

Frequently Asked Questions and Need to Know: For Lake Redstone Property Owners

VERSION 2: Re-released November 2016

Category	FAQ/NEED TO KNOW	ANSWER
Organizations	Who can join the Lake Redstone Property Owners Association?	<p>Anyone can join. Most of the members own property on or near the lake and are called "Members." People who just have an interest in the lake but don't own property on or around it, such as former property owners who have moved out of state, can become "Associate Members."</p> <p>Dues are the low (currently \$40 per year), and the same for both Members and Associate Members. Associate Members receive the same emails and newsletter containing information about the lake, area, and invitations to LRPOA events as Members. The only difference is that Associate Members can't vote at the Annual Meeting.</p>
Organizations	What is the difference between <u>Lake Redstone Property Owners Association (LRPOA)</u> and <u>Lake Redstone Protection District (LRPD)</u> ?	<p>The LRPOA is a voluntary, primarily social, membership organization started in 1969 to "Promote health, welfare, and safety of property owners within the Lake Redstone subdivision." This was updated a few times and the current purpose in the By Laws reads:</p> <p>"The purposes of the association are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To promote social activities for members 2. To keep members informed and involved in current activities and happenings on the lake the La Valle Township 3. To encourage and promote safe use of the lake and surrounding area" <p>In 2016 there are approximately 400 member households which in Members and Associate Members. LRPOA has regular electronic and printed communications with members, as well as events, club, and special interest groups Website: http://www.lakeredstonepoa.com</p>

		<p>The Lake Redstone Protection District is a tax-funded body started in 1976 to “Protect and rehabilitate the water quality of Lake Redstone for its residents and the public.” Website: http://www.lakeredstonepd.org</p> <p>Both organizations have Boards of Directors, and open monthly and annual meetings.</p>
Organizations	But what does the LRPOA DO ?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communications about LRPOA matters and matters on and around the lake. For example, there are weekly emails from May-October informing people about LRPOA events, lake and spillway/dam news, and community news. It also contains ads from members and “lost and found” on the lake. Recent year topics included slow-no-wake alerts, updates on the spillway/dam, and thefts on the lake. During the Nov-April, emails are generally bi-weekly or as needed. There is also an annual printed newsletter that contains the next year’s membership application form. 2. LRPOA sponsors social events such as breakfasts, the annual Pontoon Party, Parade of Lights, St. Patrick’s Day and Octoberfest dinners. There are about a dozen special interest groups and clubs enabled by LRPOA . 3. The LRPOA is also a good community member and contributes financially to local community organizations.
Organizations	How politically active is the LRPOA, representing member interests?	Zero. The LRPOA is non-political. It NEVER takes positions on any topics due to the diversity in interest of the members. Topics in which the LRPOA has been a conduit of information but taken no position, includes property taxes, 50 th Anniversary Celebration of Lake Redstone, dam classification, and rental property on the lake.
Organizations	Where is the LRPOA Clubhouse?	It is located where West Redstone Drive meets Pierce road, about mid-lake. The address is E4191 Pierce Road.
Organizations	Can I rent the LRPOA Clubhouse?	Yes. LRPOA members can reserve it for a fee through current LRPOA President Marilyn Catterson. See the LRPOA website for her contact information.
People	What percentage of people are year-round on the lake?	A 2006 survey indicated that about 15% of property owners are year ‘around residents. This is similar to survey results from 1981.
People	How can I find the name/phone number of my neighbors and/or others on the lake?	The names, addresses, and contact information for the majority of the LRPOA members can be found the LRPOA website and are updated regularly. This is done to promote neighbors contacting neighbors. Email addresses are not included on the website and

		the master list of member email addresses that is used for the weekly emails I NEVER shared with anyone.
House and Property	My property is part of a “Beach Club” and/or an “Easement.” What are these and what I can do, and not do, with mine?	Some properties located off the lake have deeded access to the lake. These may be called a Beach Club or an Easement. Owners of Beach Clubs and Easements should consult their deed regarding their rights and responsibilities.
House and Property	Is there an “Architecture Review Committee” or similar body that approves home designs, as often found in suburbs?	No. But there are county and local ordinances governing some architectural-type topics. See next topic.
House and Property	I want to build a structure or make modifications to my house and/or property. What do I need to know in terms or rules and regulations?	<p>The town is governed by Sauk County Land Use and Shoreline ordinances. These control building and types of buildings on residential lots. Both county and town building permits must be secured before any new construction takes place.</p> <p>The Sauk County Planning and Zoning site: http://www.co.sauk.wi.us/planningandzoning. Of particular relevance is “Minimum Building Provisions Brochure”</p> <p>The Town of La Valle website http://www.townoflavalley.us contains documents listing ordinances supplemental to those of Sauk County that cover property. For example: the “Land and Subdivision Ordinance” and “Driveway Ordinance.”</p> <p>For lakeshore-impacting work, such as riprap and plantings, both the DNR and Sauk Country are involved. Your landscaper will know what permits must be obtained. If you want to do it yourself you will need to find the permits on the DNR and Sauk County websites. Sauk County is above. DNR is below. http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waterways/documents/permitdocs/gps/gp-riprapreplacement.pdf</p>
House and Property	Where do I get internet/TV/phone service? Where do I get electric service? Where do I get propane and tank?	All of the basic services telecom and utility services are provided by area businesses. Check the internet and yellow pages. Lake Redstone property owners are encouraged to first consider the advertisers in the LRPOA newsletter.

