

LAKE MORAINE ASSOCIATION

FALL 2021 NEWSLETTER

LMA Board of Directors:

Mike Cragolin – President
Jane Clement – Recording Secretary
Kate Smith – Treasurer – LMA
Craig Lawson – Treasurer Aquatic Tax District

Directors - Tom Ashmore, Jr, Shawn Daley, Ed Dinski, Eileen Fehlner, Dave McDonald, Ann Palmiter, Greg Reuter, Nancy Ries, Terry Spooner, Alan Tuttle & Martha Young

President's Message:

Hello to all of our Lake Moraine Association Members.

As many of you already know, I'm Mike Cragolin and I was elected President of the Lake Moraine Association at the September 4th general membership meeting. New board members, also elected at that meeting, were Tom Ashmore, Rick Burleigh, Shawn Daley and Nancy Ries. Rick has since resigned due to personal issues and with the Board of Directors approval, I have appointed Ed Dinski in his place. I'd like to formally welcome them and thank them for their willingness to serve and contribute to our association's governance and initiatives over the next several years.

I'd also like to recognize and thank Ann Palmiter for her leadership and contributions over the last 4 years as president and state how pleased I am that she is willing to continue to serve on the board. Her ongoing commitment and experience are invaluable to the future success of our organization. I'm also pleased that the returning officers and board members were willing to commit to another term and continue to share their expertise to the various offices, positions and committees.

My wife Carol and I have owned our cottage on the south side of Sunny Point for 15 years and I've been on the LMA Board for the last 5 years. Every year from mid-May to mid-October we spend most of our time at the lake. We enjoy the cool breezes, sunny days, cruising the lake and frequenting our favorite fishing spots. Unfortunately, this year we all experienced an awful lot of rainy days and weekends, but all in all, it was still a good year to be able to be at the lake. Although we're sad that we're at the end of the seasonal experience for this year, we're already thinking about how great it will be to spend our days and weeks there next year.

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge all of the involvement and contributions that Jim Finch made to the LMA over the years. We were deeply saddened by his passing, continue to express our sympathy to Diane and the family, but are grateful to have known and worked with him over the years. He was definitely a great man, friend and highly regarded on the lake and in the local community.

I'm very fortunate and pleased to share that Michele Howgate has volunteered to take the lead on preparing the Newsletters going forward. And I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge that Martha Young, our communications coordinator, will lend her knowledge and expertise to the content as well.

Hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable winter, regardless of where you plan to spend it.

Wishing you and yours my best,

Mike

Updates from the Board Meeting:

- **Drawdown of the Lake** – The annual drawdown of the lake began the week of October 11th with a target of mid-November to complete the drawdown of three to four feet. Unfortunately, due to the significant rainfall experienced in the second half of October, the lake was still at full capacity at month end. Canal Corp representatives tell us they've made valve adjustments and are now forecasting the end of November to complete the drawdown.
- **Clean Out of the Weirs** – The Board has approved the clean out of the weirs on East Lake Road and in Cook's cove, after the annual lake drawdown is completed in mid-November.
- **Dam Reconstruction Project** – The Canal Corporation has advised us that the drawdown for the Dam Reconstruction Project **will not** occur in 2022 as previously forecasted and they do not currently have an estimated date for it to begin. However, they reiterated that they are committed to sharing their plans with the community well in advance of any drawdown, so all stake holders can adequately plan for the project.
- **Leaf Pickup & Disposal – Saturday, November 13th at 10:00 am** - on November 13th we will be collecting your bagged leaves and donating them to farms such as Common Thread for compost.

The four pickup locations are:

1. Across the road from John Slater's camp (4391 East Lake Road), between the road and driveway
2. North of Sunny Point Road entrance, at the East Lake Road intersection, away from the new electric meter box and electric pole
3. Frank Road across the road from the Colgate Boathouse entrance
4. Next to the dumpster in Taylor Grove
 - Leaves must be bagged, no sticks, decomposed plants, plant pots or other debris
 - Please be sure the bags are not heavy
 - Help collecting and emptying the bags on the 13th, is much appreciated. If you can help, contact Tim Peach via email timpeach13328@yahoo.com, or call or text (315) 404-9022. We will have crews starting at each of the locations.
 - Board members and general members are all welcome!

- Volunteers be sure to bring gloves and a utility knife to cut open the bags. Pickup trucks with or without trailers are appreciated.

This is the only scheduled day – do not leave bags at these location after the 13th. If you stop by on the 13th at one of the locations and all the bags have been removed, please do not leave your bags.

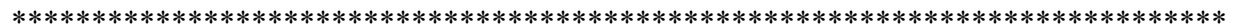


Help Us Keep Our Lake Clean & Safe - As boating slows down and cooler weather approaches, what you do this fall can make a difference for better water quality for many years to come.

- Please do not deposit your grass clippings, leaves, or yard debris into a nearby storm drain, road ditch, stream or our lake. Their decomposition provides extra phosphorous and nitrogen which expand weed and algae growth in our waterbodies. We do not want more nutrients to increase the frequency and volume of the Harmful Algal Blooms.
- Septic system – when was the last time you had your tank pumped? Tanks full of sludge can prevent the system from operating properly and can allow excess nutrients to reach nearby ditches, streams and eventually our lake. Health departments recommend pumping out your septic system every 3 – 5 years. Contact Craig Lawson at 607-226-4214 - for details on the rebates that are available.
- Be sure not to over fertilize your lawns. New York State prohibits fertilizing from Dec. 1st to April 1st and no closer than 10 feet from a water body. We need to prevent nutrients escaping into our lake.



Lake Moraine CSLAP – From the Desk of Eileen Fehlner - A big “Thank you” goes out to our dedicated Lake Moraine CSLAP volunteers for successfully completing the 2021 water sample collection and lab preparation. This year Lake Moraine had 2 confirmed cases of Harmful Algae Blooms (HAB) and a third potential bloom in late October. Since the frequency of HABs has been increasing across New York State and beyond, Lake Moraine will most likely see an increase in occurrences in the future. Heavy rains cause nutrients from agricultural enterprises and residential use of fertilizers to leach into the lake which promote the HABs to grow. One simple thing we could all accomplish this time of year is to keep the falling leaves out of the lake because they also add nutrients that encourage HABs. You can learn more about HABs in New York State at this DEC website: dec.ny.gov/chemicals/77118. Here you will find basic safety information along with links that include a photo gallery of both HABs and harmless algae, an archive of confirmed reported NYS HABs from 2012 through 2020, some water body specific action plans, and some NYS HABs mitigation studies.



A Friendly Reminder - below is the information that was sent out previously regarding the DEC Permitting Process in order to do work on your shoreline. **If you plan on doing any shoreline work, you must get a permit.** This process can take over a year to receive approval and no work should be done until an approval is received.

DEC Permitting Process

We have been advised, and we have Board members that have personal experience, that DEC permit applications are taking over 12 months to be approved, or not approved.

In order 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!!! We believe 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://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>)

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 drawings, make the required measurements and help complete the application paperwork.

The process is VERY complicated, time consuming, and frustrating; nothing will move quickly. Start early, and use the (free) services of the Madison County Soil and Water. 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 a lot of other permits that could be required.

Please visit our web site at: lakemoraineny.org

and our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/LakeMoraine/>