



## 2025 WLA Board Candidates

The Winans Lake Association Board charts the future direction of our lake and community. It's focus is on the safeguarding the lake's water quality, maintaining beach amenities and facilitating social events.

If you want to be involved in the future direction of our lake and community, please consider running for the Board. Two positions will become available in May at the annual meeting. Contact Dan Luria ([dluria1943@gmail.com](mailto:dluria1943@gmail.com)) or any member of the board for more information.

## Winans Lake Board Meeting

The next WLA Board Meeting will be held at Lakelands Golf and Country Club on Thursday, 4/10/25 starting at 6:30.

## 2025 WLA Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars!



The Winans Lake Association 2025 Annual Meeting will be held on May 29th 6:30 pm at Lakelands Golf and Country Club.

Come to hear a review of the last year and plans for the upcoming year.



## Canada Geese and Water Quality

This is the time of year that geese show up in numbers looking for a comfortable place to nest and stay the summer. While some may consider geese to be an interesting part of the wildlife scene, they are actually one of the more serious threats to our water quality.

Goose droppings contain harmful bacteria, which can cause illness and potentially force the beach and lake to be closed to swimming if levels get too high. This happens every year on nearby lakes. Goose droppings also present an additional nutrient load to the lake, leading to other water quality problems such as excessive weed and algae growth—something the WLA has been working diligently to control at great expense. In addition to the obvious mess, goose droppings on the ground are also unsanitary and are especially hazardous to children and pets.

Once again, the WLA is planning to participate in MDNR permitted remediation programs this year. In addition, the roundup program has been reinstated, but captured geese will be destroyed instead of relocated due to the bird flu. Residents who attract geese to the lake by feeding or harboring them should be aware that they may be contributing to their demise. As always, it is extremely important that all members cooperate in keeping geese off our lake by actively harassing them and discouraging them from congregating and nesting on or near the lake. Under no circumstances should geese or other waterfowl be fed. WLA rules prohibit feeding and harboring waterfowl. Please do your part in helping to keep Winans Lake clean and swimmable. It's that time of year again when the lake freezes and thoughts of fresh-caught fish makes the mouth water. And it's time to once again remind you of our lake's ice fishing rules.



## Attention Anglers: Pike Season Closed Until April 26<sup>th</sup>



Anglers are reminded that Michigan's pike season is closed until April 26th. During this time, it is unlawful to take or even attempt to take any northern pike. This closure helps pike to successfully complete their spawning process. Predator fish such as bass and pike are essential in maintaining a healthy balance in our lake. Accordingly, the WLA continues to strongly recommend catch and release of all bass and pike at all times, especially larger fish.

Please do your part to help ensure a healthy fishery in Winans Lake.

## Ice Anglers: Please Return Ice Fishing Flags by April 1st.

Now that ice fishing season is over, members who have been issued an ice fishing flag are requested to return them to Greg Dygert (5874 Cowell) or to any board member as soon as possible, but no later than March 31st per WLA rules.

## Wanted - Experienced Drone Flyer

The WLA is looking for experienced drone flyers to participate in discouraging Canada geese from frequenting our lake.

Put your skills to work for the benefit of all!





The last bit of ice on the south side of the lake on 3/16.

## Winans Lake Ice Report

This year was an unusual one for the ice formation on the lake.

The lake was completely frozen over on 12/22, then it started to open up again on 12/28, and was completely open on 12/29. This allowed our First in the Lake folks, Jon and Jen Kramer, to go in on Jan 1st at 12:13 am, the earliest date ever recorded for that event.

The lake was completely frozen over for the second time on 1/9, and on 1/10 folks were skating all the way around on very smooth ice, and no snow. The ice was extremely thick for the duration of January and February with lots of ice fishing, skating, cross country skiing, and hiking taking place. Our last day of skating was March 2nd.

Lake was completely open on March 16th, with a 60+ degree day and a steady wind.

In our 45 years here, I cannot remember a year when the Lake froze completely two different times during the winter, with totally open water in between.

Martha Leabu



## A Valiant Attempt but No Cigar

Jack Coates and Linus Cusick thought they were first in the lake when they went in on March 8th. The water temperature was 39 degrees under the ice. They dove in through open water by the outlet to Gut Lake.

Unfortunately, due to the unusual ice conditions this year, First in the Lake had already been claimed and announced in the January newsletter. They braved the cold waters for naught.

Personally, I think the rules need to be clarified as to who is eligible to claim the prize. See Jack and Linus's picture below in **Lake Life**.



### **Spring is definitely on the way and so is the Easter Bunny!**

The annual Winans Lake Easter Egg hunt will be held Saturday April 12th at 10:00 am.

The hunt is held at the red carriage house garage across from the Leabu's (6023 Winans Drive). Egg hunters are to bring their own baskets to collect the hidden eggs. After the hunt, there will be refreshments including the traditional bunny cake. The rain date is April 13th at 3:00 pm

Everyone is invited to participate and watch the fun - with or without an egg hunter of your own. Hope to see you there!



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## Lake Life

Jack Coates and Linus Cusick  
expecting to claim first in lake.



Sunrise reflecting off a home.



One very brave soul on March 9<sup>th</sup>.



A good time being had by all.

## New Neighbors

Mary Evergreen does a great job welcoming new neighbors but could use YOUR help. We've had several homes change hands these past months and if you see any movement on homes near you, please contact her.

Her email is [mlevergreen at charter dot net](mailto:mlevergreen@charter.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](http://WinansLake.org).

## Newsletter

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