



The Green Lake and Duck Lake Association

NEWSLETTER

Our Association representing Duck Lake, Green Lake and the Betsie River watershed since 1974.

Summer 2017

www.tglbra.com

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GLDLA Mission statement

“The objective of the Association shall be to monitor, help maintain and preserve the Green Lake, Duck Lake & Betsie River ecosystem; to educate the riparian and local community about relevant ecological, recreational and ethical issues; and to endeavor to make our waterfront community a better place to live.”

The Green Lake & Duck Lake Board and Officers

President	Ed Dewey
Vice President	Dave Pennington
Secretary	Barb Bayer
Treasurer	Laurel Thompson

Board Members:

*Marc Alderman Barb Bayer Oral Carper Mike Corning Ed Dewey *Debie Horn *John Hubbard
*Kurt Hubschneider Roseanne Jamrok *Brian McAllister Dave Pennington Claire Stephenson
*John Thomas Dick Thompson Laurel Thompson

Emeritus former Board members: Arch Carey Fippy Komrska

Newsletter editor- Dave Pennington (I take full credit for unsigned articles and all errors.)

Reminder: Our annual meeting is Saturday August 26th at the Library meeting hall. A social time begins at 9:30 with the meeting starting at 10:00. Our guest speaker will be Susan Price from MISIP, the Michigan Swimmer’s Itch Project. Her subject is one we all know well, Swimmer’s Itch. We hope to see everyone there.

From The President

What happened? It’s summer already! Time seems to be speeding by while I’m running to catch up! We received a great report from our lake surveys on aquatic plant life for both lakes last fall and I’m happy to report our survey of Duck Lake in June found robust native species plant life. Only a couple of strands of Eurasian Water Milfoil were found in the south cove and one very small spot (50’ x 50’) of EWM on the south-east side of the lake between Birch St. and Bingham Rd. West. Three association members monitored the survey process, I rode in the survey boat with PLM, and two Duck Lake residents followed in

their own craft. We carefully followed chain of custody procedures when collecting the suspect invasive species and sent duplicate samples, on ice, to GenPass LLC (<http://genpassid.com/>) for DNA testing where it was confirmed through DNA testing to be EWM.

Our Association, together with Michigan State University, Green Lake Township, and Interlochen State Park DNR sponsored a “mobile **boat wash**” on **July 20th from 9am – 1pm. at BOTH the Interlochen State Park Duck Lake boat launch and the DNR launch site on Betsie River Road on Green Lake! .** We educated boaters in the proper cleaning of their boats, trailers, bilge, and bait disposal. Information on number of boater contacted will be forwarded to the DEQ Aquatic Invasive Species Blitz organization <http://www.michigan.gov/invasives/0,5664,7-324--379312--00.html> educating boaters on CBCW (Clean Boats, Clean Waters). We hope you saw it in action and thanked our township officials, DNR, and your association board members who all worked together to make this happen.

Two association board members, one from Green Lake and one from Duck Lake, attended the Michigan Lake and Stream Associations 56th Annual Conference at Crystal Mountain. The event hosted lake association members and lake management/watershed experts/educators from all over Michigan and surrounding states to share and study best practices of lake associations around the area

In coordination with our new website which you will be reading about later in this newsletter we will begin to allow donations of support from anyone who loves the lakes and wants to maintain our beautiful environment. It was brought to our attention by a member of the Interlochen State Park DNR that some of their visitors have been coming there for over 30 years and would love to donate to protect and promote the area. While these new donors would not have voting rights it would allow them to have some ownership in keeping our lakes beautiful.

Ed Dewey, President

For more information, visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Green-Duck-Lakes-Association/1642508239318965> .

Our Former Web Site

Dave Pennington

My two year long effort to get Yahoo to change the web site name is finally over. We will be building a new site which will be hosted by a company that has more interest in customer service. The old site will be replaced with the new and hopefully better site to serve the informational needs of the membership. Ed has reserved the domain name of **GLADLA.org** and will provide the full address as soon as the site is up and ready.

2017 Spring Water Testing - Chemical



The Spring water sampling was done shortly after the lakes were ice free. This testing is for several indicators of a healthy lake i.e., Nitrate, Alkalinity, Conductivity, pH and Phosphorus. Secchi disc readings are also taken which indicate the clarity of the water. The depths on both lakes were between 21 and 17 feet. These are very good readings and show how clear our lakes are. Braving the very cold water to do the sampling were **Marc Alderman** and **Aaron Stander**. Thanks you! The clarity diminishes as the summer progresses and boat traffic increases. Sunlight reaching deeper into the lakes means we must check deeper for invasive plants. We have made such an adjustment in our plant sampling this year.

