



Lake Chemung Riparian Association

P.O. Box 316
Howell, MI 48844-0316

<http://www.lake-chemung.com>

June 2013

NEWSLETTERS

Please visit <http://www.lake-chemung.com>, click on Newsletters, and sign up to receive future newsletters via e-mail. While visiting YOUR site, you will find great information, much more than we can mail in a newsletter! Lake Chemung also has a Facebook page! Search "Lake Chemung" and join today!

MEMORIALS

We fondly remember Jack Pike and Andy Hegle who passed away this year.

Jack Pike (89) lived on Pathway Drive and was a true steward of the lake – he was instrumental in obtaining petition signatures for the weed control program. He fielded lake resident questions and assisted with lake assessments. He had a heart of gold.

Andy Hegle (40) was a longtime resident and fixture among the younger set - He lived on Hughes Road and was well known for his giving heart – he loved entertaining friends on his boat, music and working out.

Both Jack and Andy will be missed.

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to everyone who supported the Lake Chemung Riparian Association (LCRA) in the past through their membership dues. With the newly-approved 2013-2017 budget for Lake Chemung's Plant Control Program, properties in the Special Assessment District (SAD) now pay \$15.00 LCRA dues as part of their annual assessment. These funds are dedicated to the water quality and lake management activities conducted by the Association:

- Lake pollution control through water testing, aquatic weed control, and influence of local road drainage.
- Observation, reporting, and lake-user education concerning harmful water use activities.
- To work with Township and County governments so that lake and building restrictions are maintained and upgraded, where possible, to protect and preserve the quality of the lake, and to take actions as may be deemed necessary by majority vote of the membership, to achieve the above objectives.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At a special meeting held on May 15, 2013, Laura Wildman, Steve Wildman, Karen Green, and Jim Green were elected to serve on the board until August 2013. Laura will serve as Association Secretary and the others will serve as trustees. A list of your Board of Directors, September 2012 – August 2013, is as follows:

Ginny Himich - President
Charlie Jones - Vice President
Laura Wildman - Secretary
Sue Sytniak - Treasurer
Bob Huber - Outdoor Resorts Representative
Patty Warner - Sunrise Park Representative
Jim Green Jr - Trustee
Karen Green - Trustee
Steve Wildman - Trustee

MEETINGS

The LCRA's annual meeting will be held on August 13, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the Lake Chemung Outdoor Resorts Clubhouse (Hughes Road). All officers are up for re-election at that time. Except for this annual meeting every August, the Association gathers on an as-needed basis. If additional [meetings](#) are scheduled, the dates will be posted on the LCRA's web-site.

All Lake Chemung residents are encouraged to attend and participate in the Association. Your help is needed to maintain the future well-being of the lake. In addition, it is a great way to get to know your neighbors.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENT

July 4, 2013 Boat Parade – 1:00 pm

Theme-Patriotic

Trophy to be awarded best decorated boat



SPECIAL EVENT

JULY 4, 2013 FIREWORKS DISPLAY – AT SUNSET

DISPLAY PUT ON BY LAKE CHEMUNG RESIDENT LISA PRICE

Donations may be sent to Lisa (5393 Wildwood Dr. Howell)

SPECIAL EVENT

AUGUST 13, 2013 – ANNUAL LCRA MEETING

7:00 PM AT THE LAKE CHEMUNG OUTDOOR RESORTS CLUBHOUSE

All residents are encouraged to attend.



WEED CONTROL

Genoa Township passed a resolution on April 1, 2013 approving the continuance of the Lake Chemung Aquatic Weed Control project for another 5 year. The cost/year for each resident in the SAD will be approximately \$95.00. Further details regarding the resolution can be found on our web site (<http://www.lake-chemung.com>) or on the Genoa Township web site (under Board of Trustees – Agendas and minutes).

Our first survey of the season was completed May 15 by Pam Tying from ProgressiveAE. Due to the late ice-melt, there was less weed growth than usual. Pam plans to re-survey in early June to determine the need for lake treatments.

Updated plans for managing the lake during the 2013 summer season can be found on the Lake Chemung web site (click on the Weed Control link and scroll down the page to the 2013 Plant Management Program section). As the summer progresses, maps and details regarding lake treatments and harvesting will be posted. Any questions regarding the program can be directed to a LCRA board member or to Pam Tying (Pam's contact information can also be found on the website).

