

THE GREEN LAKE AND DUCK LAKE ASSOCIATION

2020 SUMMER NEWSLETTER



Summer 2020, Volume 63

GLDLA Mission Statement

The objectives of the GLDLA 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:

Every time I think about these unusual times, the old 1960's album, "Strange Days" by the Doors, pops into my head. I made the difficult decision to cancel this year's annual meeting. We'd lined up Julia Kirkwood from EGLE as the key-note speaker this year and then had to cancel due to COVID-19 restrictions. Our association also had to delay the filing of our non-profit 501c3 status. As someone much smarter than me once said, "Some of the best-laid plans of mice and men sometimes go awry."

The good news is we accomplished our key objectives on both lakes. Water quality and clarity testing, aquatic vegetation studies, and shoreline surveys for the invasive Phragmites have been completed. Board members and volunteers surveyed over 11 miles of shoreline on Duck Lake and over 10 miles on Green Lake.

The summer newsletter is delayed so we can include as much of the annual meeting information as possible. Our most ambitious goal for 2020; obtaining a 501c3 non-profit status. Unfortunately, we are forced to delay this 501c3 project until 2021. This new status will encourage donations to GLDLA and allow us to apply for government grants to help fund the battle against invasive species. In order to become a non-profit, we're required to change our By-laws and Articles of Incorporation; an excellent opportunity to update our processes and procedures. Virtual meetings, voting by proxy and/or email, and setting term limits for our board members are some of the notable changes.

Throughout the next few months, you'll receive information showing and explaining the by-law changes. Our goal is to fully inform the GLDLA members before next year's annual meeting, when we can vote as a group for the non-profit status.

In closing, I'm making a special appeal to all our Green and Duck Lake residents to join GLDLA and help keep our organization moving forward. Our membership fee is exceptionally low compared to other lake associations. We're striving to increase our membership and member participation. Our monthly meetings are public, and we invite anyone to attend. **The structure of our association keeps all funds separated by lake. One hundred percent of your membership fee and any voluntary donations to the invasive species fund will only be used for the lake you choose.**

Please go online at <https://www.gldla.org> and become a member or donate to this critical association. It only takes a few minutes and a small amount of money to take an important step in joining your neighbors to protect the beautiful lakes we all enjoy. I promise we'll always work hard for the health of your lake.

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

IN MEMORY OF MIKE EMAUS

Mike Emaus tragically died by drowning on the evening of July 4 in Green Lake. Mike showed his love for our lakes by by serving for over ten years on the Green Lake and Duck Lake Association board, three of those years as Vice-President. We'll miss Mike as a friend and neighbor.

GREEN LAKE COMMUNITY SEPTIC

After approximately five years of hard work, a community septic system is coming to Green Lake's west shore. Twenty-four lots on Bush Rd. will benefit from this new system. Construction starts in August.

The project began when homeowners realized that old septic systems on low-lying lots would eventually fail. Replacing septic fields is most likely not an option; thus, homeowners would have to resort to holding tanks and the associated pumping costs. Several of the newer homes on these lots are already using holding tanks and will convert to the new system.

The process involved various meetings with residents and township employees, an engineering feasibility study, purchase of land, public notices and hearings, special assessment districts, and many other details. In the end, the stars aligned, and five acres of high, dry land were purchased on the west side of Bush Road, allowing the project to proceed.

Each homeowner will have a new underground tank installed on their property. The effluent or liquids will be pumped to a sewer line on the west side of Bush Road, and then up to a new drain field on the five-acre parcel. The benefits of this new system are not limited to just these Bush Road homeowners. The health of Green Lake is preserved by moving septic fields higher and further away from the lake on a stretch of shoreline that is about one half mile long. The new system should be operational by mid-November, 2020. Homeowners will pay for this over fourteen years through property taxes. *Article authored by Roger Edgren.*

PHRAGMITES AND BUCKTHORN

Volunteers from the GLADLA board canvassed Green and Duck Lakes shorelines this summer looking for invasive phragmites. Both lakes had several areas infected by phragmites and one robust patch of glossy buckthorn on Green Lake. Samples of both were delivered to the NW Michigan Invasive Species Network in Traverse City, where Katie Grzesiak confirmed the findings.

