



April, 2020

Sylvan Lake Shoreline

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

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

Troubling Times. . . Call your neighbors and friends!

Neighbors, particularly senior citizens, are not seeing much of each other because of the virus. Think about calling your neighbors on the phone for a “Cheer up” call just to let our neighbors know we care about them, especially neighbors who live alone. We can find out if their needs are being met and just have our Sylvan Lake friendly neighborhood social life extend via a friendly phone call.

The Damn is Off Again, On Again, Now Off Again

See “State of the Lake” on page three

SLIA Annual dues update.

As a reminder to all members, the 2020 assessment for the Sylvan Lake Improvement Association was due on 3/1/2020. If it is not yet paid, your account will now have a late fee applied every 60 days. Please send your assessment and late fees as soon as possible. Please also remember that SLIA has no employees. All of our revenues are used for the many improvements, maintenance and fixed expenses of our lake, parks and easements.

Thank you, Ed Meltzer

Secretary of States Office

All Illinois Secretary of State offices and Driver Service facilities are CLOSED to the public through April 7, 2020, due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

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SAVE the DATE
Spring Clean up will be
Sat. May 23th,

Fremont Township Has Moved To a Single Hauler! Starts NOW

All Sylvan Lake garbage pickup will be on Fridays



Senior Discount Available

Groot Industries has a Senior Rate for single-family households where the head of household is 65 or older. You need to call/contact Groot Industries and make the request. You can do this by sending an email request to:

fremonttownship@groot.com

Include the following in this request:

- Your name, Service Address and Telephone number
- Proof of age. Attach a picture of your IL Drivers License.

You can take that picture from your phone.

Additional Safety Notice from Groot Industries

In order to protect the health and welfare of our employees along with keeping our customers and public safe, effective March 23, 2020 we are temporarily making the following collection changes until further notice.

All trash/refuse and recycling must be placed in a company designated cart, a can with handles, or bagged. Loose uncontained items will not be collected. More specifically:

- All bulky item/construction debris collection is suspended until further notice.

- All white good/e-waste collection is suspended until further notice.

At this time, yard waste and recycling service is unaffected by the changes; however, we do anticipate potential changes to yard waste and recycling programs also.

We will continue practicing the protocols and recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Again, these are temporary changes made in the effort to keep your community and our employees safe. We will update you as soon as anything changes moving forward.

Regards, Groot Industries

Notice - Regarding South Sylvan Repaving

South Sylvan Drive is scheduled for repaving in 2021. Because of the effect that may have on driveway aprons, the Highway Department wants suggests residents postpone any driveway improvements until the paving is complete. Curb replacement will require that we sawcut a section of the driveway aprons to build concrete forms, and we would hate to cut into a new driveway. Also, any landscaping within 2 feet of the curb along the right-of-way would be disturbed. Homeowners should consider transplanting any valued plants currently along the road way until the project is complete. We will, of course, provide more notices closer to the time of the work. As always, I can be reached at 847-223-2848 or highway@fremonttownship.com with any questions.

Alicia Dodd - Fremont Township Highway Commissioner

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 mild Winter we have had and yet there were opportunities for activities over our frozen lake. Best of both worlds.

Our Sylvan Lake community has been met with the coronavirus pandemic along with the rest of the world. The State of Illinois is under a COVID-19 stay-at-home order along with five other states. We are all surprised with the turn of events, but like so many other situations, the Sylvan Lake community is working to cooperate while still helping others. We are hearing of neighbors reaching out to seniors to offer personal shopping assistance. Young parents are organizing "window walks" to get their kids out of the house with a kid-friendly community activity. Other neighbors have put out a call to simply telephone people who are home alone to provide pleasant conversation and a morale boost. This is the Sylvan Lake that we have always known, and this situation is no different in our response.

