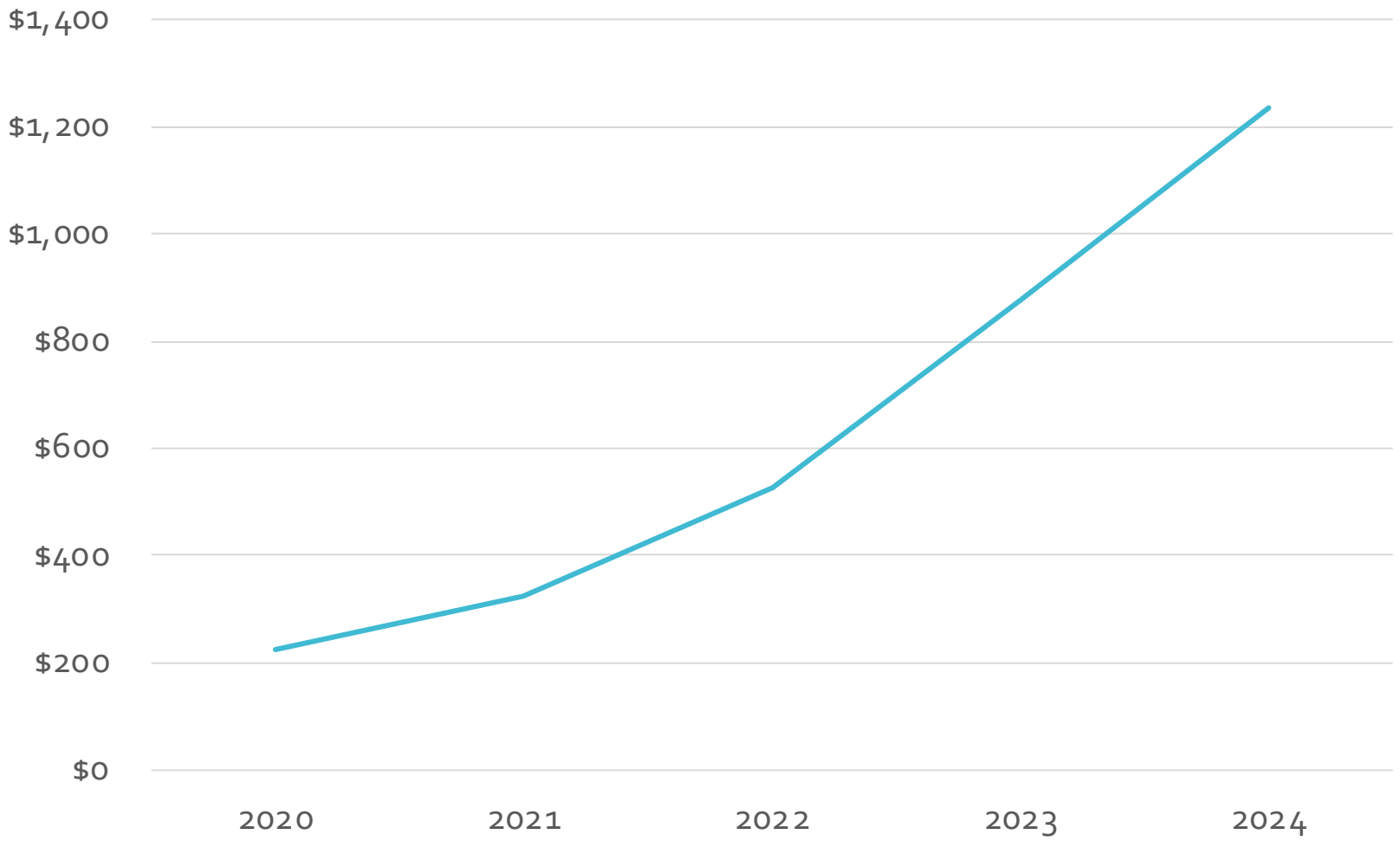
WCCOLA Spring Mtg. May 3, 2025

Treasurer's Report

2020-2024 Dues Trend



Exciting Milestone!

- 2024 was the first year we exceeded $1,000 in dues ($1,235).