Phragmites Australis, also known as a common reed, is a perennial wetland grass that can grow up to 15 feet tall. Although there are native phragmites in Michigan, an invasive type is becoming widespread and threatens the ecological health of wetlands and the Great Lakes shoreline. The invasive variety creates tall, dense stands that degrade wetlands and coastal areas by crowding out native plants and animals. The plants can negatively impact your shoreline views as well as swimming and fishing areas.

GLADLA pulled the necessary permits from EGLE to treat both of the invasive plants. The permit costs \$75.00, and the treatment will cost \$1,000.00, funded by Green Lake Invasive Species dollars. Duck Lake's costs are covered under their Special Assessment District for the treatment of invasive species. Treatment is scheduled for October 2020. Permission letters were sent to and returned by, homeowners allowing PLM Lake & Management Corp. access to the invasive plants and subsequent treatment.



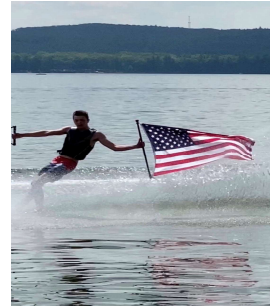
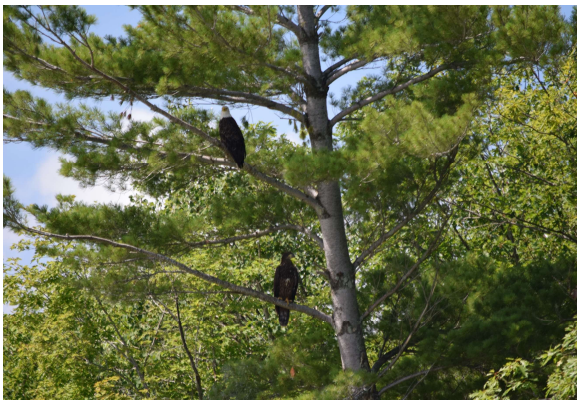
Phragmites



Glossy Buckthorn



In spite of steamy 90-degree temps, forty-seven boats participated in the Fourth of July Parade this year on Green Lake. Even mama eagle and her baby watched from the shore.



Our President, Ed Dewey!

Green Lake/Duck Lake Association Officers: Ed Dewey, President; Ted Boeve, Vice President; Marietta Hamady, Secretary; Laurel Thompson, Treasurer.

Board Members: Marc Alderman, Paul Anderson, Barb Bayer, Ted Boeve, Oral Carper, Mike Corning, Ed Dewey, Marietta Hamady, John Hubbard, Kurt Hubschneider, Brian McAllister, Claire Stephenson, John Thomas, Dick Thompson, Laurel Thompson.

Emeritus: Arch Carey, Fippy Komrska

Newsletter Editor: Marietta Hamady

Duck Lake Water Testing Coordinator: John Hubbard

Green Lake Water Testing Coordinator: Marc Alderman



Black bears have been seen around Duck and Green Lakes. The home-range of a male averages 100 square miles or 64,000 acres. A female's range is around 10 - 20 square miles or 6,400 – 12,800 acres. They typically go into their dens in December and emerge late March – April.

Special Insert: Because the annual meeting this summer was cancelled, the water quality reports are included in this newsletter.

Although seeing these beautiful animals is an amazing experience, please don't feed the bears! Take in bird feeders at night. Don't leave garbage outside overnight. Bears are opportunistic eaters and love an easy meal.

Membership Dues/Invasive Species Fund/Donations

Annual Membership Dues (Minimum \$16.00)

Choose One: ***Green Lake*** ***Duck Lake***

_____ \$16 _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other

Invasive Species Fund (For treatment of any new invasive species; funds for each lake are kept separate.)

