

RESOLUTION

Commissioner Larsen offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the property owners on Lake Ossawinamakee have submitted a petition with the requisite number of signatures to Crow Wing County to establish an improvement district to address lake management, aquatic vegetation control and related services to Lake Ossawinamakee, and

WHEREAS, the petitioners requested the name of the improvement district be established as the Ossawinamakee Improvement District, and

WHEREAS, the petitioners requested an improvement district board of directors be established to include five members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners of Crow Wing County, Minnesota establishes the Ossawinamakee Improvement District to address lake management, aquatic vegetation control and related services to Lake Ossawinamakee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED said Improvement District is to have a board of directors consisting of five members.

Which resolution being seconded by Commissioner Tautges was duly adopted, all members voted "AYE".



GARY WALTERS, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CROW WING COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ATTEST:



ROY A. LUUKKONEN, COUNTY AUDITOR  
CROW WING COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Dated at Brainerd, Minnesota, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October 2005.

(Published in the Brainerd Dispatch,  
October 28, 2005. 1t.)

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/s/ Gary Walters

GARY WALTERS, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

CROW WING COUNTY  
MINNESOTA

ATTEST:

/s/ Roy A. Luukkonen

ROY A. LUUKKONEN

COUNTY AUDITOR

CROW WING COUNTY

MINNESOTA

Dated at Brainerd, Minnesota, this 25th day of October 2005.

# Affidavit of Publication

**State of Minnesota)**  
**ss.**  
**County of Crow Wing)**

Angela Hart, being duly sworn, on oath says that he/she is the publisher or authorized agent and employee of the publisher of the newspaper known as the Brainerd Dispatch, and has full knowledge of the facts which are stated below:

(A) The newspaper has complied with all of the requirements constituting qualification as a qualified newspaper, as provided by Minnesota Statute 331A.02, 331A.07, and other applicable laws, as amended.

(B) The printed Resolution which is attached was cut from the columns of said newspaper, and was printed and published once each week, for 1 successive weeks; it was first published on Friday the 28th day of October, 2005, and was thereafter printed and published on every \_\_\_\_\_ to and including \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005; and printed below is a copy of the lower case alphabet from A to Z, both inclusive, which is hereby acknowledged as being the size and kind of type used in the composition and publication of the notice.

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

By: Angela Hart

Title: Agent

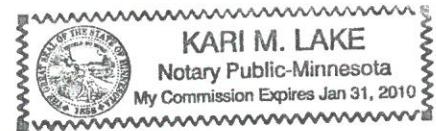
Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 28th day of October, 2005

Kari M. Lake  
Notary Public, Minnesota

(Notarial Seal)

My Commission Expires

Publication Fee \$45.15



## RATE INFORMATION

(1) Lowest classified rate paid by commercial users for comparable space	<u>\$ 9.03</u> /column inch
(2) Maximum rate allowed by law for the above matter	<u>\$12.95</u> /column inch
(3) Rate actually charged for the above matter	<u>\$ 9.03</u> /column inch

**NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC HEARING  
REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF  
OSSAWINAMAKEE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on \_\_\_\_\_, 2005 at \_\_\_\_\_ M. at the Commissioners' Room of the Crow Wing County Courthouse in Brainerd, Minnesota, the Crow Wing County Board of Commissioners shall hold a public hearing upon the petition for establishment of a lake improvement district which is on file with the Crow Wing County Auditor's Office.

The Petition for the Lake Improvement District proposes the following:

**A. Purposes:** To promote public health and public welfare, and to benefit the lands included in the district through projects to maintain and improve the quality of Lake Ossawinamakee and surrounding environs and through programs and services undertaken as authorized by applicable Minnesota statutes.

**B. Programs:**

- To monitor and test for Eurasian Milfoil, and to organize and finance such treatment of Eurasian Milfoil as is necessary to eliminate its destructive effects on the lake.
- To receive financial assistance from and participate in projects or enter into contracts with federal and state agencies for the study of pollution problems and related demonstration programs.
- To enter into cooperative agreements with the United States or State government, or other counties or cities to effectuate water and related land resource programs.
- To monitor water quality and identify sources of water quality problems, pollution and eutrophication, to act upon such information and solve such problems related to water quality as are deemed to exist, and to develop recommendations for submission to appropriate agencies.
- This proposal does not contemplate the Improvement District being vested with regulatory powers, but rather, would look to existing agencies and authorities for implementation of recommendations.

