

MISSION STATEMENT: "The City of Mound, through teamwork and cooperation, provides, at a reasonable cost, quality services that respond to the needs of all citizens, fostering a safe, attractive and flourishing community." "The Parks and Open Space Commission is an advisory body to the City Council. One of the Commission's functions is to hold public hearings and make recommendations to the City Council. The City Council makes all final decisions on these matters. Mound Ordinances require that certain documents and information be included in applications. The Parks and Open Space Commission may postpone consideration of an application that is incomplete and may for other reasons postpone final action on an application. For each agenda item, the Commission will receive reports prepared by the City Staff, open the hearing to the public, and discuss and act on the application."

NOTE: COMISSIONERS WILL BE CONTACTED BY STAFF PRIOR TO THE MEETINGS TO ASSESS ATTENDANCE. FAILURE TO RESPOND BY NOON ON THE DAY OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING WILL BE CONSIDERED AN ABSENCE AND MAY RESULT IN CANCELLATION OF THE MEETING DUE TO LACK OF A QUORUM. (952-472-0603 or admin@cityofmound.com)

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION

AGENDA

6:30 P.M. Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
5341 Maywood Road, Mound, MN
Thursday, November 13, 2025

Pages

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present
(No more than 3 minutes allowed per speaker)
5. Lost Lake Commons Wayfinding Signage **2-8**
6. Reports:
Staff Updates:
City Council Representative:
Commissioner Comments:
7. Next Meeting: December 11, 2025
8. Adjourn



Real People. Real Solutions.

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Suite 200
Chaska, MN 55318-1172

Ph: (952) 448-8838
Fax: (952) 448-8805
Bolton-Menk.com

November 6, 2025

Parks and Open Spaces Commission
City of Mound
2415 Wilshire Boulevard
Mound, MN 55364

RE: Wayfinding and Interpretive Signs
Lost Lake Commons Park Improvements – Phase 2
City Project No. PW-25-10

As part of the approved plans for Phase 2 of Lost Lake Commons, updates to the current wayfinding signage and the addition of four interpretive signs throughout the park are scheduled. Attached are the revised wayfinding and interpretive sign designs intended for installation. Feedback is requested prior to final printing and placement.

The objective of the wayfinding signs is to direct visitors to notable areas within the City. The proposed designs update the signage introduced in 2008, with several enhancements:

- Greater emphasis on parks and open spaces within the mapped area.
- Public spaces and recreational activities are clearly indicated.
- Private businesses such as restaurants and gas stations have been removed from the map; instead, a QR code has been incorporated to link users to a city website that can be updated as businesses change.

Three new interpretive signs will present information on the history of Mound, created in partnership with the Lake Minnetonka Historical Society and the City, along with one sign addressing stormwater treatment.

Each interpretive sign design underwent thorough review to ensure compliance with American Disabilities Act (ADA) standards regarding both visual and reading accessibility. For optimal readability, a minimum contrast ratio of 3:1 was maintained to accommodate individuals with low vision, color blindness, and varying light conditions.

Additionally, the signs were crafted to meet public reading level requirements. The interpretive signage was developed at a sixth-grade reading level, featuring concise sentences and commonly used vocabulary to ensure clarity and accessibility for a wider audience.

The four wayfinding signs will replace existing panels around the Lost Lake Commons area and the four interpretive signs will be placed around the Lost Lake Commons park area. Signs are scheduled to be installed in the spring.

Please provide any feedback on the proposed designs that can then be included with recommendation for final approval with the City Council.

Sincerely,

Bolton & Menk, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Bauman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

