

Beaver Lake November 2024 News

Beaver Lake Women's Auxiliary

The Beaver Lake Auxiliary Craft Fair, which was held October 5th was a success with 16 vendors present at the clubhouse. Thank you to all those who came by.

Our next meeting will be held Monday, November 4th at 1:00 at the clubhouse. Our gathering will include a potato bar and the assembling of decorations for the upcoming Christmas party (information below). Any woman living at Beaver Lake is invited to join our auxiliary. For more information about our meeting, text Ann at 308-325-1487.

Beaver Lake Annual Holiday Dinner Party

Friday, December 6

6:30-10:00 pm at the Clubhouse

Open to all Beaver Lake Property Owners and their guests
(adults only)

Appetizers and Punch beginning at 6:30 followed by a Catered dinner by Sommer Butts, Brew and BBQ. Two Entrées: Roast Beef with Gravy and Chicken Parmesan on Spaghetti, White Truffle Mashed Potatoes, Grilled Mediterranean Vegetables, Dinner Salad, and Dinner Roll. Beaver Lake Auxiliary provides desserts with coffee, tea and water.

Dancing with DJ Matt Larson

BYOB (Wine glasses provided)

Raffle Baskets

Cost- \$ 25.00 per person



RSVP by Wednesday, November 27 with check (Beaver Lake Women's Auxiliary) or cash delivered to Starre Haney- 1100 Brock Lane. Questions-starreann@gmail.com

Attendee names: 1. _____ 3. _____
2. _____ 4. _____

Lot No. _____ Preferred Phone No. _____

Amount enclosed _____

Fishing Club News

Greetings everyone! Summer has come to an end and fall has made its way into the area. If you are a fisherman I wouldn't put that boat away just yet. Fall is one of the best times of year to catch those tasty panfish. Crappie, bluegill, and perch have moved up shallow from their deep-water summertime homes. They will be fairly easy to catch in large numbers, with good-sized ones mixed in the bunch. Bass are going to bite clear up until the ice forms on the lake.



Although they get tougher to catch, if you persevere and don't mind the cold you could easily be rewarded with a five or six pounder. If line breaking, drag peeling action is more up your alley, then the wiper is a fish you should be after. Wipers will be chasing shad up until freeze out. Ten to 15 fish days are not uncommon if you are fortunate enough to find them.



Our awesome fishing club held a habitat build on September 8th. Fourteen PVC trees were built, and 13 T-PEEs made out of plastic pallets were also built. On Sunday, October 6th we had a habitat placement day in which we put all of the habitat we built into the lake. All habitat that is placed into our water has been put in the Corp of Engineers approved locations. A map with the GPS coordinates is available at the Association Office for \$10, or you can get ahold of me, and I'll get one for you for the same amount. While I'm talking about habitat, I want to thank all the hard-working club members that showed up and helped at these two events. Without you, none of them would be as easy as it is. Secondly, I want to give a shout out to the people that donated materials to make the habitat. Tyson Widler donated all the PVC that we used. Tim Thomas and Zach Zeleny donated the 55-gallon plastic barrels and Tim Thomas also donated all the plastic pallets. Thank you everyone! We also take donations of cement block, and landscape blocks. If you have some you want to get rid of, please contact me or tag someone you know from the Fishing Club Facebook page. One of our officers or I will get in touch with you.



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Here is a list of all the fishing club's events and tournaments for the 2025 season. These events and tournaments are an awesome time, and I encourage everyone to come participate.

- March 1: Spaghetti Feed, 5:00-8:00 pm
- April 12: Bass Tournament
- April 26: Crappie Tournament
- May 3: Carp Tournament
- May 10: Bass Tournament
- May 31: Bass Tournament
- June 7: Kids Derby
- June 14: Carp Tournament
- July 12: Membership Fish Fry
- July 25; Evening Bass Tournament
- August 8: Evening Bass Tournament
- August 23: Catfish Tournament
- September 13: Bass Tournament
- September 27: Crappie Tournament
- October 11: Bass Tournament
- October 18: Blue Catch/Cook
- November 1: Crappie Tournament



I'd like to ask that after a day on the lake fishing that you take a minute to fill out a creel survey. These creel surveys help us manage the lake, please participate. Surveys can be done at www.beaverlakene.org/fish-creel-survey. Thanks to all who have been sending them in so far.

If you are interested in joining our awesome fishing club please contact me at (402) 297-0927 or email at warner.paul99@gmail.com. A mere \$20 gets you a year's membership and helps support a worthy cause in the kids derby we host every year. It also goes towards helping the Lake, Fish, and Habitat Committee do their yearly fish stocking as well as numerous things we donate to for the betterment of the lake.



