



Important Dates - Mark your Calendar

LSA Treasury Receivable, Linda Gibbs Association Dues

Try to pay your association dues **prior to March 31, 2023, to receive a \$50.00 discount.** If you are paying by credit card or ACH debit, please do not forget to add the processing fees into your amount prior to submitting the invoice. Marsha Passino is our Lake Shannon Treasury Assistant. She now has an LSA drop box, located at her home at 7310 Parkwood Dr. Just email her when dropping off a check at marsha.m.passino@gmail.com and a family member can get the check from the drop box. Please don't hesitate to email myself at lsa.treasuryservice@lake-shannon.com or Marsha if you need assistance.

LSA Dam, Lake Environmental & Weed Control, Jeff Coates Lake Level - Spring / Summer Level

As we begin to change seasons and with no ice on the lake, please start cleaning your waterfront area. I am **targeting March 26th** to start raising the water level. It should take 4 days or so to reach summer level, depending on precipitation.

LSA Corresponding Secretary, Lynne Dodson Spring Membership Meeting

Spring General Membership Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, June 7th, 2023, at Deerfield Township Hall. Check in time 6:00 PM, meeting time 6:30 to 9:00 PM.** Officer elections will be held with 5 trustee positions available. If you have an interest in serving on the Board, please contact a Board member. Look for the Spring Newsletter in the month of May.

Lake Shannon Fireworks scheduled for Saturday, July 1st, 2023.

Dougie's Disposal Holiday Dates are New Year's Day; Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Please reference the calendar on the Lake Shannon website, at www.lake-shannon.com The calendar has been updated to reflect the following dates since service will be delayed to Tuesday as our trash pickup day falls on a holiday; May 30th, September 5th, December 26th all in 2023 and January 2 in 2024.

LSA Architectural Control, Wayne J. Biernacki

Outbuildings

Happy Leprechaun season to my Friends and Neighbors, hope your winter months are going well.

As a Board member I have been tasked to remind and inform LSA homeowners to be cognizant and aware of our bylaws that involve no outbuildings. One item of focus is to understand that we cannot have sheds that are separated from our main dwelling on our property. For more information, please read the LSA bylaws: ARTICLE VII/Section 5. This is just a friendly reminder of our requirements, and information for our newcomers to the community. Enjoy the great greens that are coming soon for Springtime!

LSA Vice President, Theresa Rago

Dredging Update

The Dredging Project is still being worked on. It is imperative that we dredge the major coves. The coves are rapidly filling up with sediment (from dirt, sand, gravel runoff, along with grass clippings, leaves and branches). There are approximately 12,000 cubic yards of sediment in the coves that have built up over the years. This sediment is starting to migrate to other areas of the lake. There are several reasons that dredging is necessary:

1. The lake is 60 years old, and dredging will reduce and delay eutrophication (the aging process which removes nutrients, depleting the lake of oxygen).
2. Improve water quality and provide a healthier ecosystem for fish, plants, and animals.
3. Improve navigation in the affected coves and help eliminate the encroaching migration of sediment to the main part of the lake.
4. Maintain our lake life activities.
5. Perhaps most importantly - maintain our PROPERTY VALUES.

The dredging material composition has already gone through exhaustive testing and analysis with the conclusion that the material meets EGLE (The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy) standards.

Due to the reaction to the previous site location on the LSA property on Dean Road, the committee is reviewing different methods of dredging and alternate locations for placement of the material, along with the efficiency, effectiveness and costs associated with this project.

Because of the sensitivity of some of the site locations, we will be providing detailed specifics soon.

LSA Parks and Islands, Lori Saunders

Parks and Islands Projects

Over the past couple years, all of the association parks have been surveyed to validate the boundaries. Each park has been marked with boundary stakes and some with fencing. It was brought to the Board's attention that a few survey stakes have been removed from Christine Park. A report was filed with Livingston County Sheriff. The Board will determine if a new survey is necessary and will begin with the next step of the project by installing permanent markers to define all association boundaries. This will be completed with 4x4 shamrock posts to mark the boundary lines in the spring and early summer of 2023. Please note it is illegal to remove or destroy any boundary markers, monuments or guided posts erected for the purpose of designating boundaries.

The capital improvements approved at the fall general membership meeting for Galway Bay and the Double Islands have been delayed due to weather. The ice has not been thick enough this winter to complete our planned rocking projects.

Sylvia Cole Swim Park - Vandalized

The swim park gate was vandalized the week of February 13th, as someone pried and damaged 9 of the poles on both sides of the gate. Neighbors, please advise a Board member or the Sheriff if you see anyone vandalizing an association or a neighbor's property. This is the 2nd time in the past year that the swim park fence has been vandalized. Please report any suspicious activity. The Board is exploring surveillance options and has reported the vandalism to Livingston County Sheriff. The gate latching system is in the process of being re-engineered to ensure proper closure and will be completed shortly.