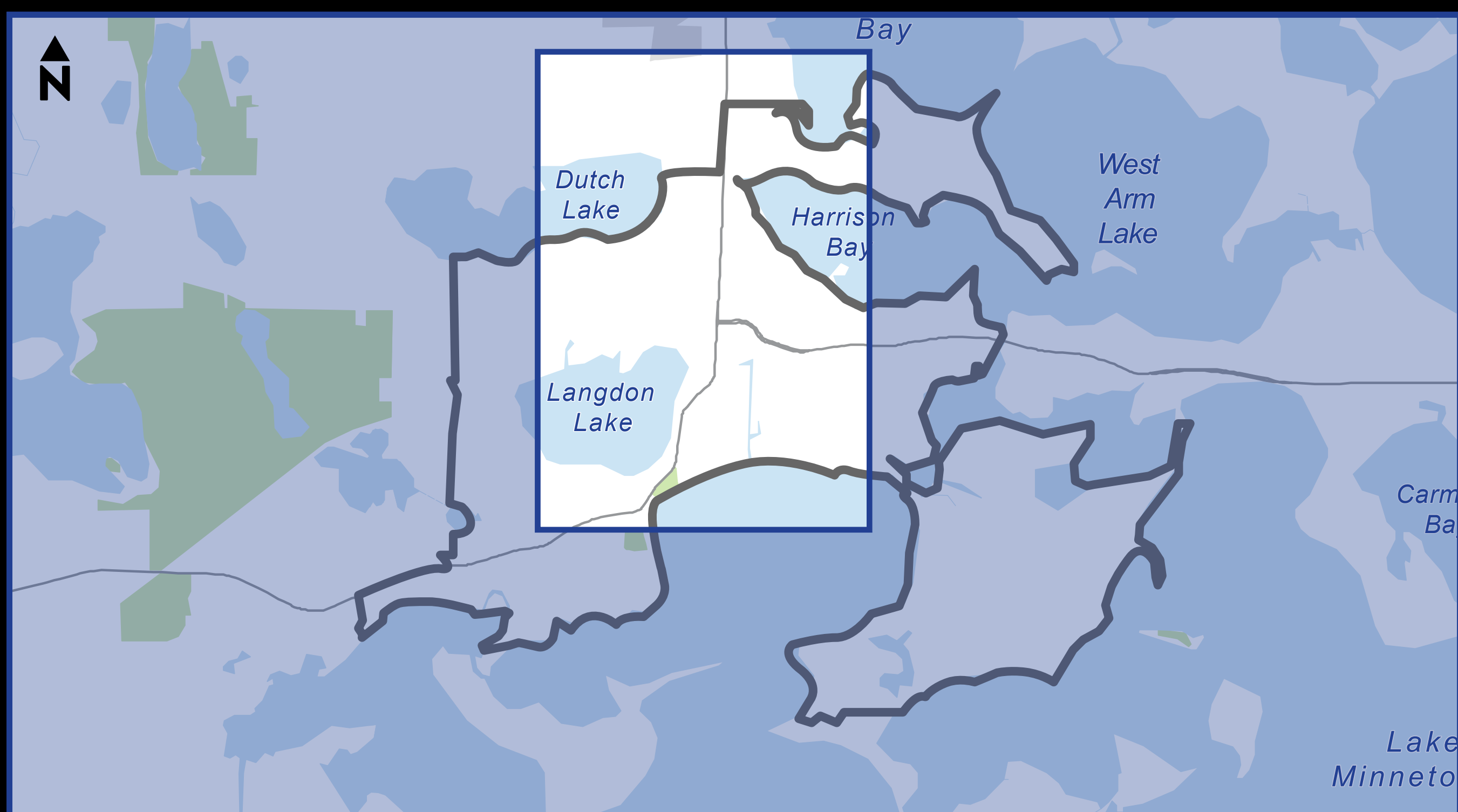
Matthew S. Bauman, P.E.
City Engineer

Attachments: Wayfinding Signs and Interpretive Signs

Independence

Orono

Minnetrista



Minnetonka Beach

Directory



Points of Interest

- 1 Andrews Sisters Trail
- 2 Centerview Beach
- 3 Dakota Rail Regional Trail
- 4 Lost Lake Commons
- 5 Surfside Park

★ YOU ARE HERE

- ⚾ Athletic Fields
- 🚲 Bike Path
- 🚤 Public Boat Launch
- 🎣 Fishing Pier
- ⚓ Public Boat Docking
- 🔥 Fire Station
- 🚻 Historic Wellhouse - Restroom
- 🏒 Ice Arena
- 📖 Library
- 🏛 City Hall
- 🅑 Parking - Parking Ramp
- 🌲 Parks
- 🏖 Picnic
- 🎡 Playground
- ✉ Post Office
- 🎓 School
- 🛹 Skate Park
- 🚶 Walking Path / Trails
- 🍷 Wine & Spirits



Scan the QR code to find more information on local businesses!

Welcome to Downtown Mound



HISTORY OF MOUND

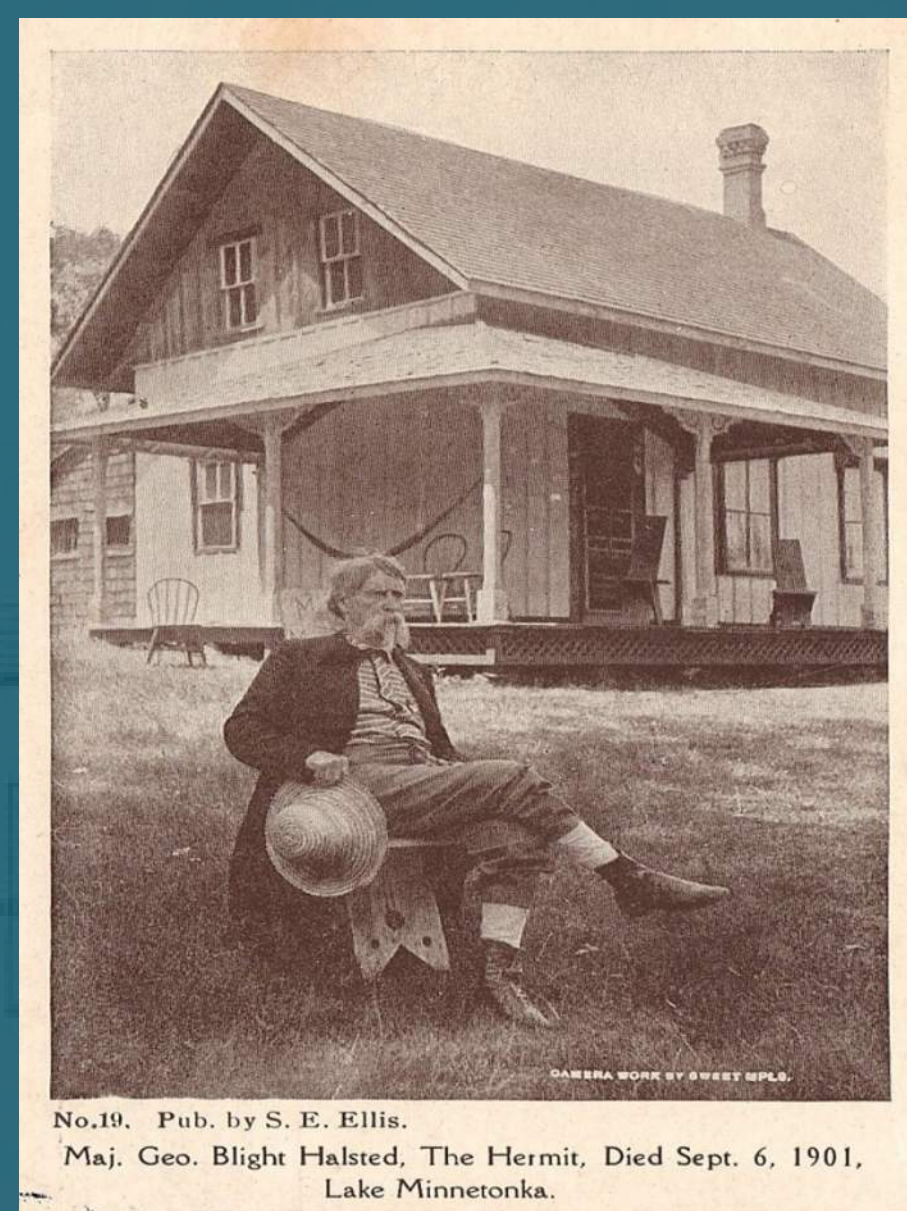


Intersection of Shoreline Dr. & Commerce Blvd., 1910.

PIONEERS

Civil War veteran Major Anton Koehler moved to Mound in 1880 with his wife, Sophia, and their four children. That same year, he gave land to start Mound Union Cemetery. His sons, Edward and William, helped build Mound's businesses, schools, and community.

