

# LAKE MORAINE ASSOCIATION

## Spring 2024 NEWSLETTER

### LMA Board of Directors:

Mike Cragolin, President  
Nancy Ries, Vice President  
Jane Clement, Recording Secretary  
Craig Lawson, Aquatic Tax District Treasurer  
Kate Smith, LMA Treasurer

**Directors** - Tom Ashmore, Jr., Shawn Daley, Eileen Fehlner, Ryan Hurley, Warren Meola, Ann Palmiter, Greg Reuter, Matt Simmons, Terry Spooner, Alan Tuttle & Martha Young.

\*\*\*\*\*

### President's Message:

Hello to all of our Lake Moraine Association Members and Neighbors,

Hoping everyone had an enjoyable winter. They tell me that anyone that spent this past winter in upstate New York experienced a very, very mild winter. But you guessed it, it was obviously much milder where us snowbirds spent ours. As usual, Carol and I spent three months of our winter in central Florida. Cruising on the inter coastal near New Smyrna, fishing, golfing and enjoying the warm winter months with our Florida family and friends.

I'm told the ice came off the lake very early this year. However, as some of you may know, the water level was intentionally kept down for several weeks longer than normal by the Canal Corp, so they could make temporary repairs to some eroded areas on the spillway. The repairs were successful, and the water level got back to normal fairly quickly once the repairs were completed.

The latest update on the Lake Moraine Dam Restoration Project is that the actual work, including drawdown, will begin in 2026 and continue into 2027 until completion. It is expected that the seasonal drawdown in November 2025 will occur as usual and the lake level will be drawn down further in the spring of 2026 to the level required to accomplish the necessary work. The Canal Corporation has postponed the public meeting on the project that they had planned for this spring. They now are planning a meeting in June once they have a better understanding of the scope and anticipated duration.

Once again, I'd like to thank the Board of Directors for their commitment to attend and participate in monthly meetings, as well as their contributions on various committees and to other projects to sustain and/or improve the health of Lake Moraine. Special thanks to Michele Howgate and Martha Young for their hard work on gathering, editing, and organizing the information in this newsletter, as well as others who contributed to its content. I'd also like to recognize Tim Peach once again for monitoring the lake level during the last seasonal drawdown and coordinating with his Canal Corporation contact to ensure the proper level was maintained throughout the winter months.

Looking forward to another great summer and fall, so everyone can truly enjoy spending quality time on the lake with their families, friends and neighbors. Hoping to see you all at our first LMA General Membership Meeting on Saturday, May 25th. Mike

\*\*\*\*\*

## LMA General Meetings for 2024

Coffee get Together 9:30 am / Meeting 10:00 am

Saturday, May 25th @ The Appley Center, Lake Moraine Road  
Saturday, July 6th @ The Cleveland Building, White Eagle Grove  
Saturday, August 31st @ TBD

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2024 LMA Membership Dues

Regular Membership - \$20  
Associate - \$10

**Regular Membership** is available to any individual, family, group, institution, or association owning lakefront property. Regular membership entitles the property owner to speak and vote at meetings of the Association, provided current dues have been paid.

**Associate Membership** is available to any individual, family, group, institution, or association not owning property fronting Lake Moraine, but with an interest in the affairs and condition of Lake Moraine. Associate members have no voting power in meetings of the Lake Moraine Association, but may speak at meetings of the Association, provided current dues have been paid.

If you would like to pay your dues before the General Meetings, you can mail your check to Kate Smith, LMA Treasurer, 215 Salt Springs Road, Fayetteville, NY 13066. Checks should be made payable to the Lake Moraine Association. If you are mailing your dues, send a self-addressed envelope if you would like your membership sticker mailed to you or you can pick up your sticker at the next General Meeting.

Please join your Association to show your support and to ensure the lake is healthy and safe. Learn how we try to control weeds and protect the lake. We have many committees that need additional participants. *From the desk of Kate Smith*

\*\*\*\*\*

## 4th of July Festivities

- Wednesday, July 3rd – Lighting of the Lake around Lake Moraine at dusk
- Thursday, July 4th -- Village of Hamilton Farmer's Market 8:00-1:00
- Thursday, July 4th -- Village of Hamilton Parade at Village Center 11:00
- Thursday, July 4th – Village of Hamilton Events in the park after the Parade
- Thursday, July 4th – Boat Parade 3:00
- Friday, July 5th – The Syracuse Orchestra on the Village Green, Village of Hamilton 7:30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lake Moraine Association Records** - The LMA has been granted another Colgate University Upstate Institute Summer Fellow (our third in ten years)! This year's Fellow is history major and old document lover K'Cyee Toma, and she will work on a project to sort through old Lake Moraine Association records and create a searchable digital archive of the Association's work over many decades.

