

## LETTER FROM THE BOARD

**Cleaning of silt traps-** Have contracted Schiltch Pond to remove/clean the two silt traps we have.  
Date TBD, waiting for all permits to be finalized.

**Five Lake Dam-** Dam inspection completed, passed and filed with the State of Michigan's required departments.

The board will be asking for volunteers during the Annual meeting for assistance in cleaning the dam drain area of weeds and brush.

The HOA feels comfortable with the replacement of two dam boards and will also need need to have volunteers to have this completed.

**Beach/Picnic common area-** A committee has been formed to update the beach/picnic commons areas.

Thank you, to the volunteers that participated in spring clean-up at the beach area. There are plans to replace/add picnics tables, trash containers, update/add firepits, fire pit benches, update/replace beach security fence. We are considering other additions to both areas but no final decisions have been made, if you would like to make suggestion for other common areas updates, please come to a monthly meeting or contact your local representatives.

### **From our Area Reps**

It's really great to see home improvements going on in our area already this spring. Keeping our lots clean and maintained adds property value not only to your home, but your neighbor's, too. Please be sure to check with your area representative to find out if you need Board approval for your project. We are here to help make your "Dream House" a reality.

Every year we get complaints about people speeding while driving. Please keep your speed down to 25 mph. Remember, during the summer, we have many more pedestrians and children running around. Be sure to tell driving teenagers and guests to be aware of people walking or playing on the roads.

Also please be mindful of the many types of slower traffic on Kapplinger Road and the neighborhood. Golf Carts, Runners and Walkers, Horse and Buggies, Bicycles, Four Wheelers, may appear at any time.

We are looking forward to another fabulous summer on Five Lakes. Please take time to meet your new neighbors and reunite with old familiar faces.

## *FIVE LAKES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER MAY 2023*

Hello to all of our neighbors. Our newsletter will discuss some of the issues discussed at our board meetings along with other information that may affect our community. Website://[www.fivelake.org](http://www.fivelake.org)

### **FIVE LAKES ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

President - Paul Campbell — paul5lakes@gmail.com—810-869-1080

Vice-President - Holly Hayes — moobug58@gmail.com—734-564-9347

Secretary - Rob Nichols --- robnichols5lakes@gmail.com - -

Treasurer- Loretta Wischmeyer - jlox6@yahoo.com — 989-386-4472

Area Representatives:

Area S - (Lone Pine Rd.) - David Peterson - -  
peterson1475@gmail.com - -269-317-2809

Area 1- (Pebble Creek & Deepwoods) - Robert Elmore  
robertaelmore@gmail.com

Area 2- (Peninsula Dr.) - Lee Ebersole— -  
Top3235@gmail.com - - - - 815-343-9107

Area 3- (Five Lakes Dr.) - John Wischmeyer—  
jlox6@yahoo.com - - 989-386-4472

Area 4- (White Birch Dr.) - Sandy Heaven - -  
- skingheaven@gmail.com -- 989-944-2924

### **Notices and reminders:**

- ◆ Please remember that association members are requested to keep their dogs on leashes if outside of the owners property.
- ◆ Again we remind you that our private beach is only for our residents and their guests and not an overflow parking area.
- ◆ Our Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, July st, 2023 at the Grant Township Hall. The time of the meeting is 9:00 am, and we encourage everyone to attend. We will be voting for Area Representatives and if you want to be on the ballot please contact Paul Campbell or an Association Officer.
- ◆ Reminder, our monthly meetings are open to everyone and are held at 6:00 PM on the second Monday of each month from April thru October. The location of the meetings are currently held at the Farwell Middle School Library.

- ◆ Our Annual Boat Parade, which is not regulated by the Association, is scheduled for Saturday July 1st. Please meet at the public boat launch at 7:00 p.m. with the start of the parade at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to participate. Voting will be on our Facebook page “Friends of Five Lakes” take a picture of your favorite boats and vote your winning choice.
- ◆ The Annual Fireworks is not sponsored or regulated by the Association, but is usually a spectacular event over several evenings. We want to THANK all those residents that spend the time and money to put on this spectacular event.
- ◆ With the holidays comes our Subdivision Garage Sale. The dates for the sale are Thursday, Friday and Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. This is always a great time for all to meet neighbors and see who has the best bargains.
- ◆ As always we would like to remind everyone to watch out for the loons and the small baby loons when boating on the lake.
- ◆ We, the board members of Five Lakes Association, wish everyone a happy and safe summer on the lake. We hope everyone enjoys our wonderful lake this year. Thank you for keeping our neighborhood looking great we appreciate all your efforts.

