

Save Our Lake!

What YOU can do to preserve water quality of TWIN LAKES

While there is never an easy answer or quick fix to protect our lake, there are a number of simple things that we can do AND promote with our lake neighbors. Understanding how our actions affect the long term health of our lake helps current and future generations protect the lifestyle and value of our lake and environment. Limiting phosphorus entering the lake is the key to controlling the growth of algae, excessive aquatic plants and improving water clarity, oxygen content and water quality in general.

Lake Do's and Don'ts

Do's include:

1. Use zero-phosphorus lawn fertilizer
2. Properly operate and maintain septic systems; pump at least every three years for year-round residents, or 5 years for seasonal residents
3. Use phosphorous-free dishwasher & laundry detergents
4. Clean up pet waste
5. Keep bonfires away from the lake, and clean up all ashes
6. Pick up fireworks debris and residue
7. Insure your boat engine and gas tank have no fluid leaks. (Consider using a small hand pump or other devise to transfer gas from containers to your boat to avoid spills.)
8. Cover loose soil areas with vegetation and remedy any shoreline erosion problems
9. Develop and maintain a shoreline vegetation buffer

Don'ts include:

1. Don't add sand along the shoreline-(Sand contains high amounts of phosphorus and destroys the natural filters we need to keep the lake healthy.)
2. Don't bathe, shampoo, or wash boats, pets, or other objects in the lake
3. Do not fertilize within 30 feet of the lake (From 30 feet to 250 feet, use no phosphate, slow release nitrogen fertilizer on vegetated areas.)
4. Don't feed the ducks and geese (Resident duck and goose populations increase disease causing bacteria in the water. They can also be a significant source of nutrients to the lake.)
5. Don't put leaves, grass clippings, branches or any kind of organic matter into the lake (Plant debris adds phosphorus and other nutrients directly to the lake.)