

## **HAVE YOU VISITED** [www.rushlakepoa.com](http://www.rushlakepoa.com)?



Want to see how much dues RLPOA members pay? Visit our new website!

Want to read back issues of our Newsletter? Visit our new website!

Want to get the latest information about weed harvesting and herbicide treatments? Just visit our new website!

Be sure to regularly visit our new website, [www.rushlakepoa.com](http://www.rushlakepoa.com), to keep current on latest Rush Lake happenings.. It is a wonderful source of information about your . association.

Even if you don't have access to the internet in your home, consider occasionally visiting our website via public internet computers at your work, church, or public library. You won't regret it.

Your Newsletter is limited in its ability to provide current news.. However, the Association's website provides a ton of current, interesting, and useful information for you and your family.

The website is divided into four sections: [Home](#), [About Us](#), [Services](#), and [Contact Us](#).

The [Home](#) section provides gorgeous photos of our lake

and its wildlife. If you have a photo you'd like to see published, just send it to [rushlakepoa@yahoo.com](mailto:rushlakepoa@yahoo.com) for consideration. This section also gives you current information, such as actions by the Board, efforts to control weeds, and upcoming road work, etc. It also contains a link to the "Rush Lake Boating, Fishing, and Community News" which provides a wide variety of articles on lake living.

The [About Us](#) section provides links that gives us information about our annual dues, back issues of newsletters, Board Meeting Minutes, and our bylaws.

The [Services](#) section has links to the three primary areas of responsibilities of your Board: Lake, Roads, and Parks. These links provide updated information regarding each of these areas.

The last basic section is [Contact Us](#). It provides contact information, along with a user friendly email form to use if you wish to contact the Association.

You can see that our new website provides all members with an abundance of interesting and useful information.

The website will always be a "work in progress", so if you have any ideas or suggestions on how it can be improved, don't hesitate to send them to the Board.

Do yourself a favor and visit this wonderful resource!

## **TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS!**

At the recent semiannual meeting two new Board members were elected. They filled two seats that have been vacant for sometime.

This means, for the first time in years, all nine seats on the Board are filled. The Board now has two additional opinions on issues, and also has more help in completing their many tasks.

The Board welcomes Christina Letzring and Jerry Lasecki aboard.

Christina, a retired nurse, and her husband have lived on Orchard Drive for 28 years. They have raised their children here, and now have grandchildren who can enjoy the wonderful Rush Lake experience with them.

Jerry and his wife have resided on Rushside Drive for nine years. Jerry is retired and has happily volunteered to be on the Board. He is eager to contribute his time and effort to help the Association.

We all appreciate their willingness to serve us.

**Please do not leave boats, trailers, or other items stored in any of the parks or park areas.**

**Recently some items were left in one of our parks.**

**Remember, any items left in any park areas will be removed.**



# Upcoming



## Meeting Dates

Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday,  
July 1, 2015  
6:30 p.m. (if needed)

Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday,  
August 5, 2015  
6:30 p.m.

Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday,  
September 3, 2015  
6:30 p.m.

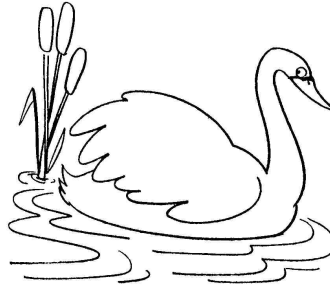
**Semiannual meeting**  
**Wednesday**  
**October 7, 2015**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday,  
November 4, 2015  
6:30 p.m.

Monthly Board Meeting  
Wednesday,  
December 2, 2015  
6:30 pm (if needed).

All meetings are held at the  
Hamburg Community  
Center on Merrill Road.  
Members are welcome to  
attend any of the meetings

# A SAD SWAN TALE



Each May we anxiously scour the west end of the lake for an annual wonder of nature - the appearance of our resident mother swan with her latest brood of adorable signets. Each year we are eager to count the number of babies, usually four or five, so we know how many little fluffy balls we can watch grow over the summer into fully mature, magnificent adults. This annual event is truly one of nature's miracles, and we are blessed to be able to see it unfold before our very eyes on Rush Lake.