Levi and Christine Bowers came to Mound in 1867. Their son Elijah was the town blacksmith and was called Mound's oldest businessman by the 1950s. Their daughters, Hortense and Ellen, married the Koehler brothers—William and Edward.



No. 19. Pub. by S. E. Ellis.
Maj. Geo. Bligh Halsted, The Hermit, Died Sept. 6, 1901,
Lake Minnetonka.

WESTONKA BAYS & THEIR PIONEER NAMESAKES

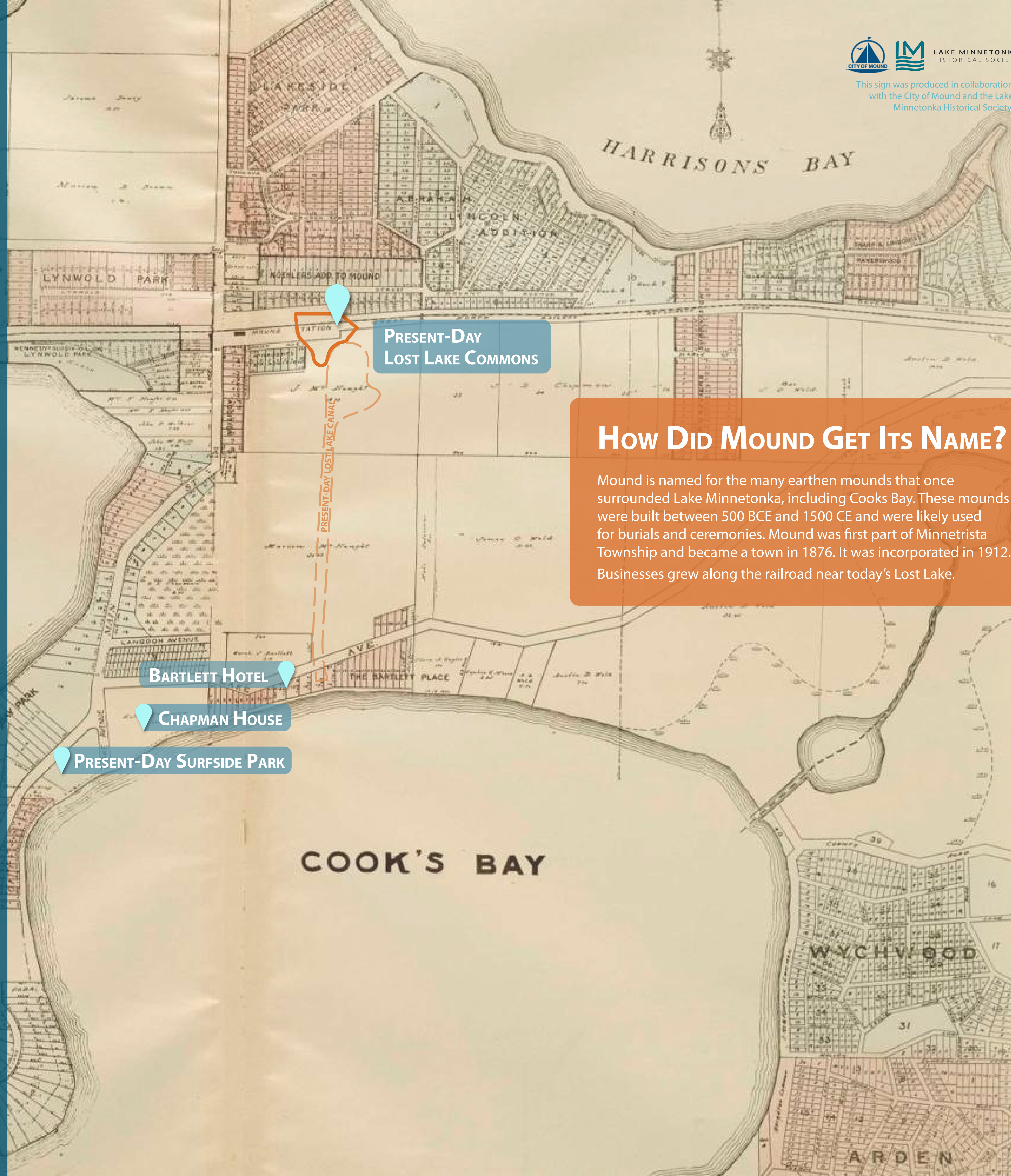
COOKS BAY is named after Mathias and Anna Carman Cook. They built a cabin and hotel there in 1854. In 1867, they built the large Lake View House. Mathias helped start local government in 1859 and served as Justice of the Peace.

CARMANS BAY is named after John Carman, Mathias Cook's father-in-law. John worked as a surveyor and claimed land in 1853. He helped Mathias get land at Cooks Bay. John was elected head of the township board and later became the area's second school leader. His sons, Frank and Benton, started the first boat freight business between Mound and Wayzata in 1869.

HALSTED BAY is named for Frank Halsted, who settled there in 1855. He was the first Justice of the Peace in Minnetrista Township and led its first marriage ceremony.

JENNINGS, HARRISON AND PRIEST BAYS are named after early settlers: Frederick Jennings (1855), shipbuilder Nathaniel Harrison (1856), and Darwin Priest (1878). Priest bought 300 acres near Cooks Bay in 1878.

LAKE LANGDON, on Mound's west side, is named after Robert and Harriet Langdon, who came from England in 1857. Robert was a Civil War veteran, and they farmed in Minnetrista.



PRESENT-DAY
LOST LAKE COMMONS

How Did Mound Get Its Name?

Mound is named for the many earthen mounds that once surrounded Lake Minnetonka, including Cooks Bay. These mounds were built between 500 BCE and 1500 CE and were likely used for burials and ceremonies. Mound was first part of Minnetrista Township and became a town in 1876. It was incorporated in 1912. Businesses grew along the railroad near today's Lost Lake.

