

10/7/2025

Adam Swanepoel City of Lake Elmo 3880 Laverne Ave N

Dear Trustees for the MN/3M PFAS Settlement Priority 2 Allotment:

I write on behalf of The City of Lake Elmo in support of two of the Friends of Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park's proposals requesting funding from your 2025 RFP. Their LOI's for the projects "Sunfish Lake Boardwalk" and "Sunfish Lake Fish Advisory" resulted in invitations to submit the two proposals to which this letter is attached. We see these projects as an opportunity to enhance the experience of Park visitors by improving the access to Sunfish Lake for all purpoes, and clarifying the situation with respect to consumption of the fish caught in this water body. The Park is owned by the City of Lake Elmo.

We strongly support the grant application, the LOI for which was approved by the City Parks Commission and the City Council. Our 2024 Parks Master Plan lists a fishing pier in Sunfish Lake as a desirable amenity, but no funding has been provided.

As an organization which takes pride in Sunfish Lake Park, Friends of Lake Elmo's Sunfish Lake Park has played a very active role in the enhancement of Park visitor experiences, with buckthorn removal to allow visibility and return of native species, a wheelchair-accessible Tree Trek to educate visitors about nature, and programs for people of all ages from toddlers to memory care residents of the local senior residence. They regularly organize volunteers to clear buckthorn and have taken the lead in finding opportunities to fund and accomplish other enhancements.

We look forward to working with you to improve the accessibility of Sunfish Lake and educate anglers about the fish consumption safety, should these proposals be funded.

Sincerely,

Adam Swanepoel City of Lake Elmo

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