



Rush Lake News



Spring 2015

Rush Lake Property
Owners Association

Phone: 734-878-0340
email: rushlakepoa@yahoo.com
Website: rushlakepoa.com

2015 Lake Treatment and Plans

Our plans have been completed with our contractors for 2015 lake treatments and harvesting. The process will begin in late April when our contractor surveys the lake and canals to determine weed growth. The long winter with strong ice cover actually helps reduce plant growth for several weeks into the late spring/early summer time period.

With the success we had in 2014 with the weed-harvesting contractor, our board has determined that we will continue with that plan for the main part of the lake. We now have expanded the harvesting to include two cuttings. The first is scheduled to take place around June 15th and will consist of 60 hours of cutting time. We have a second cutting scheduled for mid-August and that will consist of 40 hours of cutting time. Our goal is to have the main body of the lake cleaned up prior to the 4th of July and Labor Day holidays.

The expense for these two harvesting projects is \$12,800.

The second element of weed control will be with herbicides. The actual dates and products will be determined after our

contractor has surveyed plant growth. We are assuming that the majority of treatments will be taking place in the canals. We have a budget of \$12,500 to cover this work for 2015.

Please refer to our website (www.rushlakepoa.com) for updates on harvesting and lake treatments. Our contractors are obligated to post notification signs on the property shorelines in areas that they treat with herbicides. If your property is not affected by the herbicide treatments, you will not have signage posted on your property.

Also note, that our contract with the weed harvesting company directs them to pick up floating weeds and cuttings. Wind conditions can sometimes affect that process. Our goal is that 95% of all cuttings are harvested and hauled away with their equipment.

Did you know?
Carp feed by slurping in mud from the bottom of the lake or river, spitting out the muck, and eating the edible food, such as seeds and insects.

Dam Update

As previously reported, the Board has been soliciting bids for the dam repair project for some time. So far this year three bids have been received, and the Board is presently reviewing them. They hope to be able to accept a bid soon and complete the work this year.



With the snow during the winter, one doesn't notice how much trash accumulates along the roads. But now that the snow is gone, this trash is very obvious! Some members have been picking up trash while



they are out walking but it would be very simple for each property owner to pick up trash along their property. If

everyone were to pick up the trash, it wouldn't be long before our roads again were clean and litter free. Take pride in your

neighborhood and pick up some of the trash. It only takes a few minutes but makes a big difference!

Mark Your Calendar



Semiannual Meeting
Wednesday, May 6, 2015
7:00 p.m.

Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 3, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday, July 1, 2015
6:30 p.m. (if needed)

Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 5, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday,
September 2, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Semiannual Meeting
Wednesday
October 7, 2015
7:00 p.m.

Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday
November 4, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday
December 2, 2015
6:30 p.m. (if needed)

All meetings are held at the
Hamburg Community Center
10405 Merrill Road.
Members are welcome to
attend any of the meetings

Meeting Date Schedule

Occasionally, Board meetings are cancelled due to weather or a lack of quorum. When this happens, it sometimes can be two – three months before another meeting is scheduled.

According to the bylaws, members are to be notified in writing, not less than five days in advance, of the time, place and purpose of all meetings so to simply reschedule a meeting would require a mailing be sent to all members. Rather than incur the expense of a special mailing, the Board schedules meetings during all months of the year with the July and December meetings being noted “if needed”. If the Board has met in June and there is nothing that cannot wait till August, then the July meeting will be cancelled. The same will happen with the December meeting if the Board has met in November.

If you are planning on attending any meetings, either email (rushlakepoa@yahoo.com) or call (734-878-0430) to find out if the status of the meeting.

2015 – 2016 Officers

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

Board Members

Pam Sevonty
Fred Clough
Peggy Pietras

Association Clerk

Teresa Kinter 734-878-0340

Meet Your Neighbors!

Although the Semiannual Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m., plan to come a bit early and meet some of your neighbors. Registration for the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and coffee and cookies are available.

Following the meeting, pizza is available to give the members a chance to not only meet their neighbors but talk more about current topics of interest.

Besides taking part in the decision making in your community, the Semiannual Meetings are a great place to meet your neighbors!

The Association Needs Your Help!

