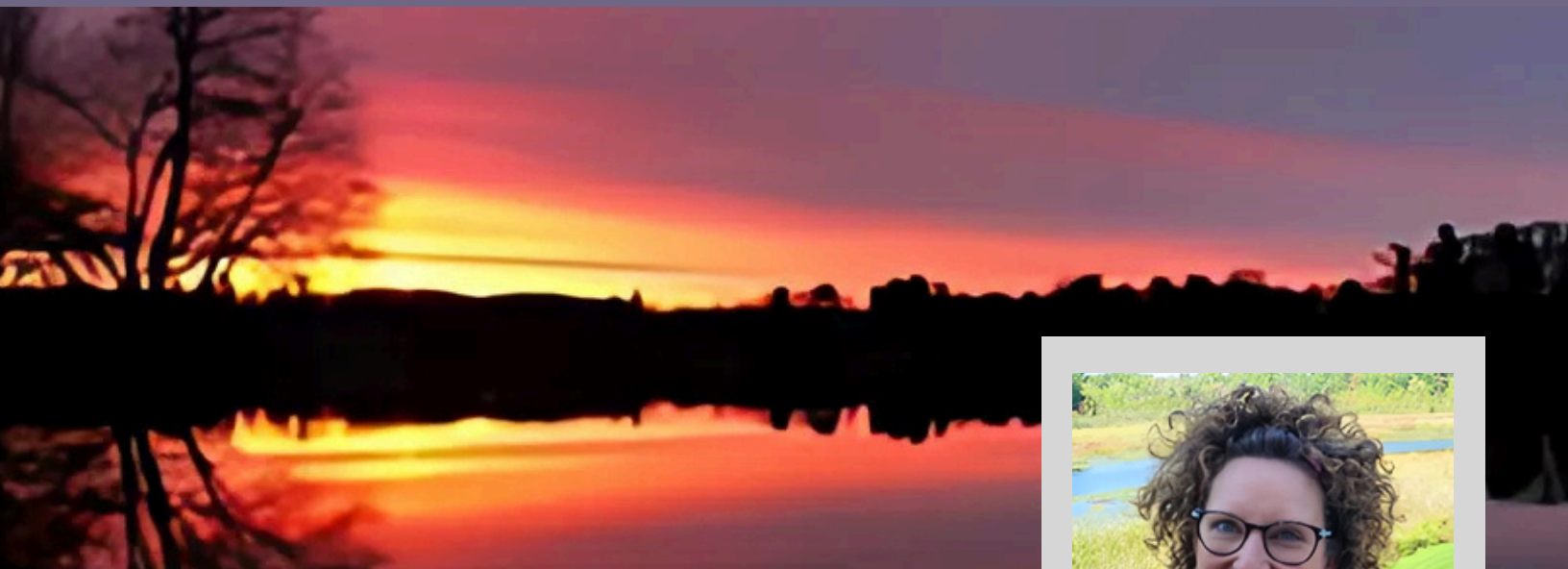


# THE WATERLINE

THE OFFICIAL WOODBECK CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



## *A Word From Wendi*



May 15, 2025

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

Monet, van Gogh and Friedrich couldn't paint it any more beautifully. The vibrant colors of Spring turning to Summer are absolutely gorgeous right now! Mother Nature's reality is draped around us everywhere you look. My cup runneth over (usually with wine) with the abundance of spectacular colors of the flowering trees and plants. Like a rainbow, a red sunset, or a really good org...orange, the colors won't last long so make sure you take pleasure in them! I'm going to say it again...How Lucky are We!!

Speaking of enjoyment, this edition of the Waterline is filled with fun things to enjoy this summer, so don't miss out! Read it, mark it in your calendar and RSVP to any and all the events that will be going on around and on our beautiful lakes. Additionally, make sure you read about all the other important information we have provided you this month. This information keeps our lakes safe and our community connected. Our Board, administrators and other volunteers deserve to be recognized and thanked for all they do behind the scenes to make a difference and enhance the lives of everyone who lives in this chain of lakes community. Thank you to all of you who understand this and pay your dues. YOU are the reason we love doing what we do! Now pat yourselves on the back and relax with a cold beverage and soak up the Waterline news

That's all for now!

Kindly,

Wendi Davidson

WCLA President

# INTRODUCING WCLA REPRESENTATIVES

Faith and her husband Kim moved to Horseshoe Lake in 2018 after raising their two daughters in Mason, Michigan. She retired from Michigan State University in May 2024 and is embracing the freedom that comes with an open schedule. Her five grandchildren are a constant source of joy. While three of them live in Houston, Texas, they spend several weeks in Michigan each summer, and Faith makes regular trips south to visit them. She's especially grateful that two of her grandchildren live nearby, allowing for frequent hugs and quality time. In addition to cherishing time with family, Faith finds deep contentment in nature—whether she's walking, cross-country skiing, kayaking, or tending her flowers.

*Faith Petersen ~ Communications*



*Candie Ritsema ~ Social Director*



Candie Ritsema is a dedicated pediatric nurse practitioner specializing in hematology and oncology, committed to providing compassionate care to children and their families. She earned her undergraduate degree from Grand Valley State University and completed her graduate studies at Wayne State University. Candie is a proud mother to her 17-year-old daughter, Lauren, and is married to David Ritsema. Outside of her professional life, she enjoys staying active through fitness and exercise, spending quality time with friends, and relaxing by the lake. She resides on Woodbeck, where she embraces a vibrant and fulfilling lifestyle.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## WCLA Social Dinners

Flo's & Smyrna Bar was enjoyed by 26-30 wild and crazy people! Delicious food, amazing drinks and wonderful friends equals a perfect evening with the BEST people around!

### March - Flo's



### April - Smyrna Bar



## Upcoming Events

### Social Dinner

Let's check out Greenville's newest dining destination! The menu looks fantastic and rumor has it - it doesn't disappoint! This is a great opportunity to have fun with friends and support a local restaurant and our very own WCLA family!

**Thursday May 15th @ 6:00 p.m.**

Location: Applewood Kitchen & Bar  
11466 W Carson City Rd  
Greenville, MI 48838



## APPLEWOOD

KITCHEN + BAR

RSVP: Candie Ritsema  
(616) 835-2488  
candieritsema@yahoo.com

# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## Upcoming Events

### **Social Brunch – FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT**

Bring the whole family for a fun get together and mingle with friends and neighbors.

