

April, 2019



Sylvan Lake Shoreline

Get the news you need at: www.slja.net

Publishing Dates: April • June • August • October • December

Oktoberfest Captains Needed

We need a captain or captain group to come forward so we can hold our Oktoberfest this September or October. It is held the weekend after the Sylvan Lake Fall Clean-Up Day. The date is not yet set. We have some flexibility, and as captain, we can work with you to set that date to your convenience.



By about mid- or late-April we need a volunteer to captain the Oktoberfest event. Last year, Christine Seidner took this job. Chris is willing to help anyone who takes the captain role but does not want to take the job alone.

The best arrangement is for 2 or 3 families to take the captain job. That is what was done for many years. Working together, plus with the assistance of Chris, the work can be accomplished well.

We have very extensive written guidelines for every step of Oktoberfest. If you would like to see those before committing, please write to sylvanlakers@gmail.com and we will send them.

It's a lot of fun, and with a good team of workers, it makes the work go well.

Talk with your friends, and please respond to this email message if you think you and your friends can take this role.

Thank you,
The Sylvan Lake Board



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SAVE the DATE
Spring Clean up will be
Sat. May 18th,
Rain date of Sun. May 19th.

Referendum for Single Waste Hauler for Fremont Township is Moving Forward

Proposition To Authorize The Township To Exercise The Powers Of The Township Refuse Collection And Disposal Act to enter into a contract for the collection, disposal, composting or recycling of garbage, refuse and ashes within the unincorporated area of the Township?

This proposition was passed at our November election and an advisory committee was formed to work with the township board to start the mechanics of possibly selecting a single service supplier for this service.

According to Nick Tonkery, who is a member of the committee, the committee met on Thursday, March 12th at Fremont Township.

The township is working on putting together a bid contract for a single refuse hauler for unincorporated Fremont Township.

Listed below, according to Nick, were some of the main points discussed regarding developing a bid request were, but not limited to:

- a contract to for a 5-year period with option to renew one year at a time.
- limited to single-family homes and multi unit dwellings with 4 or fewer units.
- one collection per week on the same day.
- a 95-gallon refuse cart provided by the hauler with the option to go to a smaller cart.
- refuse, recycling and landscape waste picked up on the same day.
- one bulky item per week
- several areas in the township will be designated for leaf pickup during 6-week season.
- vacation stop one month minimum.
- senior discount (10%)
- an option for residents to purchase stickers for landscape waste.
- Christmas tree collection

According to Nick, it was quite a lengthy meeting and another meeting is planned but not scheduled.



Garlic Mustard Is Alive and Unfortunately Doing Well

Garlic mustard is an invasive species that affects woodland habitats. It has no natural enemies in our area and spreads rapidly. Invasive species such as garlic mustard destroy biodiversity by creating monocultures, or widespread areas of a single species. Garlic mustard monocultures can completely dominate a forest floor in five to seven years, drowning out native woodland wildflowers and other vegetation that our wildlife needs to survive. It is possible to prevent this by catching the growth early and removing it.



Sylvan Lake Website

www.slia.net

The Sylvan Lake website provides up-to-date information on events and activity around the lake. You can also download the latest Shoreline, participate on a message board, and learn about its history.



The updated website is ready for your use. The only place that requires a password is for the Sylvan Lake Phone Directory under the **Association, Contacts** tab. If you don't have the password, send an email message to Sylvanlakers@gmail.com and request it.

State of the Lake

By Gary Goldblatt. SLIA President

Greetings fellow Sylvan Lakers!
What a Winter! As usual, Sylvan Lake survived beautifully.

Exciting and challenging news for this year. The long-awaited Dam and spillway project is planned to begin in September. Exciting, because we will finally get a modern, updated dam and spillway rebuild with a state-of-the-art valve system and look at no cost to Sylvan Lake. The big challenge will be managing traffic through the only entry/exit part of Sylvan Lake, (Crescent off of Gilmer Rd) and enduring a 9-month-long dam reconstruction project. The long-term benefits will outweigh the short-term inconveniences. Members who live on the lake will have a great opportunity to repair, replace their shoreline piers as needed as well as to address shoreline erosion. Per the SLIA By laws and rules and regulations, shoreline maintenance is an expectation. The March Board meeting included Fremont Township's presence to answer questions about the project. The SLIA Board will provide updates and progress reports throughout the year. Thank you Brian Wawrzyniak for kicking off the communication on this project.

