

Smoke Signals

Lake Shores Association

P.O. Box 63

Howard City Mi. 49329

<http://www.indianlakes.org>

May 2010 - Spring Edition

Our goal is to make our lake a clean, fun and safe environment. We welcome any additional help and assistance.

When signs are posted for Parties, Garage sales etc., please take them down the day after the event is done. There are three posts at the entrance and one at the pavilion for your signs.



Pavilion:

The \$50 rental fee for the use of the pavilion was established based on the member vote at the annual meeting in August 2008. Dues must be current for members to able to

rent the pavilion. Also please note that fasteners such as tape, nails, and screws are not to be used to attached items to walls or windows.

The pavilion can be reserved for your personal event by contacting Tammy Williams at 231-629-1877.

Dogs:

Yes, we still have dogs in our community that habitually run off leash! The Montcalm County Ordinance relating to dogs can be found at

http://www.montcalm.org/downloads/dog_law_enforcmt_ordin_2008_1.pdf,

Section 9 of the county ordinance addresses the issue of complaints and begins with the statement: "As an alternative to issuing a municipal civil infraction pursuant to Section 15.1, the Animal Control Officer may submit a signed and sworn complaint to the County District Court that any one of the following facts exists:"

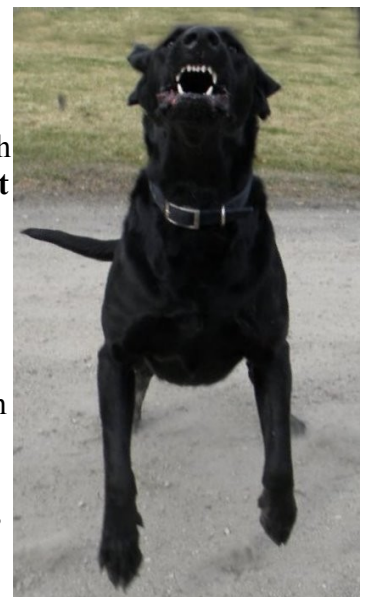
Sections 9.4 and 9.5 list "facts" that specifically relate to some of the issues that residents of our community have experienced.

Section 9.4 That any dog shows vicious habits and molests passers-by when lawfully on the public highway or right-of-way;

Section 9.5 That any dog duly licensed and wearing a license tag is running at large contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance and the applicable laws of the State of Michigan.

Montcalm Animal Control is located in Stanton, MI 48888 and their phone number is 989-831-7355.

There are actions that our residents can take to protect themselves from vicious acting dogs besides calling Animal Control. Some of our residents regularly carry defensive spray devises when they walk. A number of retail outlets have spray devises and these devises' active ingredients vary from plain water to pepper spray. One online retailer for example sells a Mace® PepperGun™ that has an effective range of around 10 feet. Other residents have reported that squirt guns filled with water or walking sticks are effective.



Fish:

This spring in April 1000 perch and 20 gallons of flat head minnows (as a food source) were planted in our lake, and in the fall the plans are to plant 400 6 to 9 inch walleye and 1400 3 to 4 inch black crappie. The cost for the fish plant is \$4028 this year. Bass fishermen are requested to practice the custom of catch and release – note no large mouth bass are scheduled to be planted this year!

Last spring many residents expressed concerns about the winter fish kill that occurred in our lake. Fisheries Division Chief Kelly Smith in a recent release on this topic said, “Winter kill is the most common type of fish kill. It is particularly common in shallow lakes and streams. It can have significant impacts on fish populations and fishing quality.”

The DNR does remain concerned about fish killed by diseases like viral hemorrhagic septicemia. Anyone who finds fish with clinical signs of VHS, such as lesions on the skin or blood in the eyes of a fish, is asked to report the fish kill at DNR-FISH-Report-Fish-Kills@michigan.gov or call their local DNR office.

