

January 2023



## Ericson Lake News & Updates

Another year has come to an end at Ericson Lake and boy was it exciting. This past year we have had an astonishing turnout and support of our events and fundraisers. The events committee raised over \$23,000 this year. With all of the support we have reached some goals; two tornado shelters were installed at the lake, we have new playground equipment purchased that will be here early 2023 and we are currently working on raising funds to replace the aging and obsolete computer that operates the dam. We are going to be rolling out some changes for the website and camping in 2023 so please keep an eye out for those updates.

[Visit our website](#)

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2023 got off to a blazing start. Due to drought and red flag warnings last year the tree pile on the west side of the lake has not been able to be burned for almost 2 years now. Mother nature finally cooperated and last Saturday the Ericson Fire Department assisted with burning the enormous pile. Thank you to the fire department and volunteers for helping burn the trees.



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## Playground Equipment For Sale



The old playground equipment located at the Levander Park is being offered for sale by bids to the highest bidder.

To submit you bids contact a ELC board member or email [lakeericson@yahoo.com](mailto:lakeericson@yahoo.com)

Buyer will be responsible for the removal of the equipment no later than March 15, 2023. The equipment will be sold as is, with no warranties or guarantees. Ericson Lake and any subsidiaries are not responsible for accident or injury and buyer will be required to sign a waiver prior to removing the equipment.

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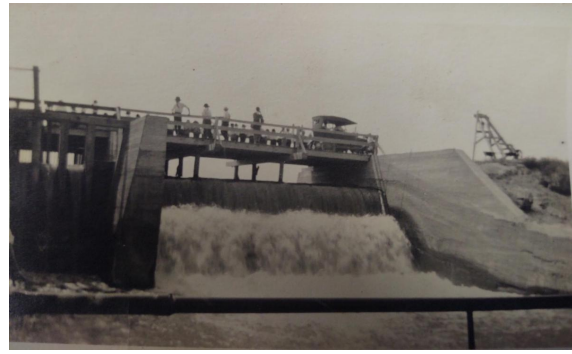
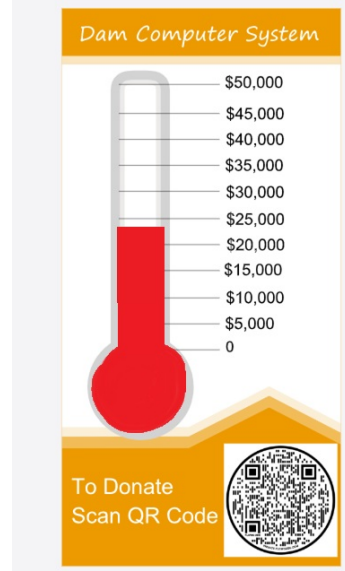
Since 1916 the dam at Ericson Lake has seen many changes, first being built as a hydro electric dam which was discontinued in the 1970s to it's most recent renovation in 2002 that has withstood the floods of 2010 and 2019. As with anything overtime upgrades need to be made. With so many major dams that have been breached in recent years, it is crucial for us to maintain our low hazard classification we were able to receive after the new dam was built in 2002 because of capabilities of being able to regulate water levels within a 1/2 inch, control the gates remotely and quickly to mitigate damages down river.

The lake is currently raising funds to replace the computer / SCADA system that operates the dam. This computer is the heart & controls of the dam and vital for operating it. As the dam reaches 20 years old this system is now obsolete, and we are unable to get replacement parts for it any longer. Without the dam, we don't

have a lake and with that we have moved forward with the purchase of a new system that will hopefully be here this summer. The cost for the new system is just under \$50,000. We are almost halfway there.

Please help us reach our goal by clicking on the link below to donate.

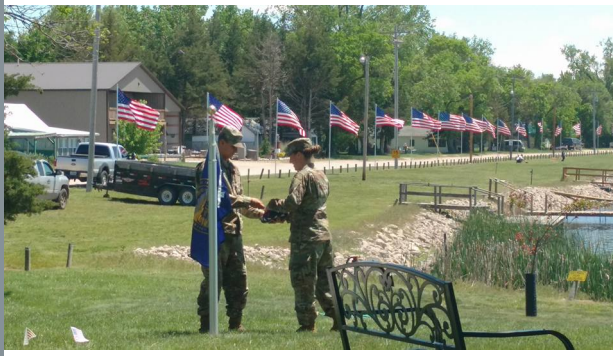
[Donate Here!](#)



## Flags

We are adding additional memorial flags that go along the Boulevard on Holiday weekends. If you are interested in a purchasing a flag they are \$250 and have a plaque engraved on the pole to dedicate them to a loved veteran or service member.

