

Miner Lake Association Meeting

Spring 2026

May 23, 2026

Agenda

- Approve Minutes from Fall Meeting
- Treasurer Report
- 4th of July Activities
- Water Quality Report Invasive Plant Treatments
- Sewer Update: Petition Process

Treasurer Report

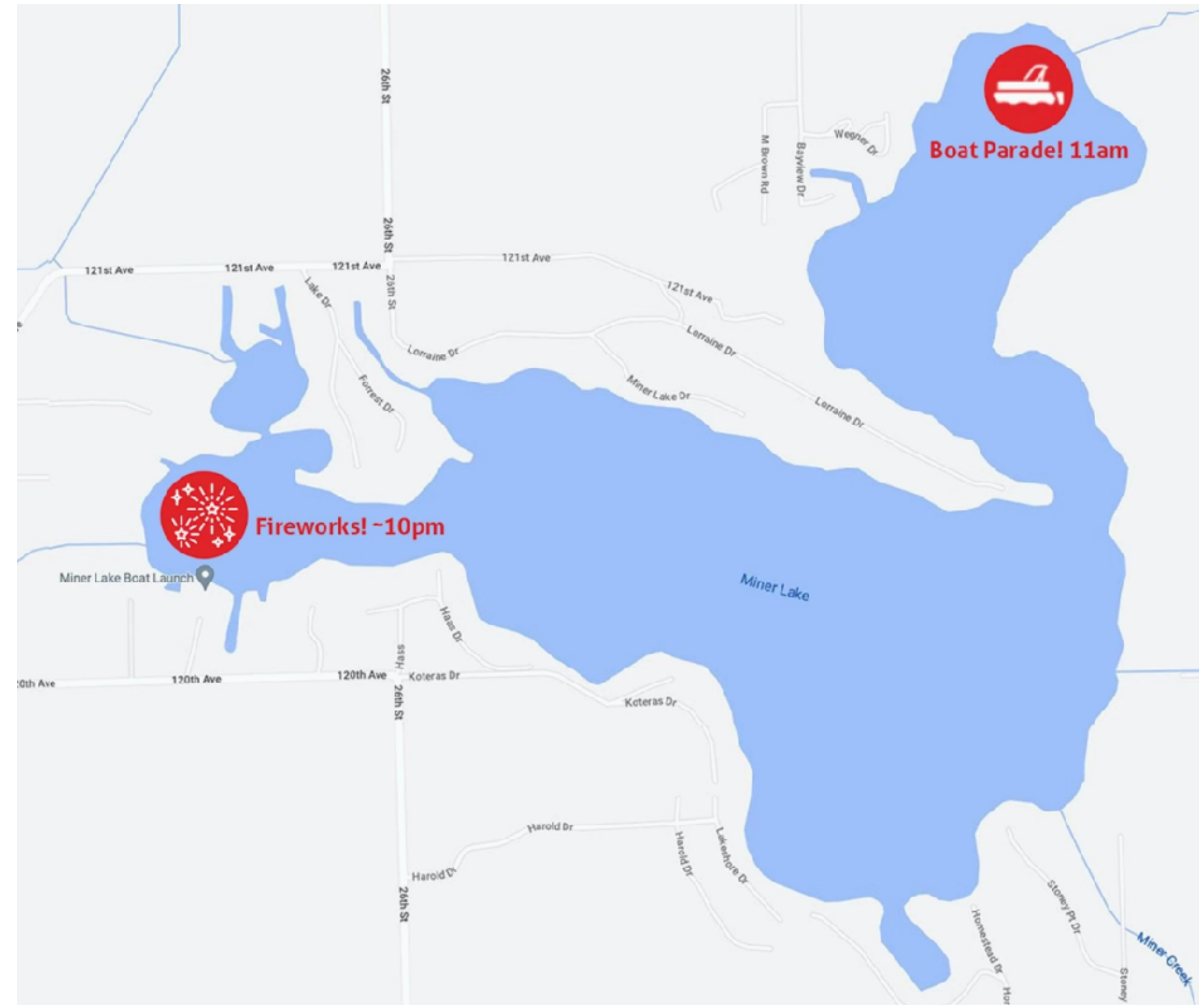
Treasurer Report

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Balance 9/1/25 | | \$11,103.53 |
| Deposits | | \$320 |
| Expense Detail | State of MI Association Renewal Printing Postage Lakes Monitoring Program Training | - \$20.00 - \$117.88 - \$365.97 - \$790.00 |
| Expense Total | | -\$1,293.85 |
| Balance 5/23/26 | | \$10,129.68 |

4th of July Activities

4th of July 2026 Activities

- On July 4 this year!
- Boat Parade
 - 19 boats last year
 - 1st \$100 + 🏆
 - 2nd \$60
 - 3rd \$40
 - Signup Form Online Soon
- Fireworks
 - Please Donate



Donation Link - Fireworks

Keith Norman

@Keith-Norman-29



venmo

Water Quality

Miner Lake Improvement Board

Original Charter

- Current 5-year project window closing this year
 - Fund Balance ~ \$170k
 - Annual Budget \$37,500
 - Funding surplus offers 3-5 year runway before renewal
- Selection of Miner Lake Representative
 - Bruce Carns no longer holds property on Miner Lake
 - Accepting nominations
 - Select replacement today?

