



President's Message – SPRING 2015

Few things in life rival the sunrise on Long Lake. It brings promises of adventure, special times with friends and family. The sound of the water lapping on the shore; a child catching their first fish; and the call of the loons let you know that you are home. I find peace and sanity on the lake. It is a true sanctuary.

Year after year I have witnessed our fellow riparians come together to work on preserving the lake for future generations. I have observed the partnership between the Long Lake Foundation and our Association. Both organizations were created to preserve and protect the treasures of Long, Mickey and Ruth Lakes. I am proud of how our lake community came together and contributed to the successful preservation of the Timbers Recreation Area and helped to combat erosion on Picnic Island. We have forged a strong a production bond with the Long Lake Foundation and we stay in constant contact with our Long Lake Township officials.

Our Membership is growing. And, that has allowed us to have more of a voice on important issues that impact the lake and surrounding area. We have continued to monitor the quality of water through systematic testing. Through the years we have charted, recorded and treated invasive species on the Lake so that we can say with confidence that Long Lake is a healthy lake.

Our records help us to realize that high and low water levels are part of the ecosystem of our lake and surrounding water shed basin. We are keeping a watchful eye on the amount of water leaving the lake in a given year and work to keep the creeks and channels free of debris and invasive species.

As we move forward, I ask each and every one of you to reach out to your neighbors and invite them to become active in our organization by becoming members and visiting our website at: www.longlakeassociation.com. I see only great things to come in our future.

Gerry Chefalo

Long Lake Association President

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President – Long Lake Association



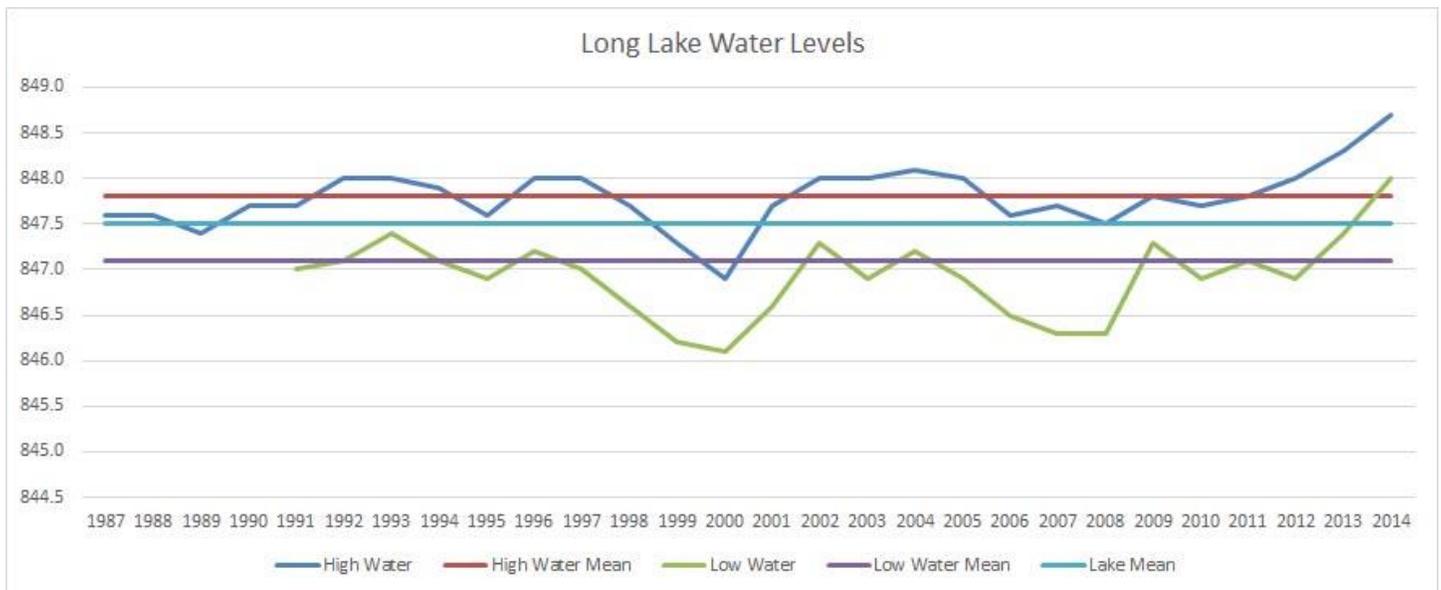


Eurasian Water Milfoil – Long Lake Township and the Long Lake Association and its Lake Management Committee (LMC) have had a long and successful history of working together to control Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in Long and Mickey Lakes. Ruth Lake was added to our control program a few years ago.

