



# THE LAKER

NORTH LAKE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

No. 15

JUNE, 1991



**ANNUAL MEETING  
MONDAY, JULY 15th, 7:30 P.M.  
Inverness Country Club**

***PLAN NOW TO ATTEND!***

## ***1991 LAKE WEED CONTROL REPORT***

*by Maryann Bills, Co-Chairperson, Lake Weed Study Committee*

On behalf of myself and co-chairpersons, Eric Batzdorfer and Jerry Loukotka, we would like to send out a sincere thank you to all the North Lakers who supported this year's weed control project.

As of this printing, a preliminary inspection indicates almost a thorough elimination of the hazardous Eurasian milfoil from the perimeter and shallow areas of the lake. We will continue to watch for any reoccurrences as the summer progresses. Please remember to remove any weed fragments from your propeller if you trailer your boat from other lakes back into North Lake. Unfortunately because of our public access site, we are vulnerable for reinfection. At our annual meeting in 1990, the majority of people attending voted to try harvesting of lake weeds at least one more season. Consequently after the milfoil died down we again harvested nuisance plants for improved recreational usage of the lake. This also aided in reducing the biomass which adds nutrients to the lake.

**A POINT OF CLARIFICATION:** Starting on approximately May 15th and continuing for almost 10 days, North Lake experienced a natural fish kill. Ken Dodge of the DNR Fisheries Department in Jackson reported that this was again happening to many lakes in his jurisdiction. This was due to a temperature inversion causing lack of oxygen and an inadequate mixing of the lake strata. The last time this natural event occurred was in 1988. The herbicide treatment and harvesting took place a week AFTER this episode.

## NORTH LAKE IMPROVEMENT GUIDELINES

DON'T FERTILIZE !!!! LAWN AND GARDEN FERTILIZERS ULTIMATELY END UP IN THE LAKE BECAUSE NORTH LAKE IS GROUND WATER FED.

IMPROVE SEPTIC SYSTEMS !!! CONSERVE WATER. THE LESS WATER USED THE BETTER A SEPTIC SYSTEM WORKS. MAINTAIN YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM. PUMP AND CLEAN THE TANK EVERY 3 TO 5 YEARS. IF YOUR SYSTEM ISN'T WORKING PROPERLY, HAVE IT REPAIRED. TEST YOUR SYSTEM EVERY 3 TO 5 YEARS WITH DYES TO SEE IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS OR NOT. DYES ARE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE FROM THE ASSOCIATION.

REMOVE LEAVES AND WEEDS FROM THE WATER - FALLEN LEAVES, AQUATIC WEEDS, AND OTHER DEBRIS SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM THE LAKE AND TAKEN AWAY FROM THE WATER'S EDGE. IF THEY ARE LEFT IN OR NEAR THE WATER THEY WILL DECOMPOSE AND ADD NUTRIENTS TO THE WATER. DON'T BURN LEAVES NEAR THE WATER OR IN AN AREA THAT WILL WASH INTO THE LAKE. THIS IS EVEN WORSE THAN LEAVING THEM IN THE WATER BECAUSE OF THEIR HIGH PHOSPHOROUS CONTENT.

### NORTH LAKE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

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DIRECTOR	DAVE PERKINS	SOUTH END	475-7956

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE AN ACTIVE BOARD MEMBER, LET ANY OF US KNOW. WE NEED YOUR HELP. WE NEED NEW BLOOD.

REMINDER: DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE!!!!!!

## SAFE BOATING ON NORTH LAKE

As summer is now here, the thoughts of many North Lake residents now turn to boating! While the rules that govern these activities are second nature to many, a review of the pertinent regulations will help all of us. All watercraft must have a personal flotation device (PFD) for each person aboard and if your boat is longer than 16', a throwable (type IV) device is also required. If a boat has enclosed spaces or a permanent fuel tank, a Coast Guard Approved fire extinguisher is required. All modern craft are equipped with a rating plate on the transom or in the interior which states the maximum power and capacity (weight) allowed for your craft. In the interest of safety, do not over load or over power your boat!

The maritime rules of the road require that all powered craft give way to those powered by sail or man and all vessels on your forward starboard (right) quarter. Boats shall also keep 100 feet away from divers flags (red with a white diagonal stripe) and other craft on the water. Marked swimming areas are likewise to be avoided. After dark, in general, a green/red combination light is required on you bow and a white light is required on you boats stern when the boat is in motion. When at anchor, a white light that is visible for 360 degrees is required.

Water skiing and tubing are popular activities on our lake which require a competent observer and a 170 degree driver's mirror in the boat. Legal traffic flow is in the counter-clockwise direction around the lake. Try to drive smoothly and fit in with the traffic flow! A general rule is that 4 to 5 skiers can be safely accommodated at one time if everyone cooperates. The law allows this activity from 1 hour prior to sunrise to 1 hour after sunset, please use your good judgement and be safe!

This article would not be complete without mention of your responsibilities as a boat owner or driver. Your craft shall not exceed a sound level of 86 DBA at a distance of 50 feet. You may not operate your craft faster than 55 mph on an inland lake or in a reckless manner. The owner is responsible for the damage caused by your craft and its wake even if he is not driving it. If an accident happens where the monetary loss is greater than \$200 or a human injury occurs, **MUST BE REPORTED** to the Washtenaw Sheriff's department on 971-3911 or 911. If you and a witness observe flagrant legal violations of the above, contact the Sheriff's department for action. No matter what is specified above, the owner of water craft is ultimately responsible for its use!

As this article was being written, an excellent Jet Ski article was published by "THE CHELSEA STANDARD" and is copied below for your information.

The information in this article is from the Federal Requirements for Recreational Boats and the DNR publication "A Guide to Safe Boating in Michigan". These documents should be used for exact definitions for specific instances.

