

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

After serving as your President for the past four consecutive years and Vice President for two years, I have made the decision to step down and hand the reigns over to someone new. While not always easy, it was a pleasure to serve the Community and realize that we have accomplished much over these years. Our community started in the 1940's, much before any planning and structured governing existed as it does today. This lack of planning has hindered the community in many ways, as we have witnessed the most recent growth starting in early 1990's. We have been successful the past four years spending time, money and energy remedying situations brought upon by years of neglect, inconsistencies, and /or lack of planning--- but much more is needed to continue the progress and forward momentum. It is unrealistic to realize that seven volunteer members (Board) must not only run the current operations of the EXPANDED community but also continue to fix situations brought upon by neglect, inconsistencies, and /or lack of planning. In addition to these seven members we only have a handful of

members who participate in a consistent manner. As with any organization consistently of good management and staff is one of the keys to success. Officers' positions are up for election this year and as of the date of this letter the nomination committee has been unable to field a successful list of good candidates. Without the volunteer efforts of effective Board members, advisors & other committee members I can foresee dues being increased by \$250 plus per member to compensate for paid management. While no one wants to increase dues, one can easily access our budget is very thin in its ability to cut expenses.

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at the upcoming General Membership meeting (June 26- 2:00 pm at the Community Center) and encourage you to take an active role to assist in the Community.

Sincerely

Chris Cawley

Moosic Lakes Club

The Moosic Lakes Club is a not for profit organization that acquires, holds and maintains real estate, roads, and lake rights for the purpose of the private community. MLC promotes civic, community, and environmental interest via volunteerism among its residents. MLC also promotes recreation by maintaining a community center and fostering social activities for the enjoyment of its members.

Officers & Directors

Chris Cawley	President
Allison Bollard	Vice President
Frank Sweeney	Treasurer
Kristin O'Donnell	Secretary
Patti Donaghy	Director
Joe Farley	Director
Ian Farr	Director

The Moosic Lakes Newsletter is produced by the Moosic Lakes Club. Please consider writing for our publication! And if you have events, workshops, or any other information you would like to submit for the next edition, please e-mail the information to info@moosiclakes.org or call MLC. All information for the next edition must be received by August 31st and is subject to editing.



25 Beach House Drive
Jefferson Township PA 18436

*Become a volunteer in your
community today!*



Improving Our Community

We Can All Share in Preserving, Restoring and Protecting our Lakes.

By Joe McGraw

Planting & Landscaping

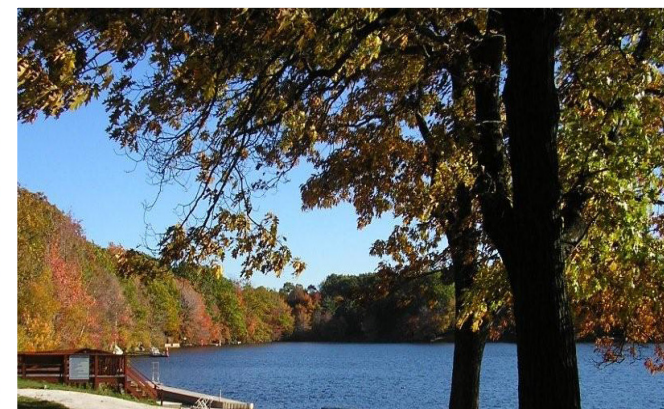
Go Native. Native plants are adapted to our climate and thrive with little maintenance, fertilizer and water.

Plant a buffer zone between your lawn and the lake. It will help decrease run-off from your property and geese will stay away to boot!

Landscape to slow rainwater run off between your house and the lake, making it easier for water to soak into the ground. Place small swales where water naturally drains off your property, create twists in your paths or driveways, or plant a rain garden which uses water tolerant plants that absorb rainfall.

Reduce or eliminate pesticides or herbicides. Gardening chemicals end up in the lake in measurable amounts. Pesticides also kill good bugs, can poison birds or fish and should be used sparingly around children and pets.

Use organic, slow-release fertilizers on your lawn or none at all! Conventional fertilizers and weed-and-feed type products are released all at once and end up mostly in the lake. Use phosphorus



free or slow-release natural fertilizers on your lawn areas. Most lawns at Moosic Lakes will do very well by just using lime to balance soil pH with minimal impact on our waters.

Consider shrinking your lawn. Less lawn equals less maintenance, mowing, watering, fertilizing, money and more rain soaking into the ground instead of running off into the lake. Geese also love large lawns. Reduce your lawn and reduce your fowl visitors.

Replace concrete and asphalt. with permeable alternatives. Rather than letting water flow off your driveway, walkway and outdoor living spaces, check out alternatives that let rain soak in like "grasscrete", gravel, pavers and other surfaces.

