

**CROCKERY LAKE
ASSOCIATION**
August/September 2020
NEWSLETTER

CROCKERY LAKE WEBSITE:
www.crockerylake.org
CROCKERY LAKE EMAIL:
crockerylakeassociation@gmail.com
CROCKERY LAKE FACEBOOK:
[www.facebook/
crockerylake](http://www.facebook.com/crockerylake)
CROCKERY LAKE ITEMS: [www.cafepress.com/
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We **URGENTLY** Need You
To Continue the Tradition!
Costs for 2021 have gone up.

Goal: \$6000 We have almost reached our goal of **\$6000**

On the CLA Website, you can now make
your contribution using PayPal.

Follow this link: <https://www.crockerylake.org/>

You can still make your contribution by
check. Mail that to our CLA Treasurer,

Greg Slater
2500 Crockery Shores
Casnovia, MI 49318

Your 2021 contributions is tax deductible and need to
be received prior to 12/31.

CAPTION

2021 FIREWORKS

The fireworks this year were wonderful! Thanks to Wolverine for putting on a great show. Thanks to Carl Elliott for working with Wolverine on the display and for mowing the field where they are set off. Thanks to Pat Wolters for getting all the appropriate permits.

Thank you also to everyone who donated to the fireworks fund. Crockery Lake fireworks are totally paid for by donations from our residents. In order to even have a fireworks show next year we need to raise a little more money: A total of \$6,000. Wolverine will not even do a show for us unless it is a \$6000 show. So we NEED your contributions. Or if you or your business would like to sponsor them that would be great. Send contributions to: [Greg Slater, 2500 Crockery Shores Road, Casnovia, MI 49318](#)

BOATER SAFETY

Those under 12 years of age:

- May legally operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than 6 horsepower (hp) without restrictions.
- May legally operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 6 hp but no more than 35 hp, if they are directly supervised onboard by a person at least 16 years of age.
- May not legally operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 35 hp under any conditions.
- May not legally operate a PWC.

Those 12 to 15 years of age:

- May legally operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than 6 hp without restrictions.
- May legally operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 6 hp only if they have passed a boating safety course approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and have onboard their boating safety certificate or are accompanied onboard by a person at least 16 years of age.

Those 16 years of age or older:

- May operate any boat on the waters of Michigan.

Requirements Specific to PWCs:

- ~ Each person 12 years of age or older riding on or towed behind a PWC must wear a USCG approved Type I, II or III PFD.
- ~ Those under 12 years of age must wear a Type I or II PFD. ~ Inflatable PFDs may not be used by a person of any age. ~ You may not allow a child under 7 years of age to ride on or be towed behind a PWC, unless with a parent or guardian or designee of the parent or guardian.
- ~ The lanyard of a PWC's ignition safety switch must be attached to the person, clothing or PFD of the operator.
- ~ Operating a PWC between one hour before sunset and 8:00 a.m. is prohibited.
- ~ PWCs must be operated in a reasonable and prudent manner at all times.

It is unlawful to:

- Jump the wake of another vessel unnecessarily close to the other vessel.
- Weave your PWC through congested traffic. •
- Swerve at the last possible moment to avoid collision.
- A PWC must be operated at slow-no wake speed if crossing within 150 feet behind another vessel, unless the other vessel is also a PWC. • You may not operate a PWC within 200 feet of a Great Lakes shoreline

- unless traveling at slow-no wake speed perpendicular to the shoreline.
- It is unlawful to harass wildlife or disturb aquatic vegetation with your PWC.
- You may not operate a PWC in waters less than 2 feet deep unless you are operating at slow no wake speed, or are docking or launching your PWC.

