



# Diving

## Policies and Procedures

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### Introduction

For over 50 years Pearl Lake Beach has been a destination for recreational scuba diving and diver training in the Midwest. Its 35 acres of clear water offers prolific and diverse aquatic life, multiple easy-access dive entry points, a dozen diver training platforms and a number of interesting dive sites including a school bus, a twin-engine airplane, a vintage steam shovel and over 15 sunken vessels including a 33 ft. yellow submarine, 30 ft. patrol boat and a 45 ft. Great Lakes fishing trawler. Located in South Beloit, IL at the Illinois / Wisconsin Stateline and just 5 minutes west of Interstate 90, Pearl Lake offers one of the finest diving and diver training environments in the country. At first glance, you would expect to find this crystalline lake nestled somewhere in the Northwoods. Instead, it is just a few minutes north of Rockford, Illinois, the state's third largest city and only a convenient one-hour drive via interstate highways from the metropolitan areas of Chicago, Milwaukee and Madison. From April to October certified divers come here to

enjoy a relaxing day of diving in an undemanding but interesting and enjoyable environment. The lake offers an ideal site for certified divers to sharpen their skills after a time out of the water and to be able to share a dive outing with family in Pearl Lake Beach's park-like atmosphere.

Additionally, the finest professional dive stores and instructors in the Midwest utilize the lake to initiate their students to diving at this site that is ideally suited for their introduction to the exciting underwater world, or to offer advanced and specialty training programs spanning nearly every aspect of recreational scuba diving.

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## Diving Schedule

**APRIL 15 to OCTOBER 11, 2026**

**Monday - Friday from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm**

**Saturday & Sunday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm**

### **MAIN GATE ENTRY PROCEDURES:**

**Groups or individuals arriving prior to our opening times who find the Main Gate CLOSED, SHOULD NOT LINE UP IN FRONT OF THE AUTOMATED GATE, but proceed to the lot just NORTH of the Main Gate to await its opening. Dive Stores / Instructors or groups scheduling meet-up times before or at our posted opening times should inform their group to meet them in that adjacent lot. If the Main Gate is open, please proceed to the main parking lot and after our posted opening times, proceed to the Registration Office to register.**

### **IMPORTANT GATE INSTRUCTIONS:**

**(Note: Varies with date of visit.)**

#### **April 15 - May 21 Instructions:**

The gate arm remains down during this date period. Follow instructions below. **\*\*Do not line up at the gate prior to daily open time. This will block residents and staff.**

#### **Saturday/ Sunday:**

You may line up at the gate at 8 am sharp to begin calling to the office to request access. Press call to be buzzed in. One car per buzz. Do not tailgate. Any damages to the gate by tailgating or blocking of traffic is subject to a fine.

#### **Monday–Friday:**

You may line up at the gate at 9 am sharp to begin calling to the office to request access. One car per buzz. Do not tailgate. Any damages to the gate by tailgating or blocking of traffic is subject to a fine.

#### **May 22 - Sept 7 Gate Instructions:**

The Gate will remain open from daily open time until 5 pm. All visitors must register at the office prior to entering dive sites.

#### **Saturday/ Sunday:**

8 am sharp the gate will be opened by one of our staff members. DO not line up at the gate to wait for this. Park in the side parking lot until you see the gate open.

**Monday–Friday:**

9 am sharp the gate will be opened by one of our staff members. Do not line up at the gate to wait for this. Park in the side parking lot until you see the gate open.

Any damages to the gate by tailgating or blocking of traffic is subject to a fine.

**UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES, MAY ANYONE ENTER THE DIVING AREA**  
**PRIOR TO CHECK-IN AT THE REGISTRATION DESK!**

**GENERAL REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:**

All certified divers, accompanying non-divers and Diving Professionals and their accompanying students, non-divers and certified divers MUST complete the applicable ONLINE Pearl Lake Beach e-Waiver prior to approaching the registration desk and must pay the applicable fee. Certified / Recreational Divers must also show proof of certification.

**Night diving** is permitted on **Saturday nights only** and **ONLY via divestore/group registration** and **ONLY with confirmation to the management of intent to do so upon registration.** Certified/recreational divers may night dive by contacting their local dive store and joining a training or sponsored group recreational dive that they have on their schedule.

