

## Spring has Finally Sprung!

Welcome to the Spring 2021 issue of *Loon Lake Views*, a periodic publication of the Friends of Loon Lake Association designed to keep our lake community informed and engaged. Warmer weather has finally arrived, and the lake seems to be “coming alive” with sandhill cranes, swans and geese returning for the season, and more and more boats making their way back onto the water.

The association board has been busy the last several months working behind the scenes to help ensure the natural beauty of Loon Lake is preserved, weed control treatment plans are in place for a more enjoyable boating season, and the lake remains accessible to all residents with riparian rights.

One area that the board has been particularly focused on is finding a long-term solution for residents to access the lake. According to the Fenton Township Assessor’s Office, Loon Lake is listed as a public lake with no public access. Currently, the only way on or off the water is through the boat launch that is privately operated by The Hayloft party store at the east end of the lake. Owner Raid K. Safa, known as Ray by most residents, has graciously allowed use of the launch for a fee.

The association board has met with Ray to discuss the possibility of a long-term agreement for continued use of the launch, and has been exploring other potential launch sites around the lake. As you can imagine, both of these options would come at a cost. Conversations are ongoing and we will keep the entire lake community informed of any further developments. If you have

ideas to share or are interested in helping the board as we navigate this process, please reach out to a member of the board or email us at **hello@friendsofloonlake.com**.

We would also like to remind everyone of a few small things that each of us can do to help improve the quality of life on Loon Lake this season and all year long. First, it is our responsibility as lakefront owners to maintain the shoreline and pick up litter and debris while out on the water.

We ask that all residents respect the wildlife and refrain from harassing or chasing swans, geese and other birds. Doing so can cause them to become more territorial and aggressive toward humans.

And finally, per Fenton Township Ordinance No. 545, lakefront homeowners who apply fertilizer to their lawns, whether themselves or through a service, must maintain a 50-foot barrier from the water’s edge and use a phosphorous-free fertilizer. Fertilizer that makes its way into the lake causes algae and can lead to increased weed growth.

We hope that you enjoy this newsletter and we look forward to another fantastic spring and summer on Loon Lake! If you have questions, comments or ideas to share, we would love to hear from you. Be sure to follow *Friends of Loon Lake* on Facebook, check out our website at **friendsofloonlake.com** or drop us a line at **hello@friendsofloonlake.com**.

Sincerely,  
Friends of Loon Lake Association Board



## Board Members

### OFFICERS

Jodi Spicer, *President*

Vacant, *Vice President*

Adam Haffajee, *Treasurer*

Mike Graves, *Secretary*

### AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Nathan Andres

Pat Hagedorn

Rick Lutgens

Brian Sanderson

Dave Weber

## Volunteer Opportunities

Want to contribute your talents to improving the quality of life on Loon Lake? Consider volunteering on one of our committees. The Association Board is currently seeking volunteers to help with event planning, fundraising, communications and more! For additional information, visit [friendsofloonlake.com](http://friendsofloonlake.com) or email us at [hello@friendsofloonlake.com](mailto:hello@friendsofloonlake.com).

# Weeds or Not?

“Weeds” are just plants that are not where we want them. Loon Lake is the home to many native aquatic plants, including cattails, water lilies, pondweed, bulrushes and wild celery, among other species. Native plants are essential to the quality of the lake and provide habitat for fish populations. While we need a healthy native plant population, we also want a lake that is favorable for boating and swimming. Therefore, we use weed control to achieve a proper balance.

Besides the many native species, we also have the introduction of invasive species which are brought into the lake on the hulls of boats and boat trailers, or by the wind or birds. These include Eurasian milfoil, Phragmites and starry stonewort. These invasive species can spread rapidly and provide a constantly changing challenge for weed control efforts.

The primary focus of the weed control program is to keep the main part of the lake, especially the boating circuit around the lake, clear enough for enjoyable recreation. The weeds that grow within about 50-75 feet of the shoreline are mostly protected, although treating boat lanes from docks to the open part of the lake and spot treatments of invasive species may be done by the weed control company. A permit is required for all work done. Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy restrictions and budget constraints put limits on the extent of weed elimination. Our association works with the weed control company to provide the best possible situation on the lake with the funds available.

## Spring Treatment

The first weed control treatment of the year is expected to take place sometime around the Memorial Day holiday. Association board members will join experts from Aquatic Nuisance Plant Control for an onsite assessment of the lake during the next few weeks and a detailed treatment plan will be finalized at that time. A pre-treatment notice is included within this newsletter. Written notices will also be posted along the shoreline prior to treatment, which will indicate the products being used and provide information on when residents may safely use the water again.



