



Taconic Shores Property Owners Association Autumn 2014 Newsletter

Our TSPOA Newsletters will be produced on an "as needed" basis and will try to discuss issues that are important to many of us. If you have questions that have not been addressed, please call your section director who will deal with your problem, suggestion or inquiry.

AUTUMN

OCTOBER 2014

Important: *Please be sure to write your Taconic Shores address along with your TSPOA Lot Number on all checks sent to the TSPOA Office.* Often, the address printed on your check is your mailing address, and we may not be able to connect your payment with the correct homeowner.

Taconic Shores Website and TSPOA Office

Email: Check our community website, www.taconicshores.org, for updated information, and contact the Office any time via email at office@taconicshores.org.



Meeting Notice: Our next membership meeting, for informational purposes, will be held at the Clubhouse on Saturday, **October 18, at 10 AM.** We hope to see you there!

Dealing with Complaints and Concerns:

As you know, TSPOA passed and distributed to all members the revised Rules and Regulations Blue Book in April 2014. Now, ***your concerns and complaints should be addressed with your TSPOA SECTION DIRECTOR.*** Issues that are not simply resolved will be brought up before the Board by the Section Director. *See the Contact Information in this Newsletter, or on the TSPOA website to find out who represents you.*

Taconic Shores Harvest Festival – Saturday, October 18, 2014, 4:00 PM:

*Sing a song of seasons!
Something bright in all!
Flowers in the summer,
Fires in the fall!*

-Robert Louis Stevenson

Even though it's September, we can already feel it: the days are getting shorter and the nights, cooler. The leaves are changing color, the geese are honking, and the fields are being harvested. It's time for the annual Taconic Shores Harvest Festival, a celebration with good friends, good food, good music, and a great big ole bonfire! Come join us at the Clubhouse on October 18, 2014, at 4 PM. There will be tasty seasonal food, live music, fun raffles that benefit the lake and other entertainment as well! Please see the attached flyer for details. Bring your family and your friends--**\$25.00 per person (under 12, free). RSVP by October 11.** If you're interested in volunteering, please contact June Boyle (juneboyle@yahoo.com, 917-837-9372). Hope to see you there!

Lake Report:

- This summer, the lake has been treated with Aquathol Super K for Eurasian milfoil and copper sulfate for the algae. With a cooler summer and more vegetation in the lake, the algae has not been as troublesome as in past years. Unfortunately, the DEC will not allow us to use Renovate, which is one of the most effective treatments for milfoil. The DEC has also imposed new monitoring restrictions which require sampling downstream areas. We are fortunate to have Bucky (Lester Hosier), who is trained to do the sampling.
- To maintain the health of the lake, TSPOA continues to impose fines on households that have not had their septic tanks inspected within a five year interval. It is very important that nutrients from septic systems do not leach into the lake and feed the algae.
- Again this summer, the weed harvester has been effective in removing some of the pesky vegetation, which would otherwise decompose and provide more nutrients that enhance algae growth. That's the good news. The bad news is that we have a new invasive—brittle naiad—as well as an overabundance of sago pondweed. These plants have clogged the northern section of the lake. Also, there are still pockets of water chestnut plants that must be removed by hand. If you find a patch of water chestnuts and need help removing them, please notify a Board or Lake Committee member, or contact the TSPOA Office. Familiarize yourself with these plants; they are the bad guys.
- Please go to our website, www.taconicshores.org, which is maintained by Rob Weingaertner, to find up-to-date information about the lake and various informational reports.

A Wonderful Picnic: This is the fourth year I have had the pleasure of heading up the TSPOA Community Picnic and, as always, I could not begin to pull it off without many, many hard working volunteers. A major shout out goes to **Gary Plotch** and **Terry Jacobs**, (who headed up the BBQ team), **Susan Way**, **Patty Sheron**, **Mary** and **Frank Scorzello**, **June Boyle**, **Craig Mende**, **Shawn** and **Patty McClain**, **Trude (Trooper) Dalton**, **Elayne Dix** and many more. This year was truly a community celebration—people in the water, water balloon fights, food, drink, Elayne's Plant Exchange ~ Sale, 50/50 and so much more... Thanks to everyone who attended and helped. Let's build on the success of this year and make next year even a better **COMMUNITY CELEBRATION AND PICNIC**. Contact me any time with ideas and offers to help. Thank you once again to everyone who helped plan and volunteered in advance and during the day. -David Terveen

And, of course, we thank the amazing David Terveen for once again pulling off a terrific event!!!