**All participants must be clear of PLB grounds by 10:00 pm sharp (no exceptions).**

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## Dive Area Fees and Access

### Diving Fees:

Payable by Credit card only!

Divers @ \$30 per diver per day

Non-Divers @ \$25 per non-diver per day

(Anyone 3 and over)

Non-divers must sign our non-diver/beach patron waiver at the time of check in.

PLB Registered Campers who are diving @ \$10 per diver per day

**Both paid divers and non-divers  
are granted complimentary access to the beach when open ...  
ask for details when registering.**

Once registered and having left the registration area NO refunds are available for any reason.

- ✓ EVERYONE entering the diving area must complete the applicable Pearl Lake Beach e-Waiver and pay the applicable fee PRIOR TO checking in at the office / registration desk.
- ✓ Only patrons having completed the above are allowed in the diving area and on PLB grounds!
- ✓ NO refunds are available for any reason.

### Diving access is only available to:

- ✓ Certified Divers (proof of certification required)
- ✓ Student Divers under the supervision of a Certified Diving Professional (Instr./Asst Instr./DM)
- ✓ Non-divers accompanying certified divers or students in training ... ABSOLUTELY NO WADING OR SWIMMING in the Diving Area! (Inquire at the registration area regarding our swimming beach).

NO Solo Diving, Snorkeling, Free Diving or "Mermaid Certification" is permitted.

## Upon arrival and before entering the dive area, always:

1. Complete the applicable on-line e-WAIVER and submit it with the applicable PAYMENT ... PRIOR TO ARRIVAL and / or BEFORE approaching the office / registration area. STUDENT DIVERS should consult with their Dive Store / Instructor relative to meeting up each day PRIOR TO entering the Dive Area.

**NOTE:** Any PLB Waiver for a minor (under the age of 18) **MUST ALSO BE SIGNED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN!**

**FORMS ARE AVAILABLE VIA LINKS ON THE PEARL LAKE BEACH DIVING WEBPAGE @**  
<https://pearllakebeach.com/scuba-diving/>.

2. Check in at the office / registration desk at the start of **EACH** diving day. STUDENT DIVERS and accompanying NON-DIVERS ... the instructor / group leader will check-in at the office / registration area for you and you MUST wait to accompany them into the dive area / dive site.
3. At the office / registration area, confirmation of completion and receipt of the applicable PLB e-Waiver and payment (VIA CREDIT CARD ONLY) for EACH person that will be entering the dive area must be confirmed.  
**For groups/classes, the group leader/instructor may complete the office registration for all the students, accompanying certified divers, or non-divers listed on their PLB Dive Roster.**  
**Note: That group leader/instructor is responsible for confirming certification for any Certified Diver listed on their PLB Dive Roster.**
4. At the registration desk a pass for EACH person in EACH vehicle entering the dive area will be issued for EACH diving day. STUDENT DIVERS ... the instructor / group leader will collect individual passes and distribute them to the group.

## **IMPORTANT:**

### **Dive Stores, Diving Professionals and Recreational Divers:**

As the new owners/managers of Pearl Lake Beach, we have certainly appreciated your patronage and friendship over our first two seasons.

Unfortunately, last season, we encountered issues relating to non-registration, non-payment and non-check-in at the office prior to entering the diving area. This has occurred with certified recreational divers as well as with some stores and dive professionals.

#### **Please be aware that:**

**NO ONE, including store/group staff, student divers, nor certified recreational divers or accompanying non-divers are allowed to enter the diving area prior to personal check-in at our office and confirmation of registration and payment of the applicable fees.**

**ANYONE found abusing that policy will face immediate eviction and be refused future entry as well. Additionally, entry without registration and applicable payment constitutes trespassing, and Pearl Lake Beach reserves the right to ask for prosecution of abusing individuals accordingly.**

## **NOTE:**

### **All divers must dive with ...**

- **A buoyancy compensator capable of supporting them and their diving and weighting system at the surface**
- **An alternate air source**
- **Instrumentation including a submersible pressure gauge, depth monitor/ computer and a compass**
- **A buoyant exposure suit (wet/dry) thermal protection appropriate for the water temperature / season**
- **A weighting system capable of “quick-release”.**

