

1855– 2012 Lake Minnetonka Ice-Out Dates

1855– April 18	1896 - April 5	1919 - April 6	1942 - April 4	1965 - May 1	1988 - April 7	2011 - April 14
1856 *	1897 - April 18	1920 - April 17	1943 - April 12	1966 - April 4	1989 - April 17	2012- March 21
1857 - May 5	1898 - April 18	1921 - April 3	1944 - April 23	1967 - April 9	1990 - April 4	
1858 - March 30	1899 - April 24	1922 - April 17	1945 - March 30	1968 - April 1	1991 - April 8	
1859 - May 4	1900 - April 16	1923 - April 23	1946 - April 2	1969 - April 17	1992 - April 10	
1860 - April 4	1901 - April 23	1924 - April 24	1947 - April 19	1970 - April 19	1993 - April 19	
1861-1862 Unknown	1902 - April 1	1925 - April 7	1948 - April 11	1971 - April 17	1994 - April 11	
1863 - April 15**	1903 - April 13	1926 - April 18	1949 - April 13	1972 - April 26	1995 - April 3	
1864 - 1872 Unknown	1904 - April 25	1927 - April 12	1950 - May 2	1973 - April 4	1996 - April 24	
1873 - April 27**	1905 - April 2	1928 - April 18	1951 - April 28	1974 - April 19	1997 - April 18	
1874 -1876 Unknown	1906 - April 16	1929 - April 7	1952 - April 22	1975 - April 28	1998 - April 3	
1877 - April 14	1907 - April 8	1930 - April 5	1953 - April 8	1976 - April 3	1999 - April 2	
1878 - March 11	1908 - April 12	1931 - April 6	1954 - April 12	1977 - April 10	2000 - March 18	
1879 -1886 Unknown	1909 - April 26	1932 - April 14	1955 - April 12	1978 - April 17	2001 - April 19	
1887 - April 14	1910 - March 27	1933 - April 18	1956 - April 21	1979 - April 23	2002 - April 16	
1888 - April 25	1911 - April 1	1934 - April 10	1957 - April 20	1980 - April 19	2003 - April 12	
1889 - April 1	1912 - April 13	1935 - April 7	1958 - April 11	1981 - March 27	2004 - April 6	
1890 - April 16	1913 - April 18	1936 - April 20	1959 - April 10	1982 - April 19	2005 - April 9	
1891 - April 21	1914 - April 17	1937 - April 19	1960 - April 16	1983 - April 22	2006 - April 9	
1892 - April 11	1915 - April 17	1938 - April 9	1961 - April 14	1984 - April 13	2007 - April 3	
1893 - April 28	1916 - April 19	1939 - April 17	1962 - April 25	1985 - April 13	2008 - April 23	
1894 - April 9	1917 - April 18	1940 - April 25	1963 - April 10	1986 - April 8	2009 - April 13	
1895 - April 5	1918 - April 14	1941 - April 14	1964 - April 13	1987 - March 21	2010 - April 2	

* A May 8 ice-out date was long reported for 1856. Recent research by the Minnesota Climatology Working Group showing records of a very warm April that year suggests the ice-out came earlier that year.

**Ice-out dates originally reported in Smithsonian Weather Observer records and recently discovered by Pete Boulay of the Minnesota Climatology Working Group.

On Lake Minnetonka, the ice is designated as “out” when it is possible to travel by small boat from any one shore to any other shore through any passage on the lake. Ice-out dates have been determined using this method since 1968. Previous methods include: when the ice was 50% gone, when a boat could circle Big Island, when a boat could travel between Wayzata and Excelsior, when a car fell through the ice and by visual observations from a number of lake locations.

Send information regarding unknown dates to: freshwater@freshwater.org