



2018 BLUE EARTH COUNTY Watercraft Inspection Summary



The purpose of this report is to summarize the 2018 Blue Earth County Watercraft inspection program and data collected from watercraft users at public boat launches in Blue Earth County.

The 2018 watercraft season was the second year Blue Earth County conducted watercraft inspections authorized under a delegation agreement with the MNDNR. Blue Earth County contracts with [Waterfront Restoration](#) to conduct [Level I watercraft inspections](#) during the summer months. The following is a description of the program.

Goal

The goal of watercraft inspection program is to prevent the spread of invasive species in Blue Earth County and throughout the state through boater education and watercraft inspections at public water accesses.

Watercraft Inspectors Duties

Watercraft inspectors are required to successfully complete Level I DNR watercraft inspector training. Inspectors provide instructions and education at boat landings. Inspectors visually and, with the owner's permission, tactilely inspect water-related equipment including the removal of aquatic invasive species and drainage of water-related equipment. If a person refuses to allow an inspection or doesn't remove water or aquatic invasive species, inspectors can prohibit the launching or operation of water-related equipment.

Dates and Hours

There is at least one inspection station at one boat landing in the county each day, seven days a week, from the fishing opener in May until Labor Day. Inspectors work varying shifts between 7:00 am and dusk. After Labor Day, inspection stations are open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Locations

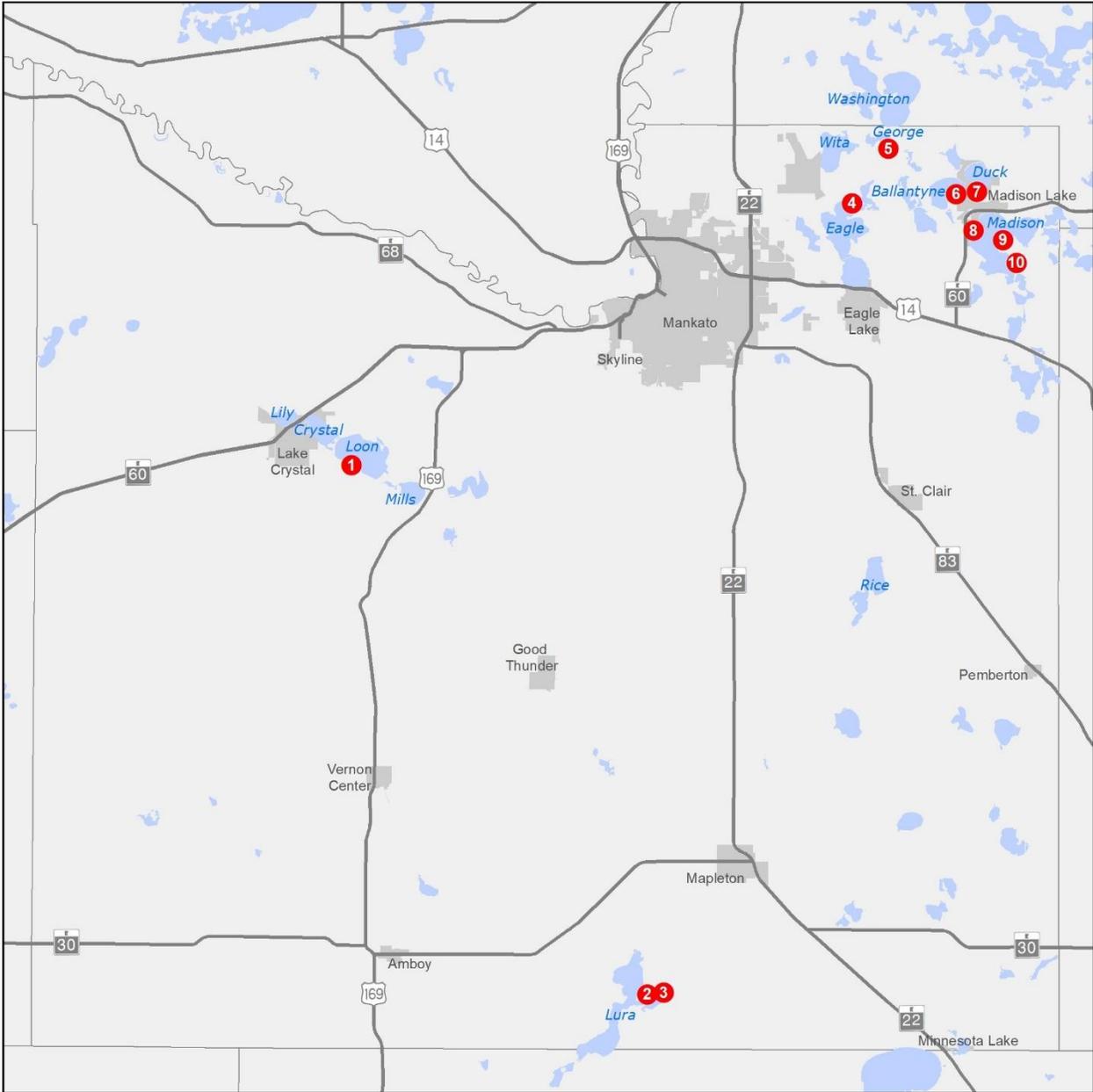
The location of inspection stations rotated among 10 watercraft access sites on nine of the most commonly-used lakes in the county. A map on the following page shows the locations of the watercraft accesses with inspection stations.