***BOATING SAFETY***

- ◆ Please do not dispose of any trash/refuse into the lake.
- ◆ Follow the boating requirements **posted** at the boat launch and beach area.
- ◆ When driving a boat or watercraft be aware of your surroundings by looking out for swimmers, kayakers, canoers, paddle boats and surf boards.
- ◆ When pulling skiers or tubers ensure that you have a qualified person assigned as a spotter on the tow boat or personal watercraft.
- ◆ Use common sense and be courteous, we all want to be safe on the lake.
- ◆ When operating a boat or watercraft please refer to the DNR website for operator restrictions.  
Notify your guests of the above mentioned requirements.

**ASSOCIATION DUES MATRIX**

LOT OWNERS SHALL PAY DUES ON EACH INDIVIDUAL LOT AND BACK LOT PER THE FOLLOWING MATRIX:

**LAKE LOTS** – 1 TO 1 ½ LOTS..... \$175  
 2 PLUS LOTS (1.5 TIMES).....\$262

**LAKE LOTS AND BACK LOTS**- 1 TO 1 ½ LAKE LOTS & 1 OR MORE BACK LOTS (1.25) .....\$218  
 2 OR MORE LAKE LOTS & 1 OR MORE BACK LOTS (1,75).....\$306

**BACK LOTS ONLY**- 1 TO 1 ½ BACK LOTS (0.5).....\$88  
 2 OR MORE BACK LOTS (0.75).....\$130

**Setback Requirements**

The board has received several inquiries regarding the new Grant Twp. building setback ordinance. Because the Five Lakes Association has established its own setback requirements in the Restrictive Covenants we are exempt from the new Grant Township ordinance.

The Five Lakes setback requirements are as follows:

No building shall be located on any lot nearer than ten (10) feet from back lot line, nor nearer than twenty-five (25) feet from lake lot line, (except private boathouses) nor nearer than six (6) feet to any side lot line.

**WELCOMING COMMITTEE**

The Welcoming Committee is back for another year. They had two great events last year: Meet & Greet and the Halloween Event. More community events are being planned this year and it will be a great time for you to participate, meet amazing residents and neighbors and enjoy the Five Lakes Community. For more information, please contact: Kellie & John Vincent— Phone: 765-541-9578  
 Emails: [kellie.devaughn@gmail.com](mailto:kellie.devaughn@gmail.com) OR [es.johnv@gmail.com](mailto:es.johnv@gmail.com)

## Aquatic Plant Management Q&A

**Q.** Can we swim after a weed treatment?

**A.** NO. There is a 24 hour swimming restriction within 100 feet of any treatment area of the lake. Actually, almost all of the herbicides that we use do not have a swimming restriction on the product label. However, the DEQ does not want you in the water during treatment for your safety and ours. If you see a boat spraying, please exit the lake, we come in close to shore!

**Q.** Will my dog get sick if he drinks the treated water?

**A.** NO. A dog would have to drink several thousand gallons of treated water to observe any noticeable effect. However, we do not want your dog in the water during or right after a treatment. Some of the herbicides we use become inactive if the sediment is stirred up in the water column. Therefore, keep the pets out of the lake for 24 hours!

**Q.** Are the fish still safe to eat?

**A.** YES! There are no fishing restrictions with any of our herbicide treatments. The herbicides used do not accumulate in the fish. They are safe to eat.

## What Does the Color of the Treatment Sign Mean?

**Green** signs/notices indicate NO RESTRICTIONS on any type of water use. **Yellow** signs/notices means one or more of the following restrictions may apply:

- Maximum 1 day swimming restriction within the treatment areas. This restriction is in place to maximize treatment effectiveness; wild-life and pets will not be harmed by entering/drinking water.
- Established grass/turf irrigation is not restricted with most herbicides. Read posted notice for further clarification.
- Flower and garden irrigation may be restricted depending on herbicide used. Read posted notice for further clarification.



## Got Muck?

PLM MD Pellets is a natural product that focuses on the reduction of muck. Organic sediment (muck) builds when plants do not fully decompose. This happens if there is an overload of dead plant material (i.e. leaves falling in the water or excessive algae blooms) or if the environment is not suitable for beneficial bacteria activity. Bacteria need a healthy environment to thrive on the dead plant material.

PLM MD (Muck Digesting) Pellets create an optimal environment for healthy decomposition of organic material. PLM MD Pellets are a combination of natural beneficial bacteria, enzymes, and vitamins that stimulate the biological activity at your lake or pond bottom. This stimulation allows the bacteria to feed on the organic sediment, therefore reducing the muck levels.

