

Postage

OTTER LAKE PARK

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A Division of Otter Lake Water Commission



Otter Lake Times

Newsletter

S P R I N G 2 0 2 6

WELCOME BACK!

Winter has come to an end and that means the campground is back open.

I am excited to see all of you and looking forward to another great camping season.

Shannon Collins



DATES

- March 1st** Campground Gates Reopen
Bait Shop Open : 7am - 3pm (Closed Tues/Wed)
- March 31st** 2025 Boat Stickers expire.
2026 stickers available at the bait shop.
- April 15th** Water On - weather permitting
- May 1st** 2nd Installment 2026 Lot Lease
Payment Due including Dock Fees (if applicable)
- May 21st** Peak Season (*through September 1st*):
Bait Shop Open: 7 days a week, 7am - 7pm

Permit Sticker Time

It's that time of year to get your new permit stickers for your boat and golf cart. Please get all your permit stickers picked up here at the bait shop and then promptly display them appropriately. I appreciate your cooperation on this, it really helps to make things run smoothly.

Reminder: all permit stickers must be displayed not just purchased

If you have a boat storage spot, your payment for that is also due. Please come into the bait shop and purchase your sticker and get that displayed on your boat trailer.



MAKE SURE YOU...

- Have signed your annual lot lease for the 2026 Season (leases are to be signed and turned in by Nov 1st every year)
- Have a copy of your current ID on file at the bait shop office

ANY LEASE HOLDER WITHOUT A SIGNED LEASE, CURRENT DRIVERS LICENSE ON FILE OR UNPAID LATE FEES WILL LOSE THEIR CAMPSITE.

NO ONE WANTS TO GO THROUGH THE PROCESS OF REVOKING YOUR LEASE, SO PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO THE NOTICES YOU RECEIVE.

Upcoming Projects:

- Construction of the Southeast Campground shower house will begin as soon as the water is shut off this fall.



thank  you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

To Our Otter Lake Camper Family and Community,

We would like to thank each & every one of you for all the love & support you have given us! You made a tough time a lot more bearable. The Benefit was so AMAZING, everything was great! It helped us so much in our time of need! Thank you also for the time & efforts of putting together the John's Journey Spiritwear! We totally appreciate it & enjoy wearing the gear!

John is doing pretty good, still working very hard to recover. We are so blessed and lucky to have him with us today!! Looking forward to Happy Camping this year! See ya all soon!!

Love & thank you all!

John, Pam, Kayla & Megan Smalter

Golf Cart & UTV Operators

- ◆ You must have a valid drivers license to operate a golf cart or UTV
- ◆ Every golf cart and UTV must have a current sticker.
- ◆ Please use extreme caution while operating your cart or UTV especially after dusk and on Emmerson Airline Road
- ◆ Failure to comply with this rule will result in the loss of the use of your golf cart or UTV for the remaining season



Blue Tanks

The Illinois Department of Public Health requires complete compliance with the laws governing **waste water (gray-water and black-water) discharge**.

**FULL COMPLIANCE (100% of the campground)
must meet following guidelines:**

- ◆ All connections from camper to blue tank are to be sealed and/or tight fitting.
- ◆ All blue tanks and connecting hoses are to be above ground and easily visible.
- ◆ All drain lines are to be connected to blue tanks and/or capped at ends.

Spring Clean Up

These warm weekends are a great time to come out to the lake and clean up what old man winter left on your lot.



Leaves

If you rake leaves and bag them in **BROWN PAPER YARD WASTE BAGS** we will be happy to haul them away. Place them by the side of the road and call the bait shop and let us know they are there, we will be happy to pick them up.

Burning of leaves is not allowed before the water is back on.

Improvements

Spring is also the time many of you will be planning to make improvements on your campsite. Please fill out a building permit prior to beginning your project, locates are required ANY time you are going to put a shovel in the ground. To have utilities on your lot located you **MUST** mark the area to be excavated with white paint, and call the Bait Shop 2 full business days prior to beginning your work. White spray paint is available for purchase at the Bait Shop.

Firewood

If you currently have wood stacked directly on the ground please place it in a rack that will keep the firewood from being in direct contact with the ground per state inspection.

Bait Shop/ Office Hours

March 1st - April 14th Beginning May 21st

| HOURS OF OPERATION | | |
|--------------------|--------|-------|
| MON | 7AM | - 3PM |
| TUE | CLOSED | |
| WED | CLOSED | |
| THU | 7AM | - 3PM |
| FRI | 7AM | - 3PM |
| SAT | 7AM | - 3PM |
| SUN | 7AM | - 3PM |

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| THU | 7AM | - 7PM |
| FRI | 7AM | - 7PM |
| SAT | 7AM | - 7PM |
| SUN | 7AM | - 7PM |

*Water will be turned on April 15th, weather permitting. The new hours of operation starting on April 15th is dependent of the water being turned on.

Electric News

Just a reminder that our electric supplier had made changes in their fees for having meters turned off and back on. So the power was left on throughout the winter months while the campground was closed.

If you had left your camper, golf cart, battery charger, etc plugged in you will have used electric and will see that usage charged to you on your upcoming April bill.

1. Quiet Time

Just a reminder that quiet time at the campground starts at 11 pm. Please be mindful of your neighbors and follow this ordinance.



2. Dogs

- Must be on a leash at all times.
- Are not allowed to be left alone at camper if all they do is bark while you are gone.



3. Guests

- Lease holders must accompany & be with all of their guests.
- No guest can stay in or at a camper without the lease holder.