Anybody interested in a flags please let us know.



## 2023 Schedule of Events

### Saturday, May 27th

2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament & Family Fun Day  
Outdoor Movie

### Saturday, July 1st

Annual Pancake Feed  
43rd Annual ELC Meeting  
Annual Bake Sale  
Silent Auction  
Golf Cart Parade

### Sunday, July 2nd

6th Annual Paddle Poker Run  
Food Trucks on the Lake Front  
Fireworks at Dusk

### Saturday, September 2nd

3rd Annual Husker Tailgate Party

### Sunday, September 3rd

3rd Annual Duck Races

### September 2023

10th Annual Fishing Tournament TBD

### Friday & Saturday, December 1st & 2nd

3rd Annual Trail of Lights Ride Through Christmas Light Display

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## 2022 Year In Review

### 2nd Annual Trail of Lights

A little cold weather couldn't keep Santa away.  
Our 2nd annual trail of lights was on Friday & Saturday, December 2nd & 3rd.  
Friday was a brisk and windy evening, but Santa braved it down from the

North Pole to make a visit at Ericson Lake before flying off.

We had a wonderful turnout on both Friday & Saturday evening to ride through the back trail to see all of the magical Christmas lights & displays.

We want to thank Wild Hay Cafe for serving hot drinks and warm funnel cakes,

Santa for making the stop at Ericson and all of the volunteers who worked hard to put the event on. We look forward to seeing you there next year, Friday & Saturday, December 1st & 2nd 2023.

For those who missed out here is a little recap of what you missed.

### [Trail of Lights Video](#) (Click Here to watch)

We are looking for volunteers or any church or youth groups who may need volunteer hours that would like to help put up decorations and displays, have their own scene on the trail or anybody who would like to be a photographer.

We didn't have a chance to get a bunch of photos this year. If anybody has photos please feel free to post them on our Facebook page, we would love to see them.

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## 9th Annual Fishing Derby

On Sept. 24th Fred Gerber hosted the 9th annual catch and release fishing derby at the lake. Anglers spent the morning reeling in their catches vying for the largest Bass, Northern, Crappie, Catfish and bragging rights. Thank you to Fred for hosting the tournament and all who participated. We look forward to next year.

## 2nd Annual Duck Races & Husker Tailgate Party



Labor Day weekend friends new and old gathered at the carousel to cheer on the Husker Football and Volleyball teams at our 2nd annual tailgate party. We would like to give a special thank you to Ben Edwards for the wonderful fish fry and everyone who brought food.

For the second year in a row, we have sold out of ducks for the duck races. This year again we had wonderful prizes with the top prize being a 1/4 of beef. Ducks for next year's race will go on sale mid-July, make sure you get them early before they are gone.

2022 Winners were:

1st Place - Chris Nietfeld

2nd Place - Bob Gregorski  
3rd Place - Beth Wagner  
4th Place - Luke Carlson  
5th Place - Jerrid McKay

## Paddle Poker Run & 4th of July Events



Fourth of July weekend was once again bustling with activities. Saturday started off with a pancake feed followed by the 42nd Annual ELC meeting the annual bake & craft sale, silent auction and concluded with the golf cart parade around the lake. Sunday hosted the 5th annual paddle poker run that had a record turnout of participants who enjoyed a fun afternoon on the water followed by the Farm & Ranch Raffle winners drawn, food truck on the lake front and Fireworks at dusk. Congratulations to all the winners.