Next Meeting:

Monday 11/9/26 at 4:30pm
Allegan Township Hall

Miner Lake Improvement Board

Members

| Name | Role | Representing | Contact |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sam Martin | Chair | Allegan Township Resident | 616.378.0356 samuel.a.martin@gmail.com |
| Laree Waanders | Treasurer | Allegan Township | 269.224.8805 treasurer@allegantownship.org |
| Chris Machiela | Secretary | Allegan Co. Drain Commissioner | 269.673.0440 cmachiela@allegancounty.org |
| Scott Beltman | County Commissioner | Allegan County | sbeltman@allegancounty.org |
| [Vacant] | Riparian Representative | Miner Lake | |

Water Quality Monitoring

- Update from Bob Flach or Frank/Kim Shelanskey
- Continued participation in the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program
- Members attended the training programs again this year
- Expanding to measure dissolved oxygen and chlorophyll-a

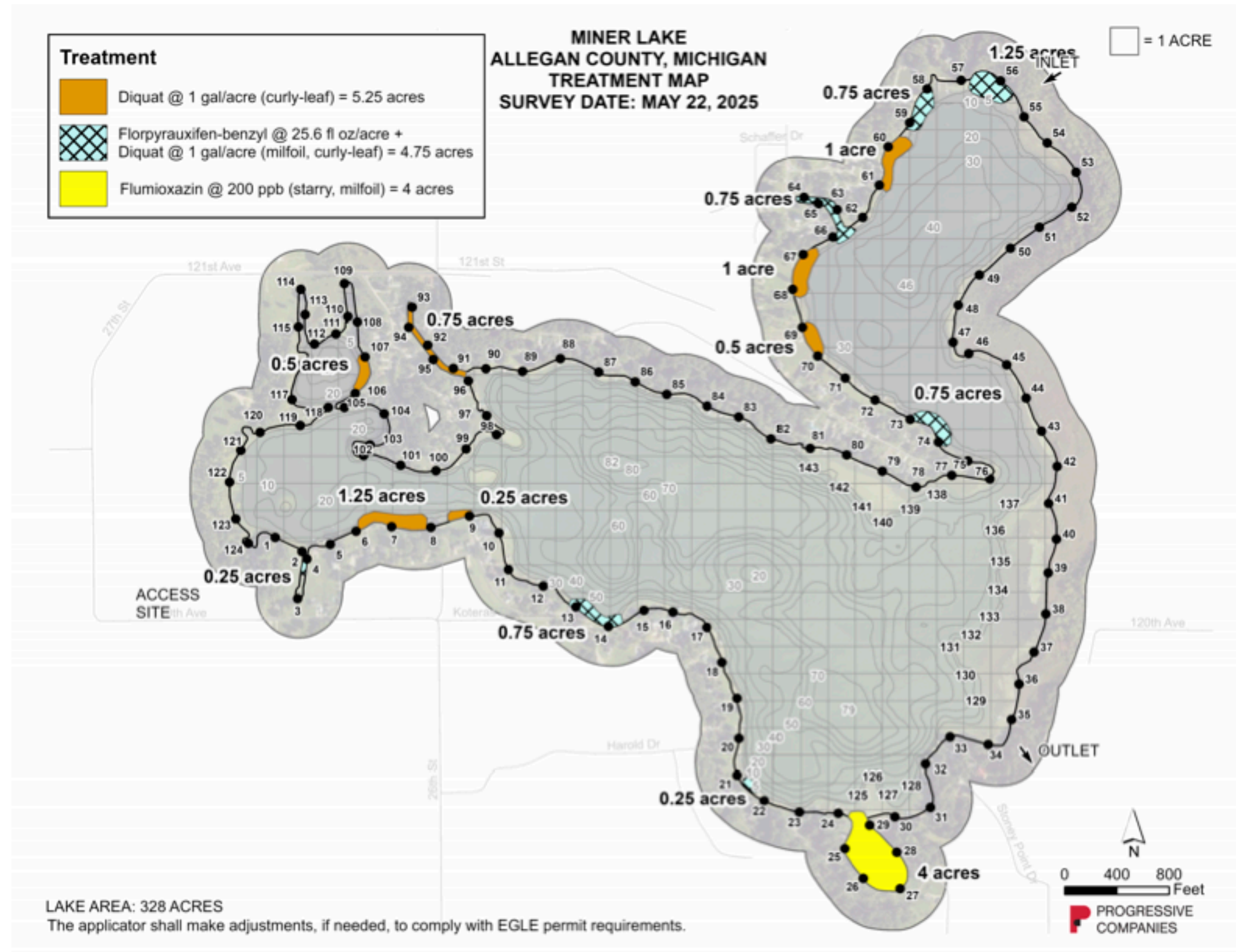


**1991-2025 Report
for
Miner Lake, Allegan County**

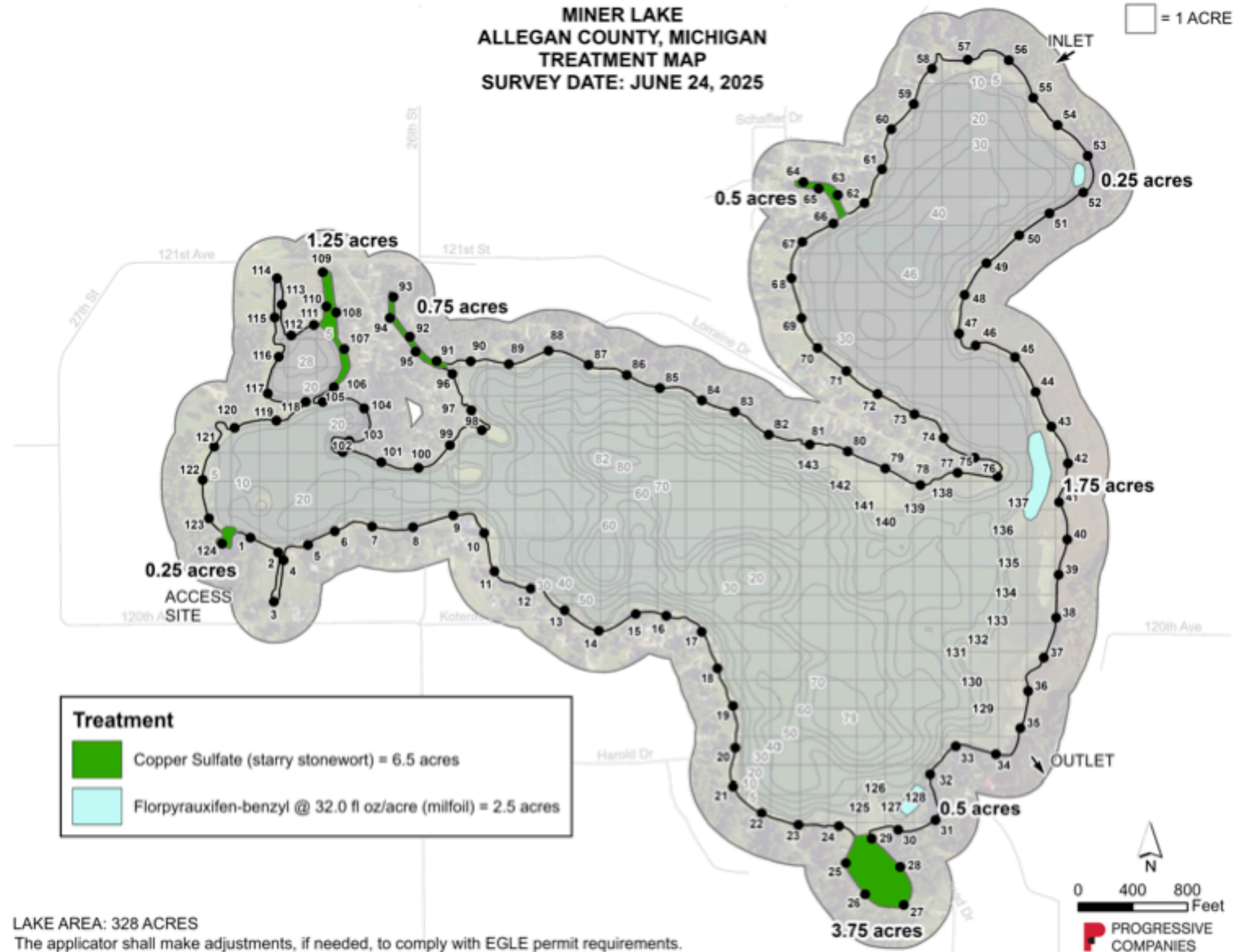
Site ID: 030260

42.5694°N, -85.7953°W

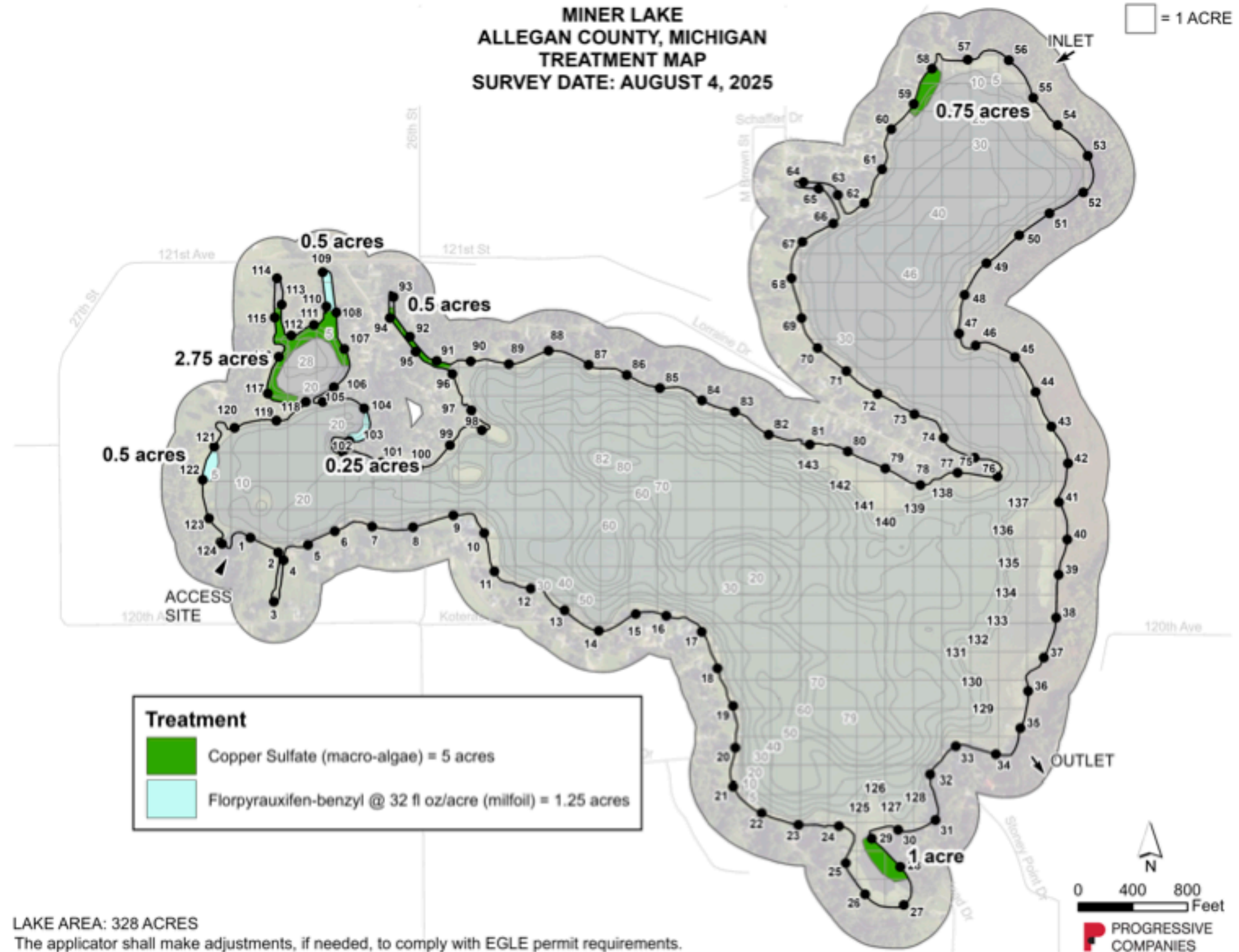
June 2025 Treatment



July 2025 Treatment

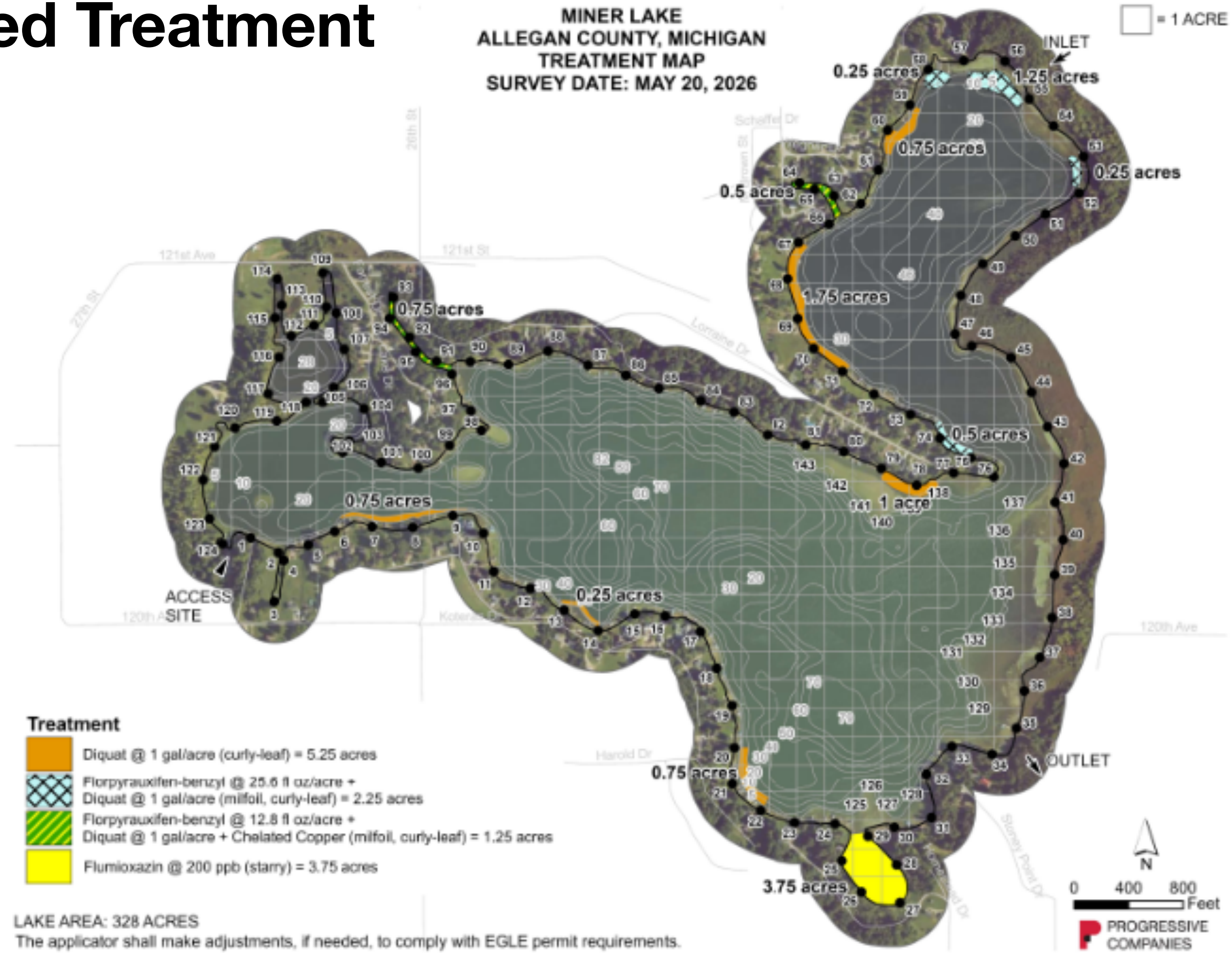


August 2025 Treatment



May 2026 Assessment

5/27/26 Scheduled Treatment



Invasive Plant Reporting

- Coming soon to the Miner Lake website
- Self reporting of Invasive Plant sightings
- We will use this information to inform the monitoring team and help gather data

The screenshot displays the Miner Lake website interface. At the top, the "MINER LAKE" logo is on the left, and navigation links for "Home", "News", "Sewer Project", "Water Quality", "About", and "Contact" are on the right. The main content area is split into two panels. The left panel features a map of Miner Lake with a legend for species: Eurasian Watermilfoil (orange), Starry Stonewort (red), Curly-Leaf Pondweed (green), and Purple Loosestrife (blue). A red pin is placed on the map, and a yellow location pin is also visible. The right panel is titled "Report an Invasive Plant Sighting" and includes a text box for the sighting location, a "Show prior reports" checkbox, a "Filter existing reports by species" dropdown menu (set to "All"), a "Filter by Year" section with a list containing "2025", a "Species" dropdown menu (set to "Select one..."), a "Notes" text area for details like patch size and density, and a "Your Name (optional)" text field.

Ready to Fill Vacant Seat?

Members

| Name | Role | Representing | Contact |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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Sewer Update