**All divers must be knowledgeable of Standard Safe Diving Practices and dive in accordance with them.**

**Every diver must enter the water, dive and exit with a pre-dive designated “dive buddy”. NO SOLO DIVING IS ALLOWED!**

**Airfills and equipment rental are NOT available at the lake ... please support your local dive store.**



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## Diving Registration for Certified / Recreational Divers

**IMPORTANT:**

**FOR ALL and certified /recreational divers / groups ...**  
**NO ONE may proceed to the diving area prior to check-in with**  
**and permission from Pearl Lake Beach office staff ...**  
**NO EXCEPTIONS!**

### Upon arrival and before entering the dive area, always:

1. Complete and submit the applicable on-line e-WAIVER PRIOR TO approaching the office/registration area and submit the applicable payment.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

**Any PLB eWaiver relating to a minor (under the age of 18)**  
**MUST ALSO BE SIGNED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN!**

2. Check in at the office / registration area at the start of EACH diving day.
3. At the office/registration area, confirm the completion and receipt of the applicable PLB e-Waiver and payment (VIA CREDIT CARD ONLY) for EACH person that will be entering the dive area.
4. A pass is required for EACH person in EACH vehicle entering the dive area for EACH diving day.

**FORMS ARE AVAILABLE VIA LINKS ON THE PEARL LAKE BEACH DIVING WEBPAGE @**  
**<https://pearllakebeach.com/scuba-diving/> .**

### **NOTE:**

- **All divers must dive with ...**
  - ✓ **A buoyancy compensator capable of supporting them and their diving and weighting system at the surface**
  - ✓ **An alternate air source**
  - ✓ **Instrumentation including a submersible pressure gauge, depth monitor/ computer and a compass**

- ✓ A buoyant exposure suit (wet/dry) thermal protection appropriate for the water temperature / season
- ✓ A weighting system capable of “quick-release”.
- All divers must be knowledgeable of Standard Safe Diving Practices and dive in accordance with them.
- Every diver must enter the water, dive and exit with a pre-dive designated “dive buddy”. NO SOLO DIVING IS ALLOWED!

All dive entries/sites are first come first served. Please display courtesy and professionalism relative to site use (don't intrude and consider sharing larger sites).

Airfills and equipment rental are NOT available at the lake ... please support your local dive store.

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## Diving Registration for Divers-In-Training/Groups

### Dive Store / Instructional Group or Larger Group/Club Activity Registration (Treasure Hunts, Picnics, Clubs, etc.):

All dive entries/sites are first come first served. Please display courtesy and professionalism relative to site use (don't intrude and consider sharing larger sites). If you are looking to reserve a specific site for a larger 30+/special event “treasure hunt, annual picnic, large group, etc.”), please contact the management to make a reservation well in advance of the date.

NOTE: When reserving a specific site, a store/group representative must arrive at 8:00 am on the day of the event, notify management in person or via phone (815-389-1479) of their arrival and then approach the office/registration area to obtain verbal permission to proceed to the reserved site to “hold it” until the group arrives for check-in.

### IMPORTANT:

#### FOR ALL Dive Stores and Staff and their Students ...

NO ONE may proceed to the diving area prior to FIRST checking in at the main building, confirming completion of the applicable PLB waivers and forms and payment of fees, and gaining permission from Pearl Lake Beach office staff.

NO EXCEPTIONS!

# Training/Group Registration Procedures:

1. Dive Stores/Groups need to email a completed Pearl Lake Beach Roster form to [manager@pearllakebeach.com](mailto:manager@pearllakebeach.com) LISTING ALL individuals (Instructors, staff, students, accompanying certified/recreational divers and non-divers) that will be entering the diving area **FOR EACH DAY/DATE** (i.e. Sat. & Sun.) and **SESSION** (i.e. AM/PM) and **AT LEAST 36 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE PLANNED EVENT(S)**.

