

# Lake Views

For Winans Lake Association Members – May 2016

**The WLA Annual Meeting is coming up on Thursday May 26th at LGCC.** Come at 6:30 for appetizers and conversation, the meeting will begin at 7:00. Bring your ballots for the election of new Board members with you if you prefer, or mail them to Dan Luria as is stated on the ballot.

## Consider running for WLA Board

➤ *Dan Luria*

Please consider running for a position on the WLA board. It is a great way to give back to your community and get to know your neighbors. If you are interested, contact Dan Luria at [dluria@mmtc.org](mailto:dluria@mmtc.org)

## Discourage Geese!!!

➤ *Bruce Mendenhall*

Please continue all efforts to discourage the Canada geese from setting up home here on Winans Lake. We have had enough success on this that we have not had to hire the GooseBuster Company for several years. I haven't seen very many yet this year but this is a critical time to keep them away and from nesting here, which sets up generations of geese thinking of W.L. as their home. The critical factors are to never feed geese, discourage night roosting on your shoreline yards, shoo them off your yard when ever possible to prevent them from establishing comfortable patterns of day time roosting. Don't let them feel that W.L. is a "goose friendly" location. We will always have a few daytime visitors, but we need to keep that to short term stops, so that they will nest elsewhere. It is a benefit to all of our yards, water quality, cleaner docks & rafts, beach sanitation.

## Water Quality Concerns For Spring

➤ *Water Quality Committee*

As we resume our spring yard and garden duties, we have an opportunity to benefit our water quality. The following advice is summarized from several articles by a county agricultural agent.

**Burning:** Often, it is more convenient to burn leaves than to remove or compost them. The resulting ashes contain highly concentrated nutrients that can be absorbed by rainwater and drain into the lake. This promotes dense aquatic weed growth and algae bloom at your beach. To improve water quality, ashes should be removed or composted as far as possible away from the shore. Same process for recreational fire pit ashes.

**Fertilizing:** Heavy rains dissolve lawn fertilizer which then runs off into the lake to grow thicker weeds in your beach area. For this reason, it is recommended that the last 50 feet of lawn adjacent to a shoreline should not be fertilized. Avoid fertilizing at all, if possible; otherwise, choose a zero phosphorous fertilizer (the middle number should be zero; for example: 30/0/10).

**Lawn Service:** If you employ a lawn service, ask them for a "lake-friendly" treatment. They have special formulations designed for use near water that are zero phosphorous fertilizers. This is required by Hamburg Township ordinance and WLA best practices.

**Raking:** Removing weeds and leaves from the lake reduces the nutrient load of the entire lake and makes our own beach areas more pleasant.

## Enjoying The Night Sky

➤ *Winans Lake Association*

The MSU Abrams Planetarium home page offers sky and telescope information:

<http://www.pa.msu.edu/abrams/> The Winans Lake Association endorses the Abrams Planetarium Dark Skies program and asks that you eliminate lake side outdoor lighting when you are not outside. This will enhance the night quality of our lake and provide your neighbors across the lake with a better view of the night sky.

On April 25th the moon, Mars, and Saturn form a triangle. Mars is much brighter and will reach a decade peak of brightness late in May.

Unnecessary outdoor lighting diminishes the night magic of our lake. Eliminate lakeside outdoor lighting when you are not outside. Your neighbors will appreciate your efforts.

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## **Save the Date: Saturday, May 21th at 12-3pm**

➤ *Carrie Dygert*

Rain date: Sunday, May 22th at 12-3 p.m.

Laughter, food, and drink will be provided to replenish energy expenditure. So bring your rakes, shovels, tractors, waders, and elbow grease to help remove lawn and lake debris and spider webs! If you are unable to spare some of your time, there will be a wish list of items and jobs needed done available in the next few weeks. We have four avenues of communication at the moment: word of mouth, WLA newsletter, Face Book (<https://www.facebook.com/winanslake>) and Winan's Lake Blog (<http://www.winanslake.org>). Please check them out for any new information!

## **Beach News**

➤ *Carrie Dygert*

You know that it's been a long winter when you see canoes, kayaks, boats, and paddle boats on the lake in 50 degree weather! All the more reason to start thinking of the summer months and planning for the warmer days ahead. The beach has been a destination for families, couples, and individuals for over 40 years. It's a place where we all enjoy socializing, relaxing and counting the wildlife around us. While we all enjoy taking advantage of our unique and beautiful location, it still needs a little TLC to maintain our gem. If you have children that need to earn some community service time for their organization, this would be a great way to get in a few hours! If you are interested in volunteering some time to keep the beach running smoothly, please call me at 231-2644 or email me at [cdygert@hotmail.com](mailto:cdygert@hotmail.com).

## **Recycle Livingston**

➤ *Mary Evergreen*

The only non-profit recycling center serving the residents of Livingston County, they are committed to reducing the flow of solid waste to local landfills today.

For more information or to join, please visit their website at: [recyclelivingston.org](http://recyclelivingston.org). On the website is also information about Livingston County's dates and times for their Hazardous Waste collection.

