

Twin Lakes Association Newsletter



Spring 2021

Vol. #30

Happy Spring/Summer!

Hello Twin Lakes Neighbors! We look forward to seeing everyone out on their beaches and decks enjoying the lake this Spring and Summer. Please read through the newsletter for important info and dates.



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Lake Association Board of Directors

Below is contact info for the Lake Board officers.

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Lake Association Annual Meeting

We held our annual business meeting on May 8, the first in two years due to the coronavirus pandemic. We enjoyed meeting many of our new neighbors sitting out on the deck.

One neighbor asked about our association purchasing bubblers to ward off a midge problem in the summer. The board discussed and ruled out a bubbler or fountain as too costly. Gene will try an additional treatment of beneficial bacteria to reduce nutrient load. He has other suggestions to mitigate the problem if anyone else would like more information.

The muskrat issue on the lake was discussed, because they have dug deep burrows on beaches creating a tripping hazard. Jim Long applied for a permit for muskrat removal. The muskrat holes will be filled with gravel.

Several people have found it effective to chase off the nuisance geese with green laser pointers that do not harm geese, only irritate them. You must exercise caution with green lasers since some do not have IR filters, and these definitely should not be pointed at any person. Most effective before dawn and after dusk, get a lazer and help keep the geese on the move!

Geese Update

New egg addling permits are obtained each year from the IDNR—**4 nests** were treated this Spring. Thank you to the Corapi family for organizing the volunteers! **Twenty-two eggs** were oiled, and after several weeks removed from the nests, which were then destroyed. That will be 22 less geese on our lake trying to hatch their own future families! Jim Long diligently runs his radio controlled boat around the lake to irritate the geese, to keep them on the run and off our lake. Thank you to those who help keep geese numbers low and thus the lake cleaner.



Paul & Wanpen Anderson captured this delightful photo of our visiting Great Blue Heron with his statuesque friends on Aug. 16, 2020.

Celebrate the Summer Solstice on the Lake!

Happy Summer! Summer officially begins June 20. To celebrate the beginning of Summer, and the longest day of the year, we invite EVERYONE to join in our fun with a Solstice Theme!

Party on the Long's deck, 2405 Cherry Hills Dr.

Sunday, June 20, 8:00 p.m.

We invite you to bring summer solstice related treats/snacks such as moon pies, milky way bars, star cookies, heavenly snacks, crescent cookies, *moonshine*, etc. It will be fun to see what you come up with!



We hope to repeat
our ever-popular
Floating Bonfire

We welcome you to visit and borrow books from the **Little Library on Woodhaven Drive** shown here with caretakers Chloe Briskin and Summer Nagele. You can also donate books here!



LOL (Ladies of the Lake) Book Club

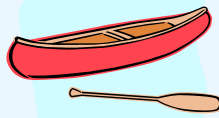
The LOL Book Club will meet on Tuesday, June 8. at 7pm on Mary Long's back deck (2405 Cherry Hills Dr.).

We are reading "Leave Only Footprints" by Conor Knighton. We hope you will plan to join us even if you haven't read the book! It is always a lovely social time.



Boats, Beaches, Lake Regulations

- Boat owners are encouraged to put their **lot number, name and address** on their boats so that they can be returned if they float away.
- White angular limestone rock should cover your shoreline to the grass line, no black tarp showing, and weeds pulled from the rocks. According to Lake Regulations rock must be between 3-5 inches in size, although 1.5 inch is also acceptable. Mainly it is important that the rock is white limestone of the same color as all the beaches on the lake. Limestone rock can be found at "Vulcan Materials" at 2906 N. Oak St, off of N. Lincoln Avenue, Urbana. Delivery is extra and you will need to hire someone to spread the rock if you do not want to do it yourself.



- The **By-laws** state that anything put into the lake or on the commons area (fish, plants, structures) needs Board approval. No unauthorized shoreline aquatic plants, such as lily pads, may be put in the lake, because they can spread and become invasive.
- Please clean any debris, trash, and dead fish along your shoreline.
- Nothing can block the commons area around the lake shore, no fencing or plantings. Anything blocking the commons makes it difficult to apply water treatments or to stroll around the lake.



Lake Treatment on our 4.6 acre Lake

We are so grateful to those who help the lake look great!

- Gene Campbell applied **Aquashade** blue dye in the Spring. It inhibits photosynthesis to deter the growth of pond weeds. Gene will also add beneficial bacteria, which eat up nutrients that algae use for food. This will reduce the nutrient load in the lake, thus reducing the need for treatments. Thanks to Gene for re-researching treatments to improve our lake quality!
- We are grateful to Gene and Jim Long who apply herbicides **Cutrine Plus** and **Diquat** as needed if they see blooms of algae or weeds. We will alert you by email when they apply it so that you can keep yourselves, children, and pets out of the water for a short time after application. The water is safe to the skin immediately after application, but you would not want to ingest the water or use it to water plants (which would be against our Lake Covenant anyway!).
- Homeowners are reminded not to fertilize close to the lake. At a minimum, keep all fertilizer applications at least ten feet away from the lake shore. Also, do not use fertilizer containing phosphorus because it is a major growth factor for algae. Be sure to use only aquatic-safe herbicides such as **HI-YIELD KILL-ZALL AQUATIC HERBICIDE** available in concentrated form.
- Please minimize the amount of organic matter released into the lake (e.g., grass clippings, leaves). The more nutrients in the lake mean more algae treatments and more work and expense.

\$ Lake Association Dues

\$150 now or **\$175** after June 1st!



Ice and Fog on the Lake Jan. 4, 2021, photo by Mary Long

Enjoy these additional pictures taken on our lake over the past year.



Julie and Daryn Denzer created a beautiful "Peanuts" Christmas 2020 display on Woodhaven.



Wanpen and Paul Anderson captured the eagles flying over our lake this Spring. They were spotted last summer diving down for fish.



Dave and Chris Whippo photographed one of our spectacular sunsets.



Our Goosebuster team oiled and later removed 22 eggs and removed 4 nests. Eggs were buried in the commons area as IDNR protocol suggests.



Our Goosebusters had to fend off the irate goose parents while brave souls oiled the eggs, and then several weeks later removed the eggs to bury them in the commons area.

We all want to share this beautiful lake setting with our friends. Lake policy states that **you must be home when your friends use the lake**. But you do not have to be with them on or around the lake. Just use the Guest Pass below and have them carry it with them.

Twin Lakes Guest Pass

I _____ [homeowner's name]
am aware that my guests _____ [guests' names]
are using the common areas of the Twin Lakes Association on _____ [date].
For verification purposes, I can be reached at _____ [home telephone number].

Please remind your guests of the Association rules and that they should be prepared to show the above form when asked by any of our home owners.

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