The Maple Park restoration project is coming along nicely. ILM incurred some delays due to weather but catching up shouldn't be a problem. Thank you Jeri Swanson for the updates to date. Thank you in advance to the ECO Chicks who are already making plans to volunteer to seed, plant etc in this area once ILM's work is complete. The more volunteers the better, so if you are interested, please throw your volunteer hat into the ring.

SLIA First Qtr. Financial highlights:

Balance sheet:

Bank accounts TY \$210.8 vs LY \$200.1 Driven by interest and increased revenue
Accounts Receivable: TY \$11.6 VS LY \$10.9 Late payments and past dues
Accounts Payable: TY \$2.7 Vs LY \$2.5
Total Liabilities and Equity: \$ 223.7 vs LY \$211.1

Profit and Loss:

Income: TY proj \$78.5 Vs LY \$33.4 Driven by stronger bank balance from LY, increased assessments, late fees and boat storage fees.
Expenses: TY to date \$4.2 vs LY \$-1.6 . \$4.0 2017 grant received in 2018.
Net Income: TY \$74.3 vs LY \$35.5

Oktoberfest:

As of this Shoreline, there has been no one who has volunteered to be the captain of Oktoberfest. There are several volunteers that want to help but there needs to be a point person to coordinate all activities Oktoberfest. Reminder...Oktoberfest is a community sponsored event that is budgeted for by the SLIA board but is not coordinated/captained by the board. Please refer to the article on page 1 about this.

SLIA Web site:

Check out the SLIA Website. It is up and running and will continue to be a useful tool for all things Sylvan Lake.

Website name : slia.net The only place that requires a password is for the Sylvan Lake Phone Directory under the **Association, Contacts** tab.

If you don't have the password, send an email message to Sylvanlakers@gmail.com and request it.

Your 2019 SLIA board:

President: Gary Goldblatt
Vice President: Jeanne Peterson
Treasurer: Ed Meltzer
Secretary: Lynda Throm
Parks & Easements: Jeri Swanson
Lake: Tom Truffer
Beach: Cliff Gartner
Special Projects: Brian Wawrzyniak
Recreation: Dave Kruse

I encourage everyone to attend the monthly Board meetings. They are held on the third Wednesday of every month except December. 7:30pm-9pm at the Country Side Fire station on Midlothian rd. This is where great ideas, suggestions can be shared and acted upon. Don't make the annual meeting the only meeting your participation. In the interim and always, please feel free to reach out to any of the Board members if you have questions, comments, suggestions and the like.

Other updates:

*Gilmer road expansion: delayed until 2021.

See something, Say something, Do something!

Until the next time...
Happy Sylvan Lake-ing all!!!



Sylvan Lake Dam Project 2019 Scheduled to START!

*This additional notice is because
the dam replacement project will affect us all.*