Much has changed about the dam/spillway construction project that was planned to begin in mid-May. We have been notified by the Fremont Township Highway Commissioner that two issues are causing delays to the project. First, even prior to COVID-19, the Highway Department was preparing itself for updated bids that were higher than the Highway Department can afford. In preparation for that, the Highway Commissioner had solicited a second opinion from an engineer who specializes in dam safety in order to get a current assessment of our dam's condition. That was supposed to occur in the week of March 16. Secondly, the coronavirus has taken priority within Lake County just like it has everywhere else. **Thus, the Highway Commissioner has revised her plan to acknowledge there being no possible way for the project to happen as scheduled.**

The Sylvan Lake Board will work to see if there are other options the Association can take outside of the major Highway Department project. These will need to be worked out at board

meetings starting in April

If we can come up with some options that can be done by the Association, this might still offer an option for members who have shoreline property to assess their shorelines, seawalls, piers and the like and get them repaired, replaced etc. (refer to rules and regulations). We would also love an opportunity to clean up debris. Stay tuned for updates as the Board enlists volunteers to work on possibilities.

OTHER UPDATES:

*Gilmer road expansion is planned for 2021

*The single garbage hauler starts in April. Groot will be our community garbage hauler. At the beginning of March, they mailed out information with options etc. We are excited to see that leaf pick up is part of the service being offered and member garbage pick-up rates may go down depending on the service you choose. There is also a senior discount offered.

*Here is an interesting statistic... One garbage truck equals 9,000 cars. Imagine how a single garbage hauler will positively affect our roads.

*When walking at night or in the dark... it is highly recommended that you wear some sort of reflective clothing, a flashlight etc.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Mary Harroun is looking for some volunteers to help manage the book bins throughout Sylvan lake. Interested volunteers can give her a call. Thank you.

SLIA CURRENT YTD.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

Balance sheet:

Total Liabilities and Assets
TY \$249.0 vs LY \$232.1

Profit and Loss:

YTD: \$85.1 vs LY \$81.8
(trending better than budget)
Expenses: YTD 4.4 vs LY \$3.0

Legal and professional fees
YTD: \$1.7 vs LY \$.8
(Reimbursable TY: \$3.5 LY: \$4.6)

*We are in good shape to keep making improvements

SLIA WEBSITE:

Check out the Sylvan Lake Website.

- Website name: slia.net
- The only place that requires a password is 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 2020 SLIA BOARD:

President: Gary Goldblatt

Vice President: Jeanne Peterson

Treasurer: Ed Meltzer

Secretary: Dan Trahan

Parks & Easements: Jeri Swanson

Lake: Tom Truffer

Beach: Cliff Gartner

Boat Director: 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 Countryside Fire Station on Midlothian rd. This is where great ideas and suggestions can be shared and acted upon. Don't make the annual meeting the only meeting for 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.

See something. Say something.
Do something!

Until the next time...
Happy Spring Everyone!!!!



Dog Poop

Have you taken a walk lately?

The weather was beautiful this past weekend so we decided to take a walk round “the hood.” Kiddies riding bicycles, neighbors being neighbors, gardeners weeding the flower beds, etc..... We live in our own slice of heaven. AND, speaking of the afterlife, all dogs go to heaven but guess what doesn’t? THEIR POOP!!!

During our walk near **Water Triangle Park**, we witnessed the homage paid to excrement statues that have been memorialized with pink flags. This definitely “one ups” the used feces bags disposed in the tree stump and the storm sewers.



Here’s the message:

- Bacteria and diseases from pet waste can be transmitted to people and other pets. Every dog poops. However, dogs do not have no opposable thumbs to scoop their poop. Bacteria, parasites and pathogens in dog dodo can contaminate soil and get washed into waterways.
- “That Smell?” is more than a nostalgic song. It could be the organic truth on your gym shoe or the not-so-subtle squishy between your toes.
- SLIA, through the rules and regulations, supports and enforces picking up “turd bombs.” To encourage this behavior, SLIA donates dog bags which are dispensed at several SLIA locations. In fact, there is a dog bag dispenser located at Water Triangle Park!
- Be the neighbor you want. In other words, be a good ambassador for dog owners by picking up after Fido. No one wants to start DNA testing dog poop, filming squatting dogs or have an awkward conversation. But we could...

