Public Water Access in Minnesota:

The Minnesota DNR State Parks and Trails water recreation program provides approximately 1,250 boat accesses, over 395 fishing piers and shore fishing sites and manages designated Water Trails in Minnesota. The DNR, Federal Government and local communities operate boat accesses; see the table on the right for specific site information. The DNR boating programs are funded by user fees including boat license & gas tax related to motor use.

Public access areas are usually open 24 hours unless otherwise posted. Most sites have launch ramps but some sites, especially on smaller rivers, are carry-in only. Bathrooms and docks are usually located only on the larger and busier sites.

Public Water Access Rules - The launch area must be kept clear and the following activities are unlawful: littering, camping, shooting, building fires, and consuming alcohol beverages. See Minnesota Rules, chapter 6218 for complete rules.

Boating in Minnesota:
The annual Minnesota Boating Guide summaries Minnesota’s boating laws and regulations in an easy-to-read form. The guide supplies information about operating watercraft on the state’s lakes and rivers. Operator age restrictions apply to operators 17 years old and younger.

Licensing - All motorized and non-motorized watercraft must be licensed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Please contact the DNR License Bureau for information.

Information Center:
The DNR Information Center is available to provide answers to your boating questions, or are curious about the program, quickly. If there is a Decontamination Unit present, please inspect, clean, and drain your boats! Work together to protect the waters.

Watercraft inspectors are here to ensure watercraft and equipment are “Clean it, drain it, dry it.” If you need assistance, have questions about the laws, or are curious about the program, please ask!

Ways you can help the Watercraft Inspectors:
- Please clean your boat and pull your plug as soon as you are safely able to. That way when the inspector comes, the inspection process will move quickly.
- If there is a Decant Station Unit present, please follow all the instructions given by the inspector, for your safety and theirs. There will be plenty of time to ask questions and watch them work from a safe distance.
- Ways the Watercraft Inspectors can help you:
  - The inspector has tools, wrenches andайл, if you are having trouble with your plug, ask!
  - If there are weeds that are hard to reach, inspectors can also help pull weeds off boats or other such tasks. They also have grabbing tools for plants.
  - When you see the Watercraft Inspectors, please be cooperative. The law requires compliance with inspectors, and it will be everyone’s job to be on their way in a timely and pleasant manner.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Laws and Requirements:

The DNR lists lakes and rivers as “infested” with certain aquatic invasive species. If you are harvesting bait, commercial fishing, or dragging or taking water, you might need to follow special regulations in infested waters.

To identify an infested water look for orange Invasive Species Alert signs at the access. You can also use LakeFinder to find out if a particular lake is listed as infested: mndnr.gov/lakefind. For more information about infested waters, including an up-to-date infested waters list and additional location information, visit mndnr.gov/lakefind.

Before leaving the water access or shoreline property, you MUST:
- Clean off all aquatic plants and animals
- Drain all water including tires, loweells, ladders, bait buckets, motor and barrel tanks
- Plug the plug and leave it out

Get into the habit of taking these three simple steps, and it will soon become part of your routine. Pull away from the boat ramp area. Check for and remove plants while dragging the boat down. Pull the plug when adjusting the motor. If you have other people (especially kids) with you, have them help! Adding a few minutes will help safeguard our waters.

Cleaning water-related equipment is just as important as cleaning boats, so while you’re cleaning your boat, please remember to also:
- Clean anchors, ropes, fishing tackle, and other objects that were in the water. Many species can be transported in the mud or on fishing lines and rope.
- Dump water out of canoes, kayaks, and other watercraft before leaving.

These are YOUR waters and it is YOUR responsibility to inspect, clean, and drain your boats!

AIS Bait Laws:

It is illegal to transport lake and river water. To save your bait (minnows or leeches), the DNR recommends bringing “fish safe,” treated water from home and keeping it in your vehicle or cooler. Bringing ice can be a good idea on warm days to cool down the waters.

DO NOT dump unwanted bait into water bodies or on the shoreline! Unwanted bait belongs in the trash or a designated compost bin. Unwanted worms must be disposed of in the trash.

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Fish Species:  C — Crappie,  LB — Largemouth Bass,  LT — Lake Trout,  SB — Smallmouth Bass,  ST — Stream Trout,  W — Walleye,  N/A — Not Available

Water Access in Pennington and Red Lake Counties:

Public Water Accesses in Pennington and Red Lake Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Body Name</th>
<th>Map Grid Location</th>
<th>Ramp Type</th>
<th>Fish Species</th>
<th>Administrator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake River, St. Hilare City Park</td>
<td>C2</td>
<td>concrete</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake River, Hwy 1</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td>concrete</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake River, Smiley Bridge</td>
<td>B4</td>
<td>carry-in</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake River, Co Rd 3 Bridge</td>
<td>C4</td>
<td>carry-in</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake River, Hwy 93</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td>concrete</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake River, Neptune Bridge</td>
<td>C5</td>
<td>carry-in</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake River, Kruba Lake</td>
<td>B4</td>
<td>carry-in</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake River, High Landing</td>
<td>B4</td>
<td>carry-in</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake River, Mill Yard Park</td>
<td>B3</td>
<td>carry-in</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Lake River, Oakland Park</td>
<td>B3</td>
<td>carry-in</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Public Water Accesses in Pennington and Red Lake Counties

Pennington County:

Red Lake River, St. Hilare City Park | C2 | concrete | Various | City |
| Red Lake River, Hwy 1 | A3 | concrete | Various | County |
| Red Lake River, Smiley Bridge | B4 | carry-in | Various | County |
| Red Lake River, Co Rd 3 Bridge | C4 | carry-in | Various | County |
| Red Lake River, Hwy 93 | A3 | concrete | Various | City |
| Red Lake River, Neptune Bridge | C5 | carry-in | Various | County |
| Red Lake River, Kruba Lake | B4 | carry-in | Various | County |
| Red Lake River, High Landing | B4 | carry-in | Various | County |
| Red Lake River, Mill Yard Park | B3 | carry-in | Various | City |
| Red Lake River, Oakland Park | B3 | carry-in | Various | City |

Red Lake River Reservoir

Fish Species:  C — Crappie,  LB — Largemouth Bass,  LT — Lake Trout,  SB — Smallmouth Bass,  ST — Stream Trout,  W — Walleye,  N/A — Not Available

Administrator: DNR - MN Dept. of Natural Resources Waters with Invasive Species

Invasive Species List:

Red Lake River, Huot Park D1 carry-in | Various City |
Red Lake River, Co Rd 3 Bridge C4 carry-in | Various County |
Red Lake River, Smiley Bridge B4 concrete | Various County |
Red Lake River, Hwy 1 A3 concrete | Various City |
Red Lake River, Hwy 93 A3 concrete | Various City |
Red Lake River, Neptune Bridge C5 carry-in | Various County |
Red Lake River, Kruba Lake B4 carry-in | Various County |
Red Lake River, High Landing B4 concrete | Various County |
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Red Lake River, Oakland Park B3 carry-in | Various City |

Minnesota State Parks and Trails-Grand Rapids
(218) 999-7923

Clean your watercraft, Drain all water, Dispose of unused bait.

Federal Aid Project funded by your purchase of fishing equipment and motor boat fuels.

The DNR Information Center:
The DNR’s Information Center is available to provide free publications of facilities and services as well as answers questions pertaining to DNR recreational opportunities in Minnesota.

500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55125-6040 651-296-6157 [local] or 1-888-MN-DMNRM
mndnr.gov

Photos: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, unless otherwise noted. Persons with disabilities may require the information in another format.