



**LAKE OSCAWANA
DISTRICT MEETING**

District

- Anyone who has deeded rights to use Lake Oscawana and pays taxes to maintain the health of the lake
- LOMAC (Lake Oscawana Management Advisory Commission): Town appointed commission that advises the Town Board on lake issues and the use of the collected tax monies

Agenda

- History of Lake Management on Lake Oscawana
- Clean Drain Dry to Prevent Invasive Species
- State Septic Grant to Lake Oscawana
- Clarity: Watershed phosphate management
- Weed control: Inlake measures

When Did Oscawana Begin Lake Management?

- On the basis of a lake sampling in the 1980's, New York State listed Lake Oscawana on it's impaired 303d water bodies (Oscawana is a state owned lake).
- In 1987, there was a algae bloom on the lake causing green slime to cover the beaches and shores.
- A group of concerned lake residents formed an association and asked the Town to create a Weed control district to raise funds to care for the lake.

- The Town held a vote and 583 people voted, the measure passed.
- The Town Board appointed a committee to advise them on lake problems and lake expenditures (budget). This is LOMAC.
- Designation as 303d WAS A GOOD THING! It entitled the lake to grants such as a yearly county grant for education, a state funded study of the Total Maximum Daily Loading of nutrients, a federal grant for \$500,000 for clean water, a state matching grant for \$400,000 for watershed projects, the current grant for septic repair.

Techniques used to control nutrient loading

- Harvester removing weeds
- 93 catch basins installed for runoff control
- Phosphate filters now strategically placed in catch basins close to lake
- Encouragement of porous ground pavers in parking lots and ramps
- Biofilter
- Town ordinance: Septic pump out every 3 years
- Town ordinance: Low phosphate fertilizers and soaps.

Lower levels of phosphates now measured for 2016, 2017, 2018

- **OUR LAKE
MANAGEMENT
SEEMS TO BE
WORKING**

LO had no blue-green algae blooms in 2018

- All the lakes in the county have had toxic algae blooms and closed beaches. **We did not.** The local lake association which includes Lake Peekskill, Roaring Brook and Barger Pond are now inquiring about how they can get on the “impaired” list.
- The state is encouraging us to come off the impaired list.
- We lake-users need to thank all the people who have worked to make our lake beautiful

Clean-Drain-Dry for 5Days

DDAYS

STOP INVASIVE SPECIES

www.dec.ny.gov

LAKE MAHOPACH HAS ZEBRA MUSSELS.

LAKE PEEKSKILL HAS CHINESE SNAILS.

**WE DON'T WANT AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS IN OUR LAKE!**

Lake Oscawana district has an educational program called CLEAN DRAIN DRY. It applies to all boats being launched in the lake or removed from the lake. This program has been endorsed for all lakes in New York State by the DEC.

Repair of Septic System Grant

LO residents may receive a grant from the County Health Department if you live within 250 feet from the lake

If you live 250 feet from the lake and need repair of your septic system, you can receive up to \$10,000 (50% match of the cost).

You will receive a letter from the health department if you are eligible.

CLARITY VS WEEDINESS a MISCONCEPTION

- Clarity is the ability to see through the lake, measured by secchi disc depths. It assess floating particles such as algae, muddy runoff, bottom debris admixing as the water churns. Clear water helps weeds grow because sunlight can get to them.

Weediness

- That is the 66 plus acres of weeds that we have in our littoral (near the shore) shelf in mostly shallow water. Dense weeds make swimming and boating difficult.
 - Techniques we have to solve the weediness are the carp (we may need more!!!) and the harvester.

Budget

- There is a 1.8% increase this year.
- Our unspent (but designated) revenues called “fund balance” are \$44,308.12 (18)
- Our capital projects fund called Aquatic Technology is \$38,263.(18)
- Our big projects for the year are 1)the Lake Management Recommendations and the various pathways to implement them and 2) a fish population study to determine the major populations we currently have and whether that is satisfactory.