

Buffalo, Rice, & Rock Lake Association News



Hello BRRL neighbors!

As summer approaches, we're excited to bring you the latest information and events from your BRR Lake Association. Let's work together to keep our lakes healthy, beautiful, and vibrant!

President's Greeting

Greetings Fellow Lake Enthusiasts, I trust everyone had a great winter and are now adjusting to the quick ascent to summer with our recent record warmth. It was great to see more docks, more lifts, and more watercraft in the lake over the Memorial Day weekend.

This year's **Annual Meeting will be on Saturday, June 27**. Keep an eye out for more reminders & signs. We would love to have you join us for the meeting and lunch that will follow.

A couple of items to think about for the upcoming meeting are officer elections and potential future social events. My term as President is up this year and according to our bylaws, the current Vice President is to assume the role of President. However, that individual may move, which would leave both positions vacant. Please think about individuals that may be good to serve in those roles, whether they are a neighbor, friend, or yourself.

As for social events, our first fall social was held last August at the Richwood Grill, and we had a nice turnout and live music. Comments were very positive, and it was a terrific opportunity to support one of our local businesses. The board would like more events in the future. It is a terrific way to meet and socialize with your lake neighbors. One idea was putting together a scramble if we have enough interest. You can share your ideas on the 27th!

Finally, our annual meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss lake-related topics that are important to us as owners or renters to preserve the fantastic resource we all enjoy! I hope to see all of you at the meeting.

Wishing you all a great summer at the lakes!

Bryan Olschlager, BRRLA President

Join Us for the

LAKE ASSOCIATION Meeting!

DATE:
SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH, 2026
10:00 AM

LOCATION:
26821 KILLIAN ROAD

Pulled pork sandwiches are provided, but bring a dish to share.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A HEALTHY AND BEAUTIFUL LAKE

Be Informed. Be Involved.
Make a Difference!

EVERY MEMBER
EVERY VOICE
OUR LAKE
OUR FUTURE

Join the BRR Lake Association!

We are an Association that . . .

- Works to promote and maintain the environmental and recreational quality of Buffalo, Rice, and Rock Lakes and vicinity.
- Works in conjunction with federal, state, county, and local agencies to maintain and improve the quality of Buffalo, Rice, and Rock Lakes.
- Provides educational resources relating to the protection and quality of the Lakes area and its wildlife.
- Works to monitor and report water quality conditions.
- Utilizes collective efforts to support a healthy environment surrounding of our lakes.
- Is a nonprofit, non-stock organization and a member of the Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations.



CONNECT Joining BRRLA helps you connect with your lake neighbors, lake experts, and information. The BRRLA holds socials, hosts the BRRLA website, organizes lake captains, sends out newsletters, and organizes speakers to help you stay connected.

PROTECT BRRLA members and membership dollars help to protect our lakes by monitoring lake quality, advocating for policies and actions that will benefit our lakes, and by communicating information on key topics like boater safety, shoreline management, and invasive species with membership.

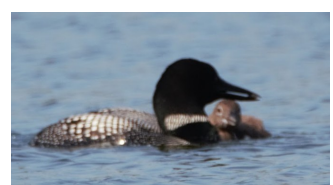
ENJOY BRRLA membership helps lake owners enjoy their lake home by striving to enhance lake safety, quality, value, and fun!

Respect on the water!

Our lakes are more than a place for recreation—it's home for wildlife, a valuable natural resource, and a retreat for your friends and neighbors! Each of us plays a role in keeping it a healthy and beautiful place to enjoy.

- **Be mindful of wildlife.** Loons, ducks, turtles, and other animals depend on the lake and shoreline habitat for nesting, feeding, and raising their young. Give wildlife plenty of space and avoid disturbing nesting areas.
- **Be courteous to fellow lake users.** Observe wake zones, avoid racing near shore, and minimize excessive noise, particularly during early morning and evening hours.
- **Protect our shoreline.** Shoreline trees and vegetation helps prevent erosion, filters runoff, and provides habitat for birds and fish. Unnecessary shoreline disturbance degrades water quality, destroys fish habitats, and accelerates property erosion. When natural lake edges are cleared or altered, the entire aquatic ecosystem suffers, leading to murky water, loss of shoreline, and toxic algae growth.

A little consideration goes a long way toward making the lake safer and more enjoyable for everyone!





Membership/Sponsorship/Donor Form

Want to learn more and connect with your lake neighbors? Join the BRRLA! Membership dues support Becker COLA membership, BRRLA communication, socials, and education. The BRRLA helps to share vital information and connect our members with one another and the community. The more members we have, the stronger our voice and the more we can accomplish. Whether you live on the lake, use the lake, or just want to support the BRRLA, your membership and donations are welcome!

