



# Rush Lake News



## Spring 2016

Rush Lake Property  
Owners Association

Phone: 734-878-0340  
email: [rushlakepoa@yahoo.com](mailto:rushlakepoa@yahoo.com)  
Website: [rushlakepoa.com](http://rushlakepoa.com)

### DO YOU SUFFER FROM BLIGHT?

Does your neighbor's yard look like a junkyard?



When you look over your side fence do you see an old junk car?...or an old boat that hasn't been used for years?

Don't give up hope. There is something you can do about it, but it takes some action by you to get rid of this neighborhood blight. Success will be more likely if you band together with other neighbors to rid your community of this nuisance.

Your Board is keenly aware of the many blight problems in our area. They constantly hear complaints from members about these kinds of problems. They have contacted Hamburg Township about this issue, and provide you here with some useful tips.

Hamburg Township has blight ordinances which cover the subject of junk in general in yards. Specifically, unlicensed vehicles and boats must be stored indoors. Many kinds of objects can be part of a blight nuisance:



items like old washing machines, abandoned bicycles, old piles of wood, old ladders and furniture,

inoperable machinery, and, of course, unlicensed cars or boats.

Obviously it would be wonderful if every resident kept their yard clean and tidy, but the reality is some people simply don't care about how their yard looks, and so blight problems develop.

Residents can file a blight complaint form with Hamburg Township online and can remain anonymous. They will begin an investigation of the matter which can lead to a formal citation given to the offending party. Hamburg Township Supervisor Pat Hohl states that over 110 citations have been issued in the Township in just the last year for blight problems.



Obviously it would be useful if you could provide the Township with photographs documenting the blight. Also, it is particularly helpful if multiple neighbors actually file a formal complaint, then let the Township do their job of enforcing these ordinances

You can contact Hamburg Township by telephone at 810-231-1000, at 10405 Merrill Road, Hamburg, MI, 48139, or via their website at [www.hamburg.mi.us](http://www.hamburg.mi.us).

### YARD WASTE

Please don't throw yard waste in the lake. When yard waste ends up in the lake, it adds more nutrients to the water, which in turn helps the weeds to grow.

Decomposing yard waste in the lake also depletes the oxygen needed for fish to live.

### **PLEASE ATTEND SEMIANNUAL MEETINGS!**

Matters of great importance to all Association members are discussed and voted on at our semiannual meetings. Of particular significance is the election of Board members each spring, the voting on the annual budget each fall, bylaw changes, dues increase, and special assessments.

The three main areas of Board overview – the lake, parks, and roads – are always reviewed and discussed along with other important matters.

The Board always seeks input from all Association members, and encourages everyone to mark their calendars and attend these important meetings.

See you on May 4<sup>th</sup>!

## Upcoming Meeting Dates

**Semiannual meeting**  
**Wednesday**  
**May 4, 2016**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday,  
June 1, 2016  
6:30 p.m.

Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday,  
July 6, 2016  
6:30 pm (if needed)

Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday,  
August 3, 2016  
6:30 pm

Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday,  
September 7, 2016  
6:30 pm

All meetings are held at the  
Hamburg Community Center  
on Merrill Road.  
Members are welcome to  
attend any of the meetings

## Send us your email address!

Just send your email address  
to our Clerk at  
rushlakepoa@yahoo.com  
to receive updates of current  
events around the lake and to  
receive our  
newsletters by  
email.  
Convenient



and informative!

## Please Check Your Key!

Please be sure to check your boat launch key before you are ready to launch. It is very disappointing to be ready to launch for a day of fun only to discover your key doesn't work. If your account balance is paid in full, your key should be active, but many times members are certain their dues are paid but they when in fact they haven't. Take a few extra minutes to check to be sure your key actually works before you plan to use your boat. Remember payments are accepted only through the mail or at meetings.



