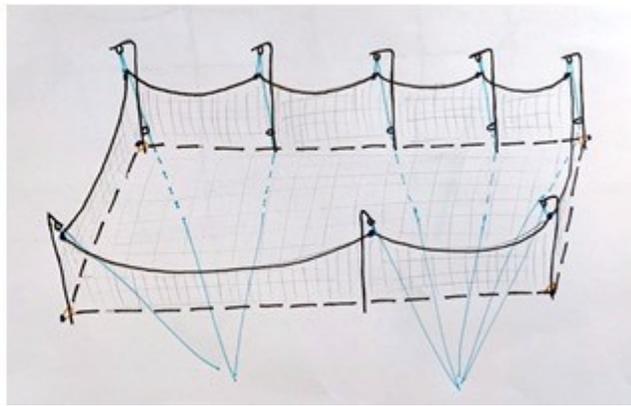


# Spring Lake Carp Management | August 11, 2021



Below is an article written by Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District on the Carp Baited Box Traps that are being used on Spring Lake. Unfortunately these traps have been tampered with in the past weeks, so we thought it best to send this communication. Below is a picture of the carp traps.

The baited box trap is a mesh net trap that lays flat on the bottom of the lake, but it quickly forms into a box when the walls of the net are lifted to trap the carp inside.

**How does it work?** Seven to eight solid pipes are secured around the perimeter of the box. Ropes are run through the net walls, up the pipes, and extend to shore to form a pulley system. On shore, there are t-posts that are used to tie the ropes off when we pull the trap. The t-posts allow the box net walls to stay up and capture the carp in the trap. Without the t-posts, or something to tie the ropes to, it is very difficult/impossible to have an effective carp catch in the trap.

**When do we pull the traps?** Carp are typically baited with corn at the box trap location for several days with help from volunteers until large quantities of bait are being eaten daily. When we notice the bait is being eaten daily, we will plan to pull the trap. We typically pull the traps late at night when carp are feeding (between 11pm-4am).

**How do we pull the traps?** The day before the trap is pulled, the ropes will be extended to shore where we can access them late at night. All at once, we pull the ropes quickly to raise the net walls and trap the feeding carp inside. The ropes are tied off to the t-post to hold the walls up. Once the walls are up and secure, we can grab our boat, get in the water, and round up the carp.

**How can you help?** Volunteers are needed to help us bait the traps! Staff are not able to monitor the bait over the weekend and could use your help! Email [scapron@plslwd.org](mailto:scapron@plslwd.org) for more information.

Please be careful when boating near the trap, and please do not tamper with the t-posts, ropes, or other equipment.

Thank you!

Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District