



## TACONIC SHORES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC

53 Lakeshore Drive

Copake, New York 12516

Tel: 518-329-2881 / Fax: 518-801-1684

[Office@TaconicShores.org](mailto:Office@TaconicShores.org)

August 28, 2020

Taconic Shores Homeowners Association has received a few communications from Members regarding the status of the lake. Your concerns about the condition of the lake have been heard by the Board and the Lake Committee. We are in consultation with our Lake Management Company and the DEC about what we can do for the remainder of this season, as well as moving forward.

We would like you to know that the Lake Committee puts in countless hours monitoring the lake, talking and coordinating with our Lake Management Company, Solitude Inc., the Department of Environmental Conservation, our maintenance staff, other Lake Committees and Associations to name a few.

There are complex processes we must contend with in order to maintain the lake. The lake is considered "Wetlands" according to the DEC. It is a highly regulated environment, a protected ecosystem. There is little we can do in and around the lake without DEC approval. Violations of DEC Regulations can easily create fines in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. The DEC is a government agency which requires applications and approvals for chemical applications, use of a weed harvester, disposal of lake materials, hydro-raking, dredging and a host of other activities. In most cases we are planning and applying close to a year in advance to gain approvals for any of the activities listed above. Unfortunately, new activity requests take time.

The community has asked what they can do regarding the new growth at the lake shore bed. Harvesters are not permitted to come within 20' of the shoreline unless it is a communal beach or communal boat launch. Within this 20' area, members are requested to remove debris such as tree limbs, leaves and you may pull pond weeds, grasses, cattails, etc.

Taconic Shores has met with DEC and they are aware of our growth issue attributed to the drawdown. DEC is advising us to wait for the water level to come back up to normal levels and that a large portion of the growth will resolve itself naturally. They have been working with us to amend our current harvesting permit to allow us to deposit our weeds at a new site, as our previous location is now for sale and unusable. We continue to be in a drought type situation waiting for the pond to refill. Once water is back to normal level and after a period of time, we will revisit the condition of the lake with the DEC. They have stated they will try to further assist us within their guidelines.

As of this writing, water is barely coming over the spillway. Water is still leaving the Dam as required in order to keep the downstream wet and as the water volume across the spillway increases, we will be delivering water downstream and will be able to set the flash boards in place. The harvester is in the water and will start working in the next few days as the water levels rise. As a reminder the harvester had a motor replacement this past season and it will begin skimming the lake during the motor break-in period.

We will continue to work with the Lake Management Company and the DEC to improve our recreational opportunities on the lake.

Rob Weingaertner, President, Off Dir.  
Robert Lazarus, Secretary, Comm Dir.  
Lois Lovisolo, Lake Dir.

Shawn McClain, Vice – President, Co-Maint. Dir.  
Joe Simeone, Building Dir., Co-Maintenance Dir.  
Frank Scorzello, Security Dir., Weed Harvester Dir.

Gary Plotch, Treasurer  
Ron Piper, Event Dir.  
Danny Fontana, Dir.