



WINTER 2023

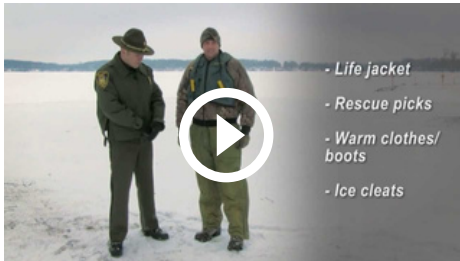
# LOON'S CALL

LOON LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

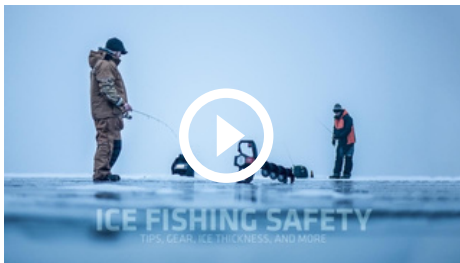
"Working together for a fun, safe & scenic lake community"

## SAFETY ON THE ICE

BY: LOON LAKE SAFETY COMMITTEE



Thus far this winter it's been slim pickings for those that enjoy lake activities out on the ice. Freeze, thaw, freeze, thaw seems to be the pattern; however, surely we'll get some sustained cold temps that will give us an icy playground. Whether your sport is hockey, fishing, curling, ice skating or just walking on the ice, there are precautions that should be taken to make sure you can return home to enjoy your favorite warm beverage while you thaw out.



Included are a couple of links for "Ice safety" videos that, if followed, will help you have fun and be less susceptible to taking a plunge through or falling on the ice. In our research we found one repeated phrase throughout the safety information and that was "there is no such thing as safe ice"! Please take time to watch these or other videos to prepare yourself and your loved ones for an enjoyable, event free, time on the ice.

## LOON LAKE 5.5K-TIMING IS BACK

BY: SCOTT DAVIS

We are BACK! After a couple of Covid influenced years, the Loon Lake run/walk will be back to a timed race in 2023. After numerous requests, the LLPOA has decided to bring the fund-raising race back to an official electronic timed race in 2023, and beyond. The race will take place as usual during the Loon Lake July 4th festivities. This year race day will be on Saturday, July 1st at 8:00am, immediately before the annual pancake breakfast fundraiser.

The 5.5K Loon Lake run/walk will be run as in previous years. The race will start at the Loon Lisle Nature Reserve and will be once around the lake. It will be electronically bib timed and race results will be available online. Tee-shirts will be provided with all registrations and awards for the top finishers will be presented.

Scott Davis, with the support of previous Loon Lake Race Directors, has agreed to take on the lead role in organizing this year's race. Scott lives on the lake with his wife Cathy and is relatively new to the Loon Lake community. He will look for volunteers to help with the race as the date gets closer. If you would like to help with the early activities of tee-shirt design, brochure publishing, or lining up sponsors, please feel free to reach out to Scott.

Our hope is that the Loon Lake 5.5K race can once again become an annual fun event for families of all ages and running levels to enjoy and look forward to. It is also important as a major fund raising event to the benefit of the Loon lake community. Please help us make this year's event a success by planning on contributing and running in this year's race. To volunteer contact Scott Davis, Loon Lake Race Director at [spdmsu@hotmail.com](mailto:spdmsu@hotmail.com) or 847-312-9547.

# LOON LAKE CONTACTS

All area codes 260 unless noted

## BOARD OFFICERS

Patti Thomas, President-----402-5720  
 Conni Walkup Hull, Vice President-----574-457-6644  
 Tena Miller, Treasurer-----213-0638  
 Carol Kurtz, Secretary-----799-4980

## BOARD DIRECTORS

Clark Milestone-----348-5706  
 Brian Clark-----438-2322  
 Bob Gallivan-----820-1240  
 Gary Hicks-----403-7691  
 Steve Weaver-----799-4195  
 Karen Treat-----438-7968  
 Lindsay Gallmeyer-----704-0993  
 Geoff Velpel-----602-5996  
 Richard Nelson-----799-4913

## CHAIRPERSONS \*Denotes Board Liaison


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 Finance Committee----- (Tena Miller) 213-0638  
 Fire Hydrants----- (Terry Huffman) \*Gary 609-8691  
 Fireworks----- (Brian Clark) 438-2322  
 Garage Sale----- (Linda Archer) \*Lindsay 341-2895  
 Golf Tournament ----- (Kirk Smith) \*Steve 341-1657  
 Kayak Flotilla----- (Darrell Post) \*Gary 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 ----- (Clark Milestone) 213-0638  
 Media Sign--- (Linda Garrison) \*Lindsay 765-251-3955  
 Newsletter/Email ----- (Lindsay Gallmeyer) 704-0993  
 Pancake Breakfast----- (Karen Treat) 438-7968  
 Poker Run ----- (Kathy Ehinger) 437-8085  
 Sailboat Race ----- (Tom Zahm) \*Gary 341-8349  
 Safety Committee(Steve Burman)\*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