At the spring semiannual meeting on May 6th, elections will be held for four Board positions, each for a three year term.

Two are for the reelection of Board positions that are already filled.

The other two are for positions that have been vacant for a long time. It would be very helpful to the Association if these positions can be filled soon. Most Board members spend on an average just a few hours a month helping to make Rush Lake a great place to live.

Consider volunteering to help out your Association by offering to fill one of these positions.

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE!

Have you visited our new Rush Lake Property Owners website? This past January, our board moved ahead with a plan to update our website and to use it as a communication tool for all of our members. Our web address is www.rushlakepoa.com. Plans are to update the website at the completion of each board meeting with important updates to our membership on topics such as:

- Road grading dates
- Dust control treatment dates
- Planned tree trimming projects
- Weed harvesting dates
- Other association news

Our plan is to put important updates on the home page of our site so members are encouraged to bookmark that page and return on a monthly basis.

Under the “About Us” tab you will find a schedule of upcoming board meetings and general membership meetings as well as tabs with past PDF files of newsletters, general membership board minutes and our by-laws.

Under the “Services” tab we will have detailed information on our:

- Lake
- Roads
- Park

The “Contact Us” page has our email address and association phone number.

Our website was designed in a “responsive design” format which makes it accessible and usable from smart phones, tablets, and desktops.

A fun feature of our site is the “Rush Lake Boating, Fishing and Community News” magazine on the home page. This magazine is best read through the Flipboard APP for Apple and Android and contains articles for cottage living, landscaping, fishing and inland lake boating. The articles are updated a couple of times a month.

Lastly, members are encouraged to submit photos of fun activities around the lake. Please email them to rushlakepoa@yahoo.com with information on the photo and the name of the photographer.

We welcome your input to make the site useful and better for our community.

Nighttime Boating

People who enjoy boating after dark need to be extra cautious as sometimes there are people fishing on the lake.

Although the Michigan Department of Natural Resources recommends that every boat display a white light while adrift at night, not everyone does. Boaters need to slow down to minimize the risk of a collision. Along with reducing the risk of an accident, slowing down will help to lower the noise level and thus be less of a disturbance to others.

**Happiness is
found along
the way,
not at the end
of the road.**



SWIMMER'S ITCH

Have you ever gotten what you thought was a case of poison ivy in the summer but couldn't figure out where you might have come in contact with it? That case of "poison ivy" may not have been poison ivy but instead a case of swimmer's itch!

During late May or early June, or even occasionally later in the summer, a parasite is present in some waters and this parasite is responsible for swimmer's itch. The parasite sometimes infects humans by penetrating their skin.

After penetrating the human skin, they remain in the skin but die off and can cause an allergic reaction, which closely resembles poison ivy. Within just a couple of hours of being infected, small, itchy red spots will appear where each parasite entered the skin. Some people have reported a slight, tingling sensation as the water from swimming seeps from their skin. This sensation is caused by the parasites burrowing into the skin and this may be the only clue one may get until they break out with red spots.

Once one breaks out, the spots will usually reach their maximum size within 24 hours, but the itching may continue for several days or even up to a week. There isn't much that can be done once you have the rash, although some people treat the itching with lotions or creams. One can reduce their chances of being infected by the parasite by following these suggestions:

- Towel off briskly immediately after swimming, or better yet, take a shower and then towel off.
- Swim in deeper water away from shore.
- Avoid swimming where numerous snails have accumulated.
- Apply a water repellent substance such as petroleum jelly, waterproof sunscreen or other skin oil prior to swimming. This can help prevent the parasite from penetrating your skin.

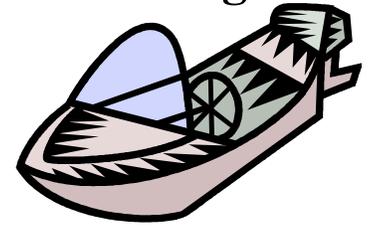
Check Your Key!

Please be sure and check to make sure your boat launch key is active before you are ready to launch your boat. Avoid the disappointment of being all ready for a day on the lake, only to discover that your key is not active. If your dues are paid in full, then your key should be active but there are numerous times someone thinks the dues have been paid when in reality they haven't been paid. Take the few extra minutes to check your key well in advance of plans to use your boat.

