



Lake Shore Breeze

Fremont Lake Association

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Fremont Lake Association (FLA) will be to improve the water quality of Fremont Lake and its watershed through research, education and actions leading to lake maintenance and improvements; promote activities which enhance the social welfare of its members & provide pertinent information through its Website, Newsletter and Meetings as appropriate. ▲

ANNUAL MEETING

2020 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

A Saturday TBD at 9:00AM at the Sheridan Charter Township Hall

Our 2020 Annual Meeting has been postponed due to the COVID-19 situation. A meeting notice will be sent out to you as soon as arrangements are completed. The reason for sending out the Newsletter at this time is to communicate the 2019 results & 2020 Weed Control & Management Program.

Our meeting will update members on the current condition & plans to improve Fremont Lake. We plan to have several informative presentations including; 2 special guests from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE, formerly DEQ). Abigail Richmond is from the Water Resources Division, and Kevin Walters, a Marine Biologist deals with Aquatic Invasive Species, BreAnn Grabill from Professional Lake Management (PLM) will review the 2019 Plant Management results & outline the 2020 program to control invasive plants, Dale Twing, Newaygo County Drain Commissioner, may be available to discuss the high-water conditions.

Agenda items also include; this year's Fireworks cancellation & the changes related to having to hire a new business for 2021 & funding arrangements, signage on the new DNR Law to prevent Invasive Species, plus Committee Elections will complete the meeting. We have several members interested in running for a 3-year term. If you're interested, please contact a Committee Member to be added to the election slate. ▲

*If the above attractions don't get your attention - -
How does donuts & coffee will be provided sound ???*

2019 Annual Meeting Summary

The 2019 Annual Meeting was held on May 18 & attended by about 30 people along with Jerry Dougan – Township Supervisor, Dale Twing – Drain Commissioner, Erick Elgin – MSU, & BreAnn Grabill - PLM.

Weed Control – BreAnn Grabill reviewed graphs indicating the reduction of invasive & increase of native weed species. Bre indicated a concern that another invasive weed, Starry Stonewort appearing in west Michigan and is monitoring our lake. Bre encouraged residents should be on the lookout for different appearing weed growth & advise PLM or the FLA Committee of the location. The high population of Wild Celery, a native species, remains a concern. Erick Elgin provided vials of the “Star” bud. His comments included the importance of shoreline restoration & the increase of native plants to improve the water quality & fishery.

Fireworks – Eric Hanson explained that the 2019 show will be somewhat smaller than prior years because the benefactor passed away & we no longer receive the \$5,000 donation. We were pleased to announce that the Township & City both stepped-up with \$2,500 each for the 2019 program. Eric noted that the Fireworks & insurance cost about \$7,000 per year.

Water Levels – Dale Twing discussed the Drain Commissioner’s role, ability & legal regulations to address the high-water levels on lakes & problem areas throughout the county. This led to a discussion led by Dale, Erick & Bruce on the FLA efforts to adjust the dates on controlling the lake level. The adjustment requires a Circuit Court Ruling & we plan to engage an attorney. The concern of the wash-out of the peninsula on the southeast side was also discussed.

EGLE (DEO) Preventing Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) – Bruce Haveman outlined the EGLE outreach campaign “Aquatic Invasive Species Landing Blitz” is designed to raise awareness about preventing the spread of (AIS) through recreational boating and related activities moving from lake to lake. Bruce indicated that our FLA will participate in this program on Saturday, June 29 & Saturday, July 6 at the launch sites. A sign-up sheet was provided for volunteers to participate in this event. Bruce indicated that FLA tee shirts will be provided to volunteers.

Lakeview Dr Bridge - Dale Twing discussed the construction this summer of the new bridge to help reduce the Miller Drain flooding problems.

Walleye Stocking – The DNR has indicated their recent practice of stocking about 40,000 walleyes in the even years for 2018. It was noted that PLM & DNR will coordinate the release date to avoid any conflicts.

Bass Tournaments – Bruce Haveman indicated that 23 Bass Tournament are scheduled with the DNR.

Silent Auction – Lia Padilla donated several of her paintings of Fremont Lake & other water scenes resulting in \$136 being donated to the Fireworks.