Watercraft Inspection Summary

Watercraft users are asked survey questions when entering and leaving the boat landing. Watercraft users are not required to answer the survey questions. The survey was designed by the DNR and is required by the DNR delegation agreement with Blue Earth County. The inspectors use a tablet provided by Waterfront Restoration to record results.

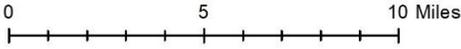
This report is a summary of the 2018 survey findings as well as the number of inspections that were conducted in the county.

Public Access with Watercraft Inspections - 2018



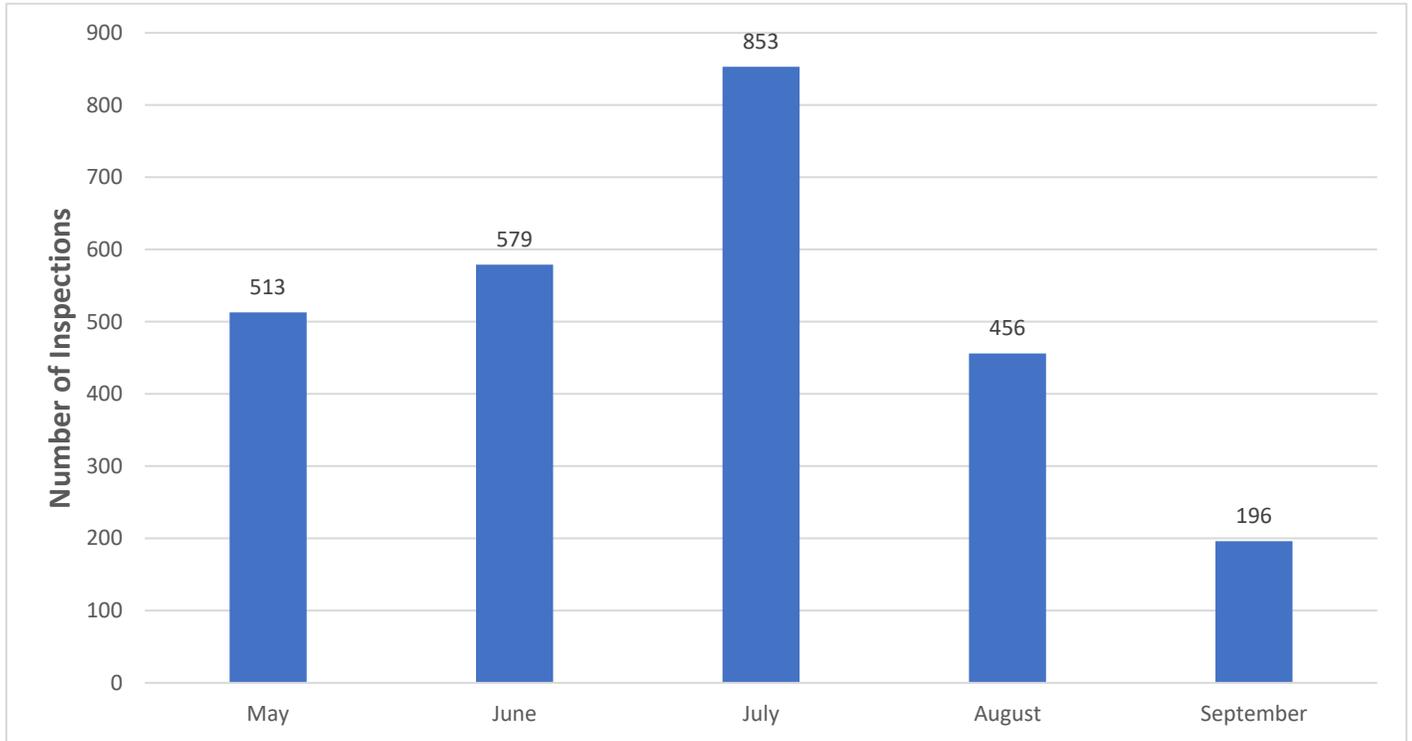
ID	Access Name
1	Loon
2	Lura - Daly Park
3	Lura DNR
4	Eagle
5	Geroge
6	Ballantyne
7	Duck
8	Madison - North Shore Park
9	Madison - DNR East
10	Madison - Bray Park