## 2015 - 2016 Officers

President Lois Pescia  
Vice President Eric Schaufele  
Treasurer Lex Kinter  
Secretary Joe Grech

### Board Members

Fred Clough  
Christina Letzring  
Peggy Pietras  
Pam Sevonty

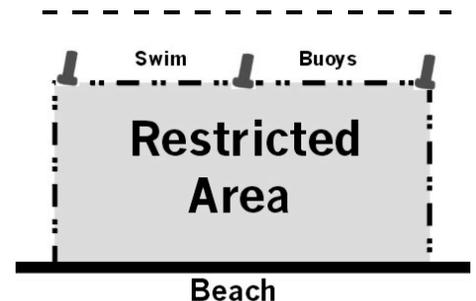
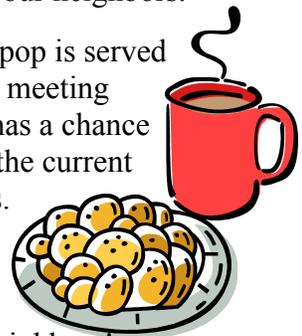
Association Clerk

Teresa Kinter  
734-878-0340

## Meet New Friends

The Rush Lake Semi-Annual meetings are great places to meet your neighbors and discover we all have common interests in Rush Lake. The next Semi-Annual meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. May 4, but registration opens at 6:30 p.m. Coffee and cookies are available along with the chance to chat with your neighbors.

Pizza and pop is served following the meeting so everyone has a chance to talk about the current current issues. This is a great chance to meet new friends and neighbors!



**Michigan State Law**  
**says:**

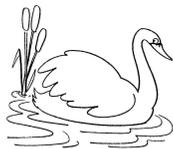
**No boating in restricted areas.**

**Please do not anchor or operate your boat in any**

## Rush Lake

### ***WILL MACHO FIND A MATE?***

As previously reported, "Macho", the male of



the resident Rush Lake pair of swans, tragically lost his mate last spring. We don't know what caused her death, however Macho took over the parenting job and raised their single remaining signet by himself.

This pair has raised many successful families of signets over the years. Each year the swans build their nest in the wetlands at the far western part of the lake. Baby signets are born sometime in May, and soon thereafter the mother brings her offspring out onto the lake. Each year lakeside residents look forward to seeing how many new signets will show up, but this year it may well be different.

Swans actually mate for life and are fiercely devoted to their partner. They are known to seriously grieve for their lost mate, sometimes for years.

Studies show that some surviving individuals will go on to find a new partner and begin new families, but there is no guarantee that this will happen on our lake this spring, if ever.

We can only hope that Macho will somehow, sometime, find a new wife

## swim area!

and bring her back to Rush Lake for our enjoyment.

### **PARK PARKING PROBLEMS**



The parking spaces at each of our parks are for the use of members actually using the parks at that time. Although this rule seems obvious, there have been continuing problems with cars parked at our parks improperly, sometimes for extended periods of time. There have been numerous instances where members wanting to use the parks have been unable to find parking spaces because non-users have taken needed spaces.

There are already signs posted prohibiting overnight parking, but, in spite of this, people continue to park their cars at the parks for long periods of time, clearly violating the rules.

The Board is considering creating more restrictive rules to combat this problem.

It is very inconsiderate to park your vehicle at the parks when you are not currently using the park facilities. It is important to show common courtesy and follow these simple rules.

**Frogs may be hypnotized by placing them on**

**their back and gently stroking their stomachs**

### **Do You Have A Water Softener?**

Did you know you are supposed to be using potassium chloride instead of sodium chloride in your water softener? Hamburg Township passed an ordinance some years ago forbidding the use of sodium chloride in water softeners for those hooked up to the sewer system.

### **No Burning After May 31st**

The Hamburg Township Burning Ordinance only allows the burning of yard waste during the months of April, and May, and October, and November. No burning is allowed between June 1st and September 30th.

**Please do not**



# **play on buoys**

## **BEING CONSIDERATE WHEN ANCHORING YOUR BOAT**

We need to remind ourselves to be considerate of others while relaxing or fishing in our boats while anchored close to shore. Sometimes we forget how our boat's closeness to the shore affects the well being of nearby homeowners.

We have received numerous complaints about boats being parked close to lakefront properties which is intrusive to the shoreline residents.

While boating regulations can control a lot of activities on the water, there are some things that these regulations don't cover: simply showing consideration for others. Sometimes the leisure of members on the shore is disrupted by boaters that choose to park their boats close to, and directly in front of, their shoreline residences.

When parking your boat on the lake, please consider the impact that may have on the feelings of the shoreline residents.