BARTLETT HOTEL

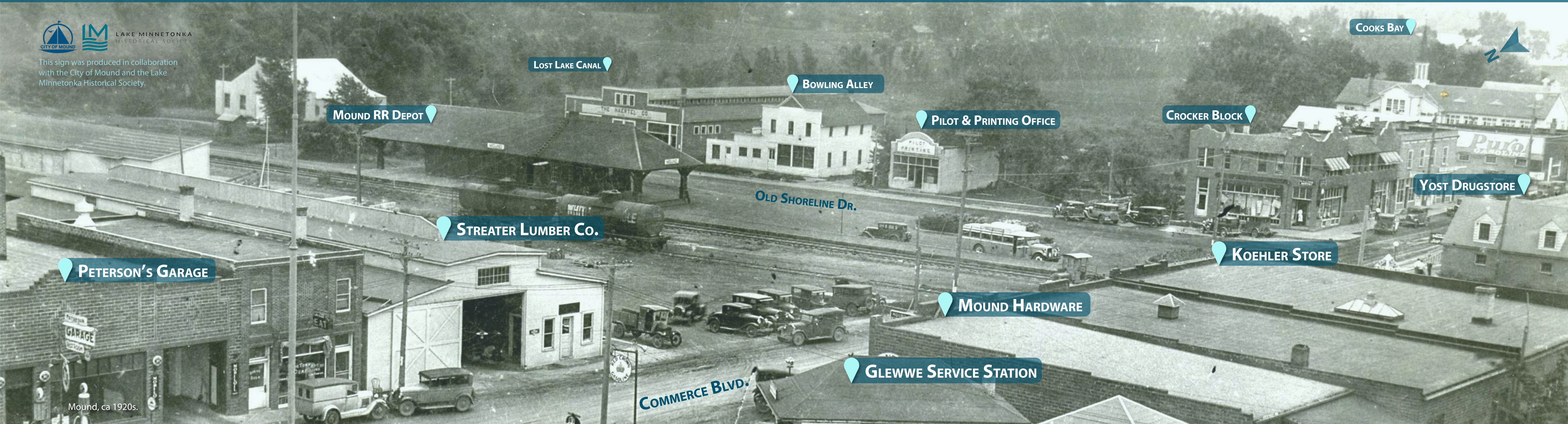
CHAPMAN HOUSE

PRESENT-DAY SURFSIDE PARK

Mound Businesses in History



This sign was produced in collaboration with the City of Mound and the Lake Minnetonka Historical Society.



PETERSON'S GARAGE

MOUND RR DEPOT

LOST LAKE CANAL

BOWLING ALLEY

PILOT & PRINTING OFFICE

CROCKER BLOCK

YOST DRUGSTORE

KOEHLER STORE

MOUND HARDWARE

GLEWWE SERVICE STATION

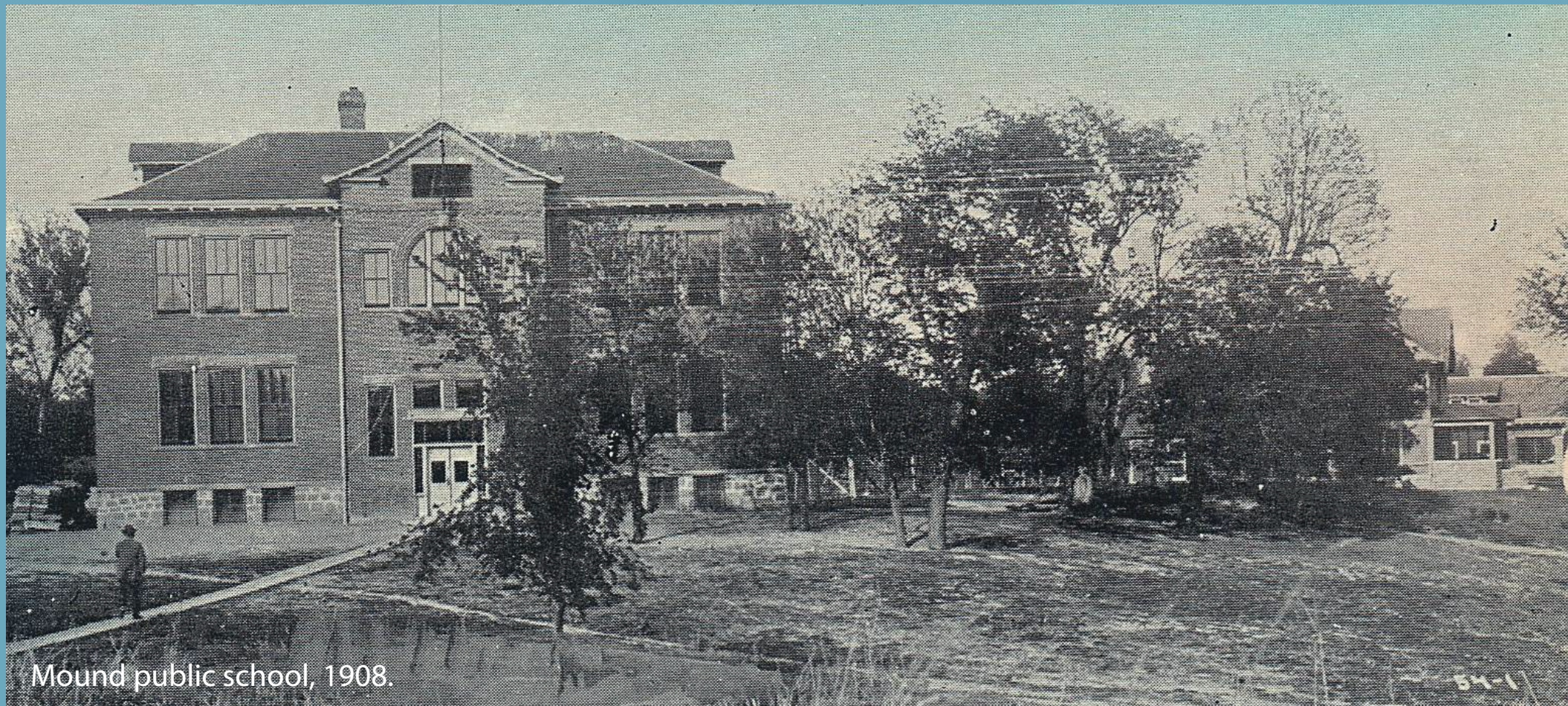
COMMERCE BLVD.

