

CHISAGO LAKES LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT HOOK, LINE & SINKER RECYCLING PROGRAM



THE FACTS:

- *Monofilament Fishing Line can take up to 500 years to decompose in the environment, posing a hazard to boaters and wildlife.*
- *Lead sinkers are toxic or fatal when ingested by waterfowl.*
- *Discarded fishhooks can cause injury to humans and animals.*

Partners:

- Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District
- Chisago County Environmental Services/Zoning
- Berkley Pure Fishing America

Collector Locations:

- Chisago/South Lindstrom Lakes
- Green Lake
- Household Hazardous Waste Facility, North Branch
- Kroon Lake
- Little Lake
- Little Green Lake
- North Center Lake
- South Center Lake
- Spider Lake

Items Collected in 2021

Collection stations are located at Chisago Lakes public water accesses and are emptied weekly when lake levels are recorded.

Fishing line is recycled free of charge at Berkley's Spirit Lake, Iowa Facility. It is made into fish habitat structures, tackle boxes, spools for fishing line, and toys.

Lead sinkers are recycled with other lead waste received at the Chisago County Household Hazardous Waste Facility, and old fish hooks are recycled as scrap metal.



LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

2021 SUMMARY FOR THE HOOK, LINE & SINKER RECYCLING PROGRAM

The goals of the Hook, Line & Sinker recycling program in 2021 included:

- Routinely empty the collectors of discarded hooks, fishing line, lead sinkers, and various other items,
- Continue to provide public education and awareness of the impacts of monofilament line to boats and wildlife,
- Renew the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Special Use Permit to maintain PVC collection stations (collectors) at public water accesses within the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID), and
- Continue promotion of the recycling program to area residents through various publications and signage at collector sites.

PVC collectors were first installed at public water accesses within the LID in 2012. Decals identifying the program and sponsors are attached to the front of the collectors, and metal signs on fence posts are installed in close proximity to each collector identifying the program sponsors.

Collectors are located at the following public water accesses and county building:

1. Chisago County Household Hazardous Waste Facility, North Branch
2. Green Lake
3. Kroon Lake
4. Little Lake
5. Little Green Lake
6. North Center Lake
7. South Lindstrom/Chisago Lake
8. South Center Lake
9. Spider Lake

The collectors were emptied weekly from May through early November, when lake level readings were taken, and bi-monthly upon ice-up of the lakes.

Fishing line will be recycled free of charge at Berkley's Spirit Lake, Iowa Facility. It will be made into fish habitat structures, tackle boxes, spools for fishing line, and toys. Lead sinkers will be recycled with other lead waste received at the Chisago County Household Hazardous Waste Facility, and old fish hooks will be recycled as scrap metal.

Items collected in 2021 include: 6 fish hooks, 9 lures, 12 lead sinkers, 2 bobbers, 1 leader, various other fishing tackle, and a large amount of fishing line.