Whether you live on the lake year-round, rent, or enjoy our beautiful lakes seasonally, you are welcome to join! Just fill out the QR Code, fill out the form online, or complete this form and either bring to the meeting or mail to the BRRLA address listed below.

What lake are you on?

- ☐ Buffalo
- ☐ Rice
- ☐ Rock

First Names: _____ Last Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Lake Address (if not mailing): _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Membership/Sponsorship:

- ☐ **Owner/Year round renter: \$20**
- ☐ **Seasonal renter/campground tenant: \$10**
- ☐ **Sponsor: \$50** A lake sponsor will be recognized on the BRRLA website and at the annual association meeting. If you are a new lake sponsor, please send a your company name, address, logo, and website address to buffaloricerocklakes@gmail.com.
- ☐ **Donor: \$_____** Want to give more than just the membership dues? We are recognized in the State of Minnesota as a 501c(3) non-profit organization. Donations to the BRRLA are tax-deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Make your checks payable to Buffalo, Rice & Rock Lake Association (BRRLA)

Mail to: BRRLA
c/o Becky Burns
29665 Buffalo Run
Rochert, MN 56578



Lake Swag

Nothing says “I love lake life” quite like showing off your favorite lake. That’s why the Lake Association is excited to once again offer official lake swag for members, families, and friends.

Our merchandise is a fun way to celebrate the place we all love. Whether you’re relaxing at the cabin, out on the boat, attending a lake event, or traveling away from the lake, our gear helps showcase your connection to our community.

Seeing neighbors sporting lake apparel reminds us that we’re all part of something special—a community committed to preserving and enjoying the lake for generations to come.



Sample Swag

Watch for information on available items and ordering opportunities. Then grab some gear and help spread a little lake pride around the shoreline and beyond!

BRRLA Connect Socials

One of the benefits of living on the lake is the opportunity to connect with people who love the lake as much as you.

This year, the BRRLA Board wants to support social events for members to connect with one another—whether it’s a potluck, wine night, golf outing, or family-friendly activity, these events will provide opportunities to reconnect, meet new neighbors, and strengthen the bonds that make our lake community thrive.

Because beach captains know their neighborhoods best, they help organize informal gatherings, welcome new residents, share information, and encourage participation in association activities. Even a simple beach get-together or neighborhood cookout can help create a stronger and more connected community.

If you have an idea for a social or you’re interested in hosting an event, volunteering, or helping your beach captain organize activities, we encourage you to reach out. Every gathering—large or small—helps create the welcoming atmosphere that makes our lake a wonderful place to live and visit.

Water Safety

As another lake season gets underway, it’s a great time to remember that safe watercraft use helps ensure everyone can enjoy the water. Whether you’re fishing, water skiing, tubing, or simply cruising on your jet ski or boat, a few simple precautions can prevent accidents and save lives.

- **Secure the fun!** Wear a life jacket or have one readily available for every passenger.
- **Think sober!** Alcohol is the #1 contributing factor in boating and water fatalities and accidents. Avoid alcohol or limit consumption when in control of a watercraft or designate a sober driver.
- **Tell a friend!** Tell someone where you’re going and when you’ll be back. If you’re not back they should call 911. Bring a phone or walkie talkie to communicate if you encounter issues.
- **Be smart!** Maintain a safe speed and distance (especially near docks, swimmers, kayaks, paddle boards, and other watercraft), stay alert to changing weather conditions (before and while on the water), and stay seated and low while the boat is moving to prevent falls overboard.

Before launching, inspect your boat’s safety equipment, including navigation lights, fire extinguishers, and emergency signaling devices. A quick safety check can make all the difference in an unexpected situation.

Have fun, drive and ride responsibly, and help keep our waterways safe for all!

Fishing on our Lakes

Whether you're casting from the dock at sunrise, trolling the lake on a summer afternoon, or teaching a grandchild how to bait a hook, fishing is one of the activities that brings our lake community together. Beyond recreation, healthy fisheries are an important part of our lake's ecosystem and overall quality of life. Below are current regulations and information to help anglers of all ages have a successful season.

Before we get into regulations, it is important to remember that great fishing starts with a healthy lake—water quality, aquatic vegetation, shoreline management, and responsible angling all contribute to better fishing.