## **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

**Any PLB eWaiver relating to a minor (under the age of 18)**

**MUST ALSO BE SIGNED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN!**

2. EACH PARTICIPANT must complete the applicable eWaiver (Dive Instructor, Scuba Diver/Student or Non-diver) on our Diving Webpage - <https://pearllakebeach.com/scuba-diving/> and submit it a minimum of 36 hours prior to the date(s) of the planned event.
3. All registrants will receive a confirmation email including a copy of their eWaiver and ALL SHOULD PRINT A COPY and bring it with them to the event as confirmation for the Instructor/Group Leader.
4. Ultimately, the group should meet/wait in our main parking lot adjacent to the beach to meet up with the group Instructor/Leader (see the previous information relative our Main Gate Access/Times & Procedures).
5. The Instructor/Group Leader should confirm eWaiver completion for each participant prior to approaching the registration office. (WARNING: Missing eWaivers will only slow down EVERYONE'S registration!).
6. The Instructor/Group Leader may then approach the registration office with the confirmed PLB Dive Roster, make the group payment (Credit Cards ONLY please), collect the applicable number of passes and then proceed to the dive area (remind the group that the max. speed allowed on the grounds is 10 mph). Thank you!

## **IMPORTANT ...**

**RELATIVE TO YOUNGER DIVERS ...** please inform parents or guardians, that a vehicle is necessary to reach the diving area. This means that non-diving parents or guardians accompanying younger divers will be required to pay the non-diver fee in order to transport them to and from the diving area. The ONLY other alternative is to ask the training group leader or another registered student to provide transportation for the minor to and from the registration point.

**"TARDY/LATE ARRIVALS" ...** on the day of the dive, who are already listed on the roster ...

Students / divers should call their instructor (to update and to learn of the dive site that the group will be located at) and then notify the PLB registration office at 815-389-1479 as well. Upon their arrival, they should FIRST go to the PLB registration office for permission to enter the dive area before they proceed to join their group.

### **CANCELLATIONS WITH PRE-NOTIFICATION ...**

Cancellations prior to 4:00 pm on the day prior to the dive, will result in the issue of a credit to the related credit card. No credit/refund will be issued after that time.

### **“NO SHOWS/LATE CANCELLATIONS” ...**

Refunds will NOT be issued by PLB for individuals that fail to arrive or do not cancel with the store/instructor in time for them to notify PLB of the cancellation prior 4:00 pm on the day prior to the day of the dive (the store/instructor can decide to charge or refund their customer).

**All dive entries/sites are first come first served. Please display courtesy and professionalism relative to site use (don't intrude and consider sharing larger sites).**

**Thank you in advance!**

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## **Dive Professional / Dive Store Use Policies**

**Each Diving Professional (Instructors, Asst. Instructors and Divemasters) involved in diver training and/or supervision diving activities at Pearl Lake Beach must:**

- 1. Submit a copy of the Pearl Lake Beach Dive Professional-Instructor Scuba Diving Assumption of Risk Agreement & Liability Release eWaiver (available on the PLB Dive Webpage ... <https://pearllakebeach.com/scuba-diving/>).**
- 2. Submit proof of a current certification as a Certified Diving Professional (Instructor, Asst. Instr. or Divemaster) with a recognized national certifying agency and agree to only train or supervise divers within the limits of their certification. (To be resubmitted annually).**
- 3. Submit a current Certificate of Dive Training-Related Liability Insurance with Pearl Lake Beach LLC listed as an Additional Insured (to be re-submitted annually upon renewal date).**
- 4. Agree to train and/or supervise divers at Pearl Lake Beach in accordance with the PLB Policies and Procedures and in accordance with their certification agency's Standards and Procedures and to do so in adherence with Standard Safe Diving Practices relative to their staff, students and any accompanying certified divers.**

**All student, certified and staff divers registered to dive or train at Pearl Lake Beach via a Dive Professional and/or “Divestore/Group” are the sole responsibility of that Dive Professional and/or “store/group”.**

## **DIVE PRO COMPLIMENTARY ENTRY:**

**Certified and Insured Diving Professionals (Instructor, Asst. Instr.& Divemaster)** who have met the registration requirements listed above, are eligible to be “comped” their PLB entry fee at a ratio of **2 Dive Pros** (Instructor, Asst. Instr. or Divemaster actively teaching or supervising students/divers) **for every 4 PAID students/divers.** (**When completing the PLB DIVE ROSTER, please enter “Comp” in the “Paid” column to designate the “comped” Dive Pros.** **NOTE:** This is a consideration by PLB to provide a safer experience for students and to assist instructors in comfortably maintaining training standards and safety. **PLEASE DO NOT ABUSE THIS COURTESY AND PUT ITS CONTINUANCE IN JEOPARDY.** Thank you.