## Lake Levels: The Ups & Downs

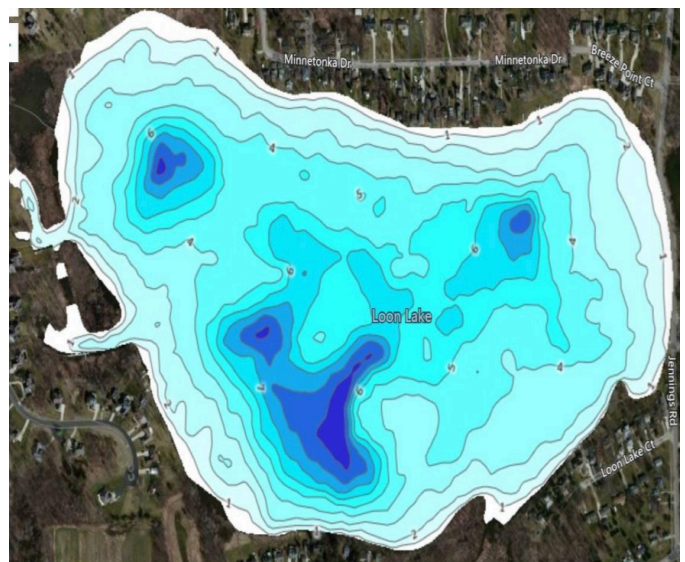
The water level in Loon Lake is affected by many factors, including rainfall, the amount of snow in the winter, evaporation and temperature fluctuations. The water level is always highest in the spring and generally drops steadily throughout the summer and fall. We have recorded water level variations of as much as 19 inches.

Water flows into Loon Lake from Crane Lake to the east through a culvert underneath Jennings Road. It then flows out through the wetlands on the south side of the lake and through a culvert under Rolston Road. Finally, it runs down a narrow stream into Squaw Lake, which sits about two feet lower in elevation than Loon Lake. That culvert determines the water level in our lake and was replaced in 2016 after some wrangling over the elevation at which it would be placed. Your lake association was instrumental in fighting to keep that culvert at the same level as the two it replaced.

## How Deep is Loon Lake?

Loon Lake is a glacier-created lake and is quite shallow. Most parts of the lake range from three to seven feet in depth, but there are some deeper areas. The largest is about the size of a football field along the south side of the lake. This is an area where many residents like to anchor their boats for swimming.

An 81-page study of the lake, completed in 2019, contains this contour map (see image to the right) of the lake bottom, along with many other interesting facts about our lake. The study was sponsored by the Friends of Loon Lake Association and can be accessed through our website at [friendsofloonlake.com/2019-lake-study](http://friendsofloonlake.com/2019-lake-study).



# Mark Your Calendars!

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ALL RESIDENTS

### 2021 Annual Meeting

**Thursday, May 20 @ 7:00 p.m.**

The Friends of Loon Lake Association annual meeting will take place on Thursday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m. In order to comply with current social distancing guidelines, this gathering will be held outdoors under the new lakeside pavilion owned by Lee and Karen Breasbois at 4079 Minnetonka Drive. This meeting is open to all property owners with riparian rights to Loon Lake.

### Old Glory Boat Parade

**Sunday, July 4 @ 4:00 p.m. (3:45 p.m. Lineup)**

Break out your best red, white and blue or other fun summer decor and join us for the second annual Old Glory Boat Parade. All residents are welcome to participate in this family friendly event celebrating our nation's independence. Prizes will be awarded for Best Decorated, Best Theme and Most Spirited.



Follow *Friends of Loon Lake* on Facebook or visit our website for more information on these and other upcoming events!

## Membership Matters

### SIGN UP NOW FOR 2021

Have you sent in your 2021 membership dues? If not, please complete the enclosed form and mail it, along with your check, to: **Friends of Loon Lake Association, PO Box 632, Linden, MI 48451.** Suggested dues are \$25 per year, however, we encourage you to give more if you can.

Funds raised will be used to test and monitor water quality, keep property owners informed of issues and opportunities that affect lake life, conduct activities to ensure aesthetic beauty and environmental integrity of the lake, and create a sense of community through various family friendly events.

## Loon Lake Merchandise

### IN STOCK FOR DELIVERY

Show off your Loon Lake pride with some great, one-of-a-kind items available now in our online "merch store." Can koozies and Yeti-style travel mugs are in stock for purchase, along with a limited number of t-shirts and sweatshirts in select sizes. Items are delivered locally at no cost. Proceeds support the ongoing work of the lake association. Start shopping today at [friendsofloonlake.com/shop](http://friendsofloonlake.com/shop).





## **AQUATIC PESTICIDE TREATMENT NOTICE**

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ THIS NOTICE: IT IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION!

### **RESIDENTS IN THIS AREA ARE PLANNING TO HAVE THE WATERS IN THIS AREA TREATED FOR CONTROL OF LAKE WEEDS AND/OR ALGAE.**

This notice is being circulated at least 7 days and not more than 45 days in advance of the treatment in accordance with Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) procedures. A permit for the treatment has either been secured or will be secured from the DEQ before the treatments are to begin. You are receiving this notice if you are within 100 ft of the treatment area.

