



www.SanfordLakeAssociation.org
P.O. Box 212
Sanford, MI 48657

SLA Newsletter – May 2015

Message from the SLA President

I trust everyone watched with great anticipation as the ice and snow melted this spring. It is the time of year to remember to be safe as you get out all the summer aquatic equipment. Sanford Lake Association has been busy already this year. We have been active in understanding the Boyce Hydro projects at both the Sanford and Wixom Dams. The new turbine and control room at the Sanford Dam will assist in providing more renewable power for the next 90+ years. The SLA will continue to focus our efforts on three items of our long term strategic plan: 1) Water Quantity and maintaining the Dam, 2) Water Quality and improve our lake water, 3) Increase SLA membership and membership involvement.

We will be particularly focused on # 2 as projects will need to be assessed and funded to improve/maintain our water quality. In addition our membership #3 has slipped so we need you to help promote to your friends and neighbors on the lake to get involved and join the SLA.

I wish everyone a safe preparation for another successful Sanford Lake Season.



Steve Tuttle
SLA President

Spring



Upcoming Lake Events

July 4, 2015	4 th of July Boat Parade ~starts 1p.m. in front of Sanford Lake Bar & Grill
July 4, 2015	Fireworks Display ~ 10p.m.

Sanford Lake Dam Update

As Sanford lake homeowners we all have a vested interest in the health of the Sanford Dam. You may have seen a lot of activity at the Dam over the past year and asked yourself, "what are they up to over there?" The SLA Board asked Boyce Hydro for an update. The construction you've seen taking place is for scheduled maintenance and equipment upgrades.

The upgrades include: replacing one of the three original turbines and rewinding its original generator, as well as replacing the entire electrical switchgear apparatus with state-of-the-art electrical components. In fact, the work they are doing will make the dam more efficient and safer. Boyce Hydro is using a combination of local companies to complete the work with anticipated completion by October 15, 2015.

The entire letter from Boyce Hydro outlining the projects can be found on the SLA website:

www.sanfordlakeassociation.org

Adam Beebe, Vice President



Old Turbine Part



A Piece of the New Turbine

SLA next board meeting:

Monday, June 22, 2015 at 7 p.m.
106 Lincoln St.
Sanford, MI 48657

Please contact us:

We would like to hear your comments/concerns and how you think we are doing as an association.
www.SanfordLakeAssociation.org/contact-us

We have Sanford Lake Gear for sale all the time, just contact us and let us know if you would like to purchase a t-shirt or a map of the lake. Only \$10 each item for members! Maps of the lake are drastically discounted for members.

SLA Membership Drive Update

Membership in the Sanford Lake Association for 2015 is up to 201, and we are still accepting applications for new members or renewals.

Application forms are available on the SLA website:
www.sanfordlakeassociation.org/membership

Please forward this to your friends and neighbors who may not have signed up yet.





Sanford Lake Fireworks, Best Yet!



The Sanford Lake Association is proud to present the 2015 ~ 4th of July fireworks, launched by The Wolverine Fireworks company from the banks of the Community of Christ Campground at 3500 West River Road . Charlie Holmes, the professional shooter from Wolverine, will record and simulcast an exciting repertoire of fun and patriotic music on 107.5 FM, the combination of fireworks and music will be awesome. We are planning another spectacular \$10,000 launch. Last year the community donated more than \$9,000 and the fundraiser from Sanford Lake Bar and Grill raised over \$1,000 with their "bang for a buck" campaign! Plan your family 4th of July celebrations to include this fabulous display. You can view the fireworks from your boat in the cove or from the banks of the campground. We will need **your** generosity to recreate the thunder and color in the sky that contributes to the "magic of living on Sanford Lake".

So please return your donation envelope, or send one of your own to SLA P.O. Box 212 Sanford, MI 48657. Any contribution over \$250 will automatically receive a receipt for tax purposes. If you need a receipt for any amount you donate please let us know. Please help support this community effort. We appreciate your participation! Check our web site for fireworks information, sanfordlakeassociation.org.

Thank you!!

