

# Preserving Our Lake

November 2021

Important Information from the Lake Waubeeka Environmental Awareness Committee

Hello neighbors,

This is the inaugural email in a planned series of emails and programs brought to you by the new Lake Waubeeka Environmental Awareness Committee. We look forward to working with all the residents of Lake Waubeeka to preserve and protect our unique lake community.

Lake Waubeeka's natural beauty and location have made it a wonderful place to live and spend time. Over the years small summer homes have given way to larger year-round homes as more and more people want to enjoy the tranquility of lake community living. As homes grow larger, lawns and paved surfaces replace our trees. The cumulative effect from such changes to the landscape means changes to the health of our lake. By changing the natural environment to more of a suburban landscape, our lake's ecosystem struggles to function properly. Properties in lake communities are in demand across the US, but the value of these properties depends on the quality of the lake water. People will pay more to live near a lake with better water quality. We all live here because we love the lake, but it can't protect itself!

As more pollutants, like runoff from fertilizer and erosion, enter Lake Waubeeka, their cumulative effects can outpace our lake's natural capacity to clean itself, resulting in algae blooms and other issues.

**Here are three main ways to protect the water quality of Lake Waubeeka and your investment in your property.**

## **#1 Minimize Runoff**

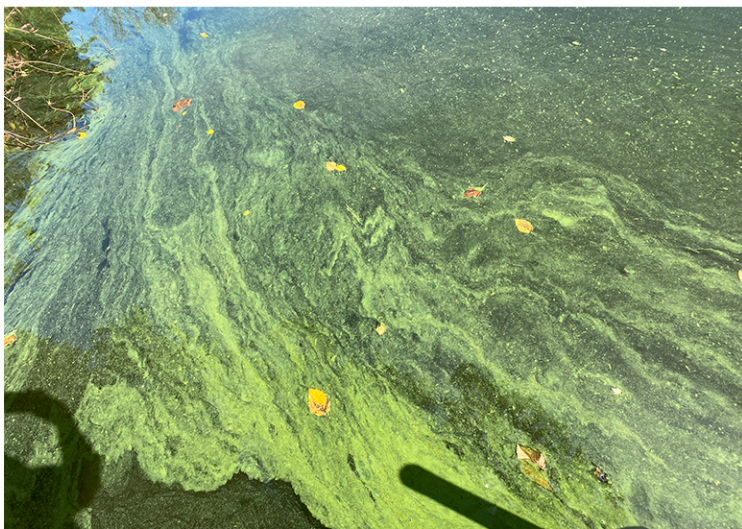
Use permeable surfaces for driveways and paths and limit lawn size.

## **#2 Eliminate Pollutants**

Use phosphorus-free fertilizers, mow less often and maintain your septic system

## **#3 Maintain a Natural Landscape**

A strip of natural vegetation along the shoreline will stabilize soil, filter pollutants and absorb nutrients that would otherwise end up in the lake.



In the future, we will be sending out more information on each of these three topics. If we all work together to practice lake-friendly living, we can all enjoy the beauty and health of Lake Waubeeka for years to come.

Algae bloom, October 2021