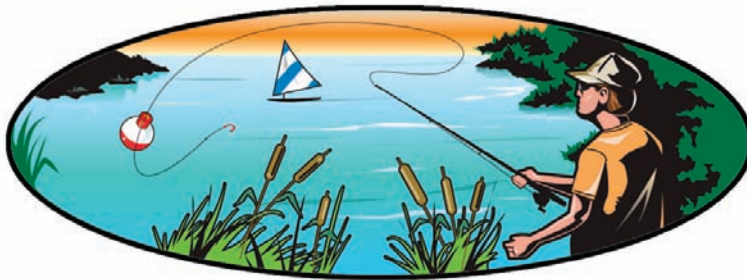


# Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association

[www.hardwoodlake.org](http://www.hardwoodlake.org)



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## Summer 2015

The newsletter is  
in **color** on the website.



Progressive Engineer Paul Hausler takes samples on the lake May 20 to determine the level of Milfoill weed control chemical, Fluridone. He also inspected weeds and sampled for nutrients contributing to increased algae growth.

## Lake Association Annual Meeting

9:00 A.M. Saturday, June 27 at Logan Township Hall

Weed control continues to be an issue on Hardwood Lake. Since mid-2013 there has been an increase in filamentous algae. There are at least four algae treat- *continued on page 2*

[www.hardwoodlake.org](http://www.hardwoodlake.org)

For updated information click on *late breaking news* link on the **HOME** page

## Continued from page 1

ments scheduled for 2015.

In early May 2015 there were large globs of the algae floating around the lake and along the shore. Some longtime residents say they have never seen the algae so abundant, especially so early in the year. Lake engineer, Paul Hausler of Progressive Engineering, was notified.

Eurasian Milfoil was the original weed targeted when the project started in 1996. Algae has always been a secondary issue. Algae has now become a larger issue.

The entire lake was treated May 4 for invasive Eurasian Milfoil, using the chemical Fluridone (the trade name is Sonar or Avast).

The first of four scheduled algae treatments was made May 18 using Chelated Copper. During the October Lake Board meeting it was requested algae treatments be made before Memorial Day, before July 4, August 1 and before Labor Day.

Yellow flyers were posted around the lake. At present there are two different chemical treatments, aimed at two different weed issues.

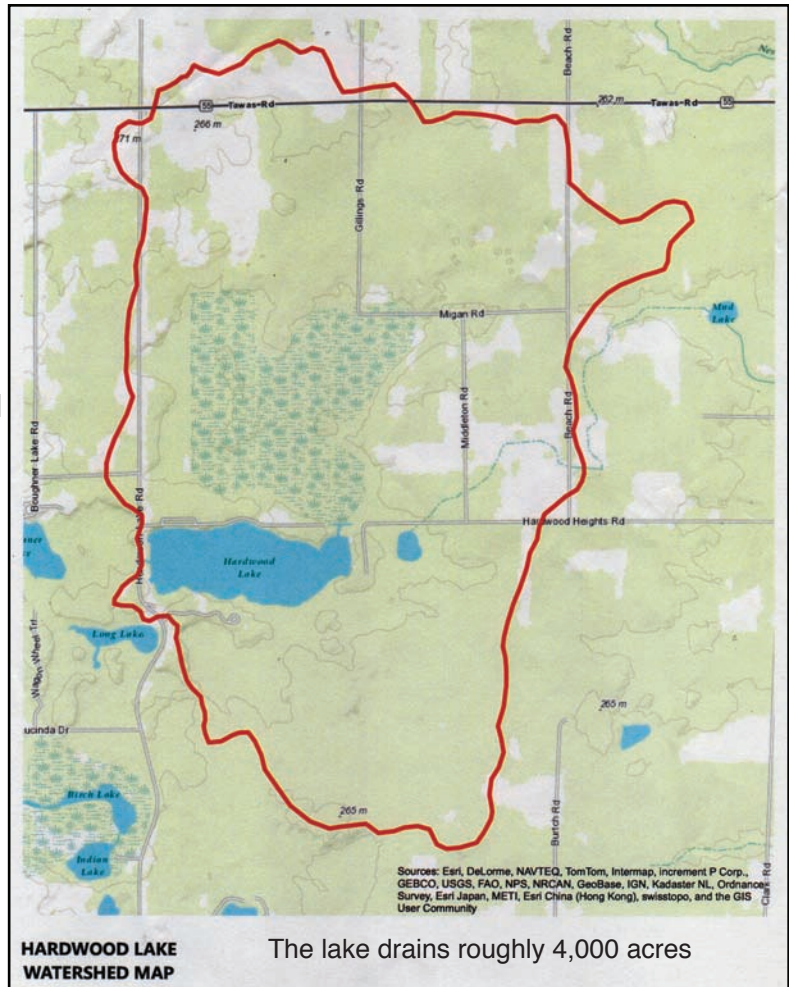
Paul Hausler, from Progressive, conducted the annual early Spring inspection of the lake by boat on May 20. This is done to determine the course of action for the year and which areas to treat. He also sampled the water to determine the Parts Per Billion (PPB) of Fluridone in the lake. The ideal level is 6 PPB. After analysis Fluridone levels were bumped up on May 29. Over the course of the summer the low level