2024 Financial Review

Starting Balance	**$1,428.68**	
Dues	$1,235.00	
Expenses	$743.85	
Ending Balance	**$1,919.83**	
Expense Detail	$150.00	MN COLA Dues
	$128.85	MLR Shoreland Guides (20)
	$200.00	MAISRC Donation
	$210.00	MLR Dues & Web Hosting
	$55.00	MN State Non-Profit Update
	$743.85	

2024 Dues Detail

- 19 lake associations paid dues
- Base dues only (8 lakes)
- Extra contributions (11 lakes)
  - $5 (2)
  - $25 (4)
  - $50 (1)
  - $75 (2)
  - $175 (1)
  - $275 (1)

2025 Dues Payment Options

- **Pay Today:**
  Membership forms are on table by entrance
- **Website:**
  (http://wrightcola.mnlakesandrivers.org)
- **Mail:**
  Annual Meeting follow-up communication (Mailchimp email)

Thank You Very Much!

- We greatly appreciate your:
  - Continued membership
  - Involvement
  - Financial support

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Wakesurf Research Update

Wakesurf Waves (Surface Impacts)

U of M St. Anthony Falls Lab (SAFL) Wakesurf Research: Phase 1

(Published)

Objective:

- Evaluate wave height, energy, power of wakesurf boats.
- Compare wakesurf boats (+ an aftermarket wake shaper) to a non-wakesurf boat.

Key Takeaways:

- Wakesurf boats produce substantially greater wave heights (2-3x), energy (3-9x), and power (6-12x) than non-wakesurf boats.
- Wakesurf boats require distances between 500-600+ feet to reduce wave height/energy/power to levels equivalent to non-wakesurf boats in planing mode.

U of M
St. Anthony
Falls Lab
(SAFL)
Wakesurf
Research:
Phase 2

(Still Pending)

Prop Thrust & Water Quality
(Below-Surface Impacts)

Objective:

- Assess prop thrust impacts on lake bottoms at various lake depths.
- Evaluate water quality impacts of lake bottom disturbance caused by prop thrust.

Other Wakesurf Research

- Lake Waramaug (Connecticut, 2024)
  - Wakesurf waves 2x as high and 4x the energy as waterski boats.
  - 500+ feet for wakesurf wave height/energy to reduce to that of a waterski boat.
  - Prop thrust impacts at depths of at least 26 feet.
  - 110% increase in total phosphorus 20 feet below the surface (no significant increase caused by the waterski boat).
  - Click here for study details.

- North Lake (Wisconsin, 2022)
  - Notable sediment redistribution, especially near reef areas.
  - Prop thrust impacts at 20+ feet (versus 3-5 feet for pontoons, ski boats, and PWC while planing).
  - 17-33% increase in phosphorus within 30 minutes of disturbance.
  - Click here for study details.

Implications of Wakesurfing on Lakes

- Significant environmental impacts on:
  - Shoreline erosion
  - Lake bottoms
  - Fish and aquatic plant habitats
  - Water quality (↑ phosphorus and algal blooms)
- Safety issues
- Increased risk of AIS spread (ballast systems)
- State-level regulations unlikely in the near term

Is There Anything We Can Do in MN?

- Pursue local county ordinances.
- DNR has a process for this → "Local Surface Use Zoning" (click here for details).
  - Caribou Lake (near Lutsen) is the first MN lake to regulate wakesurfing through this process. Click here for more info.
  - Cook County Board unanimously approved lake association's petition request. Click here for more info.
  - MN COLA hosted recent webinar on this example.
- Lake Minnetonka (2023) adopted a 5 mph speed limit on all watercraft/PWC within 300 feet from shore (up from previous 150 ft. distance). Click here for more info.

Wakesurf Restrictions, Prohibitions, and Guidance in Other States

- Maine
- Vermont
- Michigan
- Wisconsin
  - 31 ordinances, 200 lakes (Sept. '24)
  - 44 ordinances (April '25)
- Oregon

(Click on links for more details on each state)

**Prohibition ordinances do not ban wakesurf boats from being on lakes; rather, they prohibit vessels from operating in wake-enhanced mode.

