

CROCKERY LAKE ASSOCIATION

June 2017 NEWSLETTER

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www.cafepress.com/crockerylake



**YOU ARE
INVITED**

MONDAY, JULY 3, 2017—CROCKERY LAKE FIREWORKS!

Thanks to your many generous donations, we collected **\$4,350.44** for this year's fireworks. Show will be a tiny bit BIGGER than last year. The fireworks will be shot off at dusk (approximately 10 p.m.) from the Gunkel Farm on the west end of the lake.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- The **boat parade** will get underway at 7:00pm. Entries are being accepted now until the start of the parade. Early entries are appreciated. The sign-up sheet and boat numbers are available at the Wolters' residence, 2442 Crockery Shores Road, on the north side of the lake. If you have questions, please contact Pat Wolters at (616) 887-8707. Staging will also be at the Wolters' residence. Please arrive by 6:50pm to line up. The judges will remain anonymous and will be stationed around the lake. The

parade will make two complete laps in a counter clockwise direction around the lake. Winners will be notified the next day. Prizes include: \$100 for first place, \$50 for second place, and \$25 for third place. (Note: only CLA member entries are eligible for prize money).

- The **Ring of Fire** will start at 9:45pm. Light your candles and participate in this special tradition.
- Wolverine Fireworks Co. will start the **fireworks** display at dark (roughly 10:30pm). Invite your friends and family to enjoy the show, made possible ENTIRELY by your private donations! Thank you everyone!
- Help us thank the Gunckel family who graciously allow us to utilize their land at the west end of the lake for the fireworks display every year. Our celebration would not be possible without their support! Volunteers are needed for cleanup at the fireworks site at 8 a.m. July 4. Please plan to show up and help. Many hands make light work. Please bring your own garbage bags.

FASTER, EASIER WAY TO DONATE TO CROCKERY LAKE FIREWORKS!!!

The 2018 Fireworks donation drive is underway. So far we have collected **\$470** towards our goal of \$5,000. Watch the thermometer on the Crockery Lake web page to watch our progress.

Go to the CLA website (www.crockerylake.org) and click on the box under the Fireworks thermometer "Donate". You are able make a donation using your credit card. The money goes directly into the 2017 CLA Fireworks Fund account. All funds received will be used for the fireworks. There is a 5% charge for each credit card transaction. The donee can decide to pay the fee in addition to their donation or have it deducted from their donation.

2017 ANNUAL MEETING— Was well-attended by lake residents. Our speaker was Deputy Sheriff Dean DeVries. He spoke on a number of important issues including reporting reckless boat driving, the importance of MC numbers, bowriding and life jackets. He gave us copies of the most recent boating handbooks. They will be available at the landing. You may contact Deputy Sheriff DeVries with any questions. His direct line is 616-738-4040.

Bruce Callen brought samples of possible new “Welcome” signs for the lake. Input from all who attended was taken. A new draft with the majority favorite will be created by Bruce and brought to the next CLA Board meeting. Curious? Come to the next meeting and see it! (Bruce’s house on June 19).

Hope DeJonge and Kathryn Lipski have finished their terms on the CLA Board. We thank them SO MUCH for their many years of service and wish them well at their new home in Rockford.

Dennis Arms, Pat Wolters and Linda Lane have renewed their terms on the Board. Newly elected members are Del Deur and Susan McClure.

Officers for 2017:

Bruce Callen, President

Pat Wolters, Vice President

Linda Lane, Secretary

Bob Blauwkamp, Treasurer

Your ASSOCIATION DUES play a HUGE part in effectively running the CLA program, which promotes education on lake environmental studies, social get togethers, and community awareness programs as well. Many people who receive the CLA newsletter find helpful information and tips on helping our lake survive or for that matter helping each other in one way or the other. We need ALL readers to become members of CLA so we can become more united in our effort to promote a healthy neighborhood, community, and most importantly our beautiful Crockery Lake. Come on folks—please do your part and join the Crockery Lake Association today—it’s such a small price to provide a benefit to one and all!

Association Dues: Under 64: \$30; over 64: \$25

Your CLA Board Representative will be visiting you soon. We encourage you to become a member! Your Rep will have candles for sale for use during the Ring of Fire. You can also make a donation to the 2018 Fireworks at this time. Alternatively, you can make a donation to the fireworks via the Crockery Lake website.

UPCOMING CLA BOARD MEETINGS: July 19, August 23, Sept 13. All take place at Bruce Callen’s home—2379 VanDyke—everyone is welcome!

LIFE JACKET STATION AT GROSE PARK

As promised, Ottawa County Parks has installed the life jacket station down by the beach. Thank you also to Buzz Holtvluer for his donation of materials for the project.

COONTAIL COMING IN SOON After the Milfoil has been chemically treated, another weed, COONTAIL, will take its place. Coontail looks similar to Milfoil, but does not spread the same way. Feel free to pull out as much Coontail as you can stand!!

MORE FUN--EELGRASS SEASON IS FAST APPROACHING

Per Professional Lake Management, removal of eelgrass by chemical control is generally not recommended (1) because of oxygen depletion in the water, (2) the disruption of fish habitat, and (3) the chemical treatment will only be effective for 2 weeks—then the eelgrass quickly grows back.

Luckily, eelgrass has shallow roots and it is easy to pull out. The earlier you pull it out, the less work it will be for you. Be a good lake neighbor--like milfoil, be sure to remove all fragments as they may reroot in another spot.