Water Infrastructure Update: We are pleased to announce that as of September 6, over \$479,000 has been raised towards the total estimated cost of \$650,000 for the water infrastructure replacement. The first step in the long-awaited water project is to break ground this Fall for the new pump house, which will be located at the current site of the Maintenance Department and house the three pumps that will supply the community's water. When the third well has been redeveloped, the new higher-capacity pumping system will permit the three pumps to work in tandem at variable speeds for greater capacity, efficiency and reliability. The sub-pump on Birch Road will also be replaced, and the water tower will also be refitted for separate intake and outflow to improve its storage capacity. Finally, the pipe that currently supplies the far side of the lake will be replaced by a new pipe that will be laid approximately five to six feet below the floor of the lake running parallel to the original pipe. Once the project begins, we estimate that work will proceed rapidly with no disruption in service.

TSPOA Parking and Boat Stickers: Vehicles in the common area parking lots will be towed if they do not have a new TSPOA resident or guest tag prominently displayed in the vehicle. We are doing this to address concerns that we have had trespassers utilizing our property. Note: Of the 400-plus TSPOA homeowners, only about 100 have picked up the new tags. Tags are available at the TSPOA Office.

Septic System Regulations: Remember that TSPOA Rules and Regulations require that all septic systems be inspected and pumped out every five years. You are responsible to provide the TSPOA Office with documentation of your septic maintenance. If you receive a communication about non-compliance, you have 45 days to have the work done and submit the paperwork before you are liable for a fine.

If You Rent Out Your House: Whether you rent your house out for a day, a week or a year or more, you **must provide a copy of a lease**, including the names, addresses and phone numbers of the renters, to the TSPOA Office. You are also required to include the Rules and Regulations in the Blue Book (also available online) as part of your lease, and to contact the TSPOA Office with any changes in leases or lease renewals.

Association Dues, Water System Assessment

Reminder: If you still owe the second payment of your annual association dues, please remember that it is due by November 1st. In addition, the second payment of the special assessment for the new water system is payable by August 31, 2015. Separate invoices for members who have not yet paid their full annual dues or assessments will be mailed. As always, if you need to make special arrangements, please contact TSPOA Treasurer Gary Plotch at gplotch@juno.com or call the TSPOA Office at 518-329-2881.

TSPOA Board Changes: At the annual elections meeting in August, two board members, **Cara Boyle**, Legal Director, and **Faye Menken Schneier**, Correspondence Director, announced their resignations from the TSPOA Board of Directors. Both women have devoted many hours to carrying out their responsibilities. We will miss them as board members but continue to cherish their friendship as members of our community. Thank you so much for all of your hard work, Cara and Faye! The Board welcomes its newest member, **Gary Lewis**, who will assume the responsibilities of both Legal Director and Correspondence Director in place of Cara Boyle and Faye Menken Schneier, respectively. Welcome, Gary!

All Boats Must Be Removed By December 1st:

Please note that all boats, including kayaks, and trailers must be removed from the community beaches and boat launches no later than December 1, 2014. **PLEASE NOTE: If your boat is not removed, TSPOA will have it removed, and you will be charged a \$100 fee to reclaim your boat.**

Houses for Sale: The Taconic Shores Board has noticed that there are unauthorized "For Sale" signs in front of a number of properties within the community. Please remember that you must get the consent of the Board prior to placing a "For Sale" sign on your property. All unauthorized signs will be removed. Also, brokers should not put signs pointing into the Taconic Shores community regarding houses for sale. Ours is a private community with private roads; we do not encourage casual house hunters to tour our community unescorted by owners or brokers.