Lake	Who patrols and pulls boats over for inspections and/or boating violations?	The La Valle Boat Patrol. They are <u>frequently</u> on the lake including during week days and after dark.
Lake	Who patrols and checks fishing licenses?	The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Lake	Is there a fee to use the County Park at the south end of the lake?	Use of the park is free. However, vehicles must have a paid permit to park there. Permits are available in the parking lot and seasonally at Hartje's store.
Lake	What are the boating rules and restrictions on the lake?	Boating on the lake is primarily governed by the State DNR Boating Rules and Regulations. http://dnr.wi.gov The only other boating restriction is from the Town of La Valle regarding the Slow No Wake zones. http://www.townoflavalley.us
Lake	How deep is the lake??	Approximately 40 feet near the dam. The south end of the lake is the deepest, with 30ft+ common.
Lake	How big is the lake?	Approximately 650 acres. 4.5 miles long and up to 1 mile wide.
Lake	How old is the dam and what is it made of? Other dam info?	The lake was constructed in 1964 and water first went over the spillway in 1966. The dam is primarily made of clay, with concrete footings. According to records, the dam was constructed to withstand a 500-year rain event. The 2008 rains raised the lake level an unprecedented 5.5 feet. The dam held and was reinforced in 2009. FEMA classifies all dams in the US according to the risk to life and property downstream in case the dam is breached. The hazard classification has implications for Federal insurance programs. The dam on Lake Redstone was recently classified by FEMA as high hazard because of downstream implications in case of breach. It is NOT because of any concerns about its structural integrity.
Lake	What kind of fish are in the lake?	Muskies, northerns, walleyes, large and smallmouth bass, perch, crappies, sunfish, bullheads, carp, and shad. The lake is best known for crappies, bass, and walleyes.
Lake	Where can I get a fishing license locally, bait, and find a copy of the Wisconsin fishing regulations?	In La Valle, fishing licenses, bait, tackle, and other fishing and boating needs including the Wisconsin DNR-published fishing rules and regulation, are available at the Harte's store.
Lake	How are the Slow No Wake Buoy positions determined?	Buoy placement for the slow no-wake zones on Lake Redstone is regulated by the Town of La Valle Ordinance 2010-01. The locations of the slow no-wake buoys were based on "Recommendations from Town of La Valle law enforcement and approved after extensive discussions and study by the Town of La Valle Board and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources."

		Ordinance 2010-01 can be found on the town ordinance page: http://townoflavalle.us/home/ordinances.html
Lake	What are three must-know State Law boating rules that can get you a ticket, and upset others on the lake, if you don't obey them?	<p>No person may operate a motor boat within 100 feet of any <u>dock, raft, pier, buoyed restricted area</u>, or within 100 feet of the <u>shoreline</u> at a speed in excess of slow-no-wake</p> <p>No person may operate a personal watercraft at a speed in excess of slow-no-wake within 200 feet of the <u>shoreline</u>. (NOTE THE AREA BETWEEN THE TWO SLOW NO WAKE ZONE BUOYS AT THE FAR NORTH END OF THE LAKE IS <u>TOO NARROW</u> FOR PERSONAL WATERCRAFT TO OPERATE AT FASTER THAN SLOW-NO-WAKE. THIS IS TRUE EVEN IF YOU ARE DRIVING RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE. BOATS CAN GO FASTER THAN SLOW NO WAKE IN THAT AREA, BUT <u>PERSONAL WATERCRAFT CAN NOT GO FASTER THAN SLOW NO WAKE</u>.)</p> <p>No person may operate a vessel at a speed in excess of slow-no-wake within 100 feet of a <u>swimmer</u> unless the vessel is aiding the swimmer.</p> <p>For other laws governing state boating laws and regulations, please refer to the current <i>DNR Boating Regulations and Handbook</i> from the DNR website http://dnr.wi.gov</p>
Lake	What are the rules regarding boat landings?	There are three public boat landings on Lake Redstone. No permit is needed to just put in/take out. However, vehicles must have a paid permit to park there. Permits are available in the parking lot and seasonally at Hartje's store.
Businesses	Who can I contact to have work done in/on my house and property?	There are many service providers in La Valle, Reedsburg, and the surrounding area. They include construction companies, electricians, plumbers, landscapers, septic system specialists, surveyors, roofers, tree cutters, lawn mowing and snow clearing. Check the internet and yellow pages. Lake Redstone property owners are encouraged to consider the advertisers in the LRPOA association newsletter.
Businesses	Who do I contact to sell or buy a boat and/or have a boat worked on?	<p>There are many marine sales and service providers in La Valle, Reedsburg, and surrounding area. Check the internet and yellow pages. Lake Redstone property owners are encouraged to consider the advertisers in the LRPOA association newsletter.</p> <p>The LRPOA emails contain a section for members and associate members to advertise things for sale and for things wanted. Most buyers and sellers who advertise have</p>

