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Boating deaths hit 5 year High

The AP reported; 35 boaters were killed in Michigan in 2007. Boating accidents dropped slightly to 193 with 105 injuries. Failing to wear life jackets and alcohol consumption are the most frequent causes of mishaps for boaters in the state. There were 54 reported collisions, 27 incidents of boaters falling overboard and 14 boats capsized. Michigan had 830,735 registered watercraft in 2007, ranking us 3rd after Florida and California.

2008 Boating Safety Classes

July 5, 2008 Indian Lake Yacht Club
 July 12, 2008 Cass County Conservation Club
 July 19, 2008 Donnell Lake Conservation Club

The boating safety certificate is only valid for students that are older than 12 years. Students should have their 12th birthday in 2008 to pre-register. Students may pre-register by calling the Cass County Sheriff's Office at (269)445-8644 and register with the Administration front desk. Please have the student's legal name, address, phone number, and date of birth at the time of registration. All classes start at 8:00am and should be done by 3:00pm. Students are required to bring a #2 pencil, a sack lunch and something to drink. Adults are recommended to take the class and anybody born after December 31, 1978 must have a boating safety certificate to ride a personal water craft.



Magician Lake News Newsletter of the Magician Lake Improvement Association July 2008

From the Desk of the President

With the 4th of July just around the corner, Magician Lake is coming to its height of numbers of people and traffic. Please be extra vigilant when on the water, watch for little children playing around houses, parked cars, as well as in small roads. Traffic also increases even when you are driving to Sister Lakes Shopping Center, so be careful going up and down the hills and around the curves of M-152. Enjoy all the natural resources that *Pure Michigan* has to offer while having a safe and happy summer!

Remember that our annual meeting is coming up Saturday July 12 at 9 a.m. at the Silver Creek Township Hall. Hope everyone has this on his or her calendars!

See you there!
 Charlotte Poole – President MLIA

Curbside Recycling

Since you have not been able to participate in curbside recycling at Magician Lake, please be advised that you can now do so. The following is a list of two businesses that will accommodate your needs and the costs involved. As we attempt to "take care of our planet" let us encourage you to do your part in recycling while you are living at Magician Lake.

Recycling Information

- 1. Reliable- Phone -465-3773** curbside recycling is to be available this summer, but at this time they do not know the cost. Contact "Steve" for more information.
- 2. Michiana Recycling – Phone - 684-0900**
 Cart = \$13.00/mo or \$39.00/3 mos. (trash)
 Recycling (one bag for all) = \$2.00/mo or \$6.00/3 mos. = \$45.00/3 months total for recycling and trash pickup.
 Yearly for recycling only = \$24.00 Will do seasonal for trash and give discounts for groups i.e. Maple Island Resort Assoc.
 No extra charges for fuel or administrative fees

Annual Meeting July 12, 2008 at 9:00 AM

The MLIA annual membership meeting is July 12, 2008 starting at 9:00 AM. It will be held in the Silver Creek Township Hall on Dixon Street. See the agenda on page 2.

Membership Fee Reminder

Remember that your dues for the 2008-2009 season are due by July 31, 2008.

Burning Things Outside

Just a reminder that when burning leaves, sticks, etc. outside your home, please respect your neighbors and do so with care. If you have a fire, other than in a burning barrel, you are required to get a burning permit from the Sister Lakes Fire Dept., which is now manned 24/7. If the State Fire Marshall has issued a burning ban due to low moisture, you will not be issued a permit. Call 424-3145 to find out the latest information.

If the Sister Lakes Fire Dept. receives a complaint about smoke and pollutants affecting a neighbor's health, (i.e. asthma, emphysema, allergies, etc.), then the fire dept. is obliged to come to the source and put out the fire. Also, please do not burn on other people's properties, make sure the fire is being watched by someone when burning, and is completely out before leaving the premises. We almost had disastrous consequences this spring from a fire that was left, thinking it was extinguished, but it was not.

Perhaps in the future we can negotiate a yard waste pick-up, which is best for the environment, people's health, and would alleviate the need to burn yard materials

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Summer Venues

There are so many outdoor concerts in the area, we don't have the space to mention them all but suffice it to say that Dowagiac, Niles and Hartford all have music in their parks on Thursdays at 7:00. Niles has music on Wednesdays and Sundays as well, 7:00.

St Joe has performers at noon on Wednesdays and every Sunday at 3:00 and 7:30. Plan on taking chairs to all these performances except St. Joe which has theirs in the band shell. For complete listings contact the area's Chamber.

Magician Lake Improvement Association
 62480 Gilmore Avenue
 Dowagiac, MI
 49047-8785



Dowagiac River Watershed

We wonder what you know about the Dowagiac River watershed. You all have seen in our newsletter that Magician is in it, but do you know the other lakes and streams that are also part of the watershed and where the Dowagiac River flows?

There are 23 lakes in the watershed and twice as many creeks and streams. Silver Creek which our lake drains into goes directly into the Dowagiac River but the longest creek is Dowagiac Creek which has its origin at Saddlebag, Finch and Fish lakes near the end of Dewey Lake St. Many folks think we are near the Dowagiac Creek but, in fact, the creek flows through Mill Pond and town of Dowagiac before it empties into the Dowagiac River, south of us, and flows into the St Joseph River at Niles.

