



WLA Board Meeting

The next Winans Lake Association Board meeting will be held Thursday, October 13 starting at 6:30 pm. The board meeting will be held at Lakelands Golf and Country Club. (The September board meeting has been canceled.)

Beach Closing - Sunday September 11th 1:00 p.m.



Summer is over and the beach is closed. We'll need help putting the chairs, tables, and grills back into the beach house. We'll also need help bringing in the dock for the winter and a few other miscellaneous chores.

Rain Date: Sunday September 18th 1:00 pm.

Limited Beach Access

The gates to the beach house will remain unlocked through the Fall so members can take advantage of the swing set, basketball hoop or sit by the beach. Times are approximately 9 am - 7 pm. Some chairs will be left out for your comfort. Swimming is not permitted.

Note: The building itself and the restrooms be locked.

Lake Membership Benefits

Are you aware of all your Lake Membership benefits? Not only are you supporting the quality of our shared lake environment, but you also have Lakelands privileges that include club dining and events and four rounds of golf per year. Lake members are automatically on the country club list and can simply sign up for golf tee times at the pro shop or online.





John “Jack” Bucher

November 14, 1938 - August 29, 2022



It is with sadness that we pass along the news of Jack's death. Jack has been a long-time resident of Winans Lake. His obituary can be read on the Keehn-Griffin Funeral Home website. The WLA has donated a tree in his memory.

[Click link to be taken to the obituary.](#)

Fall Water Quality Issues

Lakes and Lawns

Most everyone can appreciate a lush, green, well-manicured lawn. However, lawns and lawn maintenance practices along the shoreline represent major threats to our lake's water quality. Unlike natural vegetation, turf grass does little to filter nutrients and sediments from entering a lake. Worse yet, lawn fertilizers and some other yard maintenance practices can add substantial amounts of nutrients to the lake. Excessive nutrients degrade water quality by promoting nuisance algae and plant growth and accelerating the eutrophication (aging) of the lake. Lakefront residents should try to maintain a naturally vegetated buffer between their lawn and the lake while avoiding the use of fertilizers and keeping other organic materials far away from the lake.

Fertilizer Use

Lawn fertilizer use near lakes is a major enemy of water quality. This is because rainwater can leach fertilizer from lawns into the lake adding to the overall nutrient load.

The fact is, most fertilizer use is unnecessary. But since fertilizer companies and



lawn care services are primarily concerned with making money, they typically recommend that fertilizer be used on a regular basis whether it is necessary or not. So how does one know if fertilizer is necessary or not? The answer is by testing your soil. Accurate, inexpensive DIY soil test kits are readily available from any hardware, lawn/garden store, Amazon, etc. and can save you hundreds of dollars a year in unnecessary fertilizer costs while helping to protect the lake. So do yourself and your lake a solid favor by avoiding fertilizer use unless a soil test indicates it is really necessary.

Other rules and best practices regarding fertilizer use include:

- Don't use fertilizer containing phosphorous (state law)
- Don't apply fertilizer within 25ft of the shoreline (WLA Rule)
- Don't dispose of leaves, grass clippings, pet waste or any other organic material in or near the lake.
- Ensure that lawn care services are complying with the above laws, rules and best management practices. Require your lawn care service to prove through a soil test that fertilizer is necessary and, if so, that they are using zero phosphorous fertilizer.
- Document and report any neighbors or lawn care services that do not comply with our laws and rules.
- Do irrigate your lawn from the lake. Irrigating from the lake removes nutrients from the lake and places them in your lawn (the opposite effect of fertilizing) and can reduce or eliminate the need for costly fertilizers.

Fires and Burning

Similar to fertilizer, fire ashes contain highly concentrated nutrients that can be absorbed by the soil and subsequently leach into the lake. Please don't burn leaves or other yard waste near the shoreline unless the ashes are contained and promptly disposed of away from the lake.



Community News

Information comes to the attention of the WLA board that is not associated with the association's charter but is still of interest to the community. This section is added to pass on that information to the Winans Lake community.



Trash-Hauler Consolidation Update – Dan Luria

Progress has stalled on moving the Winans Lake community to a single trash-hauler. While 70% of residents switched to The Garbage Man LLC, nearly one-third of residents kept using other haulers, which kept the neighborhood from reaping many of the traffic and road damage benefits of consolidation. The return of Duncan Disposal, which offered attractive initial rates, has put full consolidation even further out of reach.

However, a committee of three private citizens and three Hamburg Township Board members has been working on the problem of excessive garbage truck traffic for the past 18 months. Following a 6-1 vote of the Hamburg Township Board in favor of moving ahead with at least planning for consolidated service, an RFP was developed and sent out in July to all haulers that currently have customers in the County. The RFP included the option for a hauler to bid on all, or just half, of the Township.

The only two bids – both covering the entire Township -- were submitted by Waste Management (which also has the contracts for the City of Brighton and Brighton Township) and GFL (which has contracts with more than two dozen Michigan cities and townships). The Township committee is currently evaluating the two bids, **both of which offer lower prices for a higher level of service than residents are paying for and receiving currently.** Specifically, both bids cover:



- Weekly trash pickup
- Weekly recycling pickup
- Weekly yard waste pickup early April – early December
- Weekly pickup of one large item, e.g., an oven or a dresser

Just as important, the Township would have leverage with the hauler selected: any contract would include substantial penalties for under-performance. The winning hauler would have a dedicated person, and phone line, for Hamburg Township residents to report missed pickups or other issues. Annual price increases would be limited by contract to a few percent each year.

Moreover, because garbage trucks are responsible for about 30% of road damage, it is likely that the Township's \$1 million annual road millage will be reduced starting in 2023 if trash collection is consolidated. If so, that could have the effect of making trash collection and recycling more or less free, on a net basis, to Hamburg Township property taxpayers.

Assuming the Board opts to accept one of the two trash hauler bids, it is likely that the final decision to contract with a single hauler will be brought to the voters to decide on November 8th ; absentee ballots, which start going out in late September, would also have this as a referendum. (FYI, the Board could, by law, simply have passed an ordinance mandating the single-hauler decision, as was done in nearly all of the other Michigan cities and townships that moved to consolidated collection, but a majority on Hamburg's Board apparently didn't want to take the heat for making the decision.)

The citizen-Board committee urges a YES vote. So does the Winans Lake Association committee set up almost three years to address the truck traffic issue. But the decision will be yours. Please invest a little time to make yourself familiar with the issue, and if it is on the ballot, please let your voice be heard when you vote in (or before) November.

Thanks, especially to those of you who voluntarily switched to support our local consolidation efforts.



Lake Life



Seventy-five neighbors and friends enjoyed the music of David Mosher, Randy Overly and Josh Killom on July 21. And who will ever forget:

If you're a thirsty gal
If you're a thirsty fella
Go see Isabella!





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 you. Her email is mlevergreen at charter dot net.

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.