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It is critical for lake residents to speak up about their harvesting needs while the harvester is on the lake ... the harvester is generally responsive to requests if they can be accommodated.

FISHERIES

On September 24, 2012, the DNR completed its fifth year of largemouth bass sampling in Lake Chemung. Please see the table below summarizing the catch.

Originally, the study was planned for three years (2008-2010). The purpose was to determine the effects of regulations allowing early catch release season on bass. Essentially, the study found no catastrophic effect by allowing the early catch release season (last Saturday in April to Memorial weekend).

Due to the interesting findings of the data, primarily the very large 2010 year class, the DNR decided to extend the study by at least another three years to follow that year's class. Highlights include:

In 2008, the Lake Chemung largemouth bass population was dominated by larger and old fish. In 2009, the older and larger bass declined in presence (mortality either by harvest or natural) and the population was shifting toward smaller and younger bass.

2010 observed an unusually high year class. Each of the sample years up to that point had captured maybe a dozen young of the year bass. However in 2010, 1,500 young bass were captured.

So the DNR has decided to follow this class. In terms of contribution to the catch, in 2010 these bass showed as 71% of the total catch. In 2011 they showed as 65% of the catch, and in 2012 they showed as 53% of the catch. We will be curious as to their contributions in 2013.

As the 2010 year class matures, they are increasing in average size. It looks as though the 2010 year class, that was 2-4 inches in 2010, was 6-7 inches in 2011. The 2010 year class is now two-year old fish averaging 9.2 inches. In 2013, as age three fish, they should average near 11 inches.

The study is planned to continue for at least a few more years. The data is difficult to interpret but very interesting. Long term studies are very important to the DNR's understanding of population dynamics.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number caught	571	671	2812	377	280
Average size (inches)	10.7	8.9	5.3	8.7	9.9
Catch per hour	38.5	72.1	240.1	116.4	103.7
% \leq 4 inches	0.9	5.1	71.3	2.1	1.1
% \geq 6 inches	90.7	82.9	27.8	91.8	97.9
% \geq 8 inches	70.7	64.5	22.9	36.3	91.8
% \geq 10 inches	55.9	25.3	14.0	27.6	28.2
% \geq 12 inches	36.4	16.1	6.7	17.2	13.6
% \geq 14 inches	19.6	7.0	2.8	8.5	7.1

COOPERATIVE LAKES MONITORING PROGRAM (CLMP)

Please join the LCRA in thanking John (Red) Warner for volunteering to help the LCRA collect water samples from the lake this summer. In order to assess the lake's health each year, the LCRA participates in the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) whereby lake samples are analyzed for phosphorus, turbidity, and chlorophyll-a. Further details regarding this very valuable program can be found on the Lake Chemung Web Site (click on the Water Quality link and scroll down the page to [CLMP](#)).

HELPFUL REMINDERS TO PROTECT LAKE CHEMUNG

There are so many simple measures that each of us can do to protect Lake Chemung. Here are a few ways each of us can help ensure our lake continues to thrive.



Fuel and Oil Spills - Many property owners have boats. When adding fuel and/or oil to your engine, use a funnel to keep liquids from spilling into the lake and wipe up any excess that has leaked onto your watercraft.

Dumping - Never dump any toxic liquids in the lake. If it is not fresh water you are dumping, it does not belong in the lake.

Littering – Please keep waste products away from the water. Not only is this damaging to the lake, it can be a deadly to our wildlife. Products such as plastic beverage holders that keep six packs of soda together can be a nuisance to the geese, ducks and swans that make Lake Chemung their home. Balloon pieces can be deadly if ingested by a bird. Plastic bags, cans, bottles and any kind of wrappers need to be disposed of properly and not thrown in the lake. Everyone can do his or her part. Please pick up any debris that has floated onto your shores and pick up trash items you see floating in the water.

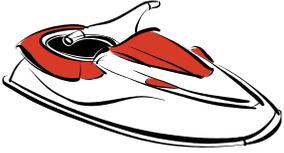
Lawn Maintenance – take care to keep grass clippings and leaves out of the lake. Keep in mind yard waste contain phosphorus ... and excess phosphorus leads to algae growth. Excess algae growth in the lake leads to algae blooms and scum, which blocks sunlight and inhibits the growth of healthy lake vegetation that is necessary for a healthy fish population.

Keep bare soils from running off your yard into the lake. When soil is left bare, rain water will run quickly over it. The moving water picks up soil particles, which contain phosphorus.