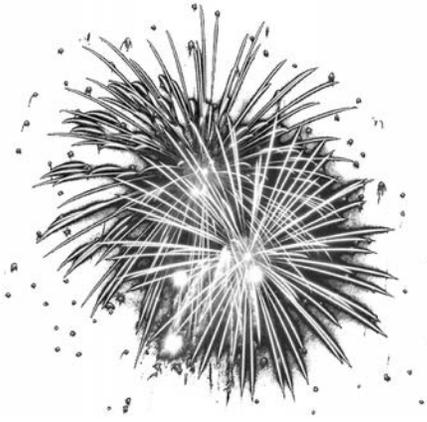
Business Meeting – Minutes of the 2018 meeting accepted as reported in the Website & Newsletter. John Sella – Treasurer reported that 2018 Membership Dues received totaled \$5,011, Fireworks Donations \$3,260 & Expenses of \$1,684. Current Balance is \$19,968. Report accepted. Additional Membership Dues & Fireworks Donations were received at the Annual Meeting.

Elections – A slate of 3 year staggered terms expiring by year was accepted:

2020 - Bruce Haveman, John Sella, Dirk Schippers

2021 - Doug Nieboer, David Landheer, John Rycenga

2022 - Ken Wolffis, Norm Knorr 



Independence Day Fireworks Cancelled

We regret to inform you that the annual fireworks celebration for 2020 has been cancelled. With the continuing uncertainty about the Covid-19 virus pandemic. We felt the most responsible decision at this point was to cancel the event. With the State of Michigan guidelines in place, and realizing we are not going to have Covid-19 behind us by the beginning of July, it was clear to us this decision needed to be made. Fremont Lake Association 🚩

2021 Membership Drive

The Fremont Lake Association reorganized in 2007 as a voluntary organization. Our Mission Statement defines our purpose is to enable FLA Members to more effectively manage the lakes eco-system that we currently share for the common good as well as improve property values & make Fremont Lake a Community Asset.

This voluntary effort has accomplished significant & numerous projects & activities by using Association Funds as direct payments, seed money & matching funds for the projects & grants we've been able to implement. FLA Dues Funds in 2020 are being used to install Bulletin Boards & Signage at the 2 launch sites. This is a collaborative effort of FLA, EGLE (DEQ), City of Fremont & Sheridan Charter TWP. The primary purpose is to reduce Invasive Species being brought into Fremont Lake by transient boaters.

In prior years an extra appeal included a Fireworks Donation with our Membership Drive. The cancellation of the 2020 Fireworks naturally reduces this appeal. Any Fireworks Donations will be applied to the 2021 program. In addition to the Funding from the TWP & City we are exploring 501-C designation that will enable us to seek funding from corporations. In other words, let's keep the Independence Day Celebration tradition going.

Again, your voluntary contribution enables all of us to continue improving our Fremont Lake Community. Please return your check to Fremont Lake Assoc, PO Box 404. Fremont, MI 49412 🚩

COOPERATIVE LAKES MONITORING PROGRAM (CLMP)

By Andy Harrington – City of Fremont Staff

The City of Fremont has participated in the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP) for two straight years (2018 & 2019). The CLMP is designed specifically to monitor changes in lake productivity. The current program enlists citizen volunteers to monitor water clarity, chlorophyll a and dissolved oxygen throughout the summer months, while total phosphorus is sampled during the spring and late summer. These parameters are indicators of primary (algal) productivity and, if measured over many years, may document changes in the lake.

From March through September of 2019, the following tests and samples were conducted/collected on Fremont Lake: transparency, chlorophyll a, spring and summer phosphorus, and dissolved oxygen and temperature. Unfortunately, the CLMP program has been suspended for the 2020 season due to a lack of state funding. Funding has since been secured to resume the program for 2021 and beyond. Although the program has been suspended for this year, the City plans to continue to monitor some of the past CLMP parameters. A dissolved oxygen meter has been purchased so monitoring of lake DO will continue as before, as well as transparency.

If you would like to review the CLMP monitoring results from past years, please visit MiCorps Data Exchange at <https://micorps.net/> and select "Data Exchange." You can also review the 2018 and 2019 Fremont Lake Reports by visiting the Fremont Lake Association webpage <https://fremontlake.net> and select "Reports."

