

Our Mission

To learn, study and monitor the condition of Portage Lake and take steps to keep it healthy and viable.

Friends of Portage Lake

www.friendsofportagelake.com

Portage Lake Report



1st Treatment Complete

Cabomba Down; Curly Leaf Pond Weed Growth Up

PLM conducted the initial treatment for invasive weeds on Thursday, June 13th. Native weed-thinning treatment for those homeowners who contracted for it also took place on this date.

Prior to treatment, PLM surveyed the lake. They found that the levels of the invasive weed Cabomba were down from last year. However, curly leaf pondweed was up substantially. PLM noted that the growing conditions for this weed and for native weeds were favorable for strong growth in most lakes they surveyed. The good news is that curly leaf pondweed drops out early in the summer. PLM will return approximately two weeks following the initial treatment to evaluate the results and to retreat as necessary.

REMINDER

Your membership dues must be received by July 1st to be eligible to vote in the fall elections.

PLM also has the equipment to map the contour of the bottom of our lake. However, the cost is substantial (approx. \$2,500.) If you have an interest in seeing funds raised for this project, please contact your board representative.

Our membership drive for joining the Friends of Portage Lake Corp. has yielded 72 members to-date. This is up from 64 members last year. Please note that members must join by July 1st to be able to vote for board members in the September election. I hope you will consider joining at a cost of \$25 per home if you have not already done so.

So a big "Thank you" to all of you who have contributed to the funds needed to treat the invasive weeds in the lake again this year. Please support our remaining fundraisers: the pancake breakfast and the yard sale. Thanks to your support we expect to meet our budget goal to complete this year's treatment.

Please feel free to discuss the invasive weed control program or any other lake issues with your board representative. We welcome your questions and input. Thank you again for supporting our treatment efforts for this year as we continue to work to protect our great lake.

Mark Parks

Volume 4, Issue 3

July 2013

2013 Board Members

Greg Dedes

Nancy Lane & Snug Harbor
greg@cornerstonecm.com

Elayna Grody

elayna13@aol.com

Kevin Hughes *Treasurer*

Davis Drive
chrisnkev19@comcast.net

Kathy Kauffman

SE end of lake/Rivolake Dr
smikky@gmail.com

Phil Kline *Klines Resort*
lakefrontPhil@MSN.com

Marie Lewis *Secretary*
Lake Ave.
dandmlewis2@gmail.com

Mark Parks *President*
North end & E. Shore Lane
mark@jergensinsulation.com

Curly-leaf

generally grows in 3-10 feet of water. It tolerates low water



clarity and will readily invade disturbed areas. It is generally the first pondweed to come up in spring and dies back in mid-summer.

Who Needs to Take a Boater Safety Course?

Michigan conservation officers and Michigan county sheriffs encourage all persons operating boats in Michigan to enroll in a boating safety course. Michigan law places certain restrictions on boat and personal watercraft (PWC) operators. These restrictions vary depending on the operator's age, the type of vessel being operated, and the horsepower of that vessel.

Boats:

Persons less than 12 years of age:

- May operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than 6 horsepower (hp) legally without restrictions.
- May operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 6 hp but no more than 35 hp legally **only**



if they:

1. Have been issued a boating safety certificate and have it on board the boat **and ...**
2. Are directly supervised on board by a person at least 16 years of age.

- May not operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 35 hp legally under any conditions.

Persons 12 to 15 years of age:

- May operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than 6 hp legally without restrictions.
- May operate a boat powered by a motor of more than 6 hp legally **only if they:**

1. Have passed a boating safety course approved by the Department of Natural Resources and have on board their boating safety certificate **or ...**
2. Are accompanied on board by a person at least 16 years of age.

Persons 16 years of age and born on or after July 1, 1996, may operate a boat legally without restrictions.

Personal Watercraft

Effective in 2012, those **less than 16 years of age** may not legally operate a PWC.



Those **at least 16 years of age** and born after December 31, 1978, may operate a PWC legally **only if** they have obtained a boating safety certificate.

Those born on or before December 31, 1978, may operate a PWC legally without restrictions.

NOTE: The key date for PWC is Dec. 31, 1978. EVERYONE born after this date must carry a boaters safety certificate for PWC.

So... for 2013 that's everyone under age 35

NEW IN 2013, the DNR is allowing on-line BCS certification. You may study the rules, take the test, and print your certificate on-line. Go to <http://www.boat-ed.com/michigan/>

Even if not required by law to get the Michigan boating license, many boaters take the boat safety course in order to save on their PWC or boat insurance.

Do your part to make boating in Michigan a safe, enjoyable pastime! Become an educated, responsible boater by completing the Boat Michigan course and practice what you learn.

Enforcement

Vessel operators who are required to have a Boater Education Card must carry the card on board the vessel and have it available for inspection by an enforcement officer.



Not carrying your Boater Education Card when one is required can result in a fine.

Remember to also display your registration decal and carry your registration and any required equipment. Children under the age of 6 must be wearing a PFD whenever the vessel is in motion!

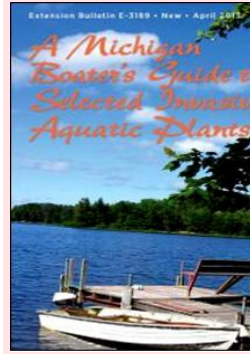
Information courtesy Michigan DNR website.



New Boating Law Addresses Vessel Safety Checks

Vessel Safety Check Decals are now available to avoid unnecessary safety checks on the water. Peace officers may not stop a boat without cause to perform a safety inspection during the year the sticker is valid.