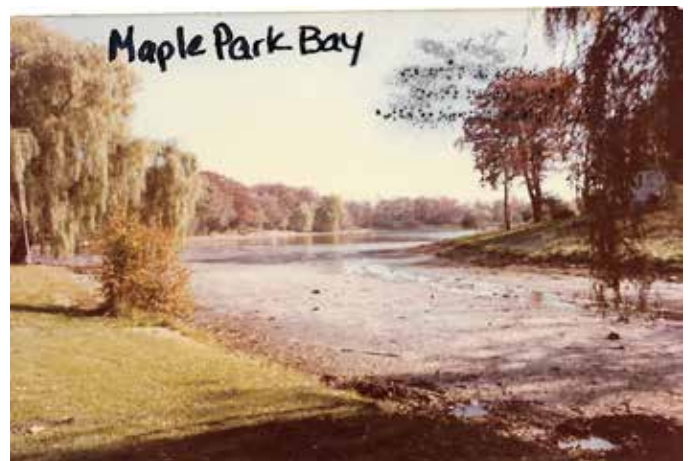
Sylvan Lake Dam History

- The dam was hand built around the 1928 – 1929 time period.
The dam was initially constructed with large rocks and cemented together. When partially completed, heavy rains fell and washed it away making it necessary to start over, resulting in the dam we have today.
- When completed, the dam was never “classified” or registered with the State of Illinois which led to the confusion of its existence to enable its reconstruction.
- The spillway opposite the inlet has been deteriorating and could break through and flood Midlothian Road and adjacent communities South of Midlothian Road.
- Fremont Township owns the streets and dam which it is their responsibility to repair or replace.
- The project will be completely funded and owned by the Fremont Township.

Brief Project Details

- Weather may also determine a start date
- The project will take approximately 9 months
- The project would take a total of 6 to 9 months starting around September of 2019, ceasing in the winter and concluding in the spring of 2020.
- Sylvan Lake board members were invited to a Township meeting and several board members attended.
- Engineering plans are in the final stages.
- Fremont Township is working to acquire (8) permits from (8) different government agencies.
- Preparation work includes rerouting a gas and well water main that currently exist under and around the existing dam which could temporarily impact service. Nicor gas main, L.C. Public Works sanitary sewer and a Sylvan Lake

The photos below are from Nick Tonkery and show what the lake looked like when it was lowered back in the 80's for other lake improvements



Continued on page 5

Sylvan Lake Dam Project 2019

water main all currently run inside the construction zone. All will need to be temporarily relocated before dam and spillway can be deconstructed

- Over a span of 1-2 weeks the lake will be temporarily lowered approximately 5 to 6 feet.
- We are preparing for some loss of fish and will have a recovery plan.
- During construction, only one traffic entrance would exist into our community off of Gilmer Road. Highland Drive at Midlothian Rd will be closed to traffic for the entire project
- The only Sylvan Lake entrance/exit will be Crescent Drive at Gilmer Road
- Neighboring schools, fire protection district and Lake County Sheriff **would be notified of the limited access into our community.**



Benefits

- The dam will have a state-of-the-art control system for allowing us to raise or lower the lake level during the summer or winter months. Lake levels (normal, winter and emergency) will be controlled by a valving system which will be managed by Fremont Township.
- Creating a dedicated 5' wide concrete walkway will allow pedestrians to cross the dam safely
- The spillway side of the dam will also be graded to not have such an aggressive slope to avoid rapid erosion.
- The embankment area around the spillway will be regraded and vegetation removed by Fremont Township. It will receive erosion blanketing and native deep-rooted vegetation will be installed.
- The balance of Sylvan Drive will be re-surfaced in conjunction with this project, running along the beach up to Wildflower Terrace at no cost to us.
- **Members who have property along the lake are strongly encouraged to take this lake lowering opportunity to repair retaining walls, piers and other shoreline restoration measurements to mitigate erosion into the lake.**
- The width of the current bridge will be maintained after the project is complete.

Thank you to Brian Wawrzynski for sharing most of this information that was prepared for the powerpoint presented at the Sylvan Lake Board meeting March 20th and Nick Tonkery for the pictures from last time the lake was lowered.

Parks and Easement News

Maple Park Shoreline Stabilization Project:

Work began in February. Then the polar vortex arrived, slowing down the work. Then the rains came, turning the area into a bog, (observation by Tom Truffer).

Work has restarted and we expect the coconut rolls to be installed the week of March 25th.

So far the rotted RR ties and piping are removed and the edge has been graded so it is like a normal shoreline instead of a wall. This enables the natural expansion of ice to climb up rather than eat up the edge. 270 feet were graded by a 10 foot swath, upland.

After the coconut rolls are in, we will seed the 10' wide swath with native sedges rushes, some prairie cord grass,, water plantain, prairie dropseed, bottlebrush grass, little bluestem and cover crops of rye grass and oats to hold the soil in place.

The erosion blanketing will be installed over the seeding. This blanketing has hay in it to keep the seed in place and has a bio-degradable

plastic grid with starts to break down from sunlight. Did you know that water plantain is native to here?