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## 2014 - 2015 Officers

President Lois Pescia  
Vice President Eric Schaufele  
Treasurer Lex Kinter  
Secretary Joe Grech

### Board Members

Fred Clough  
Gerard Lasecki  
Christina Letzring  
Peggy Pietras  
Pam Sevonty

### Association Clerk

Teresa Kinter  
734-878-0340

This year, right on schedule, our mother swan appeared with her latest brood of signets. For a week or so, all was well. She regularly appeared with her family on the west end of the lake.

Then, for some unknown reason, disaster struck! The babies appeared by themselves, alone, with no mother to protect them.

At first, her resident partner, "Mr. Macho" as some call him for his aggressive defense of his territory, sometimes visited them, but he was busy attempting to chase other swans off the lake rather than providing much protection for the signets.

Over the next week or so the number of babies dropped - at first to four, then to three, and finally to two. Recently Mr. Macho has been more attentive in bringing the remaining two signets out onto the lake, and, for now, they are still surviving, although their future is precarious.

Waterfowl experts we contacted are baffled at the mother's sudden disappearance, although they point out that because DNR is attempting to eliminate mute swans from Michigan, they will respond to any complaint about them and kill the problem swan.

If you have any information about this sad event, please pass it on to the Association's clerk.

## Upcoming Herbicide Treatments and Weed Harvesting

Herbicide lake treatment was completed on June 8th in all canal areas: Scotia, Baudine, and both the Moon Shadows and the Dana Pointe areas.

Weed harvesting is tentatively scheduled for June 15th in the main body of the lake. A herbicide treatment for the main part of the lake is

scheduled for later in June. There will not be a second harvesting in August due to budget constraints.

Refer to our website, [rushlakepoa.com](http://rushlakepoa.com), for the latest updates.

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*There are about 153 different species of fish in Michigan, but anglers concentrate their efforts on about only 30 of those species.*