**Saturday June 11th @ 10:00 a.m.**

Location: Turk Lake Restaurant & Bar

161 S. Turk Lake Dr.

Greenville, MI 48838



RSVP: Candie Ritsema

(616) 835-2488

candieritsema@yahoo.com

### **Ladies Wine & Charcuterie Night**

Join us for a "Welcome Summer" Ladies Night. The cost is \$20 which includes LOTS of wine and delicious charcuterie eats! You can also order your Ladies of the Lakes personalized wine glass for \$15. Such a wonderful way to get to know the Ladies of the Lakes. Please RSVP to Carol by June 12<sup>th</sup> if you would like to attend.



**Thursday June 19th @ 6:00 p.m.**

Location: Carol Guffin's House

13303 Oakcrest Ave

Gowen, MI 49326

RSVP: Carol Guffin

Call/Text: (517) 360-2511

Email: cguffin67@yahoo.com



# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## Upcoming Events

### WCLA Big "A" Garage Sale

#### Let the Spring Cleaning Begin!

Ready to clear the clutter and make a little cash? Join us for the WCLA BIG "A" One-Day Garage Sale!

Reserve your table/space for just \$10 and sell your own items — you keep 100% of your profits! Each seller is responsible for managing their own table.

Don't have enough for a full table? No problem! You can also donate items to the WCLA Community Table, with all proceeds going to support our amazing WCLA social events throughout the year.

*Note: Acceptance of donated items is at the discretion of our volunteers. Any unsold items from the WCLA table will be donated or discarded as needed.*



### Saturday June 21st

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Camp Greenwood

RSVP: Kim Covell by May 21st

Email: covellscove5@gmail.com

☞ We need at least 15 tables reserved to make this event a go, so gather your treasures and join the fun!



### Music on the Beach with Michael Hulett

Get ready for an unforgettable afternoon on the water! One of the South's most incredible saxophonists will be performing live—delighting you with everything from the smooth sounds of Nat King Cole to the modern edge of Kings of Leon.

Join us by boat and soak it all in while you float and relax in front of Mike and Katherine Wolthuis's home on Woodbeck Lake.

*Please note: This is not a WCLA-sponsored event, but a generous gift to the community from Mike and Katherine. Don't miss it!*

### Saturday June 21st

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Woodbeck Lake



# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## Upcoming Events

**Watch for the June Presidents Corner for more information about these events...**

### **Social Dinner**

July - Date & Location TBD

### **Boat Parade**

Saturday July 5<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m.

### **Music on the Beach with Copper Moon**

Saturday July 5<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Jeff & Kris Ferguson's  
South Shore Woodbeck

### **WCLA Board Meeting**

Monday July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.

Location: Wendi Davidson's House

### **Progressive Kayak Event**

Saturday July 19<sup>th</sup> @ 12:00 p.m.

See attached flyer for details!

### **Music on the Beach with Noah Back**

Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 p.m.

Location: South Shore Woodbeck

### **WCLA Annual Dinner**

Thursday August 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:00 p.m.

Location: Camp Concordia

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# UPDATES & MORE



**Friends. Grow. Camp.**

A big Thank you to Pastor BJ at Camp Concordia!! Pastor BJ opened up times in April for WCLA members to launch their boats. This is earlier than previous years and many of you took advantage of these early times. Now that's a GOOD NEIGHBOR!! Thank Pastor BJ by giving a big wave and shout out when you boat past the camp!

## Camp Concordia Boat Launch Schedule and Forms:

Now available at [campconcordia.org/wcla](http://campconcordia.org/wcla). Use of CC's boat launch and dock is reserved for current WCLA members only. To ensure you're added to the schedule upon request, please make sure your dues are paid several days in advance (not the day of). If your name is not on the most up-to-date list, scheduling will not be possible. ***As always, please do not share the access code—this benefit is for members only.***

**Now!  
Open!**

The Kindy boat launch is open for the 2025 season. This launch is private property and maintained by WCLA. Those accessing without permission are considered trespassing. As these are private lakes, our goal is to minimize unauthorized access and protect the integrity of the community. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



**CLICK HERE** for the latest copy of The Michigan Riparian Magazine supplied by Michigan Lakes and Streams Association

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# WELCOME TO THE LAKES



*Rick & Joy Bruick*  
**Horseshoe Lake**

Rick and Joy Bruick moved to Horseshoe Lake from Dallas TX, trading in the hot summers for cold winters. Joy is a retired nurse and Rick works remotely to develop cancer therapeutics. They have two boys at UMich: Ben will be a senior (Robotics) and Nate will be a sophomore (Nursing). They're excited for the summer and getting out on the lake!

*\*If you are new to the lakes or know someone who is, please contact our welcome committee Phil & Denise Sliva*

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# WELCOME TO THE LAKES



*Jeff & Wendy Jones*  
**Woodbeck Lake**


Originally from Florida, Jeff and Wendy Jones moved to Michigan after retiring, eager to be closer to their daughter, son-in-law, and two grandsons who relocated to Michigan five years ago.

They settled into their Woodbeck Lake home last summer, with plans to become snowbirds. However, the early arrival of a new grandbaby brought their summer stay to a joyful and early close.

Jeff and Wendy have three children. Their oldest daughter and her family live in the

Washington, D.C. area, where her husband serves in the Navy. They have three grandchildren there. Their second daughter, the one who moved to Michigan, relocated for her husband's job and has two boys. Their son, the youngest, is in the Air Force and is currently stationed in England with his wife and their youngest grandchild.

During a visit, Jeff and Wendy fell in love with Michigan's natural beauty and mild summer weather. They're thrilled to be spending this summer here and Jeff is especially enjoying the easy access to local golf courses.



**Amber Covell**  
 LOAN ORIGINATOR | NMLS 1059016

---

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# REMINDERS



The Meal Train is always available to help you in the event of illness, injury or death of a loved one that lives with you (even if it's only for a short period of time). Your friends and neighbors are here to help! Please contact Mara Iteen who will make all of the arrangements necessary to meet your needs.

