

Cabin Life

YOUR GUIDE TO COTTAGE, LAKEHOME & CABIN LIVING

Lake Association Spotlight

Enhancing cabin living on the water

NAME: Whitefish Lake Institute

AREA SERVED: Whitefish Lake Watershed, Whitefish, Mont.

MEMBERSHIP: 185

PROJECTS:

- Provide long-term water quality monitoring of Whitefish Lake, its six tributaries and the Whitefish River.
- Protect and improve Whitefish Lake through scientific research, education and outreach, and community stewardship.
- Conduct research projects to identify and study sources of lake pollution (e.g., sediment).

- Engage citizens in lake stewardship activities.

SUCCESS STORIES:

- Obtained grants to conduct the "Investigation of Septic Leachate to the Shoreline of Whitefish Lake," a study that identified evidence and corroborated earlier reports of failing or improperly functioning septic systems around the lake. The city of Whitefish is now considering how to address the septic leachate issue to protect the lake for future generations.
- Helped negotiate a development agreement to preserve the 28.8-acre Averill's Viking Creek Wetland Preserve, which serves as Whitefish Lake's virtual water-cleansing kidney.
- Raised funds and assembled partnerships to build a publicly accessible, wheelchair-friendly



Courtesy Whitefish Lake Institute

- nature trail in Averill's Viking Creek Wetland Preserve.
- Helped to publish the "Montana Lake Book," a guide to sustainable lake living.

Association; North American Lake Management Society; Whitefish Chamber of Commerce; Northwest Montana Lakes Volunteer Monitoring Network

AFFILIATIONS:

American Fisheries Society; American Water Resources

WEBSITE:

www.whitefishlake.org



WHITEFISH, MONT.



SHARE YOUR STORY!

Does your lake have an association that's improving water quality? Do you belong to a land association that is always looking out for its members? Please tell us more about the good work your association is doing, and include 2-3 high-resolution photos of your area. For more info on contacting us, turn to p. 17.