Shoreline Workshop

LORE Project

July 22, 2020
Lake Orono Restoration & Enhancement Project (LORE)

Plans to remove accumulated sediment in Lake Orono have been developed over the last several years, the LORE Project will begin this fall.

- Approximately 125,000 cubic yards of material to be removed
- Habitat improvements included
- Improve overall recreation and aquatic health of the lake
- Design plans are in their final stages and currently out for bid for the project
- No work will be done on private property except for Simonet Point
LORE Project Timeline

- Currently working through the permitting process (required for drawdown) and waiting to receive and review bid proposals
- Tentatively plan to award bid to contractor mid-September
- **Begin lake drawdown on September 8, 2020** (Tuesday after Labor Day) via the dam, approximately four feet
- **Drawdown must be complete by September 15, 2020** per DNR requirements for Blanding’s turtles (threatened species)
- Please be sure all boats, docks or other items are removed before the lake is drawdown if possible
- Project to begin late fall with significant hauling during coldest months
- Lake returned to normal levels by spring 2021
Private Lakeshore Projects

During the drawdown is a great time for lakeshore residents to complete their own shoreline improvement projects. Please be aware of permitting requirements before you make your plans! Lakeshore projects will require a permit from the city and will be reviewed by DNR staff. You may also need a separate DNR permit.

The city regulates any work above the Ordinary High Water Level (OHW) of 871.5’ and the DNR regulates everything below the OHW.

Also consider working with the Sherburne Soil & Water Conservation District, they can provide great resources.
City of Elk River Permitting Requirements

All shoreline projects should apply for a Shoreland Permit

- All permits require detailed drawing showing proposed work, surveys may be required for more complex projects
- Total impervious surface coverage for lots may not exceed 25%
- Structure setbacks:
  - Unsewered areas: 75 feet from OHW
  - Sewered areas: 50 feet from OHW
  - Bluff setback of 30 feet
- One water-oriented accessory structures permitted
- Stairways, lifts and landings also permitted
City of Elk River Permitting Requirements

All shoreline projects should apply for a Shoreland Permit
- Erosion control is required during alterations
- Intensive vegetation clearing within the shore and bluff impact zones is not permitted
- Additional building permits may be required depending on nature of the project
- Please be aware of additional wetland and floodplain regulations depending on the nature of your property
Shoreline restoration/stabilization is encouraged but be aware rip rap (rock) is not likely the best solution for shoreline stabilization and would require a permit or permission from the DNR.

Removing trash from the lake during the drawdown is fine, but please be aware you are not permitted to remove rocks, sediment or any other natural items.

Plant removal would require an aquatic plant management permit from the DNR.

Please be aware of the LORE Project contractors, especially for those residents living near the project areas.

We strongly encourage private shoreline projects to occur after the majority of the dredging is done.
Planning Your Project

- Start thinking about your plans this summer!
- **Take photos of your shoreline before and after the drawdown occurs.** This will help show the extent of any shoreline erosion and a better overall picture of your project.
- Apply for permits early, even if you plan to complete the work in 2021
- Utilize available resources, especially the SWCD
- Reach out with questions
Contact Us

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