The 2015 EWM program to treat 18 sites this June has been approved by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. The 18 EWM sites located in Long, Mickey, and Ruth Lakes total approximately 3 acres. To give readers an understanding of how small this 3 acres represent, our three lakes total more than 3,000 acres.

EWM grows best in water depths of six to 20 feet where sunlight helps weed growth. In many of the 18 sites, these milfoil sites prevent or severely hinder family recreational use of their shoreline. Residents adjacent to the 18 EWM sites will be again contacted to seek their approval for our professional chemical applicator to apply the chemicals to the identified treatment sites. Signs will also be posted at the sites too.

Water Quality – In 2014, Long Lake monitoring was performed by Great Lakes Environmental Center of Traverse City. This monitoring is undertaken every 3 to 6 years. The report concluded that these long-term water assessments, starting back in 1997, allows any important emerging trends in water quality to become evident, and provides the opportunity for appropriate action to be taken to address any concerns. Phosphorus concentrations are considered low and indicative of excellent water quality. Sampling data indicates that Long Lake would continue to be considered oligotrophic, high quality lake based on total phosphorus in the water. Oligotrophic is defined by Webster’s Dictionary as “having a deficiency of plant nutrients that is usually accompanied by an abundance of dissolved oxygen”. “Water quality conditions in Long Lake have potential to be vulnerable to deterioration. It is recommended that Long Lake continue to have a comprehensive outreach and education component regarding nutrient use near the lakeshore, as well as continuing efforts for surface water runoff control. These will all help limit the introduction of additional phosphorus (such as using fertilizer containing phosphorus on lakeside lawns) to the lake ecosystem and help preserve the oligotrophic status.”



Lake Water Levels – Our three lakes are experiencing higher water levels in recent years. There is an outlet (locally referred to as Sucker Creek) at the South end of Long Lake which flows to Lake Dubonnet and then Westerly to Lake Michigan. In the fall of 2014 and the spring of 2015, LLA volunteers helped to remove several beaver dams, weed growth, and debris found in culverts running under West Long Lake Road and Fisher Road. These efforts will go a long way to keeping our lake levels from going even higher. Evaporation rates are a significant factor in effecting our lake levels too. The LMC will remain alert to this problem.

Water Safety Reminders

There is a new law in effect. The legal limit for boating while intoxicated has been reduced from .10 to .08 rendering it the same as drunk driving in a motor vehicle. However, it is still legal to have an open container of alcohol while boating as long as you're not over the legal limit while operating.

Officers now need probable cause stop a boater and question them. In the past, officers did not need a reason to approach a boat and question the operator. In speaking with the sheriff, probable cause could be any technical or equipment violation, speeding or reckless operation. The most common violation that could lead to a stop by marine patrol is having an expired registration or improperly placed MC numbers.

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".

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



Learn more about our lakes and the activities of the Long Lake Association at our Annual Discussion Meeting on June 8th. 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!

RSVP to Jo Marie Marks by June 1st
 kjomm@charter.net
 231-943-3918

June 8th 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

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 8th:

- **2015 Annual Discussion Meeting**
Welcome Back to Paradise Social Event
 - Boone's Long Lake Inn
 - Starts at 5:00 PM
 - **RSVP by June 1st**

Board of Directors (2015-2016)

President:	Gerald Chefalo	231-929-7744 or 231-499-8522
Vice President:	Rick Kiehle	231-392-9656
Past President:	Jo Marie Marks	231-943-3918
Treasurer:	Makayla Vitous	231-943-9261
Secretary:	Allen Horstman	231-946-9314

Kendra Balderach	231-995-9213	Ron Lemcool	
Sean Brunetti		Dan Marks	231-929-3237
John Cartwright	231-943-6229	Dean Templeton	231-357-3326
Walter Kraimer	231-946-7293	Jim Wheaton	
		Pete Zirnhelt	231-590-1800

Lake Safety Contacts:

Marine Patrol: 231-995-5006 (Not available 24/7)
Central Dispatch: 231-922-4550

For more information, please visit:

www.longlakeassociation.com