It looks like a mini hosta with stems that hold seed. Most people herbicide it, or pull it cause it doesn't fit in with a well-groomed lawn. It has great roots and is drought tolerant, but loves the boggy areas as well.

We will see everything germinate this summer except for the sedges as they take a bit longer.

This fall we can also re-seed some of it if necessary, or re-seed next spring.

Also next spring we could add some plugs of flowering native variety.

Where the large maple was taken out, a boat launch will be carved out. This location was chosen because of the large root system void it left.

A few large boulders were taken out of the lake as well and will be placed at the starting point of this work to help absorb storm events and protect the new shoreline.

Keep an eye out for an e-blast to volunteer for seeding and erosion blanketing in the very near future.

We want to secure the area as soon as possible.

With the dam/spillway work looking more and more possible for this fall, we will begin looking at Ravinia Bay to repair the blown out mouth of the creek. Hopefully some work can be done there while the lake is lowered. We'll report on that late spring after consulting with ILM. Some bouldering at the mouth needs to be done, as well as assessing the tree situations along that creekbed for possible problems from the extreme amount of water that now flows to us through there.

We lost a very large live oak there last year.

In Juneau Terrace we are watching the erosion alongside the new steps and will most likely add cobbles to help control that problem during clean up day, Sat. May 18th.

Still no firm date to remove the large dead oak in Bjorklund Park. The pretty burl will be left in place to become a seat once the trunk is removed.

Jeri Swanson, Parks/Easements.

Photos by Brian Wawrzyniak



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Sat. May 18th,
Rain date of Sun. May 19th.

Keeping Our Beach Open . . .

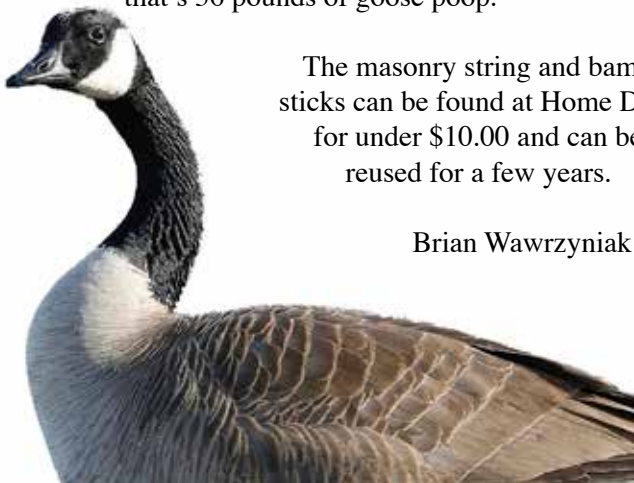
Well it's that time of year as to where flocks of geese will want to start nesting. We used to have a problem on Sylvan Lake as to where geese would start nesting on our easements, lake front properties and tried to nest at our beach. Geese, individually, can produce up to 2 pounds of "droppings" per day.

One year our beach was closed for one day by the Illinois beach water testing facility due to an increase amount of goose droppings around the shoreline.

Our solution has been very simple and this method can also be used by Sylvan Lake members that have water front property or easement. This solution at the beach will be used temporarily to keep the geese away until warmer weather.

The solution is stringing up brightly colored "masonry string" in between bamboo sticks where the string is about one foot off the ground. This "string barrier" when approached by the geese tends to keep them away. This solution has been very successful at the beach and a number of lake front property owners the last 2 years. Once the stringed line has been assembled at the beach please do not disturb it. Again, it will be taken down when the weather is warmer for actual beach and swimming usage.

Three years ago, we had a "family" of 18 to 28 geese hanging around on our easements, personal property and the beach and the number of "droppings" on personal property and at the beach grassy area was overwhelming and unhealthy. Remember 2 pounds of poop per day for each goose.... 28 geese times 2 pounds of poop per day that's 56 pounds of goose poop.



The masonry string and bamboo sticks can be found at Home Depot for under \$10.00 and can be reused for a few years.

