



From The Waters Edge



Wolf Lake Riparians

P. O. Box 982
Baldwin, MI 49304

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Fall 2015

Fall...Bonfires, Hoodies, Hot Cocoa and Apple Pie

Just when you're missing summer, Mother Nature does her magic with her wonderful palette of fall colors and fresh smells in the air and reminds us there is so much more to enjoy at the lake. Enjoy its beauty and smells before she puts the earth to sleep with a blanket of snow.

Fall Stagg Road Leaf Dump

In the meantime, spend some time outside for fall clean-up. The 2015 fall leaf dump days and times are as follows:

Last three weekends in October (begins Oct. 17) through the first weekend of November Saturday & Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 pm.



As most of you are aware, both associations have collaborated to make this access possible through an agreement with the landowners whose properties are connected to this private drive. That agreement expires in 2016 and we are working on getting once-a-month access throughout the summer. More on that in the spring newsletter.

The Riparians and Wolf Lake associations collaborated funds to bulldoze the leaves back to provide better access. Please back up as far as you can before dumping your leaves to keep the area accessible.

Pondweeds in the Lake



Sago pondweed has been found in Wolf Lake; it is a nuisance weed and produces seeds in the fall. It is fast growing and stems from tubers at the base. Tubers can only get started where sunlight can get to it. Since our lake is so shallow, it is a perfect environment for this weed to flourish.

Vegetation in the lake is good but one that grows and multiplies so quickly is not good. If you have tried to lift it, you will see that it is massive and heavy. This is a safety concern in the event of a skier falling in that area or a swimmer getting caught up and entangled in it as it is difficult to swim out of.

We contacted Aqua Doctors to discuss what options we have. They see it all the time in lakes and spot treat it with a combination of Endothall and Diquat. There is a 24 hour ban on swimming in the area where the water has been treated. We will be contacting them to see if they are available to speak at our annual meeting. They would be happy to answer any questions you might have regarding safety and effectiveness. We will confirm their availability in the spring newsletter.

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2016 Board Meetings

The annual board meetings are held at the Peacock Senior Center on 4 Mile Road beginning at 9:00 a.m.

All other Board Meetings are held at 3182 Wolf Lake Drive and begin at 9:00 a.m. The 2016 meetings are as follows:

- April 23
- July 9 (annual meeting)
- September 10

2016 Dues

After 20+ years of steady membership dues, they are being increased by \$5 a year (less than a Starbuck's coffee) due to increases in printing, postage, costs of membership signs, and leaf dump maintenance costs. We thank you for your membership and your continued contributions to the gypsy moth and fish fund.

Building, Adding an Out-Building or Remodeling

Are you planning on getting started on a project or finally adding a garage or additional storage to your lot? You can save a lot of time and frustration by first calling our Zoning Administrator, Dave Lenkiewicz at 231-266-5122 to ensure you are meeting the zoning laws in our area.

Lake County and Peacock Information

If you have ever wanted to attend a township meeting, a special committee meeting, or to just find general information about the area, visit www.lakecountymichigan.com.

You will also find other helpful contact information at www.wlrmembers.weebly.com. Then click on the page tab called **Contact & Area Info** or the **Dates to Remember** pages.

Muskrats

Muskrats have been busy setting up home for the fall. That means that a number of you have already had the displeasure of finding chewed wiring and torn up boat seats that have facilitated their home-building. They love the long, dark passage in a boat's exhaust and have been known to stay even after someone starts the engine. They don't seem to mind.



Muskrats burrow into the bank with an underwater entrance and create "push-ups" that can be up to three feet high. These push-ups can destroy shorelines

and cause accelerated erosion. While about 95% of their diet consists of cattails and other aquatic vegetation, they also feed on frogs, small turtles and fish which might explain why we don't see many turtles or frogs like we used to.

Also, **insurance policies** typically *exclude* damage caused by "vermin," which includes muskrats. If a muskrat chews through an exhaust hose, insurance will pay for consequential damage caused by the sinking, but not for the damage to the exhaust hose itself or other damage they cause. It is a good idea to check your policy language or check with your underwriter regarding coverage.

So can anything be done to **protect our property** and boats? Glad you asked. Trappers have placed a number of floating traps in the lake to help us reduce the muskrat population. With the chilly weather keeping people out of the water, it shouldn't be a problem, but if you see these traps, please stay clear of them so the traps can do their work.

Facebook and Website

In the last week our household FINALLY became reconnected with the web after having been without internet for nearly a year. Our local library kept me somewhat connected but since I was on a public computer, I spent very little time on social networks and no time updating the website.

I will be getting back to that soon and I hope to get our Facebook **Wolf Lake Riparians** group going by the time you receive this letter. There is a Wolf Lake page which I post to periodically, but there are some things that are specifically for our members that I will want to post to the **Wolf Lake Riparians** group.

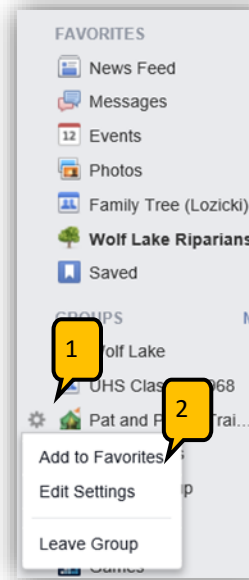
If you haven't used Facebook "Groups" before, I have some instructions on the next page on getting you connected. Thank you for your patience.

So until springtime - stay warm, make some hot cocoa and enjoy the ride.

Shirley Blackler


President, Wolf Lake Riparians

Basics of Facebook Groups



COMPUTER - When you access Facebook from your computer, you can see the groups you have joined listed in the left navigation column under **GROUPS** (illustrated to the left here). You can make it a **FAVORITE** by hovering your mouse over the group name and a gear will appear [1]. Click on the gear and select **Add to Favorites** [2]. Now it will appear under Favorites. There will be a number after the group name corresponding to the number of posts made to it that you have not yet viewed.

When you want to post to the Group (or just see what has been posted) click on the Wolf Lake Riparians name on the left, then click in the Write something... box. When your message is ready to post, click the word POST to the lower right of the text box. This information will only go to members of the group.

MOBILE DEVICES - When you access Facebook using your phone or other mobile device that uses an app, the only difference is that the navigation bar is across the top of the app. Click on the "hamburger" or menu which looks like three lines stacked on top of the other . There you will see the navigation bar where the Wolf Lake Riparians group will appear.

If you are a due-paying member and want to connect on Facebook, you can search for **Wolf Lake Riparians** on Facebook. Select the one that says "Closed Group" (I messed up on the other one). In the alternative, you can email me at wlrmembers@gmail.com with the name and email address you are registered with on Facebook and I'll send you an invitation.

If you need help and time permits I can help you at the annual meeting if you have a device with data. Hope to see you on Facebook.

Take care - Shirley

Wolf Lake Riparian / Associate / Contribution Form

Please Print

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone(s) _____

Lake Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Riparian \$35 Associate \$20 Gypsy Moth Spraying Fund \$ _____ Fish Planting Fund \$ _____

Please make checks payable and mail to:

Wolf Lake Riparians, Inc.
P.O. Box 982
Baldwin, MI 49304