Email Address Requests FLA4Members@gmail.com Website Updates FremontLake.net

The FLA is working on building an email database of all Fremont Lake property owners. We intend to use the database to send out relevant &/or timely information & newsletters to keep FLA members informed of lake matters. Please forward your email address to FLA4Members@gmail.com

The purpose of this request to enhance our ability to communicate more effectively with FLA Members. This Email List, along with our Mailing List will be used only for FLA communications will not be shared.

We are committed to be as transparent as possible by communicating all FLA Committee actions & activities in the “News” “Reports” & “Minutes” sections. Recent additions include:

On “News” page

2020 Lake Management Proposal from PLM Lake & Land Management Corp – this is the formal proposal that PLM provides us each fall for their services in the coming year

2019 Fremont Lake on-Site Lake Evaluation YEAR END REPORT – this report written by PLM in August, 2019, gives an assessment of the plant control efforts for the season

2019 AVAS Aquatic Vegetation – the AVAS report, also dated August 2019, shows where various plants were found around the lake, and their relative densities

2019 Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Report CLMP – our Water Quality report measures changes in visibility, phosphorus, chlorophyll, nitrates, oxygen, and shoreline quality. This report contains cumulative data, not just for 2019, but also as far back as 1970.

2019 Fremont Lake Notice – the posting notice used in 2019 when lake treatment for invasive species occurs

On “Reports” page

2018 DNR Fisheries Survey Report - Fremont Lake (Also 2009 & 2005 Reports)
(between 20 and 60 percent coverage” 

A Natural Shoreline: A Better decision for you, your lake and your wallet

Editor’s Note: This article was submitted by BreAnn Grabill of PLM FYI. The information works in concert with the 2016 MSU Survey & Recommendations. You may recall that these observations were included in Erick Elgin’s - MSU remarks at our 2019 Annual Meeting.

Stewards can help keep your lake healthy by using ecological principals to maintain a natural shoreline. Having a buffer at the shoreline helps prevent erosion, which saves you from a loss of shoreline property and increased sedimentation in the water. Erosion and sedimentation cause poor water quality. Seawalls and natural shorelines (also known as bioengineering or “lakescaping”) are two types of buffering systems.

Seawalls are often perceived as a more stable system and therefore used more often, but in fact they are less stable, more damaging to the lake ecosystem, and typically cost much more money to install and maintain over the years. Seawalls do not allow for absorption of energy from waves hitting the wall, causing wave energy to force back into the lake, causing more erosion and loss of sediment at the base of the wall. Seawalls also lead to negative impacts on fish, turtles, amphibians, etc while a natural shoreline or “lakescape” absorbs some if not all the energy from waves and wind.

Lakescapes use native plants, biodegradable products and natural materials to provide a stable shoreline to protect from erosion with providing ecological features, a living buffer, that adapts over the seasons and years. A few of the benefits to using native plants, grasses and shrubs are: providing food and habitat; minimal maintenance; provides shade which lowers air and water temperatures; attracts birds leading to decreases in insects; root systems anchor soil in place; sustains biodiversity and helps keep out exotic species such as Phragmites and Purple Loosestrife; filters more water than turf grass; reducing geese on your property as geese like to see their predators and prefer manicured lawns and seawalls. 



