

Welcome to Clark Lake

Door County, Wisconsin

Clark Lake Advancement Association

www.clarklakewi.com



Enjoy

Sip a coffee while birdsong greets the day. Take a refreshing swim, leisurely paddle, exhilarating water ski or test your sailing skill. Spend your time angling for pan fish, walleye or a big northern. Dry land is waiting for biking, family walks or exploring nature in one of the adjacent county and state parks or the Ridges at Logan Creek. Relax at the end of the day; drink in the sunset to the tune of a thousand frogs backed by the quiet lapping of the waves and rustling in the trees. Each day entirely summarized by a sigh of contentment, here, on the quiet side.

Analyze

Each of these many gifts begins with Clark Lake and its surrounding lands that must be protected and preserved by a delicate balance between development and nature.

Plan

Here are a few tips to minimize our effect on the habitat and lessen threats to Clark Lake.

About the Lake

Clark Lake is the second largest lake in Door County. Clark Lake occupies 868 acres. The average depth is 7ft. The maximum depth is 25 ft. The nearest town is Jacksonport. Native fish to the lake include perch, bluegill, rock bass, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike and walleye.



Boating on Clark Lake....

- **Size.** Lake bottom disruption caused by wind and boating has resulted in the loss of valuable aquatic plants and habitat. Therefore we recommend a boat with a draft of 12 inches or less powered by an outboard motor of under 100 HP.
- **No motor zone.** The far north end of the lake and all of Logan Creek are protected by a mandated no motor zone. Marked by buoys, you can paddle in this area to enjoy the diversity of plants and wildlife.
- **Slow no wake.** In addition to the routine operating regulations specified by the DNR, all areas of the lake under 4 feet depth are voluntary slow no wake so as to protect the lake bed. Additional environmentally sensitive areas are also marked by buoys indicating mandatory slow no wake.
- **Waterskiing, tubing and wake boarding .** Disruption of the lake bed occurs most during rapid acceleration so be deeper for startup and avoid the less than 4 foot depth while enjoying these activities



Quiet hours

There is a voluntary slow no wake period from 7 P.M. until 9 A.M. Consider limiting your on land noise levels accordingly.

Boat Launching on the Lake



- **West side boat ramp (Townline Road).** This ramp can usually handle a boat with up to an 8 inch draft which is on a trailer with a ground to bottom of transom height of 25 inches or less. When lake levels are lower, you may have difficulty launching and especially reloading.
- **Power Loading is prohibited.** Using your motor to power load onto a trailer creates ridges and holes at the launch and has resulted in further difficulty in launching and recovering.
- **East side ramp (Clark Lake Court).** The east side ramp at the end of Clark Lake Court is very shallow and has limited parking. It is meant for kayaks, canoes, paddle boards and similar craft.

Protecting the lake water quality and habitat...

Lake Bottom. The lake bed consists of sand, small stones, boulders and marl. The marl, is a calcium carbonate deposit that buffers the acid in the lake. Despite appearing as a murky bottom it is not pollution.

CLAA has created a walleye spawning reef by adding fresh stone to sandy areas as part of our continuing efforts to improve fish habitat.

Wetlands. The wetlands that surround much of the lake both filter pollutants from our water and reduce erosion. They are vital for lake health and should be preserved.

Bullrushes. The “weeds” visible along and parallel to the shore are mostly bulrushes. They have a deep root system and stabilize the lake bottom, provide shoreline protection from erosion and provide habitat for beneficial species. They should be protected and not disturbed.

Reduce Impermeable Surface. These include buildings, patio, packed ground and driveways. Discuss with your builder how to limit these spaces and options to ameliorate their effect.

Nature’s alternative to a Lawn. Lawn grass lacks the deep, complex roots required for healthful water filtering and reducing erosion. Avoid planting lawn within 35 feet of the ordinary high water mark or using fertilizer within 50 feet of the shore. Instead, consult a landscape specialist and choose native plants to protect your shore and the lake.

Trees. Tree roots help stabilize our shore land. Their leaves trap water and reduce damaging run off.

Manage your shoreline so trees frame a water viewing area of no more than 30 feet wide.

Generally cutting any tree within 35 feet of the shore requires a permit. Contact the Door County Planning Commission for ordinance details.

Trees that fall into the water are excellent habitats for fish and other animals and plants. We encourage you to leave them where they lie. CLAA is replicating this natural process through the DNR sponsored “Fish Stick” program.



Rain Water Run-off.

Rapid rain water run-off contributes to both erosion and reduced water quality. Protective measures include: a lush leafy canopy; limited impermeable surfaces; water run-off containment areas; deep, complex root systems; and limited shoreline disruption.



Invasives...

Invasive Plants. Both Jacksonport and Sevastopol have noxious/ invasive species control ordinances. It is the property owners responsibility to identify, treat and eradicate invasive plants such as phragmites. The CLAA does phragmites control on an annual basis at no cost to the land owner.

Clean Boats/Clean Water. Invasives or other noxious flora and fauna can hitch a ride on watercraft used in already infested areas. Follow appropriate inspection and cleaning procedures whenever you move water craft from one location to another. Don't forget, this also applies to your canoe, kayak and paddle board.

Water Level Variability...

Water level will vary by several inches during the year. Property where there is a very shallow grade will see the shoreline move in or out several feet or even yards.

When the level drops, in some areas boats with a draft of more than even modest depth may be impossible to launch.



Others have had serious shore line erosion or other damage from both ice shoves and high water in the spring.

Clark Lake Advancement Association (CLAA)

Our Mission....

We are a non-profit association representing properties within 3/8 mile of Clark Lake. We are a community dedicated to the progress, development and welfare of Clark Lake.

Volunteers...

The purpose of the Clark lake Advancement Association is reinforced continually by the commitment and actions by our many volunteers who want to preserve the lake for both current occupants and future generations.

Get Involved Today...

Visit our website: www.ClarkLakeWi.com to contact us about joining and learn more about the lake and our community.

Be sure to sign up for e-mail notices that include both education about the lake and notice of meetings and events. In addition to projects to conserve the lake, we have social activities and now a co-op for reduced pricing for propane.

Activities are supported by donations, grants and our annual dues of.

See you at the lake!