● Public Access with Watercraft Inspections



Prepared By: Blue Earth County
Environmental Services
2018

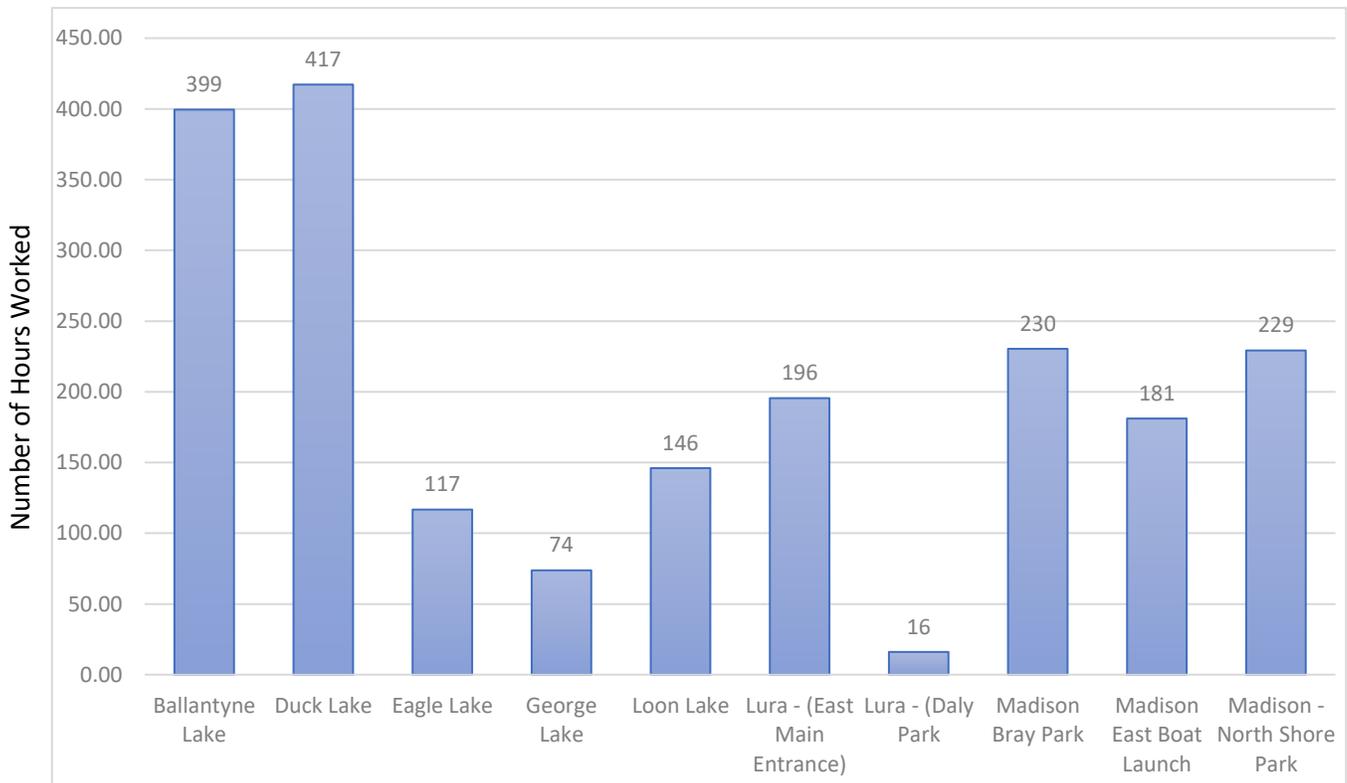
Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections 2018 - Inspections by Month



Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections 2018 - Hours Spent at Each Boat Access

Access	Hours Worked by Inspectors					2018 Total
	May	June	July	August	September	
Ballantyne Lake	53	62	94	146	44	399
Duck Lake	51	72	95	135	63	417
Eagle Lake	26	46	45	0	0	117
George Lake	17	57	0	0	0	74
Loon Lake	17	82	47	0	0	146
Lura - DNR East	18	59	102	16	0	196
Lura -Daly Park	0	16	0	0	0	16
Madison Bray Park	50	64	40	67	9	230
Madison - DNR East	8	29	68	40	36	181
Madison - North Shore Park	24	48	56	83	18	229
Total	262	537	548	489	170	2,005

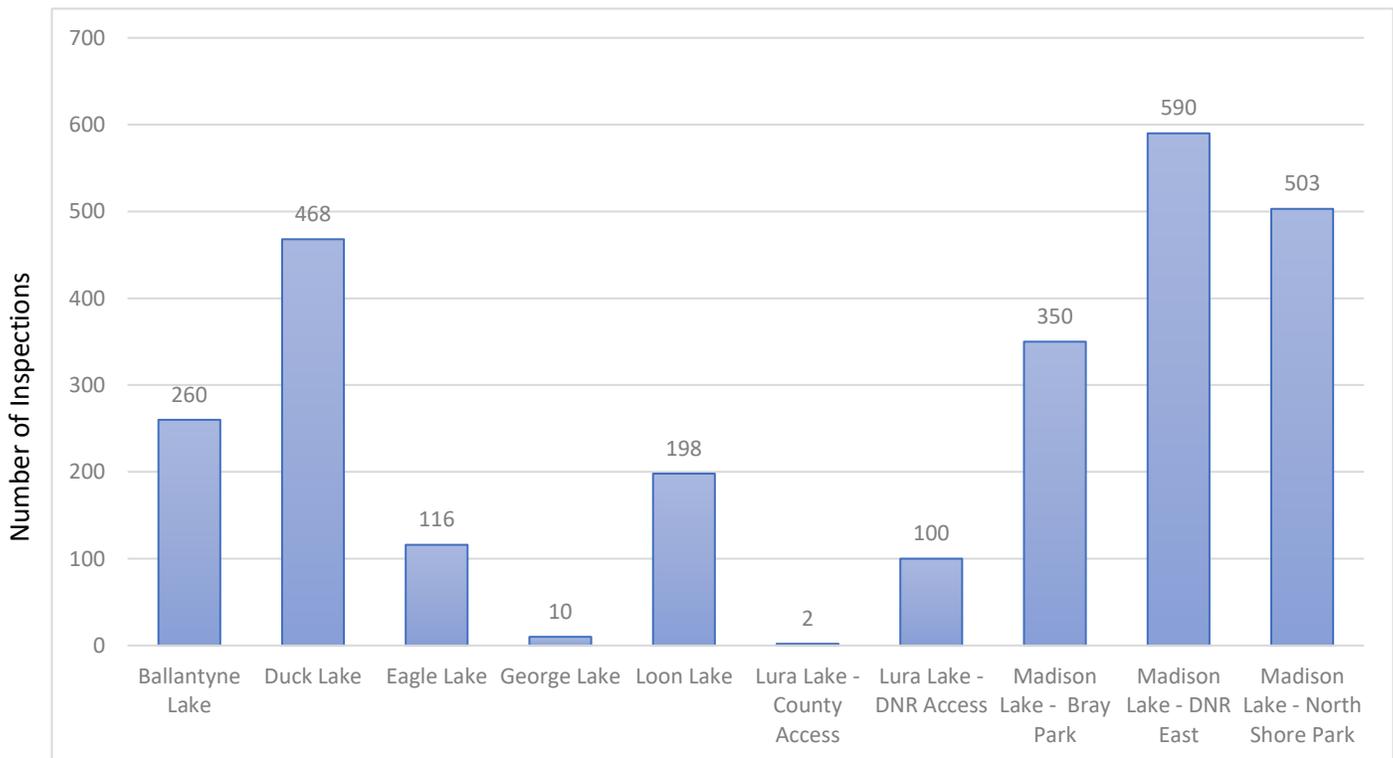
Total Hours Worked at Each Boat Access – 2018



Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections 2018 - Inspections by Boat Access