**C. Funding:** Programs to be undertaken by the Ossawinamakee Improvement District shall be financed as provided in Minn. Stat. § 103B.555 through, special assessments or ad valorem tax. Special research projects may also be funded through grants and other resources where possible.

D. **Boundaries:** All abutting properties to Lake Ossawinamakee as indicated in the attached map (see Exhibit "A").

E. **Name of Proposed District:** "Ossawinamakee Improvement District"

\* \* \* \*

The establishment of the proposed Lake Improvement District requires review by the Commissioner of Natural Resources and the approval of the Crow Wing County Board. 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 Petition and accompanying plan for the establishment of the Lake Improvement District is available for public review at the Crow Wing County Auditor's Office located in the Crow Wing County Courthouse, 326 Laurel Street, Brainerd, Minnesota, telephone (218) 824-1045.

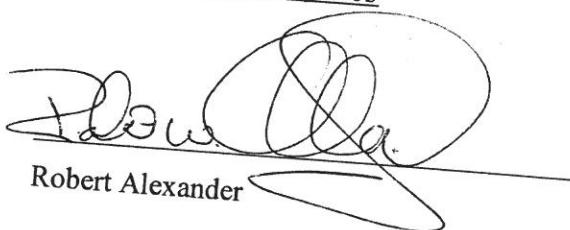
Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2005

Roy A. Luukkonen  
Crow Wing County Auditor

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

By signing below, the undersigned acknowledges that he has been nominated as one of the five proposed Members of the Board of the Ossawinamakee Improvement District for approval by the Crow Wing County Commissioners and is willing to serve as such until the first is Board is elected in 2006 pursuant to applicable Minnesota Statutes. As a nominated Member of the Board, the undersigned further hereby acknowledges support and approval of the Proposed Budget for calendar year 2006, a copy of which proposed budget is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Dated: November 22, 2005



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Alexander", is written over a large, roughly drawn oval. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the name "Robert" on the left and "Alexander" on the right, separated by a small gap.

Robert Alexander

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2005



Raymond F. Niemann

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2005



Thomas D. Miller

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By signing below, the undersigned acknowledges that he has been nominated as one of the five proposed Members of the Board of the Ossawinamakee Improvement District for approval by the Crow Wing County Commissioners and is willing to serve as such until the first is Board is elected in 2006 pursuant to applicable Minnesota Statutes. As a nominated Member of the Board, the undersigned further hereby acknowledges support and approval of the Proposed Budget for calendar year 2006, a copy of which proposed budget is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Dated this 29 day of November, 2005.

~~Lonny D. Thomas~~

## LAKE OSSAWINAMAKEE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PLAN

A petition for the establishment of a lake improvement district for the Lake Ossawinamakee areas has been filed with the Crow Wing County Auditor. The following Plan is submitted in support of said petition and in compliance with Minn. R. 6115.0900 *et seq.*

The Lake Ossawinamakee area has shown dramatic residential growth in the past decade. Increased population density brings with it issues and problems that did not previously exist. With proper planning and cooperation, many of these problems can be addressed before becoming a burden upon the property owners along the lake.

One problem that has surfaced is Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM).

EWM was originally discovered near the Ossawinnamakee public landing in 2002. EWM is an exotic plant species which is a threat to native plants and overall water quality. Left unattended, it can rapidly spread and has a tendency to form dense canopies at the lake surface which shade out native vegetation and can impair the ability of some fish species to spawn in the littoral zone.

In response to the threat a 501(c)(3) Eurasian Watermilfoil Committee was formed. The committee secured the services of an aquatic plant management expert to undertake a program of ongoing surveys for the presence of EWM and herbicidal treatment of EWM plants when they are found.

These services have been funded by voluntary donations and have been generally successful. After initially spreading in 2003, the program has resulted in a reduction of the overall presence of EWM and managed to limit it to scattered individual plants which are treated when found.