Don't Dump!

While doing your spring yard cleaning, please do not dump your leaves or branches in the Association parks. Doing this will cost us all as someone will have to be paid to clean up the mess.

No Boats In Swimming Areas



A number of members have expressed their concerns over the boats that come into the swimming areas at all three parks.

According to Michigan boating laws, it is illegal to operate your boat in a restricted area that is marked by buoys. Our swimming areas are clearly marked by buoys and yet, some people simply ignore the buoys.

Please let's show common courtesy and protect our children safe by keeping boats and jet skis out of the swimming areas!

Thank You!

The Board would like to thank all members who take the time and interest to let the Board know when there is a problem in our community. Board members are volunteers and cannot be everywhere all the time, so when members alert them to a problem, it is very much appreciated.

While many members don't like to complain, it is the best way for the Board to know what is going on in the area. By members working with the Board, it helps to alleviate problems that the Board might not even know exist. Please continue to help us out.

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? In the Rush Lake News, we will print items of Rush Lake community happenings as space permits.

Please feel free to send your news items to R.L.P.O.A., P.O. Box 78, Pinckney, Michigan 48169.

Please Leash Your Dog



According to the Michigan State Leash Law, it shall be unlawful for any owner to allow any dog to stray unless held properly in leash. This law has various exceptions but basically, dogs are not allowed to run free. The Association members need to keep this law in mind and be sure that their dogs do not run free. It is also courteous while walking your dog to clean up after your dog so as not to leave messes everywhere.

Please don't allow your dog to run free, not only for other people's sake but for the safety of your dog. When dogs are running free, it is so easy for them to get into the road and no one wants to see your dog injured.

For information of this law, please contact the Livingston County Animal Control at 517-546-2154

Leaves Of Three, Let It Be!

Last summer, one of our members noticed some wonderful looking plants growing in a flower bed along his house. They looked perfect to use as a groundcover, so he carefully watered them to encourage them to grow. He then took a sample to a local nursery to get it identified and perhaps purchase some more.

He was astounded to learn these great looking plants were in fact poison ivy! So he had to purchase treatment to kill his fine plants.

With his new knowledge of what poison ivy looks like, he then examined some huge rapidly growing lush ivy that had climbed up to the roof on one side of his home. This too, turned out to be poison ivy!

Be on the lookout, because poison ivy comes in several forms: a small plant, a woody shrub, or a vine with hairy looking aerial roots, that can grow onto trees, fences, and walls, particularly the side of your home.

The key to identifying poison ivy is that they all have three dull or glossy leaves, hence the saying: "leaves of three – let it be".

If you have any questions about a suspicious plant, just contact a local nursery for help.



Yard Waste Burning

If you plan to burn yard waste at any time, according to the Hamburg Township burning ordinance, it must be done only in the spring months of April and May, and in the fall months of October and November. Burning hours are between sunrise and sunset, local time. All fires must be completely extinguished by sunset. The material to be burned may consist only of yard waste, such as leaves, twigs, sticks, limbs and other similar organic yard waste. Fires must be supervised at all times and not located closer than 25 feet from any building or less than 10 feet from the property line. The ordinance clearly states penalties for violations.

If one has further questions about the burning ordinance, contact the Hamburg Township offices at 810-231-1000.



Sign Up Today!

If you haven't already signed up for Association emails, you may be missing out on important updates, news or information. If you would like to be added to the list of recipients, please send an email to rushlakepoa@yahoo.com and ask to be added.

**Rush Lake Property Owners
Association**

**Semiannual Meeting
May 6, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Hamburg Township
Community Center
10405 Merrill Road**

Agenda Items To Be Discussed

Roads	Parks
Lake	Website
Elections	

Any Additions To The Agenda

Registration and Social Time 6:30 p.m.



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

Just A Reminder!

***Account balances
must be paid in full by
July 1, 2015, or a 10%
penalty will be applied
to all unpaid balances.***

***Payments must be
postmarked by July 1,
2015, or they will be
considered late and a
penalty will apply.***

Stamp

Mailing Label