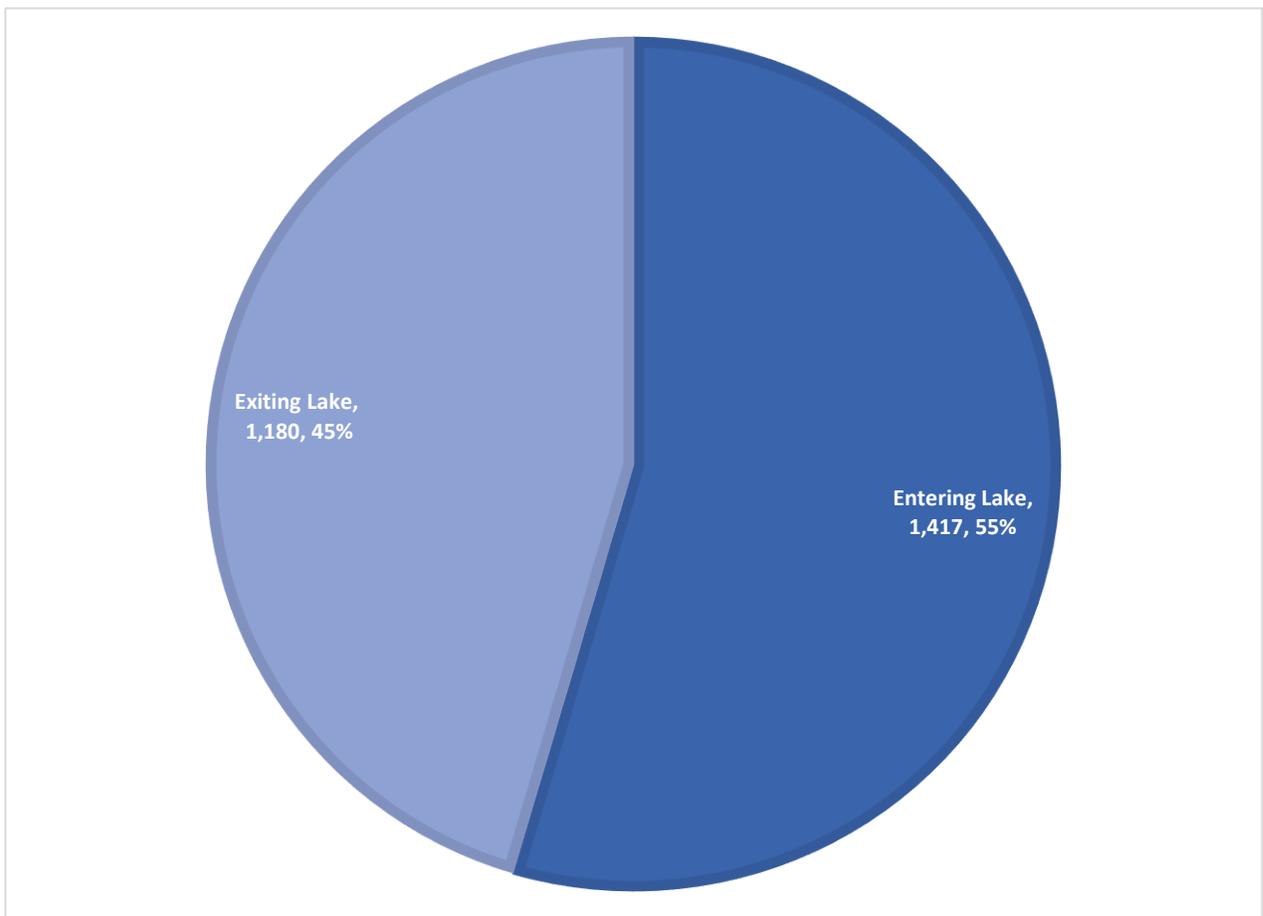
Access	Number of Inspections
Ballantyne Lake	260
Duck Lake	468
Eagle Lake	116
George Lake	10
Loon Lake	198
Lura Lake - County Access	2
Lura Lake - DNR Access	100
Madison Lake - Bray Park	350
Madison Lake - DNR East	590
Madison Lake - North Shore Park	503
Total	2,597

