

Smoke Signals

Lake Shores Association

P.O. Box 63

Howard City Mi. 49329

March - Spring



<http://www.indianlakes.org> info@indianlakes.org

Our goal is to work together to provide for preservation of the values and amenities in our lakeside community. We welcome any additional help and assistance.

LSA Board of Directors:

The monthly LSA Board meetings are routinely scheduled for the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30 pm in the pavilion. Please come and share your ideas! Board minutes are normally published on our website after they have been approved at the next meeting.

Elections:

We seriously need people to run for election to serve on the LSA Board of Directors. If you wish to run for election to the board, please send your resume' to Lake Shores Association, P.O. Box 63, Howard City, Michigan 49329 early enough for the board to receive it before the June 1st deadline. For your convenience there is also a "Board Candidacy Form" for this purpose on our website (www.indianlakes.org) under "Member Info".

Help:

We need to know if there is a CPA in our community that would be willing to help file our taxes etc. Please call Valerie our Treasurer. Also just a reminder, it's your donations that fund the fireworks show. Right now the donations are coming in very slow. Please donate if you can.

Abbott Pavilion Rental:



There is a flat \$50 rental fee payable to the Lake Shores Association plus a separate \$50 cleaning deposit payable to Angela Ringler for the use of the pavilion. Dues must be current for members to be able to rent the pavilion. The pavilion can be reserved for your personal event by completing and submitting the Pavilion Rental form on our website or contacting Angela Ringler at 231-580-9526. **The two separate deposits (rental and cleaning) must be paid to the treasurer when you make your reservation. Deposits will be refunded only if your reservation is canceled at least one month in advance of the date you had reserved to use the pavilion.**

Please note that the cleaning deposit will be forfeited if fasteners such as tape, nails, wires, paperclips, and screws are used to attach items to walls, ceiling, or windows. Smoking is not allowed in the pavilion – smoking in the pavilion will also result in the forfeiture of the cleaning deposit.

Fish:

The board encourages all fishermen to practice the custom of catch and release, especially walleyes until they reach legal size. Please be respectful when fishing around docks and boats.

The DEQ has added so much red tape and additional permit fees just to add a few rocks to our lake, we have abolished the fish habitat idea.

More fish (1400 black crappie and 400 walleye) were planted in our lake last Fall.

Black Crappie, a species of sunfish, can grow up to 16 inches in length.

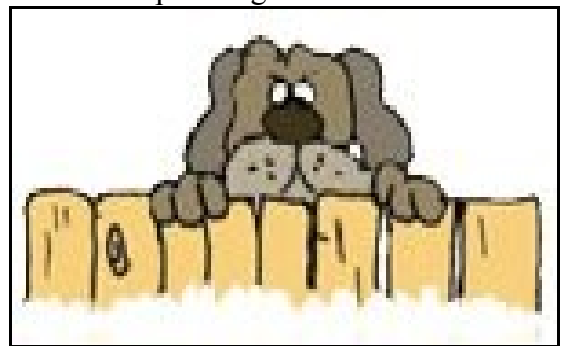


Dumpsters:

Dumpsters will no longer be made available for lawn waste such as leaves and grass clippings.

Architectural Committee:

Building regulations are spelled out in LSA covenants, restrictions and township zoning ordinance. All structures and alterations must get approval and/or permits from LSA architectural committee, township zoning administrator, and county building department.



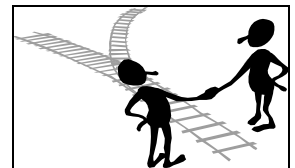
Break-ins:

Just beware, there are still break-ins happening around the lake, and there will probably be more theft of gas tanks and boat batteries this summer.

Neighborhood Watch:

Report any suspicious behavior to the Montcalm County Sheriff or the State Police in Lakeview,

If you are new to our community and have not received your new “Welcome Packet” or are a lake member who knows of new members please contact Doug or Darlene Ringler at 231-937-5525.



Central Office:

If the sticker on your boat has faded or you purchase a new boat, please pick up a new sticker from the office. Although there are no posted hours, call Ray or Steve if you need one. There is a form on our website that can be printed off for sticker application – no on-line application. The latest issue of Smoke Signals is also available at the office. You can always e-mail a message to secretary@indianlakes.org or info@indianlakes.org if you need assistance, have a suggestion, or have a question.