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## **Emergency Procedures**

**Following are the PLB Emergency Procedures for diving-related and general medical emergencies:**

- ✓ Dial 911 to call Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for assistance and transport to the nearest/most appropriate medical facility if necessary. Tell the dispatcher you are at **Pearl Lake Beach in South Beloit, IL and in the diving area, give your name and group if applicable, the nature of the emergency and what dive site that you are located at.**
- ✓ **With emergencies that involve a group, with multiple divers, one diver should be sent to the Dive Area Entrance (at the PLB main entrance road) to escort EMS to the site of the emergency.**
- ✓ In regard to **night dives on Saturday evenings involving divestores/groups**, if 911/EMS is called, **a member of the group MUST meet the EMS at the main gate to guide them to the dive site/victim’s location!** If the main gate is closed, the phone number on the gate controller should be called to request the gate be opened and left so for EMS entry to the grounds ... please recall that number to advise the PLB staff of the outcome of the situation.
- ✓ If possible, to attempt to speed the response, **please call the Pearl Lake office, and advise them of your emergency and what dive site you are at** on the lake so they can attempt to assist the EMS in locating you.
- ✓ For consultation and advice relative to dive specific injuries, both on-site rescuers and EMS personnel that are not familiar with diving medicine/accident management can call the **DAN Emergency Hotline at +1-919-684-9111.** DAN can also be consulted relative to the nearest and/or available recompression chamber location(s).
- ✓ **Any scuba diving accident/incident must be reported to the main office manager immediately and a copy of the Divestore’s/Diving Professional’s Liability Insurance carrier’s Accident/Incident Report Form must be completed and submitted to Pearl Beach LLC within 24 hours of the occurrence.**

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# General Diving Area Rules and Regulations

## **IMPORTANT ... PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING ...**

When arriving for the diving day, follow the signs to the Guest Services Registration Office.

**To speed registration for all divers and the PLB staff**, please follow the registration procedures detailed in the applicable sections above in this document.

**Student divers are required to register in advance via a certified instructor, asst. instructor or divemaster (as appropriate to the training being conducted)** and as indicated in the registration procedures detailed in the applicable sections above in this document.

**Certified / Recreational Divers** after completing the PLD Diver eWaiver in advance, must provide a nationally recognized certification card at the registration desk, register with another certified diver, follow Standard Safe Diving Standards and **must enter the water, dive and exit with a pre-dive designated "dive buddy". **NO SOLO DIVING IS ALLOWED!****

All dive entries/sites are first come first served. Please display courtesy and professionalism relative to site use (don't intrude and consider sharing larger sites).

Follow and **observe the 10 MPH speed limit** while driving on the Pearl Lake grounds. People and children do enjoy walking around the camp grounds and within the diving area so please be alert and **DRIVE SLOWLY**. Plus, be respectful of the all the residents that live nearby the lake relative to noise, behavior and vehicle speed ... **this is their home**.

All divers registering, must utilize equipment that is appropriate to the diving environment / conditions. All divers, at all times, must dive with a buoyancy compensator capable of supporting them and their weight system at the surface, an alternate air source, instrumentation including a submersible pressure gauge, depth monitor/computer and a compass, a buoyant exposure suit (wet/dry) thermal protection appropriate for the water temperature / season and all weighting systems must be capable of "quick-release".

Although the boat traffic on the lake is limited to seasonal campers' small fishing boats with trolling motors only and to kayaks, and even though they are aware that divers are present, **we highly recommend the use of a diver's flag and float**. Additionally, **rebreather divers**, because of the lack of surface bubbles, should only surface in shallow water/near shore or if ascending from greater depths, should deploy an SMB prior to surfacing to warn of their presence.

