



## Eagle Lake Improvement Association (ELIA)

Willmar MN | Winter 2025 Newsletter

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### Moving the Annual Meeting and Winter Social Event

In years past we held our annual meeting in January. We have had requests to have it in the summer to accommodate those that go south for the winter. The Board of Directors decided to move the annual meeting to the same time as the summer picnic. This year the annual meeting will be on July 31 at the Willmar Community Center, 624 US - 71 Bus, Willmar, MN. We hope this will allow more Eagle Lake members to attend the annual meeting.

Many residents still wanted to have a social event in January. We have arranged with the American Legion to have this social event on Friday, January 9th starting at 6:00 pm. There will be a limited menu to handle 60 to 80 people.

- **¼ chicken dinner** - this includes salad bar with baked potato for \$14.95
- **Cod dinner** - All you can eat. This includes salad bar and baked potato for \$17.95
- **Jumbo Shrimp dinner** - this includes salad bar with baked potato for \$16.95
- **Hamburger with fries** for \$10.80. A person can substitute tater tots or baked potato for extra cost. Salad bar is an extra cost.
- **Cheeseburger with fries** for \$10.95. A person can substitute tater tots or baked potato for extra cost. Salad bar is an extra cost.
- **Salad bar** only for \$10.95

Each member will be responsible for their own food and beverage. This will be a great event to catch up with friends and neighbors. Come join us!

### By-laws

Your board has been working on revising our Articles of Incorporation and By-laws with the help of resident Dave Moody. Dave is very knowledgeable and generous in donating his time and expertise. We will be sending them out later this spring or early summer for your review and approval at the annual meeting. The last time any additions or corrections to the by-laws or Articles of Incorporation was in the early 1970's. Many things have changed over time and it is in the best interest of the lake association to revise them to keep up with current laws.



### Leaf Pickup

The Eagle Lake leaf pickup went very smooth this year. We picked up three dump trailer loads for bagged leaves. A big thank you to all the residents that participated in the event and those who furnished equipment and time in hauling the leaves to the compost site. This task of not allowing the leaves to reach the lake helps prevent excess weed growth in the lake.

We have many of our neighbors that are unable to rake and pick up their leaves because of health issues or age. Wouldn't it be great to adopt a neighbor or person in need that cannot bag their leaves? By bagging their leaves and setting them at the end of the driveway you will be rewarded many times over. Seeing the smile and look of appreciation is just amazing. If you already do this, you know the positive impact you are making in that person's life and the lake we live on. Let's have 2026 be a year of "Adopt a Neighbor". Our goal should be six dump trailer loads of leaves hauled to the compost site.

The individuals who contributed to this endeavor included board members Wyatt Weckwerth, Darrell Forkrud, Virginia Fabrizio, Dale Neal, and Dan Pomranke, as well as volunteers Jerry Erickson, Marlee Ripperger, and Mariys Pomranke.



### Carp Removal

This last year was a very challenging year to remove carp, because of the late ice off and the excess rain we received in the spring. We have already applied for a matching grant for the year of 2026. We still have the funds we collected for carp removal set aside for 2026. The board purchased an interest bearing CD so we are gaining interest on the money until it is needed in 2026. We are looking into possibly netting the carp under the ice this winter. Carp pod together in the winter months. Our commercial fisherman has a sonar system that can detect where they are. If the carp pod is in depths of water between 8 to 12 feet, netting is a good way to remove them in the winter. We will keep you updated as things progress. We appreciate everyone's support in this important project.

### Membership Support

2025 was a record year for membership support. Our goal was to have 210 lake residents pay membership dues. As of this printing we have 212. This exceeded last year's record of 205. Thank You!

- **Pay online:** [Click here](#) to pay via Venmo & fill out the online form.
- **Pay by check:** [Visit our website](#) to download the membership due form.



The Board of Directors would like to take this time to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a very blessed New Year!! Thanks for making Eagle Lake a great place to live and raise a family!

### Eagle Lake Clothing Order

Your Eagle Lake Improvement Association Board has been working with Hansen Advertising to design a new line of Eagle Lake gear. Options for purchase will be available in the spring with more information to follow in our March newsletter.



### Ice-On: December 4, 2025

[View the historical dates for Ice-On and Ice-Off here.](#)

### Mission Statement

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing, preserving and protecting the quality of Eagle Lake and its watershed. In cooperation with public agencies, we will promote responsible environmental practices and provide information and opportunities to unite the Eagle Lake community through recreation, social and civic activities.