We have boxes of papers from past LMA presidents for K'Cyee (pronounced KC) to work on, but if any Lake Moraine residents have materials that might be of interest, please reach out to Nancy

Ries at [nries@colgate.edu](mailto:nries@colgate.edu) or text 315-750-0007 and Nancy will arrange to get them from you. Older materials related to the lake are especially welcome, and we can return them to you after K'Cyee digitizes them if you need them back.

Eileen Fehlner and Nancy Ries spearheaded this Fellowship proposal and will be working with K'Cyee from May 28th through August 2<sup>nd</sup>. K'Cyee lives in Anchorage Alaska but is originally from American Samoa. She is a volleyball player, and Secretary of the Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance. *From the desk of Eileen Fehlner and Nancy Ries*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Stewardship Program** – Do you want to meet new people? Help keep invasives out of our lake? Fish from shore? Work on your suntan? The opportunity is your if you want to be a Lake Steward.

We are still in need of Lake Stewards. In the past we have hired young people to sit at the launch to educate the public about “hitchhikers” and examine boats for Eurasian Milfoil and Zebra mussels. We’d like to open this job opportunity to older, experienced adults. You will sit at the launch and talk to boaters about invasive species. You will need a smart phone to input data about the watercraft and any invasives which is then sent to DEC to compile. There is online training to help with what to look for and inputting the data. (There are even young people who can help you at the launch site.)

Last year by July 25, 2023, Stewards recorded 332 people in 155 watercraft on Lake Moraine. That was for 21 days of surveys.

It’s not difficult AND you will be paid minimum wage to have this experience. So, if you are willing to spend a few hours a week at the launch, preferably early morning, late afternoon weekends, please text or e-mail Jane Clement. 315-225-9032 or [js3clement@icloud.com](mailto:js3clement@icloud.com) *From the desk of Jane Clement*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Lake Moraine CSLAP** - The Lake Moraine Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program, (CSLAP), will begin the 2024 season in June. The group will collect water samples for monitoring 4 times this summer instead of the traditional 8 times. Collections will take place once in June, July, August and September. The reduced number of collections will give another lake in New York State the opportunity to participate in the program while Lake Moraine will still add important data to its historical record. This data will be compared to past data to assess any dramatic changes in water quality over time. *From the desk of Eileen Fehlner*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs)** - Algae, ever present in lake water, is mostly beneficial to the environment, forming the base of the food chain for all aquatic organisms and producing the oxygen needed to sustain life. Some algae, however, produce toxins and are referred to as HABs or harmful algae blooms. For safety reasons, it is best for people and pets to avoid contact with any green, blue-green, yellow, brown, red, white, or purple floating masses in the water in case they are toxic or Cyanobacteria. Potential symptoms from touching, swallowing, or inhaling

a toxic algae bloom include diarrhea, nausea or vomiting; skin, eye, or throat irritation; and allergic reactions or breathing difficulties.

You can help lessen or prevent HABs on Lake Moraine! Algae and plant growth in water bodies require nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus. Nutrients enter the water from a variety of sources. Rain leaches nutrients into the lake from the entire watershed, which includes the properties on the shoreline. The most important thing you can do as a property owner to lessen leaching of nutrients into the lake water is to make sure that your septic system is up to date and maintained by having it pumped out on a regular basis. Trees or shrubs planted between your septic system and the shoreline can help capture some of the nutrients before they enter the water. Another action you can take is to avoid using fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides on your lake property to reduce the leaching of nutrients and chemicals into the water.

If you suspect a HAB on the lake:

- First, KNOW IT - learn to identify recurring algae
- Second, AVOID IT - as stated above
- Third, REPORT IT - take a close-up picture and a picture from further away

Go to NYHABs at <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/66337b887ccd465c0a9c1bc5c0>

Answer the questions and upload your photos. If the DEC scientists can identify your photos as a HAB, in a few days a report will be posted on the DEC HABs location map based on your input.  
*From the desk of Eileen Fehlner*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Plant Management** - We expect the weed harvester to be used on our lake again this year.

The paperwork is being prepared for a Copper Sulfate Treatment in mid-June, if needed.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Eroding Shoreline / No Wake Zones** - Our shorelines are continuing to erode. Please be sure to follow the "No Wake Zones" when you are traveling between the islands, when you are close to shore and especially in Cook's cove. There are many island residents that use Cook's cove to get to the mainland. When you are traveling in that area (beginning at Greg Reuter's camp) be sure you do not have a wake behind you. If you do, you are going too fast and are contributing to the erosion of the shorelines. We are asking you to be respectful of your neighbor's shoreline/property.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Town of Madison Clean Up Days – June 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> (8 am – 4 pm)**  
3733 Solsville Road, Madison