In that some of the sites in the lake constitute a limited overhead environment, divers without specialized training, appropriate certification levels and training should not enter them. Additionally, because certain sites and the reference lines/buoys attached to them can present snag /entanglement potential, divers should take appropriate precautions.

In the case of thunderstorms and lightning, either do not begin the dive, or if in the water, exit immediately, remove your cylinder and seek shelter.

EVERYONE entering the diving area, for any period of time, is required to pay the diver or non-diver fee ... there are **NO EXCEPTIONS**. Pearl Lake Beach is not a "public park" and each individual on the grounds must be a

paid patron ... diver, non-diver, beach customer or camper.

A vehicle is necessary to reach the diving area. This means that **non-diving parents or guardians accompanying younger divers** will be required to pay the non-diver fee in order to transport them to the diving area.

Any non-divers age 3 and older accompanying certified or student divers into the diving area are required to register, sign a liability release/waiver (parent/guardian on behalf of minors ... under 18 years of age) and pay the daily non-diver fee. Young children in the dive area are NOT recommended ... any non-diving minors must be under the constant supervision of an adult at all times!

**SWIMMING, SNORKELING OR WADING IS NOT ALLOWED IN THE DIVING AREA.** Divers must be fully equipped to be in the water and non-divers must stay completely out of the water in the diving area. **Both registered and paid divers and non-divers can gain complimentary entry to our swimming beach, when open ... inquire at the registration area.**

Divers involved in "specialty" diving activities such as night diving, deep diving, overhead/penetration activities, etc., should be certified and experienced in those activities or be involved in training/under the supervision of a diving professional and be equipped in accordance with accepted safe diving standards as related to that activity. The Lake does have some sites that constitute overhead environments ... note the previous comment in that regard. Use care around reference surface buoy lines and objects to avoid entanglement. Use care while traversing entry beaches and entering the water to avoid falling.

No spear fishing is allowed.

Be responsible and respectful of the lake, fish, wildlife and all their habitats in and around the water.

NO moving, relocating, defacing, or changing any objects, attractions or items in the lake or any underwater dive sites! Be respectful of and do not damage any underwater attractions or SCUBA diving sites. No placement of any new objects or structures in the lake without the expressed WRITTEN permission and consent from the Pearl Lake management.

Any argumentative, aggressive or inappropriate behavior, indecent exposure, or offensive behavior of any kind on the Pearl Lake Beach grounds or at diving sites will result in immediate expulsion.

NO illegal drugs are allowed and alcohol may only be consumed at the end of the diving day and in moderation. Drunkenness and related misbehavior will not be tolerated and will result in expulsion from PLB grounds.

NO pets may accompany divers or non-divers into the diving area.

NO firearms of any kind are permitted on Pearl Lake Beach grounds! (with the exception of law enforcement personnel).

Pearl Lake Beach is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen equipment.

You are responsible for keeping your dive site clean and free of any trash or debris, and the removal of anything you bring into the dive site including SCUBA diving equipment. Garbage cans are provided at all dive sites ... PLEASE USE THEM. Please let management know if there is a problem or a missing garbage can.

**Any Violation of these rules and policies may result in Immediate Suspension or Revocation of any and all diving privileges!**

**This is a beautiful and wonderful venue for all Scuba Diving activities, and we want to keep it**

that way, so it can be enjoyed by all for many years to come.

We would like to thank you for all your help and support of these policies.  
Pearl Lake Beach Management.

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## Diving the Lake, Seasonal Lake Conditions and Dive Map

### Diving the Lake:

Although the lake has depths down to approximately 70 ft. or greater, the most interesting and pleasurable portions of the lake to dive are shallower than 35 ft. The visibility is typically better and the water warmer (depending on the season) above that depth. Additionally, most of the “attractions” in the lake and the majority of interesting aquatic life are at those depths. The most rewarding dive plan is typically swimming at depths of between 20 – 25 ft. on the outbound portion of the dive while following the bottom contour. There, you will “bump into” most of the sunken “attractions” and the lake “critters” that are drawn to them. While doing so, visibility will typically allow you to see items either slightly deeper or shallower along your path. When reaching your turn-around point (based on air supply, warmth, bottom time, etc.), it is suggested that that you ascend to between 10 – 15 ft. to return to your entry area and enjoy the schools of small fish and the larger predators hunting them in the weed beds and around some smaller “attractions” in the shallower water.