Fireworks:

The fireworks last July were spectacular as usual, and our cost for that show was \$6,000. Please continue to send in your donations to Lake Shores Association, P.O. Box 63, Howard City, Michigan 49329 or include them with your dues. **Remember it is your donations that fund the fireworks.**

Muskrats:

If you are having any problems with muskrats Dave Gould will trap muskrats for free. Just call him at 231-519-2208.

Dumpsters:



There will be **trash** dumpsters available only on June 12. The location will be Pawnee Point park and the time will be from 8:00 am to noon.

Building Regulations:

Building regulations are spelled out in L.S.A. covenants, restrictions and township zoning ordinance. All structures and alterations must get approval and/or permits from the Lake Shores Association architectural board, township zoning administrator, and county building department. Reminder: **Sheds are not allowed on vacant lots.**

The first step in any building process is to phone John Westveer at 231-937-5280.

Neighborhood Watch:

Please report any suspicious behavior to the Montcalm County Sheriff or the State Police in Lakeview. It would be a good idea to arrange to have your grass mowed if you will not be living there in the summer. A lawn not mowed is a sure indication you are not occupying your home at the moment.



Please Welcome our New Members:

If you are new to our community and have not received your new Welcome Packet, please contact Ron Vierheilg at 231-937-5525.

Also, lake members, if you know of any new members that have not been contacted by a Board member, please call Ron at 231-937-5525.



Central Office:

The central office on Apache Trail should be up and running soon. That will then be the location to pay dues, get boat stickers, etc. This will eliminate the need to go to board member homes for these purposes. Watch the bulletin board for more information and hours.

Smoke Signals via e-mail:

You can access Smoke Signals (including past editions) on our website at www.indianlakes.org, and the current edition also can be delivered via e-mail. We currently print out 500 copies with costs in excess of \$500.00 each time the newsletter goes out. Smoke Signals (in color) can be e-mailed (recipients' e-mail addresses will not be revealed) to those members who choose that option. Association members who wish to receive their Smoke Signals by e-mail can e-mail a request to irwin8100@gmail.com.

Lake Water Quality Issues :

Sonar treatment to lake in 2010: We will continue the recommended weed treatment through our representatives for the DEQ. This summer we are expecting a complete weed kill treatment of the lake with an estimated cost between 30,000 and 40,000 dollars. The water was tested in the last of week of April and treatments began May 3.



Fertilizer: Please use only phosphate free lawn fertilizer on your lawns.

Zebra Mussels: Reportedly, some lakes in our area have been invaded by Zebra Mussels. (For example Big Whitefish reportedly has been invaded by zebra mussels, eurasian water milfoil, and purple loosestrife). These mussels can significantly change the character of any lake that they infect. The following is from http://www.ec.gc.ca/EnviroZine/english/issues/35/feature3_e.cfm: "Zebra Mussels are transported from one lake or river system to another by hitch-hiking on boats, boat trailers, barges, sea planes and other aquatic equipment. Juvenile and adult mussels can attach to boat hulls, engines, anchors, and other submerged equipment, as well as to plant material that may get caught on boats and trailers. In their microscopic juvenile stage, they can also be carried in boat bilge water, live wells, bait buckets, and SCUBA gear".

By taking a few precautionary steps after boating and fishing in other lakes, Indian Lake boaters can prevent the spread of mussels. Some appropriate steps are:

- Inspect the boat and trailer carefully for mussels and aquatic vegetation and discard in the trash.
- Drain all water from the boat, including the bilge, live well and engine cooling system.
- Dry the boat and trailer in the sun for at least five days, or if you use your boat sooner, rinse off the boat, trailer, anchor, anchor line, bumpers, and engine with hot water or at a car wash.
- Leave live aquatic bait behind – either give it to someone who is fishing in the same waters, or discard it in the trash.

There are no known methods for eliminating Zebra Mussels from an area once they have become established. Public assistance in preventing the spread of this highly invasive species and reporting new infestations to the DNR is essential to help reduce their negative impacts on the local environment and economy.