		good success. See the LRPOA website for the policies on advertisements and how to do so.
Government	What do I do with my trash and recyclables?	<p>The majority of owners take their trash and recyclables to the La Valle Drop Off Site. It is located at S 1150 Thompson Drive. This is about two miles north of La Valle off of Hwys 33 and 58.</p> <p>At the site there are dumpsters for garbage, paper, and glass/plastic/cans as well as for misc. metal and brush. There is no charge <u>for La Valle tax payers</u> except for certain items such as appliances, mattresses, furniture, and electronics.</p> <p>First time users will need to get a User Permit card at the Drop Off Site. Pick up a brochure regarding the Drop off site at the Town of La Valle hall.</p> <p>Drop Off Site hours are Saturday mornings, Sunday afternoons, and additional time on Wed afternoon during the summer months. Check the Town of La Valle website for current times.</p> <p>There are companies that will perform trash pick-up for a fee.</p>
Government	What are mail options?	Some part-time residents keep a post office box in La Valle for their lake-related mail. Year-around residents tend to have a mailbox although some keep a post office box in La Valle. Placement instructions for mailboxes is available at the La Valle Town Hall or local post office.
Government	What is a "fire number?"	All properties have a fire number regardless of whether there is a structure on the property or not. The home address, if there is a home, is the same as the fire number. It is issued by Sauk County when a permit for construction is approved.
Government	What are the government bodies associated with Lake Redstone and what are they generally responsible for?	<p><u>Town of La Valle:</u> http://www.townoflavalley.us</p> <p>The local property tax authority with proceeds going to La Valle, Reedsburg, and Wonewoc, as well as the Madison College branch in Reedsburg. Among the direct services received by Lake Redstone property owners include: police and fire, road maintenance, snow plowing, recycling center/dump, building permits, some planning and zoning, burning/fire permits, and fireworks permits. The La Valle Town Board sets policy, procedure, and makes key decisions. Note that the Town of La Valle is not the same as the Village of La Valle. Each have their own Board.</p>

		<p><u>Sauk County</u>: Planning and zoning, police, courts, and social services. The Board of Supervisors that sets policy and make key decisions. https://www.co.sauk.wi.us</p> <p><u>State-Dept. of Natural Resources</u>: Fishing and game laws and enforcement; boating laws and enforcement. Call 888-WDNR-INFO (888-936-7483) or http://dnr.wi.gov</p>
Government	Who is the property value assessor (for tax purposes)?	For questions regarding property assessment contact the Town of La Valle Assessor: Associated Appraisals , at 1-800-721-4157 or visit their website http://www.apraz.com
Government	Is a trail pass required to use the 400 Trail?	<p>The 400 trail is a 22-mile-long gravel trail from Reedsburg to Elroy. It connects to the Elroy-Sparta Trail and the Hillsboro Trail.</p> <p>Bikers, horseback riders, and snowmobilers age 16 and over are required to purchase a trail pass. Daily and year passes can be obtained at the Trail Break Restaurant in La Valle and the Reedsburg Depot Trail Headquarters 240 Railroad St. Reedsburg.</p> <p>Walkers/runners and cross-country skiers do not need a trail pass.</p>
Government	Does 911 work here?	Yes. 911 calls go to Sauk County.
Government	What local ordinances do I need to be aware as a property owner?	<p>Lake Redstone property owners should be aware that there local (Town of La Valle) ordinances. Town of La Valle police officers monitor compliance to the ordinances with assistance from Sauk County Sheriffs as needed.</p> <p>Owners are responsible for informing and monitoring their family members and guests!</p> <p>Local ordinances are found in the Town of La Valle website http://www.townoflavalley.us. They include the lake, roads, ATVs, lodging houses, mailboxes, burning permits, and a snow plowing policy.</p> <p><u>Six of the more common and/or noteworthy types of violations:</u></p> <p><u>Parking</u>: There is no parking allowed on the roads around the lake. Cars can't be pulled off to the side of the road.</p>

Noise: No excessive noise is allowed after 11pm.

ATV Routes and Trails: Routes are public and trails are private. Riding other than where permitted is subject to a citation. Check the Town of La Valle website for a map.
<http://www.townoflavallo.us>.

Burning Permits: DNR Burning permits are required for outdoor fires of all types. There is no fee. They can be obtained from Hartje's on Hwy 33/58 in La Valle. Permits can also be obtained on-line and in La Valle Town Hall.

Fireworks Permits: There is a \$25 per permit fee. Information and permit can be obtained from the clerk in the La Valle Town Hall.

Dogs: There isn't a leash law but dogs must be under owner's control at all times. Full-time residents must have their dogs licensed.