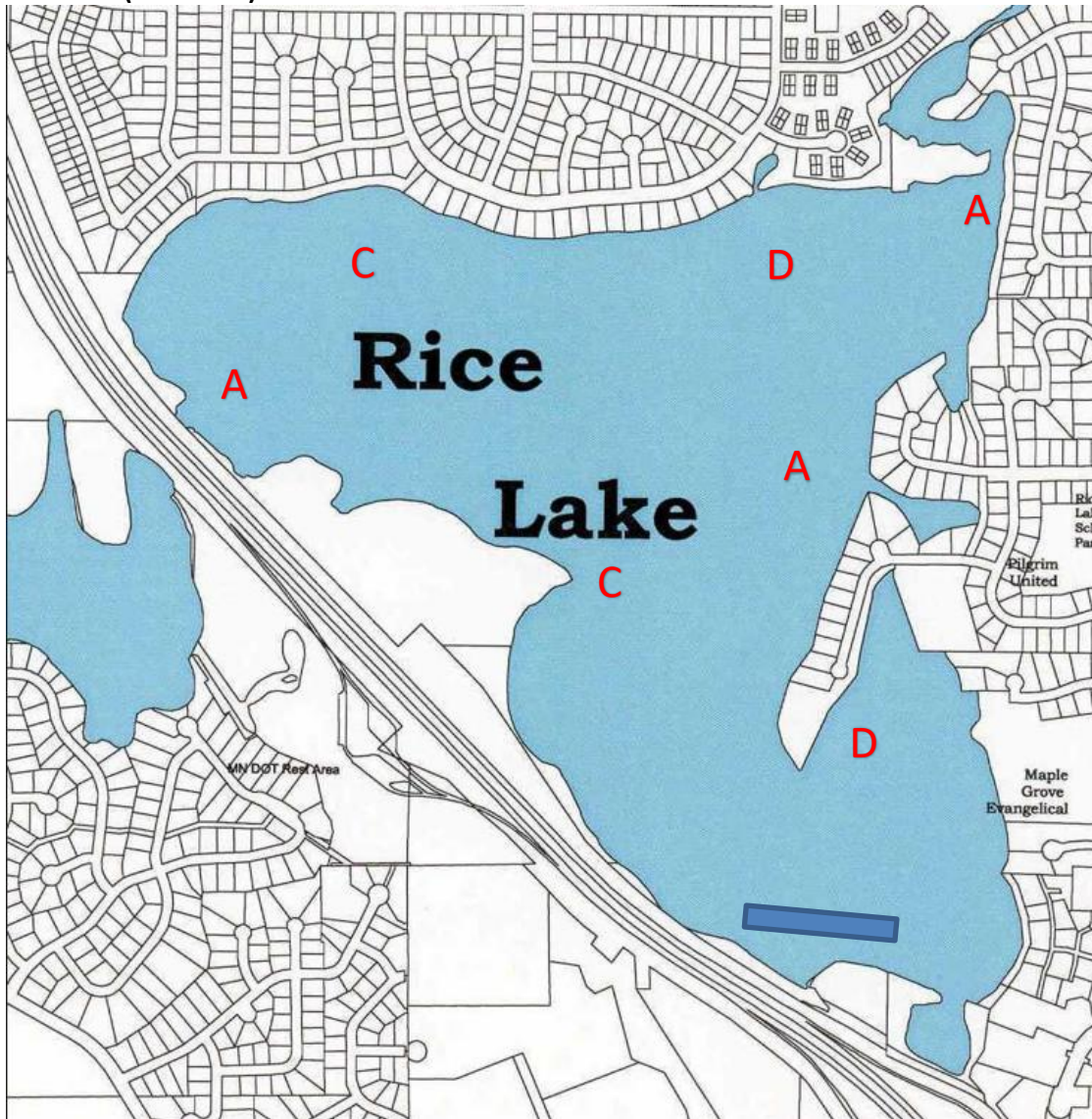


Rice Lake Buoy locations for 2026

Background: Provide locations for navigational buoys to be placed around Rice Lake and Elm Creek to aid in boater safety. Drawdown of 2021-22 and the drought of 2022 exposed some shallow areas not previously recognized by boaters. Note change in some buoy locations this year vs. 2026. Also note that the extended underwater winter aeration system has been extended from 350' to 1,000' from the shoreline in the NW corner of the lake. See the 3rd page of this document for details.