Smoke Signals Distribution:

You can access our newsletters at www.indianlakes.org and they also can be delivered via e-mail. Members who would always like Smoke Signals via e-mail can e-mail a note to info@indianlakes.org requesting that their newsletters only be e-mailed to them – newsletters that are e-mailed are in color.

Smoke Signals is published 4 times yearly – all posted on our website. Two issues will be mailed. The other two issues will only e-mailed to members whose e-mail address we do have on file. As mentioned above, lake members are always welcome to pick up a copy of Smoke Signals at the office.

Sweatshirts:

Indian Lakes Sweatshirts are still available at the board office. A hanger is shown here modeling the hooded style. Blue is the only color available at this time. Washing instructions are on the label. The sweatshirts are 50% cotton and 50% polyester. Those interested can contact Valerie or reply via e-mail to info@indianlakes.org. All profits from sweatshirt sales (after expenses have been paid) go to our fireworks fund.



The prices for Indian Lake sweatshirts are:

\$25.00 for hooded style

\$20.00 for regular style

These prices are also for child sizes.

Consider Advertising in Smoke Signals. We still have room for you!!

Contact a board member or a newsletter committee member if interested! Ads come in three sizes. A full page ad is \$200, a half page ad is \$150, and a business card size is \$75 for one year – four issues.

Annual Dues

Annual assessments are mailed out and are due April 1st. failure to pay can result in interest and legal fees added to the assessment. If you can not pay the \$150.00 all at once please call Valerie to set up a payment plan.

Roving Dogs – back in the news:

Yes, we have become weary of talking about dogs running off leash in our community (remember there is a township ordinance addressing this issue), but it is very common to hear reports of off leash dogs charging and challenging our community members. It is also very common for the owners of these dogs to proclaim that their pets are friendly and will not harm anyone.

The reality is that dogs are instinctively pack animals who are friendly to their pack, but these same pack animals will also instinctively protect and defend their territory and their pack members. Notice how a dog unleashed in a fenced enclosure responds when a stranger walks by. Generally, they charge the fence and sound like they would like to bite your leg off! That same behavior is often exhibited by unleashed dogs.

What are our members to do when they are threatened by unleashed dogs? Some walkers in our community make it a habit to have pepper spray devices on their person when ever they walk. Some of these spray devices can spray either water or pepper spray. The rumor is that these devices are available in sporting goods stores or online at Cabelas.

It just doesn't seem acceptable for walkers to feel they must avoid walking in certain areas in our community!!

E-Mail Addresses:

Currently we have the e-mail addresses of less than one third of our members. The use of e-mail is an easy and quick method to get information to our members. We send our e-mail messages in a way that does not reveal anyone's e-mail address. It also cuts our expenses dramatically if we can send Smoke Signals this way. A simple way for you to share your e-mail address with us is to send a message to info@indianlakes.org. If your internet connection is dial-up please let us know – sending a seven page issue of Smoke Signals over a dial-up connection just doesn't work.

2012 Water Treatment To Our Lake:

The following summary quotes are from a September 11th PLM letter to Steve. Note: EWM refers to Eurasian Watermilfoil.

- “PLM will continue to monitor and track the plant growth in Indian Lake as well as water quality.”
- “The growth of EWM found in our lake in 2011 has shown that treatments in 2012 need to be aggressive to combat EWM”.

The estimated budget for water treatment in 2012 is between \$15,000 and \$25,000.

Proposed Time-line (also from the September 11th letter to Steve)

- Spring 2012: Notifications to residents of proposed treatments
- May/June: Spring Survey, Water Quality
- May/June: Potential initial herbicide/algaecide application
- June/July: Potential herbicide/algaecide application. Pre/post survey, WQ testing
- August/September: Potential herbicide/algaecide application. Fall AVAS survey, Water Quality

Presidents Report:

I did mention that I would fill in temporarily as President, so now is the time someone needs to help out, not even the President of the USA can serve more than 8 years. This will be my 10th. Need some new blood, other than that not much going on during this mild winter.

Safety Tips for Walkers from www.webmd.com

Keep safety in mind when you walk outdoors. Follow these basic rules:

1. Walk with a buddy whenever possible.
2. Carry your name, address, and a friend or relative's phone number in your shoe or tied to a lace.
3. Wear a medical bracelet if you have diabetes, an allergy, or other condition.
4. Carry a cell phone and let a friend or relative know your walking routes.
5. Avoid deserted or unlit streets, especially after dark.
6. Do not use headsets that prevent you from hearing traffic; and walk against oncoming traffic.
7. Wear reflective material and/or carry a flashlight to others can see you.
8. Carry a whistle or noisemaker or pepper spray in case of an emergency.

