



Winans Lake Association Rules

These rules are intended to preserve the quality of our association and of Winans Lake; they are not all-inclusive. Considerate and neighborly behavior is our goal, and individual rights to privacy should be respected. In addition to the rules set out below, all applicable laws and common sense should be observed.

The Winans Lake Association (WLA) has established the following rules of conduct for lake and beach use by the Winans Lake Association and Lakelands Golf and Country Club (LGCC) members and their guests. All members shall take individual initiative in preserving the privacy of Winans Lake, ensuring that no motors are used on the lake, and that all persons using the lake abide by the law and WLA rules. Members are encouraged to, at their discretion, politely inform suspected violators of apparent infractions. Serious or ongoing infractions should be reported to the WLA Board. Repeated violation of these rules may result in suspension of lake privileges per the WLA bylaws. Suspected trespass violations, or other violations of law, should be reported to The Hamburg Police Department or Michigan DNR.

GENERAL

1. Only members in good standing of the Lakelands Golf and Country Club (LGCC) and Winans Lake Association (WLA) shall have the privilege of the use of Winans Lake.
2. Guests are subject to WLA rules, and their conduct is the responsibility of the member hosting them.
3. WLA members may allow a guest to access the lake no more than ten (10) times in any one calendar year. Guest privileges do not extend to those who have a short term rental or other commercial relationship with the member. Tenants of qualified property with leases of twelve (12) months or longer shall have lake privileges.
4. Hunting, trapping, and use of firearms are prohibited.
5. Swimming is not allowed at the access sites.
6. Any beach, shoreline, or lake bottom modifications or other related activities that require State permitting shall also require WLA Board approval.
7. All lakeshore seawall construction must be approved by the WLA Board. State and local permits may also be required.
8. Members shall not feed geese, ducks, swans or seagulls, and shall not allow, or otherwise fail to discourage, the congregation of geese, ducks, swans or seagulls on their property.
9. Swimming or bathing in Winans Lake is prohibited between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.



10. No litter or human or animal waste shall be placed in or on Winans Lake.

BEACH

1. All WLA and eligible LGCC members may use the beach property for recreation and swimming. Children of WLA and eligible LGCC members above the age of 23 shall be considered guests.
2. Members and guests shall sign in each time they visit the beach.
3. All persons swimming at the beach shall stay within the marked swimming area. No one should swim at any time without a swimming companion or “buddy.” Lifeguards shall enforce this rule.
4. Children under twelve (12) years of age shall not be left unattended at the beach at any time for any reason, and shall be attended by a parent, legal guardian, or caregiver of at least sixteen (16) years of age.
5. Lifeguards are in charge of enforcing safety first and shall follow a zero-tolerance policy toward foul language, rough play, or other behavior they deem to be inappropriate. All persons using the beach shall abide by the lifeguards’ directions. Lifeguards may refuse the right to use the beach to any member, guest, or child who in their judgment does not comply with these rules or who fails to act in the interests of safety. Common sense and consideration for the safety and enjoyment of others at the beach shall prevail at all times.
6. Running on, pushing others off, and swimming under the dock are prohibited.
7. Diving is only allowed off the deep end of the dock and from the swimming raft.
8. Fishing in the beach area is prohibited.
9. Drug use, smoking, vaping or any use of tobacco products is prohibited on the beach property.
10. Dogs and other pets are not allowed on the beach property at any time.

FISHING

1. State fishing laws and WLA fishing rules, whichever are more restrictive, shall be observed by everyone fishing from Winans Lake.
2. Any member or guest who violates state law or WLA rules shall be subject to suspension or revocation of lake privileges, as determined by the WLA Board.
3. No spearing shall take place in Winans Lake at any time.
4. No frogs or turtles may be taken from Winans Lake at any time.
5. No person shall exceed the Michigan DNR daily limit or take more than fifty (50) fish in any one (1) day, whichever is lower.
6. Bass over 18 inches and pike under 26 inches must be released.
7. Any live baitfish used must be obtained from a State-certified bait dealer, and must not be disposed of in the lake or on the ice.
8. Valid ice fishing flags must be clearly displayed at all times when ice fishing.