That's all I have for now everyone. I hope you all have a great fall.
Tight lines y'all,
Paul Warner
Fishing Club President

Winter Storage at Campground

Beaver Lake lot owners can now store RVs, campers, boats, jet skis, and enclosed or open trailers. Storage will be at the campground.



Cost is \$50 per month. November through March. (No prorating)

Contact Cassidy at the BLA office for information. 402-235-2241

CPR Class Offered at Beaver Lake 11-30-24

Saturday, November 30th @ 1 pm
CPR Course Registration



Stop the Bleed & CPR Training
Learn how to help in an emergency



CPR class being offered here at Beaver Lake.

Scan the QR code or email security@beaverlakene.org for class information.

New AED

Exciting News, Community Members!

We are thrilled to announce the installation of a brand new Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at our upper level of the Clubhouse! This life-saving device has been generously donated by the Ladies Auxiliary.

The AED is accessible to all in case of emergencies, ensuring our community is even safer. A huge thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary for their generous contribution and commitment to our well-being.

Stay safe, everyone!



Dog Park Survey

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

We are excited to announce a new initiative: the potential construction of a **dog park** within our community! This park would provide a safe and enjoyable space for our furry friends to play and socialize, while also offering a great spot for pet owners to meet and connect.

Your Feedback Matters!

To ensure this project meets the needs and desires of our community, we are conducting a survey to gather your feedback and suggestions. Your input is crucial in helping us make informed decisions about the design, location, and features of the dog park.

How to Participate:

1. **Complete the Survey:** Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey linked below. Your responses will only be used for the purpose of this project.
2. **Share Your Ideas:** If you have specific ideas or concerns, feel free to include them in the survey or reach out to us directly at security@beaverlakene.org.
3. **Spread the Word:** Encourage your neighbors to participate! The more feedback we receive, the better we can tailor the dog park to our community's needs.

Survey Deadline:

Please submit your responses by **November 30th, 2024**. We will review the feedback and provide updates on the project's process to the Infrastructure Committee.

Survey Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/RcYBet8Beh>



Thank you for your time and participation. Together, we can create a wonderful new amenity that benefits both our pets and our community.



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

BLA Emergency Phone Number



The direct dial phone number is 402-235-2242. If you have a true maintenance emergency such as a water line break, fallen tree on a road or power line, sewer back up, see a lift station light flashing or some other emergency, please contact the maintenance personnel at this number. If there is no answer, please try the phone number again. **Please take the time as you read this article and write the phone # down where you can easily access it.** This is a direct line that will allow you immediately access a person to help you with your emergency. Again, we ask that you only use it for a true maintenance emergency.

For any security issues where you need to speak with our security officer, please dial 402-235-2243 and leave a message if no one answers. They will return your call as soon as possible.

If you have a true security or health related emergency, please dial 911. The Cass County Sheriff's Department non-emergency phone # is 402-296-9370.

Thank you.

Troy Weatherby, BLA Managing Director

Beaver Lake Association Dam Update

Infrastructure Committee, October 2024

Overview



We signed a contract with Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI) to assist us in working with the state of Nebraska to obtain a federal infrastructure grant. Although progress at this time looks positive, we cannot predict ultimate success nor what the dollar figure might be.

A FEMA grant amount would constitute a percentage of projected costs for this first project phase. We are also investigating other potential sources of financial assistance.

In conjunction with the grant progress, Beaver Lake is keeping our insurance envoi in the loop. We anticipate that doing so may allow expeditious reinstatement of our policy when the insurer deems it appropriate.

We should remind ourselves that this whole process from inception to final work completion is expected to take years. We are now in the first phase of the project, determining specific dam concerns and how to address them.

We are working with multiple entities, who in turn may work with multiple entities, all of whom have their own priorities and timetables. When the next step is up to us, we will continue to move as expeditiously as possible given due diligence. Sometimes we will have to wait for others to act.

It's quite likely we won't have any further information about capital support or anything else on a regular basis. We will update the community when we have facts.

When we apprise the membership, we will do so at Board meetings and in these written reports. We publish our written reports in newsletters and they are also housed on our [website](#) under Document Library → Reports and Studies → [Beaver Lake Dam](#). (Note that Board meeting minutes, also found in the Document Library, are necessarily brief and do not typically include detailed information. Hence these more comprehensive reports to keep you informed.)

Progress

Our first priority is funding; we've been coordinating with governmental officials and engineers, and will continue to work the process.

