

# ShoreLand News

Spring 2018



Anglers, boaters and water enthusiasts will get a break this summer as the Island Lake Dam Recreation Area, including the boat launch, will remain open after all.

Minnesota Power is in the midst of replacing five gates at the Island Lake Main Dam and recreation area closures were planned for 2018. However, as the project unfolded last year, Minnesota Power determined that the recreation area adjacent to the Main Dam could safely remain open this summer.

Work on the project will move ahead this year with concrete repairs and preparation for the gate installation. But as the five gates are replaced in 2019, the area will be closed from mid-July through the end of the year to ensure the safety of construction workers and the public. The 2019 closure will include all facilities at the

area, including the boat launch, public beach, parking lots, canoe portage, and fishing pier that complies with Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility guidelines.

### Water levels not affected

The construction activity will not affect water levels at Island Lake Reservoir. Water levels are dependent on spring snowmelt and rains, and the gate replacement project will allow for normal reservoir operations to capture that runoff into the reservoir.

### The project

Five cast iron sluice gates at the Island Lake Main Dam are being replaced. The gates allow dam operators to control the discharge of water from the dam's outlet structure. Original to the construction of the dam in 1914 and 1915, the gates are nearing the end of their service life.

Island Lake Reservoir is part of Minnesota Power's hydroelectric system and provides water for wintertime energy generation at Minnesota Power's downstream hydroelectric generating stations— Knife Falls, Scanlon, Thomson, and Fond du Lac. The reservoir also provides water regulation to help mitigate high downstream flows and water for recreational opportunities and aquatic habitat in the reservoir and downstream.

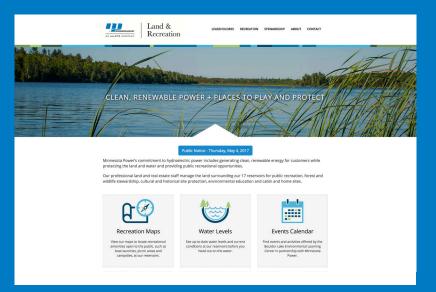
### Other recreation sites at Island Lake

- Abbott Road boat launch.
- Hideaway boat launch and picnic area.
- Island Lake Park pavilion, picnic area and beach. The Island Lake Park facilities are designed to be accessible to people with disabilities.

#### Download a map

A map of Island Lake Reservoir and its recreation sites is available at mpland.com.

## Website puts information at your fingertips



Minnesota Power's ShoreLand community has an easy-to-navigate tool for staying in touch. Our land and recreation website makes it easy and quick to get answers to commonly asked questions, find other relevant information, make lease payments, and check reservoir water levels. You'll also find newsletters and a sample lease at the site and maps of some reservoirs are available to download. Still can't find what you need? Email us at landinfo@mpland.com.

mpland.com

### **Lease Reminders**

### Short-term vacation rentals not permitted

Don't fall for the temptation to list your home or cabin on an online vacation rental marketplace like Airbnb or VRBO. Doing so could put you in default of your lease and result in your lease being terminated. Please see Sections 2 and 7 of your lease for more specific information.

### Construction and Earthwork Request Form (CERF) required for all construction projects

Construction season is right around the corner. Contact the ShoreLand office early in your planning to start the paperwork/ permit process for your project. The Construction and Earthwork Request Form, also known as CERF, must be submitted and approved by Minnesota Power prior to applying for any county or township permits. This form is required for all construction work on your lease land, even if a county or township permit is not required.

### **Paying your bill**

### Online through MyAccount

MyAccount, Minnesota Power's online payment tool, is a convenient way to view your balance and copies of your bills and make your lease payment. In addition, if you're a Minnesota Power customer, you can pay your electric bill online, view your electric bill and bill history, and track your energy use. You'll need to establish an account separate from the account you use to make your lease payment. Have your account number, telephone number and email address ready to get started.

#### mnpower.com/MyAccount

### Other payment options

We no longer accept lease payments in person at our ShoreLand office. Drop boxes are located outside of Minnesota Power's General Office Building, 30 W. Superior St. in Duluth. You can find them at the Superior Street and First Avenue West entrance and the entrance off of Lake Superior Plaza.

Leaseholders also can use the ShoreLand-specific drop box on the first floor of the General Office Building near the Security office to drop off payments as well as other ShoreLand-related forms and documents.

Visit **mnpower.com/PaymentOptions** for other payment options or mail your payment directly to our office:

Minnesota Power/ALLETE Inc. Attn: ShoreLand 30 W Superior St Duluth, MN 55802

### Lease lot surveys continue

Have you noticed footprints around your home or cabin or a Minnesota Power truck driving slowly down your road? We've been out surveying lease lots so you may have seen these signs of our representatives at work. The survey work is ongoing.

### Looking to sell?

Please make sure your real estate agent is aware that your lot is a leased lot and to contact ShoreLand immediately after a purchase agreement is signed.

### Office contact information

landinfo@mpland.com 218-723-3981 or 1-800-526-3648

Office hours: Monday through Friday
By appointment only 9 AM-3 PM