Above all, make walking fun and you'll be more likely to stick with it.

Reminder: whereas walkers should always walk on the side of the road so they walk facing oncoming traffic in their lane, those on “wheels” should ride on the side of the road moving with the traffic in their lane.

Boating Regulations for Indian Lake

- ◆ There shall be no high speed boating/jet skiing or in other words no wake for the entire lake before 11am & after 8:30 pm.
- ◆ Michigan Law requires that a spotter must be present on any watercraft that in any fashion has a person in tow,
- ◆ Michigan Law requires all watercraft to stay a minimum distance of 100 feet from all other boats.
- ◆ All traffic must be going in a **counter-clockwise** fashion around the lake.
- ◆ The boat launch is for association members only and with watercraft that bear an appropriate Indian Lake sticker. Trailers at the launch site must have an Indian Lakes appropriate sticker.
- ◆ No guest boats are permitted on Indian Lake!
- ◆ The “no wake” rules apply to everyone who uses the lake – please comply!!
- ◆ EVERY boat on public or private lakes must be registered with the state.
- ◆ Please remember that members are responsible for their guests both on and off the water.
- ◆ All boaters should make sure their boat has the required personal flotation devices.
- ◆ The Montcalm county sheriff marine patrol does visit our lake.

Volunteers Needed:

The board plans to re-roof the office some time in early May – first or second weekend. Members to volunteer to assist with this project are requested to Doug Ringler at 937-4198.

The board is also looking for members to volunteer to watch the boat ramp over the holidays this summer. Members willing to perform this service to the community are requested to contact any board member. Memorial day this summer is May 28, July 4 is on Wednesday, and Labor Day is on September 3.

Our Bulletin Board (Corner of Indian Shores and Apache Trail):

Some of our members have asked us to develop a method so that they can find workers locally who are willing to perform odd jobs at their homes. We do have a bulletin board for members who are interested and willing to perform odd jobs in our community are welcome to post a note on our bulletin that indicates what type of odd jobs there are willing to do and their phone number.



<u>Board Members:</u>		<u>Home Phone</u>
President	Steve Pritchard	231-937-5010
Vice President	Ray Brimmer	231-937-7946
Secretary	Theresa Lane	616-516-8407
Treasurer	Valerie Pritchard	231-937-5010
Trustee	Doug Ringler	231-937-4198
<u>Architectural Committee:</u>		
	Doug Ringler	231-937-4198
	Ken Kool	616-293-2022
	Mark Spangenberg	616-855-4625
<u>Newsletter Committee:</u>		
	Steve Pritchard	231-937-5010
	Glenn Irwin	231-629-4797
<u>Welcoming committee:</u>		
	Doug & Darlene Ringler	231-937-4198
<u>Law Enforcement Numbers:</u>		
	DNR	616-225-3414
	Poaching	800-292-7800
	Animal Control – Montcalm County	989-831-7355
	Drain Commission – Don Cooper	989-831-7322
	Montcalm County Road Commission	989-831-5285
	Michigan State Police/Lakeview Post	989-352-8444
	Montcalm County Sheriff	989-831-5253
	Howard City Police	231-937-4311
	Fire Chief William Knapp	989-815-0905
	Emergency	911
<u>Drain Commissioner's Lake Level Committee:</u>		
	John Westveer	231-937-5280
	Steve Pritchard	231-937-5010
	Dave Van Dam	616-937-4170
<u>Pavilion Rental Contact</u>		
	Angela Ringler	231-580-9526.

Calender of events for Spring/Summer 2012

Apr 01	Annual assessments are due	Jun 09	Lake wide garage sale
Apr 02	LSA Board of Directors meeting 6:30 pm	Jun 30	Ski Show and fireworks
May 07	LSA Board of Directors meeting 6:30 pm	Jul 01	Boat Parade
Jun 01	Resume' deadline for members wishing to run for election to the LSA Board of Directors. Go to our website and fill out the application ASAP.	Jul 02	LSA Board of Directors meeting 6:30 pm
		Aug 04	Annual Meeting – 10:00 am. Since everyone on the board was appointed, we will have an election this year.
Jun 02	Bass Tournament	Aug 25	Lake wide garage sale
Jun 04	LSA Board of Directors meeting 6:30 pm	Sept 1	Bass Tournament
Winfield Township board meetings - 2 nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at our Township Hall.			

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keith@keithalexis.com

