

BMLAA – Safety, Education and Etiquette Committee (S.E.E. Committee)

Quick Introduction:

My wife(Dawn), four children/grandchild(24, 21, 12, 8 & 4 – ALL GIRLS) and I have been coming to Bad Medicine for a little over eight years and have owned our home for a little over three. Surely this isn't even close to the record, but we expect to look back someday and be able to say 40+ years! We spend well over 100 nights at the lake skiing, wakeboarding, tubing, fishing, kayaking, canoeing, paddle boarding, swimming, sledding, snow shoeing, snowmobiling, etc...

At the Annual BLMAA meeting on June 22nd we were excited to introduce ALL Bad Medicine Lake Lovers to a new program focused on Safety, Education and Etiquette on Bad Medicine.

- **Focus:** - To have Safety, Education and Etiquette be at the top of the mind as far as awareness and to bring Bad Medicine Lake Lovers together, not drive them apart. This will be accomplished through focusing on safety, education and etiquette both preemptively and through continual education.
 - **SAFETY:** – According to the DNR there have been no reported accidents in current history on Bad Medicine. Our goal should be 'Not another accident.' Safety will focus on topics as simple as the importance of life vests, safe watercraft usage(all types), but will also address dock safety regarding maintenance and/or the use of electricity near the water.
 - **EDUCATION:** – As humans we fear what we don't understand. Education is a big piece of understanding. Just like in any relationship, most misunderstandings can be solved through communication. As the saying goes, 'It's easier to like someone when you get to know them.' This is what's wrong with politics right now. Two parties yelling over an aisle versus listening to the other side and working to find a solution in the middle.
 - **ETIQUETTE:** – There are many things which aren't illegal, but also aren't necessary. The goal here is to help those who might not even know they are bothering others. The lake is plenty big for everyone to have their fun; we just need to be cognizant of others as best we can.

This program will focus on Bad Medicine Lake Lovers who ALL LOVE THE LAKE! 'Lake Time' is time to relax, spend quality time with family and friends, forget about work, leave behind stress, and enjoy the precious life we are given. Life is too short to not enjoy how fortunate we all are to be able to spend time on Bad Medicine. We are some of the luckiest people in the world. 95%+ of the time we have the same ideas of what 'Lake Time' means. For the other 5% we need to work to understand each other and keep in mind 'We live on a lake.' If we all assume goodwill and be good neighbors, we can reduce the 5% down to almost nothing.

We are looking for volunteers and have had a few reach out already. If you are interested, please email or call me.

Let's make Bad Medicine the lake where there is lots of hand waving when we pass each other's boats and home!

Thank you,

Matt Hanson

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