If you want to be a part of the Meal Train to provide meals when needed, please contact Mara Iteen and let her know that you would like to be on the list. When someone is in need Mara will contact those on the list and you can sign up as needed.

## BOATERS SAFETY

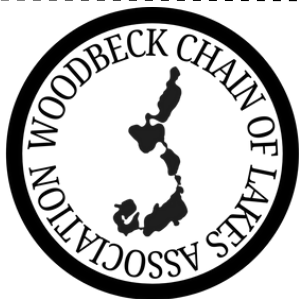
Spring is here making it the perfect time for kids and young adults to complete the Boater's Safety Course! This is an ongoing opportunity for anyone aged 12-20 to earn a \$15 Amazon gift card upon completing the course—available year-round! Whether you're a young resident living on the lakes or a grandchild of a paid Lake Association member, you can take the course online at your convenience.

Here's how it works:

1. Complete the Boater's Safety Course anytime during the year.
2. Email a copy of your completion card to davidsonwendi@gmail.com.
3. Receive your \$15 gift card—it's that easy!

Not only is this a simple way to earn a reward, but it's also an important step in helping to keep our lakes safe.

Ready to get started? Click here to begin your online course: [Boater's Safety Course](#).



## LAKE MAPPING

In 2024, WCLA invested in lake mapping put together by PLM showing depths and hardness levels of all the lakes. These maps are available to members once they have paid their 2025 dues by reaching out to Chris Decker.

## WCLA Photo Directory: Connecting Our Lake Community!

Discover the joy of putting faces to names and learning more about our wonderful lakeside community! The WCLA Photo Directory, thoughtfully created by Phil Sliva, is now available on the WCLA website: [CLICK HERE to view the latest version](#).

Participation is optional, but we'd love to see everyone represented! To join in, simply email Phil at philsliva@chartermi.net with:

A photo of you and your family

A picture of your home as seen from the lakeside

Let's make our directory a vibrant showcase of the Woodbeck Chain of Lakes community!



# OUR MISSION

The Woodbeck Chain of Lakes Association will promote the preservation of lake/water quality, provide education about boat safety & etiquette and initiate social activities to promote community friendships and interaction. It will encourage membership and participation in the Association and will facilitate a sense of community amongst riparian property owners.



The WCLA Waterline is published three times a year, brimming with valuable updates and engaging content. Have an idea for an article? We'd love to hear it! Better yet, if you'd like to contribute by writing an article, we'd greatly appreciate your input.

The next issue is set to be released in September 2025, and the deadline for article submissions and advertisements is September 5th. Submit articles and ideas to Jamie Skinner

## It's Time to Pay Your 2025 WCLA Dues!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supports our lakes by paying their dues. Your contributions make a big difference in keeping our lake community thriving!

**Dues are just \$40.00 for the year**—that's only \$3.34 per month, less than the cost of a Starbucks coffee!

Your dues go a long way toward:

- Keeping our lakes clean and safe
- Funding canal signage and other communications
- Covering maintenance, repairs, and unexpected issues
- Supporting fish stocking and ensuring plentiful fishing
- Sponsoring fun community events we all enjoy

How to Pay:

- Online: Visit [woodbeckchainoflakes.com/pay-dues](http://woodbeckchainoflakes.com/pay-dues)
- By Mail:

Make checks payable to WCLA and mail to:

PO Box 482, Greenville, MI 48838

If your name isn't on the paid membership list (below), we haven't received your payment. Remember, dues must be paid to use the boat launches.

The 2025 paid membership list will be included in every issue of the President's Corner and Waterline as a handy reminder. 😊

**Thank you for your continued dedication to our lakes!**





# SPONSORS

*Affordable Advertising Opportunity!*

*Thank you to all local businesses for choosing to advertise with us. Advertise in all three issues (January, May, and September) is just \$35—that's less than \$12 per issue! Contact Jamie Skinner for additional information.*



Owner: Marilyn Klemm  
Website: lakesidenatives.com  
Email: lakesideperennial@gmail.com  
Instagram: lakesideperennialnursery  
Facebook: Lakeside Perennial & Native Plant Nursery  
Nursery License: #203298

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## WCLA PROGRESSIVE KAYAYING EVENT 2025

**Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> starting at Noon**

**Must be 21 years old to participate**

**\$10.00 per person**

**RSVP: Pay and Pick up Wristband by July 12<sup>th</sup> NO LATER!**

**THIS IS THE GREATEST SOCIAL EVENT OF THE SUMMER!!!! (or at least one of them!)**

This year's kayaking event will be a progressive event with the final stop on Thomas Lake for dinner, drinks, music and pool fun! **Almost 100 of you have done this before and know what a blast this is! But for those of you who have never done it, here is the scoop!**

We will all meet at noon on Horseshoe Lake at Don and Lois Hoogerhyde's beachfront where you will enjoy appetizers and social time with friends. BYOB 😊 You can drop your kayaks off on Don and Lois's beach Friday or Saturday before the event starts if you don't want to paddle your way over there by noon. Or drop off at Kris and Jeff's beachfront.

Next, we will all get in our kayaks and paddle over to Kris and Jeff Ferguson's beachfront on Woodbeck Lake. They will also have appetizers and plenty of time to mingle with friends.

Then, we will paddle to Banks Lake and have even more fun and food at Art and Jamie Skinners (and neighbors)!!!

Lastly, we will paddle over to Norm and Wendi Davidson's where we will spend the rest of the evening partying like rock stars, eating and drinking like King's and Queens, dance like nobody's looking and swim in the heated pool like mermaids and mermen!

Please bring a dish to share for the final stop. You can drop off your dish on Saturday between 9:30 and noon at Wendi's house: 13337 Oakcrest Ave, 49326. **PLEASE BRING COLD DISHES IN A COOLER AS WE WILL NOT HAVE ENOUGH REFRIGERATOR SPACE FOR ALL OF THEM.**

**SUMMARY: Must be 21 years old to participate**

**12pm-1:00: Don and Lois's beachfront-Horseshoe Lake**

**1:15-2:15: Kris and Jeff's beachfront-Woodbeck Lake**

**2:30-3:30: Art and Jamie's beachfront-Banks Lake**

**3:45-until the fun is over: Norm and Wendi Davidson's-Thomas Lake**

**50/50 Raffle!!!! \$5.00 a ticket**

You can pay your \$10 per person and pick up your wristbands at Don's, Kris's, Jamie's or Wendi's house.