of Fluridone will kill off the Milfoil. Paul also sampled the inflow to the lake to determine what, if any, nutrients may be entering the lake and promoting algae growth.

There was a noticeable reduction of algae on the lake proper the day of the inspection (May 20) after the May 18th treatment.

During the lake inspection Paul made these observations:

Continued on page 3



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**Dave & Anita Kepley**  
Owners



## Continued from page 2

- He is starting to see more milfoil growth in the lake this year.
- Filamentous algae grows from the bottom and clings to plants, etc. It eventually breaks off and floats. This is the large, ugly globs of floating material.
- Under new state guidelines / laws only 100' of any given property can be treated. If a property owner has 150' of frontage, only 100' can be treated. The Richland Township campground is considered one property so only 100' can be treated at a time.

During the Fluridone bump-up on May 29, the applicator made additional algae treatments. The applicator is still limited to 100' per property but can treat areas missed in the first treatment. That is, treat the other 50' of the 150' property.

- The swampy inlet located on the northeastern part of the lake looks like an algae "nursery". The swampy area has basically two or more property owners, one being McGregor's, which is developed, the other side is not, so it cannot be treated.

Paul is concerned about what is causing the increased algae. He believes something external has changed in the watershed in the past few years. He is also seeing more algae around the state this year. Paul said the treatment methodology hasn't changed which makes him believe there are other factors

involved.

Last fall Paul identified four cattle operations in the 4,000 acre lake drainage basin, north-east of the lake. There is no natural stream into the lake. The lake water is runoff from the drainage basin. After he completed the lake survey he drove northeast of the lake to is checking for nutrients in runoff to the lake.

Paul said, "The bad news - dairy operations



*A large mass of floating filamentous algae at the inlet area. Paul said "The swampy inlet looks like an algae nursery. Something external has changed in the past few years in the watershed."*

appear to be contributing significantly to the water quality of the tributary stream. The good news - most of what is being contributed appears to be assimilated prior to dumping into the lake."

More study is needed to delve deeper into the issue.

One environmental change in the last few years is the loss of Ash trees caused by the Emerald Ash Borer.

Most of the Ash in the Campground have been removed. More sunlight and less filtra-

**Continued on page 4**

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### Continued from page 3

tion by the trees may be contributing to the algae issue as well.

The primary chemical used to treat algae is a copper product. Peroxide is another chemical that can be used to treat algae. Paul said it is about three times as expensive as the current copper treatment and feels it is not as effective. It is used primarily when the property owner doesn't want to use copper for environmental reasons.

Property owners can help by removing the algae from their waterfront. Anything removed helps. Lake front owners need to take care of their portion of the lake just as they take care of their lawn.

String trimming along the shore and allowing the grass to go into the lake increases the nutrient load as well as some lawn fertilizers.

The swampy west end of the lake, by the drain tubes, can't be treated because it is not developed.

Some property owners may want to do their own lake treatment. This is technically illegal. Aquatic Services, the company that treats the lake, holds the State permit to treat the lake. Individuals doing their own treatment would need permission from Aquatic Services.