_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other

Donations in the amount of \$_____

Member Name and Address:

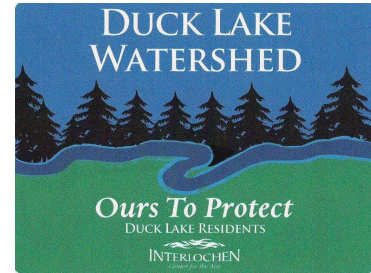
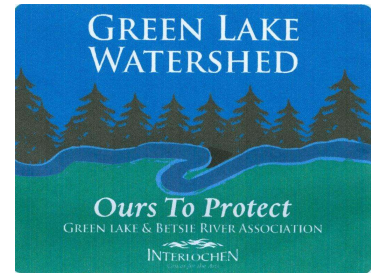
Please make checks payable to: The Green Lake & Duck Lake Association

YOU MAY ALSO PAY OR DONATE ON OUR WEBSITE WITH CREDIT CARD OR PAYPAL: gldla.org

[Green Lake and Duck Lake Association](#)

PO Box 23

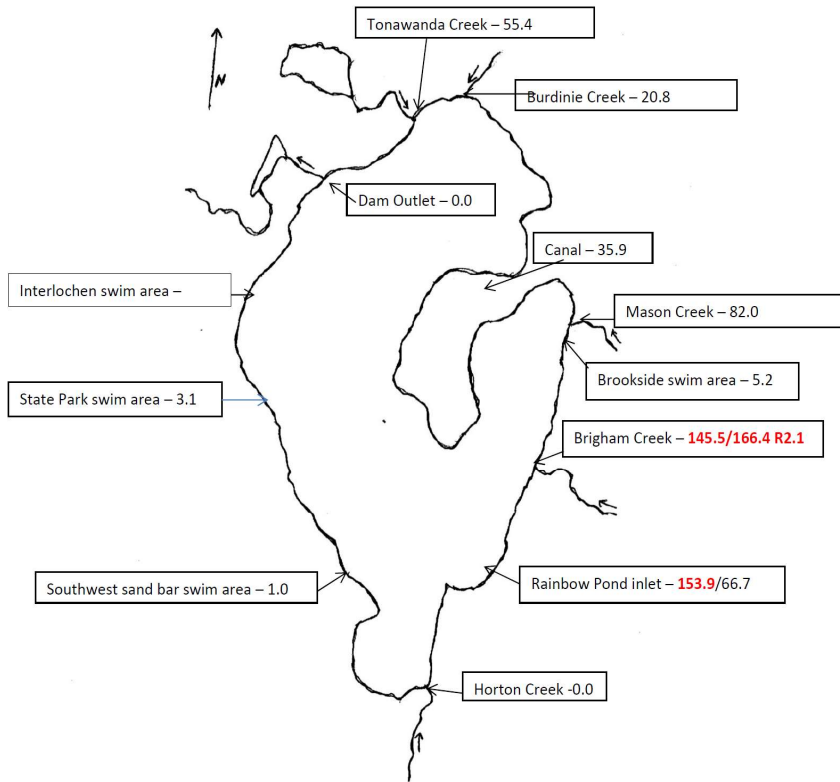
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DUCK LAKE