Here is the link to the online course. There is a fee of \$29.50. There is no age limit to take the course.

https://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/?campaignid=237760699&adgroupid=17330829379&keyword=boaters%20safety&gclid=Cj0KCQjw7ZL6BRCmARIsAH6XFDFLDWIDC4rIv6tlbFqdj5SuXcn5kNtwbkbuqEEYntw7YKlqKva_c uPwaAp5MEALw_wcB

Helpful Reminders:

- ~ Always go counter clockwise.
- ~ No water skiing between one hour after sunset and one hour prior to sunrise. ~ At least one competent person, in addition to the driver, shall be in any boater PWC towing persons on water skis, sleds, etc. This additional person shall be in a position to observe the progress of the person being towed. ~ Maximum speed 55 m.p.h. in all water unless otherwise regulated. ~ All vessels are required to provide at least one United States Coast Guard approved PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE per passenger.
- ~ Each child under the age of 6 years, and in an open deck area is REQUIRED

by law to wear a PFD AT ALL TIMES !

FISHING REPORT

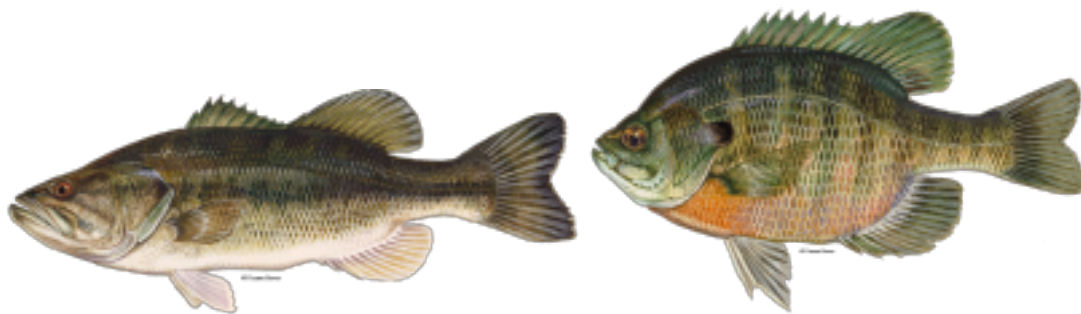
We see lots of anglers on the lake. We would love to post/publish the pictures of your great catch! Please email pictures to betsylud@gmail.com or crockerylakeassociation@gmail.com

If you're headed out fishing, please do your part to keep yourself and others safe by following COVID-19 public health and safety guidelines. Go fishing only if you're feeling well. Practice proper social distancing, at least 6 feet away from people who don't live in your household. Frequently wash your hands with soap and warm water, or use hand sanitizer.

Windy conditions have limited access for many. North winds are slowly cooling water temperatures, especially on the Great Lakes. Catch rates will only get better as we move closer to fall.

All anglers 17 years of age and older are required to have a fishing license.

Crockery Lake is located in [Ottawa County, Michigan](#). This lake is 106 acres in size. It is approximately 54 feet deep at its deepest point. When fishing, anglers can expect to catch a variety of fish including those below. Also listed is the size they must be and when they can be fished. [Bluegill](#)
[Largemouth Bass](#)



[Northern Pike](#) [Black Crappie](#)



[Sunfish](#) [Yellow Perch](#)



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Fish Size and Season Regulations

Bluegill - No size, Open all year, 25 limit

Large Mouth Bass - 14", Limit 5, Sat. before Memorial Day – Dec. 31

Northern Pike - 24" Limit 2, Last Sat. in April – March 15: Lower Peninsula inland waters

Black Crappie - No size, Open all year, 25 limit

Sunfish - No size, Open all year, 25 limit

Yellow Perch - No size, Open all year, 25 limit

If you are over 17 you must have a fishing license. It can be purchased at most stores with sporting goods or online:

<https://www.mdnr-elicense.com/>

LAKE MONITORING

Due to the excessive algae we have experienced this year the lake has been closely monitored for clarity almost daily. Linda Lane has been doing this with the Secchia disk. The worst it has been was only 15 inches on July 2 and the best was 7'3" on August 4 more than a month after the algae treatments. We have had 3 algae treatments The temperature of the lake water directly affects the clarity. There isn't anything we can do to change the lake temp. When the lake cools the clarity gets so much better.

Thank you Linda for your diligent work!

