



SPRING 2025

# LOON'S CALL

LOON LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY: GARY HICKS

And a good time was had by all....

It's *Spring* and time to start thinking about all things Lake. Putting in the pier, pulling the boat out of storage, maybe a *Spring* project to spruce things up or add to your enjoyment of the summer months.

Of course, don't forget the LLPOA Annual *Spring* meeting. It may not be the most fun you can have on a Saturday morning in May, but we promise to do our best to make it enjoyable and informative. Whether you're new to the Loon Lake community or an old fossil like me, we encourage you to join us on **Saturday morning, May 17th**. It's a great time to meet the members of the LLPOA Board, re-connect with folks you haven't seen for the last few months, or maybe make a new acquaintance. The Board will share news of what's new and handle some required and necessary business. And, of course, there is the annual prize raffle and giveaway of some very nice prizes. So, don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets whether you can attend or not. Of course, we'd love to see you at the meeting, but if you simply can't make it, you can still be a winner!

This is also your opportunity to share your ideas, suggestions, or concerns. Please remember that you must be a dues-paying member in good standing to vote on any issues that might require a vote of the members. To meet that threshold, you must have paid your annual membership dues no later than the date of the *Spring* Meeting.

So, keep your eye on your mailbox and follow our social media posts for more information including the exact time and location of the meeting. We will soon be mailing a packet of information to all eligible property owners with raffle tickets and other important information you'll need to join the LLPOA or maintain your current member status.

Hope to see y'all at the meeting!

P.S. We know your time is valuable and there are a lot of things you would rather do on a Saturday morning. Our commitment to you is that we will do all we can to keep things upbeat and on track. Our goal is to finish business and have you back to "lake time" in an hour or less.

# LOON LAKE APPAREL

BY: DEBBIE BAUERMEISTER

**Order your Loon Lake apparel NOW. We made ordering easier than ever!**

We teamed up with Running Around Screen Printing to make it easier for you to choose and order custom Loon Lake apparel. This process will make it easier and take less time for you to receive your order.

**Ordering is easy! Go to  
[www.loonlakeindiana.org](http://www.loonlakeindiana.org) and  
follow the below instructions**

Once you are on the Loon Lake site, click on:

- > **MORE** (on the upper right side of the home page)
- > **Apparel 2024**
  - **Click Here to Order** (takes you to Running Around Screen Printing website)
  - Scroll down and click on **Loon Lake** Logo
  - Start shopping: Choose color, style, and size
  - Order and pay
    - > You can either pick up your merchandise at the store or have it shipped directly to you for a small fee

Running Around Screen Printing is a local business:  
227 W Van Buren St, Columbia City, IN 46725

Loon Lake receives 10% of every sale, so you are also supporting the LLPOA.

For questions or if you need help with the website, contact Karen Treat at 260-438-7968



## JULY 4th COMMUNITY PARADES

BY: KATHY EHINGER



**Second  
Annual Golf  
Cart/ATV/  
Bike Parade!**

Please join us on Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> for our second annual parade around the lake by land! Decorate your golf cart, UTV, tractor, or bike and meet at the pavilion at 11:00 am on July 4<sup>th</sup>. If you can't join us, watch as our parade travels around the lake showing our patriotic pride!



**Lighted  
Boat  
Parade!**

Parade around the lake by boat on July 4<sup>th</sup>! Decorate your boat with lights to celebrate Independence Day! Meet your neighbors in Sycamore Bay (Sycamore and Maple Lane) at 9:30 pm and enjoy floating while waiting for the arrival of the rest of the decorated boats. When given the signal, follow the lead boat and parade around the lake.

Not ready to join the parade this year? Cheer on the boats from the shore as they circle the lake. It's a fantastic sight to see from land or lake! Either way, we hope you enjoy this annual event.



# JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> WEEKEND FIREWORKS

BY: BRIAN CLARK

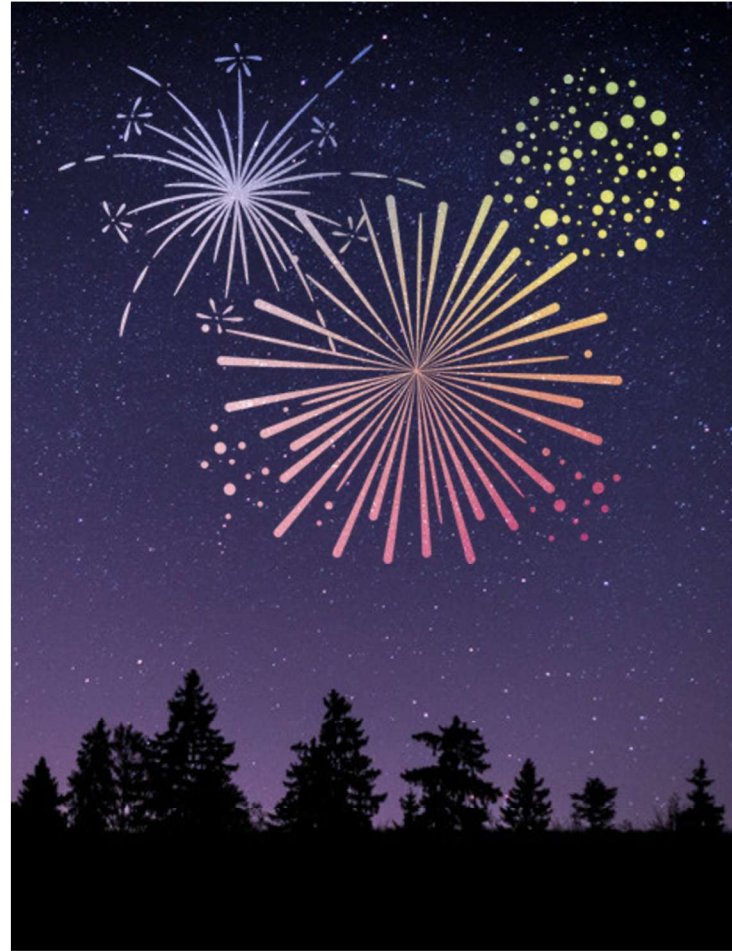
The fireworks committee has signed a 3-year contract that covers the fireworks displays for 2025 through 2027. Due to availability with the fireworks company, the display schedule is as follows:

**2025: Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>**

**2026: Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**2027: Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>** (this date may move to Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> if space becomes available)

The fireworks committee is also searching for younger people to become active in supporting set-up and tear-down the night of the fireworks as well as helping ensure the barges are on the lake and tied together prior to the day of set-up. We also need to improve the decking on the barges before the show this year. We will be installing new plywood decking in June this year and it will be a great way for new people to get involved. If interested in helping, contact Brian Clark at (260) 438-2322. Also, we are going to need a new person to take over hosting the shows and getting a new contract after the 2027 fireworks display. Please give it some thought and we will always be able to work with a new volunteer after 2027.



## HELP KEEP THE ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST TRADITION GOING

We need volunteers to step up and help run this year's Annual Pancake Breakfast. The current team will be there to guide you, but after this year, they will be passing the torch to the new team. Without fresh volunteers, we risk losing this beloved community event. This is your chance to make a difference and keep the tradition alive! If you're willing to lend a hand, please sign up today. It's a fun and rewarding way to get involved. Don't let the pancake breakfast become a thing of the past—help us keep it going for years to come! Contact us now to volunteer and be part of something special.



# LOON LISLE NATURE RESERVE

BY: CATHY DAVIS



On a recent walk around the Prairie, everything is still brown. But, I'm sure that will change in a minute with warmer temperatures and all the rain we received!

Things look pretty good to kick off the growing season. We may schedule a spring clean-up, if needed, at the end of April.

If you would like to volunteer to help maintain the Prairie, or with occasional clean-up opportunities, please feel free to contact Cathy Davis at 847-814-1040.

We are also looking for someone who can make a few small wooden signs for the Prairie. If you are talented at wood burning or painting, we could use your help!



**CONNECTION MEANS MORE HERE**

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**DONATIONS NEEDED**

The Loon Lake Fish Management Program needs donations for the **13th** annual fish stocking.

**2025 GOAL: 400 Muskie and 1500 Walleye**

Mail donations to: LLFMP  
7350 N. Brown Rd. Columbia City, IN 46725

Questions? 260-348-5706, [lake46725@gmail.com](mailto:lake46725@gmail.com)





**Wise Farms LLC.**

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Cider Seasoned Salt

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Wisefarmsllc@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook

7150 N 350 W

Tom & Margaret Wise - 260-799-4236

Columbia City, IN. 46725



Michigan Peaches

## YARD & LAKE WASTE DISPOSAL AT WISE FARMS

**Wise Farms** has generously offered a spot for LLPOA residents to dump leaves, grass clippings, and seaweed. The location is just north of the house at 7150 N 350 W. The dump site is marked by a sign and there is new white stone at the entrance.

Please dump within the yellow caution tape that has been put up. **DO NOT** dump bushes, branches, or rocks. **DO NOT** bundle with plastic or twine.

Please drive further back and add to the pile that is already there. Tom won't have to push piles further back that way.