## ASSOCIATION STICKERS

ONCE AGAIN WE ARE OFFERING MEMBERSHIP STICKERS AGAIN THIS YEAR. WHEN YOU PAY YOUR DUES FOR 1991, WHICH ARE \$7.00 YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR STICKER FOR YOUR BOAT OR HOUSE. THIS IS ABOVE AND BEYOND THE DONATION FOR WEED CONTROL OR YOUR OWN LANDINGS DUES. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO PAY YOUR DUES IN ORDER FOR OUR ASSOCIATION TO WORK. THE MONIES COLLECTED ARE USED FOR POSTAGE, MAILINGS, GATE OPERATIONS, LAKE STUDIES, AND VARIOUS OTHER EXPENSES THAT MIGHT OCCUR. WITHOUT YOUR HELP AND CONCERNS WE CANNOT EXIST. BRING YOUR DUES TO THE MEETING OR SEND THEM TO BRENT BILLS, 101 WATT ROAD, GREGORY, MI. 48137.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

WELL IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT IT'S TIME AGAIN TO PREPARE " THE LAKER " . I HOPE EVERYONE IS HAVING A GREAT SUMMER SO FAR! WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY WITH OUR WEED CONTROL IN THE PAST 3 YEARS. MOSTLY WITH YOUR SUPPORT AND SOME WITHOUT. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE SUPPORTED OUR MOVEMENTS. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE HELPED OUT IN ANY WAY. A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BACHMAN'S FOR GETTING US ON THE RIGHT TRACK AND ALSO FOR THEIR CONTINUED ASSISTANCE AND STRONG SUPPORT.

THIS YEAR AS YOU SHOULD KNOW BY NOW WE HAVE 3 CO-CHAIRPERSONS. THEY ARE ERIC BATZSDORFER, MARYANN BILLS, AND JERRY LOUKOTKA. THANKS FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS IN 1991 SO FAR.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FRENDR'S FOR ONCE AGAIN DOING AND SUPPLYING THE ASSOCIATION STICKERS.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BENGLES AND THE DALIAN'S FOR THE USE OF THEIR LAND FOR THE HARVESTER THIS YEAR.

A SPECIAL THANKS GOES OUT TO JOHN TANDY FOR THE USE OF HIS LAND TO DISCARD THE WEEDS AFTER HARVESTING. IT WAS NICE OF HIM TO LET US ESPECIALLY SINCE HE USES THEM FOR NOTHING.

THE BURT SHIRLEY CAMP THIS YEAR IS BEING USED FOR NJROTC PROGRAM FOR FIVE WEEKS THIS SUMMER. HOPEFULLY MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING.

THE GATE HAS BEEN A LITTLE TROUBLE THIS YEAR. WE HAVE HAD A LOT OF CARS BEING LOCKED IN AFTER HOURS. ONE INCIDENT THE PERSON BROKE THE LOCK ON THE GATE. ANOTHER TIME THEY PULLED OUT ONE OF THE BARRIERS SO THEY COULD GO AROUND THE GATE. DNR IS AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS AND HAS REPLACED THE BARRIER AND ALSO ADDED SOME. IF YOU SEE ANYBODY TRYING TO DESTROY PROPERTY AT THE GATE CALL ME OR THE SHERIFF.

HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE SUMMER !!

DON WARREN, PRESIDENT, NORTH LAKE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

# Jet Ski Craft Must Also Conform to Regulations

A newer type of watercraft in use on Michigan lakes and rivers is the personal watercraft, commonly referred to as the "jet ski."

Many personal watercraft can accommodate only one person, but newer models are frequently designed to accommodate two or more people.

Personal watercraft are vessels powered by an inboard engine, and as such, must conform to all equipment and operating requirements as any other motorboat of the same size.

Ten regulations have been in effect since Jan. 1, 1991, and will be enforced by the Marine Safety unit, Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department, and by other law enforcement officials in Michigan.

The 10 requirements, with which some people using Michigan waterways may not be familiar, include:

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The 10 requirements, with which some people using Michigan waterways may not be familiar, include:

1) Each person operating, riding on, or being towed behind, must WEAR a U. S. Coast Guard approved Type I,

Type II, or Type III personal flotation device;

2) When personal watercraft are equipped with a lanyard type engine cutoff switch, the lanyard MUST BE ATTACHED as directed to the operator's person, clothing or personal flotation device;

3) A person shall not operate a personal watercraft between the hours of sunset and sunrise;

4) Maneuvers that endanger life, limb, or property, including weaving through congested traffic, jumping the wakes of another vessel unreasonably or unnecessarily close to the other vessel, or when visibility around the other vessel is obstructed, and swerving at the last possible moment to avoid a collision constitute reckless operation of a vessel;

5) Carrying more persons than the vessel is designed to carry is prima facie evidence of reckless operation;

6) A person shall not cross within 150 feet behind another vessel, other than a personal watercraft, that is moving at greater than a slow-no wake speed;

7) Personal watercraft SHALL NOT be operated by anyone UNDER 12 YEARS OF AGE;

8) Direct adult supervision or a boating safety certificate is required for personal watercraft operators 12 to 16 years of age;

9) Owners, or the person in charge, shall not authorize or knowingly permit the watercraft to be operated in violation of regulations seven or eight;

10) Performers engaged in a professional exhibition or a person preparing to participate in a regatta, a race, marine parade, tournament, or exhibition held in compliance with this act are exempted.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

by Brent Bills, Treasurer

The following is a list of contributors to the 1991 Weed Control Fund as of this printing. Remember, it's not too late to contribute and we welcome your late donations! If you have donated and your name does not appear on the list, please call me at 475-2258 so we can double check our records.

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