Leave large trees and shrubs on your property to create wildlife habitat and shade especially over the water.

Keep our shoreline natural. Concrete or stone bulkheads and artificially sandy beaches can destroy critical habitat for fish, cause erosion and add toxins to the lake.

Wildlife & Habitat

Discourage geese. Goose droppings, in excess, can negatively affect water quality. Reduce the wide open spaces they love so much by replacing grass with taller plants.

Leave fallen trees in the lake and on the shoreline. If not a threat to safety, they provide food and shelter for native fish, amphibians and birds.

Don't feed the ducks. First, bread isn't good for ducks. Second, when they gather in large flocks to be near a consistent food source, they can transmit disease. Excess droppings can also adversely affect water quality.

Put up bat boxes. A single bat eat pounds of insects every night. That can mean some serious relief from mosquitoes.

Maintenance

Pick up trash around the lake. Join our community clean up day to remove litter and illegally dumped materials in our community that might have an impact on water quality.

Clean up after your pets promptly. Pet waste can contribute to significant fecal contamination to our lake even if it's just from rain or sprinklers washing over it.

Monitor common areas. Report vandalism, destruction or maintenance needs to the Moosic Lakes Club.

Use non-toxic dock preservative. Avoid harming the lake and the critters in it while protecting your dock. Research and choose alternative, environmentally friendly maintenance materials when treating docks and decks.

Don't drive golf balls (or cars!) into the lake. Golf balls, like other trash in the lake, can harm fish and other animals.

Communicate with your elected officers and directors. Let them know what you love about our lakes, what issues residents face and be sure to vote!

General Membership Meetings:

June 26, 2011 and August 28, 2011
2:00 P.M. at the Community Center

Agenda Topics:

1. Previous Meeting Minutes
2. Membership Committee Report
3. District Advisor and Officer Elections: August Meeting
4. Financial Reports:
 - Current Budget Review
 - Review and Vote on Proposed Budget
 - Review of Road Budget
 - Collection Procedures
5. Rules and Regulations Complaint Process Review
6. By-Laws Committee Update
7. Legal Updates
8. Environmental Updates
9. Women's Club Presentation
10. General Membership Discussion and Comments



The first general membership meeting of the year will be held at the Moosic Lakes Community Center on June 26, 2011 at 2 P.M. All members are encouraged to attend the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, remember that all members have the option of assigning a proxy vote to a representative who can vote in their place. Proxy ballots were included in the recent mailing from the Moosic Lakes Club.

Please remember that members must be in good standing in order to cast a vote at the meeting. The cut off date for accepting current dues payments and being recognized as a member in good standing is June 23, 2011. Please remember that any payment made after that date will be credited to a member's account, however they will not be able to cast a vote until the following meeting. Payments can be made directly to the treasurer at the meeting on June 26, 2011 from 1:30 to 2:00. Thank you in advance for your attendance.



Looking for More Community Events?

The summer season brings more and more of our community back to the lake. Besides enjoying the water, many community members enjoy getting together throughout the week. Consider joining your neighbors in a friendly game of horseshoes or softball. Perhaps you are looking to follow through on a New Year's resolution and start a workout regiment with Zumba! Whatever the case, there are lots of opportunities to meet your neighbors and take part in one of several community activities.

A weekly softball game is held every Sunday night at 6:00 at the ballfield. You can find pick-up horseshoe games every Wednesday night at the Community Center. The Women's Club also sponsors a free Zumba class at the Community Center on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7:00. Donations are welcome to help defer the cost of purchasing the tapes. Everyone is welcome to attend!



Volunteering: A Part of the Moosic Lakes Club

Moosic Lakes is a diverse community that owes much of its history, progress and daily operations to the efforts of countless volunteers. These volunteers are involved in almost every aspect of our community including, the maintenance of fiscal records, road repair, organization of community events, preservation of the lake environment, fulfilling the roles of club officers and advisors as well as continuing the work of several committees. They serve as advisors, road supervisors, chairpersons, officers, tree trimmers, garbage collectors, conservationists, fundraisers and advocates. In other words, without volunteers most of what we consider to be a normal part of our community wouldn't take place. It's never easy for any resident to give up their free time and serve in one of these capacities, especially when many of these roles require the dedication of large amounts of time outside of the monthly and yearly meetings. However, there is work to be done and help is always needed. Consider becoming a more active member of our community and get involved as an officer or as part of one of the many committees that contributes to the Moosic Lakes Club. You can contact the club and its officers by emailing info@moosiclakes.org. You can also make suggestions as to other areas where we might need to improve or turn our focus.

