



# 8 THINGS TO DO FOR YOUR LAKE

*“When our lake water is thick with blue-green algae scum and smells terrible, I close all the windows. There’s no swimming, kayaking, or letting our dog play in that gross water. When the lake is sick, I feel sick.”*

## BE LAKE SMART - don't feed the algae.

Follow lake-loving efforts to keep the lake swimmable and fishable today and tomorrow. Phosphorous and nitrogen help algae grow. High levels of both lead to excessive blue-green algae growth or Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs) which produces harmful toxins, foul odors, and unappealing water. YES, this affects human and animal health, and ruins water recreation. Below are ways you can help reduce algae growth .

- 1. Don't rake leaves into the lake.** Leaves raked into the lake decay and act like a brewing cup of phosphorous tea. Those leaves carry algae fueling phosphorous directly into the lake. Bag the leaves or take them to the county landfill.
- 2. Limit fertilizer use on lawns and fields.** Fertilizer on land helps things grow, but it also grows algae. Just one pound of phosphorus can fuel the growth of 500 pounds of lakeweeds and algae. Limiting fertilizer use on your yard, garden or field directly helps the lake's water quality.
- 3. Cleanup dog droppings from the lawn and shoreline.** Never throw animal waste into the lake. Pet waste contains nutrients like phosphorus, harmful bacteria, and parasites. If not cleaned up properly, pet waste washes into the lake during rainstorms where it fuels algae growth.
- 4. Prevent any soil loss into the lake** from new lawns, gardens, and construction dirt piles by blocking it with barriers. Soil carries phosphorus.
- 5. Protect shorelines from erosion** by stabilizing it with riprap or a vegetation buffer.
- 6. Pets, people, boats, lawn furniture,** and anything you chose to wash should be cleaned where the water can't run into the lake.
- 7. Have your septic tank pumped** every 2-3 years for year-round, 3 to 5 years for seasonal properties.
- 8. Don't mow right down to the lakeshore.** By leaving a taller grass buffer strip at the edge of the shoreline, it helps slow pollutants from making their way into the water.

### CONTACT US

Send Comments & Concerns  
[directors@lakepoinsett.org](mailto:directors@lakepoinsett.org)

Membership & Directory Questions  
[membershipLPAsd@gmail.com](mailto:membershipLPAsd@gmail.com)



Learn more from our website - [www.lakepoinsett.org](http://www.lakepoinsett.org)



LPA Facebook Page - Follow, Like, Comment, and Share

MAIL: PO Box 222, Lake Norden, SD 57248