

**Land Services Department**

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**CROW WING COUNTY**

BRAINERD, MINNESOTA 56401

ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION

REQUEST: Annual Ice Ridges

ISSUE: Temporarily cease requiring a Shoreland Alteration Permit

FACTS/ANALYSIS

The mild winter of 2011-2012 has caused extensive shoreline activity resulting in the creation of new annual ice ridges across the larger lakes in Crow Wing County. The mild winter has caused the ice to move in extreme and unusual ways, creating ice ridges that are thousands of feet long around area lakes, which is not typical.

An annual ice ridge is defined as a linear mound of lakebed materials pushed up onto the lakeshore by the action of ice within a calendar year. Ice ridges consisting of strictly sand material do not currently require a permit to be re-graded. A permit is required for shoreland areas that consist of topsoil sod or have a root system.

DECISION: Based on the facts listed above, the Land Services Department is waiving shoreland alteration permit requirements for the re-grading of annual ice ridges on General Development (GD) and Recreational Development (RD) lakes effective March 21, 2012 and ending July 16, 2012.

This policy shall not pertain to any other dirt moving activities in Article 28 of the Land Use Ordinance. All work done under this policy shall be the minimal amount needed to re-grade the annual ice ridge caused during the winter of 2011-2012. There shall be no topsoil, vegetative matter or sand deposited in the lake unless approved by the DNR. Any dirt moving that uses materials from the annual ice ridge and placed on the remainder of the property shall require a permit. Property owners shall implement erosion control best management practices during the construction period to include at minimum perimeter protection and vegetation stabilization as needed.

Shoreland Alteration Permit requirements shall be resumed after July 16, 2012 for re-grading of annual ice ridges according to the Land Use Ordinance.

This administrative decision is limited to the facts listed above and shall cease after July 16, 2012.

CHRIS PENCE   
Print Name / Signature of Zoning Administrator or Designee

3-21-12  
Date