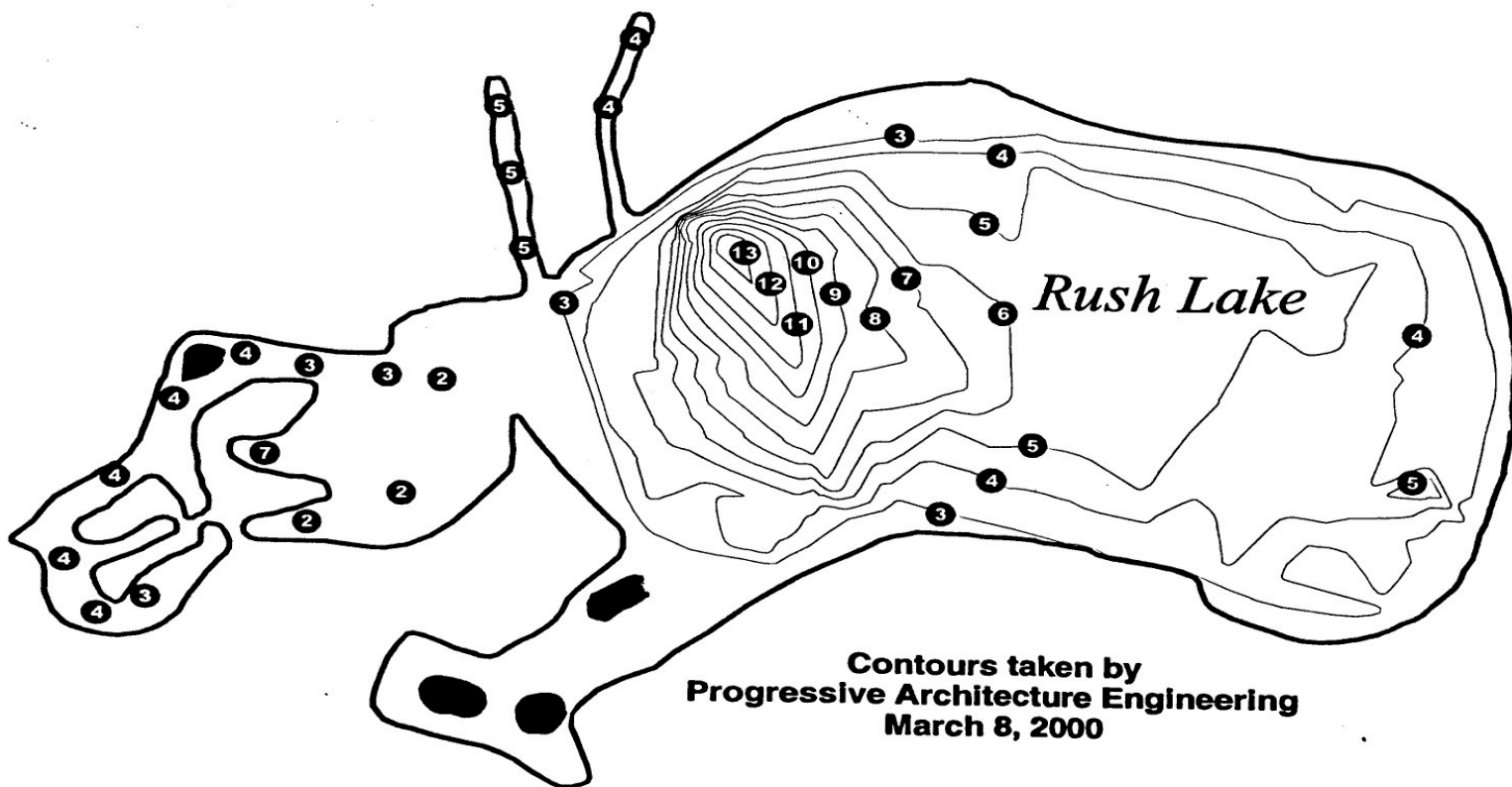
## ***Don't Dump!***

While mowing or cleaning up your yard, please do not dump your grass, leaves, branches, or other debris in the Association parks. We want to keep our parks clean, and it's not fair to the Association to have to pay someone to clean up after your mess.

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Ever wonder why most of the anchored boats are clustered around a small area just south of Scotia Drive on the north side of the lake? Well, the answer becomes obvious when you look at the Rush Lake Depth Map below. You can see that our lake is actually very shallow, about four feet deep, except in this one area. You can literally walk along the bottom of most of the lake.

## Rush Lake Depth Map



# Why Does The Lake Level Drop?

## UPDATE

Oftentimes during the summer months, association members become concerned as the lake levels drop. Most of the time, the reason behind the lower levels is simply Mother Nature. The level of the lake not only depends on how much precipitation falls into the lake itself, but also is affected by the amount that falls on the watershed. One must always keep in mind that while the size of the lake is 138 acres, the watershed, which feeds the lake, is an additional 514 acres. Whatever weather the lake is having, the watershed is having the same weather. If it is extremely wet, all of the water that falls into the watershed will most likely eventually make its way to the lake so our levels may be higher. On the other hand, if the weather is very dry, we are losing not only the rain that isn't falling into the lake but we are also losing the rain that isn't falling into the watershed itself, so the lake level could drop.

But the one thing many people forget to consider is the rate of evaporation of lake water from the lake's surface. Evaporation alone can lower the lake level by 25 inches annually.

And there are other factors that can increase or decrease the lake's level. If the weather is very **dry**, the evaporation rate will be slowed, while lower humidity

it will increase the rate of evaporation. Higher

temperatures with windy conditions will also increase the rate of evaporation. The evaporation over the watershed itself will actually be at a higher rate than the evaporation over the lake itself. Combine normal evaporation with hot, dry, and windy conditions, and we could easily see the lake level drop considerably.

