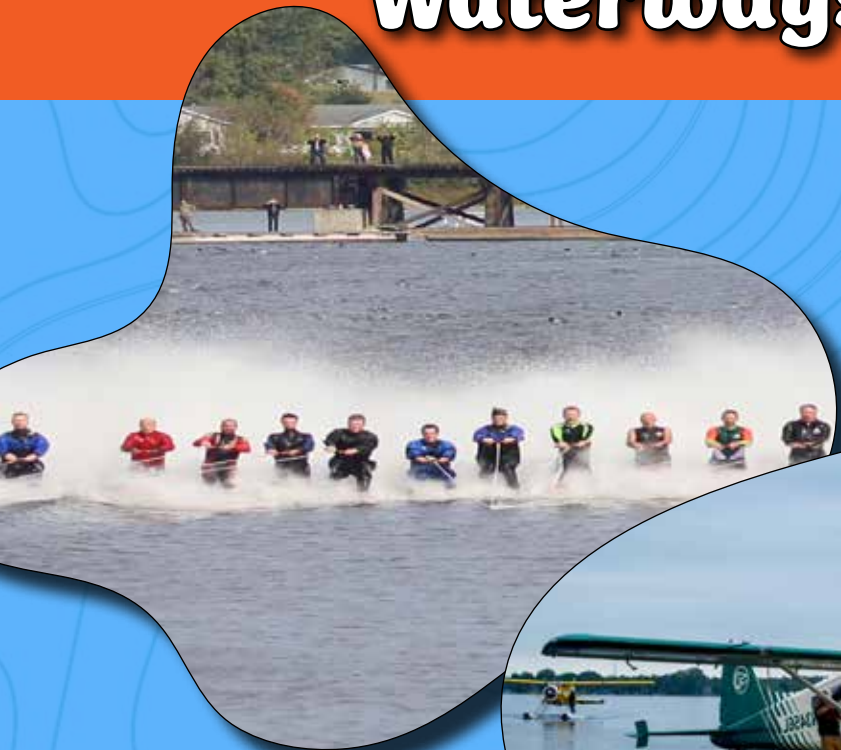




# Shawano Area 2025 ANNUAL REPORT Waterways Management



# Mission Statement

**Shawano Area Waterways Management (SAWM) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and preserving the waters of Shawano Lake, the Wolf River and the channel connecting them on behalf of 1,200 waterfront property owners. With the support of approximately 600 members, SAWM is the leading advocate for the waterways and actively engaged with the local communities as well as various state agencies.**

*Caring for Shawano Waterways now and for Generations*



## Greetings SAWM members and supporters:

I want to say thank you to our more than 600 members, more than 300 donors, 16 businesses that advertise in our weekly email newsletter and the 5 municipalities that contribute each year to SAWM.

With your financial assistance we received the new weed-cutting equipment in 2024 and operationally it exceeded expectations. This investment was made possible through a 50% grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. In conjunction with this, we invested in new signs for both cutting customers and all SAWM members. If you would like a member sign and have not yet picked one up, please come to our annual meeting or stop by Hometown Insurance during business hours. Speaking of signs, we received many complements on the new welcome signs on the Highway HHH bridge sponsored by SAWM.

Check out our updated website at [www.sawm.org](http://www.sawm.org). In addition to updating the content, it now reflects our new logo and branding colors. It provides background information on SAWM as well as helpful data for both new and existing waterfront owners such as fishing reports, a list of shoreline vendors servicing the waterways, State boating laws, and lake monitoring reports. There are links to the Chamber, Wisconsin DNR, and a list of our sponsors. And if you want to support SAWM by wearing our logo apparel, check out the online store supported by Bolin's Speedy T's.

In collaboration with WAMSCO (Waterways Association of Menominee and Shawano Counties) and the Wisconsin DNR, we provided grant money for shoreline restoration projects to four local property owners. We have an additional four in the hopper for next year. Additional grant monies are available so please check out our website if interested.

Lastly, once again, a big thank you to the many members and supporters who help us in caring for the Shawano waterways; whether you volunteered at the golf outing, bought an ad in our newsletter, helped place buoys, or supported us financially, thank you. Our membership was up more than 4% this year. Be assured of the unwavering commitment of your all-volunteer SAWM board. With your support, we seek to protect and steward the resources on Shawano Lake, the Wolf River, and channel connecting them.



Todd Dobberstein, President





# 2024 Summary of Key Activities

- Successfully procured weed-harvesting equipment and cut weeds for more than 300 customers during the summer. Received positive feedback on the timelier and more consistent communication provided on our website regarding the schedule and completion of the properties cut.
- For the 10th consecutive year, SAWM ran the Wisconsin DNR sponsored Clean Boats Clean Waters program. This is an initiative designed to reduce the introduction of invasive species in our waterways.
- Continued to perform water quality long-term trend monitoring.
- Installed and maintained buoy marked and lighted navigation lanes in the lake, the channel and on the upper Wolf River.
- Chemically spot-treated the lake as necessary to manage invasive weed growth.
- Due to the relative health of the lake, we had no follow up steps as part of the two additional Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) lake studies completed in 2023.
- Worked with local establishments on more signage to eliminate debris left on the lake during the ice fishing season.