## COMMUNITY-POLICE/FIRE/HEALTH

Emergency ----- 911  
 DNR ----- 244-3720  
 Whitley County Sheriff ----- 244-6410  
 Whitley Co Fire (Larwill Richland Twp) ----- 248-8911  
 Whitley Co Fire (Thorncreek Twp)----- 691-9117  
 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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# ALGAE IN OUR LAKES

BY: WALT HESSLER

Algae are simple nonflowering plantlike organisms. Algae contain chlorophyll but most lack leaves, roots, vascular tissue, and stems. They play a vital role in aquatic ecosystems by forming the energy base of the food web for all aquatic organisms. Algae convert water and carbon dioxide to sugar through the process of photosynthesis. Photosynthesis also generates oxygen as a byproduct, contributing to the survival of fish and other aquatic organisms. Green algae become food for grazers like crayfish, zooplankton and insects, snails, and small fish. Even ducks will dive underwater to snack on these greens. Excessive algae growth (blooms) usually indicates excessive nutrients in the water. Their hair-like structure is key to distinguishing green algae blooms from potentially toxic blue-green ones.



## Blue-Green Algae

Blue-green algae blooms and the toxin they produce are known for making people (and particularly pets) sick. Blooms typically happen in mid-to-late summer. Warm weather and plenty of sunshine, as well as increased nutrients, are the key factors. There has been some observation of blue-green algae in limited locations on Loon Lake.

During its peak, a blue-green bloom will look like paint or pea soup. It may even filter down into the water column, rather than stay on the surface. Sometimes cells can clump together, but they will not be picked up easily. Blue-green algae are not true algae. That is why cells interact with water

differently than normal green algae, almost appearing to be a part of a water.

Blue-green algae will not always produce harmful toxins. It always has the potential to, though, and it's recommended to stay away from water that has a visible bloom. There is no way to tell if the bloom is toxic until the water is tested.

As with any lake water, avoid ingesting blue-green algae. The toxin can cause anything from mild stomach irritation to vomiting, diarrhea, rashes, eye irritation, coughing, sore throats and headaches.

If you encounter a blue-green algae bloom, wash well with warm, soapy water. Pets that have contacted a bloom should be washed off with fresh water as soon as possible.

In general, avoid contact with the bloom itself: the scummy, blue-green part.

## Try the "stick test"

The green stuff you see in Loon Lake might not be blue-green algae. You can identify blue-green algae by dipping a stick into the bloom. If the algae hang off the stick in long, hair-like strands, it is likely some species of green algae. If it has leaves or roots, it is not Blue-green algae and is non toxic.

If the algae do not drape off the stick and is easily stirred, it may be blue-green algae. Keep pets and people away from the bloom for a while.  
(Continued on next page).





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**DONATIONS NEEDED**

The Loon Lake Fish Management Program needs donations for the 10th annual fish stocking.

**2022 Goal- 400 Muskies and 1500 Walleyes**

Mail donations to: LLFMP  
 7350 N. Brown Rd. Columbia City, IN 46725  
 Questions? 260-348-5706, [lake46725@gmail.com](mailto:lake46725@gmail.com)

  
**Tri Lakes Restaurant**

Family Restaurant : Full Service Bar : Lakeside Patio : Banquets

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## ALGAE IN OUR LAKES (CONT'D)

BY: WALT HESSLER

This is a quick test but is not totally accurate. The only sure-fire way is to have the water tested for toxins. If it is yellow and almost "dusty" in texture, it might act like blue-green algae, but it is actually tree pollen.

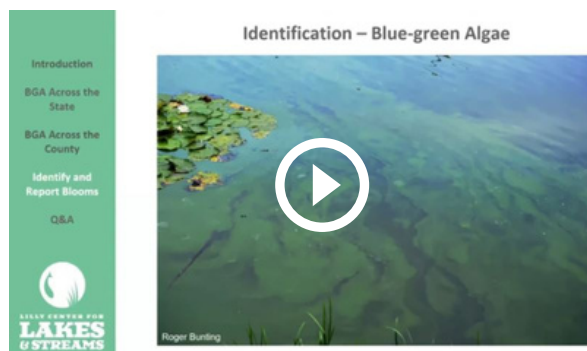
The good news is the blooms dissipate when exposed to sunlight, wind, and waves. You will know the water is safe to enjoy when there are no visible blooms, and the water looks "normal."

### There are a few ways you can help limit blue-green algae blooms:

- If applying fertilizer, use a phosphorus-free lawn fertilizer. This is critical when you live on a lake. Lawn-fertilizer packaging is labeled with three numbers for nutrient content. A zero as the middle number indicates a phosphorus-free fertilizer
- Do not fertilize up to the edge of the lake
- Pick up your pet's poo to prevent runoff into the lake
- Do not dispose of grass clippings or leaves in or near a waterway and never blow grass clippings into the lake
- If conducting land disturbing activity, prevent soil and organic matter from washing into the lake, as soil can carry nutrients into the waterway
- Check to see that drainage tiles that run into the lake are not carrying fertilizers or pet poo runoff

In summary, algae are normal in all Indiana Lakes. Too much nutrient can cause algae blooms some of which could contain toxins. Blue-green Algae should be avoided until it dissipates.

