

Glen Lake Association Alligator & Inspiration

Glen Lake: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

A Message from Our President Andy DuPont

The area around our beautiful lakes and streams is seeing the usual flurry of activity as the weather invites us back out to the water, hiking trails and views that we so much enjoy. It has been a very gradual invitation however, as spring is slow coming this year and could cause us to wonder what the summer will be like. I have no doubt that it will be fabulous!

In mid-April I had the honor of representing the Glen Lake Association at an award event in Washington, D.C. hosted by the National Fish Habitat Action Plan. Our Association was one of only four organizations being recognized, and the only lake association. GLA received this national award for the work that our dedicated volunteers and staff do to reach out and educate our community and visitors on water quality and conservation. It was truly a privilege to represent our workers and members as we received confirmation that people really do care about the impact we are making.

Speaking of water quality, we have communicated in the past about the detrimental impacts of lawn fertilizers containing phosphorous (#2 on the package). As this is the time of year that many of you may be purchasing fertilizer or having it

applied, please insure that it is phosphorus free. The state law banning phosphorus goes into effect January 1, 2012, but for those in Glen Arbor Township, an ordinance is currently in place and you should ensure that your applicators are in compliance.



Upcoming events include the 4th of July parade in which the Association will participate for the first time. Please be on the lookout for us in the parade, as well as along the parade route with informational stands. The annual meeting will be at the Leelanau School on August 13th at 9:30 am. Please mark your calendars, and I look forward to seeing you there.

As you read through this newsletter I hope it gets you excited for the upcoming summer. Don't forget to visit our website frequently as it will keep you up to date on our activities and plans. (glenlakeassociation.org)

Have a great summer,

Andy DuPont



The Glen Lake Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection, preservation and continued improvement of the beautiful Glen Lake area.

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Karner's Korner

Good News!

The Glen Lake Association submitted an application to fund several water quality monitoring initiatives and I am happy to report to you that our grant request was approved! Our grant will come from the "Clean Michigan Initiative-Clean Water Fund" for a total of \$14,344. These funds will come from the Water Resources Division of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Special thanks goes to Mike and Sarah Litch and Andy Dupont for their assistance and expertise in writing the grant. It is important to note that this funding was made possible because previously, the Glen Lake submitted a comprehensive "Crystal River/Glen Lake Watershed Management Plan" that was recently approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment. Our approved watershed management plan was a major project in and of itself and involved many organizations and professionals and took nearly two years to complete.

The Glen Lake Association now has the necessary funds to cover the costs of monitoring our water with much of the work being carried out by myself. There are four principle areas of the grant. First, there will be water chemistry testing using the Hydrolab. Hydrolab tests include dissolved oxygen, ph, conductivity, temperature, and percent oxygen saturation. The grant will allow us to continue this important work that began in 2004. The hydrolab test results will be evaluated and compared to the historical data.

Second, the grant will allow us to continue our plankton studies that include Big Glen, Little Glen, Big Fisher, and Little Fisher lakes. Collection of plankton is done by towing a plankton net in each lake, analyze the samples for species composition, and evaluate each species for relative abundance. The samples will be collected each month from April to November and the results will be compared to the historical data that began in 2004. Third, the grant will allow us to collect approximately 25 water samples along the shorelines of Big and Little Glen where there are natural springs that flow into the lake and at the mouth of Hatlem Creek. We will analyze these samples for nutrients that stimulate algal and aquatic weed growth. Sample locations have been carefully selected in

an effort to compare our results to historical data collected in 1996 by Dr. Timothy Keilty in conjunction with Leelanau Conservancy in Leland, Michigan.

Finally, the grant will allow us to continue our 25 year plus study of Cladophora along the shorelines of Big and Little Glen. Each year in August, two interns walk the shoreline and stop to record Cladophora locations and amounts. The presence of Cladophora (a filamentous green attached algae) indicates nutrient loading from a point source. Once the locations and amounts are recorded and mapped, efforts will be made to find the largest areas of Cladophora and to determine the reason for its growth.