I never had the pleasure of meeting Sam Schembari, but someone thought enough of him to dedicate a bench to him in Water Triangle Park. Please keep the area clear of dog poop to make that bench accessible without stepping in it. If you are already scooping up Fido’s poop, please continue to do so. And we thank you.

Boat Stuff

Regarding boats there are a few things that we need to be aware of with respect to keeping our lake safe. A few of these key items are listed below. The entire listing can be found in the SLIA Rules and Regulations Section 3 found on the SLIA website at www.slia.net.

- All watercraft must display a valid Association boat permit sticker (the 1st 2 are free).
- Boat registration stickers are good for the lifetime of the boat.
- Boat registration and storage forms can be found on the SLIA website or in the plastic container inside the bulletin board across from the beach.
- Watercraft stored on easements must allow 20 feet in the middle of the easement so as to not obstruct passage to and from the lake are by other members.
- If any boat that is registered with a Sylvan Lake boat sticker is being given to or sold to another Sylvan Lake resident, it’s the responsibility of the seller to notify the Boat Director of the change in ownership. This shall be accomplished by either a written letter or completing a boat registration form identifying the seller and the new owner. If this notification is not followed, the registered owner (as recorded in the database) may be responsible for any fees or fines associated with their boat. In addition, it’s also the responsibility of the new owner to register the boat or notify the Boat Director in order to update the Boat Registration database.

If you have any specific questions please email the Boat Team at sliaboatsticker@gmail.com

Thanks, and have a good spring.

Brian Wawrzyniak
Boat Director



Yes, there is a limit to motors on Sylvan Lake!

Do Not Flush Wipes

**Save the Pipes -
Don't Flush Wipes!**

With many stores selling out of toilet paper quickly, and residents turning to alternatives like wipes and paper towels, please refrain from disposing of certain products down your toilet.

When flushed, products like disinfecting wipes, 'flushable' wipes and paper towels cause clogs which can cause damage to the sewer pipes in your home and yard, the sewer system in your neighborhood, Lake County's pumps and treatment facilities, and the environment.

Even if a product is marked 'flushable', it does not mean it is. These products do not degrade like toilet paper and will end up clogging pipes. Only toilet paper and human waste should be flushed - all other products should be disposed of.



How you can Help

From Diana O'Kelly,
Fremont Township Supervisor

Many of you are calling asking how you can help. If you are able to help your neighbors in need, we appreciate donations to our food pantry. Currently our greatest needs are rice, instant potatoes, sides, peanut butter and jelly and mac and cheese, but we appreciate any donations. There is a box at the front of Jewel on Midlothian or donations may be left on our front porch at 22385 Route 60, Mundelein. For the first time, we have received some donations through Amazon delivery.

If you are aware of Fremont Township neighbors in need, please have them call us at 847 223-2847.

My sincere thank you!

Message From Countryside Fire Protection District

Countryside Fire Protection District would like to remind residents that calling 9-1-1 should be for life threatening emergencies only.

If you have flu-like symptoms, please contact your primary physician's office, and they will give you the best recommendation for treating your symptoms without tying up an ambulance and overcrowding the emergency department hospital.

In addition, residents should not call 9-1-1 for COVID-19 (coronavirus) related testing. Ambulances are NOT equipped for any kind of COVID-19 tests.



Nicholas
Molsen,
1945 - 2020

Dear Sylvan Lake Friends,

We lost our dad, Nick Molsen, on March 25. The entire Molsen family is heartbroken by this unexpected outcome after knee surgery back in January. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, funeral services for Nick were limited to immediate family only.



Nick and Bunny Molsen

As many of you know, Nick and Bunny called Sylvan Lake home for 40 years and they considered the Sylvan Lake community part of their extended family. Once social distancing requirements are lifted, we will figure out some way of honoring both Nick and Bunny here at the lake and will invite neighbors to join us.

Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers for Nick as he makes his way home to his beloved Bunny.

