same Thursday.

Stay tuned. Reservations for the pool and for the campground will begin in the spring sometime. Cassidy at the office will help you with your reservations.

Online Payments

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

BLA Website: www.beaverlakene.org

The BLA Website is your home for all official Beaver Lake News, Calendar info, Advertising, Handbook, Documents, Board & Committee minutes, Information and Online Payments.

Make sure to check it regularly and see what you find!