

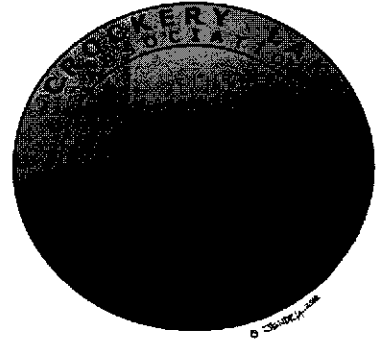
CROCKERY LAKE ASSOCIATION

September 2016 NEWSLETTER

CROCKERY LAKE WEBSITE: www.crockerylake.org

CROCKERY LAKE FACEBOOK:
www.facebook/crockerylake

CROCKERY LAKE ITEMS:
www.cafepress.com/crockerylake



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

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

2017 FIREWORKS

We have raised \$4,013.00 towards the 2017 fireworks. With firework shot prices increasing approximately 10% each year, we have to yearly raise the total amount needed for the fireworks show to continue. Our goal this year is \$5,000.

Another way to support next year's fireworks fund with is by shopping at the Crockery Lake Association on-line store at <http://www.cafepress.com/crockerylake> Firework donations for 2017 are accepted at this or any time throughout the year.

DISCOUNTED SEPTIC PUMPING SERVICES

Kerkstra's Septic 616-209-4472. Continues to offer discounted rates to Crockery Lake residents. Please have your septic tanks pumped at least every 3 years. Your family's health and the lake's water quality depends on this. By pumping regularly, you will avoid costly repairs to your system. This is a very important way in which all residents can help preserve the health of Crockery Lake. Call them at 616-209-4472.

CROCKERY LAKE ORDINANCES

Chester Township has adopted 3 ordinances created to help maintain the water quality of Crockery Lake. We will discuss each ordinance in upcoming newsletters. This month is 98-10-1 (no fertilizer applications within 300 feet of the lake). A copy of the Ordinance is attached.

With fall approaching, there are plenty of ads encouraging you to put fertilizer on your lawn. **HOMES ON BOTH SIDES OF CROCKERY SHORES ROAD, VAN DYKE, KAYCE LANE ARE PROHIBITED FROM APPLYING ANY FERTILIZER TO THEIR LAWNS. This includes Weed N' Feed. Commercial applicators are also prohibited from applying fertilizer to your lawn.** The three main components of turf fertilizers are nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) (potash). A fertilizer labeled 20-5-15 contains 20 percent nitrogen, 5 percent phosphorus, and 15 percent potash by weight.

Nitrogen is easily dissolved in water. When too much nitrogen is available for turfgrass plants to consume and excessive water is present, nitrogen can move away from the lawn and into the lake.

Phosphorus levels in soil are stable and most Michigan soils have adequate phosphorus levels and applications of phosphorus are a waste of money.

If you water your lawn using lake water, you will be getting plenty of "fertilizer!"

Warning letters and noncompliance can result in fines. Call Chester Township with questions or concerns regarding the ordinance. A copy of the ordinance is attached to this newsletter.

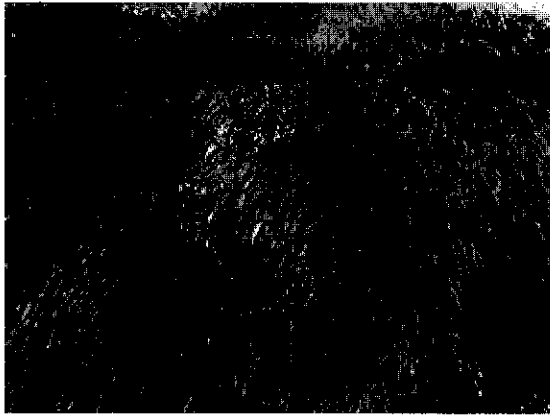
UPDATE ON DROWNING VICTIM AT GROSE PARK

"Thank you for your concern and offer to help. Park management recently met to discuss ways to increase safety at the Grose Park Beach. There will be a station installed that has child sized lifejacket available to borrow hanging from it. This has been a successful program that we have been doing for years on the Lake Michigan Beaches. Standale Lumber has kindly donated the materials needed to build the stand and signs and we have obtained the life jackets from the Sherriff's marine patrol. If there are other expenses, the Friends of Ottawa County Parks have offered to help with those. We will likely change the way we install swim buoys and we may change or add some signage. This will all be done before we re-install the swim buoys in the Spring." (Response from Jason Boerger, Coordinator of Park Maintenance & Operations.