Over the years, PLM has experimented with many enzyme and bacteria products, all of which have produced only marginal results. With PLM MD Pellets, there is a clear and measurable result. This product has proved to be a popular addition to many lake and pond management programs, as well as an easy to use product for the “do it yourself” riparian. It is available in 10lb, 30lb and 50lb containers. Contact PLM to arrange delivery to your lake!

## Continuing Maintenance on the Lake

### Swim area:

We are happy to report the washout of sand at the swim area we have experienced in the past, so far hasn't happen this year. Barring torrential rains this spring, it looks good. Also, the swim buoy floats on the rope have been replaced. Time and sun have done a number on them and made them very brittle and we will continue to update them. Thanks to everyone for picking-up after using the beach and being courteous.

### Burn permits:

A lot of you will be picking-up broken branches and raking leaves after the snow is gone. A burn permit is not necessary in our Grant Township of Clare County. However, you do need to check with the Dept. of Natural Resources to see if is permissible on that day. This is easily done by going to the Dept. of Natural Resources web site, Burn Permits. Click on Burn Permit Maps. Click on Clare County. There you will see Grant Township. It will say fires are allowed that day or not. That's it!

### Loon Area:

New Loon Nesting Area Buoys have been installed. **REMEMBER**, look out for our **Loons**, be pro-active in helping to protect them.

## ORV ORDINANCE No. 22—County of Clare *(Below are some Excerpts for your information and review)*

**Sec. 5** An ORV may not be operated on the road surface, roadway, shoulder or right-of-way of any state or federal highway in the county.

**Sec. 6** Except as set forth herein or otherwise provided by law, an ORV meeting all of the following conditions may be operated on a road or street in the county:

- a) at a speed of no more than 25 miles per hour or a lower posted ORV speed limit.
- b) by a person not less than 12 years of age.
- c) with the flow of traffic.
- d) in a manner which does not interfere with traffic on the road or street.
- e) traveling single file except when overtaking and passing another ORV.
- f) when visibility is not substantially reduced due to weather conditions unless displaying a lighted headlight and lighted taillight.
- g) 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 after sunset unless displaying a lighted headlight and lighted taillight.
- h) while displaying a lighted headlight and lighted taillight at all hours beginning January 1,2010.
- i) while the operator and each passenger is wearing a crash helmet and protective eyewear approved by the United States department of transportation unless the vehicle is equipped with a roof that meets or exceeds standards for a crash helmet and the operator and each passenger is wearing a properly adjusted and fastened seat belt.
- j) with a throttle so designed that when the pressure used to advance the throttle is removed, the engine speed will immediately and automatically return to idle.
- k) while the ORV is equipped with a spark arrester type United States forest service approved muffler in good working order and in constant operation.
- l) pursuant to noise emission standards defined by law.

**Sec. 7** A child less than 16 years of age shall not operate an ORV on a road in the county unless the child is under the direct visual supervision of an adult and the child has in his or her immediate possession a Michigan issued ORV safety certificate or a comparable ORV safety certificate issued under the authority of another state or a province of Canada.



Five Lakes Manager  
Casey Shoaff  
PLM Lake & Land Management Corp.  
P.O. Box 424, Ewart, MI 49631  
(800) 382-4434 caseys@plmcorp.net;  
www.plmcorp.net

**NOTICE**

**Five Lakes 2023 Treatment Program**

The property owners in this area are planning to have the waters chemically treated to control lake weeds and/or algae. This notice is being circulated in accordance with Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) procedures. Due to the uncertainty of weather, the treatment schedule is approximate. Please watch your shoreline for the posting of the 8.5 x 11 inch, yellow or green signs. The signs will indicate the date of the treatment, the products used, and any restrictions on the use of treated water for swimming, watering lawns, etc. One or more treatments involving water restrictive products may be applied. Please be aware that only products approved by the State of Michigan and the Federal government are being used. **We have experienced no adverse effects on people, fish, wildlife or domestic pets since applying these products.** We anticipate using one or more of the products listed. Please read the restrictions. Again, the restrictions that apply to the products actually used in a particular treatment will be found on the signs posted on the day of treatment.