## Key Priorities for 2025

- Update and renew our comprehensive lake management plan. This is done approximately every five years.
- Execute projects to improve our waterways fishery and wildlife habitats.
- Provide consistent, high quality private and public nuisance weed harvesting with communication to members of the timing and properties cut.
- Maintain buoy lighted navigation lanes.
- Continue to provide semi-annual communication updates to our municipal partners.
- Work with Wisconsin Lakes and the Wisconsin DNR on natural habitat erosion control.
- Increase membership, which factors into eligibility for grant awards from the Wisconsin DNR.
- Keep our membership informed by sharing important and fun information via weekly email newsletter.



# Grants Applied for & Received

• **Weed Harvester and Barge** - \$506,200 total project cost, \$253,100 grant request was approved. Initial payment of \$151,550 received in 2023. Final payment of \$94,980 received in 2024.

• **Clean Boats Clean Waters** - \$5,000+ total project cost, \$3,000 grant received from 2023 program and \$4,000 received for 2024 program. Similar grant applied for in 2025.

• **Aquatic Invasive Species Lake Studies** - Eurasian Water Milfoil mapping \$8,007 and Point Intercept survey \$8,060 grants applied for and \$6,005 and \$6,045 funds received in 2023. Final payment of \$3,610 received in 2024.

## At a Glance Statistics

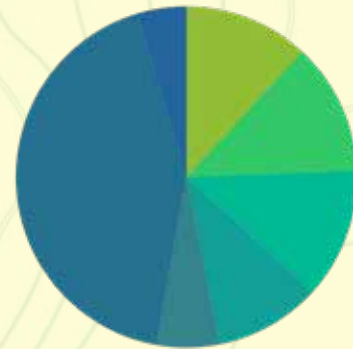
<b>Members (out of more than 1200 riparian land owners)</b>	<b>618</b>
<b>Generous Member Donors</b>	<b>312</b>
<b>Private Cutting Members</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>Business (ads supporting weekly emails)</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>CBCW Boats Inspected</b>	<b>510</b>
<b>CBCW Paid Hours</b>	<b>384</b>
<b>Public areas sq. feet cut (navigation lanes and boat launch)</b>	<b>323,500</b>
<b>Quantity of Weed Removed (pounds)</b>	<b>129,460</b>
<b>Water clarity measurements</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>SAWM Annual Golf Outing Participants</b>	<b>156</b>

# Financials

**2024  
REVENUE  
\$248,779**

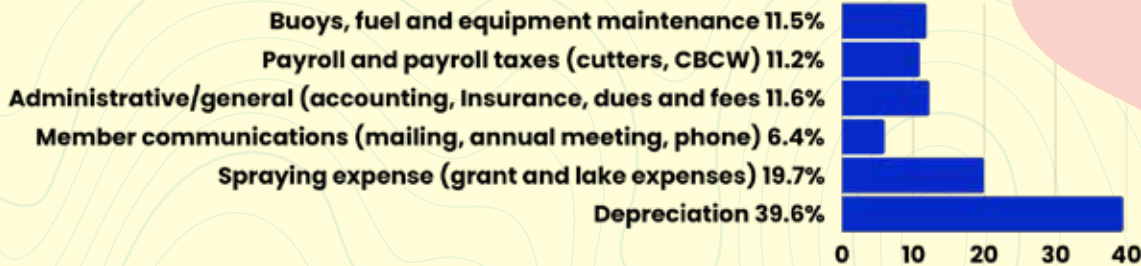


MUNICIPALITY	\$29,500
MEMBERSHIP	\$31,200
DONATIONS	\$30,655
CUTTING	\$25,200
GOLF OUTING	\$14,899
DNR GRANT	\$105,589
OTHER	\$11,736



**TOTAL \$248,779**

**2024  
EXPENSES  
\$155,604**



FUEL & MAINTENANCE	\$17,944
PAYROLL	\$17,392
ADMINISTRATIVE	\$18,049
MEMBER	\$9,993
SPRAYING	\$30,593
DEPRECIATION	\$61,633



**TOTAL \$155,604**

# SAWM Board of Directors

**Todd Dobberstein, *President***

**Bill Monfre, *Vice President***

**Zach Pedersen, *Treasurer***

**Karen Monfre, *Assistant Treasurer***

**Carla Osborne, *Secretary***

**Jeff Brunson**

**Wanita Charnon**

**Bart DeFere**

**Jeff Knope**

**Roger Knueppel**

**Jeff Puissant**

**Ron Schumacher**

**Paul Seidenstricker**

**Dave Zelinger**

**Tony Zielinski**







*Caring for Shawano Waterways now and for Generations*

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Board Meetings are open**

**Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.**

**Shawano Municipal Airport Conference Room**

**Join us!**

PO Box 204 | Shawano, WI 54166 | 715-304-9130 | [www.sawm.org](http://www.sawm.org) | [shawanolakewi@gmail.com](mailto:shawanolakewi@gmail.com)

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