LSA Launch and Security, Scott Mroz Boat Launch Project

At the fall 2022 membership meeting approval was obtained to upgrade our cable system to a motorized automatic gate. The benefit of the gate will be automatic relocking and emergency personnel access. This project started on February 20th with the sliding gate installed and completed. The electronics and controls will be completed in early April. The gate will roll from left to right utilizing the access control system. This will reduce trespassing as the launch will remain locked when not in use. A walkthrough video of the operation and safety features will be posted to the website when completed. If you are attending the April Sportsmen Club meeting, I will be present with boat launch cards and stickers and will go over the operations at the meeting.



Boat Registration / MC Numbers

At the general membership meeting debate centered around boat registration and whether it's required for Lake Shannon residents. Below are the guidelines per The State of Michigan, "The Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws & Responsibilities" and our bylaws. Let's clarify first that Lake Shannon is a private lake and a Michigan waterway.

Per the "Handbook" page 23 Registering your Vessel, states all operators are required to obey the laws that regulate your vessel's registration, titling, and operation. A vessel must have:

1. Michigan certificate number (registration) and validation decals (validation decals are MC numbers) to operate your vessel legally on "public" waters in Michigan.

The only exceptions are:

- Privately owned rowboats 16 feet or less in length
- Privately owned non-motorized canoes or kayaks
- Vessels registered in another state using Michigan waters for 60 days or less.

2. All watercraft with a motor must be registered, including electric and inflatable vessels.
3. The Certificate of Number (registration card) must be on board and available for inspection by an enforcement officer whenever the vessel is being operated.

Our bylaws Article XI; Section 1 Boat Registration - "All watercraft " owned by all Lake Shannon property owners whether registered with the State of Michigan as required by law or not, must be registered with stickers issued by the Association. One of these two non-transferable stickers is to appear on both the starboard and port side of the watercraft immediately aft of the MICHIGAN WATERCRAFT REGISTRATION NUMBER POSITION. All watercraft must be registered, with current Lake Shannon stickers property applied, prior to launching or operating on Lake Shannon.

The bylaws above do not reference a word in section 1 regarding the need to display validation decals, MC numbers, it is simply detailing the position on the hull in which the Lake Shannon decals need to be affixed. Read the handbook to see a graphical representation of this area in which those words from our bylaws state. Furthermore, according to the boating handbook the need to display validation numbers, MC numbers, is required when operating on public waterways, and Lake Shannon is not a public waterway, therefore based on those words the bylaws do not require that you have MC numbers. Per requirement 2 referenced above all watercraft with a motor must be registered including electric and inflatable vessels. You need to provide proof that you have registered and paid the fees to the State of Michigan by way of a photograph or copy or other physical method of visual validation that you have done so to obtain a Lake Shannon sticker.

A portion of the fees paid to the State of Michigan for watercraft registration goes toward funding the DNR who subsequently helps fund projects that help protect Michigan waterways, including Lake Shannon. Those who fail to register their boats are not good stewards of our waterways and are abusing the waterways.

Vessels registered in another state using Michigan waterways more than 60 days need to be registered with the State of Michigan. There are provisions with the Secretary of State to register your watercraft even if you are an out of state resident.

In a short summary based upon the unrelated and related discussions that were led into regarding proposed bylaw changes there were discussions related to MC numbers being displayed. The words contained within our bylaws and what they mean and how the Board has interpreted the bylaw words is this: register your boat, provide the Board representative the documentation, receive your Lake Shannon decal, place it on your boat and have a great boating season. If you don't, you have no right to complain nor become irate or aggressive when someone asks you if you are allowed to be out on the lake. Remember the Sheriff or other law enforcement officer can request documentation. It is your responsibility to provide them in accordance with the laws governing Michigan waterways and Lake Shannon is a Michigan waterway.

If at the time you request your decals your boat is currently registered ie: not after March 31st of the year of registration expiration (not expired), you are legally registered.

Registering your watercraft every 3 years is a simple task and requesting a Lake Shannon sticker is even easier, contact a Lake Shannon Board member.

LSA bylaws - Section 4; item 5: State Regulation regarding boating, personal watercraft (i.e.: Jet Skis) and water safety must be adhered to.

Please refer to The Handbook of Michigan Boating Laws & Responsibilities, which is located on our Lake Shannon website or the State of Michigan's website. Links below.

This Handbook provides important information on the age requirements on who may operate a boat or personal watercraft (PWC) and at what age a boating safety certificate is required.

<https://www.lake-shannon.com/michigan-boating-regulations.html>

<https://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/handbook>