Paddle Poker Winners Adult Division

1st - Brad Hunt  
2nd - Amanda Adams  
3rd - Julie Thorin

Paddle Poker Winners Kids Division

1st - Elisabeth Beingston  
2nd - Allie Moudry  
3rd - Matthew Strand

Farm & Ranch Raffle Winners

1st - Tim Einspahr  
2nd - Chris Gates  
3rd - Kayleen Christensen  
4th - Kevin Knott

## Cornhole Tournament & Family Fun Day



New this last year was the 1st annual cornhole tournament and family fun day at the lake on Memorial weekend. We had 16 teams for the first year and look forward to growing the even. Besides the cornhole tournament kids and grownups enjoyed playing backyard foosball, put-put golf and capped it all off with an outdoor movie at dark.

Cornhole winners were

1st - Aaron Nielsen & Christopher Nielsen

2nd - Jarod Rice & Cole Scheer

3rd - Terry Dozler & Chris Casteel

We are looking at getting a few sets of regulation size cornhole boards made, if any business would like to sponsor a set to have your name, logo and design on them let us know.

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## Spotlights

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### Safety

The speed limit around the entire lake and dam is 15 mph. We have had an influx of speeding and careless driving with vehicles and ATV's already this year. There are a lot of young kids playing and riding bicycles around the lake along with adults and pets walking. Please obey the 15 mph speed limit and have a discussion with your kids and guest to obey the posted speed.

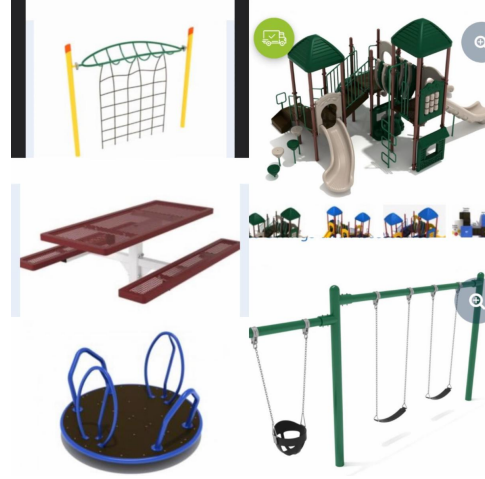


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### Playground

Playground equipment is on the way! This year kids will be able to enjoy some new playground equipment at the park. Fundraisers held last year

and donations from some very generous donors have made this goal a reality. We will be looking for some volunteers to help assemble the equipment this spring.



## Red Flag Warnings - No Fires

Please take note around the lake and campsites. If you see these signs posted please no campfires or fires of any kind.

This year has been hot and dry in our area so please use caution anytime you have a fire or riding ATV's the smallest spark or ember can cause a catastrophic fire.

Please do not leave any fires unattended and make sure they are completely out before you leave.

## Camping Reservations - **NEW UPDATE**



Minimum stay of 2 nights for electrical reservations - \$30 per night

(Maximum stay of 14 days)

There are 30-amp campsites for \$30 per night and 50-amp campsites that are also \$30 per night (50-amp sites: Campsites #2, #6, #7 and #8 at the Dam Campground and Campsites G, H and J at the River Campground)

All camp sites are back in ONLY....there are no drive through sites.

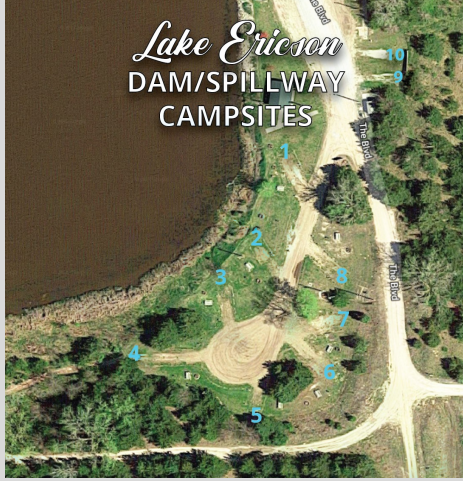
Tent camping is also available at two locations. No reservations required - first come first serve. Cost is \$10 per night per tent. (no minimum stay)

### **New for 2023**

Camping reservations have moved online! Reservations will now be made online through CampSpot.

Over the next few weeks we will be updating our website and social media pages with the





information and link.  
Planning your tanking trip or family reunion?  
Don't delay in reserving your campsite.  
Please share the link below with your friends  
and family.

<https://www.campspot.com/book/lakeericson>

**Camping Reservations**

