

MSLID & TAMS NEWS

Mink/Somers Lake Community Newsletter

The **Special Budget and Levy MSLID Meeting** on Saturday, November 23 will be held at 9:00 a.m. at Corinna Township Hall. This meeting is being held to review, finalize and vote on the 2020 MSLID Budget, along with a discussion and vote on whether the levy should be increased and if increased, to what amount. The current levy is set at \$16,000 per year.

Mink-Somers has never had a lake management plan. Our lakes are in dire need of such a plan. A Lake Management Plan is a document that identifies goals and action items for creating, protecting and maintaining desired conditions of our lakes. A Lake Management Plan provides the framework for future board members and lake property owners.

A Point Intercept Survey, a survey done to measure lake vegetation, was done six years ago. This test should be repeated every five years. In 2019, an inventory of culverts that feed our lakes was completed. The next step would consist of testing a number of the culverts to create a baseline to better understand what can be done to improve the quality of Mink and Somers lakes. One solution would include expanding treatment of weeds beyond the channels. We are also exploring weed harvesting. Last year property owners had weeds sprayed with personal funds. This should never happen again - this is a MSLID concern and should be dealt with by MSLID to benefit all lake property owners.

In addition, testing of lake water at the culvert and bay bordering the pheasant farm will continue. Other budget items include: insurance, lake aeration, lake spraying and testing, newspaper notices, and county fees for bookkeeping services. Another topic discussed will be "Does MSLID continue rebates for individual property owner shore spraying?"

CURRENT LEVY: Dollar amount increase over current levy per year.*

Residential Homestead Home Value	\$16,000	\$20,000	\$25,000
\$50,000	\$18	\$4	\$8
\$100,000	\$40	\$10	\$22
\$200,000	\$100	\$24	\$56
\$400,000	\$218	\$54	\$122

LEVY: New TOTAL amount on tax statement*

Residential Homestead Home Value	\$16,000	\$20,000	\$25,000
\$50,000	\$18	\$22	\$26
\$100,000	\$40	\$50	\$62
\$200,000	\$100	\$124	\$156
\$400,000	\$218	\$272	\$340

*Numbers provided by Wright County

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, November 23:
Special Budget and Levy MSLID Meeting at Corinna Township Hall, 9801 Ireland Avenue NE, Annandale, MN

Find all upcoming MSLID, TAMS and Lake Community Events at www.minksomers.org our newly updated website with a Google Calendar on the left front page!

EXAMPLE

A \$200,000 home will have a yearly tax increase of \$24 if the levy is raised to \$20,000. This is a monthly increase of \$2.

- Kathleen Poate, MSLID Chair

Happy Holidays from TAMS!

I can't believe the holidays are upon us and another wonderful summer is but a memory! I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday Season. This year both the TAMS and MSLID boards experienced changes and we hope you like what you have seen thus far. On October 12, we held a TAMS Board Meeting and presented our 2020 Budget and Plan. Thank you to all who attended! If you didn't and would like to see this information, go to www.minksomers.org and look under the news bullet titled, "TAMS Annual Meeting Information."

Driving around the lakes by car and boat, I continue to see people take pride in their properties and homes for sale have for the most part sold quickly. I haven't met the person who purchased the island, but improvements are being made there as well. The TAMS Board is committed to helping improve the atmosphere and neighborhood feel of the lakes - and part of this is supporting what the MSLID Board is trying to accomplish. Some assume property value is the most important asset to lake living, while others value most the quality of your life on the lake and the joy it has to offer through fishing, boating, skiing, tubing, etc. Value also includes the friendships and relationships you make with your neighbors. We want to help create value in all these areas through community involvement and lake quality improvement.

What is the TAMS "The Association of Mink and Somers" Board? We are the social board that has been put in place to create cohesiveness in our lake community and recruit others to help with this cause. We are all in this together!

Looking forward to 2020, we have set some important dates and would love everyone to get involved in some way:

- Ice Out Clean Up Day - Saturday, March 2
- Spring Neighborhood Clean Up - Saturday, May 16
- 4th of July Boat Parade - Saturday, July 4
- TAMS Annual Picnic - Saturday, August 1

Check www.minksomers.org, Facebook and Nextdoor Neighbor for additional details of these events as they become available. Also feel free to contact any board member with questions or for more information!

- Dan Saurer, TAMS Chair

Lake Aeration - **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Winter is right around the corner. We need to plan and prepare for possible aeration of the lakes. Although it is not needed every year, we do need to be prepared.

Why do we need to aerate? Low oxygen levels during the winter can cause fish to die. This is known as winter kill. Aeration systems agitate and mix water in the lake. Warmer water near the bottom of the lake rises to the surface and melts an area of the ice. Oxygen from the air can then be incorporated into the water, and light can also penetrate further into the water, helping with photosynthesis and increasing oxygen.

Lake aeration can prevent winter kill of fish, improve water quality and/or protect structures from ice damage.

If you enjoy fishing or would like to help with the aeration process, please consider volunteering. The DNR will provide training for all volunteers! Contact Kathleen at kathleenpoate@gmail.com.