## **Outdoor and Open Burning**

➤ *Mary Evergreen*

April and May (and October and November) are the months designated for outdoor and open burning by the Hamburg Township. According to the Ordinance #40E, provision 7 states: the hours are from sunrise and sunset, local time. Provision #8 states in part: Open burning shall be constantly attended and supervised until the fire is extinguished and cold. Provision #9 states: Open burn fires must not...be within 25 feet of a lake, stream or river. If all the provisions stated above are followed it makes for a much more pleasant spring and fall. The lake will not be denigrated by the ash created by the fires and those folks with asthma, breathing problems, or just want the windows open will not have smoke from a smoldering fire to contend with. I for one will be eternally grateful to all those who follow these and the other provisions in the Ordinance. For the full ordinance please go to [www.hamburg.mi.us](http://www.hamburg.mi.us) and access the Fire Department section. Or call them at 222-1100. Thank you.

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## **Prescription Drug Take Back**

➤ *Mary Evergreen*

Today, is the National Prescription Take-Back Day Initiative it is a day to provide a safe and responsible way of disposing of prescription drugs and informing the public of the hazards of their mis-use.

We have the opportunity here in Hamburg, 365 days a year (and any time of the day) to dispose of unused medication safely and securely in the Big Red Barrel located just outside the main doors of our local Hamburg Twp. Police Department located at 10409 Merrill Road. Please keep kids and the community safe by using one of these opportunities. For more information please go to: [livingstoncountycommunityalliance.org](http://livingstoncountycommunityalliance.org). They sponsor the Big Red Barrel Project. Thank you.

## **Christmas Caroling**

➤ *Martha Leabu*

We went out caroling on Winans Drive on Tuesday, December 22nd. We had a group of about 35 singers this year. It was very warm - 50 degrees - and no snow, so it was pretty muddy on the road. Victor had a fire going outside, but we didn't even need one inside due to the warmer weather. We stopped at about 10 houses up and down the road, but forgot to stop at the Seiters who were waiting for us - so sorry. We all returned to the Leabus for refreshments after the singing was done. Please come and join us next year!

## **Easter Egg Hunt**

➤ *Martha Leabu*

We held the annual hunt this year on Saturday, March 26th on the vacant lot across from the McGinns where the flagpole is located. Many thanks to Carrie Dygert for rounding up participants. This event was facing extinction until she got involved. We had 16 children and many adults gather to enjoy bunny cake, hot chocolate and coffee after the eggs were all found. It was a very cold day so we didn't linger outdoors. We had several grandchildren in attendance this year which helps to carry on the tradition. Thanks to Al Pelky and the McGinns and Hannah Leabu for helping with setting up and cleaning up. Special thanks to Mary Evergreen, my partner in this event.

## **Art Show**

➤ *Sarah Grusin*

There is an art show over at Hamburg Senior Center through end of May. I have 4 portraits in "Faces of the Neighborhood". Open to all to visit and enjoy.

## **Lake Views**

➤ *Melissa Benzie*

If you have any news or information to share with your neighbors please send to [melrobhil@yahoo.com](mailto:melrobhil@yahoo.com) or call 231-1239

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## Wildlife Photos

➤ *Ward McGinn*

Purple Martins that returned to Michigan a bit too early - Taken 4/10/16 as it was snowing.



Loons – Taken 4/12/16 after snow was gone



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## Notification of treatment to Winans Lake to control invasive Eurasian milfoil in 2016

The State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is issuing a permit to the Winans Lake Association for the 2016 lake treatment. The application will occur on a week day late in May or early June when water temperature, wind, and weather conditions permit.

We do not have a schedule yet. Shoreline posting will occur on the application day. Plastic marking buoys will be placed one to three days prior to the treatment. Do not remove plastic marking buoys placed along drop-offs. As in previous years, granular Navigate – 2,4-D will be used to control invasive Eurasian milfoil. The granular product sinks immediately to the weed roots and it is not dispersed by wave action. Since the treatment areas are far off shore at the drop offs, there have been no past restrictions for lawn watering.

DEQ recommendations are summarized as follows: (a) Don't swim in the treatment area for 24 hours; (2) Don't let pets drink water from the treatment area for 24 hours; (3) At the beach house area and the pump house area, do not take fish for consumption for 72 hours.

The additional precautions (items 2 & 3 above) are added because in those two small, limited areas (beach and pump house) the lake treatment might include two additional chemicals (Aquathol Super K –endothall and Diquat dibromide) in very limited quantities to clear the weeds from the beach swim area and from the pump house launch area. These are the only two areas in the lake where these near shore treatments might occur (currently they are not planned to occur).

Detectable 'drift' of the treatment granules is under 100 feet; however, if your property is near the beach or pump house areas refrain from watering ornamental plants and flowers for three days after treatment.

In summary: The 'treatment' area is the drop-off zone from 10' to 15' deep. The beach house beach area and the pump house launch area are the only near shore, shallow 'treatment' areas. Appropriate signs will be posted there.

Signs can be removed after the recommendation times on them are met.

Winans Lake Association  
Jack McAllen, President