OLD SHORELINE DR.

STREATER LUMBER CO.

MOUND PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING AND THE BEGINNING OF TONKA TOYS

The Mound Public School was built in 1908 at Shoreline Drive and Commerce Boulevard. In 1917, a new high school opened across Commerce Boulevard. It was expanded in 1938. In 1946, Lynn Baker, Avery Crounse, and Alvin Tesch started Mound Metalcraft in the old school building. The company made stamped metal parts. Its first product was a metal tie rack. In 1947, they began making metal toys using designs from Streater Industries. They improved the designs and showed the toys at the New York Toy Fair. The toys became very popular. In 1955, the company moved to a new building and changed its name to Tonka Toys, Inc. The factory grew for many years but closed in 1983.



Mound public school, 1908.

HOTELS

By the early 1900s, many hotels were built around Cooks Bay. Popular ones were Chapman House (1875), Bartlett Hotel (1883), Buena Vista (1902), and Lake View House (1867). Sunset View Hotel (1912), overlooking Lake Langdon and Cooks Bay, is the last hotel left. It is now a private home.



Chapman House, 1910.

MOUND CITY'S FIRST GENERAL STORE AT BUSY CORNERS, 1875

In 1875, Hill, Griggs & Company of St. Paul opened the first general store in Mound. It served the firewood business at Lake Minnetonka. Henry C. Carlisle managed the store, which supplied goods to workers at Northwestern Fuel & Lumber Company. Two more general stores opened in 1876 and 1880.



Early commercial business at Busy Corners near Cooks Bay, ca 1900.

HISTORY OF LOST LAKE



THE PASSENGER TRAIN

The Great Northern Railway started train service to Mound in 1900. In the summer of 1922, eight passenger trains ran each day from Minneapolis. A ticket cost 80 cents. As cars became common, train travel dropped. The last passenger train came through Mound in 1961.

HOW DID THE DAKOTA REGIONAL TRAIL GET ITS NAME?

Freight trains kept running after passenger service ended. They carried goods, including Tonka Toys. The rail line changed owners several times and closed in 2001. Hennepin County Railroad Authority bought the land and leased it to Three Rivers Park District. It became the Dakota Regional Trail in 2009.

THE MOUND DEPOT

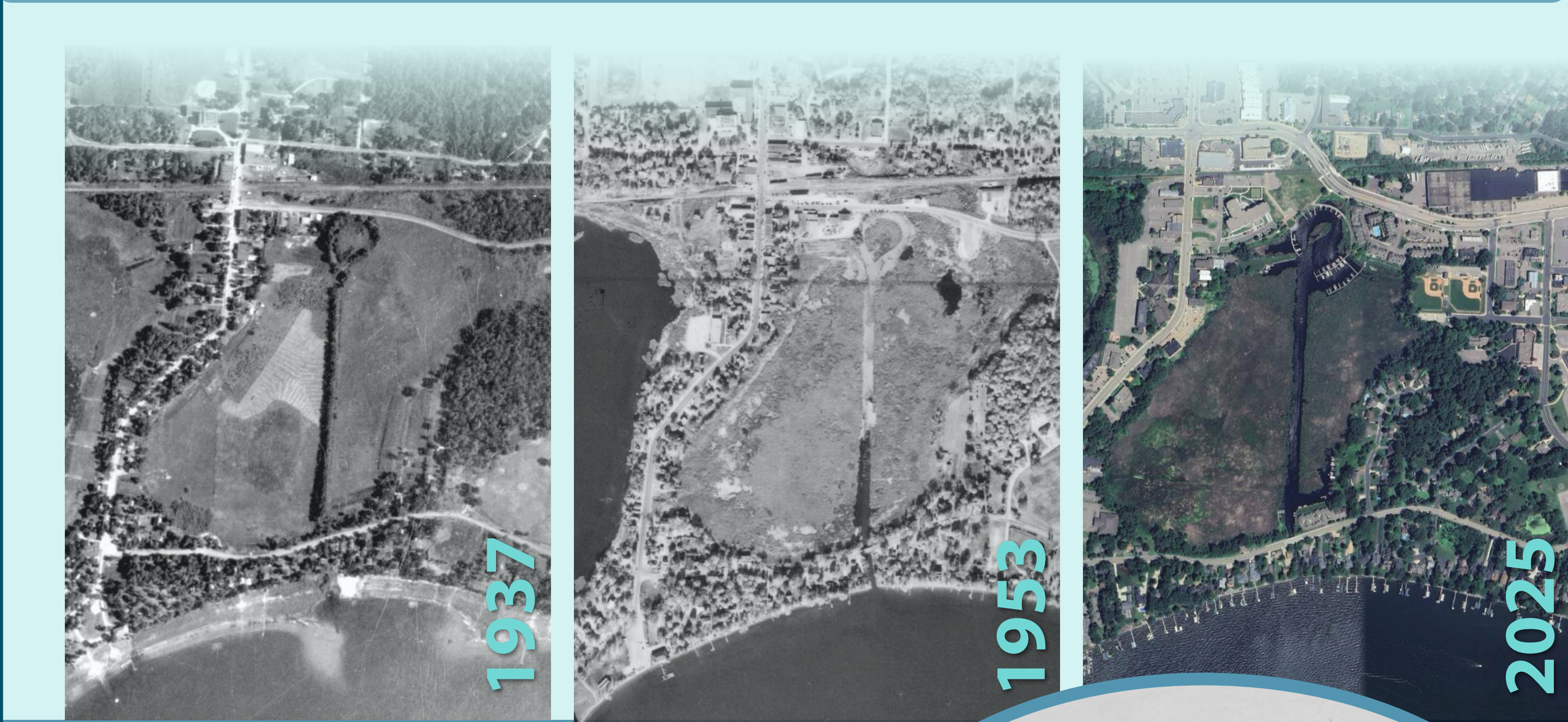
In 1902, the Great Northern Railway built a small depot east of Commerce Boulevard. A 54-foot hand-operated turntable was added in 1903. A fire destroyed the depot in 1914, and a new one was built in 1915 for \$3,398. In 1967, the depot was moved to Surfside Park on Cooks Bay. It is now used for community events.



Mound Depot Looking East, 1960.