Scenes from our 2009 Independence Day Celebration



Board Members:

		Home Phone	Cell
President	Dave Van Dam	231-937-4170	231-519-1099
Vice President	Mike Moody	231-937-6338	231-598-2184
Treasurer	James Long		231-408-022
Secretary	Tammy Williams		231-629-1877
Trustee	Jim Radford	231-349-1555	630-730-4436

Miscellaneous Notes:

- The board wishes to express their thanks to Paul Church for his many years of service as Treasurer.
- A board election is not needed this year because only two resumes were submitted by association members wishing to run for a board position. One of these members, James Long has been selected by the board to fill the treasurer vacancy and the other will fill the expected upcoming vice president vacancy. Jim was appointed to the treasurer's position by the board at a recent board meeting, in part, because of his professional accounting background.
- Residents who have paid their dues this year and have not yet received the boat launch combination or receipt should contact Tammy or Dave.
- Board members will be checking parks for non members and members with unpaid assessments.
- Vandalism affects all association members and will not be tolerated! Those guilty of acts of vandalism in our community will be prosecuted to the fullest extent possible.
- Parents did you know that you can find a list and pictures of sex-offenders in our county? A recent search at <http://www.mipsor.state.mi.us/> located 40 in our county - including some in our community.

Residents who have not paid their annual dues should note the following notice.

LAKE SHORES Covenants and Restrictions Article IV, Section 3-c contains the following statement (see www.indianlakes.org under Covenants and Restrictions):

The right of the Association, as provided in its By-Laws, to suspend the enjoyment rights of any member for any period during which any assessment remains unpaid, and for any period not to exceed thirty (30) days for any infraction of its published rules and regulations;

Welcoming Committee:

Ron Vierheilg 231-937-5525

Law Enforcement Numbers:

DNR – Vicki Goss 616-225-3414

Poaching 800-292-7800

Animal Control 989-831-7355

Drain Commission – Don Cooper 989-225-7322

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

Emergency 911

Building Committee:

John & Shirley Westveer 231-937-5280

Newsletter Committee:

Tammy Williams 231-629-1877

Glenn Irwin 231-629-4797

irwin8100@gmail.com

Consider advertising in Smoke Signals!

We still have room for your ad!!

Smoke Signals is published 3 times a year.

Prices for 3 editions are \$75 for business card size,

\$150 for ½ page and \$200 for full page ad.

Lake members receive a 10% discount.

Calender of events for Spring and Summer 2010

June 5 Lake-wide yard sales
June 12 Trash Dumpster only at Pawnee Point Park from 8:00 am to noon.
Bass Tourney 7:00am – 12:00 noon Call Mike Moody at 937-6338
July 3 Saturday Ski Show 1:00 pm and Fireworks at dusk
July 4 Sunday Boat Parade 2:00 pm - Theme this year is the Wizard of Oz
August 7 **Annual Association Meeting 10:00 am at the Pavilion** The board is considering having a pot luck lunch following the Annual Meeting. Residents interested in attending are asked to RSVP to any board member.
August 21 Lake-wide yard sales
August 28 Bass Tourney 7:00 – 12:00 noon Call Mike at 937-6338
TOWNSHIP MEETINGS are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Winfield Township Hall.

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 11 am & 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 the Indian Lake appropriate sticker.
- No guest boats are permitted on Indian Lake!
- EVERY boat on public or private lakes must be registered with the state.

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616-636-5565

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Rix & Heath Robinson**

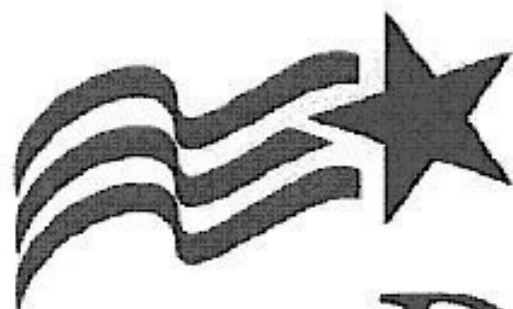


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