

APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER

Crockery Lake Association



Helpful Links:

Crockery Lake Website: www.crockerylake.org

Facebook Page: [www.facebook/crockerylake](https://www.facebook.com/crockerylake)

Merchandise: www.cafepress.com/crockerylake

CLA ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be May 15, 2019, at 6:00 PM at Grose Park. It will start with a picnic: hot dogs, condiments, baked beans, chips, and donuts.

The meeting will start at 7:00 PM.

Speakers will be Jaimee Conroy, Environmental Scientist of PLM Lake & Land Management Corporation (weed control vendor). Dennis Arms and Bob Blauwkamp, Board Members will explain how they monitor lake depth and clarity. During the business meeting which starts at 7 p.m., three Board Members will be elected. You can pay your dues at this time also. You must pay dues if you want to vote.

2019 DUES

Annual dues are \$35 to be a member of the Lake Association. Additionally any extra you give goes toward our 2020 Fireworks. You can pay at the meeting May 15 or you can send your check to: Bob Blauwkamp, 2380 Crockery Shores Road, Casnovia MI 49318

SEEKING TWO BOARD MEMBERS

Three three-year positions are open this year. Anyone who is interested, feel free to throw your hat in the ring. You will make a great lake board member if:

- You have an interest in learning about lake health

- Be a resource for your neighbors on water quality projects, erosion control, weed treatments, lakescaping and more!
- You want to take an active role in making decisions that affect our lake
- You have current concerns for the lake and have ideas how to fix them
 - Make a positive difference to help solve lake problems.

Interested? Contact Bruce Callen, President, or any board member. Phone numbers on last page of newsletter.

2019 FIREWORKS – JULY 3, 2019



A grand total of \$5400 was collected for fireworks for this year! Yeah! Our pyrotechnists, Carl Elliott and Tom Ludwick, have done a stupendous job for the last few years. They are eagerly looking for more help. They are ready to pass the baton. There is special training needed to get certified. A one day class. This class will be offered on May 18. Without some new, younger folks to step up the show will have to be turned back to Wolverine or abandoned. It will cost about 12% more to have Wolverine

do the job and they may not be able to do it on July 3. So if you want to get a bang out of life please call Carl Elliott, 616-887-4203 for more information.

NEW DOCK ORDINANCE

A revised dock ordinance was approved at the Chester Township meeting on February 11, 2019. Please read the ordinance before placing docks and boats in the water. Follow this link: <http://www.chester-twp.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2019-02-01-Lake-Regulation-Ordinance.pdf>

Respecting our neighbors makes for great community!

E. COLI SAMPLING

Bruce Callen and Pat Wolters took DNR representative Molly Rippke, an aquatic specialist, around the lake to show her the inlets. The DNR will test Crockery Lake for E. coli at inlets and at random spots three or more times this summer. The Board had requested DNR sampling several years ago.

It should be noted that properties cannot be sold without approval from the Ottawa County Health Department. Also there had been a bill before the legislature to require septic systems to be checked every ten years rather than wait until the property is sold but the bill wasn't passed.

2019 CHEMICAL TREATMENT DATES

Crockery Lake Schedule of Weed & Algae Treatments for 2019:

5/13/2019 Spring Survey

5/20/2019 Weed & Algae Opt., MD Treatment

6/24/2019 Algae & Weed Opt., MD Treatment

7/22/2019 Opt. Weed & Algae, MD Treatment
8/19/2019 Fall AVAS Survey, MD Treatment

DEQ permitting restrictions, national holidays, and/or weather conditions may influence the timing of treatments throughout the 2019 season. PLM treats each lake according to a schedule or season plan, established with the cooperation of your lake association, lake board or residents on the lake. The treatment schedule is approximate. Please watch your shoreline for the posting of the 8.5x11 inch, yellow or green signs. The signs will indicate the date of the treatment, the products used, and any restrictions on the use of treated water for swimming, watering lawns, etc. The property owners in this area are planning to have the waters chemically treated to control lake weeds and/or algae. This notice is being circulated accordance with Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) procedures.

On the day of treatment, signs will be posted along the shoreline within 100 feet of treatment areas that indicate what products were used and specific water use restrictions that apply.

The chemicals used for Aquatic Nuisance Control are registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Michigan Department of Agriculture. The potential for damage to fish and other non-target organisms is minimal provided that the product is used as directed on the product label and the permit

DISCOUNTED SEPTIC PUMPING SERVICES

Your family's health and the lake's water quality depends on this. By pumping regularly, you will avoid costly repairs to your system. This is a very important way in which all residents can help preserve the health of Crockery Lake. **Kerkstra's Septic** | 616-209-4472 continues to offer discounted rates to Crockery Lake residents.

TESTING YOUR WELL WATER

Is your water safe to drink?