WHY SEWER MAKES SENSE FOR MINER LAKE

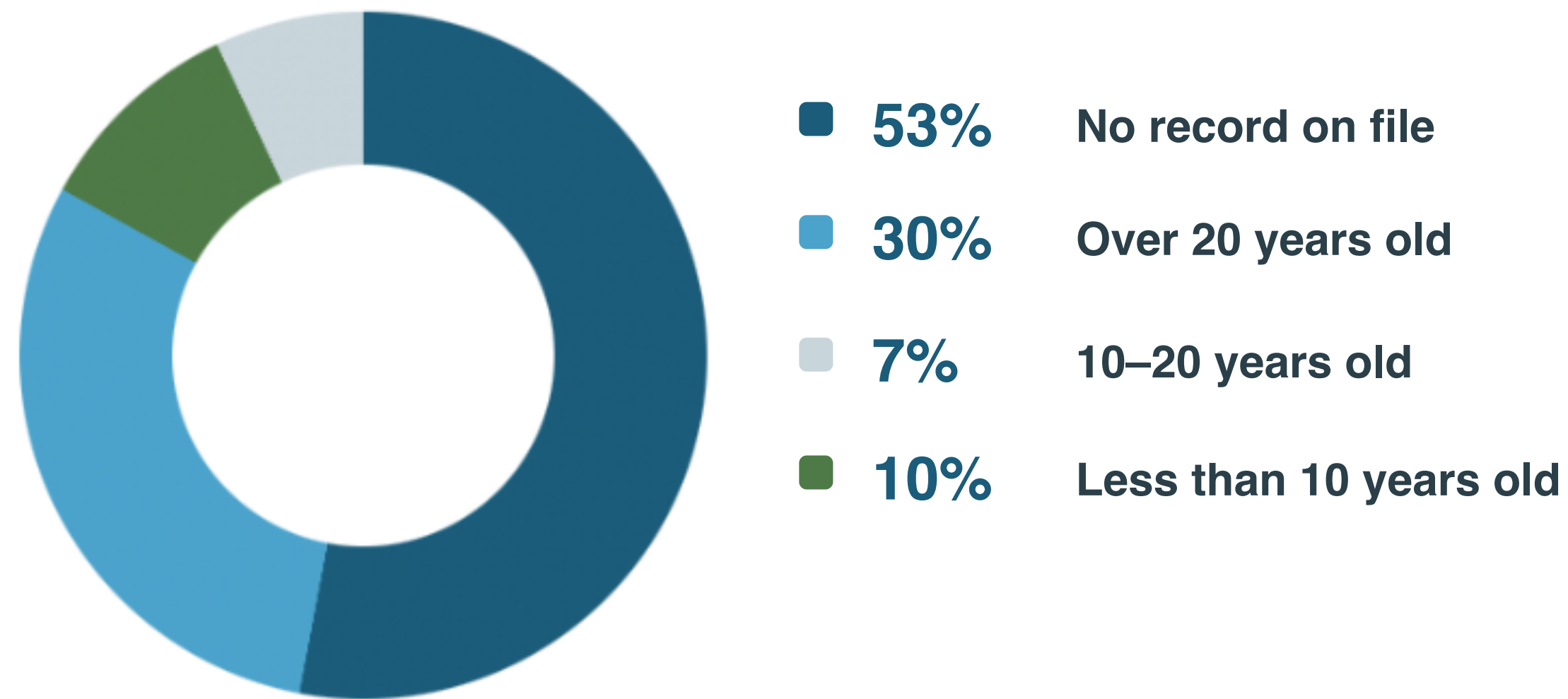
Your lake property deserves
better than a failing septic
system.

WHAT WE'LL COVER

- 1 The problems we're facing
- 2 How those problems impact you
- 3 The solution that works
- 4 What it costs and how we pay
- 5 What happens next

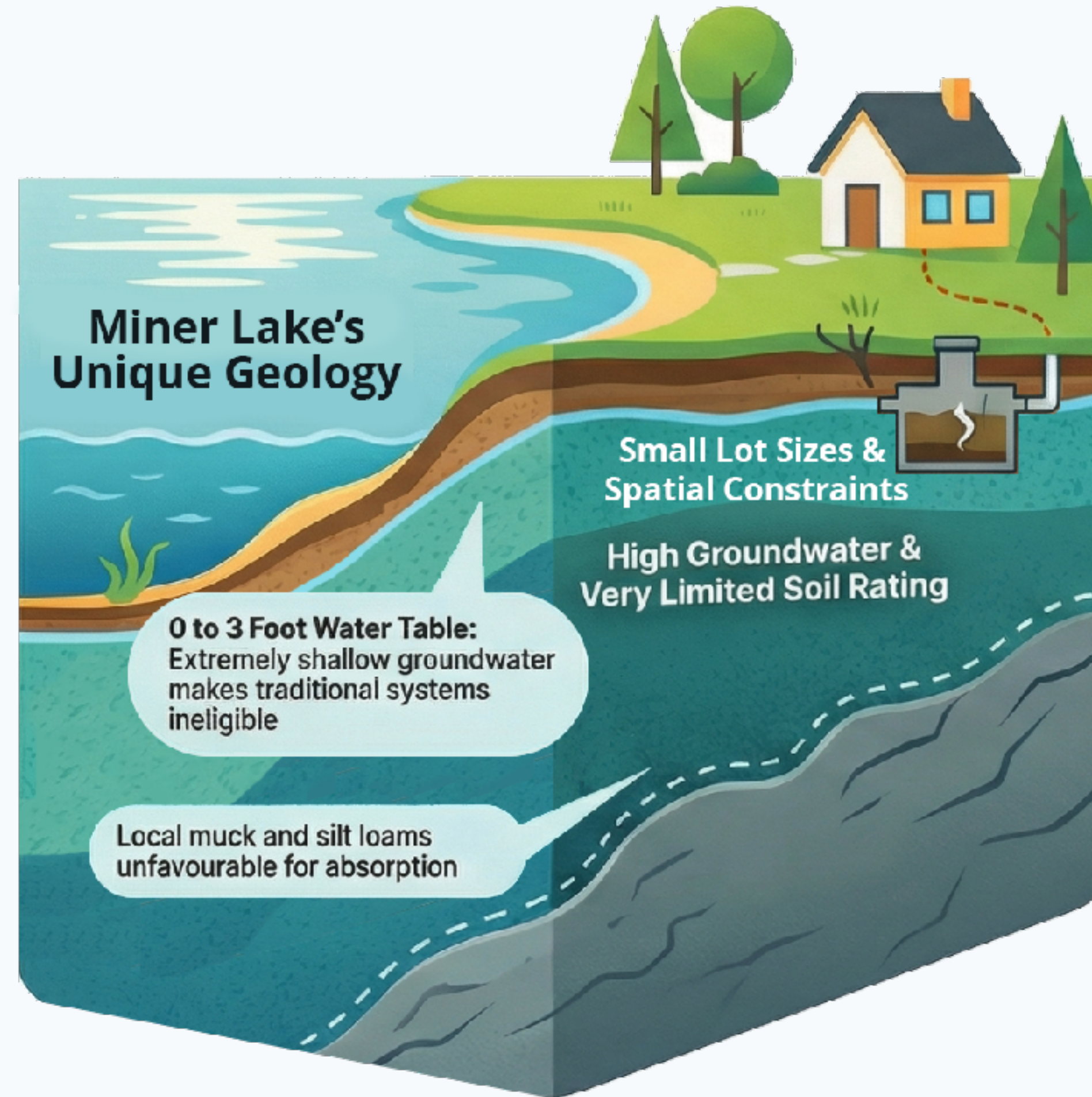
ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS

Most septic systems are old — or have no records at all.



USDA SOIL CLASSIFICATION · CROSS-SECTION UNDER A TYPICAL LAKEFRONT HOME

The soil around us wasn't meant for septic systems.



