

Rice Lake Drawdown History

Rice Lake has conducted drawdowns in these years:

1996-1997	1997-1998	2002-2003	2004-2005
2014-2015	2021-2022		

- Water levels recorded at Sea Level.
- Drawdowns are conducted in order to freeze out non-native vegetation during the winter months
 - Primary non-native plants are Curlyleaf Pondweed and Eurasian Water Milfoil
- Manmade dam located behind Maple Grove Senior Highschool controls the water levels
 - Bypass pipe is used to manage those levels

Drawdown Year	Normal	When	Start Date	Minimum	When	Total Drop	Comments
1996-1997	890.17	10/3	10/2	886.66	11/12	3.51	Technical dam problems experienced with getting lowest level
1997-1998	891.05	9/24	10/10	886.09	11/7	4.96	Done since last year's did not produce successful results
1998-1999							Cutters purchased but not enough volunteers to do harvest
1999-2000							CLP levels high; EWM even worse
2000-2001							EWM levels high; Copper Sulfate applied to knock down algae
2001-2002							Drawdown rejected by City Council; RLAA educated them over winter
2002-2003	891.03	10/23	10/25	885.54	1/8	5.49	Council approved 5-0; winter aeration done for 1 st time
2004-2005	891.01	10/19	10/25	884.86	12/7	6.15	Lowest level so far even with late start; aeration moved to NW corner
2005-2006							More efforts being dedicated to rough fish removal since AIS better
2006-2007							CLP manageable levels; Copper Sulfate applied to knock down algae
2007-2008							No chemical treatments done due to poor resident response (<50%)
2008-2009							No chemical treatments done due to poor resident response (<50%)
2009-2010							No chemical treatments done; City now owns drawdown permits
2010-2011							No chemical treatments done; CLP levels manageable
2011-2012							No chemical treatments done; CLP levels manageable
2012-2013							No chemical treatments done; CLP levels manageable
2013-2014							No chemical treatments done; CLP levels manageable
2014-2015	891.13	10/21	10/24	885.45	3/9	5.68	Shoreline assessment completed
2015-2016							Little CLP; Algae levels high
2016-2017							Little CLP; Algae levels high
2017-2018							Little CLP; Algae levels high
2018-2019							Little CLP; Algae levels high
2019-2020							CLP survey shows moderate growth
2020-2021							Drawdown request denied by DNR due to Blanding's Turtle discovery
2021-2022	891.17	9/28	10/4	885.18	12/3	5.99	Drawdown started early to allow Blanding's Turtle hibernation
2022-2023							No need for drawdown as AIS population was minimal this past season
2023-2024							No need for drawdown as AIS population was minimal this past season
2024-2025							No need for drawdown as AIS population was minimal this past season
2025-2026							AIS (CLP and EWM) both much higher than previous years; planning to do a drawdown this winter