



LOON'S CALL

LOON LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2021

"Working together for a fun, safe and scenic lake community"

CLEAN LAKES, CLEAR LAKES, AND LOON LAKE

BY WALT HESSLER

From a scientific perspective, a clean lake does not have to be clear—and a clear lake is not always clean. A clear lake is easy to spot. There are no visible particles in the water; it is not colored by sediment or algae blooms. You can usually see fish swimming around at the bottom. But a clear lake might be hiding bacteria, pesticides or toxins, like the ones algae produces. The presence of algae is not always a good indicator of a lake's cleanliness since small amounts of algae can produce large amounts of toxin. A clear lake might have more algae toxins than one stained in color.

A clean lake is not always as easy to spot. A safe lake with good water quality can be mis-judged based on having water that is stained and not perfectly clear. The water might be a murky shade with underwater life hidden by small amounts sediment and algae. Although you should not drink this water, it is safe for swimming, fishing, and boating. Next time you jump off your dock or wade into the shallows at Loon Lake, remember that the water's color does not always determine its cleanliness!

Loon Lake has a number of ditches and stream that feed into the lake. The two largest are the Friskney Ditch near the public access site and the Winters Ditch near the intersection of 250W and 700N. The water from these two ditches travels through a fair amount of farmland prior to entering Loon Lake. We have all seen the plumes of brown water from these ditches flowing during a heavy rainstorm. The Friskney Ditch does have a retention pond upstream which helps with the reduction in sediment in normal flow conditions. This inflow of sediment can have a great effect on the water clarity of Loon Lake.

These two ditches have been identified by The Watershed Foundation (TWF) as areas for improvement. Research has shown that much of the sediment and nutrients in these ditches comes from farm drainage. One of TWF's goals is to work with the landowners to reduce the amount of nutrient and sediment coming into Loon Lake. One method that is being considered is the use of bioreactors. These bioreactors act like filters to remove nitrates and sediment from subsurface tile drainage water at the edge of a field prior to the water entering the Friskney and Winters Ditches.

Funding for this work is available from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Other grants can be obtained with the Loon Lake Property Owners Association (LLPOA) providing some amount of matching funds.

The LLPOA Board will continue to support the efforts of TWF to work toward a cleaner and clearer Loon Lake. To learn more about TWF and the work they do go to <https://watershedfoundation.org/>

LOON LAKE CONTACTS

All Area Codes 260 unless noted

OFFICERS

Rich Nelson, President-----799-4913
Patti Thomas, Vice President -----402-5720
Tena Miller, Treasurer-----213-0638
Carol Kurtz, Secretary-----799-4980

DIRECTORS

Bob Gallivan -----820-1240
Steve Weaver -----799-4195
Gary Hicks -----403-7691
Clark Milestone -----348-5706
Lindsay Gallmeyer -----704-0993
Brian Clark -----438-2322
Karen Treat -----438-7968
Geoff Velpel -----602-5996

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5.5K Run/Walk--- (Heather Klemm)*G Hicks 615-3644
By-Laws ----- (Rich Nelson) 799-4913
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Finance Committee----- (Tena Miller) 213-0638
Fire Hydrants----- (Terry Huffman) *G Hicks 609-8691
Fireworks----- (Brian Clark) 438-2322
Garage Sale----- (Karen Davison) *Lindsay 609-8144
Golf Tournament ----- (Kirk Smith) *Steve 341-1657
Kayak Flotilla----- (Darrell Post) *G Hicks 322-7681
Kids Fishing Day ----- (JoAn Butler) *Carol 466-6207
Lake Enhancement----- (Walt Hessler) * 799-4903
Lighted Boat Parade ----- (Carol Kurtz) 799-4980
Loon Lake Apparel----- (Karen Treat) 438-7968
Loon Lisle Reserve(**Volunteer Needed**) *Tena 213-0638
Media Sign----- (Kathy Ehinger) *Lindsay 437-8085
Newsletter/Email ----- (Lindsay Gallmeyer) 704-0993
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Poker Run ----- (Kathy Ehinger) *Tena 437-8085
Sailboat Race ----- (Tom Zahm) *G Hicks 341-8349
Safety Committee (facilitator Steve)*Geoff 317-440-3314
ULTRA Rep ----- (Tena Miller) 213-0638
Water Quality Testing----(Rick Miller) *Tena 213-0639
Website Updates----- (Lindsay Gallmeyer) 704-0993
Welcome Committee----- (Patti Thomas) 402-5720