Chuck Lane has found by reducing the muck, he has reduced the amount of eelgrass growing in his swim area. He buys muck pellets from Professional Lake Management. A \$100 bucket will cover an area approximately 50' x 50'. Apply the pellets once a month. MD Pellets. <https://plmcorp.net>. They will make arrangements to drop off the pellets at your house so you avoid shipping costs.

Report from Professional Lake Management Regarding Use of Muck Pellets

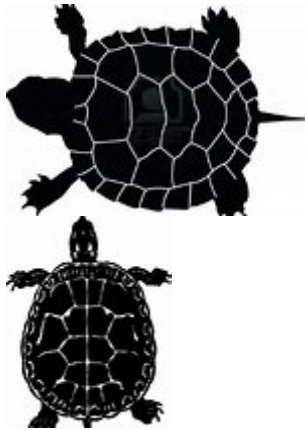
“Samples were taken on Crockery Lake to determine if PLM MD Pellet treatments conducted during 2016 had an impact on reducing organics from 2012. Four different composite sites around the lake were sampled on 9/20/2016 and sediment depth was evaluated as well. The samples were taken in approximately 2 feet of water. Below are the results:

Percent Organic Table

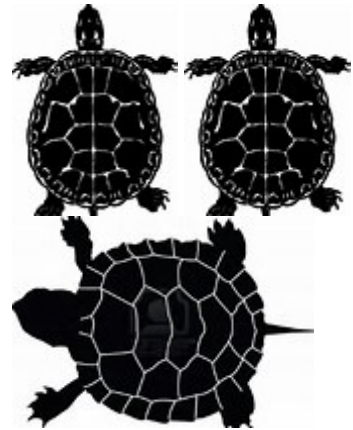
Site	Parameter	Units	Pre-Treatments	Result (2016)
#1	Organic matter	%	17.3	13.2
#2	Organic matter	%	20.0	9.8
#3 (control)	Organic matter	%	22.0	19.5
#4	Organic matter	%	No data	13.8

Sediment depth was also evaluated at each sampling location. Overall, a reduction in sediment depth was observed at each site, excluding the control site. The PLM employee who conducted the sampling also indicated that visual observations suggested the treatments are continuing to work very well. Testing of sediment depth can be challenging due to water movement, testing methods and many other factors. Therefore, visual observations by the Crockery Lake residents are sometimes the best method to evaluate muck depth reductions.

Based on the continued reduction in percent organic matter and sediment depth during 2016, PLM is recommending that the Crockery Lake Association continue with the PLM MD Pellet treatments in 2017. As previously mentioned, muck reduction programs can be lengthy but as long as reduction in muck is being shown, the program should continue.”



40 turtles seen at one time sunning themselves in the north cove—mostly snappers!



2017 CHEMICAL TENTATIVE TREATMENT DATES June 26, 2017; July 24, 2017; August 21, 2017. Dates subject to change re inclement weather conditions. Treatments will be for Weed & Algae (if necessary); and muck pellets.



Understanding the Danger of Propeller Strikes

Did you know? A typical three-blade propeller running at 3200 rpm can inflict 160 impacts in one second. A typical recreational propeller can travel from head to toe on an average person in less than one tenth of a second.

Most propeller accidents CAN be prevented! (1) Be aware of what is going on around you. The captain of the boat is in command and must take responsibility for the safety of people in and around the boat. (2) Wear your engine cut-off switch lanyard and your life jacket at ALL times. If the lanyard is removed from the switch, the engine will shut off. (3) Assign a passenger to keep watch around the propeller area of your boat when people are in the water. (4) Read and follow all the safety instructions in your boat and engine operator's manuals. (5) Consider purchasing propeller safety devices for your boat (propeller guards; ringed propellers).

Excerpts from U.S. Coast Guard website, September 2015.

JOHN'S TACKLE BOX

Bass season is finally open! Bass are one of the most popular fish to catch. There are many ways to fish for them—plastic worms are the most popular and come in dozens of colors—my favorites are pumpkin, electric blue, black and white.. Try Texas rig,

Carolina rig, wacky rig, crank bait, drop shot, tube bait, topwater and spinners—all can be successful.

Crockery has some nice bass waiting for you—I caught a 6lb one!!

Where to find the fish—one word: WEEDS. Fish like weeds. Cast in and around them. Good weeds = good fish population. A balanced ratio of weeds to fish is important. Not enough weeds hurt the lake; too many weeds make it impossible to fish.

REMEMBER TO ENTER AL & BOB'S BIG BASS PHOTO CONTEST!! Runs through JULY 4. To enter go to alnbobs.com. Keep in mind the photo is as important as the size of the fish—make sure it is a “keeper” photo. Good luck!



ORDER YOUR TEE SHIRTS FROM OUR CLA Website. Cost \$22 each. Proceeds go to fund 2018 Fireworks. www.cafepress.com/crockerylake

FOUND: paddle boat, towel, and boogie board that washed up during our last rain/wind event. Contact Pat/Karel Wolters 887-8707.

Advertisers Corner

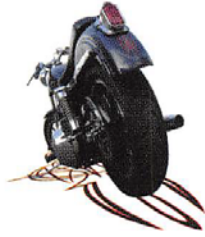
FREE Graco Pack-and-Play. Purchased early 90's for grandchildren. I received email from Graco saying they have received no notice of recall on this particular model. I gave them detailed information from the item. If interested call 899-2228

Advertising in this newsletter is FREE to Crockery Lake Members.

Advertising for business is \$25/year.

Inclusion of any advertisement in the CLA Newsletter does not equate to an endorsement by the Crockery Lake Association.

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