**-Our company does two types of treatments: Algae control and Weed control. Since the beginning of the 2002 season we have been required by the State to post for copper products, which have no restrictions. If this is the case we will use a different color poster (BLUE), so please pay attention to the signs and restrictions in your area.**

If we are treating for weeds (including lake dye) then there are restrictions on the use of the water and we will post the shoreline with 14 x 11 inch yellow signs before these chemicals are applied to the lake. In some cases we treat for both algae and weeds. In those cases we may be treating with the copper products while the signs are being posted. We do not treat with the weed chemicals without posting first.

-We treat each lake according to a schedule or season plan worked out with the persons in charge of your lake treatment program. However, due to the differences in season plans and the uncertainty of weather please watch your shoreline for the posting of the 14 x 11 inch yellow signs, particularly in **April, to late August. YOUR LAKE MAY BE TREATED MORE THAN ONCE EACH SEASON. CHECK THIS WITH YOUR ASSOCIATION.** The signs will indicate the date of the treatment, the chemicals used, and the restrictions as to the use of the water for swimming, irrigation and the consumption of fish taken from these waters. We use **NEW SIGNS** for each application.

Only chemicals, which have been registered by the State of Michigan and the Federal Government, are to be used. These chemicals are applied in amounts approved by the DEQ.

**Method of Application: Chemicals are applied as either liquid or granular formulation; liquids are either surface sprayed or sub-surface injected, granular formulations are applied with broadcast spreaders.**

-Another requirement of our permit is that we locate all wells (**when using granular 2,4-D or granular Endothal products Aquathol-K and Hydrothol 191 only**) and maintain a distance of 75 ft from all wells and 250 ft from any well that is less than 30 ft in depth. **IF YOU ARE AWARE OF SUCH A WELL, PLEASE NOTIFY OUR OFFICE.**

-We anticipate using one or more of the chemicals listed below. Please be aware of the restrictions on each. We will post signs as necessary. If the DEQ changes any restrictions they will be noted on the signs we post. **PLEASE READ THE SIGNS WE POST!**

#### **(CHEMICALS/RESTRICTIONS):**

**Reward / Tribune (Diquat Dibromide):** Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours. Do not use the treated water for watering lawns or gardens, animal watering (farm stock--not incidental drinking by a domestic pet), or drinking for 5 days after treatment. There is **NO** restriction on fish consumption.

**2,4-D (Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid, Butoxyethyl Ester):** Do not use the treated water for swimming for 1 day. Do not use the treated water for irrigation, agricultural sprays, watering dairy animals, or domestic water supplies. "Irrigation" includes water gardens--however, it does **NOT** include watering lawns. Lawn spray companies often use 2,4-D to kill weeds in lawns --watering lawns when only 2,4-D has been applied will not hurt your lawn (but see restrictions on the other products). "**Domestic use**" means using lake water inside your house. Fish and wildlife are not affected.

#### **Aquathol-K, Aquathol (Dipotassium Endothal), & Hydrothol 191 (Mono (N, N-Dimethylalkylamine) salt of Endothal):**

Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours. Do not use the treated waters for household uses, irrigation (lawn or gardens), animal watering (farm stock), or similar uses for 5 days

**Renovate / OTF (Triclopyr).** Renovate (Triclopyr). Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hrs. There are no restrictions on the use of watering established grasses. Do not use the treated water for irrigation of ornamental plants for 28 days if less than 20% of the lake is treated. For larger treatments, treated water may be used for irrigation of ornamental plants once the Triclopyr level has reached a non-detectable level. This can be done by laboratory analysis (immunoassay).

#### **Copper Sulfate(Pentahydrate), Cutrine-Plus(Cutrine Alkanolamine Complex), NO RESTRICTIONS.**

#### **Nautique(Copper Carbonate) – Komeen and Harpoon (Copper-Ethylenediamine: 24 Hour restriction on swimming in treatment areas only.**

**Rodeo,Eagre(Glyphosate):** Rodeo is used primarily for lily and cattail control. There is a 1 day no swimming restriction. There is no restriction on watering or fishing.

**Cygnat Plus (spray adjuvant) – alky hydroxpoly oxyethylene.** No restrictions

**Clipper- (Flumioxazin)** Do not use the treated water for swimming for 24 hours. Do not use the treated water for watering lawns or gardens, animal watering (farm stock--not incidental drinking by a domestic pet), or drinking for 5 days after treatment. There is **NO** restriction on fish consumption.

**There is NO restriction on fish consumption** with any of the products listed above.

If you have any questions, please contact the home owners association or contact us at the number below if they cannot help you.

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*Email addresses help us reduce postal costs and contact members about timely issues. We guard your email address very carefully and do not share our email list with other organizations or businesses.*

- Enclosed are my \$25 annual dues for the current year.
- Enclosed is an additional contribution to the Friends of Loon Lake Association.
- I am interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities with the Association.

***Memberships expire on December 31 of each year.***

**Please return this completed form with payment to:**

Friends of Loon Lake Association  
PO Box 632  
Linden, MI 48451