

2021 LAKE OSCAWANA DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Newsletter
2021 Vol. 5

Lake Oscawana Management Advisory Commission

Kathleen McLaughlin (chair), Jeff Coren, Steven David, Judy Dronzek, Ellen Friedman, John Lafata, Alan Paley, Sam Oliverio, Supervisor, Town Board Liaison: Jackie Annabi, District Clerk: Karen Kroboth

Visit the LOMAC website for more information about our Lake:
<http://www.putnamvalley.com/LOMAC> Facebook page: LOMAC

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HEALTH OF THE LAKE:

2020 showed good results for water quality, clarity and nutrient loading. As a result, there were no harmful algae blooms. However 2021 had heavy storms early in the summer which caused increased watershed runoff into the lake and there were toxic algae blooms at Lookout and Hilltop beaches. The beaches were closed for a week by the County Health Department, then all reopened. There have not been any further toxic algae blooms. Other lakes in Putnam county were closed for the whole season.

The plant analysis done in 2020 when the harvester was not working showed that native species were plentiful, milfoil was about the same as usual, perhaps a little taller, especially in Wildwood Cove. The 2020 lake analysis by NEAR stated "We encourage LOMAC and the Town of Putnam Valley to increase public awareness around aquatic herbicides and other types of targeted plant management, especially in Abele and Wildwood." Herbicides will be discussed at the District Meeting.

The fish study was completed and showed that the alewife are highly abundant throughout the lake. The DEC did not approve the sampling method that would capture walleye. The survey results and zooplankton data indicate that walleye stocking has not worked to improve water quality and that the walleye are not reproducing in our lake. Thus, the stocked walleye fish have not survived well.

We have good amounts of sunnies (bluegill and pumpkinseed.) We have a significant population of wide-mouthed bass and catfish (bullhead), next most prevalent are perch and pickerel. Crappies, although present, are only a small percentage of our fish population. For more details, see the 2019 NEAR Lake Quality report on our website putnamvalley.com/LOMAC.

www.putnamvalley.com/LOMAC

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

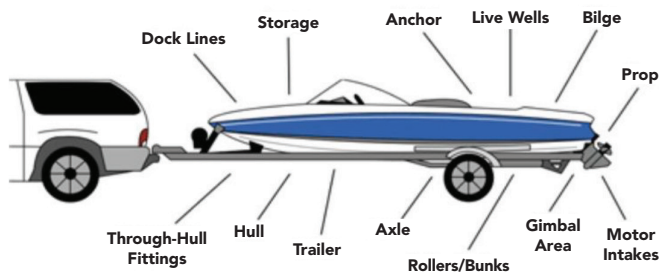
The Lee Ave and Wildwood streams are showing coliform and E.Coli counts during storm runoff suggesting septic system failures. The County Department of Health has been advised and they are monitoring the problem.



CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.

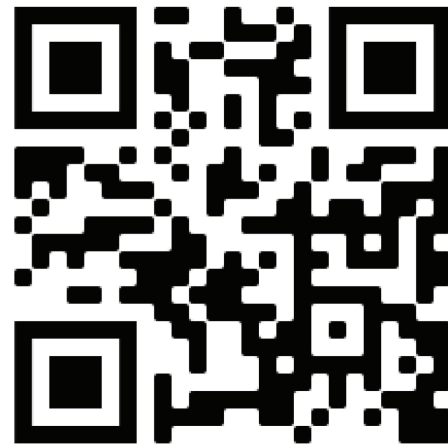
Before launching and before leaving...

Inspect Everything!



Town of Putnam Valley

REMINDER OF THE BOATING REGULATIONS FOR LAKE OSCAWANA:



NEW HARVESTER HAS ARRIVED:

The harvester that was ordered fall 2020 arrived in July. It is larger than our last one (7' cutting blade) and is made of stainless steel which should make it less subject to rust (a problem with the previous harvester.) It also has a mini-crane to lift the buoys in and out of the water. It is equipped with a tracker system and a depth finder to avoid the hidden rocks. We have hired three operators: a senior position, an alternate operator and a truck driver/carp fence cleaner. The harvester schedule is published on the LOMAC website and on the Facebook page. The new harvester will be paid for from the Districts operating budget.



www.putnamvalley.com/LOMAC

Stocking of Sterile Asian Grass Eating Carp:

Our Limnologists did an analysis of longevity of the fish stocked in 2016: "2020 survey estimated at least 76 acres of total vegetation. This level of vegetation translates to a grass carp stocking recommendation of 7.9 fish per vegetated acre, provided the number of grass carp were brought back up to 600 fish total. Of the total vegetated acres, about 65 acres is dominated by Eurasian milfoil, which translates to a stocking rate of 9.2 fish per acre of milfoil." As a result, we were granted permit for 453 new fish at a cost of \$6,000.00 and the company added 5 more for good luck and as a present from them. HAPPY EATING!! And GOOD APPETITE.



PHOSPHATE FILTERS FOR CATCHBASINS

ARE BEING REPLENISHED:

We have purchased another 45 filters (at \$200/filter) for replenishing a portion of the 93 catch basins we have in our watershed. This is an ongoing project to control the stormwater flow of nutrients into our lake. The catch basins were purchased and installed with a grant but the filters are purchased by the district. The highway department, under the leadership of Larry Cobb has been doing the replacements as well as vacuuming our existing catch basins.

FUTURE PROJECTS:

LOMAC and the town have been looking for grants to begin to address water shed runoff and other projects to protect the Lake.

GRANTS STILL AVAILABLE:

FOR SEPTIC SYSTEM REPAIR if you live within 250 feet of the lake. CONTACT PUTNAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH 845-808-1390.

LOVE YOUR LAKE

HOMEOWNERS RESPONSIBILITY:

Lake Oscawana is our greatest natural asset. As residents, we take for granted the availability of clean surface waters for fishing, swimming, and relaxation from our daily lives.

We, as property owners, can...

- Reduce the effects of polluted runoff,
- Protect the quality of Lake Oscawana, and maintain and improve property values!

You can control the runoff from your property:

- 1) Catch runoff from your roofs and downspouts-consider rain barrels and swales.
- 2) Limit your impervious driveways, use interlocking pavers and gravel.
- 3) Plant buffers between lawns and the lake.
- 4) Do not use phosphate containing detergents and fertilizers.
- 5) Do not drain/throw wastewater into lake.
- 6) Pump your septic every three years as required by Town law.

LAKE OSCAWANA DISTRICT MEETING **NOVEMBER 4, 2021 AT 7:00 PM ON ZOOM:**

PLEASE REGISTER FOR THIS MEETING BY EMAILING Annabipvtb@gmail.com

Due to increases in postage, we need your cooperation to save District funds.
Send your email address to Annabipvtb@gmail.com to receive future District newsletters/notices.

www.putnamvalley.com/LOMAC

Lake Oswawana

Management Advisory Commission

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