Of all of the actions we can take to protect our lake, controlling the use of fertilizer may be the most important. The majority of fertilizers used to keep grass green and gardens lush contain phosphorus, nitrates, and other chemicals that often run into the lake. These chemicals upset the natural balance of aquatic foliage and damage the lake's eco-system. To combat against excessive nutrients running off yards and damaging the lake, residents should use lawn-care products that are organic or contain very low levels of phosphorus. These products are safe for the lake, work well for lawn care, and can be purchased at local nurseries and the big chain stores such as Home Depot and Lowes.

When purchasing fertilizer to use on lakefront lawns, it is important to learn about the fertilizer. Each container has a row of three numbers indicating the amount of total nitrogen (N), available phosphate (P2O5), and soluble potash (K2O) in the product. The middle number is available phosphate and should read "0." With the weed control program on the lake that began in May 2003, please do what you can to help promote a healthy Lake Chemung!



BOATER SAFETY CLASSES

Michigan conservation officers and Michigan county sheriffs encourage all persons operating boats in Michigan to enroll in a boating safety course.

Personal Watercraft

Those less than 14 years of age may not legally operate a PWC.

Those 14 and 15 years of age may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate and:

- He or she is accompanied on board by his or her parent or legal guardian or by a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian or:
- Persons born after December 31, 1978 shall not operate a personal watercraft unless they obtain a boating safety certificate.
- He or she is operating or riding the PWC at a distance of not more than 100 feet from his or her parent or legal guardian or from a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian.

Those **at least 16 years of age** and born after December 31, 1978 may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate.

Those born on or before December 31, 1978, may operate a PWC legally without restrictions.

Upcoming Boater Safety Classes in Livingston County

06/17/2013 - Howell

Paul Eggleston

517-548-5122

Class held at Wonderland Marine West, 5796 E. Grand River Avenue.

Class dates and Times are: 06/17/2013 5:30pm-9:00pm; 06/18/2013 5:30pm-9:00pm.

Contact Paul Eggleston at 517-548-5122. Call during hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm for further information.

Pre-registration required. There is a course fee of \$10.00 assessed to attend this class. Please note: must attend both days.

06/22/2013 - Howell

Paul Eggleston

517-546-0693

Class held at Barnard Center, 415 N. Barnard St. Howell MI.

Class dates and times are: 06/22/2013 9:00am-4:00pm.

Contact the Howell Area Parks & Recreation at 517-546-0693. Call during hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm for further information.

Pre-registration required. There is a course fee of \$10.00 assessed to attend this class. Please note: additional fees apply depending on residential area.

07/08/2013 - Pinckney

Paul Eggleston

810-225-3950

Class held at Country Elementary School, 2939 E. M-36 Pinckney MI.

Class dates and times are: 07/08/2013 5:30pm-9:00pm; 07/09/2013 5:30pm-9:00pm.

Contact Pinckney Community Education at 810-225-3950. Call during hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm for further information.

Pre-registration required. There is a course fee of \$20.00 assessed to attend this class. Please note: must attend both days.

Boater Safety Classes can also be taken online – check the Lake Chemung Web-site for details.



OUR SPONSORS - If you would like to become a Lake Chemung Riparian Association (LCRA) sponsor, please contact one of our [board members](#) for information. The cost for a sponsorship is \$50.00/year. Your sponsorship includes:

- An advertisement in the LCRA annual newsletter, published in the spring of each year and distributed to over 500 Lake Chemung residents
- A link on the [Lake Chemung web site](#)

[Henry A. Haigh III](#) State License # 61-03956

Haigh Electric Co.
1338 Elmhurst Dr.
Howell, MI 48843

517-546-8010
517-546-8933 FAX

The LCRA wishes to thank our current sponsors. If you need the products/services provided by these businesses, please consider them when you make your purchases. Through their help, the LCRA continues to provide education, newsletters, lake over-sight activities, and events that benefit LCRA members and the Howell community.



"Marvelous" Mary Novak
REMAX Platinum
6870 Grand River
Brighton, MI 48114
Phone: 810-844-2200



WONDERLAND
WHERE PERFORMANCE COUNTS
MARINE WEST

5796 E. Grand River Howell, MI 48843 1-800-226-3050

Lake Chemung Riparian Association
P.O. Box 316
Howell MI 48844-0316

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

The Heron
Newsletter for Lake
Chemung