As you can see, I am keeping very busy keeping a watchful eye on our water quality. This important work will be funded for the next two years. Stay tuned at the annual meeting in August for an update on our results. If you have any questions about the grant or the work that will be completed or the preliminary results, please feel free to contact me.

Beyond the grant and water quality monitoring, I will also be working with riparians to maintain and/or expand their greenbelts along the shoreline or consider replacements or modifications of aging or failing septic systems. Also, swimmers itch and special projects will also command my time as I work in the watershed.

Thanks for each one of you who do your part in preserving the pristine water quality of our watershed. No one person can do it all. It requires a team effort of all of us.

See you on the Lake!

Robert F. Karner, M.S.
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Glen Lake Association News

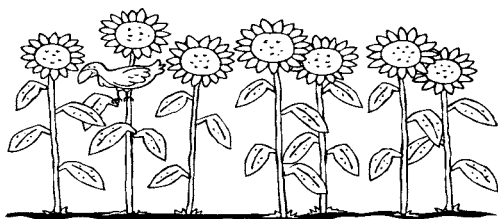
Boatwash Operation At Little Glen DNR Boatlaunch “ Upgraded”



The boatwash at the Little Glen DNR boat launch now has a new heated powerwash system. The purchase of the Hotsy (pictured above) was made possible by a 2% Grant from the Band of Chippewa-Ottawa Indians.

In a study by the American Fisheries Society 944 boaters were surveyed, 459 interviews conducted, and 85 boats inspected when entering and leaving two lakes in upper Michigan and northern Wisconsin. In this study it was found that 2/3 of boaters DO NOT inspect and clean their boat before entering another body of water.

It was found that 19% of the boats entering the lake carried one or more plant fragments and 63% of those leaving the lake had plant fragments attached. The average number of organisms transported on the boats and trailers washed was 37.2.



From the Finance Committee Four Months Ending April 30

	2011	2010
REVENUE :		
MEMBERSHIPS	\$52,564	\$55,511
OTHER	<u>7,144</u>	<u>2,391</u>
TOTAL	59,708	57,902
EXPENSES :		
WATER QUALITY	8,849	8,875
WATER LEVEL	6,173	2,778
MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS	1,389	994
SUPPORT SERVICES	<u>3,981</u>	<u>3,530</u>
TOTAL	20,392	16,177
EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENSES		
	<u>\$39,316</u>	<u>\$41,725</u>

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GLA Institutes Improved Financial Security Practices

The GLA Treasurer is authorized to make electronic funds transfers (EFT) to pay federal payroll taxes for our employees. The return statements documenting the payments are now being mailed to a P.O. Box to which the treasurer does not have access. This ensures that a second person reviews the information. Additionally, the federal payroll tax forms are being mailed by a Director other than the Treasurer.

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From the Membership Committee

If you are uncertain as to your membership status, check your mailing label. It will show the the latest year you contributed.

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Possible Prevention?

There is a product available called Swimmers' Itch Guard. GLA is not endorsing it, but it has been tested and shown to be effective against swimmers' itch. Check the local pharmacies for availability, or swimmersitchguard.com



Glen Lake Association News

Leelanau County Invasive Species Boat Wash Workshop Held this Spring

The fight to protect our lakes continues! Those invasives continue to threaten! We will defend our waters and take early action, if possible, should an invader penetrate our defenses. This is what we did to control the Curley Leaf Pondweed invasive when it was discovered during our aquatic plant survey early on. Our mantra is early detection, rapid response. This certainly is the most effective and cost effective strategy.

As part of the Ottawa/Chippewa Tribe 2% grant award received by Leelanau County through their Clean Water group a Boatwash Workshop was held in late April at the Leelanau County Government Center. Covered were methods and information of how to initiate effective aquatic invasive species operations for inland lakes. Sarah Litch, a past president of the Glen Lake Association and now Chair of Leelanau Clean Water was the organizer of the work shop.

