



## **Agenda for August 13, 2016 - Pier 33, Cheboygan. MI (Initial Meeting)**

- Introductions
- Brief history (attached)
  - No-wake violations were worsening - affecting River safety and tranquility
  - Dave/Blair - developed a cooperative relationship with the Cheboygan County Sheriff's Dept. and the DNR - discussed ideas to improve compliance / enforcement
  - Researched and communicated with numerous private and public entities - compiled ideas to improve
  - Created idea to form a River association to have a greater common voice
  - Obtained feedback / confirmation of concerns from River residents / property owners - formed the CRPA
  - Now we're here - First CRPA meeting!
- Progress to date: been working with law enforcement (Marine Division and DNR) - enhanced patrols, buoys, agreement on need for sustained efforts, support for CRPA
- Discussions to be held re: signage, communication/education, other enforcement ideas
- Solicited feedback from recent mailings introducing CRPA - obtained considerable agreement on discontent with current state and need for positive change
- Membership - request for support - forms available
  - Examples of uses for funds
- Next steps - Obtain tax-exempt status, formalize charter, establish board, plan
- Feedback/Round-table - including Darrell Schwalm to introduce MAPS initiative on shoreline greenbelts (educational)
- Adjourn / networking



## **Brief History of the CRPA**

Dave and Blair, along with their families, are property owners along the Cheboygan River, and last fall, after another season of endless no-wake violations, they decided something HAD to be done. After many years of concerns, complaints, and anxiety, they spoke with a hand-full of other distressed Cheboygan River property owners, and after hearing most all of them express the same concerns, they decided to create the Cheboygan River Preservation Association (CRPA). They felt it was time to offer their leadership to unite fellow riverfront property owners so they could have an impactful voice to discuss common concerns, with the proper responsible people and organizations, including the need to help improve the tranquility of the River environment and help sustain such for current and future generations.

While they are interested in protecting all aspects of the Cheboygan River and its watershed, they believe water safety is a top priority - safety not only for everyone and their families as boaters, swimmers, and kayakers, but also safety for wild-life including the shoreline habitat that erodes with every waking “roller” from uncaring and/or unknowing boaters.

They have been working in concert with Sgt. Kennedy of the Cheboygan County Sheriff’s Dept., Outdoor Division (which includes the Marine team), as well as Sgt. Drogowski from the DNR (recently retired), and will continue to do so. Their discussions and meetings have been very positive and everyone is on board to help reduce these violations. You may have noticed more patrols this year from not only the Marine Division, but also the DNR. Additionally, working with the DNR and USCG, Dave and Blair have placed two official No-Wake buoys on the river. These should also aid in helping reduce violations through enhanced awareness of no-wake laws and by eliminating excuses by violators that they are unaware of such.

So, because of this and because they are aware there could be other issues of common concern, brought to attention by property owners, they are taking much time and expending considerable effort, on behalf of the property owners and the community, to create the Cheboygan River Preservation Association. They are very hopeful that through positive, cooperative, and proactive efforts, all will benefit from the Association. They are confident that, over time, membership and participation will grow as people see the benefit of the Association. Finally, they are also optimistic that people will enjoy interacting with and getting to know others in their beautiful River-front community!