

Lake Latonka Property Owner's Association Board Update February 2019

As part of our efforts to improve communications we plan to provide a brief monthly summary of Board activities to our 650 Members.

Healthy Lake Update: Keeping the lake healthy is critical to our community and it is an ongoing challenge because so many factors are involved, and many of these factors are beyond our direct control. We appreciate and take seriously the Member feedback in this area, and Boards past and present have spent significant time studying and taking action on this complicated and ever changing matter. Now that the Lake Dredging project is complete, removing up to 3 feet of sediment and silt in some areas, the Lake is "settling down". We are in the process of selecting an expert consultant to do further scientific analysis of the Lake, in order to help us develop a long-term plan for a healthy Lake. This will include recommendations for future work such as removal of silt and sediment and treatment of algae and weeds.

We also took advantage of the frozen ground to clean debris and silt out of silt traps in a number of feeder streams to the Lake, including clearing a large logjam that was causing significant erosion in Cool Spring Creek. These silt traps were last cleaned out in 2014 and we will continue to monitor and maintain them. These efforts will reduce the pace of additional silt entering the Lake. We will also be working with the PA DEP to attempt to add additional silt traps.

Goose Control Update: A single goose can produce up to 1 pound of feces per day. The impact of up to 500 geese at the Lake has a significant impact on the bacteria count in the Lake. Geese that are harassed and have trouble finding grass to feed on often move on to more peaceful environments.

We will be planting Riparian barriers on lake owned shoreline, which is proven to hinder the geese from entering the land where they feed and deposit their packages of joy. The LLPOA applied for another goose roundup in 2019. Although this only puts a very small dent in the population, the thought is to remove the females that can produce 5 to 7 eggs per nest. We will also continue the addling of eggs with hope that it will reduce the hatching of new resident geese. We encourage all Members to let us know when they see a nest and for Lakefront Members to add Riparian barriers to their shoreline. We are also considering other options that make the geese uncomfortable to stay here. This is all being done to address this issue of bacteria that impacts the health of the Lake.

Beach area/Playground update: As a result of a Member raising a question at a recent meeting we developed a plan that the staff will soon be executing in the beach and playground area. We will be digging out the goose dropping contaminated sand and fencing in a Playground area to make it safer and to keep the geese out. We will also be reducing the amount of sand area and adding Riparian barriers on the shoreline.

Roads/Culverts/Bridges committee: This Committee was restarted and includes several Board members and other Members. The long term focus will be analyzing this infrastructure to make recommendations to the Board for annual action plans to maintain high quality and cost effective roads, culverts, and bridges. The shorter term focus will be on addressing culverts and

drainage issues that need to be resolved before additional paving is done, with consideration of storm water management and how this water flow impacts Lake quality.

Financial Update: The Office Staff has been busy with the annual collection of dues and working with the outside auditors to finalize the 2018 financial statements. Plans are being made to prepare a more detailed review of LLPOA finances at the Annual Members Meeting on April 28. We also approved the sale of lots 442 and 443 (Itawambi Trail) (after an open and advertised process) that the LLPOA bought at tax sale returning them to lots we will be collecting dues on. We also reviewed two bids for 4th of July Weekend Fireworks and selected Zambelli for a three year agreement. Generous Member donations help cover the cost of this beautiful display.

Thanks for the role so many of you play in making and keeping Lake Latonka awesome. This is a rare community where people do so much to help. There are so many examples of this often enumerated in the Latonka News by the many clubs including the Fish Club, Garden Club, Latonka Players, Social Club, Women's Club, etc.

Please provide suggestions or feedback to us at meetings or when you see us at the Lake!

LLPOA Board of Directors: Chuck Becker, John Chamberlain, Graig Filer, Dick Harper, Jim Hart, Denis Meinert, Tom Rizzo, Justin Safran, and Michael Turton