While the effort has been apparently successful to date, the funds raised from voluntary contributions have not been sufficient to fully underwrite a comprehensive program that should be followed to ensure the viability of the lake. Such a program currently requires approximately \$60,000 annually and contributions have averaged \$35,800 over the past two years. The result has been a scaled back program that puts the future of the lake in peril.

This document outlines the need for and feasibility of the establishment of a lake improvement district for Lake Ossawinamakee to create a consistent funding source adequate to conduct an ongoing program to monitor and treat Eurasian Watermilfoil and to preserve the water quality of the lake.

Lake Ossawinamakee lies in the townships of Breezy Point and Ideal, located in Crow Wing County, Minnesota.

regulatory authority, and therefore, no adverse affects to adjacent landowners is contemplated.

2. Lake Ossawinamakee has approximately 119 permanent homes and 332 seasonal dwellings. See map attached to petition for basic geographical information. Copies of plats and a printout listing of property owners, addresses, legal descriptions, and parcel numbers are on file with the Crow Wing County Auditor.

**D. Number of Directors proposed for District: Five (5)**

**E. Local interest and commitment to future management:**

Currently, Lake Ossawinamakee has a voluntary property owners association which was organized in the 1950s as a non-profit corporation. Members pay annual dues of \$20.00. The organization as a whole typically has an annual meeting at which issues of interest and concern are addressed and a few organized social events. The Board of Directors meets twice a year. As it stands, this group is severely limited in expanding its activities. Since membership is voluntary, it is difficult to maintain a reliable budget. Furthermore, this group has no official status with which to act in relation to other governmental agencies. Thus, a group of lake shore owners have signed a petition for the establishment of a lake improvement district pursuant to Minn. Stat. 103b.501-103b.581 and Minnesota Rules § 6115.090-6115.0980.

**F. Adverse effects:**

The authority and objectives contemplated by this proposal do not include regulatory powers. Existing agencies and local governments are adequate for this purpose. This proposal does not contemplate construction and maintenance of specific water or land resource projects by the improvement district. Rather, cooperative arrangements will be sought with existing agencies in this regard if such action proves necessary. This proposal is for the establishment of an official body with authority manage the process of monitoring for and treatment of Eurasian Watermilfoil and other harmful aquatic plant species and to sponsor research, conduct public education, and engage in other testing and monitoring of water resources, facilitate coordination among all interested parties and agencies, enhance public access and provide a forum for public discussion and conflict resolution. Funding for specific projects will be sought on a case-by-case basis with an emphasis on available state and federal grants which may be available. Establishing this lake improvement district will ensure local involvement, preserve public rights, guard against degradation of environmental values, enhance the quality of life within the district, and ensure a commitment to future management.

**G. Adequacy and ownership of public accesses and facilities:**

Currently there is one public access to Lake Ossawinamakee which is under the jurisdiction of the DNR.

**PETITION FOR CREATION OF  
OSSAWINAMAKEE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

TO: CROW WING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CROW WING COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
BRAINERD, MN 56401

The undersigned, being owners of real property within the proposed Ossawinamakee Improvement District or buyers under contract for deed of property in the proposed district hereby petition the Crow Wing County Board for establishment of "Ossawinamakee Improvement District" pursuant to Minn. Stat. §103B.521. Attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference is a Ossawinamakee Improvement District Plan.

The name of the proposed district is: Ossawinamakee Improvement District. The establishment of the district is necessary for the promotion of public health and public welfare, and the lands to be included in the district will be benefited by the establishment of a lake improvement district through projects to maintain and improve the quality of Lake Ossawinamakee and surrounding environs and through programs and services undertaken as authorized by applicable Minnesota statutes.

The boundaries of the territory to be included in the proposed district are the tracts of real estate surrounding and abutting Lake Ossawinamakee. Attached as Exhibit "A" is a map of the proposed district, depicting the boundaries of the proposed district.

It is proposed that there shall be five directors for the district.