Everyone on the lake has a well for drinking water. The only way to know is to have your water tested—every year—to ensure water is free of harmful bacteria and other contaminants.

Your water may have been safe last year and is not safe this year. A nearby farm might have started using a different type of fertilizer that washes dangerous nitrates into your aquifer; your own septic system may be leaching contaminants into your well; everything that comes from the environment ends up in the aquifers (the source of your water).
Excerpts from The Grand Rapids Press, January 29, 2017 article.

[The best time to test is in the spring.](#)

Coliform bacteria, nitrates, dissolved solids and ph levels are included in the test.

[How much does it cost?](#)

\$33 - Water collection kits can be picked up at the annual meeting.

[Where do I submit my test to?](#)

The drop-off station is located at Alliance Analytical Labs, 179 Randall, Coopersville. They are open M-F 8:00-5:00. Saturday 8:00 a.m.-1:00, call 616-837-7670.

SPRING THINGS – “TO DO (OR DON’T LIST)”

Oak trees—don’t prune April 15 - July 15. Increases possibility of infestation by fungal disease, allows native picnic beetles to spread spores from infected trees to healthy trees; oak wilt causes rapid defoliation and die back in the crown, killing red oak trees in a matter of weeks. Treatment can be costly and destructive—prevention is key!

Need firewood for your lake campfires? Purchase your firewood locally, or buy your firewood where you plan to burn it.

Relandscaping? Add some native plants!

Clean up animal waste—don’t let it end up in the lake.

Clean out your firepit and dispose of the ashes—so they don't end up in the lake.

Don't let those TV commercials for lawn fertilizers get to you!

According to the MSU Extension Office, most lawns in Michigan have adequate levels of phosphorous without adding chemicals to your lawn.

Use lake water to water your lawn. Your lawn will have more than enough nutrients to keep it green.

You can still use crabgrass killer (without fertilizer) and other insecticides.

No types of fertilizers may be used within 300 feet of the lake.

No grass clippings, leaves, sticks, etc. may be placed in the lake.

Fertilizers applied by lawn fertilizer companies are prohibited. If you see your neighbor violating this ordinance, please remind him of the ban. Violation of this ordinance may result in a \$500 fine.

Put reflectors on your rafts. Phone numbers should be added to your paddleboats and kayaks.

Violations and questions should be directed to the Chester Township Zoning Administrator 616-899-5544.

HELP NEEDED!!

Carl Elliott is looking for volunteers to help set up the fireworks on July 3 and take them apart on July 4. Many hands make light work! Carl and Tom Ludwick volunteer their entire July 3 to setting up the fireworks. It's a long day—about 10 hours. They sure could use your help. Contact any Board member for details. This will be their last year doing the fireworks unless there is more help from anyone who is willing to take the training.



**FOR SALE: GAME TABLE WITH LEAF AND 4 CHAIRS.
BETSY LUDWICK 616-723-5704 TEXT OR CALL.**

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ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertising in this newsletter is FREE to Crockery Lake Association Members.

Advertising for business is \$25/year. Inclusion of any advertisement in the CLA Newsletter does not equate to an endorsement by the Crockery Lake Association.



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CLA BOARD

Bruce Callen, President

Ph: 616-240-9080 | Email: bcallen@callenengineering.com

Route: 2221-2391 Van Dyke

Pat Wolters, Vice President

Ph: 616-887-8707 email: patwolters@aol.com

Route: 2833-2871 Crockery Shores; Kaycee Lane; Crockery Woods

Bob Blauwkamp, Treasurer

Ph: 616-957-9007 | Email: rblauwkamp@gmail.com

Route: 2332-2550 Crockery Shores; 24th; Hoover

Dennis Arms, Director

Ph: 616-890-2681 | Email: Bigd33@gmail.com

Route: 2563-2798 Crockery Shores

Linda Rexford, Director

Ph: 616-887-0490 | Email: bnlrexford@aol.com

Route: 2392-2516 Van Dyke

Susan McClure, Secretary

Ph: 616-899-5480 | Email: Smcclure527@comcast.net

Route: 2705-2835 Van Dyke; Gooding; Taft

Betsy Ludwick, Director

616-723-5704 | Email: betsylud@gmail.com

Route: 2081-2211 Van Dyke

Carl Elliott, Director

616-887-4203 | EmailPversilecbe@yahoo.com

Route: 2705-2835 Van Dyke; Gooding; Taft

Past Presidents

Pat Wolters and Dianne Berenbrock

Crockery Lake Association Minutes March 20, 2019

Board Members Present: President Bruce Callen, Vice President Pat Wolters, Secretary Susan McClure, Treasurer Bob Blauwkamp, Dennis Arms, Carl Elliot, Betsy Ludwick, Linda Rexford.