- Passenger Car Tires \$ 4.00 (no tractor or large truck tires, limit 4 per household)
- Propane Tanks \$ 4.00
- Air Conditioners \$20.00
- Refrigerators \$20.00
- Freezers \$20.00
- Dehumidifiers \$20.00
- Televisions n/c
- Computer Monitors n/c

- Scrap Metal n/c

No Hazardous Materials  
No Yard Waste  
No Asbestos  
No Liquids/20% Solids

\*\*\*\*\*

**Transient Rental Law** - The Town of Madison now has a Transient Rental Law in effect for ALL rentals within ¼ mile of the Lake Moraine and Madison Lake shoreline (this distance is farther than you think). The only exception are units rented to the same individual(s) for more than 30 consecutive days. If you rent a unit for 1 or 365 days to different renters, you have until August 24, 2024, to complete a Transient Rental application, pay the application fee, and follow the regulations of this law, which include safety, septic, parking, and Madison County occupancy tax law. This includes those that rent units during Colgate events. For more details and to ask questions, call the Town of Madison Codes Enforcer at 315-893-1890, or email him at [madisoncodes@centralny.twcbc.com](mailto:madisoncodes@centralny.twcbc.com). Visit the Town of Madison web site at <https://www.townofmadisonny.org/links-resources> for the Transient Rental Law, and the Transient Rental Permit Application at <https://www.townofmadisonny.org/permits-forms>. Some fees involved include:

- Permit Application Fee: \$200.00
- Annual Permit Renewal Fee: \$150.00
- Septic Inspection Fee: Approximately \$600.00-\$700.00
- Additional costs to bring septic up to current NYS Codes
- Additional costs for other regulations in the law
- Renting short term without a permit from the Town of Madison carries a \$1,000.00 penalty per day

\*\*\*\*\*

**Calendars** - We will have 2025 calendars this year; they will be \$13.00 each. To pre-order and pre-pay, please contact Lee Ingraham, [lingraham@gmail.com](mailto:lingraham@gmail.com) or Martha Young, [mail@lakemoraineny.org](mailto:mail@lakemoraineny.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Septic -**

- Rebates for electric/gas/compost toilets are 30% of the cost of the unit, but not the cost of installation. The maximum refund is \$1,200.
- Septic clean-out rebates are 50% up to \$350 per clean out, available once a year for everyone, island and mainland property owners.
- We strongly recommend island property owners to group with other island property owners to have their systems pumped, to reduce cost.
- Contacts: Craig Lawson 607-226-4214 or Martha Young 315-796-7023
- For reimbursement, please send a copy of your bill to: Craig Lawson, 19 Summit St, Norwich NY 13815

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Boater Safety Courses – Who needs a New York Boating Safety Certificate**

If you were born after January 1, 1978, you are required to obtain a Boating Safety Certificate to operate a motorized boat or PWC in 2024. As of January 1, 2025, all operators of motorized boats or PWCs in New York are required to be certified.

The regulation, education class information, and more information can be found at <https://parks.ny.gov/recreation/boating/education.aspx>

\*\*\*\*\*

**DEC Permit Process** - DEC permit applications take over 12 months to be approved or denied. To perform any work, replacement, repair, or changes of any type to your "seawall", permanent dock, lake floor, or anything to do with the lake, you are required to obtain an Army Corps of Engineers Permit and a DEC Permit, and possibly others.

Many of our neighbors are thinking about changes they want to make during the water drawdown for the dam reconstruction project.

We have some tips and tricks for the permitting process - we recommend that you start soon! It is our understanding, the permits are good for a minimum of 2 years, and are renewable, once issued.

**FIRST STEP:** Review the DEC requirements. These 2 websites are a good place to start, depending on what your project is:

- **Proper Shoreline Stabilization** (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/50534.html>)
- **Waterways, Coastlines & Wetlands** (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/96314.html>)

**SECOND STEP:** Review the Army Corps of Engineers requirements:

- **Army Corps of Engineers** (<https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs/home/permitting>)

**THIRD STEP:** Call Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District, whose office is located here in Hamilton, 6503 Wes Rd, Hamilton NY 315-824-9849, extension 5. They will come to your property and can give you advice regarding the permitting process, create the required drawings, make the required measurements, and help complete the application paperwork. They also have design ideas and suggestions.

The process is VERY complicated, time consuming, and frustrating. Nothing will move quickly. Start early and use the (free) services of Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District. This is what they do, and they are VERY knowledgeable.

Depending on the job, you may need a Town of Madison building permit also.

There are other permits that could be required.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please visit our website: [www.lakemoraineny.org](http://www.lakemoraineny.org)

Please visit our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/LakeMoraine](https://www.facebook.com/LakeMoraine)

To send an email: [mail@lakemoraineny.org](mailto:mail@lakemoraineny.org)