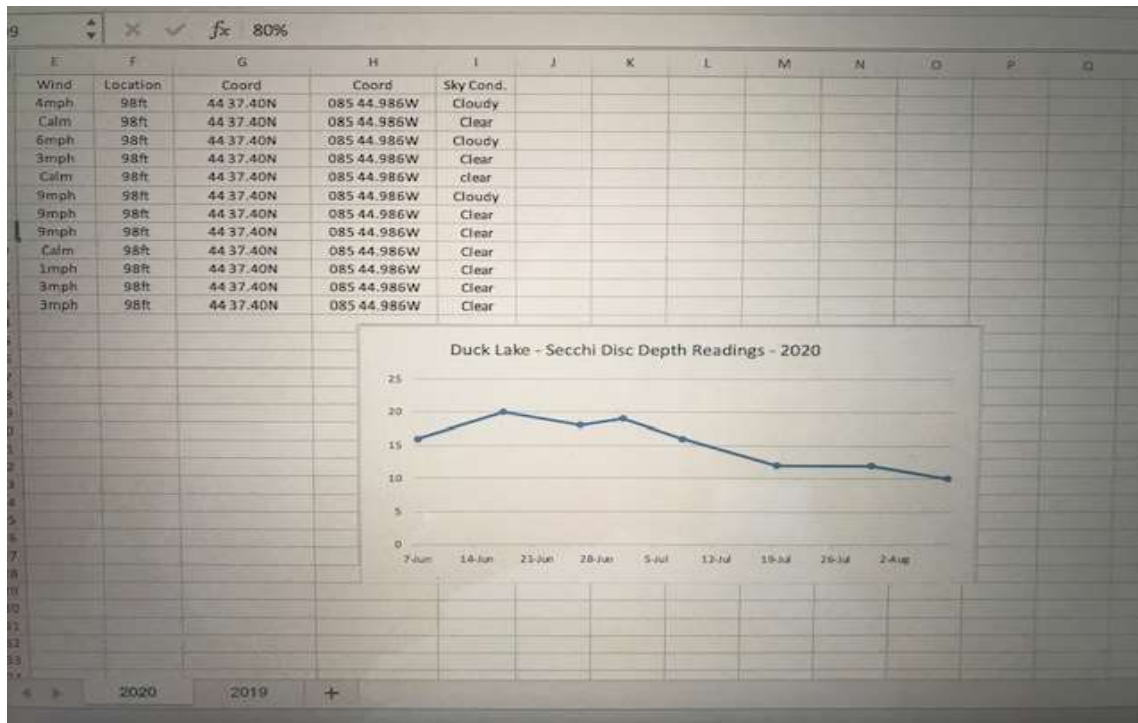
2020 Water sampling results in E-Coli/ml

Readings of 100 or more are retested and nearby residents notified if results remain high.



