



LARE Grant Announcement

The Greater Olin Lake Conservancy (GOLC) is pleased to announce the receipt of a LARE (Lake and River Enhancement) grant. LARE funds are generated from fees related to water sports, such as fishing licenses, boat registrations, boat trailer license plates etc. The grant was awarded to GOLC through a competitive application process. The LARE grant will cover 80% of the project cost and GOLC will be responsible for the remaining 20%.

The project being funded is a diagnostic study of Oliver Lake. Testing will take place throughout the Oliver, Olin, and Martin Lakes watershed. The study, done by a professional environmental management entity, aims to identify sources of harm to the waters of these 3 lakes.

A previous study completed in 2009 was done by J.F. New company. That study identified a number (23) of problems to be addressed and offered strategies to correct them. The issues were primarily related to sedimentation and contamination of inlets flowing into the lakes. Of the identified issues, many were addressed by the Oliver and Martin Lakes Conservation and Improvement Association (OMLCIA). Those which have not been corrected were deemed of minor importance by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

The new evaluation will allow for comparison with the past study. GOLC grew out of a need for a tax-exempt organization to focus exclusively on water quality issues and raise funds for addressing those issues. Currently GOLC is undertaking more comprehensive water quality testing than was previously done. With guidance from the Saint Joseph River Basin Commission, Oliver Lake, and several other lakes in LaGrange County and beyond are accumulating data to determine the status of our current water quality and assess where improvements may be undertaken.

The LARE grant-funded study is a large and costly assessment of the status and needs of the entire watershed with the goal of improving and preserving the waters of the Oliver, Olin, and Martin Lake watershed and all the downstream rivers and lakes.

If you would like to make a donation to the GOLC so we can continue to fund programs like these to keep our lakes clean, preserve their natural beauty and wildlife click on this link...
<https://oliverlake.org/golc-lake-management>