FREMONT LAKE ASSOCIATION

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & ACTIVITIES

- 2007 FLA reestablished & By-Laws adapted
- 2008 - 2009 - Water Rescue & Safety Demonstrations Co- Sponsored with Gerber Hospital
- 2009 Purchase & Install Signage at City & Twp. Launch Sites
- 2009 GVSU/AWRI Survey of Water Quality & Lake Inlets - Funded FAFCF Grant & FLA Funds
- 2009 MSU / DEQ Survey of Deep-Water Sediment Core Samples
- 2010 Website established *** fremontlake.net *** By-Laws amended
- 2010 DNR stocking of Walleyes restarted (Usually about 40,000 Walleyes in the even years)
- 2010 Property Owner Weed Control contracts began with Professional Lake Management (PLM)
- 2011 Shoreline Restoration Planting with MRWA. Funded by FAFCF, MRWA & FLA Funds
- 2011 Swan Control Project implemented in cooperation with USDA
- 2011 PLM evaluation of Weed Problems – No charge
- 2012 PLM contract to recommend actions needed for weed control- Funded by TWP, City & FLA Funds
- 2013 Reestablish a Special Assessment District (SAD) to control Aquatic Nuisances
Funded by City, TWP, Property Owner Assessment & FLA funds (Similar to SAD in 1980's)
- 2014 2nd year of SAD Funded by City, TWP, & Property Owner Assessment
- 2015 3rd year of SAD Funded by TWP & Property Owner Assessment
- 2016 MSU Survey of Water Quality & Aquatic Plant Evaluation Funded by City& TWP
- 2016 4th year of SAD Funded by Property Owner Assessment
- 2017 5th year of SAD Funded by TWP & Property Owner Assessment
- 2017 Winter Water Quality Sample conducted by MSU, City of Fremont & FLA personnel
- 2018 6th year of SAD Funded by TWP & Property Owner Assessment
- 2018 Stream Monitoring Michigan Clean Water Corps – Funded by MRWA & FLA
- 2019 7th year of SAD Funded by TWP & Property Owner Assessment
- 2019 Implement DEQ “Clear Lakes Monitoring Program” CLMP – Conducted by Fremont City Staff
- 2020 CLPM funding suspended in State Budget – Data will be collected by Fremont City Staff for reference
- 2020 8th year of SAD Funded by TWP & FLA Property Owner Assessment
- 2020 Fireworks Program cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions
- 2020 Bulletin Boards & Signage at Launch Sites for Invasive Species Regulations & FLA Communications

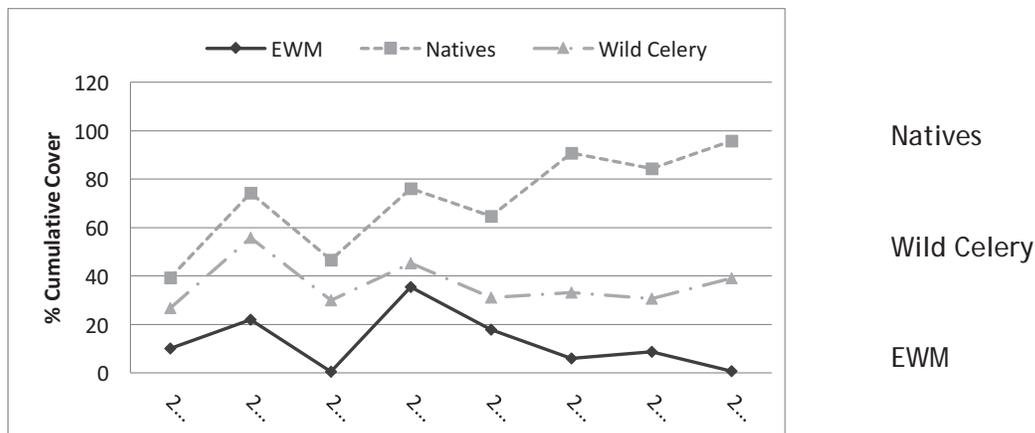


Fremont Lake Aquatic Plant Management Update

By: BreAnne Grabill, Northern Regional Manager, PLM Lake & Land Management Corp.

It was a pleasure to work with your association on Fremont Lake in 2019 and I look forward to another successful season in 2020. Although the start of our management season is slightly unknown currently, we hope to be able to initiate field work this summer like normal and control exotic, invasive species to protect your beautiful lake. Fremont Lake, again, had fewer exotic plants found in 2019 than the previous few years, shining a bright light to the efforts and work done in controlling exotic and invasive plants in Fremont Lake. Are there still exotic plants present? Does the management program need to continue? Yes and Yes. In 2019, approximately 36 acres of Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) and Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) were treated in Fremont Lake. In 2018, that number was closer to 40, in 2017, that number was closer to 85 acres and in 2016, about 82 acres. Aquatic Plant Management (APM) is an annual requirement, however the scope of the program does adjust based on the growth conditions present. Continually targeting exotic plants will lead to an overall decline in growth. Weather patterns can influence growth as well and the weather this past year is not helping slow the spread of EWM. It is vital to survey and track these plants annually to stay on top of the exotic, invasive species in the lake and ensure that proper management actions are taken. Additionally, we are always on the watch for new exotics that may enter the lake.