**A big thank you to Tom & Margaret Wise of Wise Farms for making this available. It is greatly appreciated!**

## WELCOME SIGNS

Want to post a special message on the welcome media signs around the lake? Contact Linda Garrison at (765) 251-3955 to rent a sign for only \$5! Great for birthdays, anniversaries, retirements, or even fun quotes or messages!





# ONE OF LOON LAKE'S FAVORITE BIRDS

BY: WALT HESSLER

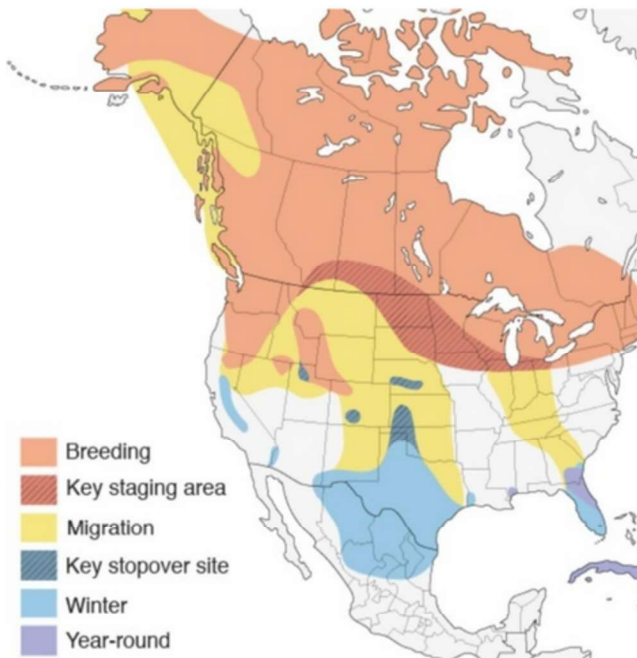
The Sandhill Crane is native to Indiana and to Loon Lake. These birds can often be seen and heard in large flocks flying across the sky over Loon Lake during migration seasons (Fall and Spring). You can typically hear them throughout spring, summer and fall in the morning and early evening. These mostly brownish gray feathered birds have a distinctive rolling trumpet-like call that can be heard from miles away.

Most Sandhill Cranes migrate through Indiana while some breed in northern Indiana. The cranes typically overwinter in places like Bosque del Apache, New Mexico, and Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, Texas and spend their summers foraging in northern U.S. and Canada.



These large birds forage in open areas like bogs, marshy wetland areas like Pisgah Marsh near State Road 5 just west of Loon Lake. Sandhill Cranes are omnivores and eat a variety of things like seeds, berries, nuts, tubers (roots), and small animals (e.g., crayfish, reptiles, nesting birds). You can see them around Loon Lake in open fields and in fields near Pisgah Marsh.

Typically, these birds breed and nest in open wetlands, fields, and prairies. Mates display to each other by bowing, dancing and males toss clumps of grass in the air to attract females. They mate for life and stay with their mates year-round. Nests are built in vegetation like cattails, sedges, or grasses. Once hatched, the baby chicks can leave the nest and are capable of swimming within 8 hours of hatching. The juveniles stick close by their parents for 9 or 10 months. Sandhill Cranes can live to be an astounding 20-35 years old with the oldest known bird to be over 37 years old.



## Fun Facts:

- Sandhill Cranes have a call that is loud and unique due to their long tracheas (windpipes) that coil into their chests and help the sound develop a lower pitch.
- They warn off predators by spreading their wings (with a wingspan of 6 feet) and hissing. If that doesn't scare predators away, the birds can resort to attacking by leaping in the air and kicking.
- The Sandhill Crane is listed as a species of special concern and is not considered endangered. The most recent numbers show populations as stable and increasing.

Watch for these unique large birds in the open fields as you travel the roads around Loon Lake and listen for their distinctive call in the mornings and evenings.



# LOON LAKE KID'S FISHING DERBY - 2025

BY: JOAN BUTLER

According to a wise old fisherman, Tis better to have fished and not caught than never to have fished at all.

So let's go fishing - The Loon Lake Kid's Fishing Derby is on Saturday, June 7, 2025. Kids ages 2 - 16 are welcome to fish. This is the free fishing weekend in Indiana.



Come to the Loon Lisle Nature Reserve by 8:30 a.m. to register, get your worms and snack. Head out to catch as many fish as you can and bring them back to the LLNR to be weighed by 11:00 a.m. While you are waiting, check out the prizes and grab a hot dog. The fisherpeople can eat for free and adults are asked for a freewill donation that will help with next year's derby.