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Whitley County Sheriff ----- 244-6410
Whitley County Fire ----- 248-8911
Whitley County Health Dept----- 248-3121
Noble County Sheriff----- 636-2182
Noble County Fire ----- 799-9987
Noble County Health Dept----- 636-2191

COMMUNITY-OTHER

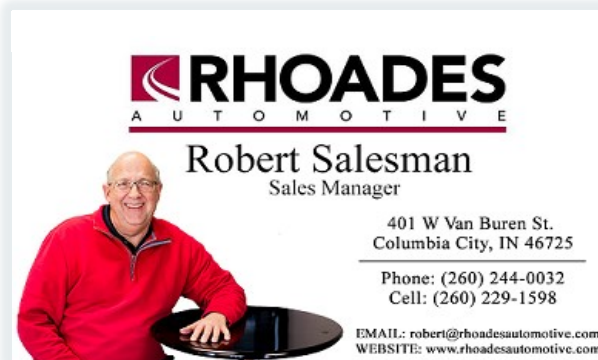
Columbia City Utilities -----248-5110
Humane Society -----244-6664
Noble REMC -----636-2113 or 800-933-7362
The Watershed Foundation -----574-834-3242
Tri-Lakes Sewer District -----691-2820

After Hours Emergency number --- 609-9680

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FIRST WINTER CAN PICKUP

The first winter can pickup on January 9th was a huge success!! Thank you to all who donated cans for our fireworks fund! This year the summer can pick up will be on the second Saturday of every month April-September!



With so many lake events cancelled for 2020, we'd like to thank Loon Lake resident Stephanie Pierce for organizing Trick or Treating and the Holiday Light Display Contest! They helped bring some much needed cheer to a tough year. Thank you Stephanie! Congratulations to the Erickson's who won the Holiday Light Display Contest and thanks to VinylWorks for donating the winner sign!

REMINDER: EARLY TREATMENT FOR CURLY-LEAF POND WEEK AVAILABLE THIS SPRING

BY WALT HESSLER

As you know Loon Lake has had an issue with the invasive Curlyleaf Pondweed the last couple of spring seasons. See the article in the Summer 2020 Loons Call Newsletter.

Early spring treatments using contact herbicides have shown positive effects in reducing Curlyleaf Pondweed. Aquatic Weed Control & Management has agreed to offer early season spraying specifically for Curlyleaf Pondweed in addition to the traditional spraying they do in June.

Aquatic Weed Control & Management will be mailing each Loon Lake resident an order form in the next few weeks. If you desire you can contract for an early spraying specifically for Curlyleaf Pondweed. If you have questions about this early spraying, you can contact Aquatic Weed Control & Management (see their add in this newsletter). You may also rake them out if you choose not to contract for this spring spraying.

We all hope for a warm spring in 2021 which will greatly reduce the impact of the Curlyleaf Pondweed in Loon Lake.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY RICHARD NELSON

Loon Lake Property Owners Association is one of the most financially stable lake associations in northeast Indiana. Our fortunate situation in this regard is the result of wise and conservative decisions made by past boards over the years. A foundational building block in our financial structure is the Loon Lake Conservation Fund, which is professionally managed by the Community Foundation of Whitley County. The stated purpose of this fund is "to provide support to the Conservation efforts of the Loon Lake Property Owners Association in maintaining the ecological quality of Loon Lake." At the end of 2020, this endowment fund totaled over \$65,000.

Every year the Community Foundation of Whitley County distributes to us an amount based on the growth of the fund, and we move that money directly into a conservative investment account with Vanguard. The funds held with Vanguard (currently about \$54,000) are kept entirely separate from the operational funds of the LLPOA and earmarked for maintenance of the sediment settlement pond south of the lake and for major lake enhancement projects. Last year's distribution from the Community Foundation was \$2457.91.