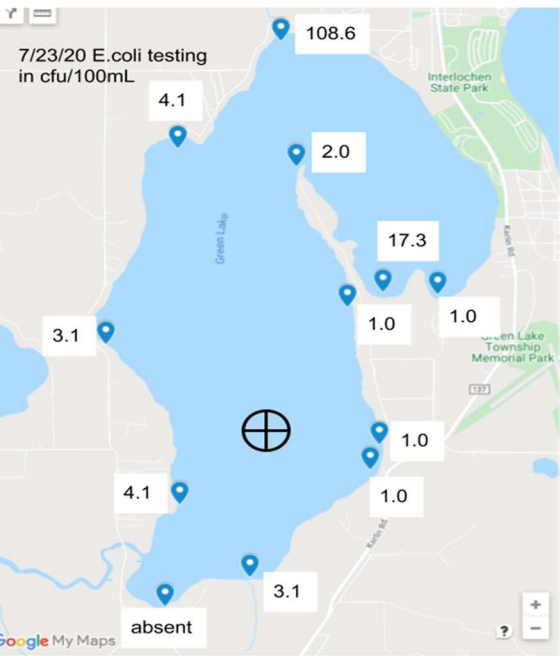
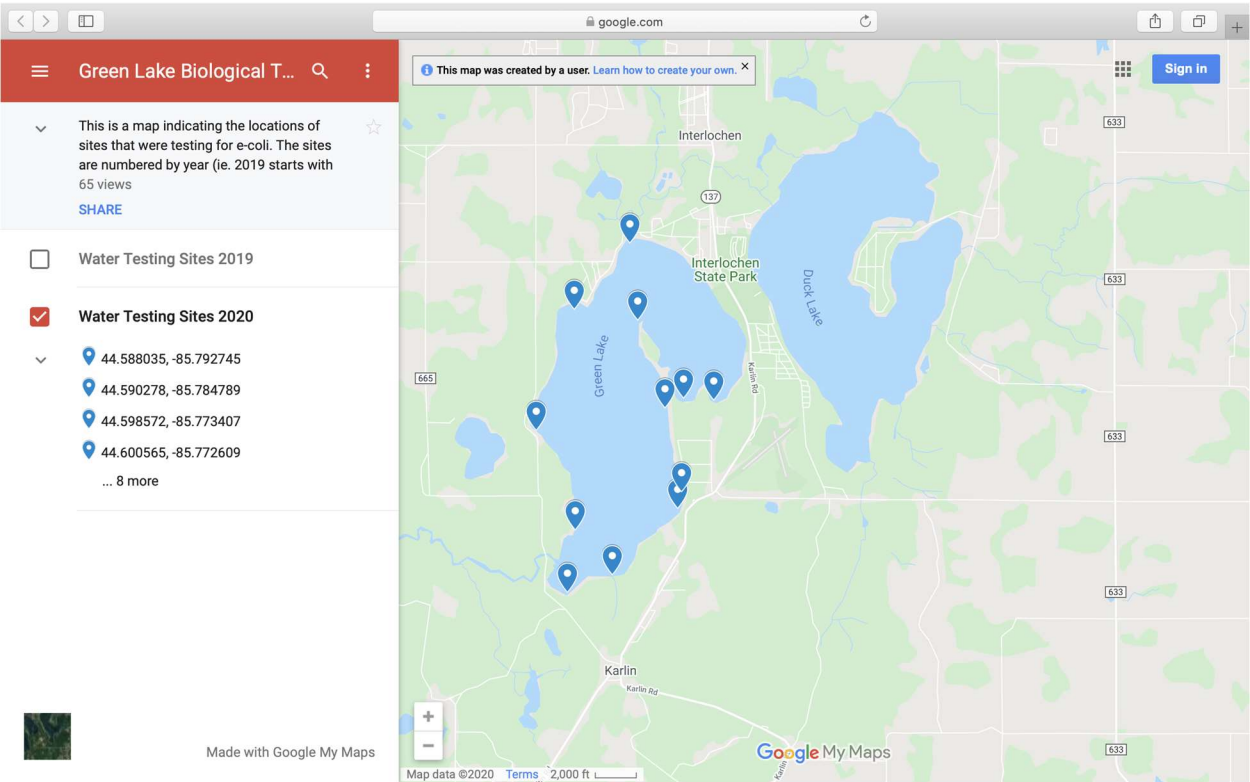
John Hubbard reports some Duck Lake numbers have improved since last year. It appears that the water quality around Mason Creek has benefited from the restoration of the road and stream last year. This is the first year the Mason creek numbers have been below 100. (300 is the number where the water isn't safe for humans.) Brigham Creek remains a concern. The tests revealed the E-Coli is a combination of human and animal. The area continues to be monitored.

The Secchi disk readings are normal. It's typical that the water is clearer before the 4th of July. Water clarity becomes cloudier with increased boat traffic.



GREEN LAKE WATER QUALITY REPORTS

Marc Alderman is our water testing coordinator for Green Lake. Twelve different sites on Green Lake were tested for E.coli this summer. The most common cause of high E.coli is leaking sewage systems, but both wild and domestic animal feces can also cause high ratings. Ten sites had readings of less than 4.2, one site on the eastern base of the peninsula had a reading of 17.3. The highest E.coli rating of 108.6, is located where the Little Betsie feeds into the lake. Michigan’s DEQ recommends not swimming in water that has a reading of 300+ E.coli per 100 ml of water.



2020 Secchi Depth Rea for Green Lake

Date	Secchi Depth in ft.
6/8	15
6/16	19
7/4	14.5
7/23	13
8/7	12.5
8/13	14

This summer, teams of volunteers surveyed approximately 26 locations on Green Lake to examine the submerged and floating aquatic plants. We’re pleased to announce no invasive species were found. Plants are taken from the depths of three, nine, and twelve feet of water.