• **Advisors:** Advisors allow for a streamlined way of addressing neighborhood challenges by serving as key links between our community and the Board. Advisors periodically survey assigned territories for such concerns as blocked ditches, branches too close to utility lines, dead trees, etc., and report these kinds of issues to the Board. An advisor might also inform the Board of regional residents' questions, concerns, and ideas for improvement. Advisors meet with the Board of Directors and club officers once a month.

• **Building Committee:** This Committee serves as our liaison with Jefferson Township and ensures that members who are building or making renovations on properties are both aware of and in compliance with rules and regulations.

• **By-laws Committee:** By-laws are a set of rules adopted by an organization for its own meetings or affairs. This group reviews and updates our by-laws as needed. We are currently undergoing a revision process which hopes to yield an updated set of rules and regulations for consideration by the general membership this year.

• **Community Center Committee:** This Committee monitors the Center and surrounding area, and communicates needs or suggestions for upkeep. This includes the establishment and communication of Center and beach use rules/regulations, scheduling Center rentals, and securing summer lifeguards.

• **Environmental Committee:** This Committee coordinates lake water, plant, and fish studies as appropriate and communicates results of these studies back to the Community.

• **Membership Committee:** This Committee maintains our membership listing to support various functions, including monitoring summer meeting attendance.

• **Nominating (Elections) Committee:** This Committee is named by the Board and solicits member interest in running for Board positions. The Nominating Committee presents nominations prior to the August General Membership meeting, and the election of officers and directors is then made at the meeting. (Note: Nominations can also be open from the floor.) This year, all of the officers' positions are up for election.

• **Roads & Commons Committee:** This Committee works with our contractors on the upkeep of our roads including ditches and commons areas. Prior to contracting with any vendor, the work must be approved by the MLC Board and Officers.

• **Steering (5-Year Plan) Committee:** Following receipt of a "5-Year Plan/Guideline", this group was formed in 2005 to assist in ensuring the long-term health of our lakes and surrounding area. This committee is charged with Community education and initiating the plan's suggestions for the overall growth and development of the Community wherever possible. Both our newsletter and several environmental studies are a direct result of this group's efforts.

• **Women's Club:** This Club largely exists for the benefit of members, their children and the community at large. It hosts events and fundraisers such as recreation nights, pasta dinners, the annual dance and regatta. Items such as Moosic Lakes T-shirts, glasses and other apparel may also be purchased from members of the Women's Club.



From the Treasurer:

Thank you to all who continue to pay their dues on time. As you know, we have increased our annual dues for the 2010-11 fiscal year.

As a club, we continue to work on collecting delinquent dues. With instances of extended delinquency, cases have been referred to the local magistrate who has ruled on the side of the club. This has allowed us to recoup some of the funds lost to non payment of dues. It is important to remember that any failure to pay dues by a member has a profound effect on our yearly budget. Our yearly operating budget which provides for road maintenance, repair and maintenance of common areas, continued operation of the beach house, and capital improvement projects offers little wiggle room. It is based on a set number of club members paying their yearly dues in full.

As treasurer, I have also worked with several club members to update and verify our list of members and property owners. This extensive process has yielded some interesting results. First, there have been numerous property transactions over the past few years which were not accounted for in our records. Secondly, it has become apparent that the club is essentially losing paying members due to the purchase of multiple properties by single individuals, families or corporations. This offers the club some positive benefit, especially when the purchase of additional property by existing club members results in the preservation of green space. However, there is also an opposing set of negative effects with this process. Due to the current rules and regulations which do not require payment of dues for these additional properties owned by current members, our dues base is decreasing every year. Our already tight budget has been impacted by this change and may continue to be impacted by it in the coming years.

The officers, advisors, and membership of Moosic Lakes are faced with some difficult questions. In the coming year, it will be important that our club take a serious look at the issue and find a way to address it. I challenge everyone to think about this issue and consider not only possible solutions but also the long term impact of those possible solutions on our membership. This may mean an increase in dues to all members, a serious revision of our project list, cuts to our current budget, or a change in the regulations which govern the way we assess dues for only certain properties. For example, a system of one property equaling one set of dues regardless of ownership would provide for a stable system of dues which can be maintained year after year. This would allow the officers and treasurer to more accurately budget for each year.

Whatever the decision by the membership, I believe that the involvement of all members is absolutely essential. I encourage everyone to get involved and be a part of our community.

