

# THE GREEN LAKE AND DUCK LAKE ASSOCIATION

## 2022 SUMMER NEWSLETTER



Summer 2022, Volume 67

### GLADLA Mission Statement

The objectives of the GLADLA shall be:

1. To monitor the Green Lake and Duck Lake ecosystems and take actions necessary for maintaining and improving our lakes, watershed, and riparian community.
2. To educate riparians and local community about relevant ecological, recreational and ethical issues endeavoring to make our community a better place to live.

### MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, ED DEWEY:

This year marks our 48<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an association\*, and my last term, ending in October 2022, as your president. I've enjoyed working with so many of you on our mission to keep our lakes healthy and beautiful. Our organization, now a 501c3, is poised to accomplish even more in the upcoming years. I proudly hand over the reins to our next President, Paul Johnson, a Duck Lake resident.

If you haven't done so, please join the GLADLA. We have an active board of directors from both lakes working diligently to keep our lakes clean and free of aquatic invaders.

Our annual summer meeting is on Saturday, August 20, at the (new) Interlochen Public Library. Please come for the association's updates, progress reports, and voting for new board members. The speaker is a representative from PLM.

Here are some highlights of what the board accomplished this year:

1. Regular communication and meetings with Andy Smits, the Grand Traverse County Commissioner, and the Michigan DNR. The two organizations work together to manage the Green Lake/Duck Lake watershed.
2. Four board members attended the annual Michigan Lakes Stewardship Association conference. We learned about "best practices" for lake management from experts at MSU and GVSU, and other lake associations around the country.
3. The board attended training sessions about aquatic plant identification, water quality and clarity, and natural shoreline management. Two GLADLA members have qualified for the Gold Status in Michigan Clean Water Corps' Score the Shore Program.
4. Conduct water testing and plant sampling throughout the summer.
5. We engage in continuing education about Swimmers Itch.

6. This summer, we held two boat wash clinics at the Green Lake Betsie River DNR launch. We distributed promotional materials to educate boaters about the new Michigan laws associated with the Clean Boats Clean Water program. The DNR, MSU, and Benzie Conservation District helped coordinate these events.

7. Reviewed new drone technologies for effective lake management and shoreline surveys.

8. An improved, easy-to-use GLADLA website will launch in September 2022.

\*The history of our association is posted on our Facebook page:

[https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=green lake and duck lake association](https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=green%20lake%20and%20duck%20lake%20association)



You may pay your annual dues and donate online: [gldla.org](http://gldla.org)

## ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting is on Saturday, August 20, at the Interlochen Public Library. Refreshments begin at 9:30, and the meeting starts promptly at 10:00. This year's speaker is Bre-Anne Grabill from PLM Lake & Land Management Corp. Bre is a graduate of MSU with a degree in Environmental Studies. Growing up on an inland lake in Newaygo County, she is personally and professionally vested in proper lake management, aquatic plant control, and the environment. Hope to see you at this informative meeting.

## BOARD MEMBER CHANGES

Marc Alderman and John Thomas, from Green Lake, are leaving the GLADLA Board. After serving over ten years, Marc's focus is now on his young family. We thank him for all his work testing our water and keeping our lakes clean.

John Thomas joined the GLADLA board in 2017 and retired from his board duties in July. Most recently, John served as our Treasurer. Many thanks to him for also participating in aquatic plant pulls and water testing.

At the annual meeting, members will vote to install Paul Johnson as our new President in 2023 and Emily Anderson as Treasurer, effective immediately.

Marietta Hamady, Secretary, and Brian McAllister are up for renewal. We'll also approve Doug Griese and Mark Jackson as new board members.