To learn more, watch the Blue-green Algae Webinar - YouTube: [https://youtu.be/Oa\\_mlp1Ltuk](https://youtu.be/Oa_mlp1Ltuk)



Credit to the Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams as much of the information contained in this article was found on their website.

# LOON LAKE PAVILION

BY: CAROL KURTZ

To construct a pavilion on the Nature Reserve, our financials were dissected, and a budget was proposed. We received DNR approval in February 2022 and the Association Membership approved the budget in May. After months of visits to Noble County Plan Commission to obtain the building permit, our Loon Lake Pavilion groundbreaking finally began on August 1st!

On October 1st a celebration was held under the roof of a completed Loon Lake Pavilion. Excited residents enjoyed chili and numerous side dishes at the celebratory pot luck.

We look forward to our first season with the Fishing Derby, 5K, Cornhole and many other new events and gatherings being held here.

The Pavilion is always open to the public for picnics or simply to sit a spell. However, if you wish to reserve the Pavilion for a private event there is an application and instructions on the Loon Lake website at [www.loonlakeindiana.org](http://www.loonlakeindiana.org)

Thank you to many volunteers that showed up each day....willing to do whatever was needed from digging trenches, slinging a hammer, painting, or preparing a lunch. This project was neighbors volunteering labor and simply wouldn't have been completed without every single one of you! While not possible to mention each of your names here... it does not diminish the importance of every one of you stepping up when it was desperately needed! THANK YOU!

A special thank you to Dave Steiss, our Master Mason, that used his amazing talent to construct this brick and block beauty. He also used his contacts to obtain the blue print and to procure the supplies needed.

A huge thank you to Clark Milestone who agreed to Co-chair with me in the fall of 2021-and our preparation began. His determination to make this happen was evident from multiple trips to Noble County in Albion, Fort Wayne Survey office, Fort Wayne & Columbia City Builders Mart and Columbia City Utilities. Clark also was there everyday joining the volunteer workforce.

Throughout this project Dave and Clark would say "I know a guy" who will help or will provide X... THANK YOU Dave and Clark!

Loon Lake's heart was exposed this summer and future generations will be able to enjoy this legacy as the years march on.

THANK YOU ALL!





# LOON LAKE APPAREL

BY: KAREN TREAT

For your Loon Lake apparel needs, call or text message Karen Treat at 260-438-7968. Loon Lake heat transfer design options are pictured below. Karen can send you three pages of shirt colors to choose from along with just a few items and prices (subject to change). Find more on the Loon Lake website: [www.loonlakeindiana.org/apparel](http://www.loonlakeindiana.org/apparel)



SCREEN PRINT	PRICE
T-Shirt S-XL	\$12
T-Shirt 2XL-3XL	\$14
T-Shirt 4XL-5XL	\$16
T-Shirt Youth	\$12
Sweatshirt S-XL	\$24
Sweatshirt 2XL-3XL	\$29
Sweatshirt 4XL-5XL	\$30
Sweatshirt Youth	\$24



# LOON LAKE STICKER

ONLY \$3.00

Contact Karen Treat-  
260-438-7968



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY: PATTI THOMAS

Hello all! I wanted to introduce myself, I'm Patti Thomas, your association president for the next two years. We have many new residents who have moved in since our fall meeting and I would like to welcome each of you to our wonderful community!

My goal this year is to convert residents to becoming website addicts and not Facebook scrollers. At times there has been inaccurate information given out on our Facebook page. Please take time and visit our website at [www.loonlakeindiana.org](http://www.loonlakeindiana.org) and add it to your favorites. Many of the questions posted on the Facebook page could easily be answered with accurate information on the website. The board uses the website to post event calendars and updates to activities in the community.

This year we will also be putting together a book about Loon Lake, the residences and important events both past and present. If you have any information or pictures you would like included in the book, please contact me. It's my desire to make it a feel good book, so if you have any good memories, paperwork (we even have old dues cards and store receipts), any items would be appreciated... including old legends and ghost stories if you have them.

Thank you for your time and I wish everyone a great lake season! Feel free to reach out to me by text or message. Don't forget about attending the spring meeting on May 20th. I look forward to meeting everyone!

## website

Visit [www.loonlakeindiana.org](http://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](mailto:loonlakemail@gmail.com)

## facebook

Join the Loon Lake Community Facebook group. Follow news and other happenings around the lake. Over 600 folks have joined and regularly share info! Its' great for lost and found, power outage updates, help needed, cottage for rent, etc.

## email

Have you been receiving emails from the LLPOA? If NOT, email us at- [loonlakemail@gmail.com](mailto:loonlakemail@gmail.com) so we can add you to our email list. We do not share e-mail addresses. The summer and winter issues of the Loon's Call newsletter are sent via e-mail only unless you request a hard copy.