**Proposed Management Programs:** Water and related land resources management programs and services, as follows:

- To monitor and test for Eurasian Milfoil, and to organize and finance such treatment of Eurasian Milfoil as is necessary to eliminate its destructive effects on the lake.
- To receive financial assistance from and participate in projects or enter into contracts with federal and state agencies for the study of pollution problems and related demonstration programs.
- To enter into cooperative agreements with the United States or State government, or other counties or cities to effectuate water and related land resource programs.
- To monitor water quality and identify sources of water quality problems, pollution and eutrophication, to act upon such information and solve such problems related to water quality as are deemed to exist, and to develop recommendations for submission to appropriate agencies.

**How the Programs will be financed:** Programs to be undertaken by the Ossawinamakee Improvement District shall be financed as provided in Minn. Stat. § 103B.555 through, special assessments or ad valorem tax. Special research projects may also be funded through grants and other resources where possible.

**Parcels in district, by classification:**

**Number of Permanent Homes:** 119

**Number of Seasonal Dwellings:** 332

(**Note:** There are 359 owners of record for the above properties.)

**Lands which may be adversely affected:** None known.

**Adequacy/Ownership of Public Accesses:** The State of Minnesota owns the public access for Lake Ossawinamakee.

**Total Equalized Valuation of property within district:\***

(\*based upon 2004 records from the Crow Wing County Auditor's office)

Lake Ossawinamakee:	\$ 115,276,400 EMV (estimated market value)
	\$ 86,059,700 TMV (taxable market value)

The undersigned petitioners, all of which own property in the proposed Ossawinamakee Improvement District, request establishment of the Ossawinamakee Improvement District as proposed above, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, to develop and provide a program of water and related land resources management as well as for all purposes contemplated by Minnesota law.



## Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

DNR Waters

500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4032

November 2, 2005

Mr. Roy Luukonen, Auditor  
Crow Wing County Courthouse  
Brainerd, MN 56401

Dear Mr. Luukonen:

### DNR ADVISORY REPORT ON THE PETITION FOR CREATION OF OSSAWINNAMAKEE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, CROW WING COUNTY

I am submitting this advisory report pursuant to Minnesota Rules 6115.0970, Subp. 5, to be included with the County Board record on the establishment of Ossawinnamakee Improvement District. Included with this report is a map of the watershed directly contributing to the lake.

It is noted that the primary purpose for the establishment of the LID is to monitor for and treat the invasive species Eurasian watermilfoil that was first identified in the lake in 2002. In addition, the LID proposes to work cooperatively with other governmental units and agencies to monitor water quality, identify sources of pollution and act upon them as needed.

Since the primary purpose is controlling the infestation of Eurasian watermilfoil, DNR concurs with the establishment of the LID boundary to include just the lakeshore properties. Provisions do exist for future expansion of the boundary to include the contributing watershed as needed. With its large contributing watershed, a watershed approach may become necessary if the current excellent secchi disk and water quality readings begin to indicate a decline in water quality. Because of this, DNR supports the development of a comprehensive lake management plan for long-term management of Lake Ossawinnamakee (note corrected spelling).

While DNR encourages the development of lake improvement districts to address local lake issues, a LID must still meet and conform to all local and state permit requirements including regulations for aquatic plant management. Please also note that M.S. 103B.571 requires that a LID hold an annual meeting and submit an annual report to the County with copies to any included cities, townships, DNR and PCA within four months of the meeting.

