

What is being proposed?

Put simply, it is proposed that the existing Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District boundary be adjusted to match the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed drainage area.

In 2009, the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Board of Directors adopted the official Minnesota Department of Natural Resources map of the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed. The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Board made the decision to work on projects throughout the Watershed and not limit projects to the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District taxation area identified in 1984. The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Water Resource Management Plan, mission, goals, objectives and bylaws are based on the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed and available at:

<http://mn-chisagocounty.civicplus.com/300/Lake-Improvement-District>

In December 2014, the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Board of Directors passed a motion to recommend that the Chisago County Board of Commissioners begin the process of adjusting the original 1984 Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District taxation boundary to match the official 2009 Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed developed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

On May 20, 2015 the Chisago County Board of Commissioners approved a Resolution of Intent to re-establish the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District consistent with the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed boundary.

PUBLIC HEARING

Date: Wednesday, August 19

Time: 7:00 pm

**Place: County Board Room 172,
lowest level, Chisago County Govern-
ment Center, 313 North Main Street,
Center City, Minnesota 55012**

Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District

313 North Main Street, Room 243, Center City, MN 55012

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE and Information Guide on Proposed Boundary Adjustment

**You are receiving this notice
because you live or own property
within the Chisago Lakes Chain
of Lakes Watershed.**

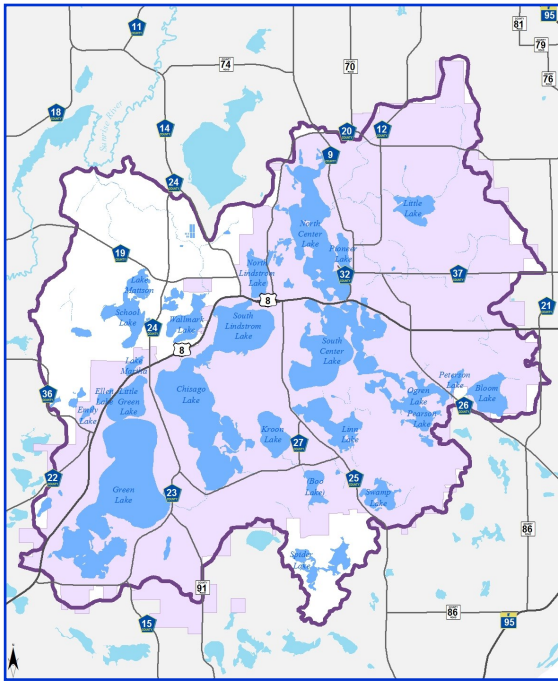


What is the Purpose of the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District?

The **Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District** is an organization put in place to protect and restore area lakes and streams. The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District works to achieve this mission by actively engaging in programs to:

- Encourage environmentally sound land use practices for urban and agricultural areas to protect water quality within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.
- Maintain the ditch and weir system in order to control water levels during high water events.
- Preserve, protect and enhance water quality within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.
- Promote environmental education, awareness and stewardship within the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.
- Promote the reduction of non-native aquatic invasive species.
- Protect, encourage and restore native shoreline to improve fish and wildlife habitat.
- Restore, improve and maintain navigation channels between the lakes.
- Support safe and balanced recreational use of surface water.

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID) was the first established LID in Minnesota, and is also the largest. The reason the Chisago Lakes LID was formed in 1976 was because of high water and flooding of area lakes. As a result of this, the Chisago Lakes LID installed a system of channels and weirs designed to drain excess water during times of high water. Since its inception, the LID's role has expanded to much more than lake water levels. The Chisago Lakes LID Board of Directors provides policy recommendations to the Chisago County Board of Commissioners. The LID is funded through an annual budgeting process and ad valorem tax levy.



This map shows the difference between the existing **Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District** taxation area boundary (shaded area), as determined in 1984 by the best technology of the day, and the **Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed** (dark outline), which is the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources delineated drainage area.

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is like a funnel – collecting all water within the drainage area and channeling it into a stream, river or lake. Even if your home is not next to a lake, river or wetland, you still live in a watershed and the rain and snowmelt from your property flows to area lakes and rivers. In the **Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed**, runoff water drains through many streams into the lakes. The water eventually flows from the Watershed into the Sunrise River via Bloomquist Creek, then flows north to the St. Croix River. What we do in the Chisago Lakes Watershed affects the Sunrise and St. Croix Rivers.

A Public Hearing on the proposal is set for Wednesday, August 19, 7:00 pm, County Board Room 172, lowest level, Chisago County Government Center, 313 North Main Street, Center City, MN

The following statements are required by Minnesota Rules 6115.0970. The establishment of the proposed lake improvement district requires review by the commissioner of natural resources and the approval of the Chisago County Board of Commissioners. Concerned citizens may submit evidence at a public hearing to be held prior to the passage of any resolution establishing the proposed lake improvement district. Concerned citizens may also submit evidence and opinions to the commissioner of natural resources. A copy of the Resolution of Intent for the establishment of the lake improvement district is available for public review at the Chisago County Government Center Department of Environmental Services/Zoning, room 243, 313 North Main Street, Center City, MN 55012 and 651-213-8380.

Citizens may call for a referendum on the question of whether or not to establish a lake improvement district by filing a petition requesting such a referendum. The petition shall be signed by 25 percent of the land owners within the territory of the proposed district, who are Minnesota residents. Upon receipt of such a petition prior to the effective date of creation of the district, the county board shall hold the creation in abeyance pending the referendum vote of all qualified voters residing within the boundaries of the proposed district.

Learn more:

www.chisagocounty.us

Point to “Government”, then click on “Lake Improvement District”

- [View Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Public Engagement Opportunities

- **July 10-12, Karl Oskar Days,**
- **July 22, Community Water Festival**
- **July 29, Open House, 6:00 pm, Chisago Lakes Area Library**
- **August 3, Open House, 6:00 pm, Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Board Meeting**
- **August 22 & 23, Ki-Chi-Saga Days**