More information about the Community Foundation and the Loon Lake Conservation Fund itself may be found at www.cfwhitley.org. You may wish to consider a donation to our fund – by check (specifying the Loon Lake Conservation Fund) or online by credit card or PayPal. The Community Foundation's address is 400 N Whitley St, Columbia City, IN 46725. Information on other types of gifts (appreciated securities, real estate, etc.) or making Loon Lake part of your estate planning is also available.

Richard Nelson
LLPOA President

Aquatic Weed Control

Jim Donahoe
Owner/Operator
P.O. Box 325
Syracuse, Indiana 46567
574-533-2597
Fax 534-8230
jim@aquaticweedcontrol.com
Chemical Weed Control
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Fish Stocking
Fountains



LOON LAKE WELCOME SIGNS

Want to post a special message on the media signs around the lake? Contact Kathy Ehinger at 260-437-8085 to rent a sign for only \$5! Great for birthdays, anniversaries, retirements or even fun messages or quotes!

'21 LAKE events

10 | aluminum can
APRIL | PICK-UP 9AM

aluminum can | **08**
PICK-UP 9AM | **MAY**

22 | spring meeting
MAY | 7722 ARNOLD 9AM

kids fishing derby | **05**
BOAT LAUNCH 8:30-NOON | **JUNE**

11 & 12 | association
JUNE | **JUNE** | GARAGE SALES 8-4

12 | aluminum can &
JUNE | canned food donations
PICK-UP 9AM

lighted boat | **02**
PARADE DUSK | **JULY**

03 | 5.5k virtual
JULY | WALK/RUN 8AM
pancake
BREAKFAST 8-11
sailboat
RACE 11AM
kayak
FLOTILLA 4:30
fire
WORKS DUSK

aluminum can | **10**
PICK-UP 9AM | **JULY**

24 | poker run 10am
JULY | DOGS & BRATS 11:30

annual | **07**
GOLF OUTING 11:30 | **AUG**

14 | aluminum can
AUG | PICK-UP 9AM

fall meeting | **28**
7722 ARNOLD 9AM | **AUG**
LLFMP corn hole
TOURNAMENT NOON

11 | aluminum can
SEPT | PICK-UP 9AM

LLFMC muskie | **TBD**
SHOOTOUT

*all dates above are tentative
and subject to change

Speed Limits Around the Lake

S 600 W-57- east side:

30 mph

W 700 N- south end:

20 mph

Brown Rd- west side:

20 mph

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LOON'S CALL



Fun any season on Loon Lake. Curling, ice skating and golf on the ice.



LOON LAKE APPAREL

BY KAREN TREAT

For your Loon Lake apparel needs, please call or text message Karen Treat at 260-438-7968. Above are the screen-print and embroidered options available.

Karen can text you three pages of colors to choose from for screen-printed t shirts. These are just a few items and prices available. Find more on the Loon Lake website:

www.loonlakeindiana.org/loon-lake-apparel.

Screen-Printing	Price
T-shirts S-XL	\$12
T-shirts 2XL-3XL	\$14
T-shirts 4XL-5XL	\$16
T-shirts Youth	\$12
Sweatshirts S-XL	\$24
Sweatshirts 2XL-3XL	\$29
Sweatshirts 4XL-5XL	\$30
Sweatshirts Youth	\$24

website

Visit www.loonlakeindiana.org to see the lake calendar, history, news, contacts, newsletters & more! Have any suggestions or photos you'd like to see featured on the Loon Lake website? Email them us at loonlakemail@gmail.com.

facebook

Join the Loon Lake Property Owners Association Facebook group. Follow news and other exciting happenings around the lake. Over 400 folks keep track of lake business by joining this group. Great for lost and found, help needed, cottage for rent, etc. Need an update on a coming event? Ask on facebook!

email

Have you been receiving emails from the LLPOA? If NOT, email us at loonlakemail@gmail.com so we can add you to our email list. We do not share e-mail addresses. The summer/winter issue of Loon's Call will be sent only via e-mail unless you request a hard copy.