A group of dam engineers affiliated with HEI and the state performed an extensive visual inspection of our dam in July, joined by Dam Task Force members. The engineers will determine the best places to put our efforts next.

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Once we know which tests to perform, follow-on steps will include contracting; scheduling; performing the tests; and finally, analyzing the results. Each of these stages takes time.

Meanwhile, HEI initially recommended, and we ordered, additional piezometer equipment. By the time you read this report, that equipment should have been installed.

Piezometers are needed for dam safety and performance monitoring. These instruments measure pore water pressure within the dam and its foundation, providing data on water levels and pressure changes. Piezometers are integral to dam safety and performance monitoring.

This information helps engineers detect unusual water flow patterns and assess the structural integrity of the dam, which helps the engineers make informed decisions in the evaluation of the current dam status and to prevent future potential failures.

What exactly is a piezometer? A piezometer is an inch and three-quarter pipe extending from the top of the dam down to the foundation. There are 22 of them in the Beaver Lake dam and they were installed by a geologist and a drill rig.

Each summer the piezometers are read by technicians from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NDNR). They hang a tape inside each pipe and measure the depth to water. They record each measurement and then give all the information to a geotechnical engineer on the NDNR staff in Lincoln who analyzes the collective information.

If the dam were a person this would be equivalent to an EKG. The technicians' job is similar to a nurse who attaches the anodes to your body and turns on the machine which produces a tape with a graph showing your heartbeat. Then the tape is given to a cardiologist who looks for any sign of heart problems. In a general way, the cardiologist's job is similar to that of the geotechnical engineer.

By adding the automated readouts to the existing piezometers, we are actually updating the "EKG" machine. The bottom line will be a quicker return of information and the ability to do it more often than once a year.

Piezometers play a vital role in ensuring the long-term stability and safety of dams, protecting both the infrastructure and the communities downstream.

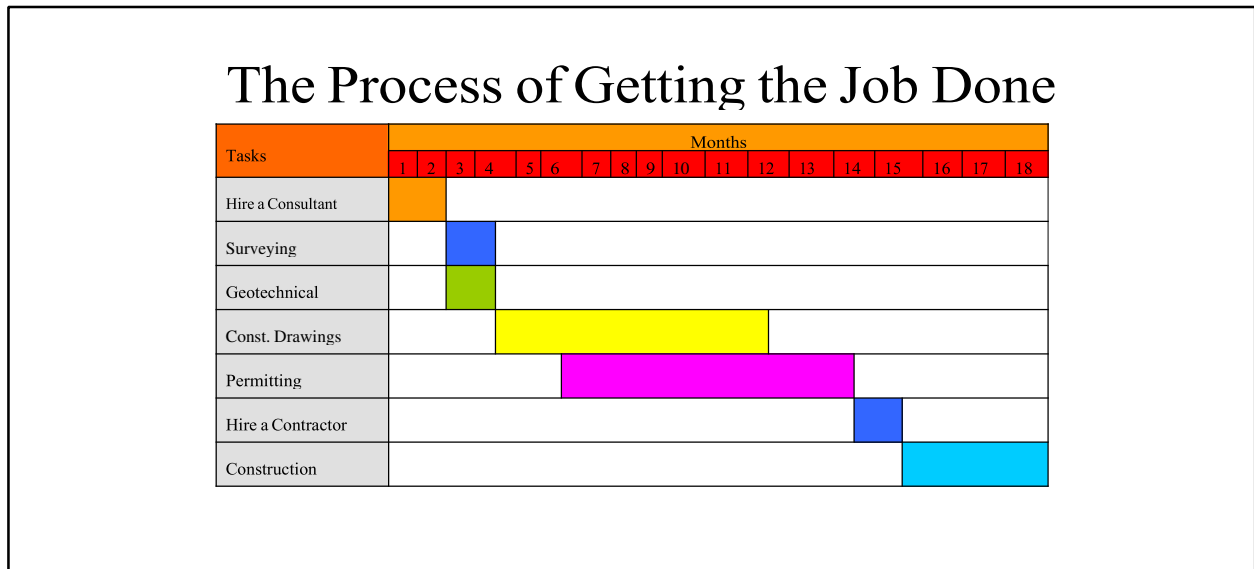
It may take significant time to collect sufficient data for meaningful analysis. We should not expect useful updated information on a predictable timetable.