## SPRING AND FALL CLEAN UP

Every year, GLADLA board members get phone calls from lake residents complaining about people blowing leaves into the lake. Decaying leaves create unwanted algae blooms and bacteria. Please make a note of this as the Fall season approaches. Educate your landscape companies too. Keep your lake clean by properly disposing of yard waste. ☺

## MICHIGAN'S LAKES AND STREAMS CONFERENCE

Five GLADLA board members attended the May MI Lakes and Streams Conference. The two-day event featured speakers, vendors, and displays ranging from lake environmental issues to riparian laws. Highlights from the conference include:

1. Want to go to the beach this summer? Check out EGLE's Beachguard website: [www.egle.state.mi.us](http://www.egle.state.mi.us). This site is a public resource providing information about Michigan's beach advisories and closures.
2. Plant native species on your shore to stop erosion and the geese from entering your property.
3. Drone technology is becoming increasingly popular for detecting problems on inland lakes. For example, leaking septic systems and invasive aquatic plants.
4. Don't litter! I know; this should be obvious. But, even a simple plastic cup left in the lake can cause problems. Plastic items break down in the elements; sand, wind, sun, and water, creating microplastics. These tiny particles, the size of a sesame seed, carry bacteria and chemicals. Fish and other marine life mistake them for food, resulting in sickness and eventual death.
5. Love and protect your lakes!



Attendees from left: Ed Dewey, Ken Chamberlain, Marietta Hamady, Paul Johnson, and Doug Griese.

## VICTORY OVER INVASIVE SPECIES



Gary and Jean Perkins of Green Lake went for the gold and earned it. The Michigan Shoreland Stewards program awarded the Perkins for their restored, natural shoreline. The program encourages riparians to maintain a shoreline that promotes native plant growth and habitat for fish and wildlife. For nine years, the Perkins, on advice from the GT Conservation District, have fought the dense and thorny invasive buckthorn that dominated their buffer zone and shoreline. Eventually, regular cutting, burning and applying Round-Up beat back the plant. At the start of the project, the Perkins would burn up to 50 wheelbarrow loads of the buckthorn. They're now down to 4 – 5 loads every spring. It's an ongoing project, but their perseverance paid off. Jean reports at least twenty new native plants have flourished in the absence of the buckthorn.

## HOW GLADLA CAN HELP WITH INVASIVE PHRAGMITE AND BUCKTHORN

If you suspect you have a significant problem with non-native phragmites or buckthorn, contact a GLADLA board member. The association will pay for PLM to spray these invasive plants in the fall. Please note that the best way to rid your property of buckthorn is the protocol the Perkins followed.

Red, white and blue decorations adorned our boats this Fourth of July. Duck and Green Lakes each had about 40 boats participating in this year's parade.



## GREEN LAKE AQUATIC VEGETATION REPORT

Rich Garvey of Green Lake is our new aquatic plant survey coordinator. Rich reported that his four teams completed their aquatic plant pull assignments by the end of July. Plants were inspected and cataloged from 78 locations. After approximately 200 rake tosses, NO invasive species were found. The healthy, native plants in Green Lake are: Northern water milfoil, bladderwort, elodea, wild celery, slender naiad, coontail, several varieties of pondweed, and chara.



Native Northern Milfoil



Eurasian Watermilfoil (Invasive)

John Raubinger of Green Lake skiing with the Stars and Stripes on July 4.

*Green Lake/Duck Lake Association Officers:* Ed Dewey, President; Paul Johnson, Vice President; Marietta Hamady, Secretary; Emily Anderson, Treasurer.

*Board Members:* Emily Anderson, Ken Chamberlain, Ed Dewey, Rich Garvey, Doug Griese, Marietta Hamady, Sarah Hehir, Kurt Hubschneider, Mark Jackson, Paul Johnson, Brian McAllister, Claire Stephenson, and Dick Thompson.

Eric Gray: Interlochen Center for the Arts Representative.

*Emeritus:* Fippy Komrska

*Newsletter Editor:* Marietta Hamady

*Duck Lake Water Testing Coordinator:* Paul Johnson

*Green Lake Water Testing Coordinator:* Rich Garvey

GLADLA board members participated in the June 26 boat wash at Green Lake's DNR Boat Launch. MSU provided the equipment and educational materials for this community outreach "Clean, Drain and Dry" event.



Board members: Emily Anderson, Ed Dewey and Doug Griese.