The memorial account for the Escobar Family has been closed. The lake residents and community raised \$850.00. A money order was sent to the family in care of the Escobar's church, Iglesias Evangelical De Restauracion Church in Wyoming. The Escobars do not speak English well. Their pastor, Donald Gomez, has been our primary contact. He expressed great thanks and gratitude to the lake residents and our community for helping this family. The family feels very thankful for our thoughts and

kind support. We as a community did a great thing! Pastor Gomez is happy to assist anyone who would like to donate. The church # 616-284-9551.

EELGRASS (a/k/a WILD CELERY)



Recently, we've received complaints and expressed frustration of nuisance weeds on the lake. This topic was discussed at September's Lake Association meeting, and we believe warrants further discussion. The predominant weed that we are currently encountering on Crockery Lake is Eelgrass.

Eelgrass (wild celery) is a native species of aquatic plant that belongs to the seagrass family. It is a submerged plant that spreads runners forming tall underwater meadows, rooted in soft sediments or mud. Eelgrass leaves are typically dark-green, long, slender blades about ½ to 1 inch wide with rounded tips and definite raised veins. Eelweed is the only plant with a cork-screw, round stemmed seed head, and sometimes a small white flower will appear in late summer.

The abundance of eelgrass in the water depends on many factors, including water temperature, quality of light, and availability of nutrients in the water. It is not invasive. Eelgrass abundance varies seasonally with winter die-off and spring/summer re-growth.

Eelgrass meadows support a complex web of creatures. Eelgrass beds provide food and shelter for various aquatic invertebrates (such as worms & crabs), many species of fish, and waterfowl. Many species of fish spawn near the eelgrass beds, which also serves as "nurseries" for young fish.

Eelgrass plants often wash up on shore where they are a very important member of the aquatic ecosystems. They transform a loose, shifting sandy bottom into a habitat suitable for the growth of algae. In addition to its biological roles, eelgrass is physically important to

shoreline ecosystems and man-made structures. It helps to trap sediment and anchor shifting sands, and its leaves dampen wave action. This helps to prevent erosion.

The removal of eelgrass by chemical control method is generally not recommended can cause



fish in the area to be killed. Any chemicals which might be used then become part of a toxic environment for the whole body of water. Mechanical removal devices may be available that cut or chop up aquatic weeds. This process will not necessarily result in removing the plant from the environment entirely It is important to remember that many submerged plants will then regrow from fragments, so removal of cut fragments is extremely necessary to keep the

eelgrass from regrowing.

While chemical treatment is not recommended, Harpoon and Komeen both tend to provide good results early in the season, and should only be applied by certified applicators. For fall control options, cutting or raking is the best alternative..

The Lanes cleared a 20 x 40 area of eelgrass—8 wheelbarrow loads was the yield. We have found that muck pellets help reduce the muck and in turn help to decrease the amount of eelgrass in our swim area.

WE ARE WINNING THE MUCK WAR!

Residents are reporting sizeable reductions in muck in their swim areas because of the use of the muck pellets. Chuck Lane has been applying the pellets for the last 4 years and sees a dramatic reduction in muck. Four years ago we had 8 inches of muck—now it is less than 2 inches. Worth the effort and the cost to us!!

Here's the proof--Samples were taken by Professional Lake Management to determine if PLM MD Pellet treatments conducted during 2015 had an impact on reducing organics from 2012. Four different composite sites around the lake were sampled on 9/24/2015 (the 3 bays and southeast end of lake) and sediment depth was evaluated as well. The samples were taken in approximately 2 feet of water. Below are the results for Crockery Lake.

Percent Organic Table Site	Parameter	Units	Pre-Treatments (2012)	Result (2015)
#1	Organic matter	%	17.3	15.6
#2	Organic matter	%	20.0	12.0
#3 (control)	Organic matter	%	22.0	23.6

#4

Organic matter %

No data

15.5

PLM is continuing to apply muck pellets to the ~~4~~³ areas. PLM Muck Digestion (MD) Pellets contain a combination of natural, beneficial bacteria, enzymes, and vitamins that stimulate the biological activity of our lake bottom. This stimulation allows the bacteria to feed on the organic sediment, therefore reducing the muck levels.

Apply the pellets once a month. A 10 lb bucket of MD Pellets will treat approximately 50' x 50' surface area 6 times a year. Cost: \$100.00. Apply when water temperature is greater than 50 degrees.

