



HLIA - Hitchcock Lake &lt;hitchcock.lake@gmail.com&gt;

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## Fwd: President's Spring Message

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HLIA - Hitchcock Lake <hitchcock.lake@gmail.com>  
To: HLIA - Hitchcock Lake <hitchcock.lake@gmail.com>

Mon, May 18, 2026 at 3:57 PM



### Friends and Neighbors,

Welcome to another season at Hitchcock Lake! The Board and I have been busy in the off-season, so here's a quick update on what's happening.

### Join or Renew Your HLIA Membership

Our membership dues fund everything we do — weed control, water quality, environmental protection. This winter we switched to a new payment platform called **Zeffy**, which charges zero fees, meaning the HLIA keeps 100% of every dollar you pay. You can sign up, renew, or make a contribution at [hitchcocklake.com/membership](https://hitchcocklake.com/membership). Zeffy also supports automatic annual renewals and helps us keep member contact info current.

If you've already paid — thank you! If not, please do so soon. Consider stepping up as a **Century Club member** or setting up a monthly gift to the Renew the Lake Fund.

### Dock Damage from the Spring Thaw

The March thaw was rough. One stormy day took out docks all around the lake — twisted, sunken, and in some cases dangerous to boaters and swimmers. If your dock was damaged, please repair or clear the debris as soon as you can. Just remember to contact the **Wolcott Land Conservation Trust** (Christine Parsons, [cparsons01@snet.net](mailto:cparsons01@snet.net)) and the **Town Inland Wetlands Commission** to confirm whether you need approval for a new structure — the process is straightforward and quick.

### Protecting Water Quality

We're stepping up our fight against eutrophication — the buildup of sediment and nutrients, particularly phosphorus, that fuels weed and algae growth and decreases water quality. This year we've increased our budget for data collection and analysis to develop an effective plan to combat eutrophication. You may see our limnologist, Dr. Knoecklein, out on the lake monthly collecting data. I'm also looking for volunteers to collect samples of stormwater runoff, which is a key contributor to phosphorus pollution in the lake. If you're interested, reach out to me directly.

### Community Events

Our Community Development Committee has a great lineup this summer — Kayak Clubs, boat tie-ups, music events, and the **Second Annual Fishing Tournament (June 12–14)**. The next event – the **Spring Fling Cocktail Party** is this Saturday, May 16, hosted by Kathy and Mike Mrazik. RSVP by calling or texting Kathy at 203-788-7354.

Event details are posted on **TeamReach** (contact me for a sign-up link) and the HLIA website <https://hitchcocklake.com/calendar>. Come out, get involved, and get to know your neighbors! Also, consider buying some **Hitchcock Lake SWAG** to show your support for Hitchcock Lake. The Online Merchandise Store <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/hitchcock-lake-merchandise-shop> is open through the end of May.

### **Stay in Touch**

As always, my door is open. Call, text, or email me anytime at **860-573-9151** or [marksussman@gmail.com](mailto:marksussman@gmail.com). We all share responsibility for keeping Hitchcock Lake healthy and beautiful. Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Warm regards,

Mark R. Sussman  
President, Hitchcock Lake Improvement Association