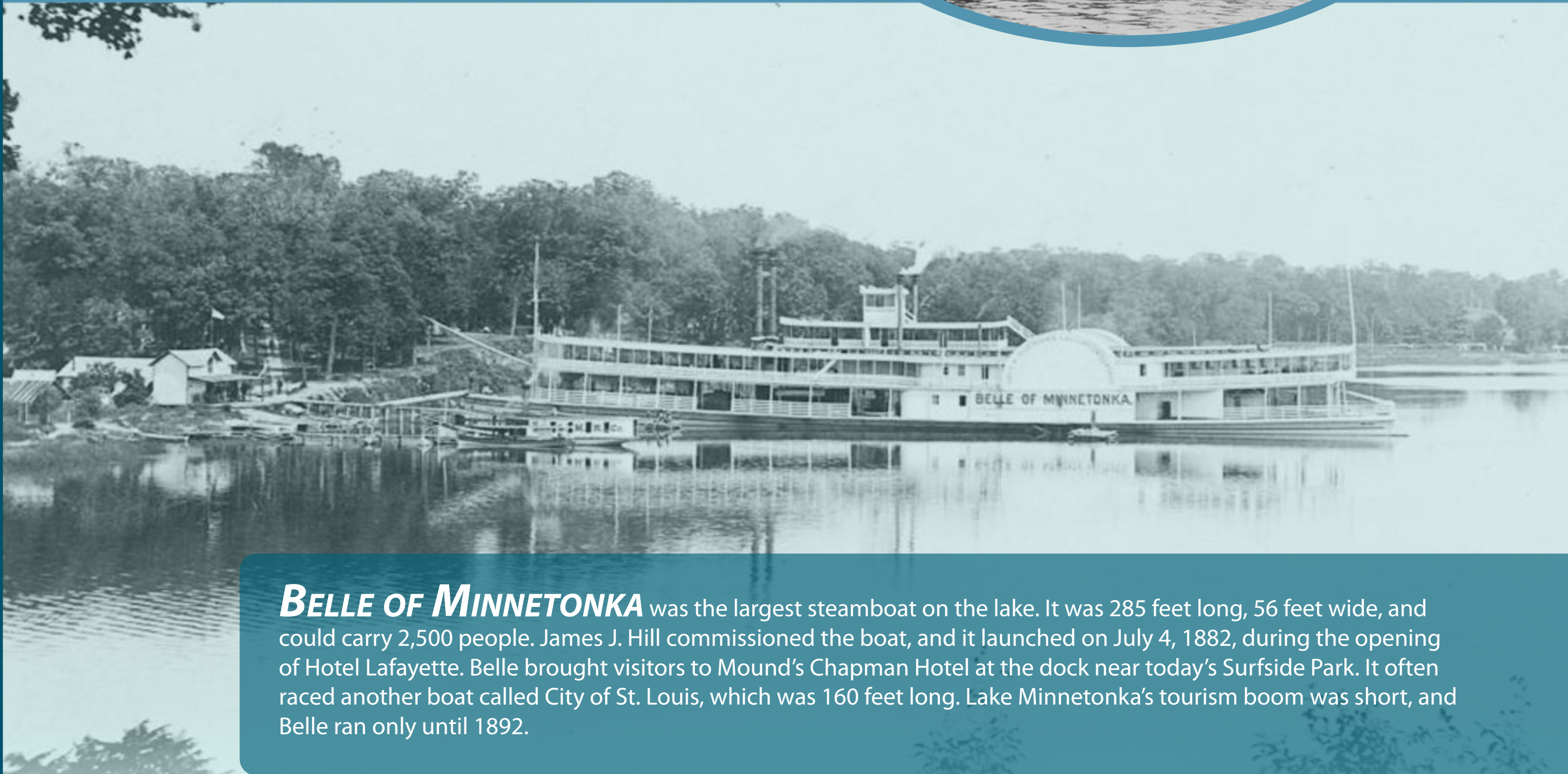
HOW WAS THE LOST LAKE CANAL CREATED?

Lost Lake Canal opened in 1906 so steamboats could reach the railway station. The first trip through the 30-foot-wide canal was by Fred Bartlett in his steamboat named Mound. The canal soon filled with soil, even after workers planted willow trees along its banks in 1909. It was abandoned a few years later. The canal was restored in 1999 as part of the Mound Harbor District.



TRAVEL BY STREETCAR BOATS

In 1906, the Twin City Rapid Transit Company launched six Express Boats to connect parts of Lake Minnetonka. By 1908, boats ran every two hours from Cooks Bay to Tonka Bay. As cars became common, fewer people used the boats. Service ended in 1926.



BELLE OF MINNETONKA was the largest steamboat on the lake. It was 285 feet long, 56 feet wide, and could carry 2,500 people. James J. Hill commissioned the boat, and it launched on July 4, 1882, during the opening of Hotel Lafayette. Belle brought visitors to Mound's Chapman Hotel at the dock near today's Surfside Park. It often raced another boat called City of St. Louis, which was 160 feet long. Lake Minnetonka's tourism boom was short, and Belle ran only until 1892.