While no one wants to see the level of the lake drop, it usually isn't something we can control. Members often will ask if we can somehow raise the level of the lake. However, official lake level was set by court order years ago, so to try and have it changed would require a new court order.

While to do this may sound fairly simple, the problem is that raising the lake level would negatively impact low lying lakefront properties that would flood if the lake level were higher. Too many of the homes around the lake are set too low to accommodate higher lake levels. To raise our lake level on a permanent basis would cause serious problems for our friends and neighbors.

The only real answer to the lake levels dropping is to be aware of what is happening so you can spot any unusual water loss. We need to realize that Mother Nature is the ultimate force that determines

our lake's water level. Actually we have very little control over the level of our lake.

As previously reported, the Board has been working for several years to have the lake's dam repaired. It has been a long and arduous process, but it seems we're finally about to get this needed work done.

We are presently negotiating with a specific contractor over his bid to do this work.. We are hopeful that the job will be completed in the next several months.

## Hold That Fertilizer!



Before you fertilize your lawn this year, think about where that fertilizer will eventually end up. Most of us are within the watershed for Rush Lake and consequently what we put on our lawns usually will end up in the lake. If you fertilize your lawn, consider that you also will be fertilizing the lake. Those same nutrients that help your lawn look nice and green will also help the plants and weeds in the lake to grow.

Consider what your lawn actually needs to be healthy. You might also consider

planting native species that don't need fertilizing. Just

remember any fertilizers that you put on the lawn will also

feed the aquatic plants in the lake.

## Mini-bikes, Go-karts and Others

Numerous complaints have come in to the Association hotline this spring regarding mini-bikes, go-karts and other off road vehicles. It seems as though our roads have been taken over by them this year and members are becoming very concerned. Not only are some of these vehicles tearing up the roads, but there are serious concerns over the safety of them attempting to occupy our roads along with the regular traffic.



The bottom line is that unless licensed for the highway these vehicles **DO NOT** belong on our roads. The Michigan Off-Road Vehicle Guide states that any road, street, or highway maintained for year round automobile travel is closed to off road vehicle operation. That includes not only the road itself, but also the shoulder or the right-of-way.

The Hamburg Township Police has been alerted to this situation and they ask that anyone seeing these vehicles on our roads please call 911 to report it. These vehicles need to be removed from our roads before someone is seriously injured. Please help by calling 911 to report these situations.

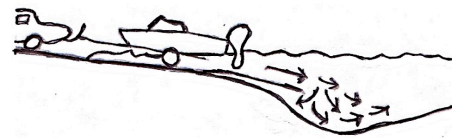
### Please do not anchor or operate your boat in any Rush Lake swim area!

## Please do not



## play on buoys

### No Power loading



Please do not power load your boat at the boat launch. Strong currents from the boat's propeller can cause severe erosion and wash out the end of the boat ramp. This can also cause damage to boat trailers and eventually cause serious damage to the boat launch resulting in costly repairs. Please always winch your boat onto your boat trailer.



**Michigan State Law says:  
No boating in restricted areas.**

*Largemouth Bass eat plankton, insects, and even fish and frogs. Adult Largemouth have also*

*been known to eat small birds and mammals.*



**Rush Lake Property Owners Association  
P.O. Box 78  
Pinckney, Michigan 48169**

**Mailing Label**

## **Just A Reminder!**

**Account balances must be paid in full by July 1, 2015, or a 10% penalty will be applied to all unpaid balances. Payments must be postmarked by July 1, 2015, or they will be considered late and a penalty will apply.**

## **Vandalism**

**Please call 911 if you see any vandalism taking place in the parks. While it is helpful to call the Hotline so the Board is aware of it, your first call needs to be to**

**911. Remember even though the parks belong to the Association, YOU are the Association so they are your parks and we need to protect them just as we would our own yard.**

**Are you going  
the wrong way? By  
Michigan boating laws,  
boats must travel in a  
counter-clockwise direction!**