Sympathy

On behalf of the Crockery Lake Board Association we extend our sympathy to Chet Roberts and Deb Wheaton and their families in the passing of their mother, Dee Roberts. Dee lived on the lake side of Van Dyke.

PRELIMINARY MINUTES

Crockery Lake Association Minutes

August 19, 2020
2500 Crockery Shores Street

1, Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present President Bob Blauwkamp, Vice President Pat Wolters, Secretary Susan McClure, Treasurer Greg Slater, Directors Carl Elliott, Mollie Gaggin, Paula Humphrey. Absent: Betsy Ludwick. Guest: Callie Melton

3. Approval of Agenda

Callie Melton will speak in place of the PLM presentation. Policies and Bylaws was added as the last item on the Agenda.

Pat moved to accept the Agenda with the changes, Greg Slater seconded. Passed.

4. Call to the Audience.

No audience was present.

5. Callie Melton

Callie Melton reported on the status of the 319 Grant the Ottawa County Department of Conservation is preparing for the Crockery Creek Watershed which will be submitted in October, 2020, as part of the Sand Creek proposal. The Letter of Intent has been submitted to EGLE Phase II includes getting all stake holders involved in the wetland and shoreline restoration. An area of focus will be the northern inlet and the adjacent land around the park. Melton also reported Drain Commissioner Joe Bush is talking to a contractor about dredging sand at an inlet at the lake's southwest end.

Melton asked that CLA Board Members talk to other landholders affected by the grant. We all need to see how each one of us benefits by using "best land management" practices (i.e. buffer strips). One couple has already given the Drain Commission an easement. There are seven land owners whose land drains into the north and east ends of the lake.

One piece of information to be included in the Grant is the "load" of sediment/pollution that enters the lake via the inlets. Melton stressed that the Grant will not pay for septic tank/drain fields.

Melton and the Board recognize that there is an "Us and Them"

divide between farmers and the lake residents. Most Board members do not know the land owners whose land drains into Crockery Lake. Board members recognize the need for farmers to maximize the use of their land, which includes plowing (soil erosion) and fertilizing (algae food). "Best Land Management" practices could decrease the amount of soil lost through erosion. BLM could give farmers information about optimal fertilizer use.

Board members mentioned the straightening of a drain and the rerouting of a stream under a hill increasing the load coming into the northeast end of Crockery Lake.

Pat Wolters asked for more information about the 319 Grant. Bob Blauwkamp thanked Melton for speaking.

6. Secretary's Report

Susan McClure handed out paper copies. Members checked for corrections and made the appropriate corrections on their copies (Carl Elliott had not recommended calling Michigan State University for water testing.) Pat Wolters moved to accept the minutes, Mollie Gaggin seconded. Motion passed.

7. Treasurer's Report

Greg Slater reported that CLA has spent \$1785 of its \$1979 budget. PayPal grossed \$445, from which fees were deducted. The Fireworks Display stands at \$3939 which is approximately \$2000 shy of what is needed for the 2021 display if it is to be the same display as in 2020. Wolverine has been paid for the 2020 display. (Per Bylaws, the General Fund and the Fireworks Display are two separate funds. Fireworks Display money is collected by December 31 for the following calendar year's display.)

Pat Wolters moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Mollie Gaggin seconded. Motion passed.

The discussion morphed into Agenda item #9, Fireworks 2021-Update and Funding.

9. Fireworks 2021-Update and Funding

Bob Blauwkamp said CLA needs \$6000 to have the same show in 2021 as it had in 2020. CLA needs to collect more money. Bob asked Greg Slater for a list of people who have already donated. Paula Humphrey asked why people don't donate, could Covid 19 be a factor. No one had answers. Carl Elliott pointed out that the donations were in line with

previous years' donations but the cost has gone up. Greg Slater suggested we look for sponsors. We aren't allowed to ask for donations from people who park along 32nd Avenue or Gooding Street to watch the display. Suggestions: posting a thermometer icon showing the amount of money collected at the Welcome to Crockery Lake signs ; sending a postcard to residents alerting them to the fireworks display shortfall; producing a simple, short newsletter (the printed newsletter was discontinued after Buzz Holtvluwer could no longer sponsor it); finding a sponsor for the newsletter. Paula offered to design and prepare a postcard.