There are a number of interesting “attractions” that have been placed in the lake. Some are quite large and constitute an overhead environment” in some cases. As divers are trained, these circumstances inhibit a direct ascent to the surface. Consequently, divers should not enter these “attractions” without proper training, experience and applicable equipment. Additionally, divers should also use care regarding entanglement relative to these “attractions”, the buoy / reference lines attached to them and to the dive training platforms. Also, diving early and late in the season, or at greater depths, means colder and more challenging water temperatures. Always dive within the scope of your training, experience and comfort range and seek additional training relative to more advanced diving experiences.



“Pearl Lake Beach –  
Diving Gem of the  
Midwest”  
Article  
[\[ADD NEW LINK !!\]](#)



“Pearl Lake Beach  
– Diving Gem of  
the Midwest”  
Slideshow  
[\[ADD LINK !!\]](#)

### Seasonal Lake Conditions:

Pearl Lake's diving season begins in April and ends in mid-October each year (call 815-389-1479 for opening and closing dates). Early season visibility can be quite good -- in some years approaching as much as 40 ft. or more. Of course, cold water temperatures are to be expected (+/- 50° F) with no thermocline present at that time. Consequently, a dry suit or heavy wetsuit is necessary, as are a hood, boots and gloves. Temperatures gradually rise through May and June. Typically, by mid-June a thermocline has formed between 15-20 ft. and temperatures above it allows for a lighter-weight wet suit, with a hood and gloves usually optional above the thermocline. Venturing below it for any period of time then or through the balance of the season usually requires most divers to return to using a hood and gloves. "Braver souls" may forego or use light-weight gloves for short excursions deeper, but most divers will still be most comfortable wearing a hood. Usually by July, the shallow water temperatures are in the high-70's/low-80's and the thermocline is approaching 25 ft. Very late September and early October temperatures can require a return to the necessity of dry suits and heavier wet suits along with a hood, boots and gloves. The thermocline is usually approaching a depth of 40 ft. or deeper by this time. Because of entries over sand and gravel, boots are recommended at all times. As mentioned, visibility can be excellent early in the season. Typically, it will begin to drop off as the water warms. By mid-June, one can expect 15-20 ft. above the thermocline with it decreasing below it. By mid-August, the visibility begins to increase again and into September and October it is typically 30 ft., and may reach 40 ft. or more. The visibility is typically very good down to the thermocline at this time and sometimes below it as well.