This graph shows the plant coverage in Fremont Lake, including the presence of EWM compared to that of Wild Celery (a native plant) and the overall native plant population. Over the last few years, the presence of exotic plants has decreased while the native plant population has increased. More native plant species have been found in recent surveys than a few years ago, which is typically found on lakes once the exotic plant populations are reduced, allowing healthy native plants to flourish. Native plant populations are encouraged in waterbodies to promote a healthy fishery, provide oxygen, food and forage and many other benefits, including sediment stabilization. Exotic plants destroy native plant populations that are needed to maintain a healthy lake and fishery as well as impacting recreational use of the lake.



Fremont Lake Plant Cumulative Coverage, end of summer surveys

Please watch your shoreline for updated treatment information/ posting signs in your area of the lake. Please feel free to contact PLM @ 800-382-4434 ext. 2200

Please enjoy a safe summer on Fremont Lake.

Best Regards, Bre Grabill, Sr. Regional Manager, PLM Lake & Land Management Corp. 🚤



Financial Information for Aquatic Nuisance Control Assessment

The Special Assessment District (SAD) addresses our Mission Statement to manage the water quality more effectively was passed with a majority vote of Fremont Lake Property Owners. The provisions of the SAD are that the annual cost cannot exceed \$100,000 or \$300 per parcel. Parcels with lake access pay ½ & commercial property owners pay double. The City of Fremont subsidized 20% the cost in 2013, 2014 & the 2016 MSU Study. Sheridan Charter Township has subsidized 12 % of the cost every year. As expected, the 1st year addressed the many years of neglect & was the costliest. The success of this effort can be seen in the reported improvement of the Lakes Eco-System along with lower cost to property owners in recent years. It's important to note that the provisions of the SAD are that all funds from the Assessment are used exclusively for that purpose. ▲

| | Total Cost | City of Fremont | Sheridan TWP | Property Owners | Per Parcel |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 2013 | 76,211 | 13,746 | 7,987 | 54,478 | 283 |
| 2014 | 47,300 | 9,459 | 5,675 | 32,166 | 156 |
| 2015 | 20,446 | - | 2,453 | 17,993 | 99 |
| 2016 | 47,153 | 260 | - | 46,893 | 241 |
| MSU | 25,878 | 12,939 | 12,939 | - | - |
| 2017 | 38,352 | 174 | 4,602 | 33,576 | 174 |
| 2018 | 14,524 | 66 | 1,743 | 12,715 | 66 |
| 2019 | 13,646 | 62 | 1,638 | 11,946 | 62 |
| Total | 283,510 | 36,706 | 37,037 | 209,767 | 1,081 |

| | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2013 | 100% | 18% | 10% | 72% |
| 2014 | 100% | 20% | 12% | 68% |
| 2015 | 100% | 0% | 12% | 88% |
| 2016 | 100% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| MSU | 100% | 50% | 50% | 0% |
| 2017 | 100% | 0% | 12% | 88% |
| 2018 | 100% | 0% | 12% | 88% |
| 2019 | 100% | 0% | 12% | 88% |
| Total | 100% | 13% | 13% | 74% |



Fremont Lake Association

PO Box 404

Fremont, MI 49412

www.FremontLake.net

Annual Meeting

Saturday, TBD, 9:00 AM

Sheridan Charter TWP Hall

2020 Fireworks Cancelled

FLA Committee

Bruce Haveman – Chair

Ken Wolffis – Vice-Chair

John Sella - Treasurer

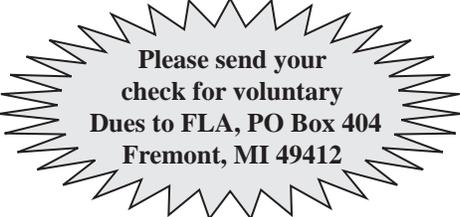
David Landheer

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Dirk Schippers

Norm Knorr – Editor



Please send your
check for voluntary
Dues to FLA, PO Box 404
Fremont, MI 49412