PLM still delivers the pellets to residents, as long as it is when they are in the area or are scheduled to come to the lake. Residents can just call their office to place an order. Jaimee Conroy, Environmental Scientists, Western MI Regional Manager, PLM Lake & Land Management Corp, 616-891-1294, Ext. 2005.

TO-DO LIST FOR THIS FALL

Empty your campfire of ashes and dispose of away from the lake.

Leave grass clippings on your lawn. They will decompose, providing nitrogen for your lawn.

Keep your grass at least 3 inches high. Taller grass has deeper roots, so it tolerates dry conditions.

Animal wastes contain nutrients as well as bacteria. Pick up after your pets and dispose of the wastes in the toilet, or bury it in your yard.

Sweep paved areas instead of hosing them down.

Compost your leaves instead of burning them—ashes act as fertilizer when they enter the lake.

Take a slow ride around the lake to enjoy the fall colors.

Environmentally Friendly Laundry Soap Recipe from Karen Elliott:

Laundry Soap: 3 T Borax; 3 T Washing Soda; 2 T Dawn Ultra (all available at Meijers) In gallon jug measure 4 C hot water. Add above ingredients-Swirl. Let cool then fill jug with cool water slowly until 1-2" from top of jug. Use ¼ cup for small loads; ½ Cup for medium loads; 1 Cup for large loads. Do not use bleach with this.



Advertiser's Corner

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

People Working for You:

Pat Wolters, CLA President 616 887 8707
patwolters@aol.com
2730 – 2781 Kayce Ln Pvt
2862 – 2871 Crockery Shores Pvt
2773 – 2856 Crockery Shores Rd
2919 Gooding St - 2700 Van Dyke St

Kathryn Lipski, CLA Vice-President 616 899 2228
anchordogz@gmail.com
2681 Van Dyke St - 2541 Van Dyke St

Hope De Jonge, CLA Secretary 616 899 2228
hopeadi@aol.com
2524 Van Dyke St – 2420 Van Dyke St

Bob Blauwkamp, Treasurer 616 957 9007
rblauwkamp@gmail.com
2488 Crockery Shore Rd - 2332 Crockery Shore Rd and
2190 Hoover Rd – 1908 Hoover Rd

Dennis Arms, CLA Director 616 890 2681
bigd33@mail.com
2776 Crockery Shore Rd – 2532 Crockery Shore Rd

Bruce Callen, CLA Director 616 240 9080
bcallen@callenengineering.com
2081 Van Dyke St - 2400 Van Dyke St

Linda Rexford, CLA Director 616-887-0490
bnlrexford@aol.com

Linda Lane, CLA Director, Secretary 616-887-1562
linda_lane@miwb.uscourts.gov

Past President, Diane Berenbrock
di-berenbrock@juno.com

CLA webmaster, Charles Lane
clane@vdiw.net

Newsletter Editor, Linda Lane

Newsletter Publishing provided by Buzz Holtvluwer

**Ordinance No. 98-10-1 Chester
Township, Ottawa County Michigan**

An Ordinance to promote the control of aquatic vegetation in Crockery Lake by prohibiting the use of certain chemicals within three hundred feet of Crockery Lake, by prohibiting the dumping of grass clippings or lawn waste in Crockery Lake, providing for the abatement of violations as nuisances, and providing penalties for the violation of the provisions of this Ordinance.

THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESTER, OTTAWA COUNTY, MICHIGAN ORDAINS:

Section 1. Findings and Purpose.

The Chester Township Board finds that Crockery Lake is a valuable natural and recreational resource, and that the overgrowth of certain varieties of aquatic vegetation poses a substantial threat to the use and enjoyment of this resource. The Board also finds that the application of commercially available fertilizers which contain manure, nitrogen, phosphorous or potassium on land located within three hundred feet (300') of Crockery Lake has a tendency to promote or increase the growth of aquatic vegetations, such as algae and other aquatic plants. The Board, therefore, enacts this ordinance for the purpose of limiting the application of such fertilizers within three hundred (300') of the waters of Crockery Lake.

Section 2. Definitions.

As used in this Ordinance, the following terms as hereinafter provided:

- (a) "Algae" means any of the group of nonvascular aquatic plants without true stems, flowers, leaves, and roots, either single-celled or colonial forms.
- (b) "Aquatic vegetation" means algae and higher aquatic plants.
- (c) "Fertilizer" means any commercially available natural or synthetic material containing manure, nitrogen, phosphorous, or potassium, or any mixtures containing a combination thereof, which is applied to land to increase the fertility of the soil.
- (d) "Higher aquatic "plant" means any of a group of vascularized plants with true stems, flowers, leaves, and roots which live in water and belong to the class Angiospermae.