Rice Lake (main lake)



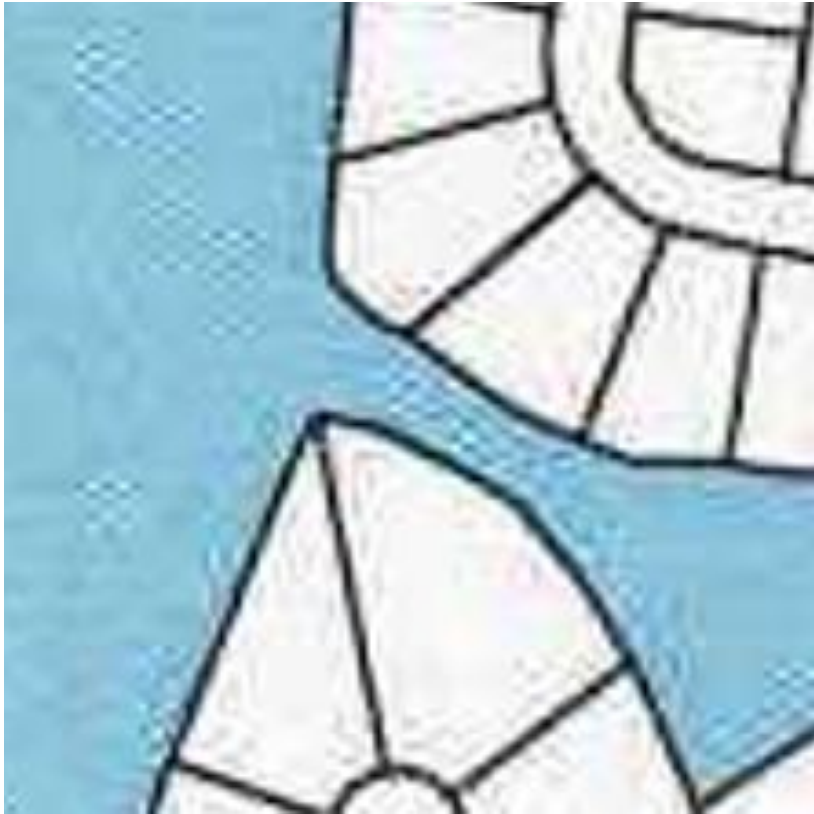
Buoy Location notes

- A denotes speed reminders
- B denotes channel markers (area dredged in 2021)
- C denotes shallow spots
- D denotes shallow spots with Rocks

Slalom Course location is along far SSW portion of the lake. This permit will be requested by a separate ski association. (Not installed in 2026)



Rice Lake (Boat Ramp Channel)



Elm Creek (north of County Road 30)



Action Taken

- 5/9/2026 – Buoys deployed in the aforementioned designated locations
 - **New in 2026** - It was decided channel buoys to the boat ramp bay were no longer necessary and common-sense dictates staying in the center of the channel to avoid shallow spots.
 - **New in 2026** – Just one (1) Slow/No Wake buoy is located outside the boat ramp bay (used to be 2 of them)

Rice Lake Winter Aeration Diffuser extension completed in 2025

Background: When Rice Lake conducts periodic drawdowns to eradicate non-native invasive aquatic plants like Curlyleaf Pondweed and Eurasian Watermilfoil, the original winter aeration system was not extending out far enough into the water to provide adequate oxygen levels. In the fall of 2025, the winter aeration system was extended out another 650' for a total of 1,000' from the shoreline. This puts the diffusers in 9' of water (at least 4' during a drawdown), which should be sufficient to provide oxygen to the water and maintain the fish population.

