

Blue Lake Alum Treatment

What to expect during and after treatment



During

Sept 11th - 14th

Both boat accesses on Blue Lake will be closed during the alum treatment. Residents are also advised to avoid boating on the lake to ensure the alum settles properly on the lake bottom.

To apply the treatment, a small barge will apply the alum by injecting it directly into the water targeting the deeper portions of the lake. This process will involve multiple trips around the treatment area, with occasional stops to refill the barge. The boat accesses will be open to foot traffic, so you are welcome to stop by to see it. Please just give the contractors space to work.

The treatment is scheduled for September 11th - 14th, with most of the work occurring on the 12th and 13th. However, the dates may shift if weather conditions are unfavorable. For updates, visit www.isantiSWCD.org.

After

Sept 15th - on

Once the treatment is over, people may resume using the lake as usual! Alum is safe for humans and wildlife, so you don't have to waste any time getting back in the water.

You should expect to see an improvement in water clarity once the treatment is done. After the treatment in 2022, there was a noticeable improvement in water clarity after just one day! The Isanti SWCD and BLID will continue to monitor the lake's water quality for years to come to track improvement.

Excessive wakes, such as those caused by wake boats, have the potential to reduce the efficiency of an alum treatment. Alum works best by acting as a blanket on the lake bottom to trap phosphorus coming from the sediment, so when the lake bottom gets stirred up that blanket is torn. Please be mindful of your wake to help protect the lake.

The Isanti SWCD and BLID are continuing their work to protect Blue Lake by helping landowners around the lake install conservation projects. Please contact the Isanti SWCD if you are interested.

For questions contact the Isanti SWCD at 763-689-3271