

# LONG LAKE NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE LONG LAKE ASSOCIATION > SPRING EDITION



Picnic Island Erosion – Spring 2013



Picnic Island Erosion Control Project Under Construction – Summer 2013



Picnic Island Erosion Control Project Completed– Summer 2013

## President's Message – SPRING 2014

Henry David Thoreau said that *“a lake is the landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature. It is earth's eye; looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature.”* Long, Mickey, and Ruth Lakes are among some of the most beautiful in all of Northern Michigan. These special places deserve our protection and attention. According to our constitution, the objectives of the Long Lake Association are, in part, as follows:

- To preserve Long, Mickey and Ruth Lakes as a natural resource and recreational area through protection and prudent use of its environs.
- To be a guard for the health, welfare and safety of the resident community.
- To be alert to the best interests of the membership in fiscal, economic and civic matter such as taxation, zoning, developments affecting property rights and values, pending legislation, law enforcement, etc.

Becoming a member of the Long Lake Association means you recognize how important it is to preserve our lakes for both current and future generations. The Long Lake Association works to protect our lakes by monitoring water quality and using treatment when necessary, with the goal of controlling the growth of invasive species. We also provide funding for additional marine patrol on Long Lake; making it the most patrolled lake in Grand Traverse County. Last season, along with Long Lake Township and the Long Lake Foundation, we financially contributed to a project to help address the significant erosion problem on Picnic Island.

This year, I would like to ask all of our members to focus on the Timbers Recreation Area. Many of you are aware that The Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy continues work to raise the necessary funds to preserve this amazing parcel that was previously the Timbers Girl Scout Camp. You'll find more information inside this newsletter about how you can support this important project.

Continuing to expand our membership will allow us to have greater financial resources, a stronger collective voice and more impact on the issues you care about most. I encourage you to continue to support Long Lake Association and to reach out to your neighbors to ask them to become active members as well so we can continue to be one of oldest and most effective riparian groups in the state. Please return the enclosed dues envelope or visit our website at [www.longlakeassociation.com](http://www.longlakeassociation.com) to download a membership form so you may renew your membership or become a new member.

*Gerry Chefalo*  
President – Long Lake Association



**Water Quality** - Great Lakes Environmental Center will again conduct water quality testing this year as part of our ongoing water quality monitoring program. Samples will be taken from three locations in Long Lake and two locations in Mickey and Ruth Lakes. Testing will be done twice; once in the summer and again in the fall. While our water quality has been excellent over the years, it's important to remind ourselves of the need to minimize the amount of nutrients that flow into our lakes, especially phosphorous. Please limit the use of lawn fertilizers, use non-phosphorous products, and properly maintain your septic system. In addition, maintaining a natural waterfront buffer zone helps filter surface water run-off. By following these guidelines, together we can ensure our beautiful lakes remain healthy for generations to come.

**Eurasian Water Milfoil** – The preliminary plan for 2014 includes herbicide treatment at 17 sites (including Long, Mickey and Ruth Lakes), totaling slightly more than 7 acres. The largest portion of that is located at two sites: the north shore of Fox Island and offshore on the southeast corner of Oleson Island. These two sites comprise over 4 acres. The proposed treatment map is posted on our Long Lake Association website in the Lake Management section for your convenience. Our goal remains to be environmentally responsible while monitoring and controlling invasive species in our lakes. For more information on our lake management program or to provide feedback, please contact Pug Rundio at 231-313-8665.

## Water Safety Reminders

To improve water safety, the Long Lake Association invests in additional marine patrol on weekends on Long Lake between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Even with this extra safety measure, it's good to remind everyone of some important water safety guidelines.

### Personal Water Crafts ( PWCs):

- A PWC may only be operated during the period that begins at 8:00 AM and ends at sunset.
- PWC riders must be at least 14 years old. Those 14 and 15 years of age must also comply with at least one of the following stipulations:
  - Riding with a parent or guardian, or a person 21 or older designated by the parent or guardian.
  - The person is operating or riding a personal water craft at a distance of not more than 100 feet from his or her parent or guardian, or that designated person is 21 or older.
- Not cross within 150 feet behind another vessel other than another PWC when traveling faster than no wake speed

The law states that anyone can operate a boat with an engine of no more than 6 horsepower. However, a person under age 12 may operate a boat with a person onboard at least 16 years of age if the engine does not exceed 35 horsepower. From ages 12 to 15, a person can exceed the lower speed limit with a boating safety certificate on board or a person 16 or older. At 16, a person can operate a boat of any legal speed without supervision. On any busy lake, it is a good idea to maintain a safe boating speed given the conditions. On Long Lake you can never exceed 55 mph and must not operate within 100' of shore, a moored or anchored vessel, a dock, raft or any marked swimming area when traveling greater than "slow or no wake speed".