**Make checks out to WCLA. Call or Text first please. Don: 616 990-8687**

Kris: 616 299-1739

Wendi 616 799-0412

Jamie: 616 813-9841

# BRING NATURE HOME: NATIVE PLANTS FOR YOUR LAKEFRONT PROPERTY

ARTICLE PROVIDED BY MARILYN KLEMM ~ HALF MILE LAKE

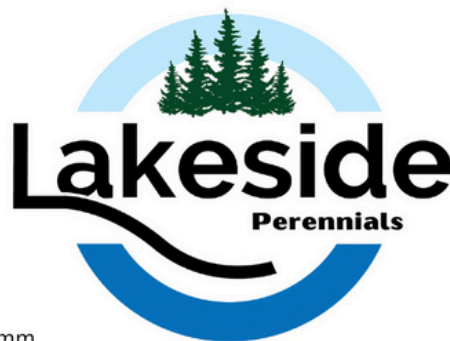
If you are lucky enough to live on a lake, you already know the magic of watching the water change with the light, listening to loons at sunset, and catching glimpses of dragonflies skimming the surface. But what if you could bring even more life to your shoreline—and help protect the lake itself—just by planting a few native plants?

Whether you have a sprawling shoreline or a modest backyard, native plant gardening is one of the easiest and most rewarding ways to enhance your lakefront property. It does not take a big budget or a green thumb. Just a few well-chosen plants in a corner of your yard, a container on your deck, or integrated into your existing landscape can make a big difference—for both your enjoyment and the local ecosystem.

## Why Native Plants?

Native plants are species that have evolved in your region over thousands of years. They are adapted to your climate, soil, and wildlife, making them low-maintenance, beautiful, and beneficial. Here is why they are a smart choice for lakefront living:

- **Protect Water Quality:** Native plants help filter runoff, reducing the amount of fertilizer, sediment, and pollutants entering your lake.
- **Prevent Erosion:** Their deep root systems stabilize soil along shorelines and sloped yards.
- **Support Pollinators & Birds:** Bees, butterflies, and birds depend on native plants for food and shelter. Your garden becomes a vital stopover and habitat.
- **Drought Tolerant & Low Maintenance:** Once established, native plants require less watering and no chemical fertilizers or pesticides.



Owner: Marilyn Klemm  
Website: [lakesidenatives.com](http://lakesidenatives.com)  
Email: [lakesideperennial@gmail.com](mailto:lakesideperennial@gmail.com)  
Instagram: [lakesideperennialnursery](https://www.instagram.com/lakesideperennialnursery)  
Facebook: Lakeside Perennial & Native Plant Nursery

Half Mile Lake  
13800 Pinewood St.  
Gowen, MI 49326  
Cell: (616) 835-5638  
Nursery License: #203298

# BRING NATURE HOME: NATIVE PLANTS FOR YOUR LAKEFRONT PROPERTY

ARTICLE PROVIDED BY MARILYN KLEMM ~ HALF MILR LAKE

## Small Space? No Problem.

You do not need a large yard to make an impact. Here are three easy ways to bring native plants into your lakefront lifestyle:

1. Add a Mini Garden Bed – Choose a sunny spot—along a pathway, near your dock, or by your porch steps—and start with just a few square feet. Native perennials like purple coneflower, butterfly weed, and little bluestem offer colorful blooms and habitat throughout the seasons.
2. Go Container-Style – No soil? No problem. Many native plants thrive in pots. Try black-eyed Susans, wild columbine, or blue-eyed grass in a container on your deck or dockside. Mix textures, heights, and bloom times to create a lush mini-meadow.
3. Enhance Existing Landscaping – Already have shrubs or ornamental beds? Layer in native groundcovers like wild strawberry or prairie smoke. They will fill gaps, reduce weeding, and attract beneficial insects without a total redesign.

## Start Small, Grow Naturally

The key to success with native plants is to start small and observe. Watch which plants thrive in your space, and which birds and butterflies come to visit. Gardening with natives is not about perfection—it is about connection. Every milkweed pod or goldenrod stem is a step toward a healthier lake and a more vibrant landscape.

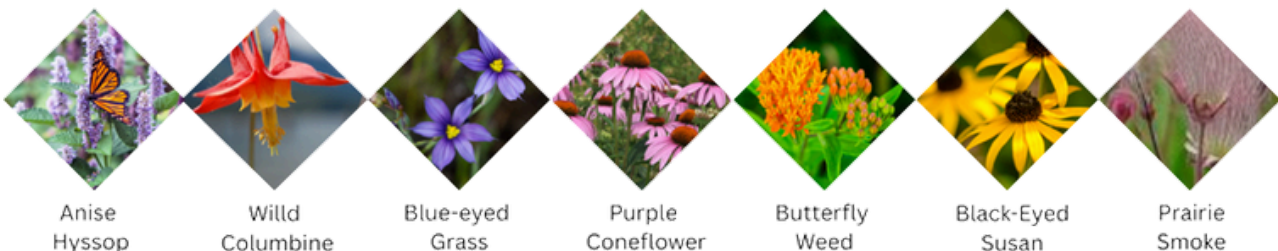
## Inspiration is Right Outside

The best native plant garden is the one that reflects the natural beauty already around you. Look at what is growing along undisturbed shorelines or nearby nature trails. You will find inspiration for colors, textures, and plant pairings that belong on your property.

Whether you are looking to reduce mowing, support pollinators, or simply enjoy a more natural view, native plant gardening is a beautiful way to give back to the lake you love.

Nature belongs here. So do native plants. Start today, and watch your shoreline come alive.