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Houses for Sale: Please refer to the Rules and Regulations for information about sales. You must notify the TSPOA Office when you enter into a contract to sell your home or lot, and you must advise the Office of the impending sale and the name of the new owner. NOTE: A TRANSFER FEE OF \$350, DUE 14 DAYS BEFORE CLOSING, IS PAYABLE TO TSPOA ON ALL HOMES CHANGING HANDS.

Garbage Pick-Up Reminder:

Please remember that garbage is to be placed in Columbia County garbage bags and then IN A LIDDED, TIGHTLY SECURED METAL OR PLASTIC CONTAINER. We have had a problem with animals opening garbage bags, which slows down garbage collection and makes an unsanitary mess.

TSPOA Does Not Pick Up Brush:

TSPOA does not have the capacity to pick up brush, nor do we have a place to dump it. If you have a way to transport your brush, you may take it to the transfer station off Route 23B in Hudson. There are also many services that will dispose of your brush. TSPOA does not recommend or endorse any vendors, but you may want to ask your neighbors or check "Tree Services" in the Yellow Pages. It might be practical for neighbors to join together for a group pick up. *YOUR BRUSH IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!* If TSPOA must remove brush left at the perimeter of property for an extended period of time after notification has been sent to the homeowner, TSPOA will charge the negligent homeowner three times the cost to TSPOA, which includes staff time, fuel, equipment use and dumping charges.

Notification System:

As a reminder, TSPOA would like to encourage members to use our Notification System. Please visit our website at www.taconicshores.org, and go to the Notification page for more information and enrollment instructions.

Return of a Nemesis:

We thought we had them. After massive hand-pulling about six years ago, we thought we had eradicated the water chestnuts in Robinson Pond. Of course, there would be isolated plants that needed to be pulled, but the massive "carpets" of water chestnuts seemed to have disappeared. **We received a rude awakening in mid-August.** The European Water Chestnut (not the same one you order in Chinese food) is an invasive aquatic plant which, if left unchecked, clogs water-ways. It is a rooted aquatic annual herb that dies back at the end of each growing season. Re-growth is by means of seeds that germinate in the spring. Each rosette (see below) is capable of producing up to 20 hard, nut-like fruits that have several very sharp points. They have no nutritional or habitat value to fish or waterfowl. The nuts can be viable for up to 12 years.

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TSPOA Dates:

Board Meetings - Always the third Friday 7:30 PM
EXCEPT AUGUST ~ Always the Second Saturday
2014 September 19
2014 October 17
2014 November 21 (11.1.14 40% of Membership Dues)
2014 December 19
2015 January 16
2015 February 20
2015 March 20
2015 April 17
2015 May 15
2015 June 19
2015 July 17 (7.1.14 60% of Membership Dues)
2015 August 21 (8.31.14 40% of Water Assessment due)
OCTOBER 18, 2014

Annual Informational Board Meeting

Membership Meetings - Always the third Saturday
EXCEPT AUGUST ~ Always the Second Saturday
Four Annual Board Meetings 2015

April 18 ~ Budget
June 20 ~ Informational
August 22 ~ Elections
October 17 ~ Informational

No Grass Clippings, Leaves on the Roads or in the Lake: Please be aware, and please let outside landscapers know, not to blow grass clippings and leaves on to the roads or into the lake.

Return of a Nemesis:*-Continued from page 4*

The best way to rid our lake of the water chestnut is to hand-pull it. If you are unable to remove these plants from the lake, please let the TSPOA Office know specifically where they are located in the lake.

They need to be pulled as soon as they are identified.

**TSPOA Office:**

Margaret Bower Avenia, (Phone) 518-329-2881

Office Manager/Bookkeeper,

NEW E-Mail: office@taconicshores.org

Website: www.taconicshores.org

53 Lakeshore Drive, Copake, NY 12516

(Fax) 518-329-0517

Office Hours: *Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM*

Saturdays - Every 1st & 3rd of the month

Closed Mondays following 1st and 3rd Saturdays

Maintenance Department:

Lester Hosier (Bucky) and Vance Hotaling

(Phone) 518-329-0241

Maintenance Hours: *Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM*

Saturdays - Leave message on machine and someone will get back to you a.s.a.p.