For more information on Michigan boating safety and the most current regulations, visit [www.boat-ed.com](http://www.boat-ed.com).

**If you see a PWC or boat being operated in a way that causes you concern or you think is violating the law, document the MC number, nature of the incident, description of the driver and contact Central Dispatch at 231.922.4550. You can also leave a voice message with Marine Patrol at 231.995.5006. Please do not call 911 unless there is an emergency.**

## Annual Discussion Meeting and Welcome Back to Paradise

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Learn more about our lakes and the activities of the Long Lake Association at our Annual Discussion Meeting on June 9th. Board members will provide updates and be available for questions. Following the meeting, please join us for our popular *Welcome Back to Paradise* social event. Enjoy appetizers and a cold beverage while reconnecting with friends. We look forward to seeing you and kicking off another great season!

**June 9<sup>th</sup> at Boone's Long Lake Inn – 7208 Secor Rd**

**Discussion Meeting: 5:00 – 6:00 PM**

**Welcome Back to Paradise: 6:15 – 7:30 PM**

**RSVP to Jo Marie Marks by June 2nd**

**[kjomm@charter.net](mailto:kjomm@charter.net)**

**231-943-3918**

## Timbers Recreation Area Project Update

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Timbers Recreation Area

The Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy has been working with Long Lake Township to permanently protect the former Timbers Girl Scout Camp – the largest remaining undeveloped property on Long Lake. This amazing 250-acre property boasts nearly 9,000 feet of water frontage, including 2,000 feet on Long Lake and additional frontage on Page Lake and Fern Lake – an entire 20-acre lake within its boundary.

The Timbers Recreation Area project came together in 2012 when the Conservancy finalized a purchase agreement to buy the property for \$2.7 million and then worked with Long Lake Township to secure a \$2.1 million grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.

**To secure this \$2.1 million grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, nearly \$900,000 in public matching donations are required.** Thanks to the generous support of many of our friends and neighbors, the Conservancy has raised nearly half of the \$890,000 required to meet that goal. However... significant funds are still needed by June 30, 2014 to secure the grant that will make it possible to acquire and protect this precious property.

**Please Donate Today!** The clock is ticking! To make the Timbers Recreation Area a reality, the Conservancy needs your help. The June deadline for matching donations is rapidly approaching. If you have not yet had an opportunity to support this once in a lifetime preservation project, please visit [www.gtrlc.com](http://www.gtrlc.com) to make a donation. If you're interested in making a gift of \$1,000 or more, please call Glen Chown at 231-929-7911.

**Thank you for your support in helping to protect and preserve Long, Mickey, and Ruth Lakes!**



Long Lake Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 257  
Interlochen, MI 49643

**Time-Sensitive Material Enclosed:**

- **Membership Dues Statement**

**Monday June 9<sup>th</sup>:**

- **2013 Annual Discussion Meeting**  
**Welcome Back to Paradise Social Event**
  - Boone's Long Lake Inn
  - Starts at 5:00 PM
  - **RSVP by June 2nd**

**Board of Directors (2013-2014)**

<b>President:</b>	Gerald Chefalo	231-929-7744 or 231-499-8522
<b>Vice President:</b>	Kendra Balderach	231-995-9213
<b>Past President:</b>	Jo Marie Marks	231-943-3918
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Makayla Vitous	231-943-9261
<b>Secretary:</b>	Allen Horstman	231-946-9314

Tanya Berg	231-943-8395	Dan Marks	231-929-3237
John Cartwright	231-947-6229	Pug Rundio	231-313-8665
Rick Kiehle	231-943-3933	Dean Templeton	231-357-3326
Walter Kraimer	231-947-4688	Jim Wheaton	231-943-9129
		Pete Zirnhelt	231-590-1800

**Lake Safety Contacts:**

Marine Patrol:	231-922-2112	(Note this is a new phone number. Not available 24/7.)
Central Dispatch:	231-922-4550	(Non-emergency calls.)

For more information, please visit:

[www.longlakeassociation.com](http://www.longlakeassociation.com)