2017 Summer Water testing- Biologic



As usual the summer water samples were taken on both lakes shortly after the 4th of July. They are random sites near the shoreline and at each river or stream inlet. Samples are taken to the lab that day and tested for E.coli. Any site with high readings is immediately re-tested and if it still tests high a third sampling is tested to determine if the source is human or animal. Human sources are usually a septic tank failure and animal sources are likely bird or animal droppings. We have never had a high reading from a human source and any animal sources are usually a one-time event. The only exceptions were the result of a stream contaminated by a dead animal in a culvert up stream and a bunch of deer eating apples from a tree by the river and leaving droppings in the water there. The sampler notifies the parties nearby if the situation doesn't clear up right away and the search will continue.

Annual Meeting Election

Each year we have a third of the Board members up for election or re-election. This last year we appointed several Board Members to replace two who retired or left. **Mike Emaus** and **John Novak** have served many years and we thank them for all that they have done for the association during their tenure. Two people have been appointed to better represent Duck Lake. Temporary appointments are allowed in the bylaws but appointees must be elected by the membership at the annual meeting. The members up for election this year are marked with an asterisk in the Board member list on the first page.



Don't Do-it-yourself lake weed killing



The Aquacide Company sends a catalogue to many lake residents telling them how to use their chemicals to kill unwanted plants in the lake. I've looked at the catalogue over the years and found several disturbing things.

1. Every native plant in our lake is on the list of things they can kill!
2. Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) wasn't listed but our native Northern Milfoil is!

The message here is don't be tempted to use chemicals in the lake no matter how pesky the plant life may be. A state permit is required and very strict criteria must be met before any chemicals or other treatment can be used.

Fish Stocking



The DNR stocked Lake Trout in both lakes on April 11th 2017. Duck Lake had 8100 added and Green Lake had 8700. This continues the same basic pattern of stocking the state has established since the 1980's.

2017 Parade pictures



New Library Ground Breaking coming soon!

This long anticipated event should occur shortly with the facility being completed in the Spring. Many have worked to make this happen and everyone agrees it will be a great addition to the community. The building fund is completely funded by donations.

Short Term Rentals



The association's focus has always been on the lakes, river and watershed and the wise use and preservation of them. We don't have any power to regulate rentals and the Board has chosen not to take sides on the issue that is now being addressed at the township level.

PWC's, Motor Boats and Swimmers Don't Mix

The "Suggestions for Being a Good Lake Neighbor" poster we distributed some years ago addressed this and pointed out that high speed boats and PWC,s can avoid accidents with swimmers by using the area away from the shore. The center of the lake is an area that allows safer maneuvering for, skiing, tubing and PWC fun. With non-residents using both lakes there are many boaters who may be unaware of the dangers and it is difficult for us to reach them. If a younger neighbor needs a reminder we always suggest approaching an adult in a friendly neighborly manner to see if you can affect the change for everyone's safety.



I recently watched a young jetski rider chasing ducks to run them down. He was quickly stopped by neighbors and informed that he was risking a \$500 fine, conviction of a misdemeanor and restitution of \$300 for eachbirds killed. His defense was that they were Mergansers that caused swimmer's itch so it was alright. Mergansers are part of the swimmer's itch cycle but snails and other factors also play a role. State law does not allow ducks and other waterfowl to be killed or molested without penalty.

Oak Wilt Update



Oak wilt is a serious disease of oak trees that mainly affects red oaks, including northern red oak, black oak and pin oak. Red oaks often die within a few weeks after becoming infected. White oaks are more resistant; therefore, the disease progresses more slowly.

The normal time-tested advice is to prevent oak wilt by not pruning or otherwise 'injuring' oaks from **April 15 to July 15 (or later)**.

The spread of oak wilt occurs during this time of year as beetles move spores from fungal fruiting structures on the trees killed last year by oak wilt to wounds on healthy oaks.

Unfortunately, many people learn not to prune trees from mid-April to mid-July only after they lose their oaks to oak wilt. **Remember, removing a dead tree can be expensive!**

A Dash of Duck Lake History...perhaps?

This old postcard shows "Cottage Row" on Duck Lake. The photographer was from Wisconsin and this may be a different Duck Lake somewhere in Michigan. The cottages are early and this could be the Rainbow Pond area but if anyone recognizes the site or the buildings please let the editor know. I'd like to solve the mystery.



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