Inspections by Boat Access



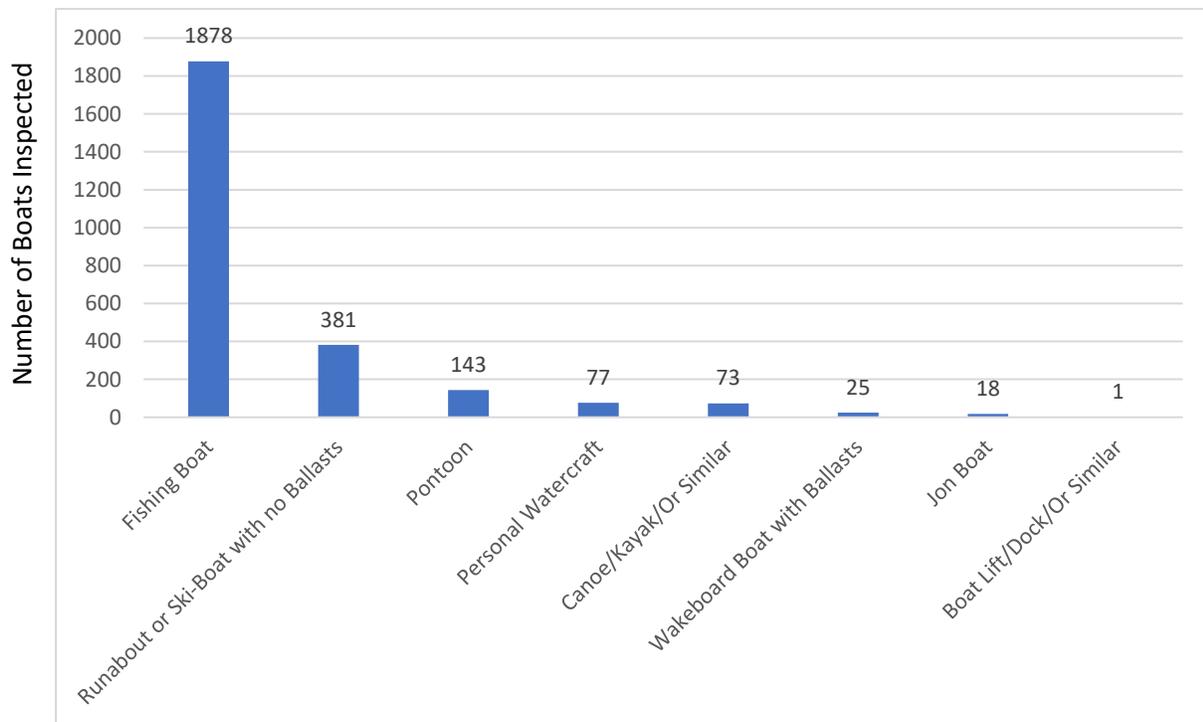
Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections 2018 - Inspections by Type

Type of Inspection	Number of Inspections	Percent
Entering Lake	1,417	54.6%
Exiting Lake	1,180	45.4%
Total	2,597	100.0%