**2023 Tentative Treatment Schedule**

Treatments will be occurring throughout the summer months. Please watch your shoreline for posting signs with specific restrictions. Please also note that you will see PLM on your lake many times this summer. We will not always be treating the lake, but performing many surveys, water quality testing, etc. Thank you for your understanding as we work to preserve and protect Five Lakes. The following weeks of have been tentatively set but may be adjusted as the season progresses due to many factors (permit restrictions, growth, weather, etc. **Always watch for posting signs.**

- May 8: Survey; May 15: Weed & Algae Treatment
- June 5: Treatment Survey
- July 17: Survey; Weed & Algae Treatment
- August 14: Treatment Survey
- August 21: Weed & Algae Treatment, Water Quality

Please refer to PLM's Newsletter (Spring 2023) or their website for any questions, such as **WATER RESTRICTIONS, PRODUCTS, ETC.**



**Starry Stonewort— Exotic Plant WATCHLIST & INVADER OF CLARE COUNTY**

Starry stonewort has been quickly spreading throughout Clare County. Starry stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa*) looks like a rooted plant but it is actually an algae. The plant is native to Europe and Asia and was first discovered in the St. Lawrence River in 1978. In 1983, it was found in the Detroit River and has since infested many Michigan lakes. Starry stonewort resembles the native aquatic plant Chara. Unlike Chara, which is generally considered to be a beneficial plant, starry stonewort has a tendency to inhabit deeper portions of the lake and can form dense blankets several feet thick. These mats can severely impede navigation and limit growth of more beneficial plants. Starry stonewort anchors to the sediments through rhizoid primitive root structures) which can also absorb nutrients. Like Chara, starry stonewort also absorbs nutrients from the water through its cell walls. Starry stonewort has tiny, star-shaped, tan colored reproductive structures called bulbils that are firm to the touch when compared to its soft branches. These reproductive bulbils have been shown to stay viable for several years in lake sediments. It is unclear what effects starry stonewort may have on a lake's fishery. However, the encroachment of starry stonewort into fish spawning beds may be a cause for concern. Both algacides and mechanical harvesting appear to be somewhat effective in controlling starry stonewort. However, given its propensity to produce massive amounts of growth, efforts to keep this invasive algae at bay will be difficult and potentially expensive. We are constantly on the lookout for new infestations of SSW for quick action. Please keep your eyes on the look out !

**New Boating Law to Prevent the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Species**

Michigan's Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (Act 451 of 1994) Part 413 has been amended with changes for boaters and anglers that take effect March 21, 2019. The changes are intended to strengthen protection for Michigan waterways against the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species. Article and picture curiosity of Michigan.gov

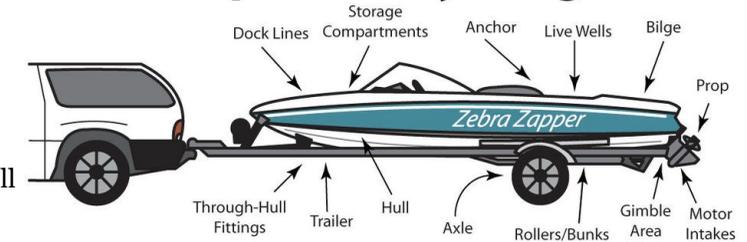
**What boaters need to know: stop aquatic hitchhikers**—Prior to the amendment, the law only required that a person not place watercraft or trailers in the waters of Michigan if an aquatic plant is attached. In addition to this requirement, the new changes require all of the following prior to transporting any watercraft over land: **Removing all drain plugs from bilges, ballast tanks, and live wells. Draining all water from any live wells and bilges. Ensuring that the watercraft, trailer, and any conveyance used to transport the watercraft or trailer are free of aquatic organisms, including plants. This means that after trailering boats, and before getting on the road, boaters must pull plugs, drain water and remove plants and debris.**

Violation of the law is a state civil infraction and violators may be subject to fines up to \$100.

What you should do: **To comply with the law and prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species, boaters should:**

- CLEAN** boats, trailers and equipment.
- DRAIN** live wells, bilges and all water - pull all drain plugs.
- DRY** boats and equipment.
- DISPOSE** of unwanted bait in the trash.

Before leaving and before launching...  
**inspect everything!**



**A Word from the Welcoming Committee**

The Welcoming Committee is a volunteer group in the Five Lakes community.

They are some of the first people to welcome new neighbors and answer FAQs.

They do fundraising throughout the year to put towards community building events and activities for all to enjoy. This past year the committee has: contributed to the fireworks on the lake, sold **Loon t-shirts**, flowers and car stickers for **Mother's Day**, had a kayaking event, **Halloween** event with a bounce house, **Holiday** light decorating competition, Purchased and planted flowers for the "Five Lake" community signs, Helped mobilize to clean up the beach area, To hear about upcoming activities, please check the unofficial Facebook group or the official website to lean more.

Current members: Kellie Vincent, Candy Catlin, Jen Nunn, Sarah Bryant, Karen Houchlei, Terri Konas, Lisa Sauerbrey, If you're interested in becoming a volunteer/participating, please contact Kellie , Vincent at 765-541-8635