PHOSPHORUS · PARTS PER BILLION

Miner Lake is at the tipping point.



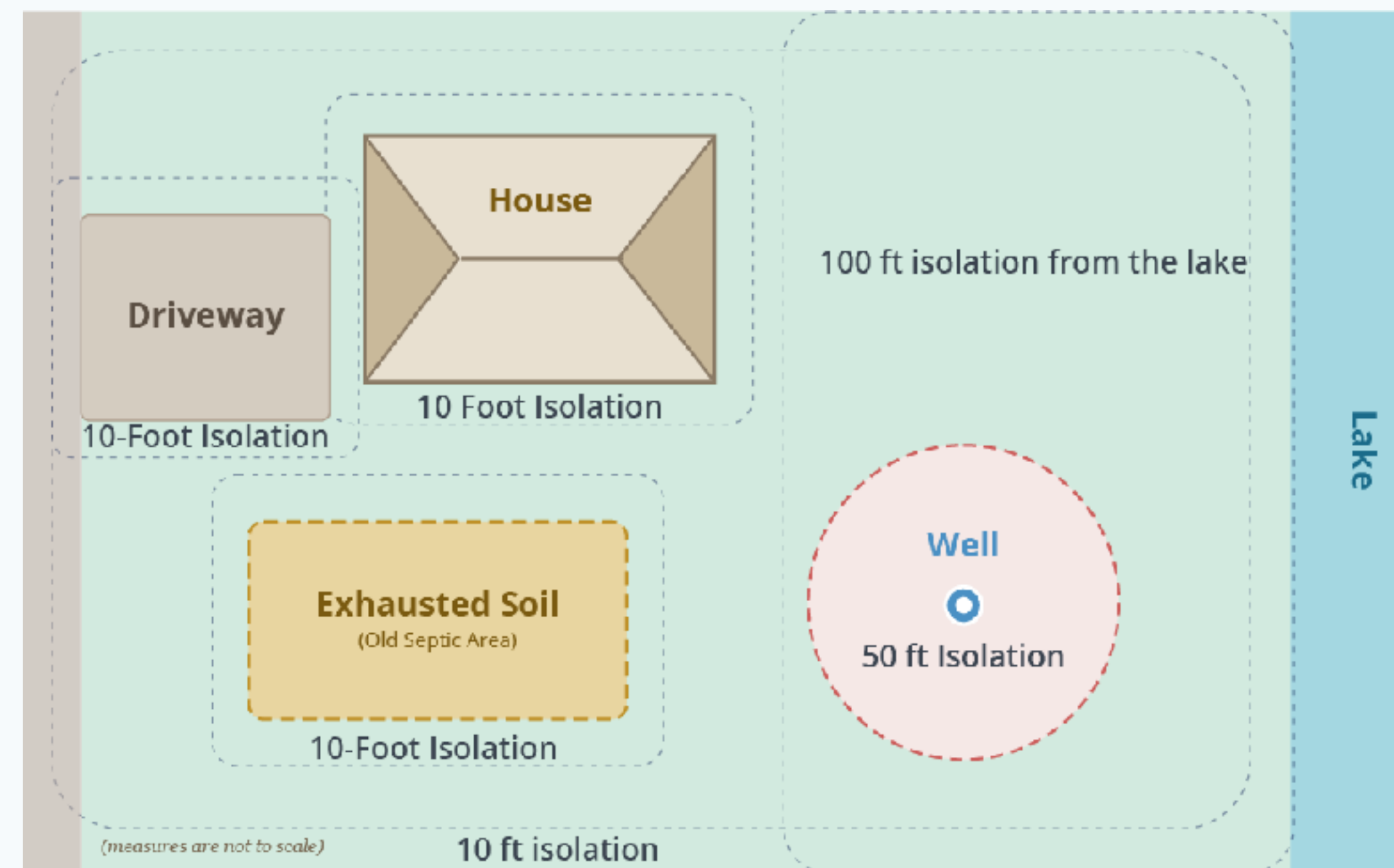
Once we cross the eutrophic threshold, algae and plant growth accelerate. Reversing it is **nearly impossible**.

Other lakes near us have passed this point. They are dealing with **frequent algae blooms, water use restrictions,** and Health Department **no-contact notices.**

HEALTH DEPARTMENT SETBACK CODES

Small lots mean your septic options are extremely limited.

- **100 ft** · drainfield setback from the lake
- **10 ft** · setback from property lines, wells, foundations
- No paving, no building, no planting over the system or reserve area



WHAT AGING SEPTIC ACTUALLY MEANS

An old system controls how you live on your own property.

- No long showers. No back-to-back laundry.
- Limit guests. Don't flush after heavy rains.
- No additions. No new garage. No new trees.
- Failed inspections kill resale value.
- When it fails — five-figure emergency expense.

TWO YEARS OF ENGINEERING ANALYSIS

Individual solutions are limited and do not protect the lake.

Do Nothing

NOT REALISTIC

Advanced Treatment

COMPLICATED

Pump & Haul

EXPENSIVE

SEWER · WHAT CHANGES

Sewer gives you the freedom to use your property your way.

- Host as many guests as you want
- Run laundry, dishwasher, long showers — all at once
- Flush after storms without a second thought
- Build that addition or garage you've been planning
- Sell without septic inspections or price cuts

WHERE EVERYTHING IN YOUR DRAIN ENDS UP TODAY

Sewer prevents harmful pollutants from entering the lake.

KEEPS OUT

Human waste

KEEPS OUT

Medications

KEEPS OUT

Household chemicals

KEEPS OUT

Microplastics

With sewer · these pollutants go to a treatment facility instead of the lake.

TWO YEARS OF ENGINEERING ANALYSIS

We considered four solutions and chose the best one for our lake.