On October 22, Board member Cathy Brink attended a Dam Owners Workshop in Lincoln with our managing director Troy. In her own words: I attended the workshop as a learning tool for myself to help me understand some of the complexities we face as an association in owning and maintaining our dam. The workshop provided a lot of valuable information and one of the things that was helpful to me was the following chart that shows the timeline of a dam repair project like the one we are currently dealing with. In our current society, we tend to all have an instant reward mentality and are used to things being done quickly. Many people ask questions from the board as to why things are not progressing faster than they are.

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This timeline portrays the average lifecycle of this type of project.

I found it helpful to know that we are not progressing much slower than expected but are pretty much progressing at a similar pace. I have confidence that we have qualified experts hired and working for us on this project and that a favorable outcome can be expected. We just need to have patience and trust the people with the knowledge and expertise to get us through this.



Staying Current

We are all understandably interested in this critical piece of our infrastructure.

Beaver Lake Association wants all our members to understand what is going on with our dam, and indeed, with all our infrastructure. The Association will continue to report at Board meetings when there is new information and explain how that new information might affect our progress.

Members can learn the latest information by reading our newsletters or attending a Board meeting. Those always occur on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm in the clubhouse. Meeting minutes briefly encapsulate reports, motions and their discussions but do not delve deeply into details. Minutes can be found in our [website's document library](#).

The Dam Task Force, through the Infrastructure Committee, will continue to publish reports on our website and in our newsletters when useful information is available.

We encourage members to attend Board meetings and read our newsletters and website news posts to keep current.

Questions should be directed to the office (402-235-2241) and/or Board of Directors.

Murray Volunteer Fire & Rescue

In our community, Murray Fire and Rescue has always been a place where those with a heart for service come together to protect and care for their neighbors. Among our ranks are exceptional men and women who are serving/have served our country as military members and now serve their community as firefighters and EMT's. Meet our Military members:

Joe, MSgt retired, is a seasoned firefighter/EMT with over 20 years of experience who served in the US Air Force for 22 years. His favorite assignment was at Kunsan AB, South Korea. His commitment to teamwork and discipline makes him a natural leader. His leadership continues as the elected Chief in 2024.



Jason was in the US Navy from 2003-2014. Jason joined Murray Fire & Rescue in 2023 and is a firefighter/EMT working towards his Paramedic license. His favorite duty was working as a Secondary Reactionary Force Team Member for Security Forces.

Jacob was in the US Marine Corps for four years. Jacob is a firefighter/EMT and has been part of Murray Fire & Rescue for 2 years. Jacob's ability to remain calm under pressure makes him an outstanding firefighter/EMT. His favorite duty was Flight Operations on the MV-22 Osprey.



Matt was a Specialist (E4) in the Army Reserve from 1989-1997. His favorite duty was the 1/322 Cavalry. His transition from military service to firefighter/EMT was driven by his desire to stay active in serving his community. Matt joined Murray Fire & Rescue in 2021.

Curtis served from 2001-2022 in the US Air Force. His favorite memory is being one of the last Americans on the ground in Russia. The US pulled out of the Open Skies treaty shortly after he left Russia. He was also in MEPS on 9-11 (Military Entrance Processing Station). Curtis is a firefighter /EMT on the Murray Fire Department.



Jared is serving as a Specialist with Bravo Company 2-134th Airborne as an Airborne Combat Medic in the Army National Guard. Jared was one of the first cadets to join Murray Cadet Program four years ago when he was 16 as a junior in high school. He went on to become an EMT, continued with AIT Combat Medic Training and in 2021 went to special training for airborne.

Murray Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department is proud of ALL our team and the service we provide to the community. If you have a passion for helping others and are ready to join a team of committed professionals, we encourage you to consider joining the department. No prior experience is required—just a willingness to learn and heart for service. For more information, contact Steve Murrayfdchiefs@gmail.com



BLA Bill Card Change

Beginning with the July 2024 billing card, you should have noticed a change to a line item. The acronym WTP (Water Treatment Plant) previously on the card will change to **INF** (Infrastructure). The reason for the change is that the loan for the water treatment plant was paid off on June 1, 2024. The loan payoff is a great accomplishment for Beaver Lake, but we have much more to do moving forward. The Board of Directors has decided and confirmed by a vote at the May 2024 Board of Directors meeting, to continue the special assessment to accomplish higher cost infrastructure projects. They are projects that involve Utilities, Roads, Dam, etc.



For some of you, the WTP line may be on your card if you currently still owe a balance in that area. Once your balance is paid for WTP, it will drop off the card in the next billing cycle. If you have a concern about a balance or the change on the billing card, please call us with your concerns at 402-235-2241. Thank you reviewing this notice to keep up on the latest news.

Thank you - Troy Weatherby, BLA 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.

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!