Indian Lake is one of the largest but can anyone tell us what lake in the Sister Lakes Six is not in the watershed? E-mail dukey@mail.usa.com

Fishing Tournaments

It was called to our attention both at the region meeting and at our annual meeting that some lakes were asking to limit fishing tournaments on their lake.

After much research, I finally found the Parks and Recreation's person with the information. As it turns out groups really don't need a fishing permit, per say, but a permit to use the public access. It is currently free of charge but they need to register with the P&R through Warren Dunes State Park. Next year the state hopes to have a web site registry at mcgi.state.mi.us/mrbis Tournaments are currently scheduled for our lake on July 10,11,13,31 & Aug. 14,16,19,21 & Sept. 6 & 7. June had 6 registered. Our access site (DNR#14-4) is limited to 10 parking places and a tournament is allowed to use no more than 8 of those weekdays and 6 on weekends. It is possible to ask the regional director for a maximum number of tournaments per year. It would be up to our membership to let us know how they feel about that.



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Agenda for Annual Meeting

Magician Lake Improvement Association July 12, 2008 – 9:00 A.M. @ Silver Creek Township Hall

Call to Order – President, Charlotte Poole

Secretary Minutes Bill Boehnlein, Secretary

Treasurer's Report Dick Morey
Budget for 2007-08 Dick Morey

Old Business

New Business
Request by Michigan Waterfront Alliance on anti-funneling resolution
Membership Decals
New survey of membership coming out before 2009 annual meeting. Please respond to let us know your interests and issues.

Bibliography of resources for a riparian's personal library

Speaker - Chuck Cabbage – "Environmental Issues for Riparians" Chuck holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in Water Quality. He has been the Executive Secretary of the Michigan Toxic Substance Committee. He was Science Advisor to Dept. of Agriculture for the State of Michigan. Now he runs his own environmental consulting business and remains concerned about environmental issues associated with Michigan's lakes and streams.

Adjournment - Followed by more questions if necessary

Questions for Bill Saunders – Silver Creek Township Supervisor New E-Mail address - silvercreektownship@sisterlakescable.com

Questions for Bill Kays – Keeler Township Supervisor

Questions for Sgt. Esarey- Marine Patrol

Michigan a 'shore' thing

The following is an excerpt from an article By JOHN EBY of the Dowagiac Daily News dateline Thursday, June 5, 2008 10:21 AM EDT

The continental state with the most shoreline?

Michigan. Only Alaska, with 3,200 miles, boasts more.

The most lighthouses of any state?

Michigan.

The most live-saving Coast Guard stations?

Michigan, 46. Nobody ever guesses New Jersey is second with 42.

In the latter part of the 19th century and early part of the 20th century, Michigan routinely ranked among the top five shipbuilders, according to Kenneth Pott.

In 1903-1904, Michigan was No. 1, building more commercial-sized vessels than any other state.

Michigan is also home to the world's largest freshwater fishery.

Today, Michigan battles Florida to be the leader in recreational boating.

"I think last year was the first Florida beat us out in the last decade or so for more registered recreational watercraft. It's a "multi-billion-dollar industry."

As for commercial shipping, at the turn of the last century, Michigan shipped more bulk goods - coal, iron ore, lumber, grain - "than the combined trade of the eastern and western seaboard states," he said. "The Great Lakes region contributed in a very significant way to industrialization."

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Events around Sister Lakes

Date	Event	Sponsor/Location
Sat, June 28th	4th of July Fireworks/raffle	Sister Lakes Lions Club Lions Club House
Sat, June 28th	Bigfoot 4th of July Parade and lake festival 11:00AM to 7:00PM	Sister Lakes Business Assoc.
Sun. July 6th	Pancake Breakfast 7AM-Noon	Indian Lake Fire Dept.
Sat. July 12th	Lady Lions Bazaar	Sister Lakes Lions Club
Sat. July 17th	Breakfast 9-12	Sister Lakes Fire Dept.
Sat. July 26th	Steve's Run	Ron Gunn (269) 782-1000
Mon. July 28th thru Sat. Aug. 2nd	Cass County Fair	Cass County Fair Grounds
Sun Aug 3rd	Pancake Breakfast 7AM-Noon	Indian Lake Fire Dept.
Sat. Aug 9th	Car Show 9AM-4PM	Sister Lakes Lions Club
Sat. Aug 9th	Swiss Steak Dinner 5-8 PM	Sister Lakes Lions Club
Sat. Aug 9th	Hog Roast 4 - 8 PM	Keeler Fire Dept.
Sat. Aug 16th	Classic Auto Show	Dowagiac C of C Downtown Dowagiac
Sat. Aug 16th	Corn & Brat Roast 4:30-8:00PM	Sister Lakes Fire Dept.
Sun. Sept 31st	Pancake Breakfast 7AM-Noon	Indian Lake Fire Dept.
Sun. Sept 31st	Pancake Breakfast 7:30AM- Noon	Sister Lakes Lions Club
Sat. Sept 7th	Bigfoot Monster Golf Tournament 9 AM at Spruce Ridge Golf Course	Sister Lakes Business Assoc

For more information for any of the above events contact the sponsor or visit their web site.

A Lake Quote

"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. The fluviate trees next the shore are the slender eyelashes which fringe it, and the wooded hills and cliffs around are its overhanging brows."

[Henry David Thoreau](#)