### Container Friendly Native Plants





# 2025 LAKE TREATMENT SCHEDULE

## NOTICE 2025

PLM Lake and Land Management Corp  
8865 100th St. SE, Alto, MI 49302  
(616) 891-1294(o) (616) 891-0371(f)  
www.plmcorp.net



**Woodbeck Chain of Lakes** has been scheduled for the week of:

WEEK OF	DESCRIPTION	WEEK OF	DESCRIPTION
4/14/2025	Spring Water Quality Sampling	7/14/2025	Weed & Algae, E.Coli Testing
5/5/2025	Spring Vegetation Survey	8/11/2025	Weed & Algae, Purple Loosestrife
5/19/2025	Weed & Algae	8/25/2025	AVAS, WQ
6/16/2025	Weed & Algae		

EGLE permitting restrictions, national holidays, and/or weather conditions may influence the timing of treatments throughout the 2025 season. PLM treats each lake according to a schedule or season plan, established with the cooperation of your lake association, lake board or residents on the lake. The treatment schedule is approximate. Please watch your shoreline for the posting of the 8.5x11 inch, yellow or green signs. The signs will indicate the date of the treatment, the products used, and any restrictions on the use of treated water for swimming, watering lawns, etc. The property owners in this area are planning to have the waters chemically treated to control lake weeds and/or algae. This notice is being circulated in accordance with Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) procedures. Below is a list of herbicides that may be applied to the lake and the associated use restrictions. On the day of treatment, signs will be posted along the shoreline within 100 feet of treatment areas that indicate what products were used and specific water use restrictions that apply:

Chemical product/active ingredient	Chemical trade name	Do Not Use this water for swimming or bathing until	Do Not Use this water for ornamentals or turf irrigation until	Do Not Use this water for domestic purposes or agriculture irrigation until	Do Not Use this water for livestock watering or similar purposes until
Diquat Dibromide	Alligare Diquat, Tribune	1 Day(s)	3 Day(s)	5 Day(s)	1 Day(s)
Flumioxazin	Alligare Flumigard SC, Clipper, Propeller, Schooner	1 Day(s)	3 Day(s)	5 Day(s)	N/A
Endothall Diquat Dibromide	Aqua Strike	1 Day(s)	3 Day(s)	5 Day(s)	14 Day(s)
Glyphosate	Aquaneat, Glyphosate 5.4	1 Day(s)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Endothall	Aquathol K, Hydrothol 191	1 Day(s)	N/A	14 Day(s)	14 Day(s)
Chelated Copper Herbicide	Komeen Descend, Nautique	1 Day(s)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Florpyrauxifen-Benzyl	ProcellaCOR EC 2x22	1 Day(s)	Site-specific recommendation* No restriction for established turf/grasses	N/A on domestic; assay indicates no detect at the water intake	N/A
Triclopyr liquid	Renovate 3	1 Day(s)	120 Day(s) or until approved assay indicates 1ppb or less; No restriction for established turf/grasses	120 Day(s) or until assay indicates 1ppb or less. N/A on domestic	N/A
Triclopyr granular	Renovate OTF	1 Day(s)	Site-specific recommendation* No restriction for established turf/grasses	120 Day(s) or until assay indicates 1ppb or less. N/A on domestic	N/A
<b>PLM Blue, Cygnet Select, Aqua Shadow Black:</b> water dye (tracer), <b>Copper Sulfate, Cutrine Plus-Ultra, Captain-XTR, Earthtec, SeClear and SeClear G, Formula F-30, K-Tea, Komeen Descend:</b> chelated copper, <b>Cygnet Plus, PolyAn:</b> Adjuvant, <b>Pak 27, AquaSticker, Green Clean L and Green Clean 5.0:</b> oxidizer, <b>AquaPrep:</b> enzymes & non-ionic surfactants, <b>M.D. pellets, Muck Biotics:</b> gram negative, naturally occurring bacteria, <b>PLM Enzyme:</b> enzymes, <b>Phoslock:</b> phosphorus locking technology, <b>EutroSORB F, EutroSORB G, EutroSORB SI, EutroSORB WC</b> phosphorus locking technology.				<b>No Restrictions</b> on swimming, bathing, irrigation, domestic purposes or livestock watering.	

For a complete listing of all product labels, please see our website.

N/A= Not Applicable INDEF= Indefinite

\*Site-Specific recommendations to limit ornamental irrigation with ProcellaCOR, Renovate & Sculpin granular treated water will typically last 2-14 days. Contact PLM for further information.

The chemicals used for Aquatic Nuisance Control are registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. The potential for damage to fish and other non-target organisms is minimal provided that the product is used as directed on the product label and the permit. To minimize the possible effects on health and the environment, the treated water is restricted for the above purposes.

**Method of Application:** Chemical application will be made via boat, back pack, and/or land vehicle applying liquid surface products by surface spray and/or injection. Granular product application will be surface broadcast.

**PLM Lake & Land Management Corp. Certified Applicators:** Adam Jones, Andrew Weinberg, Andy Tomaszewski, BreAnne Grabill, Casey Shoaff, Colton Risner, Cory Robinett, Daulton Higgins, Dennis Vangessel, Dustin Grabill, Elijah Quinn, Eric Reed, Ethan Ford, Garrett Johnson, Hailey Birchmeier, Hannah Cornell, Holden Eisner, Jaimee Desjardins, Jake Hunt, James Scherer, Jason Broekstra, Jeff Fischer, Jeff Tolan, Keith terHorst, Kyle Heath, Landon Conroy, Lucas Slagel, Michael Pichla, Nathaniel Draper, Noah Hanson, Pierce Johnson, Preston Adgate, Raquelle Robbins, Reese Ransom, Riley Ransom, Samuel Bailey, Shelby Robinett, Steve Hanson, Tate Gardner, William Conklin, William Ducham

# MICHIGAN BOATING RULES

## Michigan Boating Rules

Note: This brief overview provides a summary of Michigan law and is not intended to be legal advice. Because laws are subject to change and it is a recreational user's responsibility to know and understand the current laws, users are encouraged to consult the most current regulations:

State of Michigan

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/boating/rules-and-regs>

### Registering Your Vessel

- You must have a Michigan Certificate of Number (registration) and validation decals to operate your vessel legally on public waters in Michigan. The only exceptions are:
  - Privately owned rowboats 16 feet or less in length
  - Privately owned non-motorized canoes or kayaks
  - Vessels registered in another state using Michigan waters for 60 days or less
- All watercraft with a motor must be registered, including electric and inflatable vessels.
- The Certificate of Number (registration card) must be on board and available for inspection by an enforcement officer whenever the vessel is being operated.
- The registration number and validation decals must be displayed as follows.
  - Number must be painted, applied as a decal, or otherwise affixed to both sides of the bow as high above the water line as practical.
  - Number must read from left to right on both sides of the bow.
  - Number must be in at least three-inch-high BLOCK letters.