PROTECTING THE LAKES WITH STORMWATER BASINS

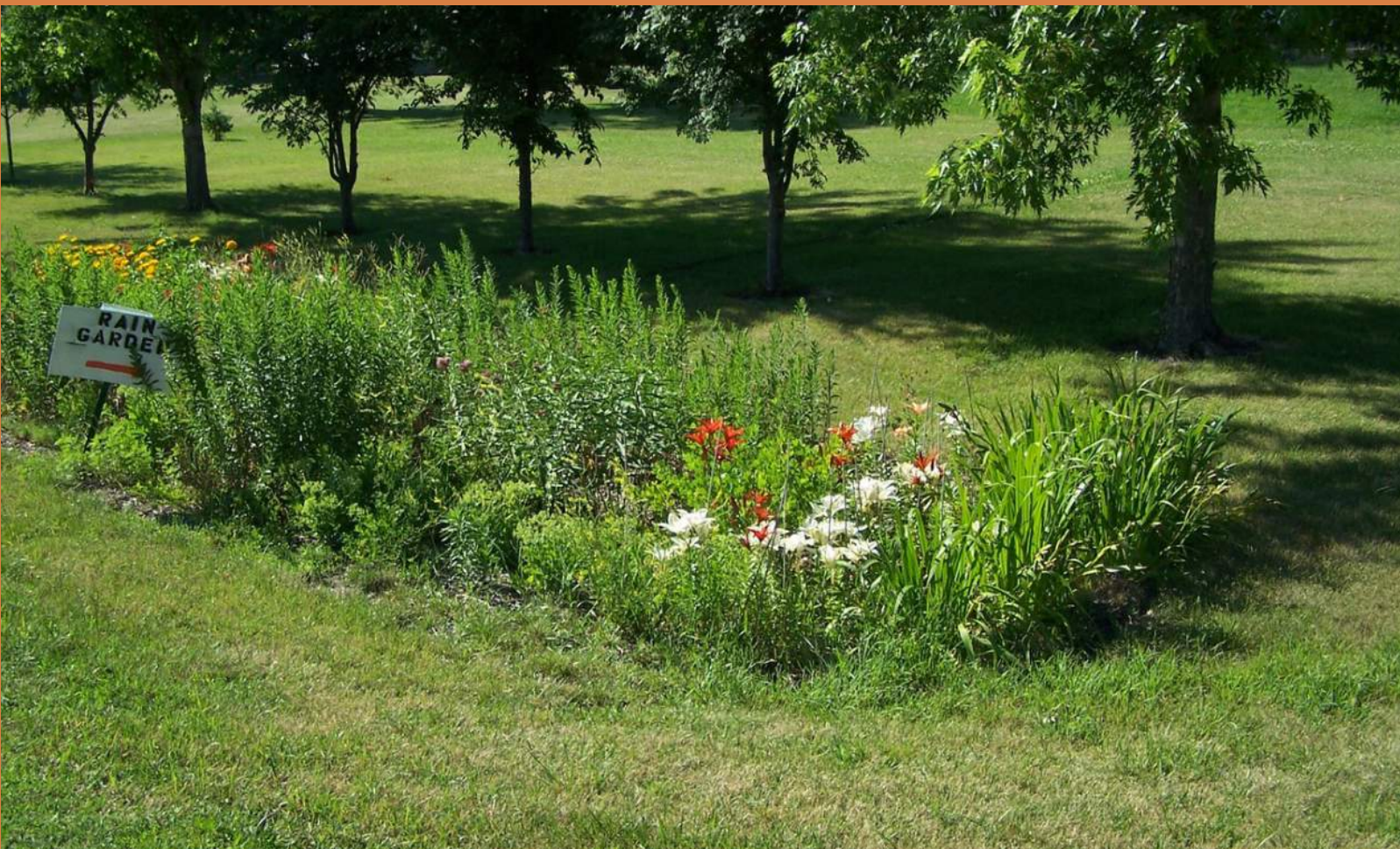
MANAGING STORMWATER RUNOFF

Stormwater runoff can carry pollutants into local lakes and streams if not properly managed. The City of Mound helps manage flood risk and protect freshwater by implementing various strategies to remove sediments and nutrients, including:



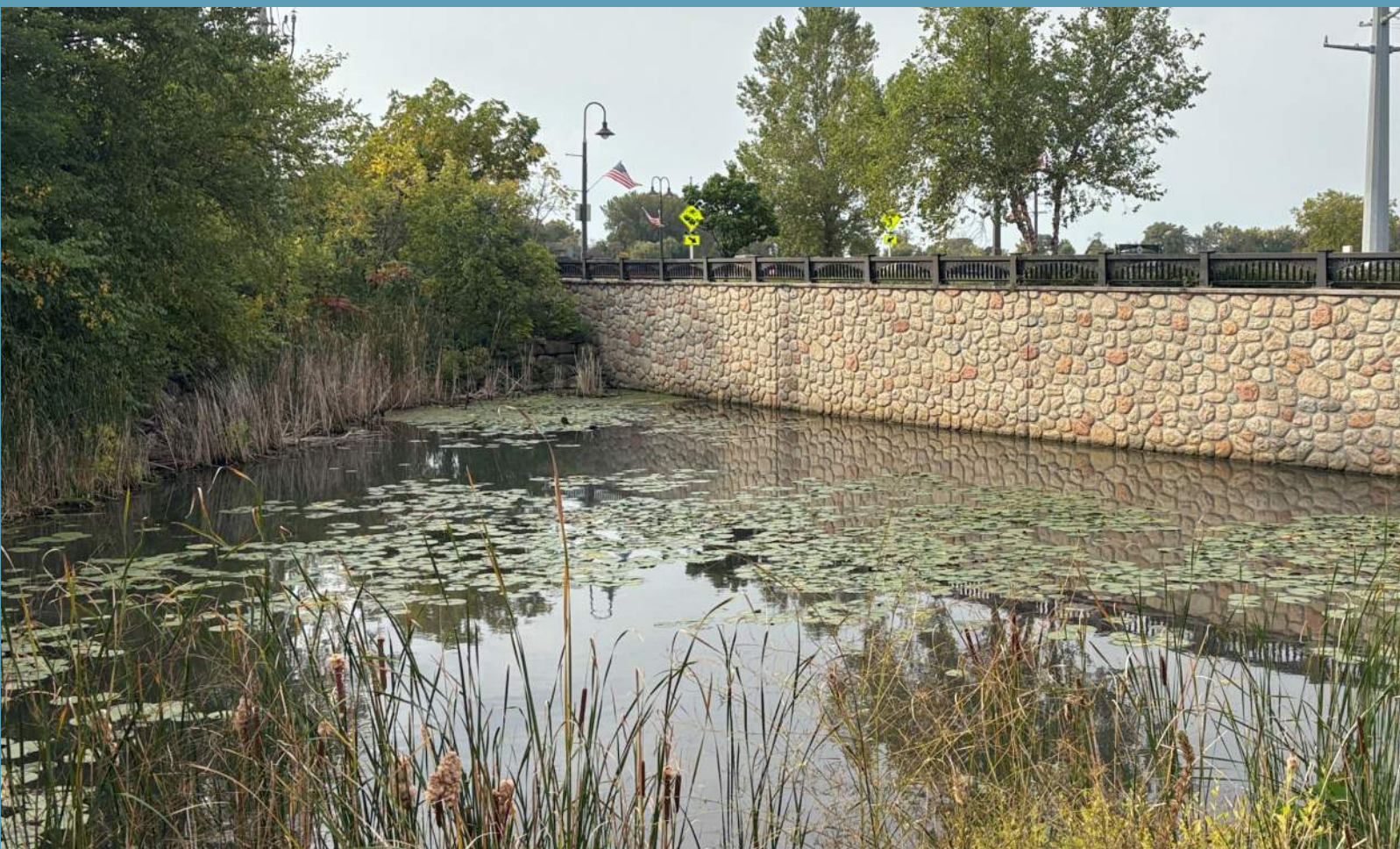
CATCH BASINS & STORM STRUCTURES

Catch basins and storm structures intake the storm water from the street or surrounding area. They are the first defense in keeping out larger pollutants, such as trash, leaves and sediments. These are maintained and cleaned by public works staff on a routine basis.



RAIN GARDENS

Rain garden is a common term used to treat stormwater and manage flood risk with the use of soils, and sometimes daintiles, to allow the basins to fill up and then slowly soak into the ground. The water and nutrients are typically used in conjunction with native moisture tolerant plants to create a "garden". They differ from wet ponds since the basin will be dry within a few days of filling up after a rain.

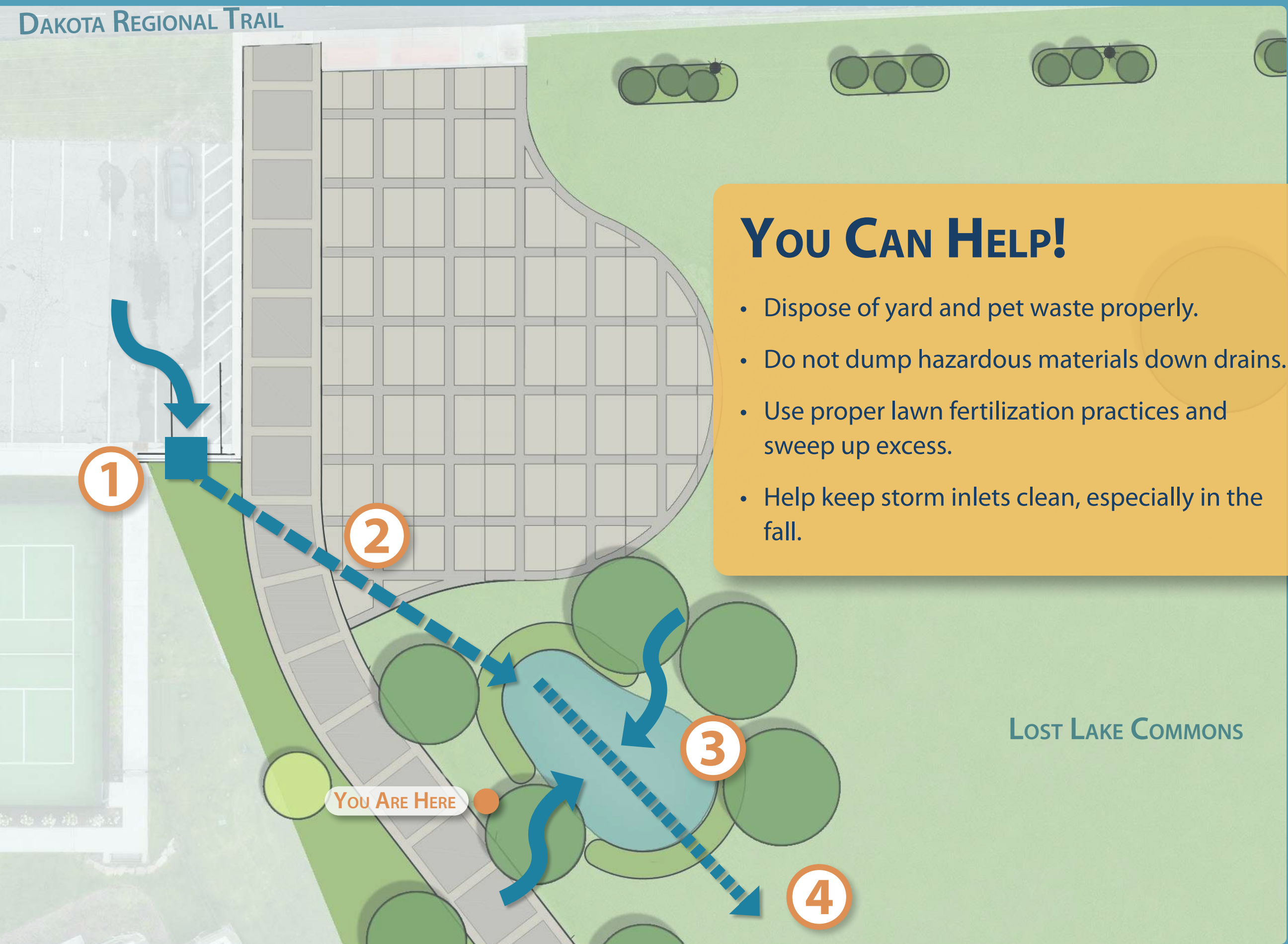


WET PONDS

Manage the flow of water and allow nutrients and sediments to drop out of the water prior to washing into the lakes and streams. When water enters the pond, it slows down and the ponds are built to allow them to rise and fall a few feet. This reduces the total amount and slows the speed of water as it continues downstream, reducing flood risks.

LOST LAKE COMMONS RAIN GARDEN

- 1 CATCH BASIN**
Water runoff from the impervious parking lot flows into the catch basin.
- 2 CULVERT**
An underground culvert sends the water to the rain garden
- 3 RAIN GARDEN**
Plants & soil filter the water. Water is absorbed into the ground.
- 4 DRAIN TILE**
The remaining clean water is captured by drain tile and directed to Lost Lake.



You Can Help!

- Dispose of yard and pet waste properly.
- Do not dump hazardous materials down drains.
- Use proper lawn fertilization practices and sweep up excess.
- Help keep storm inlets clean, especially in the fall.