### **Pearl Lake Beach Dive Area Map**

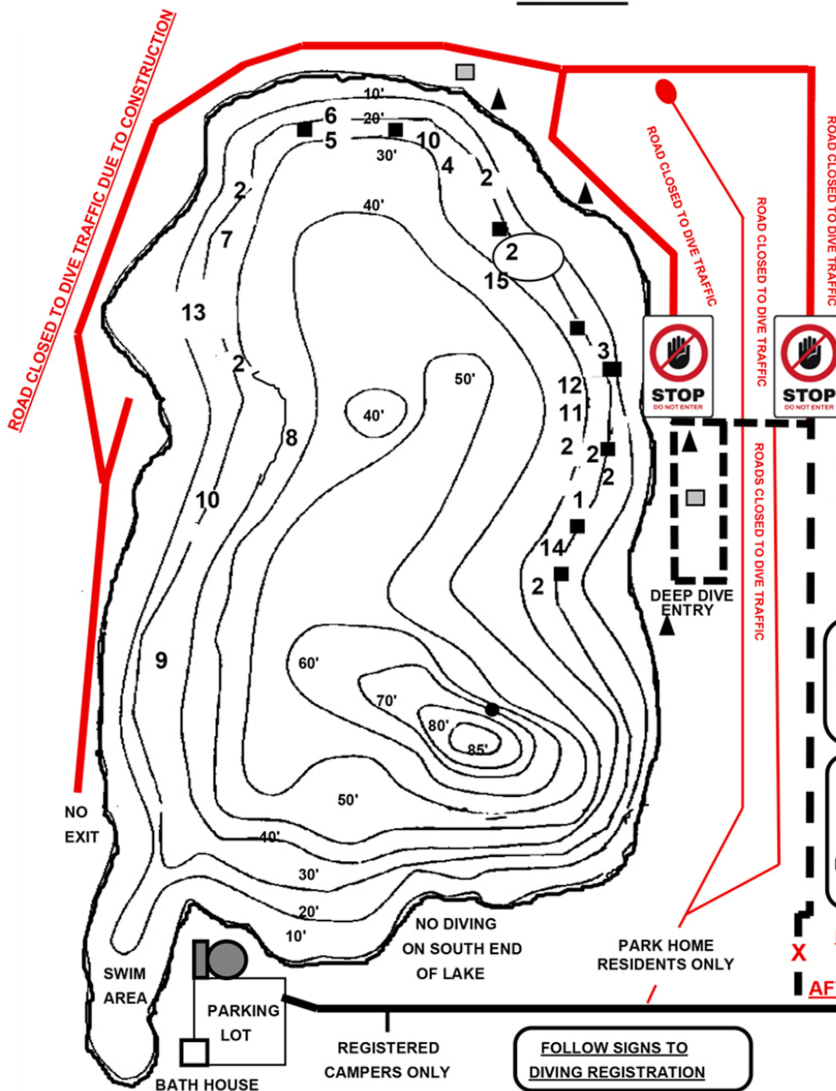


1220 Dearborn Ave. / HWY 251  
 South Beloit, IL 61080  
 (P) 815-389-1479  
 (E) info@pearllakebeach.com  
 (W) https://pearllakebeach.com/

**NORTH**

**DIVE / TRAINING SITES**

- 1 STEP VAN
- 2 BOATS
- 3 SUBMARINE
- 4 SCHOOL BUS
- 5 M.D.S. LADY OF THE LAKE
- 6 R.R. TRACKS
- 7 M.D.S. "WALLY GATOR"
- 8 AIRPLANE
- 9 CONCRETE TILES
- 10 CABIN CRUISERS
- 11 "THORA ANN"
- 12 PATROL BOAT
- 13 "STEAM" SHOVEL
- 14 "THE WINDJAMMER"
- 15 "THE CLARK"



**NOTE:**  
 NORTH & WEST SHORE ENTRY  
 SITES ARE CURRENTLY CLOSED  
 DUE TO CONSTRUCTION

- TRAINING PLATFORMS
- DEEP DIVE PLATFORM
- LARGE GROUP PAVILIONS
- ▲ SMALL GROUP PAVILIONS

**PLEASE READ**  
 THE DIVING  
 POLICIES & PROCEDURES  
 ON OUR WEBSITE  
<https://pearllakebeach.com/scuba-diving/>

**EVERYONE**  
 MUST REGISTER  
 AT THE OFFICE  
 PRIOR TO ENTERING  
 DIVING AREA

NO SWIMMING  
 OR  
 WADING IN  
 THE  
 DIVE AREA

**ENTER DIVE AREA**  
**HERE**  
**AFTER REGISTERING**  
 FROM  
 FRONTAGE  
 ROAD /  
 HIGHWAY 251

**FOLLOW SIGNS TO**  
**DIVING REGISTRATION**

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# DIVING DOCUMENTS

## New for 2026 - Electronic Waivers & Documents:

- INDIVIDUAL DIVER WAIVER [\[ADD eLINK\]](#)
- DIVE PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTOR WAIVER [\[ADD eLINK\]](#)
- NON-DIVER GUEST WAIVER [\[ADD eLINK\]](#)
- POLICIES AND PROCEDURES [\[ADD NEW LINK\]](#)
- DIVE SITE MAP [\[ADD NEW LINK\]](#)
- STUDENT DIVE ROSTER [\[ADD LINK\]](#)
- PEARL LAKE DIVING BROCHURE [\[ADD NEW LINK\]](#)
- STANDARD SAFE DIVING PRACTICES [\[ADD LINK\]](#)



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