After all the fish totals have been tallied, the winners in each category will be announced and prizes will be awarded. Don't forget to get your orange bag of goodies because it will have a number on it for you to claim your prize.

Thank you for your continued support! This event is self-supporting - all the money that is taken in is used for next year's event.



## 20TH ANNUAL 5.5K RUN/WALK



BY: SCOTT DAVIS

**Register NOW for the 20th Running of the Loon Lake 5.5K Run/Walk!**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 5th at 8:00 AM – for the 20th Loon Lake 5.5K Run/Walk! This family-friendly event welcomes participants of all ages, from 5 to 85, to join in on a fun and healthy day at beautiful Loon Lake.

Whether you're an avid runner or prefer a leisurely walk, this event is perfect for everyone. It's a great opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends while supporting a wonderful cause. All proceeds from the event go towards enhancing and preserving the beauty of Loon Lake for future generations.

Registration is now open! WHY HAVEN'T YOU REGISTERED??! You KNOW you will sign up to be part of this milestone event. Don't wait. Sign up NOW to guarantee one of the 20<sup>th</sup> Running of the Loon Lake Run T-shirts. The link to register is available at:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/IN/ColumbiaCity/LoonLakeRunWalk>

All registrants will receive a limited edition race t-shirt to commemorate the 20th running of the Loon Lake Run.

So gather your loved ones, lace up your sneakers, and join us for this exciting event. All ages and abilities are welcome – we can't wait to see you there!



**Aquatic Weed Control**

Jim Donahoe  
Owner/Operator

P.O. Box 325  
Syracuse, Indiana  
46567

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Fax 534-8230

jim@aquaticweedcontrol.com

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# CALLING ALL ARTISTS/DESIGNERS!

The **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Loon Lake 5.5K Run/Walk** is coming soon and we need artists (or wannabe artists) who are interested in designing the **front of the 2025 T-shirt for our race.**

The 5.5K is one of the biggest events for our lake every year with over 250 participants. This race brings together our community and provides funds that directly benefit Loon Lake to keep it a beautiful place to live and play.

We will select 3 winners:

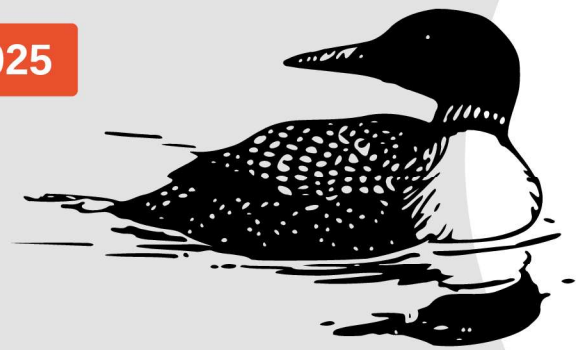
- 1<sup>st</sup> place will receive a \$50 cash prize and their design will be on the 20<sup>th</sup> running of the Loon Lake Run/Walk T-shirt.
- Two other winners will each receive \$25 cash prize and their design may be used on T-shirts for a future running of the Loon Lake run.
- All winners will receive a FREE T-SHIRT and a FREE entrance fee into the 20<sup>th</sup> running of the Loon Lake 5.5K Run/Walk.

**Deadline for submission is MAY 1, 2025**

## DESIGN REQUIREMENTS:

Must incorporate the following image and words:

- image of a LOON
- 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Loon Lake Run/Walk
- July 5, 2025
- Columbia City, IN



The design must be one color. It will be printed on a colored shirt, so the shirt color can also be considered a color in the design.

## FORMATS ACCEPTED:

- If computer generated: jpeg, pdf, or Photoshop files
- If hand drawn: dark, clean lines will scan in best

The run is a very family friendly event with over 250 runners/walkers with ages spanning 5-85 years old! Have fun with this. You may submit more than one entry. Entries will be anonymously numbered and voted on by the race volunteers. A design decision will be made by May 15, 2025.

Please email submissions to [LoonLakeRunDir@gmail.com](mailto:LoonLakeRunDir@gmail.com)

Mail or drop off at: 5530 S 600 W-57, Columbia City, IN 46725

Please call Scott with any questions: 260-799-4377

## 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 newsletter are sent via e-mail only unless you request a hard copy.