Gravity Collection

TOO DISRUPTIVE

Grinder Pumps

TOO EXPENSIVE

**Local Treatment –
Drainfields or Lagoons**

AREA SOILS DON'T WORK

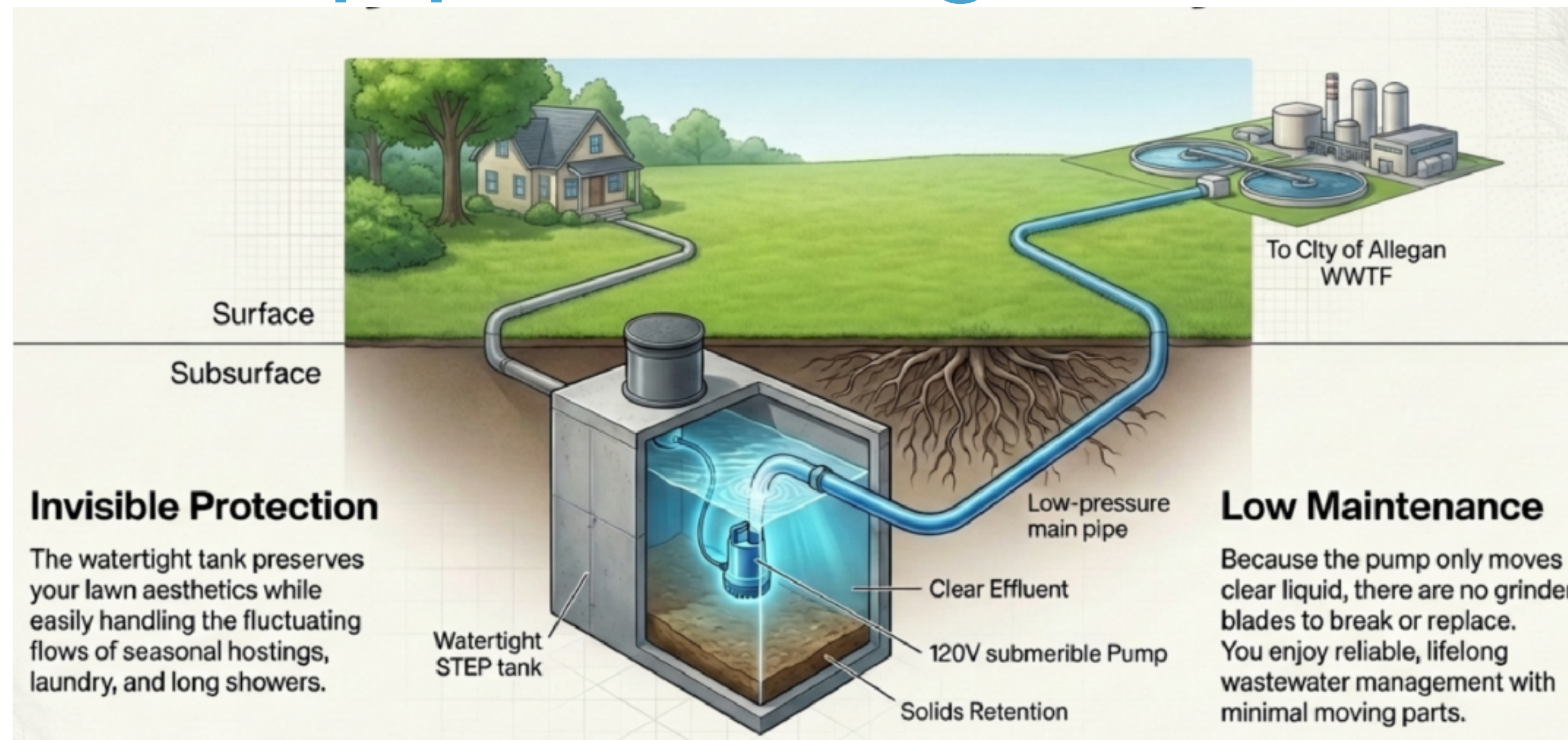
STEP System



RIGHT FOR MINER LAKE

STEP · DESIGNED FOR PROPERTIES LIKE OURS

A small tank on your property. A small pipe to Allegan.



Proposed District Map - Design Process

Guiding Principles:

- This should be a true community project that includes as many eligible properties as reasonably possible
- The solution should serve Miner Lake for the long term
- Most properties around the lake do not meet the current minimum requirements established by the Allegan County Health Department for on-site septic systems
- Some properties that fully meet Health Department standards may have valid reasons to be excluded from the district

STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Low-interest loans reduce the cost.

- **Administrative Grants** · We have received some small grants to help with the application process
- **Michigan Clean Water - State Revolving Fund (CW-SRF) Loan** · low interest, limited principal forgiveness
- **Legislator earmarks** · our best chance at grant or "free" money
- **USDA Rural Development** · fallback option if CW-SRF is not awarded

ALONG-TERM INVESTMENT

Sewer is a permanent solution with affordable long-term financing.

LIFESPAN

Generations

install once

FINANCING

3.75%

is below market rates

TERM

30

years on tax bill

TOTAL PROJECT ESTIMATE

The total estimated cost is

\$15.5M

Across 250 parcels · about \$62,360 per parcel

Includes a 20% contingency for unforeseen project cost.

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE · PER MONTH

Monthly costs will be

\$40–\$60

Covers waste treatment & scheduled maintenance

\$17 Ready to Serve Fee + \$7 per 1,000 gallons of treatment

Working to establish discounts for Seasonal vs. Year-round residents

FROM HERE · THE ROAD AHEAD

Here's what happens next in the process.

01 · DONE

Investigation & engineering

02 · NOW

Petition the Township for a Special Assessment District

03

Form Special Assessment District

04

First public hearing · scope

05

Second public hearing · costs

06

Project launch & bidding

YOUR VOICE IN THE PROCESS

If you're in the district, you'll be asked to sign a petition.

- Legal document · drafted by Township lawyers, posted on minerlake.com
- Time to review · ask questions before signing
- Physical or electronic signature · whichever works for you
- Project moves forward with **50%+ of land area** in support

WE'RE ALL NEIGHBORS HERE

We know not everyone agrees about sewer.

Different residents have different opinions. **That's normal.**

- MLPOA Board, Lake Improvement Board, and Health Department all support sewer
- Township and association meetings are open for public comment
- We're committed to clear, fact-based answers — reach out anytime

THIS IS ABOUT TWO THINGS:

Sewer protects your investment and preserves the lake.

01 · YOUR PROPERTY

Reliable wastewater management. Maximum use of your lot.

02 · THE LAKE

Protected for ourselves and future generations.