### Who May Operate a Boat

- Those less than 12 years of age:
  - May operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than 6 horsepower (hp) legally without restrictions.
  - May operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 6 hp but no more than 35 hp legally only if they:
    - Have been issued a boating safety certificate and have it on board the boat and...
    - Are directly supervised on board by a person at least 16 years of age and have been issued a boating safety certificate.
  - May not operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 35 hp legally under any conditions.
- Those born on or after July 1, 1996, may not operate a motorboat that is powered by a motor or motors totaling more than 6 hp on the waters of this state unless the person has been issued a boating safety certificate.
- Those born before July 1, 1996, may operate a boat legally without restrictions.

### Personal Watercraft

- Those less than 14 years of age may not legally operate a PWC.
- Those 14 and 15 years of age may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate and...
  - He or she is accompanied on board by his or her parent or legal guardian or by a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian or...
  - He or she is operating or riding the PWC at a distance of not more than 100 feet from his or her parent or legal guardian or from a person at least 21 years of age who has been designated by the parent or legal guardian.
- Those at least 16 years of age and born after December 31, 1978, may operate a PWC legally only if they have obtained a boating safety certificate.
- Those born on or before December 31, 1978, may operate a PWC legally without restrictions.

### Use Courtesy When Encountering Other Vessels

- Jumping the wake of a passing boat, or riding too close to another PWC or boat, creates risks and is restricted or even prohibited in some states. The vessel making the wake may block the PWC operator's view of oncoming traffic and also conceal the PWC operator from approaching vessels.
- Excessive noise from PWC often makes them unwelcome with other vessel operators and people on shore. Be a courteous PWC operator.
  - Vary your operating area, and do not keep repeating the same maneuver.
  - Avoid congregating with other PWC operators near shore, which increases annoying noise levels.
  - Avoid making excessive noise near residential and camping areas, particularly early in the morning.
  - Avoid maneuvers that cause the engine exhaust to lift out of the water because that increases noise levels.
  - Do not modify your engine exhaust system if it increases the noise. Improperly modified exhausts will not make your PWC faster and may raise the noise to an illegal level.

### Environmental Considerations

When operating your PWC, consider the effect you may have on the environment.

- Make sure that the water you operate in is at least 24 inches deep. Riding in shallow water can cause bottom sediments or aquatic vegetation to be sucked into the pump, damaging your PWC and the environment.
- Avoid causing erosion by operating at slow speed and by not creating a wake when operating near shore or in narrow streams or rivers.
- Do not dock or beach your PWC in reeds and grasses. This could damage fragile environments.



# MICHIGAN BOATING RULES

- Take extra care when fueling your PWC in or near the water. Oil and gasoline spills are very detrimental to the aquatic environment. Fuel on land if possible.
- Never use your PWC to disturb, chase, or harass wildlife.

## Other PWC Considerations

- Remember that everyone on board a PWC must wear a PFD.
- Keep hands, feet, loose clothing, and hair away from the pump intake area. Before cleaning debris away from the pump intake, be sure to shut off the engine.
- Keep everyone clear of the steering nozzle unless the PWC is shut off. The water jet can cause severe injuries.
- Frequently inspect your PWC's electrical systems (e.g., starter and engine gauge connections) to ensure there is no potential for electrical spark. Gas fumes could collect in the engine compartment and an explosion could occur. After fueling, sniff the engine compartment for any evidence of gas fumes.
- Never exceed the manufacturer's recommended capacity for your PWC.
- Know your limits, and ride according to your abilities.

## Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

- All vessels must be equipped with a personal flotation device (PFD), sometimes called a life jacket, for each person on board or being towed.
  - The USCG requires that all vessels have at least one USCG-approved wearable PFD for each person on board.
  - Michigan's PFD law permits a vessel that is less than 16 feet long, or is a canoe or kayak, to choose to have either a wearable PFD or a throwable device for each person on board.
- In addition to the above requirements, one USCG-approved throwable device must be on board vessels 16 feet or longer and be readily accessible.
- Michigan law requires all children under 6 years of age to wear a USCG-approved wearable PFD when riding on the open deck of any vessel while underway.
- If a person chooses to wear a PFD that is not USCG approved (when not specifically required), a properly fitting USCG-approved PFD must be carried on board the vessel to meet the state and federal carriage requirements.
- Each person riding on or being towed behind a PWC or other vessel must wear a USCG-approved wearable PFD. Inflatable PFDs are not allowed on PWC or while being towed behind PWC or other vessels.
- All PFDs must be in good and serviceable condition and must be readily accessible. Wearable PFDs must be of the proper size for the intended wearer. Sizing for PFDs is based on body weight and chest size.

## Unlawful and Dangerous Operation

Michigan law designates these dangerous operating practices as illegal.

- Reckless Operation of a vessel or reckless manipulation of water skis, a surfboard, or similar device is defined as operation which disregards the safety or rights of others or endangers the person or property of others. Some examples are:
  - Weaving your vessel through congested waterway traffic or swerving at the last possible moment in order to avoid collision
  - Jumping the wake of another vessel unnecessarily close to the other vessel or when visibility around the other vessel is restricted
  - Chasing, harassing, or disturbing wildlife with your vessel
  - Causing damage from the wake of your vessel
- Failure to Regulate Speed is operating a vessel at speeds that may cause danger to life or property of any other person or at speeds that will not permit you to bring your vessel to a safe stop. It is illegal to operate a vessel:
  - In excess of 55 mph unless you are at least one mile offshore on the Great Lakes or Lake St. Clair
  - At greater than "slow, no wake speed" when a person is in the bow of a vessel without proper seating
  - Faster than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions (weather, vessel traffic, etc.)