A simple 15 minute inspection will allow you to display the free safety check decal. Better yet, a lake resident is certified to perform these free safety checks. To schedule your inspection, contact Lance Conrad at Klines Resort Lot 78., phone 269-762-8348.



"A Michigan Boater's Guide to Selected Invasive Aquatic Plants', is now available.

With information regarding eleven aquatic invasive plants that currently pose a threat to Michigan's aquatic ecosystems should they become established in Michigan waters, the guide includes full color photographs and is printed on water repellent paper.

The cost of the guide is \$10 per copy. You can order MSU Extension publication #E3189 from the MSU Extension bookstore by [clicking here](#) or at this address:

<http://web2.msue.msu.edu/bulletins2/product/a-michigan-boaters-guide-to-selected-invasive-aquatic-plants-1387.cfm>

Most Wanted Aquatic Invasive Plants

Be on the lookout for these invasive species!

Michigan Natural Features Inventory and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources are collaborating on the development of an Early Detection Rapid Response program. The program seeks to locate and eradicate occurrences of the following priority aquatic invaders.

<p>Flowering Rush <i>Butomus umbellatus</i></p>  <p>www.kingcounty.gov</p>	<p>Starry Stonewort <i>Nitellopsis obtusa</i></p>  <p>www.aquaweed.com</p>	<p>Parrot Feather Water-milfoil <i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i></p>  <p>www.invasive.org</p>	<p>Fanwort <i>Cabomba caroliniana</i></p>  <p>Paige Filice, MSU</p>
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<p>Water Lettuce <i>Pistia stratiotes</i></p>  <p>www.invasive.org</p>	<p>Water Hyacinth <i>Eichhornia crassipes</i></p>  <p>www.invasive.org</p>	<p>European Frog-bit <i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i></p>  <p>www.dnr.wi.gov</p>	<p>Brazilian water-weed <i>Egeria densa</i></p>  <p>www.graysharbor.wsu</p>
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If you have seen any of these aquatic invasives, note their location and extent and contact:

Matt Ankney
Early Detection and Rapid Response Coordinator
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Phone: (517) 641- 4903 ext. 260, Email: ankneym2@michigan.gov

Pancake Breakfast

Aug. 3

Enjoy a great breakfast and support a great cause at our Friends of Portage Lake Pancake Breakfast.

Klines Resort Clubhouse

Saturday, Aug 3 from 8 to 10 am.

\$5 per person

\$2.50 age 12 & under.





Save These Dates!

3rd Annual Boat Parade:

1 pm Thursday, July 4

Fireworks by Ken Koole

Donations Accepted (269)569-0248

Friday, July 5 at dark

Pancake Breakfast:

8 to 10 am Sat, August 3

Lake Area Yard Sales:

Saturday, Sept. 7

Annual Meeting & Elections:

Thursday, Sept. 26, 7 pm

Treasurer's Report

Thanks for the fantastic support at our Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. The dinner raised a net income of \$569. In addition, we received 18 memberships and \$626 in donations for a total of \$1,650 that night. **Thank you to everyone who made this a very successful evening!**

We now have 72 members for 2013 and there is still time to renew or join for this year. For those of you who provided an email address, you should have received a thank you from me with a request to confirm your email address so I can add you to my address book. For those of you who do not have email, or did not provide me with one, I would like to take this time to personally thank you for your membership and/or donation.

We appreciate your support in helping to keep Portage Lake healthy and viable!!

Kevin Hughes, Treasurer

Beginning Balance:	\$6,627
Spaghetti Dinner (net)	\$ 569
Memberships & Donations	\$2,257
MLS Membership Expense <\$ 80>	
New Balance	\$9,373

As of 6/20/2013

JULY 4TH BOAT PARADE

JOIN "FRIENDS OF PORTAGE LAKE" FOR OUR 4th ANNUAL JULY 4TH BOAT PARADE!

DECORATE YOUR BOAT IN A PATRIOTIC STYLE!
BE CREATIVE WITH ANY THEME

YOU MAY WIN THE "PATRIOT CUP" TRAVELING TROPHY. YOUR NAME WILL BE ENGRAVED ON IT FOR 2013 AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DISPLAY IT PROUDLY!

TELL YOUR NEIGHBORS & JOIN THE FUN!

TIME: 1:00 PM starting in front of the light house.

Every participant will receive a souvenir.

For More information contact:

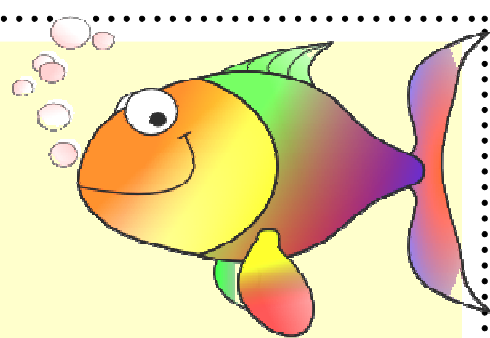
Kevin Hughes

Email: chrisnkev19@comcast.net

Phone: (269) 649-9535



I'm a Friend of Portage Lake!



- Membership enclosed (please include form).
- Contribution enclosed: \$_____ (Thanks!)
- Volunteer to help with Pancake Breakfast August 3
- Send me emails with copies of the MLSA newsletter
- Other: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____@_____

*Clip and return to: Friends of Portage Lake, c/o Kevin Hughes
22705 Davis Drive, Three Rivers, MI 49093*