The Molsen kids
and grandkids



Parks and Easement News

Way back in December the Eco-Chics gathered in Renee DelMissier's heated garage to make seed balls from native seed. Some seed was from right here in Sylvan Lake and some was leftover seed from previous projects.



12 people made 500 seed balls !! It took about 2-1/2 hours. A mixture of unscented/treated clay cat litter, compost and little water was combined and then seed was added to each ball formed. They were dried in my basement until mid February.



The first batch of 250 were tossed along the fenceline of North Sylvan and also into the new area of Maple Park shoreline. Renee and I did this on a most perfect day: recent snow accumulation makes it

best. Renee had knee replacement in December and was willing to help if I could get her down the hill into Maple: see photo of her sled trip. Thankfully, she was ready, willing and able to traverse back up the hill on foot. The remainder of the seeds balls are now being frozen in The Washburn's deep freezer. They will be used in Ravinia, some easements, beach area and deep in Maple Park after we get some buckthorn out of there, we can determine where they should go.



In the meantime we are hoping for lots of flowering native plants to surprise us along the fenceline !

At the recent Eco-Chic meeting we worked on setting up dates for an additional day of buckthorn removal so more work can be done on Clean up Day.

If you can help us on Buckthorn Day: Saturday, April 18th @10:00, meet at Shady Lane & North Sylvan. Rain date: Sunday, April 19th @ 1:00pm, same place.

We are hoping Fremont Township will give us an extra pick up, if not, we will store the buckthorn until our **Clean up Day, which is Saturday May 23rd.**

Depending on the status of

the dam work, we will submit recommended plants for shoreline stabilization.

We just are not real sure at this time what to recommend as planting in the fall would be different than planting in the spring with a lowered lake. More will follow.

Ravinia Rehab: Lake must be lowered for them to have access to Ravinia as no public access is available along S. Sylvan or Crescent, that can handle the equipment they will be bringing in to excavate some spots.

Please remember that leaves are NOT to be raked into the lake, they sink and create too much debris at the bottom. **Remind your landscapers, please.**

Also remember that there is to be NO leaf burning on ANY of our streets. You will need to pile the leaves and save for fall pick up or slowly over time burn in your own fire pit. DRY leaves only can be burned on your property as long as there is slight breeze to keep smoke moving.

Continued on the next page

SAVE the DATE
Spring Clean up will be
Sat. May 23rd,

ECO-CORNER Lucky # 13

Art and The Modern Environmental Movement

Happy Spring! I hope you've all enjoyed a peaceful, restful winter season and are ready to head outdoors to walk, ride, garden, bird watch, and whatever else you enjoy doing around beautiful Sylvan Lake. This first eco-article of 2020 is a little something different that I hope will resonate with neighbors who are the more artistic, creative types and who also share common concerns for the scientific health of natural environments.

Mother Nature grabs our visual attention in a variety of ways as colors, patterns, and plays of light are seemingly arranged for maximum impact. We don't immediately recognize the science in front of us, but we do notice the beauty! Cameras are great but many times cannot capture the backstory or even the future of the specimen

we have discovered or the natural environment we are enjoying.

Enter eco-artists and the green art movement!

Art can cause people to stop and think more deeply about the ways human populations, industry, and activities are impacting ecosystems today and into the future. Eco-art is basically art with an emphasis on provoking thought and action around environmental issues. Art can be in many formats: film, sculpture, paintings, photography, etc., and there is a growing recognition that artistic expression is capable of prompting creative solutions to ecological challenges.

While environmental art has its roots (*haha, pun intended*) in the 1960s and 70s, it has most certainly evolved into the current millennium to incorporate modern "hot" topics of concern including

sustainability, climate change, land usage, and waste. During the next rainy afternoon when you are stuck indoors, please check out the links listed below (copy/paste). Perhaps you too will be inspired to think deeper about the environmental issues we are facing today and come up with a few creative solutions of your own!