**"Slow, No Wake Speed" means a very slow speed whereby the wake or wash created by the vessel would be minimal.**

- Improper Distance is not maintaining a proper distance while operating a vessel or towing a person. To maintain a proper distance when you are operating on the waters of the state in areas not marked by well-defined channels, canals, rivers, or stream courses, at greater than "slow, no wake speed," the vessel or persons being towed must not be within 100 feet of:
  - A shoreline (if operating in water less than three feet deep)
  - Any moored or anchored vessel
  - A dock or raft
  - Any marked swimming area or person(s) in the water
- Improper Distance for PWC means that, if operating at greater than "slow, no wake speed," a PWC also must:
  - Stay at least 200 feet from any Great Lakes shoreline.
  - Not cross within 150 feet behind another vessel other than another PWC.
- Improper Direction is defined as the failure to operate in a counterclockwise direction on the waters of this state in areas not marked by well-defined channels, canals, rivers, or stream courses.



# MICHIGAN BOATING RULES

## Requirements for Towing Skiers

- Every person being towed behind a vessel on water skis, a surfboard, or similar device must wear a USCG approved wearable PFD. Inflatable PFDs may not be used.
- Every vessel towing a person(s) on water skis, a surfboard, or a similar device must have a person on board, in addition to the vessel operator, observing the towed person(s) at all times.
- It is legal to tow persons on water skis, surfboards, or any device of this type only between:
  - One hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset if towed behind a boat
  - 8:00 a.m. and sunset if towed behind a PWC
- Persons being towed must stay at least 100 feet away from:
  - A shoreline (if operating in water less than three feet deep)
  - Any moored or anchored vessel
  - A dock or raft
  - Any marked swimming area or person(s) in the water

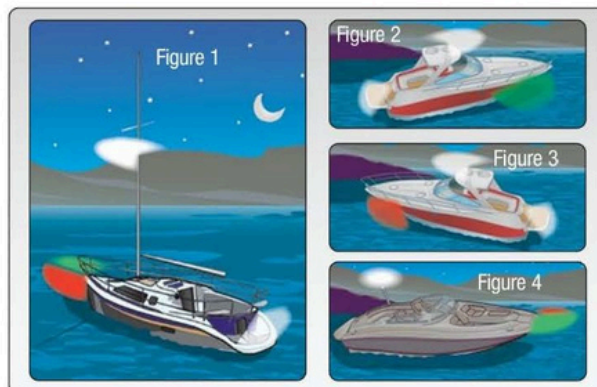
## Navigation Lights

If underway between sunset and sunrise, or during periods of reduced visibility (fog, rain, haze, etc.), vessels must be equipped with and exhibit navigation lights. The required navigation lights differ depending on the type and size of your vessel.

### **Power-Driven Vessels When Underway**

Remember, power-driven vessels include sailboats operating under engine power.

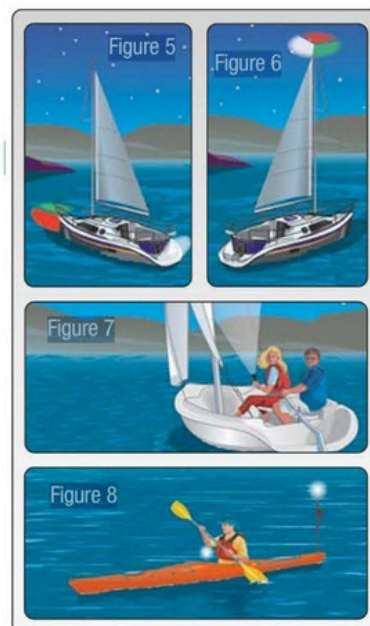
- If less than 26 ft. long, the required lights are:
  - Red and green sidelights visible from a distance of at least one mile away.
  - An all-round white light as shown in Figure 4 or both a masthead light and a sternlight as shown in Figures 1, 2, and 3. These lights must be visible from a distance of at least two miles away. The all-round white light (or the masthead light) must be higher than the sidelights.
- If 26 ft. long or longer, the required lights are:
  - Red and green sidelights visible from a distance of at least one mile away.
  - A masthead light and a sternlight visible from a distance of at least two miles away. The masthead light must be higher than the sidelights as shown in Figures 1, 2, and 3.



### **Unpowered Vessels When Underway**

Unpowered vessels are sailing vessels or vessels that are paddled, poled, or rowed.

- If 26 ft. long or longer, these vessels must exhibit the lights as shown in Figures 5 and 6:
  - Red and green sidelights visible from a distance of at least two miles away
  - A sternlight visible from a distance of at least three miles away
- If less than 26 ft. long, these vessels should:
  - If practical, exhibit the lights as shown in Figure 5 Figure 7 Figure 6 Figure 8 Figures 5 and 6.
  - If not practical, have on hand at least one lantern or flashlight shining a white light as shown in Figures 7 and 8.



### **All Vessels When Not Underway**

All vessels are required to use an all-round white light between sunset and sunrise whenever they are anchored in the waters of or connected to the Great Lakes. It is advisable to always display a white light when anchored or adrift at night.

## 2024/2025 WCLA OFFICERS AND LAKE REPRESENTATIVES

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\* Term Ends 8/31/25

\*\* Term Ends 8/31/26

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### FIVE LAKES - ONE COMMUNITY