Sarah discussed procedures for effective watercraft washing to remove invasive species. In her presentation Sarah discussed the advantage of using a heated water sprayer to help prevent viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) and other invasive species from entering an inland lake.

Chris Otto who represented the National Lakeshore presented their boatwash policies which included the advantages of, and their endorsement of a heated water spray operation.

Rick and Ann Meeks from Higgins Lake presented information on their unmanned, self-serve boat wash operation.

Information about the Glen Lake Association boatwash operation was also presented by our lead operator, Sallyanne Morris. Mike Litch gave a brief overview of the importance of the operation and an explanation of why our Association makes this operation a priority.

Matt Wurtzel, a representative from Central Cleaning Systems, ended up the workshop by showing the Hotsy® heated water power washer and discussing its operation and cleaning advantages. More details about the Hotsy® are discussed in a separate article in this newsletter issue.

Eight northwest lower Michigan lakes were represented at the workshop. The Glen Lake Association continues to strive to use best practices to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and spread the word to other local lake associations.

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Dumping of Yard Wastes

A ranger from Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore has reported that tarps full of yard waste are being dumped on the park's property along Day Forest Road. Dumping yard waste is one of the biggest ways to spread invasive plants. Yard maintenance services employed by homeowners need to be informed that this is not an acceptable practice. The more dumping that is done in the park the more tax dollars are used to remove invasive plants by hand and by herbicides.

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Glen Lake Association will be joining the Glen Arbor Fourth of July Parade this year. We need families to help build the float. Look for more details on our website and in this Newsletter

Glen Lake Association News, continued

From the Water Level Committee

The Glen Lake water level control during the first quarter was good in that we did not have a significant precipitation event. We tracked the targeted lake level well. The second quarter to date has been different. The heavy rains that inundated the Midwest also affected the Glen Lake area. Even though we were on target, very significant precipitation events took us well above the maximum level on two occasions. The WLC responded quickly on both occasions, increasing the Crystal River flow to the maximum rate until the lake level responded. The maximum rate was limited at times by downstream flooding considerations.

The Auto-Gauge at the Narrows Bridge continues to work well, although there was an outage that lasted several days. This problem has been attributed to a telemetry issue - not the water level instrument. The Auto-Gauge is far more sensitive than we initially appreciated, as it picks up a twice per hour seiche* that appears unrelated to wind variations caused by the wind. The lake level reported on the web page is dampened (averaged over two hours) to provide a representative lake level reading. The WLC has developed a set of very useful on line graphics that we used to better assess what the lake level is doing and the effectiveness of our corrective measures.

A meeting has been scheduled with the National Park Service regarding the installation of a water level measuring device (similar to the Auto-Gauge) in the Crystal River. If this project goes to fruition, we will be able to continuously monitor the flow rate on the Crystal River. This work will be coordinated with Technical Committee.

Finally, the Technical Committee is required to report annually to the 13th District Court on the Glen Lake and Crystal River control activities. The 2010 Technical Committee report, a cover letter by the WLC and Judge Phillip Rodger's response to the report are included on the current Glen Lake Association web page.

**seiche: a temporary disturbance or oscillation in the water level of a lake or partially enclosed body of water, especially one caused by changes in atmospheric pressure*



Community Service Day for 8th Graders from Traverse City West Middle School

On May 19, 53 students were divided into three groups of 18, 18, and 17. They rotated to three activities: Trailwork on Windy Moraine Trail, A Macroinvertebrate Study in Hatlem Creek, and an Invasive Aquatic Plant Survey in Glen Lake. They stayed at each activity for approximately an hour and then rotated to the next activity by bus. There were three sites for the Aquatic Plant Survey, so the students were divided into smaller groups; each group on volunteers' pontoons.

These were real service projects they participated in. Volunteers from the area will carry out these projects throughout the year. They were getting the projects "started for the season."



One of three boats out on Glen Lake



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Summer 2011

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