# LOON LAKE CONTACTS

All area codes 260 unless noted

## BOARD OFFICERS

Gary Hicks, President-----403-7691  
Kathy Ehinger, Vice President-----437-8085  
Tena Miller, Treasurer-----213-0638  
Carol Kurtz, Secretary-----799-4980

## BOARD DIRECTORS

Debbie Bauermeister-----705-3192  
Brian Clark-----438-2322  
Michael Cornyn-----337-344-0177  
Bob Gallivan-----820-1240  
Karen Treat-----438-7968  
Geoff Velpel-----602-5996

## CHAIRPERSONS \*Denotes Board Liaison

5.5K Run/Walk----- (Scott Davis)\*Gary 847-312-9547  
By-Laws----- (Michael Cornyn) 337-344-0177  
Can Collection---- (Brian Clark, Bob Gallivan) 820-1240  
Email----- (Carol Kurtz) 799-4980  
Finance Committee----- (Tena Miller) 213-0638  
Fire Hydrants----- (Tim Clay) \*Geoff 692-9491  
Fireworks----- (Brian Clark) 438-2322  
Garage Sale----- (Linda Archer) \*Tena 341-2895  
Golf Cart/ATV Parade----- (Kathy Ehinger) 437-8085  
Kids Fishing Derby----- (JoAn Butler) \*Carol 466-6207  
Lake Enhancement----- (Walt Hessler) 403-1173  
Lighted Boat Parade----- (Kathy Ehinger) 437-8085  
Loon Lake Apparel----- (Karen Treat) 438-7968  
Loon Lisle Reserve----- (Carol Kurtz) 799-4980  
Media Sign----- (Linda Garrison) \*Karen 765-251-3955  
Newsletter----- (Beth Hartman) \*Carol 799-4980  
Pancake Breakfast- (**CHAIR NEEDED**)\*Karen 438-7968  
Poker Run----- (Abby Green) \*Kathy 437-8085  
Sailboat Race----- (Tom Zahm) \*Gary 341-8349  
Water Quality Testing--- (Walt Hessler) \*Tena 403-1173  
Website----- (Tom Zahm) \*Carol 799-4980  
Welcome Committee---- (Louise Hill) \*Debbie 705-3192

## 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

**RHOADES**  
AUTOMOTIVE

Robert Salesman  
Sales Manager

401 W Van Buren St.  
Columbia City, IN 46725

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Cell: (260) 229-1598

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WEBSITE: www.rhoadesautomotive.com

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# LOON LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Loon's Call newsletter has been sent via email unless a mailed paper copy was requested. It is also available to view or print from the website: [www.loonlakeindiana.org](http://www.loonlakeindiana.org). If you have questions, email us at: [loonlakemail@gmail.com](mailto:loonlakemail@gmail.com).

## 2025 RAFFLE

Our 2025 raffle will be held at the spring meeting! Bring your raffle tickets to the meeting or mail them in with your dues for a chance to win an **outdoor seating set!** Other raffle prizes include gift cards to local restaurants.



## FACEBOOK/WEBSITE/EMAIL

- Join the Loon Lake Community Facebook group. Follow news and other happenings around the lake. Over 600 folks have joined and regularly share info!
- Visit [www.loonlakeindiana.org](http://www.loonlakeindiana.org) to see the lake calendar, history, news, & more!
- 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 email addresses.

## 2025 Loon Lake Events Calendar

APR	12	April Can Pickup - 9:00am
MAY	10	May Can Pickup - 9:00am
MAY	17	Spring Meeting - 9:30am-10:30am
JUN	7	Kids Fishing Derby - 8:00am-11:00am
JUN	14	June Can Pickup - 9:00am
JUN	20-21	Garage Sales - 8:00am-4:00pm
JUL	4	Golf Cart Parade - 8:00am-5:00pm
JUL	4	Lighted Boat Parade - 9:30pm
JUL	5	5.5K Run/Walk - 8:00am
JUL	5	Pancake Breakfast - 8:00am-11:00am
JUL	5	Sailboat Race - 5:00pm-6:00pm
JUL	5	Fireworks - 10:00pm
JUL	12	July Can Pickup - 9:00am
JUL	26	Poker Run - 10:00am-12:00pm
AUG	9	August Can Pickup - 9:00am
AUG	23	Fall Meeting - 9:30am-10:30am
AUG	23	LLFMP Cornhole Tournament - 12:00pm
SEP	13	September Can Pickup - 9:00am
TBD		LLFMP Muskie Shoot-Out
OCT	25	Community Trick or Treat - 3:00pm-5:00pm

**Loon Lake Property Owners Association \$30.00 Annual Dues**  
**Make checks payable to: LLPOA Mail to PO BOX 605, Columbia City, IN 46725**  
 Complete, clip and return form below with one check to the address above



Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(if different than above) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Email 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Email 2: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please do not publish my phone number in the directory

Association Dues: \_\_\_\_\_

Fireworks Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Raffle Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Enhancement/

Reserve Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**One check can cover the total sent!**