WOODBEEK CHAIN OF LAKES - PAID MEMBERS BY LAKE FOR FISCAL YEAR 9/1/24 - 8/31/25 (Updated 5/13/25)									
BANKS		HALF MILE		HORSESHOE		THOMAS		WOODBEEK	
Ambruster, Ed & Bobby	Alexander, Bob & Vicki	Acker, Terry & Laurie	Antcliff, Aaron & Karen	Adams, Aaron & Cat					
Badgerow, Randy & Jamie	Barton, Connie	Blonshine, Gerald	Bloem, Phil & Mary Ellen	Allers, Robert & Sandra					
Beach, Sammie & Ann	Bosker, Paul & Marlene & Bosker, Craig	Bollman, Mary Jane	Bouwer, Mark & Pam	Atkins, Michael & Ashley					
Benjamin, Jean	Bush, Ted & Therese	Brim, Frederick & Sandra	Butler, Mike & Guiffin, Carol	Billmeier, Ron & Toni					
Berkpans, Lee & Deb	Camp Concordia	Bruick, Rick & Joy	Cook, Jared & Lindsay	Camp Greenwood					
Bird, Kevin & Carol	Carbonell, Larry & Karen	Darvill, Bob & Karin	Corcoran, Joe & Kathy	Cerkewski, Mark					
Capps, Tom & Carol	Clements, Kathy	Davis, Mickey & Sandy	Covell, Jim & Kim	Cushman, Derek & Lori					
Day, Steve & Lisa & Loeschner, Joe & Lydia	Crane, Ron	Deane, Harry & Cathy	Davidson, Norm & Wendi	Dekraaker, Matt & Courtney					
Havens, Craig & Carrie	Decker, Chris & Ann	DeWirt, David & Michelle	Dessauer, John & Schmitz, Marcia	Devries, Roger					
Hurdison, Scott & Mindy	DeVries, Russ & Sara	Didson, Scott & Kim	Eaton, Ron & Deb	Ebel, Dan & Robin					
Jollands, Kelly & Stephanie	Drobish, John & Linda	Donnelly, Andy	Gasper, Jim & Tammi	Ferguson, Jeff & Kris					
Koning, Kurt & Lady	Dudzik, Ron & Val	Douglas, Jim & Kim	Haas, Tom & Marcia	Greer, Gary & Elizabeth					
Kraal, Steve & Rebecca	Hallock, Bryan & Lisa	Ficell, Marcia	Ileen, Mark & Mara	Groth, Paul & Linda					
Lind, Tim & Kristie	Harris, Vickie	Fierens, Lou & Michelle	Jachim, Pat & Noralie	Harrison, Larry & Julie					
Mills, Mike & Lisa	Hazlewood, Tom & Diane	Finthouse, Ed & Arlene	Jackson, John & Pat	Heath, Allida & Sanderson, Amanda					
Monroe, Steve & Lynn	Jones, Tim & Joslyn	Fuller, Robert & Alicia	Kluba, Denis & Karen	Herrig, Doug & Ellen					
Nielsen, Marilyn	Karloek, Linda	Hansen, David & Cynthia	Kohn, Jon & Ruth	Higgins, Bryan & Becky					
Nienhuis, Mike & Joyce	Katterjohn, Carl	Hekhuis, Dave	Koogler, Nick & Kat	Houssman, Kate & Wassenaar, Craig					
Redding, Craig & Darlene	Kerwin, Kevin	Hollenbeck, Tim	Kubec, Richard & Christine	Hunter, Tim & Teri					
Rydzewski, Ken & Mary	Klemm, Bruce & Marilyn	Holmes, Nan	Lemmerman, Sara	Jablonski, JR & Kathi					
Saibsbury, Robert & Ginger	Lauderdale, Burr & Jennifer & Hasan, Ben	Holzschu, Ron & Linda	Liden, Mike & Bonnie	Janssen, Mark & Diane					
Schrauben, Jim & Nancy	Layle, Tom & Donna	Hooghyde, Don & Lois	Merrin, Cindy & Earnest, Laura	Jessup, Jim & Gari					
Skinner, Art & Jamie	Mudie, Kent & Janet	Jousma, Randy & Jeri	Nelson, Linda	Jones, Beverly					
Spaulding, Steve & Joyce	Plumb, Jason & Plumb, Quinh	Kleveland, Brad & Dana	O'Herron, Mike & Colleen	Jones, Jeff & Wendy					
Stobinski, James & Irene	Reynhout, Tom & Bruinsma, Jennifer	Kushner, Chris	Pheg, John & Cindy	King, Wayne & Kathie					
Swigart, Jim & Pam	Riegler, Rob	LaMarre, Roy & Mary	Ripplinger, Ms. Dale	Krapp, Mike & Diane					
Trumble, Ron & Maureen	Rodrigues, Romey & Penny	LeBaron, Andre & Christy	Schoolenberg, David & Deb	Krappen, Scott					
Waterloo, Tom & Teresa	Ross, Elizabeth	Leslie, Jon & Andrea	Shaw, John & Linda	Laurent Family Cottage					
Woronecki, Dave & Kris	Rupp, Pat	Mannor, Julie & Dye, Stacie	Sheppard, Tyler & Brooke	Lottelman, Joy					
	Schrauben, Nick & Cathy	Maxon, Kirk	Sprague, Rick & Deb	Lovewell, Dan & Maureen					
	Stark, Cole & Alison	Merdzinski, James & Melanie	Stevens-Berry, Jean & Kris	Marcks, Tim					
	Zeis, Deb & Marian	Merrin, Mike & Darrell	Stratton, Mark & Mary Jo	Marlin, Kevin & Renee					
		Meyer, Tom & Kim	Teachworth, Ryan & Jamie	McCollum, Matt & Jaime					
		Moldenhauer, Michael & Tamara	Tokar, Renee	Modzeleski, Jim & Donna					
		Petersen, Brian & Amy	Tolsma, Todd & Sheila	Mortensen, Jim & Kristen					
		Petersen, Mike	Walsen, James & Joyce	Niewiek, Joe & Petersen Kari					
		Peterson, Kim & Faith	Wilson, Jeff & Diane	Nowicki, Paul & Deb					
		Piedrocki, Mike & Patricia		Reed, Kevin & Kim					
		Post, Bob & Sue		Renus, Peter & Nijeri Ndungu, Caroline					
		Riste, Paul & Jessica		Ritsema, Dave & Candie					
		Sage, Linda		Rosendall, John & Sue					
		Schneppman, Kevin		Schreef, Mary & Robin					
		Schleben, Jer		Scott, Tom & Mary					
		Seif, Ron & Gail		Taylor, Jane, & Weykamp, Ben					
		Slimmons, Kim & Judy		Taylor, Justin & Taylor, Josh & Taylor, Pam					
		Silva, Phil & Denise		Thornton, Barry & Tiffany					
		Sowerby, Bob & Marilyn		Thornton, Todd & Charissa					
		Vanbruggen, Jon & Ricki		Tidey, Keith & Kim					
		Veldman, Bruce & Terri		VanPortfleet, Tom & Mary					
		Wageman, Jan		Walhorn, Ed & Joy					
		Weller, Craig & Kim		Wolhuis, Jim & Karen					
		Zystra, Blake & Font, Sarah		Wolhuis, Mike & Katherine					
29	32	52	37	52					
31	52	59	55	62					
94%	62%	88%	67%	84%					
2025 Budget Goal is 80% of total residents = 210/259				Current Paid Membership:		2022	78%		