There is a lot of largeleaf pondweed, which is a native weed. There have been complaints at the west end of the lake about this. It has been harvested in past years. There is also a considerable amount of pondweed in the bay to the west of the inlet swampy area.

Paul said there are limited other treatment options for algae. One lake in southwest Michigan had a water filtration plant built. It basically removed water from the lake, treated, and returned to the lake. The cost was about \$1.1 million with annual operating costs of about \$100,000.

## Lake Ogemaw Marina

After 11 seasons Dave and Anita Kepley have decided it's time to put the Lake Ogemaw Marina on the market so they can enjoy more time on the lake with friends and family. "For us it's an opportunity to spend more time with our grandkids, and for the new owner it's an opportunity to benefit from the pent-up demand as our economy emerges from the recent recession" the Kepley's said.

The marina, 3009 Rifle River Trail, West Branch, MI has been providing boats, boating products and services for over 40 years to the residents on Lake Ogemaw and to many customers that live on more than 30 lakes within a 30 minute drive.

Owners Dave & Anita purchased the ma-

rina in the spring of 2004. Like so many of their neighbors, they had been part-time residents on Lake Ogemaw since the late

1990's commuting from Rochester Hills where they lived and raised their family. Dave retired after 25 years from health care management in the Detroit area and now works full time at managing the marina. Anita is retired after 30 years as a Sec-

See Marina page 5

#### IN-SEASON Hours:

Open Daily	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
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### Marina continued

ondary English teacher and is often seen helping out at the marina during peak summer weekends. She continued her career in education for 10 years with an active consulting practice, specializing in literacy. She retired again in the Spring of 2014

The marina features many Michigan Made products and companies such as Avalon, Great Lakes Lifts & Docks and Aqua Cycle - all based in Michigan.



The high speed boating sign at the boat launch was destroyed, left, over the winter. The DNR will replace it. Above is another bullet riddled sign on the lake.

From [www.lakeogemaw.com](http://www.lakeogemaw.com)

- **Its the law** •  
**High speed  
boating hours  
11 am - 7:30 pm**

Local laws adopted by the State of Michigan allow high speed boating on Hardwood Lake between the hours of 11:00 am and 7:30 pm Eastern Daylight Savings Time.

High speed boating is defined as the boat being on plane.

DNR SPECIAL LOCAL  
WATERCRAFT CONTROLS  
DNR Administrative Rule R281.765.14  
*Adopted November 1, 1977*

Looking for something  
to do?

Check out local area websites  
for current activities.

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

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

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

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

The sites are linked on

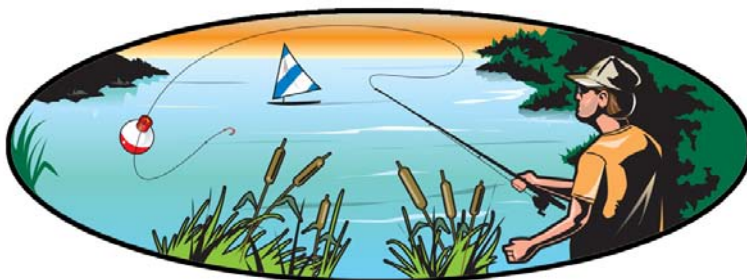
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association  
Edith M. Sommers  
3664 N. River Road  
Freeland, MI 48623

# Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association

[www.hardwoodlake.org](http://www.hardwoodlake.org)



## Dues Notice

The 2015-2016 Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association dues of \$15 are due. Fiscal year for the lake association is July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Some advantages of belonging to the association include newsletters, meeting refreshments and other events. Visit the web site at [www.hardwoodlake.org](http://www.hardwoodlake.org). In the past, the lake association was instrumental in starting the lake weed control project and road dust control.

The newsletter is posted online in color. Future newsletters may be emailed. Please include your email below.

Please send payment to:

Margo Dees, Secretary / Treasurer  
Hardwood Lake Property Owners Association  
7174 Glenburnie Lane  
Clarkston, MI 48346

If you have questions call Margo at 248-625-5557 or email [claymar1976@yahoo.com](mailto:claymar1976@yahoo.com)  
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