- **Water Clarity Matters.** Fish require clean, well-oxygenated water to thrive. Excess nutrients from lawn fertilizers, failing septic systems, and stormwater runoff can lead to algae blooms that reduce water clarity and deplete oxygen levels. Poor water quality can stress fish, reduce spawning success, and alter the balance of aquatic life that supports the food chain.
- **Aquatic Vegetation Is Fish Habitat.** While some people view aquatic plants as a nuisance, fish see them as home. Native aquatic vegetation provides shelter from predators, spawning areas, and feeding grounds for young fish and the insects they eat. Removing too much vegetation can reduce habitat and make fish populations more vulnerable. A healthy balance of native plants supports productive fishery while maintaining recreational opportunities.
- **Shoreline Management Makes a Difference.** Natural shorelines play a critical role in protecting fish habitat. Trees, shrubs, and native plants along the shoreline help prevent erosion, filter runoff, and provide shade that moderates water temperatures. When shorelines are cleared or hardened with excessive rock and retaining walls, important habitat can be lost. Maintaining or restoring natural shoreline buffers is one of the most effective ways property owners can support lake health and fisheries.
- **Responsible Angling Supports Future Fishing.** Anglers are among the lake's strongest conservation advocates. Following regulations, respecting size and possession limits, and practicing proper catch-and-release techniques help sustain fish populations for future generations. Simple actions such as handling fish gently, minimizing air exposure, and releasing large breeding fish can have a positive impact on the overall fishery.
- **A Shared Responsibility.** Healthy fisheries don't happen by accident. They result from the combined efforts of lake residents, anglers, local governments, and conservation organizations working together to protect water quality and habitat. Every choice—from how we manage our shoreline to how we care for our lawns and handle our catch—affects the lake. By protecting the lake's natural resources today, we help ensure that future generations can continue to enjoy memorable days on the water and the excellent fishing opportunities that make our lake special.

Now, on to new & **Updated Regulations:**

- **Continuous Bass Season:** You can fish for bass at any time. Catch-and-release is allowed at any time, but the daily possession limit is 6 combined large and small mouth bass.
- **Tackle Updates:** You are now allowed to use up to three hooks on a single line setup, provided they are within 18 inches of each other. Stinger hooks are only allowed on artificial baits, and only one bait per line is permitted.
- **Hook-Setting Devices:** Nonmotorized automatic hook-setting and jigging devices are permitted, but you must stay within 200 feet of your unattended lines.

Essential License Information:

- **License Year:** Licenses are valid from March 1, 2026, to February 28, 2027.
- **Requirements:** All residents ages 16 to 89 must hold a valid fishing license. Licenses can be purchased online through the MN DNR License Portal or at local bait shop retailers.

Common Species Limits:

- **Walleye:** The daily and possession limit is generally 5 in the aggregate (only 1 over 17").
- **Northern Pike:** Statewide possession limit is 3. Fish between 30-40" must immediately be released, and only 1 over 40" is allowed in your possession.
- **Crappie & Sunfish:** The daily limit for Crappie is 10 fish. Sunfish limits are 5 for Buffalo and 20 for Rock & Rice.

Visit [Minnesota DNR Fishing Regulations PDF](#) before you hit the water.

Watch your wake!

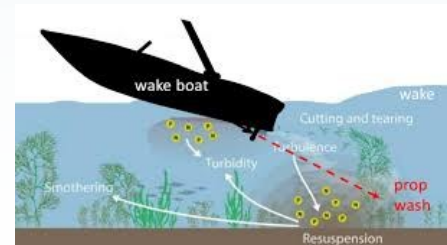


Many boaters don't realize the impact their wake can have on the lake and others enjoying it. A boat's wake may seem harmless, but large waves can create significant problems both on the water and along the shoreline.

Repeated wave action contributes to shoreline erosion by washing away soil and damaging the vegetation that helps hold banks in place. Over time, erosion can reduce water quality, destroy wildlife habitat, and increase maintenance costs for shoreline property owners.

Large wakes can also create hazardous conditions for fellow lake users. Kayakers, canoeists, paddle boarders, anglers in small fishing boats, and swimmers can be caught off guard by unexpected waves. A large wake can swamp a small watercraft, throw someone off balance, or even tip a kayak or paddle board, leading to injury or a dangerous situation in deep water.

Being a courteous boater means slowing down near shorelines, docks, swimming areas, fishing boats, and non-motorized watercraft. Remember that a boat's largest wake is often produced while coming onto plane or operating at certain mid-range speeds. Taking a few extra moments to reduce your wake helps protect our shoreline, wildlife habitat, property, and fellow lake users.



Thank you for being a part of our lake community!

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Stay Connected

Follow us on Facebook, visit our website, or email.

Website: brrla.com

Facebook: Buffalo, Rice & Rock Lakes Association

E-mail: buffalowricerock@gmail.com