

## Silver Lake – Aquatic Plant Management Plan Public Opinion Survey

The Silver Lake Management District, in conjunction with its lake management consultant Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource, is preparing an Aquatic Plant Management Plan (APMP) for Silver Lake.

Part of the APMP process involves soliciting input from lake users to help define goals and identify reasonable and acceptable management methods. Please complete this survey and return it via email, US mail, or fax as noted at the end of this survey no later than September 30, 2023.

This survey is also available online at: <https://tinyurl.com/Silver-Lake-Survey>

**1. Which of the following describes your affiliation with the lake and the community?** (circle all that apply)

- |                                      |                        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| a. Shoreline Property Owner/Resident | d. Visitor             |
| b. Boater/Fisherman/Watersports      | e. Area Business Owner |
| c. Nearby (offshore) Resident        | f. Other _____         |

**2. In a typical year, how many days per month do you use the lake during the summer open water months, approximately late-May through August?** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. In a typical year, how many days per month do you use the lake during the winter months when the lake is frozen, approximately late December through late February?** \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Please rank up to 4 activities that are important to you on the lake, with 1 being most important and 4 being less important. Please enter each number only once.**

- |                                       |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ____Swimming                          | ____Nature Viewing                    |
| ____Pleasure Boating                  | ____Hunting                           |
| ____Open Water Fishing                | ____Ice Fishing                       |
| ____Personal watercraft (PWC)         | ____Snowmobiling / XC Skiing          |
| ____Tubing/Wakeboarding /Water Skiing | ____Sailing/Sailboarding/Kite Sailing |
| ____Kayaking/Paddle Boarding/Canoeing | ____Other _____                       |

**5. Please rank the following lake issues in order of importance to you:**

- \_\_\_\_Boating Safety and Enforcement
- \_\_\_\_Invasive Species Management
- \_\_\_\_Lake Levels / Outlet Dam
- \_\_\_\_No-Wake Buoys
- \_\_\_\_Water Quality Improvement
- \_\_\_\_Other \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Overall, how would you rate the enjoyment of your experiences on Silver Lake?** (Please circle only one)

- |                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. Very enjoyable            | d. Not too enjoyable    |
| b. Somewhat enjoyable        | e. Not at all enjoyable |
| c. Neutral no strong opinion |                         |

**7. How many years have you personally been using the lake for recreational purposes?** (If less than one year, please write 1) \_\_\_\_\_

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**8. Overall, how would you say your experiences on the lake have changed over that period of time?**  
(Please circle only one)

- a. Became much more enjoyable
- b. Became slightly more enjoyable
- c. Remained mostly unchanged
- d. Became slightly less enjoyable
- e. Became much less enjoyable

***If you selected A or B or C, please skip to question 10.***

**9. If your experience using the lake over time has become less enjoyable, what do you consider the three main factors contributing to your less enjoyable experiences on the lake?** (Please select up to three from the list below)

- a. Excessive aquatic plant growth (excluding algae)
- b. Increased boat traffic
- c. Decreased water depth
- d. Types of uses on the waterway
- e. Increased shoreline development
- f. Fishing has deteriorated
- g. Poor water quality
- h. Other\_\_\_\_\_

**10. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are non-native plants and animals that can out-compete their native counterparts and can potentially cause many problems within the lake and/or an ecosystem. Prior to this survey, have you heard the term Aquatic Invasive Species (or AIS), and did you know what it meant?**

- a. Yes, I've heard of AIS but didn't know its full meaning
- b. Yes, and I knew its full meaning
- c. No

**11. Do you believe any AIS are currently in Silver Lake?**

- a. Yes
- b. No → **Skip Question 12**
- c. Unsure

**12. Which species of AIS do you believe are, or might be in Silver Lake?** (Circle all that apply)

- a. Eurasian/Hybrid Watermilfoil (EWM)
- b. Curly-leaf pondweed (CLP)
- c. Flowering Rush
- d. Purple Loosestrife
- e. Zebra Mussels
- f. Rusty Crayfish
- g. Other \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Unsure



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**17. An Aquatic Plant Management Plan includes many elements. For each of the following, please tell us how necessary or unnecessary you believe each element is for Silver Lake.**

	Definitely Not Necessary	Somewhat Unnecessary	Neutral	Somewhat Needed	Definitely Needed	Unsure Need More Information
Study and understand current and historic aquatic plant communities	1	2	3	4	5	U
Study intensity of uses on the waterway	1	2	3	4	5	U
Reduce extent and density of AIS infestations if present	1	2	3	4	5	U
Prevent the introduction of new AIS	1	2	3	4	5	U
Identify & explore new aquatic plant management strategies	1	2	3	4	5	U
Seek grant funding for direct management efforts	1	2	3	4	5	U
Large-scale plant management and/or harvesting	1	2	3	4	5	U
Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5	U

**18. Are you willing to commit some of your time to help lake management needs such as “Clean boats / Clean water” inspections, lake water sampling, etc.? Please note this is not regarded as a formal commitment but will be used to gauge potential participation of area stakeholders.**

a. Yes    B. No            If yes, how many hours per summer are you willing to commit? \_\_\_\_\_

**19. If you have any additional general comments about the Silver Lake Management District, lake planning process, or something that you felt wasn’t addressed in this survey please enter them here.**

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**20. In order to track response rates, please provide your name and address below.**

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**Please return this questionnaire to Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource by September 30, 2023, by any method below or complete the survey online at <https://tinyurl.com/Silver-Lake-Survey> .**

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