



LAKE MINNETONKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

"Save the Lake" is a non-profit fund investing in the environmental quality and recreational enjoyment of Lake Minnetonka.

SAVE THE LAKE

October 10, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Availability of 2015 Save the Lake Funds

LAKE MINNETONKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWS- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Greg Nybeck, Executive Director
(952) 745-0789 or gnybeck@lmcd.org

Save the Lake Chair Dan Baasen and the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) are pleased to announce the availability of Save the Lake Funds for 2015. Save the Lake is a non-profit fund that invests in programs that benefit the public safety, environmental, and recreational needs of Lake Minnetonka. Grant applications will be received for public safety, environmental, and public service/education projects.

An informational document that provides further details on the availability of 2015 Save the Lake Funds (i.e., eligible applicants and costs, examples of past projects, as well as application guidelines and review criteria) can be obtained by request or found on the LMCD's website at www.lmcd.org/save-the-lake.

A completed application shall be submitted to the LMCD by Friday, December 5, 2014. The LMCD is located at 5341 Maywood Road, Suite 200, Mound, MN 55364. Please feel free to contact LMCD Executive Director Greg Nybeck at 952-745-0789 or gnybeck@lmcd.org if you have any questions or need assistance on submitting a grant application.



SAVE THE LAKE

AVAILABILITY OF SAVE THE LAKE FUNDS October 2014

Availability of Save the Lake Funds

The Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD) currently has Save the Lake Funds available for 2015. Save the Lake is a non-profit fund that invests in programs that benefit the public safety, environmental, and recreational needs of Lake Minnetonka. Grant applications will be received for public safety, environmental, and public service/education projects.

Eligible Applicants

Non-profit organizations (*), businesses (**), cities, and school districts may apply for Save the Lake funds. Examples of potential applicants include:

- Lake Minnetonka communities;
- Other governmental agencies;
- Lake homeowners and neighborhood associations; and
- Local business associations.

(*) Non-profit organizations and other groups must be officially registered with the State of Minnesota. Proof of organizational status will be required with submission of the 2015 Save the Lake Grant Application.

(**) For-profit groups are encouraged to partner with a lake, homeowner, or neighborhood association. If a project will be implemented on private property, the applicant must show how it benefits the general public and is a public service. Applicants do not need to reside in the 14 Lake Minnetonka communities; however, the project must be implemented entirely on Lake Minnetonka.

Example of Past Projects

Detailed below are a few of the projects funded, or partially funded, by Save the Lake:

- Red and green solar-lights that are placed on top of high traffic navigational buoys;
- Improvements to emergency services safety equipment (most recently for the Hennepin County Sheriff's Water Patrol, Mound Fire Department, and Wayzata Fire Department);
- Coordination of interactive, local training of youth to secure their Minnesota Department of Natural Resources youth operator permit; and

- Purchase of “No Anchoring” buoys for Big Island (Hennepin County Environmental Services).

Eligible Costs

Save the Lake Funds may be used for:

- Purchase of capital equipment;
- Purchase of supplies or materials;
- Contracting with specialists;
- Permit costs; and
- Other items as agreed to by the LMCD and its representatives.

Funds may not be used to pay for existing staff and overhead expenses.

Application Guidelines

A completed application shall be submitted to the LMCD office by Friday, December 5, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. Proposals shall be no longer than five single-sided pages in a 12-point font (maps and any appendices do not count as part of the five-page limit). The following information needs to be submitted within the proposal:

Title Page and Executive Summary:

The title page shall include the following information: a) the primary applicant’s name (organization), b) contact person’s name and title, c) address (including city and zip code), d) telephone number(s), e) fax number, and f) e-mail address. You need to list any partnering organizations and their respective contact information.

Include a brief Executive Summary paragraph (50 words or less) that summarizes the main goals and objectives of your project. Indicate the total amount you are requesting from the LMCD, along with any matching funds. **Note: it is important that your Executive Summary be 50 words or less.** The summaries will be used in the grant review process.

Project Description, Goals, Objectives, and Activities

Provide a brief description of your organization and the proposed project. List the primary goals and objectives for your project, including how you expect to achieve them and how they will be measured. Be sure to indicate where the project activities will take place (provide a one-page, 8.5” x 11” map); specifically showing the location of the work and indicating what will take place at each location.

Project Timeline

Provide a brief project timeline that lists major project activities and when they will occur.

Project Evaluation

Explain how the effectiveness and the success of the project will be measured.

Key Project Personnel

Identify who will be the project manager to implement the activities, including their qualifications. List any sub-contractors who will be working on this project and their expertise in participating. Clarify what role they will play in implementing the project.

Project Budget

Provide a detailed and reasonable budget that lists each item for which you request funding. If you have other sources of funding, please describe them.

Project Letter or Resolution

Non-profits, local units of government, and lakeshore owner associations should send a letter or resolution authorizing the proposal submission from their governing board.

These applications can be submitted to: LMCD, 5341 Maywood Road, Suite 200, Mound, MN 55364.

Application Review Criteria

When a request for Save the Lake funds is received, the LMCD takes into consideration the following criteria:

- Does the request represent major environmental preservation or an improvement on an environmental priority?
- Does the request sustain or improve a major recreational resource?
- Will the investment of funds provide a long-term benefit?
- Does the request provide public benefit that spans a broad range of lake users in terms of age, economics, use, and interest?
- Does the request attract matching public or private funds to produce the program?
- Does the request appeal to contributors of Save the Lake who recognize and likely support the proposed program, and would likely continue to donate to Save the Lake?
- Does the request meet a major lake educational need not being met by other public or private initiatives?

The following criteria are established to guide the Save the Lake Advisory Committee and LMCD Board of Directors in evaluating and selecting programs for funding. Proposed projects are weighted by meeting one or more of the following program criteria:

Public Safety:

1. Improves public safety on the lake.
2. Benefits structures in the lake.
3. Lessens conflicts among lake surface users.
4. Enhances safe boat operation.
5. Assures greater personal safety.

Environmental:

1. Involves research or program implementation that studies or protects the lake environment.
2. Protects the lake from infestation of invasive aquatic plants or animals.
3. Prevents the spread of invasive aquatic plants or animals from the lake.
4. Allows or enhances enjoyment and use of the lake while preserving the lake from environmental degradation.

Public Service/Education:

1. Benefits the general public's use of Lake Minnetonka.
2. Makes Lake Minnetonka more accessible to persons unable, or choosing not to, access the lake by their own boat.
3. Encourages public participation in lake clean-up.
4. Promotes courteous boat operation.
5. Recognizes achievements in community service by individuals or groups that benefit Lake Minnetonka.
6. Advances the historical significance of Lake Minnetonka.

Further Information/Questions

Please contact LMCD Executive Director Greg Nybeck at (952) 745-0789 or at gnybeck@lmcd.org.