



2026 WLA Board Candidates

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

There's still time to become involved in the future direction of our lake and community by running for the Board. Two positions will become available in May at the annual meeting. Contact Dan Luria (dluria1943@gmail.com) or any member of the board for more information.

WLA Board Meeting

The May WLA Board Meeting will be held on May 14th at 6:30 in the Lakelands Golf and Country Club board room.

The April Board Meeting was cancelled.

2026 WLA Annual Meeting



The Winans Lake Association Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, **May 28, starting at 6:30 pm**, at Lakeland Golf and Country Club.

Spring has Sprung

As spring approaches, many people start thinking about yard and lakefront improvements. To encourage strong ecological practices, this newsletter once again features articles on beneficial springtime behavior.





Reminder: Boat Identification Rule



WLA rules require EVERY WATERCRAFT (boats, canoes, kayaks, etc.) to display a WLA decal and WLA assigned number on EACH SIDE near the front. WLA decals and the assigned boat number can be obtained from Greg Dygert. You can purchase numbers from any hardware store.

<-- Paddleboard decal placement.

Michigan Environmental Laws, Permits and Lake Rules

Those who are planning on making improvements to their homes and land should be aware of the special laws and permit requirements that regulate such activities near bodies of water.

Accordingly, the WLA has published an article to provide a basic overview and awareness of some of the environmental regulations that are likely to affect WLA members and others that live near bodies of water.

Due to the length of this article, only a summary is provided below along with links for more information. The complete article has been published on the WLA website and can be accessed here: [SHORELINE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT](#)

Like most aspects of law, environmental regulations are complex and constantly changing, so readers should always contact the appropriate governmental agencies to determine the exact regulations and permit requirements that apply to their specific projects. None of this information should be construed as legal advice.



Summary

- Any activity below the ordinary high-water mark (seawalls, shoreline changes, sanding, filling, dredging, chemical treatments, etc.) requires WLA/LGCC authorization in addition to EGLE permits.
- Any activity that is not below the high-water mark but involves a significant earth change (>1acre) or is within 500ft of water or wetland does not require WLA/LGCC authorization but generally does require EGLE and/or county and township permit. While not requiring WLA authorization, this type of activity may be reported if it appears to be lacking the appropriate permits or water quality safeguards.
- Property owners, not contractors, are legally responsible for obtaining and complying with permits. Failing to comply can lead to fines, restoration costs and civil/criminal penalties for the property owners. Use caution when relying on contractors regarding permitting.
- Members should contact EGLE, Livingston County and Hamburg Township well in advance of any projects to determine what permits are required and then contact the WLA board before applying for any permits that involve the lake or shoreline.



Springtime Activities

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 are absorbed by rainwater and drain or seep 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, use 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: The removal of weeds and leaves from the lake also reduces the nutrient load of the entire lake and makes our own beach areas more pleasant.

Notification of Canada Goose Nest Destruction Activities

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has issued a permit to the Winans Lake Association for Canada Goose Nest Egg Destruction. Nest destruction activities will be taking place from now until May 8th.

Under this permit, actual nest/egg destruction may be carried out only by trained personnel or those under direct supervision of trained personnel. More information can be found at the following link: [Nuisance Canada Goose FAQs](#)

To assist in this effort, residents are asked to notify Greg Dygert (stanleywings at yahoo dot com) of the location of any suspected goose nesting activity. Members are reminded that geese are a substantial threat to our water quality and have the potential to close our beach and lake to swimming due to bacteria in their droppings.

In addition to the obvious mess, goose droppings on the ground can pose a health hazard to humans and pets. The WLA has a rule prohibiting the feeding or harboring of geese. Please don't feed geese or otherwise allow them to congregate on or near your





property. Geese that remain resident on the lake this summer may be rounded-up and euthanized according to new DNR rules.

Winans Easter Egg Hunt



We had our annual Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, March 28th at 10:00am at the red carriage house across from the Leabu's home (6023 Winans Drive).

It was a cold, but sunny morning, and we had a good turnout. Victor set up the survey tape streamers to create an entryway to the back of the lot, where 200 eggs were hidden. He also had a nice fire going in the driveway, where folks could warm up. After the children finished finding their eggs, we gathered inside the warm carriage house to enjoy the traditional Bunny

cake, fruit, hot chocolate and coffee.

There were a total of 13 children and 25 adults for a total of 38 people who participated in this event. And this year there were 4 families that had 3 generations present: Shmina, Rau, Redmond, and Gravlin, all from Winans Drive.

Many thanks to Mary Evergreen, and my husband, Victor, for making this event a success again this year. Thanks also, to Wendy Mauntel, and Al and Denise Pelky, who helped with set up and takedown.

Martha Leabu





Our first Easter Egg hunt took place in 1993. The tradition continues.





Lake Life



The loon has landed!
Steve Ruberg

A committee of buzzards
Liz Larwa





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@charter.net.

Newsletter

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

WLA Board Members

Greg Dygert, President

Michael Wheeler, Vice-President

Simon Ren, Secretary

Trish Ibrahim, Treasurer

Dr. Marty Harris, Governor

Evan Yates, At-Large

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 remove yourself from the mailing list.