9. Non-WLA members of LGCC that are issued an ice fishing flag must be present on the ice with their flag.
10. Ice shanties shall have a valid flag provided by the WLA or LGCC. There shall be no more than one shanty per such flag. Shanties shall be removed from the lake at the end of each day. Ice holes are to be clearly marked for safety.
11. Ice fishing flags must be returned to the WLA or LGCC by April 1st each year. Members that do not return flags as directed may have their fishing privileges suspended and may be charged the cost of the flag.
12. No tip-ups, tip-downs, or other setlines are permitted. A setline is defined as any fishing line that is more than fifteen (15) feet from the fisherman or that is not under the direct sight and control of the fisherman.
13. Battery powered ice drills are allowed. Ice holes must not exceed 8" in diameter. Gas powered ice augers or other gas powered equipment or chainsaws may not be used to create holes in the ice.

BOATS

1. Only WLA members may place boats on the lake. Guests of WLA members shall not place a boat on the lake.
2. LGCC has the right to place up to six (6) boats on the lake at its pump house access site for use on the lake by its members. These boats shall be identified by the number 75.
3. Every non-LGCC watercraft must clearly display a valid WLA decal and WLA-assigned numbers on both sides near the bow. Assigned numbers shall be three-inch high and in contrasting color. (Contact the WLA Board for boat number assignments and decals).
4. Motor propelled watercraft of any kind or motorized vehicles of any description, including personal watercraft, automobiles, snowmobiles, ORVs or aircraft, may not be used on Winans Lake except as specifically designated by the Board for lake maintenance. Abutting WLA members may use motor-driven or motor-propelled snow removal equipment, but not plow-equipped motor vehicles, to clear an area for ice skating.
5. Abutting WLA members may access the lake and place a boat on it from their property.
6. Non-abutting WLA members may access the lake or store a boat only at WLA designated access sites. (Please contact the WLA for the correct access site and boat storage for your address). Sailboats stored on access sites must have their masts removed. The beach property is not a designated site for boat access or boat storage; however, seasonal launching and removal of larger boats may be allowed on a case-by-case basis with WLA Board or Beach Committee permission.
7. Unattended boats must be properly stored and maintained in a safe manner at all times. Boats launched from the access sites must be removed from the water and properly stored after each use.
8. Mooring at, or offshore from, access sites is prohibited.



DOCKS AND RAFTS

1. Only WLA members who are abutting property owners may install a dock extending into or over the lake.
2. Docks whose footings, pilings, or flotation chambers contact the lake shall be considered to be temporary docks, and must be removed and stored at season's end. The dock at the beach property is specifically excluded from this provision.
3. Docks that do not contact – and whose footings, pilings, or flotation chambers do not contact – the lake may be allowed and may be permanent at the discretion and approval of the WLA Board.
4. Only WLA members who are abutting property owners may place swimming rafts on the lake offshore from their property, and these shall be removed and stored at season's end.
5. Docks and rafts shall be maintained for safety and neatness. Excluding boarding ladder rails, these structures are to be no higher than three (3) feet above water level.
6. Permanent or seasonal boat houses, canopies or other covered or enclosed structures that exceed 3ft above the water level are prohibited in or on the lake. Uncovered boats lifts are permitted, but must be removed at the end of the season.

FERTILIZER AND YARD WASTE

1. Fertilizer use is discouraged on lakefront properties and shall not be used within twenty-five (25) feet of the lakeshore. If fertilizer is used, it must contain no phosphorus. (Fertilizers are labeled with a three-number system that indicates their quantity of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium content. The middle number must be zero.)
2. Yard waste piles and compost heaps shall be located at least twenty-five (25) feet from the lakeshore. Under no circumstances shall yard waste, ashes or other organic material be placed in, or allowed to wash into, the lake.

LIGHTING

1. To help maintain the natural character of the community and avoid "light pollution," all outdoor lighting shall be managed so that there is no glare beyond the property line. All special-purpose outdoor lighting (e.g., to illuminate swimming, skating, or deck areas) shall be turned off by 10 p.m.

These rules supersede all previous WLA rules and regulations governing the use of the lake.

Approved by the Winans Lake Association Board of Governors 11/13/2026