Members present: Karen Elliot, Paula Humphrey, David Hyde, Greg Slater, Karl Wolters

1. Meeting Called to Order: 7:03 p.m.

2. Call to the Audience: Greg Slater said there are no current plans for a sewer system linking Coopersville and Muskegon.

3. Approval of the Agenda: Approved as presented. Pat Wolters moved, Betsy Ludwick seconded.

Motion carried.

4. Secretary's Report: There was no report as the minutes of the September 19, 2018, meeting were approved by email in October, 2018.

5. Treasurer's Report: Bob Blauwkamp presented a paper report of expenses for 2017 and 2018. Based on those numbers, he presented a budget totaling \$1979 for 2019. Pat Wolters moved to accept the proposed budget, second by Betsy Ludwick. Motion carried.

Fireworks: \$285 for fireworks was been received between September and the end of 2018.

Website contributions totaled \$665.33 \$80 will be used to meet the \$4600 budget for the 2019 fireworks. The balance of \$585 will be applied toward 2020 fireworks display.

Dennis Arms moved; Pat Wolters seconded. Motion carried.

6. Additions to the Agenda: None

7. Website/Facebook Update: The Chester Township Boat and Dock Ordinance will be placed on the website.

8. Dock and Boat Ordinance: The Chester Township approved the 2019 Dock and Boat Ordinance as Lake Ordinance 2019-02-01.

9. Weed Treatment/Special Assessment: Bruce Callen said that the new Special Assessment will last until 2039. Bruce prepared a chart for projecting costs. If there is a year in the near future requiring many treatments, the costs will be higher than projected because there will not have been time to build up reserve funds. Bruce has sent his charts of "PLM Invoicing and Future Trend" to the township and will follow up before the information is posted. Betsy Ludwick asked if enough people had signed up for the Special Assessment; Pat Wolters said yes.

10. CLA meeting dates: The Board will meet at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of April, May, June, July, August, and September, 2019.

11. CLA Annual Meeting: It will be May 15, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at Grose Park. Food will be hot dogs, baked beans, chips, and brownies. Pat will reserve the park. Pat will contact Jaimee Conroy, Environmental Scientist, of PLM Lake & Land Management Corp. to speak. Also suggested as speakers were a DNR representative and Joe Bush, Water Resources Commissioner. Bruce noted that we can invite speakers to any Board meeting.

12. 2019 Fireworks—Budget, Details: Carl Elliot said that 2019 would be the last year that he and Tom Ludwick would manage the fireworks display. Carl outlined the tasks—required training and certification prior to the physical side of setting up the 60 pound racks, loading the fireworks, "babysitting" the prepared display, and shooting off the evening display. The next morning involves tearing down the racks, loading them, and cleaning the site. Their training and labor have made the Crockery Lake fireworks possible. Carl and Tom have run the fireworks display for many years.

13. Board Member Status/Expirations: 2019--three members will be elected at the Annual Meeting, May 15, 2019. Bob Blauwkamp is up for reelection. Bruce Callen and Linda Rexford will not seek reelection. Terms expiring in 2020—Dennis Arms, Susan McClure, Pat Wolters. Terms expiring in 2021—Carl Elliot, Betsy Ludwick. Board members will elect the officers.

14. Newsletter ads: Ravenna Lumber, Papa Cacones, and Realtor Don Scott will be solicited. Other advertisers are welcome.

15. Fish Planting Report: Pat Wolters reported that 430 walleyes were planted in Crockery Lake on October 3, 2018. Average size was 7.35 inches—they should reach legal size in three years. The walleyes have been tagged with a right pelvic fin clip. They came from the Belmont hatchery. The last walleye stocking in Crockery Lake was in 2005. Susan McClure noted that according to the "Eat Safe Fish Guide" published by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, bluegills, perch, and pan fish from Crockery Lake are the "best choices" for eating. Both small and big mouth bass contain mercury, a naturally occurring element. (Mercury interferes with brain development in fetuses and children, with heart function in older adults, and with everyone's immune system,) The Department advises no more than one 6 ounce serving per month of large or small mouth bass smaller than 18 inches and no more than six 6 ounce servings per year of large or small mouth bass longer than 18 inches..

16. Water Ski Show: The Grand City Water Skiers will put on a show at Grose Park on June 8 at 3 p.m.

17. Well Water Testing Kits: Kits are available at Pat Wolter's house. Board members reported that their well water tested negative for nitrates and e coli.

18. 2019 Goals: a. Keep the fireworks display b. Continue to emphasize transparency c. Curtail sedimentation. Re: sedimentation. Residents received a letter addressing dredging at three sites, Lange Drain (Grose Park), Chester Drain, Chester Shores North Drain.

The Michigan Lakes and Streams Annual Conference will be held the first Friday and Saturday in May 3 and 4, at Crystal Mountain.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 17, 2019, 7:00 p.m., 2442 Crockery Shores.

Adjourned at 8:31 p.m.