Options to Consider for Local Ordinances

Degree of Difficulty

Wakesurf Prohibitions for Certain Lakes

Small, Narrow, Shallow, Impaired

Science-Based Wakesurf Restrictions

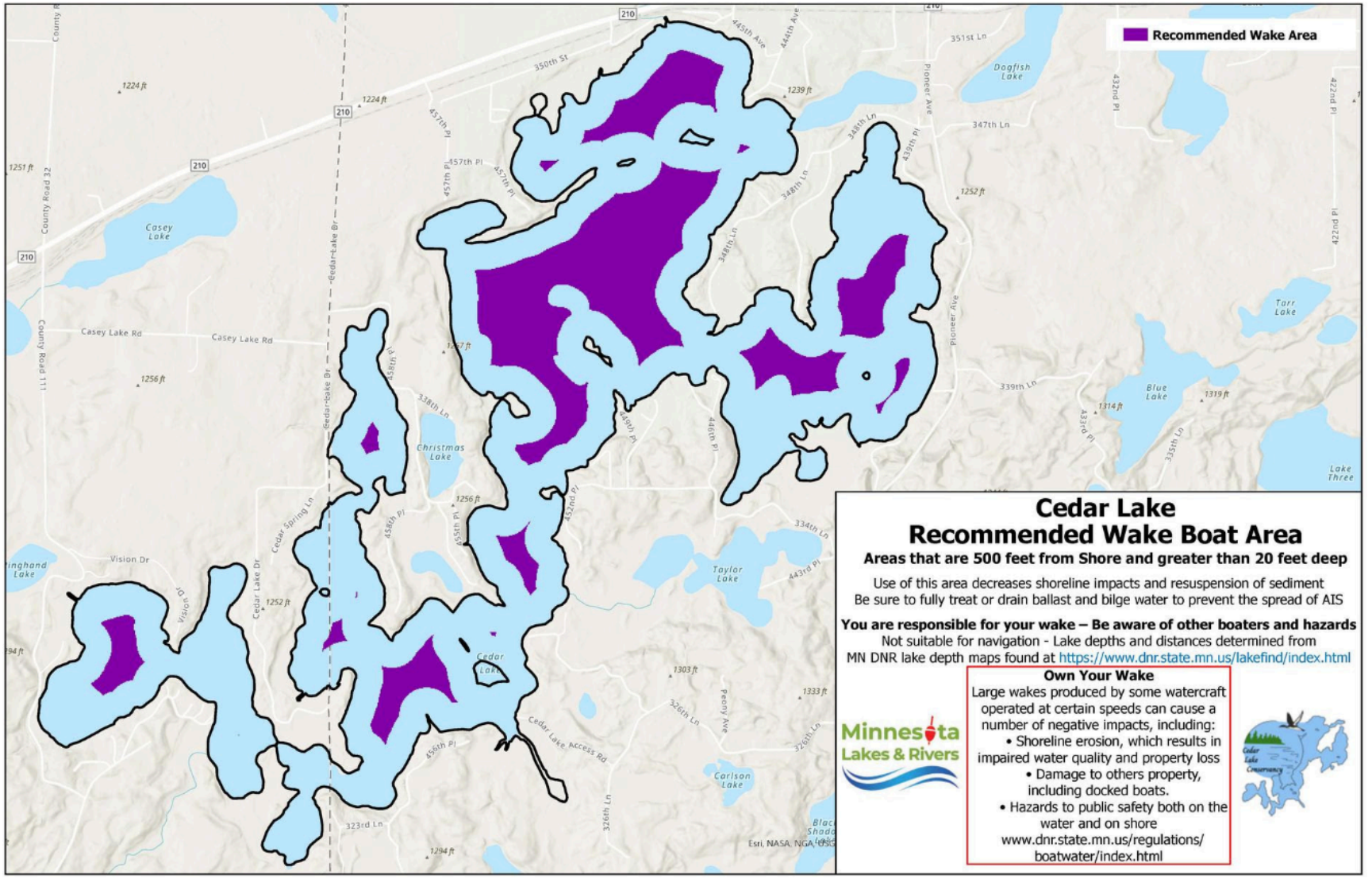
500-600 feet from shore

20-30 feet deep

Boat Launch Signs Showing "Wakesurf Zones"

Lake maps with shaded areas noting appropriate distance from shore/lake depth for wakesurf activities.

Wakesurf Zone Map Example



More Work Needed Before Proceeding

Individual Lakes

Educate residents on the research.

Determine appetite for restriction among residents.

Issue will likely be a challenging one.

Wright County COLA (WCCOLA)

Assess level of member interest in pursuing local ordinances.

Serve as liaison between lake community and county leaders.

Wright County Commissioners

Will need education on research, DNR local ordinance process, and interest level of county lakes.

Related Resources

- **MN COLA Webinar:**
  Using DNR Petition Process to Regulate Wakesurfing on Your Lake
  - Webinar recording & Q&A
  - Presentation slides
  - References
- **MLR Wake Safe Maps**
  - $150
  - May 15th Order Deadline
  - Order form