Ellen Peden, Fireworks Coordinator, SLA Director

Water Clarity

Once again this year, SLA Board Director, Scott Scarpelli will be taking weekly Secchi disc readings on the lake, as well as spring and summer phosphorous samples, as part of the Michigan Clean Water Corps. (MiCorps) Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP). Transparency, or clarity of water, is measured using a device known as a Secchi disk. This is an eight inch diameter target painted black and white in alternate quadrants. The disk is attached to a marked line, or measuring tape, and lowered from the boat (usually in the deepest area of the lake) into the lake. The distance into the water column the disk can be seen is the transparency, measured in feet. A short distance of visibility means that there are suspended particles (either sediment or, often more likely algae cells) in the water which is an indication of nutrient enrichment present in the lake. Data from the monitoring program is used to determine a lake's productivity level or trophic state (using the Carlson Trophic State Index or TSI)--those being oligotrophic, mesotrophic, eutrophic and hypereutrophic. The gradual increase of lake productivity (the amount of plant and animal/fish life that can be sustained in a lake system) from oligotrophy to eutrophy is called lake aging or eutrophication. Lake eutrophication is a natural process resulting from gradual accumulation of nutrients, increased productivity, slow filling in of the lake basin with accumulated sediments, silt, and muck. Human activities can greatly speed up the eutrophication process by dramatically increasing nutrient, soil or organic matter input in the lake by means such as failing septic systems, agricultural runoff, lawn care fertilizers and bank erosion to name a few. This human influenced accelerated lake aging process is known as cultural eutrophication.

The summary results for the 2014 monitoring program indicate that: "[w]ith an average TSI score of 55 based on Secchi transparency and summer total phosphorus, [Sanford Lake] is rated as an eutrophic lake. This year's summer phosphorus sample was lower than in recent past; last year the lake would have been considered hypereutrophic. Trends indicate total phosphorus is increasing rapidly and transparency is decreasing rapidly in the lake. This is happening fast enough to merit some amount of concern. There seems to be a high amount of phosphorus coming into the lake that was not a problem 13 years ago when sampling was first begun."

Although the sampling results improved slightly over last year's results, to address the MiCorp's concerns, the SLA's Water Quality Committee is seeking guidance on the Sanford Lake sampling results and potential options for addressing the transparency and phosphorus trends from Dr. Hunter Carrick, who is a Professor of Aquatic Ecosystems Ecology in the Department of Biology & Institute for Great Lakes Research at Central Michigan University.

Scott Scarpelli, SLA Director

Report from the SLA's Water Quality Team

SLA's Water Quality Committee ("WQC"), led by Directors; Bill Gebo and Scott Scarpelli, and SLA volunteer Loren Lower, is in the planning stages of addressing the two primary bank erosion areas on Sanford Lake. Namely, 1. the high bank areas of the Tittabawasee River section of the lake just upstream of the "islands" (the Lewis farm property) and 2. the upstream turn in the river north of the M-30 bridge (the Marsh farm property). Both private property owners have been contacted and have expressed preliminary interest in cooperating with SLA's efforts to understand and prioritize remediation options for their bank properties. Since the fall of this past year, the WQC has been informally consulting with Jim Hergott (Executive Director of Saginaw Bay Resource Conservation and Development) to discuss preliminary work scope options including bio-engineering solutions, potential grant sources as well as volunteer worker options to assist in staffing the project. Mr. Hergott has extensive experience working on bank erosion remediation projects including the use of bio-engineered solutions and he has personally toured the areas of concern on Sanford Lake with the WQC team. The WQC has asked Mr. Hergott to provide the SLA with a formal bid to act as our consultant on the project which we hope to receive no later than the end of April 2015. If the SLA Board of Directors ultimately approves the retention of Mr. Hergott, the WQC will work with him to prepare the detailed project scope and work plan which will be needed to apply for grants to assist in funding the project. Research into available grants is ongoing. Currently the WQC is targeting to apply for available grants in the later part of 2015 and/or early part of 2016 with the expectation that actual work could begin as early as the spring/summer of 2016.

Addressing the primary bank erosion areas on the lake continues to be an important long term goal of the SLA and its WQC. However, the WQC can not accomplish this goal on its own and we will be looking to the members of the SLA to assist us in our efforts to improve the water quality of our beloved Sanford Lake. Particularly, matching funds will need to be raised which will most certainly be a prerequisite to obtaining grant funding. In addition, the WQC will need to secure volunteers to work on various aspects of the project over time including, but not limited to, grant writing and physical labor with the project itself. Please consider donating your time and/or financial resources to help support this worthy cause which will benefit us all. Watch the SLA Newsletter and website for additional information on how you can help or feel free to contact Bill, Scott or Loren to learn more.

Scott Scarpelli, SLA Director



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