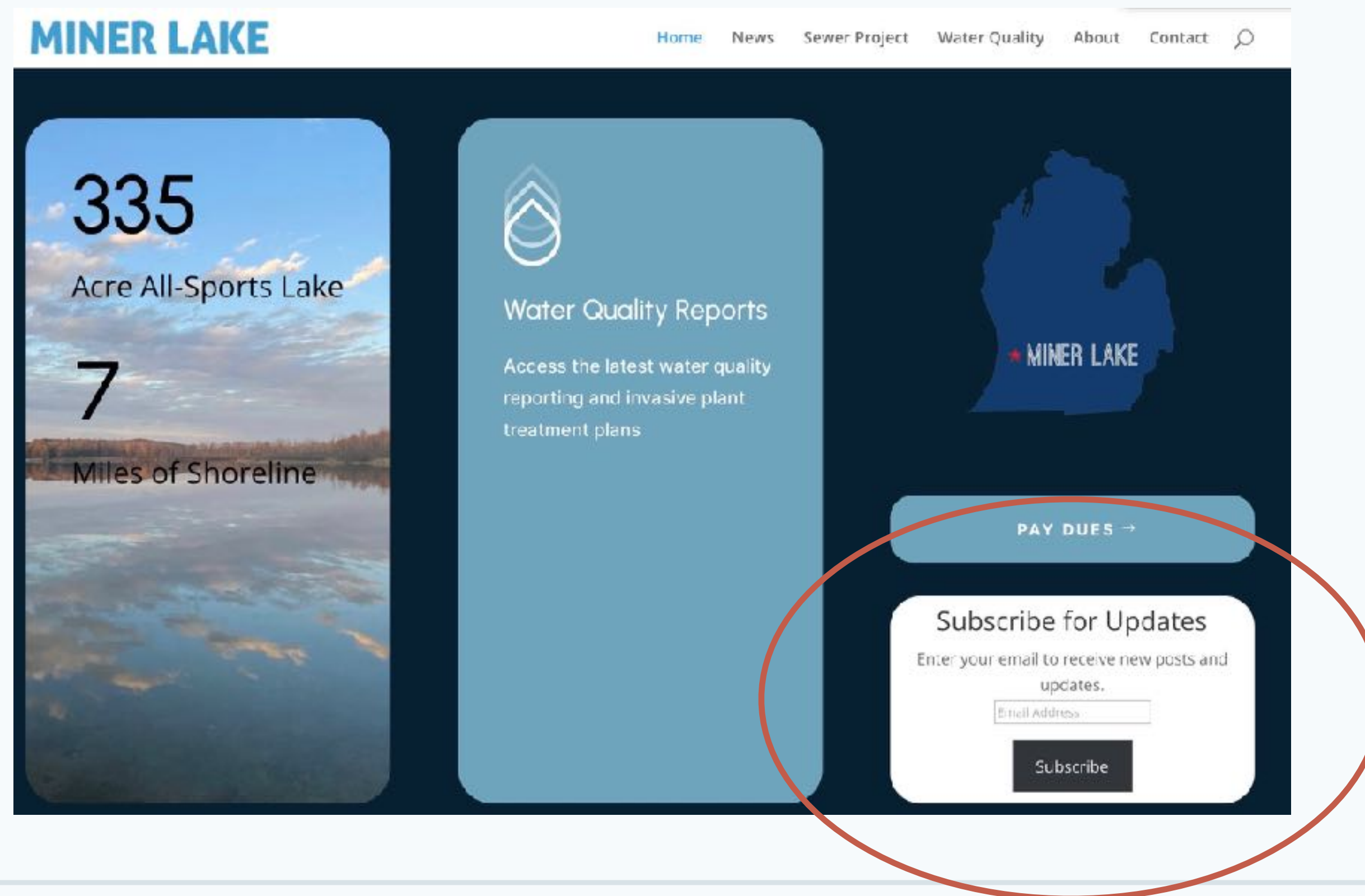
WHAT YOU CAN DO TODAY

It's easy to stay in the know.

Depending on when you're watching this, the petition may or may not be ready.

1. Subscribe to news articles posted on minerlake.com.

2. Attend the **Spring Meeting** on Saturday, May 23, at the Allegan Township Hall.



THANK YOU FOR WATCHING

Questions? We're here.

WEB

minerlake.com

CONTACT

Sewer Task Force

- Sam Martin (616) 378-0356
- Tom Slokum (616) 218-1587
- Rick Lussenhop (847) 525-2923
- Shana Lussenhop (312) 618-5561
- Ron Gordon (920) 889-6279
- Frank Shelanskey (231) 740-6431
- Jim Connell (269) 512-5811

There are no easy answers

- You may have received a postcard like this advertising a sewer repair system that “installs anywhere” and “works everywhere”
- It is not that simple... We have talked with the Health Department and they advised the small lot sizes and poor soil conditions on Miner Lake would be a poor fit for a system of this type
- If you have questions we encourage you to speak with the Allegan County Health Department



Randy Rapp
Environmental Health Services Manager
Allegan County Environmental Health
3255 122nd Ave, Ste. 200
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-5415
(269) 673-4172 Fax

Combining Parcels

- In preparation for the possibility of a Special Assessment District (SAD) and any future sewer project, it could be beneficial for some property owners to combine adjacent parcels.
- Adjacent parcels have the potential to be assessed separately and could result in extra costs or complication



What is Next?

- Circulation of a petition for support
 - Signatures from parcel owners within the district
 - Requires minimum of 50% for the Township to confirm Petition Sufficiency
- Formation of a Special Assessment District (SAD)
- Allows us to develop a firm plan that could go to bid
- There are still opportunities for the community to voice their opinion

Things to Remember...

- These projects do not get less expensive over time!
- Michigan is the only state that does not require any type of septic inspection
 - Bills have been before the legislature to change that, and when they pass, lake properties are likely the highest focus
- The soil, lot sizes, and proximity to the water and other restrictions present significant limitations for the type of onsite systems that can be installed at Miner Lake
- For many properties, the only option will be a pump and haul system
- This cannot be solved one property at a time, it requires a community mindset and commitment

Happy Memorial Day!

Thank you for attending