<https://www.theartstory.org/movement/environmental-art/>

<https://www.artworksforchange.org/artist-galleries-ftb-part-ii/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-91umZ7cQE>

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/environmental-art_n_5585288

<https://mymodernmet.com/environmental-art/>

Parks and Easement News - Page two

There are Native Plant Sales, but check to be sure they are happening as many events that draw crowds are not happening;

Linda Mihel submitted these dates and places for native plants:

Citizen's for Conservation Sat May 2 & Sun. May 3 from 9am til 3 pm. They are located on Rt. 22 across the street from Good Shepherd Hospital Pre-orders are available thru April 13 and preorders can be picked up on Fr. May 1st more info: citizensforconservation.org

Lake County Forest Preserve District
Sat May 9 & Sun May 10
9-3 on Sat, 9-2 on Sun
Independence Grove, Libertyville
more info: lcfpd.org

Openlands
Fri May 15 & Sat May 16 Fri May 22 & Sat May 23 - 9-3pm @ 31619 N. Almond Rd. Libertyville
order online from 4/1 to 4/30
more info: Openlands.org

Friends of Volo Bog
Native tree & shrub sale
Sat April 18th from 10 til 2pm, Sun April 19th from 11 til 2pm

Pick up at Volo Bog State Natural Area
Order form at: FriendsOfVoloBog.org - order by 4/11

The following companies have beautiful pictures and information about what would be good to plant in damp/wet areas:
Prairienursery.com
Prairiemoon.com

Questions ? Please call
Jeri Swanson 847-507-2760 or
email: swan458@sbcglobal.net

Keeping Our Beach Open . . .

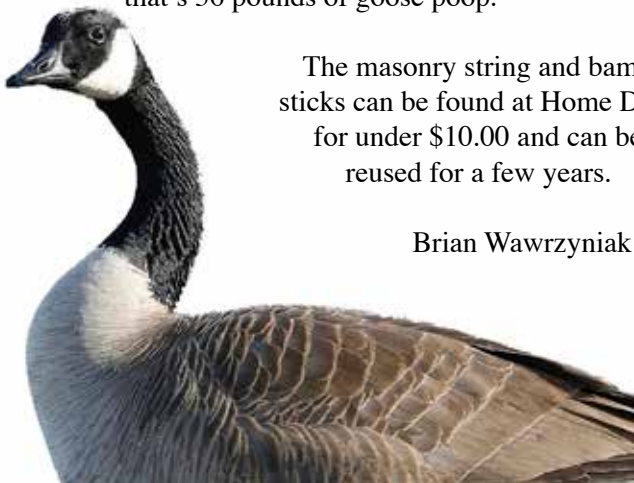
Well it's that time of year as to where flocks of geese will want to start nesting. We used to have a problem on Sylvan Lake as to where geese would start nesting on our easements, lake front properties and tried to nest at our beach. Geese, individually, can produce up to 2 pounds of "droppings" per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

Take a Book, leave a book

Take a Book, leave a book have been in place since last fall, we need three volunteers who live right near the bins to have each one keep an eye on the bins, clean out unwanted books, take them to the library and add new books. Thanks, Mary Harroun

Have You Completed Your Census Form?

Recently, you should have received instructions for completing you 2020 Census questionnaire online. It is easy and takes about 5 minutes to complete. If the government doesn't receive your response online, they will mail a paper questionnaire in a few weeks.

Please submit this online if you have access. No need to send a Census Bureau worker to collect the answers in person.

Donate Your Monopoly Winner to Fremont Food Pantry

If you are playing Monopoly at Jewel and win items you won't use, the Fremont Township Food Pantry is happy to accept those items. Store Manager Bill Reckert at the Midlothian and 176 Jewel will have a box at the front of the store for your convenience starting Saturday. Thanks for thinking of us!!!!

Blood Donations Needed

There is a definite need for blood now! If you would like to donate blood now, please contact Vitalant at 877-258-4825 to schedule an appointment. Vitalant community centers will remain open for donations! For more information, please visit Vitalant.org The Mundelein Fire Department has a tentative date set for May 2.