

# THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF PRAIRIE LAKES

## BY-LAW NO. 6/2024

### BEING A BY-LAW OF THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF PRAIRIE LAKES TO PROTECT PELICAN LAKE FROM AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES KNOWN AS THE ONE WATERBODY WATERCRAFT BY-LAW.

**WHEREAS** Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are water-dwelling organisms that are not native to a certain aquatic environment and cause harm or have the potential to cause harm and can spread or be introduced beyond their natural range by human activities or natural factors;

**AND WHEREAS** AIS can alter aquatic ecosystems, affect fisheries, threaten water supply and reduce the lifespan of infrastructure;

**AND WHEREAS** watercraft and water-related equipment moving between waterbodies has been identified as the major contributor to the spread of AIS between waterbodies;

**AND WHEREAS**, under The Water Protection Act and the related Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Regulation, measures have been established to protect water bodies from AIS;

**AND WHEREAS** Pelican Lake is not in one of the Province's AIS designated control zones; however, the lake is of significant importance to the Rural Municipality (RM) of Prairie Lakes for recreation, residential, tourism and community pride;

**AND WHEREAS** the Council of the Rural Municipality of Prairie Lakes deems it advisable to establish specific measures for Pelican Lake in collaboration with the Provincial AIS regulation to prevent the spread of AIS;

**AND WHEREAS** in accordance with Section 232(1) of The Municipal Act a council may pass by-laws for municipal purposes respecting the following matters:

- (a) the safety, health, protection and well-being of people, and the safety and protection of property;
- (b) people, activities and things in, on or near a public place or a place open to the public, including parks, municipal roads, recreation centres, restaurants, facilities, retail stores, malls, and private clubs and facilities that are exempt from municipal taxation;

**AND WHEREAS** Council deems it necessary to regulate watercraft accessing Pelican Lake;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the R.M. of Prairie Lakes, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

**1. THAT** this by-law will be known as the "One Waterbody Watercraft By-law".

#### **2. DEFINITIONS**

- (a) **Ambassadors** are volunteers interested in the protection of Pelican Lake from AIS, willing to approach watercraft owners, and other waterbody users, and share AIS prevention information. Ambassadors are not required to be a watercraft owner.
- (b) **Barrier** is any structure, sign or device, permanent or temporary, that is designed to restrict and/or close access to a boat launch or lake access point.
- (c) **Control Zone** is a watershed area where aquatic invasive species (AIS) already occurs or where it is expected to spread to in the future due to natural water movements. Control zones are established to control the spread of:
  - (i) Zebra mussels
  - (ii) Spiny water flea, and
  - (iii) Black algae.
- (d) **Decontamination** is a treatment that can involve a series of procedures to kill aquatic invasive species (AIS).

- (e) **Lake Access Points** are access points on Pelican Lake with limited or undeveloped boat launch facilities as identified in Schedule A attached. These lake access points are restricted boat launches.
- (f) **Public Boat Launch** is a boat launch available for public use with a public parking area as identified in Schedule A attached.
- (g) **Qualifying Boat Owner** is a:
  - (1) resident of the RM of Prairie Lakes (permanent or seasonal), or
  - (2) lakefront (Pelican Lake) property owner or lessee in the RM of Killarney-Turtle Mountain, or
  - (3) lessee with a seasonal RV site at Pelican Lake, or
  - (4) boat owner at the Pelican Yacht Club.
- (h) **Restricted Boat Launch** are boat launches that can only be accessed by qualifying boat owners that display a one-waterbody watercraft decal, as identified in Schedule A attached.
- (i) **Water-related equipment** items are prescribed as follows:
  - i) Boat/trolling motors
  - ii) Water skis/knee boards
  - iii) Oars
  - iv) Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs)
  - v) Beach toys
  - vi) Anchors
  - vii) Buoys
  - viii) Docks
  - ix) Boat Lifts
  - x) Ropes and cables used to moor watercraft and aircraft
  - xi) Fish finders and other sonar equipment
  - xii) Scientific equipment used to take water samples or take measurements in water
  - xiii) Towels, cloths or other items used to wipe or dry a conveyance or water-related equipment
  - xiv) Any type of pump that was used to remove or move water from a container, float, pontoon or waterbody
  - xv) Construction equipment and industrial equipment that is used in a water body
- (j) **Waterbody Events** is an event drawing participants and watercrafts from other waterbodies.
- (k) **Watercraft** or waterborne vessel is any vehicle designed for travel across or through water bodies, such as a boat, sailboat, personal watercraft, canoe, kayak, paddleboard or yacht.
- (l) **Watercraft Inspector(s)** are employees or volunteers trained by provincial AIS specialists to inspect watercraft for evidence of AIS before entering Pelican Lake.

### **3. ONE WATERBODY WATERCRAFT DECALS**

The RM has created watercraft decals to be implemented beginning the 2025 summer season.

One Waterbody Watercraft decals:

- (a) will identify the Rural Municipality of Prairie Lakes, Pelican Lake, decal number, year and contact number.
- (b) confirm that the watercraft is declared a one-waterbody watercraft.
- (c) must be displayed clearly on the watercraft's windshield or hull, starboard side.
- (d) must be obtained from the Municipal Office and other designated locations upon application by qualifying boat owners.