(e) "Lakeshore" means the water's edge of Crockery Lake, located in Chester Township, Ottawa County, Michigan, as represented by the meander line on the government plat of Crockery Lake.

(a) "Notice to Abate Nuisance" means a written document sent to the owner or occupant of real property upon which a nuisance is alleged to exist, which document directs the recipient to abate the nuisance with a time specified in the Notice.

(b) "Person" or "Persons" mean any individual, firm, public or private corporation, partnership, trust, agency, or any other entity or group of such persons.

Section 3. Regulation of Application of Fertilizer Within Three Hundred Feet of Crockery Lake.

A. No Person shall apply, deposit, leave, maintain, place, use or permit another Person to apply, deposit, leave, maintain, place, or use any fertilizer on any land or property within three hundred feet (300') of the lakeshore of Crockery Lake.

B. No Person shall deposit, dump, or place, nor permit another Person to deposit, dump, or place any grass clippings, yard wastes, shrubs, leaves, tree branches, brush or other plant materials either on or in Crockery Lake, nor shall any Person store any such materials in a location in such close proximity to the waters of Crockery Lake or in any manner that makes it more likely than not that such materials will be moved into the waters of Crockery Lake by wind, water or other means.

Section 4. Declaration of Nuisance

Any violation of this Ordinance shall constitute a public nuisance *per se*, which may be abated as provided in this Ordinance, any other ordinance of Chester Township, or as provided by means available under the provisions of the laws of the State of Michigan.

Section 5. Notice to Abate Nuisance.

Whenever any Township officer or official determines that a violation of this Ordinance has occurred, a notice to abate nuisance shall be served upon the owner or occupant of the premises on which the nuisance exists, which notice shall require the person to abate the nuisance immediately by ceasing or stopping such violation. The notice shall specifically describe the particular violation of this ordinance which is to be abated. The notice may be served by any of the following means:

(a) Personal delivery of the notice to the owner or occupant, or by leaving the notice at his or her residence, office, or place of business with a person of suitable age and discretion;

(b) Mailing a copy of the Notice, first class certified mail, to the owner or occupant at his or her last known address; or,

(c) Posting of the notice in a conspicuous place on the premises for five (5) days, if the owner or occupant of the premises is unknown.

The nuisance specified in the Notice to Abate Nuisance shall be abated as follows:

(a) Immediately upon receipt of the Notice if the violation of the ordinance involves the application of fertilizer in violation of Section 3 (a);

(b) For violations of Section 3 (b), no further dumping of lawn clippings, yard wastes, etc., shall occur once the notice has been served. Removal (clean-up) of any lawn clippings, yard wastes, etc., from the waters of Crockery Lake, if practicable, shall be completed within seven (7) days after the notice has been served.

Section 6. Penalty for Violation of Ordinance.

(a) Any person who violates Section 3 of this Ordinance shall be responsible for a municipal civil infraction, and upon a admission or determination of responsibility thereof, shall be subject to a fine of not more than Five Hundred and 00/100 (\$500.00) Dollars plus court costs. Each day that a violation occurs shall be considered to be a separate violation.

The issuance of a citation for a municipal civil infraction shall not in any way limit the Township in seeking enforcement of the provisions of this Ordinance, including, but not limited to, requesting a civil restraining order from any court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) Any person who violates Section 5 of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine of not more than Five Hundred and 00/100 (\$500.00) Dollars plus court costs, or imprisonment for not more than ninety (90) days, or both. Each day that a violation occurs shall be considered to be a separate violation.

Section 7. SEVERABILITY.

Each provision or portion of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be severable. Should any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, or clause be declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, such declaration shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or of the remainder of the Ordinance.

Section 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.

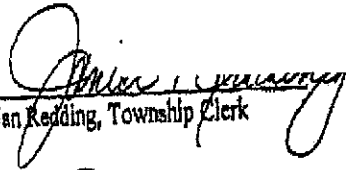
This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its publication in the manner provided by law.

INTRODUCTION: 8-15-98

ADOPTION: 11-17-98

PUBLICATION: 11-26-98

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12-26-98


Jan Redding, Township Clerk

J. Redding