



Little Sissabagama User's Guide

For information about the lake and its history visit www.littlesissabagama.org

Welcome to this beautiful lake - visitors, renters, and new property owners. Many people say that they feel as if they are in the wilderness when they get 'lost' in the uninhabited bays. This guide and map will help orient you to the lake as well as learn the etiquette of good lake stewardship.

The lake is blessed with good fishing, abundant wildlife and a high quality water standard. In the center of the lake is the thirty acre island, referred to by a number of names including Big Island. It is registered with the Landmark Conservancy to be protected in perpetuity. You're welcome to use the boat dock on the northwest side of the island to access the island but please, no fires, camping or damaging/collecting of plants or wildlife.

Invasive Species: Although we have no invasive species that we are aware of, we appreciate your help in preventing infestation. One of the most concerning is Eurasian Water Milfoil. If you should find any on our lake please report immediately to Jean Accola, jaccola9@gmail.com.

Below is a comparison of the invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil on the left, the native Milfoil on the right and the entire invasive plant - not to scale - below.

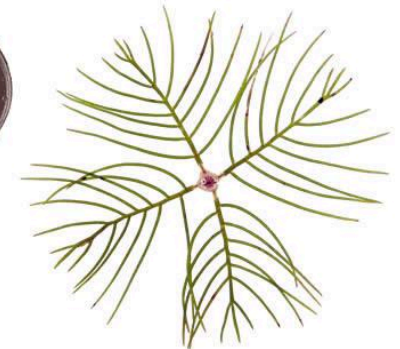
The Invasive

Myriophyllum spicatum



The Native

Myriophyllum sibiricum



Stewardship Guidelines

In order to enhance the environment of our beautiful lake and ensure a pleasurable experience for all, we ask that you subscribe to the following guidelines and become good stewards of our beautiful lake.

1. No jet skis/PWC, wake surfing or other activities that create excessive wake damaging the shoreline.
2. Before launching any watercraft, check your life vests, water toys, boat, livewells and trailer, and remove all weeds and other invasives that can be carried into or out of the lake.
3. Water skiing/tubing, etc. hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Please avoid other boats, swimming and dock areas, as well as narrow bays.
4. Be aware of local and state boating regulations and respect slow-no wake zones. While not marked with buoys, these are zones as defined by state law, any point where a watercraft is within 100' of a shoreline or dock. Most Little Siss bays are slow-no wake zones. Violators can be prosecuted.
5. It is encouraged that boats maintain appropriate speeds for the size and ecological health of the lake and shoreline. If you have guests who bring a boat, please make sure it is an appropriate size for the lake.
6. Respect the presence of wildlife, particularly swimming or nesting loons and nesting osprey.
7. Please practice catch and release for all muskie and other trophy-sized fish. We encourage the catching and removal of smaller, plentiful northern pike.

8. Please be respectful of your neighbors and avoid bright lights aimed across the water, loud noises and music, especially at night as sound carries great distances over water.

9. Be aware of local snowmobile and ATV trails and regulations. The entire shoreline is privately owned. Please do not trespass. Violators will be reported.

10. Be aware of state guidelines regarding the protection of shore areas and setbacks.

11. Please keep boats, lifts, boathouses and docks in a state of good repair.

12. Enjoy, but respect, the many islands; No camping, cooking fires or campfires and leave no trash.

13. Watch for slower, smaller watercraft such as canoes, kayaks and paddle boats on the lake.

These guidelines of stewardship have been approved by the shore owners association of Little Sissabagama.

Regarding fishing regulations: refer to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/Fishing/NewRegs20242025.pdf>

Loons: We have also been happy to have two pairs of breeding loons on the lake for many years. To protect them we ask that you not use any lead based fishing tackle, and by state law stay two hundred feet from any loons. Please avoid loud noises-such as fireworks-near the nests as that can cause a loon to startle and knock eggs off the nest, or to abandon the nest entirely.

Signifies slow/no wake (SNW) zones

A slow/no wake zone is 100 feet from any swimmer, shoreline, dock, pier, raft, swim platform or other restricted area. The WI DNR defines SNW the lowest possible speed required to maintain steerage.

This map is only a guide. It does not indicate docks, rafts or other platforms that might affect SNW zones. This map does NOT show low water areas that could redirect traffic and affect the 100 ft requirement. You are responsible for maintaining proper speeds according to WI state laws and town ordinances.

Suggested SNW zones due to narrow bays, sensitive shorelines, low areas and prevalence of docks.



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Per the Wisconsin DNR:

Help Stop The Spread Of Aquatic Invasive Species!

You are reminded to disinfect your gear and follow these guidelines to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species:

- Inspect your boat, its livewell, trailer and equipment.
- Remove any attached aquatic plants or animals (before launching, after loading and before transporting on a public highway).
- Drain all water from boats, motors and all equipment.
- Never move live fish away from a waterbody.
- Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash.
- Purchase any minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer. Please note that anglers may take leftover minnows away from any state water and use them again on that same body of water.
- Leftover minnows may be used on other waters only if no lake or river water or other fish were added to their container.