### **4. EXIT TAGS**

The RM has created exit tags to be implemented beginning the 2025 summer season.

Exit Tags:

- (a) will be fastened to the boat and trailer to ensure the watercraft remains a one-waterbody watercraft.
- (b) must be obtained at the Ninette Watercraft Inspection site.
- (c) must be installed by a Watercraft Inspector.
- (d) will eliminate a re-inspection fee, when intact at time of next launch.

### **5. PUBLIC AND RESTRICTED BOAT LAUNCHES**

#### *PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH*

The Public Boat Launch location is listed in Schedule A attached.

- (a) Watercraft entering Pelican Lake at a public boat launch may or may not have a decal.
- (b) Watercraft owners must comply with Section 6 as required by the Manitoba Water Protection Act and AIS Regulation.
- (c) Watercraft owners may be subject to an inspection by a Watercraft Inspector, Conservation Officer or RCMP before launching a watercraft.
- (d) Watercraft leaving Pelican Lake may obtain an exit tag for a boat and trailer.

#### *RESTRICTED BOAT LAUNCHES*

All restricted boat launch locations and lake access points are listed in Schedule A attached.

- (a) Watercraft owners are required to obtain a One Waterbody Watercraft decal for access to Pelican Lake at a restricted boat launch.
- (b) One Waterbody Watercraft decals must be clearly displayed on the watercraft's windshield or hull, starboard side.
- (c) Watercraft owners may be subject to an inspection by a Watercraft Inspector, Conservation Officer or RCMP before launching a watercraft.

### **6. WATERCRAFT AND WATER-RELATED EQUIPMENT FROM ANOTHER BODY OF WATER**

To reduce the risk of invasion of AIS into Pelican Lake, the following requirements are necessary for watercraft and water-related equipment before entering Pelican Lake:

- Clean: Remove any visible plants, animals, or mud from your watercraft or water related equipment.
- Drain: Empty all water from your watercraft, bilge, live wells, and other compartments.

- Dry: Allow your equipment to dry completely before moving it to another water body.
- Decontaminate: If your watercraft was last used in a control zone before placing it in Pelican Lake.

All watercraft previously operated in a body of water located in a **control zone** must show proof of decontamination at a decontamination site otherwise the watercraft will not be permitted to launch.

## **7. WATERBODY EVENTS**

Organizers of waterbody events on Pelican Lake must inform the RM one month ahead of the scheduled event to ensure co-ordination of ambassadors and inspectors at boat launches.

## **8. AMBASSADORS**

Ambassadors are volunteers who work with the RM to protect Pelican Lake from AIS. They will be appointed by the Council of the RM of Prairie Lakes.

Ambassadors will be trained on AIS and will approach watercraft owners, and other waterbody users, regarding AIS prevention information and the use of one waterbody watercraft decals.

## **9. WATERCRAFT INSPECTORS**

Watercraft Inspectors are municipal employees or volunteers, appointed by Council, who work with the RM to protect Pelican Lake from AIS.

Watercraft inspectors may perform the duties of an ambassador and are also trained to inspect watercraft for evidence of AIS. Any watercraft found to be in violation of provincial law will be reported to the proper AIS authority.

## **10. FEES**

All fees are to be paid at the Municipal Office or designated facility.

All fees are set out in Schedule B attached.

## **11. VIOLATIONS and FINES**

All violations and fines are to be paid at the Municipal Office.

All violations and fines are set out in Schedule C attached.

PASSED AND ENACTED by the Council of the Rural Municipality of Prairie Lakes, duly assembled, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF PRAIRIE LAKES

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Chief Administrative Officer

First Reading: *June 11, 2024*

Second Reading: *February 11, 2025 (amended)*

Third Reading: *April 8, 2025*

SCHEDULE A

**PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH:**

Municipal:

Ninette Boat Launch

**RESTRICTED BOAT LAUNCHES:**

Municipal:

Balmy Beach  
Pelican Point  
Pelican Yacht Club  
Pleasant Valley  
Strathcona Park

Private:

Manhattan Beach  
Pelican Shores RV Park  
The Riviera

Lake Access Points:

Municipal:

Argyle Street South (Ninette)  
Cove Road (Pleasant Valley)  
Lakeview Estates  
Terry Fox Park  
Turtle Lodge

Private:

Cow Point  
Hidden Valley RV Park  
Pelican Campground & Lounge  
Pierce Development  
Sunnyside Beach

SCHEDULE B

**FEES:**

One Waterbody Watercraft Decal:	
Motorized watercraft (annual):	\$100.00
Non-motorized watercraft (one-time):	\$25.00
Inspection Fee (for non-decaled watercraft):	\$40.00
Exit Tag (Boat/Trailer):	\$5.00

**SCHEDULE C**

**VIOLATIONS AND FINES:**

- Launching at Restricted Boat Launch without watercraft decal: \$500.00
- Damaging a barrier at a Restricted Boat Launch: \$500.00
- Harassment or Bullying of an Ambassador/Watercraft Inspector: \$500.00