Sincerely,  
DIVISION OF WATERS

  
Russ Schultz, Lake Management Supervisor

cc: Mike Duval  
Mike Peloquin  
Dave Wright

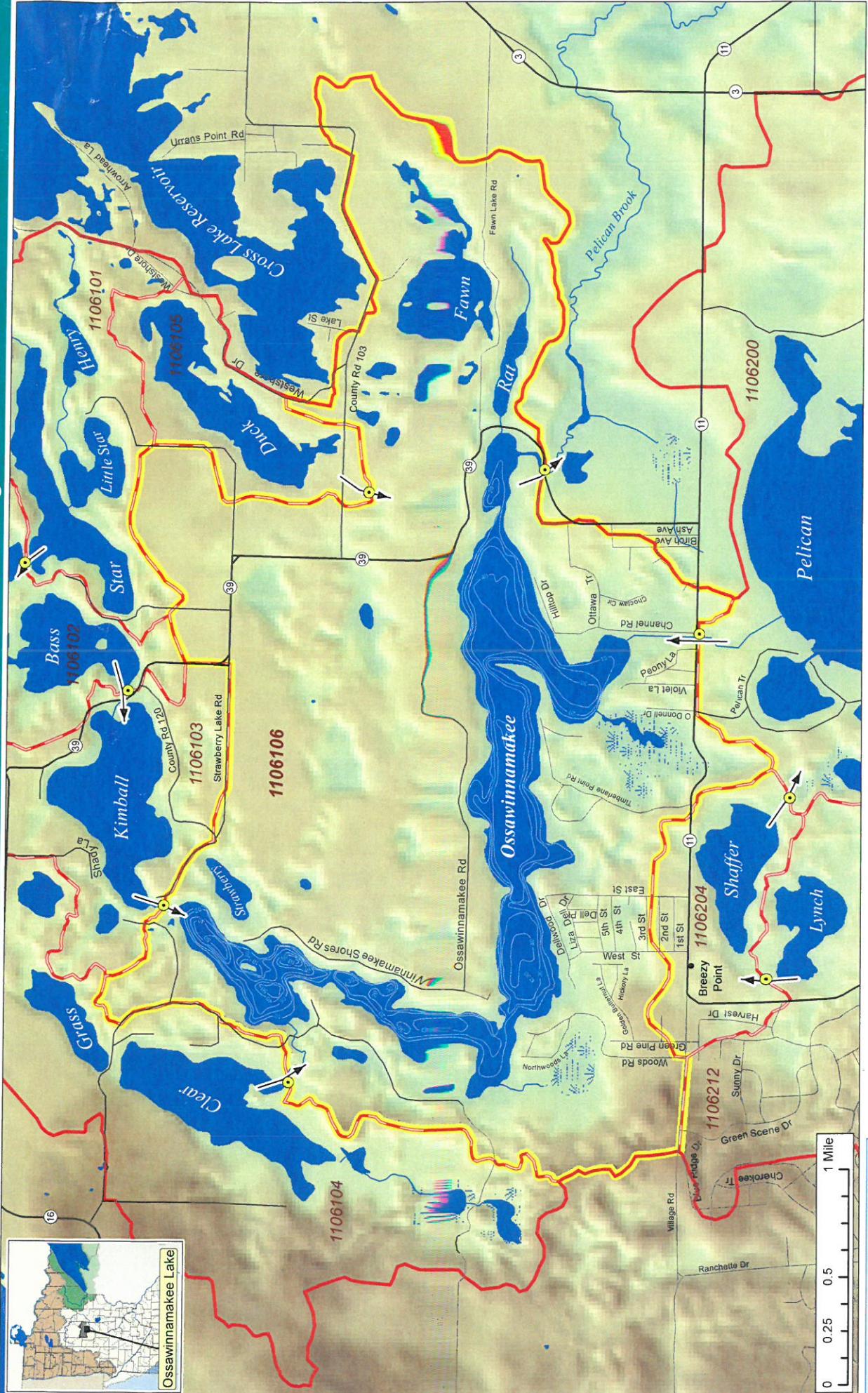
DNR Information: 651-296-6157 • 1-888-646-6367 • TTY: 651-296-5484 • 1-800-657-3929

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# Ossawinnamakee Lake Directly Contributing Watershed



This watershed map was produced by the Lake Watershed Delineation Project.

The watershed data presented here are part of the National Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD). A Hydrologic Unit (HU) is the smallest division in the nested, hierarchical watershed classification system of the WBD.

Electronic data for use in GIS (Geographic Information System) can be downloaded from the DNR Data Deli: <http://deli.dnr.state.mn.us/>

Hydrologic Unit Outlet Points

→ Drainage direction

Ossawinnamakee Lake directly contributing watershed (HU\_ID = 1106106)

Ossawinnamakee Lake watershed

1106106 Ossawinnamakee Lake subwatersheds



Area	Acres	Square Miles
Ossawinnamakee Lake Watershed		
Ossawinnamakee Lake (downstream = 18035200)	739	1.2
Directly contributing watershed (HU_ID = 1106106)	4,903	7.7
Total upstream contributing watershed	27,664	43.2

Lake Ossawinnamakee  
Proposed Lake Improvement District