Brian Wawrzyniak

ECO-CORNER # 8

As promised, here are a few more "green" dates to note in your calendar for 2019:

May 22nd: International Day for Biological Diversity was established by the United Nations to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity. *Biodiversity refers to the variety of life that inhabits both the larger world and/or a certain specific local habitat (like Sylvan Lake).* Biodiversity is important because every species of every living thing has a role to play for healthy functioning ecosystems.

June 8th: World Oceans Day spotlights oceans (Can you name the 5 distinct oceans?) which connect people worldwide and inspires continuing action to protect, restore, and conserve this amazing global resource. The health of oceans is also connected with the water cycle we depend on to refresh and replenish freshwater ecosystems.

November 15th: America Recycles Day is a Keep America Beautiful initiative to recognize the many economic, environmental, and social benefits of recycling. This date is also intended to raise awareness around the value of the three R's: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. Many events are organized in communities across the nation to support America Recycles Day each year.

Truth be told, we really don't need a certain calendar page to be turned for us to be, you know, tuned in. We can make a date *every* day to learn more about eco- and environmental issues affecting our world globally and our communities locally.

Happy Spring! :-)

Jennifer Cameron

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/special-themes/biodiversity/international-day-for-biological-diversity/>

<http://www.worldoceansday.org/>

<https://americarecyclesday.org/>

Fremont Township Annual Town Meeting to be held Tuesday, April 9th

The 2019 Annual Town Meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room located in the downstairs area of the Fremont Township Administration Building, 22376 W. Erhart Road, Mundelein. This meeting gives the Township an opportunity to review the past year; it gives residents a chance to communicate with each other and with Township officials.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend. It is an informative evening.



Fremont Township Updates

*From Diana O'Kelly
Fremont Township Supervisor*

Gilmer Rd at Midlothian Road:

The development of the final plans for improvements to the intersection of Gilmer Road and Midlothian Road is continuing. Lake County has acquired over 60% of the right-of-way and easements necessary to construct the project. It is anticipated that utility companies will be able to start relocating their facilities later in 2019. This project is included in the County's 5 Year Highway Improvement Program for construction in 2022. It is possible that the construction of the project could be moved earlier if funding becomes available.

Dream Catcher Making April 3 at 10 am

Are you looking to do a new craft? Come to Fremont Township to learn how to make your own dream catcher. All Supplies will be provided and beginners are welcome. This is open to Seniors 60 and older and they are asking a \$5 donation. No Senior will be turned away for inability to pay. **Call Kari Pohar at 847 740-6708 to register.** This class is funded by the Agency on Aging and Catholic Charities.

Here's How to Print the Sylvan Lake Phone Directory

Go to the Sylvan Lake website: **www.slia.net**

- Select the **Association, Contacts** tab
- Select the Sylvan Lake Phone Directory link
- Enter the password.
If you don't know the password, send an email message to SylvanLakers@gmail.com and we will send it to you.

This is a snippet of the phone directory when it opens.

| Last Name | First Name | Phone Number | Mobile | Address |
|-----------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Alvarez | Miguel | 847 410 0844 | | 21244 W. Crescent Dr. |
| Anderson | Mark and Patty | 847 546 2460 | | 21247 W. Crescent Dr. |
| Anderson | Donna Leigh | 847 546 7146 | | 21172 W. Midwestern Dr. |
| Bach | Karen | | | 24247 W. Highland Dr. |
| Billy | James and Maureen | 847 546 7161 | | 24255 W. Highland Dr. |
| Bennett | Rob and Sherona Leith | 847 546 4857 | 847 856 2485 | 21489 W. Crescent Dr. |
| Bennett | Barbara | | | 24027 W. Glenview Rd. |
| Bellinder | Fred and Michele | 847 570 6740 | | 24117 W. Highland Dr. |
| Benedick | Steve and Michele | 847 546 8819 | | 24142 W. Highland Dr. |
| Beno | Conrad and Sheila | 847 546 1423 | | 21135 W. Sylvan Dr. |
| Beno | Barb | 847 445 7160 | | 21133 W. Sylvan Dr. |

- Once the phone book opens,
- Select the Printer icon at the top left of the browser screen.
- Using that printer icon, send the Phone Directory to your printer.

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