**A GROUP OF FROGS IS  
CALLED AN ARMY!**

## **INTERESTING INFORMATION!**

As always, the RLPOA website is chock-full of information about our lake, neighborhood, and Board happenings. Be sure to check it out at [rushlakepoa.com](http://rushlakepoa.com) to find the latest news, photos, and calendars of upcoming events.  
You'll be glad you did!

## **ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS**

There will be an election of three Board members at the upcoming semi-annual meeting. Two current members will be up for reelection, and one position is presently vacant.

Board members share the workload among themselves, and every Board position is both interesting and rewarding.

Anyone who is a property owner within the Association's boundaries is eligible to serve as a Board member.

Consider offering to help yourself and your neighbors by volunteering for a Board position!

## **Spring has Sprung ... And The Dogs Are Running Loose!**



Does your dog run loose? According to the State of Michigan "leash law", no dog is legally allowed to run loose. Calls have been received concerning certain dogs that are allowed to run loose in the neighborhood. Is your dog one of these?

Very few people are pleased with someone else's dog running free. Dogs that are not leashed are a very serious concern, especially for residents who enjoy their walk. A loose dog is against the law, and no one should have to deal with your stray dog.

Animal Control asks anyone to contact them immediately if you see a dog running loose. If you know who owns the dog, Animal Control will speak with the owner and help them to understand that this situation will not be tolerated. If the dog is a stray, Animal Control will come to get the dog. They will definitely try to help you with any given situation. You can contact them at 517-546-2154.

**While boating  
this season, let's  
all remember the  
100 foot rule!**

According to the boating laws, one is not to operate their boat or personal watercraft at greater than slow-no wake speed if the vessel or persons being towed are within 100 feet of a shoreline, any moored or anchored boat, any marked swimming area or person(s) in the water, a dock or raft. Slow-no wake speed is the slowest speed at which it is still possible to maintain steering and does not create a wake. In addition, if a personal watercraft is operating at greater than slow-no wake speed, it must not cross within 150 feet behind another boat other than a personal watercraft.

Boats and personal watercraft are also supposed to operate in a counter-clockwise direction except in areas marked by well -defined channels.

These two laws are probably a couple of the most disregarded parts of the boating laws. Let's be sure and keep all of the boating laws in mind during the upcoming boating season. By observing all of the boating laws, we can all work to keep Rush Lake accident free!

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**Frogs don't drink but  
absorb water through  
their skin.**

*Welcome,  
New  
Members*

The Association is pleased to welcome the following new families who have purchased property within our Association this year.

**Baringer**

**Love**

**Martinez**

**McCotter**

**McCullough**

**Rohkohl**

**Sieniarecki**

**Williams**

**Yanez**

If a previous homeowner did not leave the boat launch key for a new owner, please send an email requesting a key to the Association Clerk at [rushlakepoa@yahoo.com](mailto:rushlakepoa@yahoo.com).

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**Just A  
Reminder!**

be paid in full by July 1, 2016, or a 10% penalty will be applied to all unpaid balances.

Payments must be postmarked by July 1, 2016, or they will be considered late and a penalty will apply.

Keep in mind that payments may only be made by mail or at one of our meetings.

**WANTED :  
Rush Lake  
News Items**

**When your child wins an award or your daughter is getting married, would you like to share the news with your neighbors?**

**We encourage members to email any neighborhood news to our Association Clerk at [rushlakepoa@yahoo.com](mailto:rushlakepoa@yahoo.com), or call the Clerk at 734-878-0340 with your news so we can share it with our Rush Lake community.**

**That way we all can be aware of what's happening around our lake.**

**Boat Launch  
Key Floats  
Available**

When a member is issued a boat launch key, it automatically comes with a blue anchor shaped float

asking if they may purchase key floats so the Board has approved the purchase of additional quantities for any

purchase one. These floats may be purchased at any meeting for \$2.00 each. If you would prefer

cost will be \$4.00 each.

## ***Rush Lake Property Owners Association***

### ***Semiannual Meeting***

***May 4, 2016                      7:00 p.m.***

***Hamburg Township***

***Community Center Building***

***10405 Merrill Road***

***Registration and Social Time 6:30 p.m.***

### **Agenda**

**Roads**

**Parks**

**Lake**

**Bylaw Updates**

**Dues Increase**

**Elections**

**Any Additions To  
The Agenda**



**Rush Lake Property Owners Association  
P.O. Box 78  
Pinckney, Michigan 48169**

**Mailing Label**