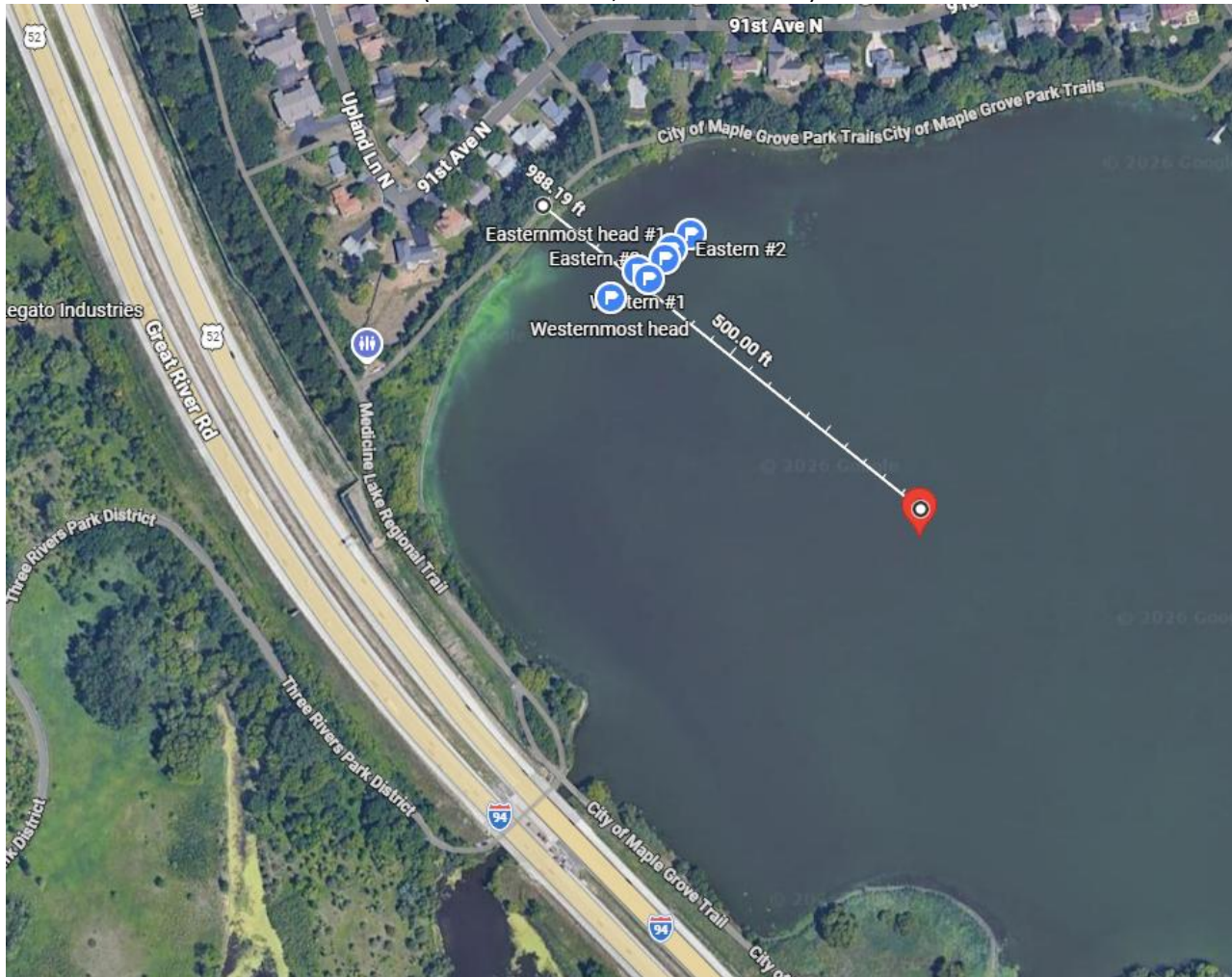
This project was completed by 10000 Lakes using the existing pump box with larger diameter hoses to reach the greater distance with 4 weighted diffuser heads. It was successfully tested with the 2025-2026 drawdown as no noticeable fish winterkill was observed.

WARNING: Boaters are asked to avoid anchoring in the immediate area of the diffuser locations shown below (see geographical coordinates).

Coordinates for the 2025 extended diffuser locations:

- #1 at 45.1177667, -93.4743167
- #2 at 45.1175500, -93.4745833
- #3 at 45.1173333, -93.4746333
- #4 at 45.1172500, -93.4749000

Aerial View of the diffuser locations (old ones in blue; new ones in red)



Summary, photos and images by George Schneider