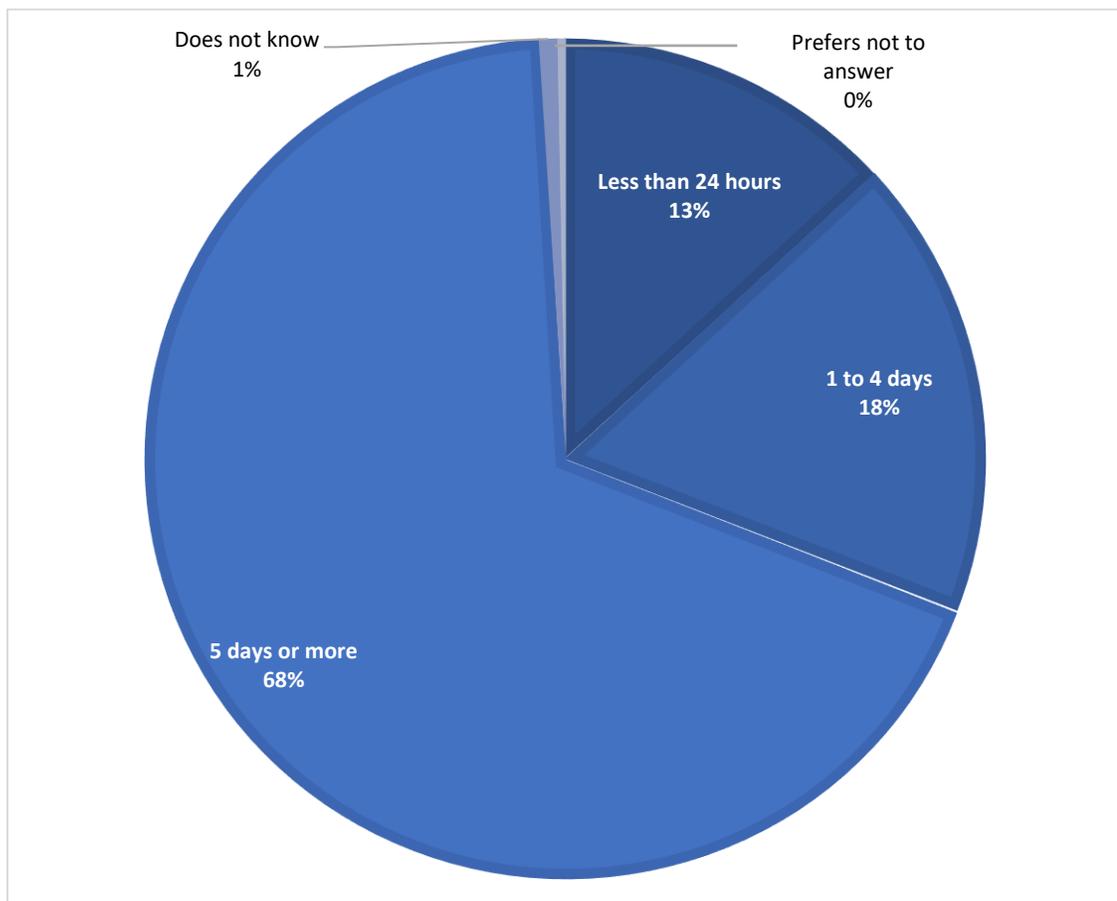
Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections 2018 - Inspections by Boat Type

Type of Boat	Number of Boats Inspected	Percent
Fishing Boat	1878	72.31%
Runabout or Ski-Boat with no Ballasts	381	14.67%
Pontoon	143	5.51%
Personal Watercraft	77	2.96%
Canoe/Kayak/Or Similar	73	2.81%
Wakeboard Boat with Ballasts	25	0.96%
Jon Boat	18	0.69%
Boat Lift/Dock/Or Similar	1	0.04%
Sailboat	1	0.04%
Grand Total	2597	100.00%



Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections - Length of Time Boat was out of Water before Entering Lake - 2018

Time out of Water	Number of Inspections	Percent
Less than 24 hours	186	13.1%
1 to 4 days	252	17.8%
5 days or more	965	68.1%
Does not know	10	0.7%
Prefers not to answer	4	0.3%
Total	1,417	86.9%



Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections 2018 - Last County Visited before Entering Lake

County	Number of Boats
Blue Earth	934
Le Sueur	165
Does Not Know	144
Waseca	29
Brown	14
Cass	13
Scott	12
Crow Wing	10
Rice	8
Faribault	7
Itasca	7
Hubbard	5
Steele	5
Carver	4
Sherburne	4
Wright	4
Beltrami	3
Chisago	3
Martin	3
Meeker	3
Minnesota	3
Nicollet	3
Aitkin	2
Douglas	2
Hennepin	2
McLeod	2
Mille Lacs	2
Olmsted	2
Otter Tail	2
Pine	2
Wabasha	2
Wisconsin	2
Anoka	1
Big Stone	1
Freeborn	1
Lac qui Parle	1
Marshall	1
Murray	1
Nobles	1
Pope	1
Ramsey	1
Saint Louis	1
Sibley	1
Stearns	1
Washington	1
Watonwan	1
Total	1417

Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections 2018 - Last Lake Visited

