



WLA Board Meeting

The October 10th Winans Lake Association board meeting is cancelled.

You can access the Winans Lake website [here](#).

Halloween Trick or Treat



Halloween Trick or Treating

Thursday, October 31st

Winans Drive, 6:30

Fall has finally arrived; the air is crisp and leaves are falling. And soon it will be Halloween.

Once again, the Benzie's will be leading a kids and parents trick or treating group around Winans Lake. Its a fun tradition involving the whole family. The group meets at the end of Winans Drive (where we congregate for the 4th of July parade, at the fork before Community Drive) and starts there... sometime around 6:30-6:45

Some kids finish at the east end of Winans Drive, some kids go farther. The group doesn't usually end all together, folks go at their own pace and stop when they want. Contact Melissa Benzie if you'd like more information (melrobhil at yahoo dot com).

Now for those who aren't doing the trick or treating, be sure to welcome them to your home with plenty of candy - chocolate preferred!

Proposed Winans Lake Drainage District

ISSUE: WLA members have expressed concerns about the drainage of sediment into Winans Lake via Teahen and other roads for many years. The development of Winans



Woods and additional houses along Teahen exacerbated the drainage concerns, which include:

- Significant untreated sediment from Teahen Road burying aquatic vegetation and forming “muck bars” along the northernmost portions of Winans Lake
- Excess water from Winans Woods subdivision killing trees in the “frog bog” north of Old Drive and seasonally flooding Old Drive
- Runoff from Cowell Road at various locations causing property damage and lake sedimentation

In 2018, the WLA board formed a Sedimentation & Stormwater Runoff/Drainage Committee (SSRC) to define the overall issue, review past efforts, and investigate possible solutions. The SSRC met with representatives from Hamburg Township, Livingston County Road Commission and, most recently, with Livingston County Drain Commission. After several meetings and legal review, the Drain Commissioner recommended that the residents affected by the sedimentation petition for establishment of a drainage district. On September 24th, ten residents filed a petition with support from the WLA board.

PROCESS: After the drain commission accepts the petition, next steps include:

- The drain commission will appoint an engineer to delineate a proposed district based on topography. The engineer inspects the area and prepares a preliminary improvement plan and cost estimate.
- If the Drain Commissioner determines the drainage district to be practical, a Drainage District is established and a second petition with additional signatures is needed to proceed.
- Upon acceptance of the second petition, the Drain Commissioner appoints an independent Board of Determination to hear testimony regarding the necessity of the drain. The Board can elect to find the drain necessary or not necessary. If found to be necessary, the drain is designed. Criteria for apportioning cost are proposed based upon benefit (benefit includes handling storm water from upstream lots that otherwise have to contain onsite most of the rainwater falling on the lot).
- After receiving bids and calculating costs, the Drain Commissioner holds a Day of Review (a public meeting to hear comments on the project, including the apportionment of benefits and assessment of costs). The Drain Commissioner can make revisions based on the comments and any objections. The costs being reasonable per the Board of Determination, construction will start. After completion, remaining funds will be used to maintain structures, etc. in perpetuity.

This is a long process. There are already 20 applications in the system and ours is number 21.



COST: All properties within the drainage district must participate in paying for improvements, but the amount can vary greatly. Apportionment criteria may include lot size, soil types, how much impervious surface drains toward the lake and the point at which that water is released, improvement of lake access, slopes, lake frontage, etc.

Cost will be determined after engineering plans are put out for bid. Approximately 35% of costs will be borne by Livingston County and about 25% by Hamburg Township. The remaining 40% will be assessed to the approximately 400 lots within the Winans Lake drainage district. Funding will be used that spreads costs over ten to twenty years for individual assessments. As an example, if \$1,000,000 is needed for the overall district, the individual assessment might average \$50 per year for 20 years. Most lots would probably be assessed much less, with those lot owners receiving the most direct benefit paying more. The individual assessments would be added to winter tax bills from the township.

OUTREACH: WLA members who want more information are invited to contact the subcommittee at WLA.SSRC@gmail.com with a phone number and a brief note of your concern (the appropriate member will call you). It is anticipated that an informational meeting will be scheduled with the Drain Commissioner and the public hearing noted above as the Day of Review.

Lake Life





Welcome to the Neighborhood

Amy Conquest has bought the log cabin at 5809 Community Dr. She has three sons, all of college age. They are Lee, Eric and Adam.

Lauren and Shane Peltier have moved into 5749 Cowell. They have an 18 month daughter Gabriela and a 7 year old son Lincoln. Rounding out the family is their dog Lola.

New Neighbors

Mary Evergreen does a great job welcoming new neighbors but could use YOUR help. Please send her an email if you see movement on houses next/close to them. Her email is mlevergreen at charter dot net.

WLA Web Site

The Winans Lake Web Site is up and running. Check it out for the latest news and beach schedule at WinansLake.org.

Newsletter

Please send any articles or pictures you'd like included in the newsletter to Terre Voegeli (voegelit@gmail.com).

You are receiving the Winans Lake Association newsletter because you are a current Winans Lake Association member on the Lakelands country club membership list **OR** because you have asked to receive the newsletter in past years. You can email me directly (voegelit@gmail.com) to add additional household email addresses, change existing email addresses or be removed. You can also use the Mailchimp unsubscribe option below to change your email address or be removed from the mailing list.