

Moen Lake Chain Association

Spring 2025 Newsletter

[www.moenlakechain.org](http://www.moenlakechain.org)

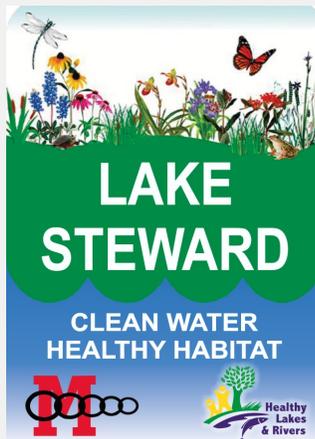
May 2025



*Our MISSION is to protect, maintain and enhance environmental and recreational values of the Moen Lake Chain of Lakes and it's surroundings; to provide to it's members information of concern; to represent it's members with other organizations and public officials and to conduct such other activities as are appropriate to the purpose and consistent with the nonprofit status of the Association.*

## Lake Steward Program and Survey

The Moen Lake Chain system is a precious resource, and you are a crucial part of its preservation. As a shoreland property owner, you can preserve and protect the lake's water quality for present and future generations. By practicing good shoreland nutrient management, maintaining and enhancing shoreland wildlife habitat, and boating in a manner that does not harm what we are trying to preserve and protect, you are making a significant difference. These are the principles on which the Lake Steward Initiative is founded.



The Lake Steward Initiative is not just a suggestion but a crucial call to action. Many shoreland owners believe that the appearance of their shoreland reflects their character. A meticulously maintained shoreland may signal diligence and care, but these practices, while suitable for urban areas, are not in the best interest of our lake's health. The Lake Steward Initiative is a call to action, urging us to rethink our approach and adopt practices that align with the lake's needs.

As Lake Stewards, we are entrusted with a delicate balance. We must honor our cultural need for order while respecting the lake's need for natural wooded shorelines, emerging vegetation in shallow waters, woody debris, and mucky bottom sediment along our shallow areas. This balance is not a compromise but a testament to our understanding and respect for our environment.

The Lake Steward Initiative is not just a set of suggested practices but a beacon of hope for the Moen Lake Chain. These practices are easy and doable. We understand that every shoreland property is unique, and only some of the suggested practices may not suit your property for cultural or site-specific reasons. However, we encourage you to consider the simple and doable Lake Steward shoreland practices. Think, "I can do this," and if not, think about what

## MLCA Annual Meeting

**Saturday, July 5, 10:30 am**  
**Twin Pines**  
**4051 Hwy County C**  
*Please join us! Everyone welcome.*

## Merch at the Birch!

First sale of the summer is Sunday May 25 (Memorial Day Weekend) starting at 3 pm. T-shirts, hoodies, quarter zips, boat flags and more!



You can also order MLCA apparel through Lands End. The MLCA logo has been uploaded and can be used on a variety of different items. Use this [link](#) for quick access.

Questions? Contact Julie Gust at [juliegust@gmail.com](mailto:juliegust@gmail.com)

## MLCA Dues Reminder

Annual dues for 2025 are \$30 and can be paid online via [PayPal](#) or mailed to:  
Moen Lake Chain Association  
PO Box 542  
Rhineland, WI 54501

Want to help keep our chain clear of invasive species but don't have the time to volunteer? Our Boat Landing Sponsorship is \$100 and helps pay for our Clean Boat, Clean Waters landing watch program. (Includes dues for the year).

you could do. Every Lake Steward practice you can implement on your shoreland is a step towards a better future for the lake's health.

We must work as a community to preserve this incredible body of water we call home.

Here are easy, no-cost, or low-cost Lake Steward shoreland practices that can result in a healthier lake.

### 1. Simply Stop Mowing

The easiest and least expensive way to reduce nutrients from entering the lake and establish critical habitats for bees, butterflies, birds, and insects is to establish a no-mow buffer zone. It also deters geese who prefer well-manicured lawns with unrestricted access from the water to the lawn. The minimum distance needed to filter water runoff and provide wildlife habitat areas is 25 to 35 feet from the water's edge landward to your lawn. If the suggested buffer distance is impossible for cultural or site-specific reasons, do what buffer distance you can, but establish a no-mow buffer zone.

### 2. Stop or Minimize Broadcast Fertilizer, Herbicide, and Pesticide Use

These products are often used to maintain lawns and are used in commercial mosquito sprays. Save the money! It will reduce the nutrients entering the lake, which causes algae and plant growth. An added benefit is it will provide enjoyment in viewing nesting birds because there will be insects for the birds to eat.

### 3. Allow Dead Trees That Fall into the Water to Stay in Place

This wood provides feeding, breeding, and nesting areas for wildlife, from fish to birds. Above the water, ducks, turtles, and other wildlife use the wood to sun themselves. It is less work and less expensive for you.

### 4. Inspect and Maintain Your Septic System Regularly

Just like owning a car, septic systems require service. Seepage from a failing septic system acts like a fertilizer, increasing algae and plant growth. In this case, the money should be spent to protect the lake.

### 5. Keep Fallen Leaves Within the Shoreland

On land, leaves provide natural winter protection for butterflies, moths, bumble bees, and beneficial critters like beetles, millipedes, and spiders. If you have abundant leaves, rake them into shrub, tree, flower, or vegetable gardens. The leaves suppress weeds and insulate the roots. Fall leaves blown or raked into the lake contain phosphorus, which increases plant and algae growth.

### What About Doing More?

Some Lake Steward shoreland practices may require advice or professional assistance, depending on your site conditions. Information sources include the [WDNR Healthy Lakes and Rivers website](#). The [Oneida County Land and Water Conservation Department](#).

### Need Help? Take the Survey!

Take the WDNR Healthy Lakes and Rivers Score My Shore [shoreland evaluation tool](#). Review the survey results and

## CBCW: Volunteers Needed

Our Moen chain is still free of the nastier Invasive Aquatic species such as Zebra Mussels, Spiney Water Flea, and



Eurasian Watermilfoil. I hope you are like me and want to keep our Chain free of them. However this will not happen if we are not all vigilant in protecting our Chain both by our own actions with our watercraft but also by ensuring that outside boaters do not introduce them to the Chain. If you have a few hours to spare consider volunteering as a CBCW Boat Inspector. We also have openings for Paid Boat Inspectors. Either way your help is both needed and appreciated. Inspections are typically Friday nights and weekends. If you are interested send an email to [cbcw@moenlakechain.org](mailto:cbcw@moenlakechain.org).

-- Mark Marek, CBCW Committee

## Channel Markers in for 2025

A special thank you to our Channel marker volunteers for getting the buoys placed for the 2025 boating season!



determine which shoreland management practices you want to implement to preserve and protect our Moen Lakes Chain.

Once you complete the evaluation tool, contact Nancy Sattler at 715-202-3344 to have your property evaluated by a trained lake association member. If your property passes the inspection you will receive a sign for your mailbox indicating that you are a Lake Steward and are working to ensure your property uses responsible shoreland management practices.



**Your MLCA 2025 Board:**

**President: Nancy Sattler | Vice-President: Kate Easton | Secretary: Karen Hansis | Treasurer: John Delleman**  
**Directors: Julie Gust, Billy Heath, Mark Marek, Sue Ohman, Ann Richmond**



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