Regards,

Frank K. Sweeney

WOMEN'S CLUB SUMMER 2011 EVENTS

- June 24.....Wine and Cheese Event
- July 17.....Pig Roast and Family Dinner
- July 13.....Kid's Night
- August 13.....Annual Summer Party
- September 4.....Women's Club Brunch



Road Committee News:

As with each year's budget, the majority of our funds are used to repair and maintain our roads. This includes but is not limited to plowing, pothole repair, dust abatement, ditch maintenance, water management projects, and capital improvement projects. Several of these projects are part of our yearly routine while others are completed on an as needed basis. This year there are several projects scheduled to be completed over the summer and into the fall months. The road committee also maintains an additional list of projects that can be undertaken as time and funds permit. Kurt Hennemuth and the other members of the road committee thank you in advance for your continued volunteerism and understanding as we complete these projects.

- Pothole repair of all roadways around the lakes.

- Application of AEP oil on all roads with the exception of

Old Lake and Wagon Roads due to construction. These roads will be treated with calcium chloride.

- Inlet Repair Project: This extensive project will include pumping out the water on the non-lake side of the road, installation of new concrete pipes under the road and new material being installed over those pipes. This project will also allow for widening of the road near the inlet.

- Wagon Road Water Management Project: Ditches on Wagon Road will be changed to address water problems along that road as well as correcting sediment issues near the inlet.

- As part of some road projects there will also be several utility and power poles moved. Some poles are actually located in active ditches or in space that will be used to widen the roads.

Important Reminders

(Contact MLC if you have any questions or concerns regarding these reminders. Messages left on voice-mail will be returned within one week.)

Club Property. MLC owns property along both the shoreline and on either side of the roads. Cutting of any tree along the shoreline of the lake and in the right of way of the road is allowed only after MLC has been contacted and permission has been granted.

As the roads right of way varies greatly throughout the community, it can be anywhere from 25 feet to 150 feet, it is important to remember that members do not own all of the trees that appear to be on their property.

Opening of the shoreline should be limited to lake access of approximately 10 feet. The less cut down at the shoreline the better, as this area serves as the filter for all runoff going into the lakes. Clear cutting of the shoreline is absolutely forbidden.

These restrictions are to ensure that the lakes are protected from unnecessary runoff and the community maintains its rural quality. Contact MLC in order to review property lines before tree cutting. Also, for the preservation of our woodlands and natural scenery, property owners are asked to consider maintaining as many trees on their property as possible.

Dues and Assessments. Because we are a private community, all roadwork, snow removal, insurance, and maintenance of facilities, to name only some responsibilities, are financed solely on the dues from property owners. Residents are invoiced annually in

early April, and all dues and assessments must be paid-in-full by the date listed on that invoice. Delinquent payments are subject to an additional \$30.00 fee. Keep in mind that MLC must pay its bills on a timely basis. And, if residents fail to pay their dues on time, MLC will also incur late charges. Please understand our policy and pay any outstanding fees as soon as possible.

Renters. Rental of property is not allowed at Moosic Lakes. This is not only outlined in our rules and regulations but also our deed restrictions.

Resale Certificate. Any member considering selling property is required to have a resale certificate at closing. The purpose of this requirement is to give new owners an opportunity to learn of membership requirements, dues, by-laws, and policies.

Roads. The speed limit is 15 MPH for all vehicles including automobiles, trucks, motor and mountain bikes, golf carts, snowmobiles, and ATV's.

Pets. Dogs are not permitted to run wild. They must be leashed when off the owner's property and restrained when on the owner's property.

Boat Requirements. No motorboats are allowed. Every watercraft, i.e., rowboats, sail boats, kayaks, other water vessels must be equipped with a PFD life preserver per person and noise activating device (Ex. a whistle). This is in keeping with PA State Laws. Children must wear PFD at all times when in a craft.



Lakes and Waterfront.

Waterfront rules must be observed. PA rules apply for boating and fishing. To prevent unwanted lake vegetation and ensure the pure quality of the Lakes:

- All boats (rowboats, sailboats, paddleboats, kayaks, etc.) must be thoroughly cleaned prior to launch.
- Do not transfer boats between lakes.
- Dispose of live bait at least 100 feet from shore.

Guests at Moosic Lakes. Guests must adhere to all rules and regulations of Moosic Lakes, including boating, swimming, hunting and fishing regulations. Guests must also have resident members' cards for use of lake facilities.

Community Center Regulations & Aquatic Safety. All users of the Lakes and Community Center must adhere to the Center's rules and regulations, to all posted main beach rules, and to those rules enforced by lifeguards. For information about renting the Center, or to schedule any activities or events at the Center, please contact MLC.

Safety and In Case of Emergency/New 911 Addresses. For purposes of safety and emergency issues, residents are asked to consider providing specific directions and addresses to their Moosic Lakes home/property, not only to Jefferson Township responders, but to any home security providers residents may use as well. Residents should have been notified by the Township of their new 911 addresses. For any questions, call the Township.

