

NOVEMBER
2025

THE LMDA ANCHOR



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Representatives Needed!

The LMDA makes every effort to have one representative from each homeowner's association on the lake. At the present time, we are looking for a rep from Sunset Harbor and a second vice president. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact Teresa, LMDA President.



Upcoming Meeting Dates February 4th May 12th August 2nd

All LMDA Members are welcome to attend our Board meetings. If you would like to present an idea or concern at the meeting, please send an email to Imdasd@outlook.com.



Our Mission:

Our mission is to promote water safety and to protect the water quality, natural resources, and ecosystems of Lake Madison and the surrounding watershed by promoting conservation, research, and education so the natural beauty and environment of the lake and surrounding area may be preserved for the enjoyment of people today and for generations to come.

It's hard to believe the end of 2025 is upon us. As you're preparing for year-end and tax preparation, please remember that LMDA is a non-profit organization and your membership helps us fulfil our mission.



Recreation Trail Master Plan

In 2024, the LMDA Board of Directors approved monies to develop a Master Plan to continue the development of the recreation trail around Lake Madison. A committee was formed, an engineering firm was engaged, the plan was developed, and officially adopted at the April 2025 LMDA Board Meeting.

This is a long-term plan, likely to take 20 to 25 years to fully develop. Much of the new construction will happen as roads are rebuilt, housing developments occur, and grant funding is available. Completion of the recreation trail will bring benefits to the community and visitors to the county by offering new health and recreation options for bikers, walkers, and runners. It will also assist in economic growth for local businesses.

This Master Plan will be used to help secure grants from the Federal and State governments, as well as other private grant sources.

In order to be successful, this will take a collaboration of cyclists, landowners, local businesses, the City of Madison, Lake County, and developers.

As the plan was developed, committee members and DGR, the engineering firm, who guided the development, included the following considerations: safety, accessibility, connectivity, points of interest, economic benefits, environmental impacts, traffic impacts, and parking availability.

In today's dollars, completion of the entire trail will cost \$9,890,000. The plan includes suggestions for completing phases of the construction over time. There is also an option presented that would allow for travel around the entire lake at considerably less cost. This option connects local roads around the lake with short sections of new trail. Five such connections are needed in different areas. Since most of the local roads around the lake have a low daily traffic volume, having vehicles, bikes and pedestrians should be safe. Some of these roads are part of a Road District; others are private roads. These road districts and homeowners associations would need to be consulted to request participation in this local street connection option.

Rec Trail Committee Projects

- Identifying first construction projects.
- Finding grant opportunities. Most grants that are available require a match in dollars and/or resources.
- Preparing marketing materials to promote the projects and fundraising efforts.
- Establishing two funds with the South Dakota Community Foundation to collect donations for 1) construction and/or 2) maintenance of the recreation trail.
- Preparing a long-term maintenance plan to ensure funds and resources are available to maintain the trail for years to come. The maintenance fund noted above is a perpetual fund.
- Presenting information about the Master Plan to various groups around the community.



Rec Trail Master Plan

Donate to the Rec Trail Program Fund

Donate to the Rec Trail Maintenance Fund

Winter Safety

Roads near Lake Madison are mostly private and often quite narrow. Please keep them – and their right-of-ways – clear, especially as snow builds up. Emergency vehicles need access at all times. Keeping these routes open not only helps protect our emergency personnel, but also ensures that police, ambulances, and fire trucks can reach homes quickly when needed, keeping our members safe. Thank you for helping keep our community safe this winter!

Support the Lake you Love.

From water testing and shoreline preservation to community education and local improvement projects, every membership plays a vital role in keeping our lake clean, safe, and enjoyable for generations to come. When you join or renew your LMDA membership, you're not just supporting a cause – you're joining a community of people who care deeply about the place we call home. Stay anchored in all things Lake Madison and help us continue making a positive ripple across our community!

JOIN US!

Happy Thanksgiving