8. Additional Lake Treatment for 2020

There have been four treatments--one for weed control and three for algae. Bob Blauwkamp noted that timing of treatments is important. Best results happen when the excess water has run over the weir. Pat Wolters noted that turbidity makes the treatments less effective. Carl Elliott noted cloudy days are good for vegetative growth. Bob praised the results from applying PhosLock (phycocymen). Because Linda Lane has checked water clarity daily this summer, there is a record of the dramatic improvement.

At the August Chester Township Meeting, the township board voted not to have any more weed/algae treatments in 2020 because \$13,600 of the budgeted \$14,000 had been spent. To spend any amount over 10% of the budget requires a public hearing.

10. Speaking for the Crockery Lake Association

Susan McClure suggested an addition to the By-laws that would allow Board members to speak as CLA representatives when so designated by the Board. She said that is the policy of the League of Women Voters. There was discussion about such a policy being necessary. No consensus was reached. She is to write a policy that will be discussed at the September Board Meeting. If the Board approves it, the Policy will appear in the April newsletter and voted upon at the May Annual Meeting.

11. Lake Management Contract

The Board would like to review a copy of the contract between Chester Township and Professional Lake Management.

12. Temporary Watercraft Speed Ordinance

Paula Humphrey had sent all Board Members copies of the

applications to establish a township ordinance to limit watercraft speed, during high water in the case of Crockery Lake. Paula talked to Gary Meerman, Chester Township Supervisor, who recommended we look at the Permanent Watercraft Control Ordinance. It will be on the September agenda for discussion.

13. General Lake Cleanup

As Paula Humphrey and her neighbor take a paddle boat around the lake, they see debris as close as twelve inches below the surface. Paula suggested the Board organize an "Earth Day" for residents to rid the shallow lake bottom of trash. Paula referred to three areas in particular where they have seen wood stanchions, tires, and cement blocks. On a clean up day lake residents could help each other remove debris or mark the potential hazards that can not be pulled from the lake.

14. Inlet Testing

Paula Humphrey expressed interest in monitoring the water flowing into the lake via the creek on her property. Paula said she would need to be trained. Pat Wolters said that Michigan Lakes and Streams has a test that determines stream health by looking at the organisms that live in the stream. She also said that testing for e-coli needs to be done quickly when e-coli is suspected. Paula and Mollie Gaggin will look for more information on how to do water testing. Pat suggested contacting Drain Commissioner Joe Bush for information about where the water originates.

Greg Slater learned that Ravenna uses ponds for waste water. The system is near capacity. Bob Blauwkamp said that if people detect the odor of sewage they should report it to the Ottawa County Department of Health. Pat Wolters reminded us that CLMP does water testing.

15. Sonar Weed Treatment

Bob Blauwkamp, Pat Wolters, and Carl Elliott had searched for more information about sonar weed treatment. Bob pointed out that sonar weed treatment is not proven technology nor has it been permitted in Michigan. Pat Wolters had information from Dr. Joy Latimor who wrote that sonar weed treatment has only been successful in small ponds and drinking water reservoirs. The effects on aquatic fauna are not known. She noted that there are several studies that show a lack of effectiveness in lakes. (See Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Research Report 195.) Pat had forwarded Latimor's e-mail to Board

Members prior to the Board Meeting. Carl handed out an e-mail from SonicSolutions Algae Control which estimated the number of units (dock installation or solar units to anchor in the middle of the lake). Different treatments are needed for green and blue algae. Green algae needs more units for treatment.

Meeting Adjourned

9:26 p.m.

Next Meeting

September 16, 2020

7 p.m.

Place: Pat Wolters' home

ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertising in this newsletter is FREE to Crockery Lake Association 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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Vice President / Pat Wolters

Position Expires: 4/30/20

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Treasurer / Greg Slater

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