



## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### COUNTY SEEING ICE RIDGE DAMAGE ON AREA LAKES

Crow Wing County Land Services is reminding property owners affected by ice ridges occurring this winter about their options for repairing shoreline damage. Given the relative lack of snow and cold temperatures this winter, many lakeshore landscapes around the county may be affected by severe ice ridge damage this spring. Before repairing shoreline damage, property owners should consult the county or local zoning office for a review of applicable rules.

“Given this winter’s conditions, we are expecting that many property owners will be affected by annual ice ridges this year” stated Mark Liedl, Land Services Director.

The Crow Wing County Land Use Ordinance allows an annual ice ridge to be re-graded back to original elevation without a permit when the work is done in the same year the ice ridge was created. Annual ice ridges are defined as a linear mound of lakebed materials pushed up onto the lakeshore by the action of ice within a calendar year.

Work on historic ice ridge damage requires a shoreland alteration permit. Historic ice ridges are a linear mound of lakebed materials pushed up onto the lakeshore by the action of ice over a period of two or more years upon which well-established trees and shrubs are growing.

Additionally, the Minnesota DNR and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may need to be consulted if restoration work extends below the ordinary high-water level (OHWL) of the lake.

The Land Services Department is committed to providing excellent customer service while helping landowners make wise choices that protect Crow Wing County’s extraordinary natural resources. Citizens are encouraged to contact the Environmental Services Office at (218) 824-1125 or [environmental.services@crowwing.us](mailto:environmental.services@crowwing.us) to discuss shoreland alterations or other land use questions before starting any construction projects. Information about land use in Crow Wing County can be found at [www.crowwing.us](http://www.crowwing.us).

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**Our Vision:** Being Minnesota's favorite place.  
**Our Mission:** Serve well. Deliver value. Drive results.  
**Our Values:** Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.

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