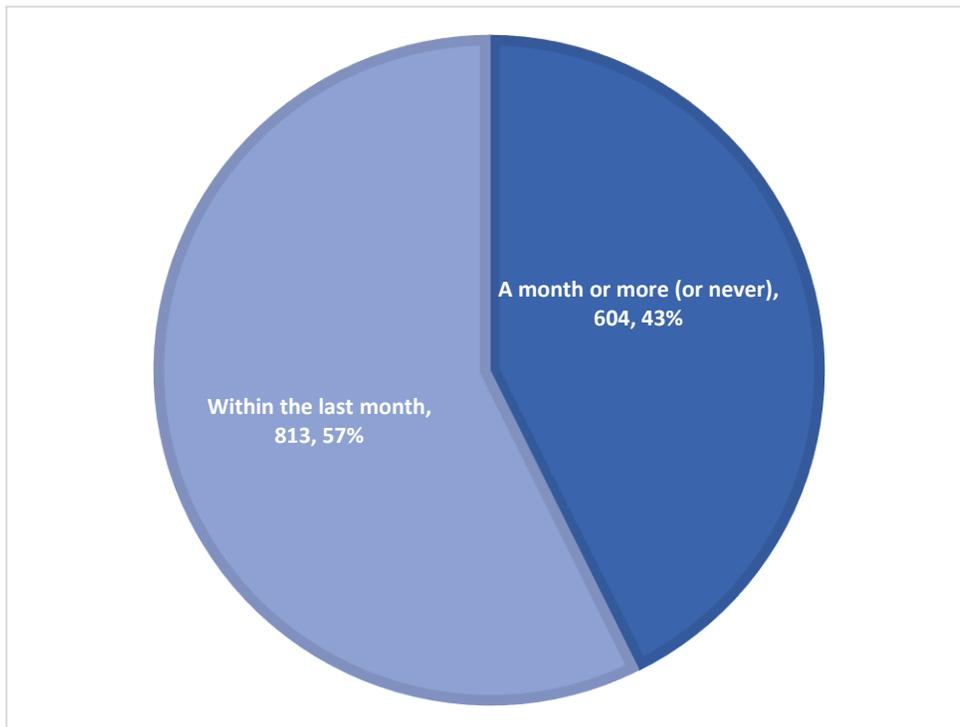
Lake	Number of Boats
Madison	533
Duck	159
Does Not Know	146
Ballantyne	79
Washington	70
Loon	62
Francis	34
Lura	34
Eagle	30
Jefferson	28
Clear	16
German	14
Emily	13
Cedar	11
Hanska	10
Tetonka	9
Crystal	8
Mississippi River	7
Elysian	6
George	6
Bass	5
Beaver	5
Reeds	5
Roemhildts	4
Sleepy Eye	4
Waconia	4
Fish	3
Gull	3
Mille Lacs	3
Pepin	3
Round	3
Zumbro	3
Belle	2
Belle Taine	2
Frances	2
French	2
Geneva	2

Lake	Number of Boats
Island	2
Leech	2
Marion	2
Mazaska	2
Mills	2
North Long	2
O'Dowd	2
Pokegama	2
Rabideau	2
Rush	2
Sakatah	2
St. Croix River	2
St. Olaf	2
Vermilion	2
West Jefferson	2
Ada	1
Albert Lea	1
Amelia	1
Armstrong	1
Bay	1
Bemidji	1
Big Sandy	1
Big Twin	1
Black Duck	1
Bottle	1
Boy	1
Budd	1
Campbell	1
Cannon	1
Circle	1
Clamshell	1
Clearwater	1
Cross	1
Dixon	1
East Jefferson	1
Edward	1

Lake	Number of Boats
First Fulda	1
Fox	1
Garfield	1
Gorman	1
Horseshoe	1
Howard	1
Jenny	1
Kelly	1
Lily	1
Linwood	1
Little Bowstring	1
Little Whitefish	1
Locke	1
Long	1
Mary	1
Medicine	1
Minnesota River	1
Mud	1
Oak	1
Owasso	1
Parley	1
Paul	1
Pocket	1
Potato	1
Rays	1
Shields	1
St. James	1
Stony	1
Sturgeon	1
Upper Bottle	1
Upper Prior	1
Wakanda	1
Washburn	1
White Fish	1
Winnibigoshish	1
Woman	1

Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections 2018 - Length of Time Since Boater Last Spoke to an Inspector Before Entering Lake

Length of Time since Boater Last Spoke to an Inspector	Number of Boaters	Percent
A month or more (or never)	604	42.6%
Within the last month	813	57.4%
Total	1417	100.0%



**Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections 2018 -
Boats with Drain Plugs Arriving at Lake**

Drain Plug Status	Number of Boats	Percent
Drain plug is in	14	1.19%
Drain plug is out	1,165	98.81%
Total	1,179	100.00%

**Blue Earth County Watercraft Inspections 2018 -
Boats with AIS Arriving at Lake – (Plants Removed by Hand)**

AIS Found on Boat - Trailer	Number	Percent
No - AIS Found	1,406	99.22%
Yes – AIS Found Removed by Hand	11	0.78%
Total	1,417	100.00%