

April 2023

# Sylvan Lake Shoreline

## Speed Cushions

For years, members of the community have looked for ways to control the speed of vehicles driving through our neighborhood. With so many kids and the lack of sidewalks, safety has been our primary concern. We've tried cones, digital speed radar, and people gesturing for cars to slow down, but nothing has been very effective. After meeting with the Fremont Township Highway Department to discuss options, we finally found an option that will meet our needs. [Speed Cushions](#).



Speed Cushions are recycled rubber humps that are placed across the road to slow traffic. Their design encourages cars to slow down without coming to a halt. They are ideal for residential roads, school zones, parks and playground areas, etc. and are designed to keep speeds between 10-20mph.

They are temporary, so they can be removed for plowing in winter months and are designed to allow wider emergency vehicles like fire trucks to drive through without impact. Fremont Township has agreed to install/remove them along with their signs each year and our only responsibility is to store them.

During our annual meeting in September, 2022, we discussed the details of speed cushions and possible locations, and the membership overwhelmingly approved their use. The first two sets will be installed on Kid Row, between dead-man's curve and Bjorkland Park where at least 25+ kids play. In the future, we can look to install additional sets throughout the neighborhood as needed.

Our speed cushions have been delivered to Fremont Township and we'll be coordinating their installation this spring!

**Dan Trahan - SLIA President**

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## Sylvan Lake Website

[www.slia.net](http://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 the history of Sylvan Lake.

The updated website is ready for your use. 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](mailto:Sylvanlakers@gmail.com) and request it.

# ECO-CORNER #26

by Jenn Cameron

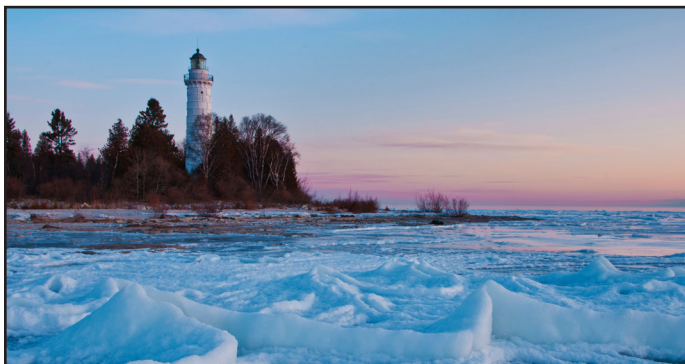
## Early 2023 Eco-News Nuggets

Let's catch up on a few eco-news items since the start of 2023.



**JANUARY 2023:** “Directly or indirectly, wetlands provide most of the world’s consumable fresh water. More than 40% of all species live and breed in wetlands. Inland wetlands function like sponges, absorbing and storing water to reduce flooding during heavy rainfall. Also like sponges, wetlands release stored water during dry seasons, delaying droughts and minimizing water shortages.”

<https://earth911.com/inspire/wetlands-protection-fight-climate-change/>



**FEBRUARY 2023:** “Ice cover on the lakes varies from year to year. But an analysis led by Jia Wang, an ice climatologist at NOAA’s GLERL, shows a downward trend spanning 44 years. During the winter period, which runs from December 1 to April 30, average ice cover on the Great Lakes declined 69 percent between 1973 and 2017.”

<https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/150979/great-lakes-low-on-ice>



**MARCH 2023:** “Only 10 percent of the plastic ever made has been recycled. The material that doesn’t make it into landfills can get swept into rivers or directly into oceans. It slowly breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces, known as microplastics, which are less than 5 millimeters in length and can be eaten by marine life.”

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2023/03/08/ocean-plastics-pollution-study/>



**APRIL 2023:** “INVEST IN OUR PLANET Get Inspired. Take Action. Be a part of the green revolution. For Earth Day 2023, we need to act (boldly), innovate (broadly), and implement (equitably). Businesses, governments, and citizens — everyone accounted for, and everyone accountable. A partnership for the planet.”

<https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2023/>

**HAPPY SPRING! I don’t know about you, but I can’t wait to get outside! :-)**



# Parks & Easements

## Spring Cleanup

This year spring cleanup will be on May 20th with a rain date of May 21st. Be on the lookout for an e-blast with more information. We will be working on our playgrounds this spring, so we hope to get plenty of volunteers.

## Have you seen Upper Maple Park and Briar Terrace Lately?

Over the winter we had an extensive brush removal done by Tall Grass Restorations in Maple Park, northwest of deadman's curve. This area has never been worked on and was filled with buckthorn, honeysuckle, burning bush, Norway maples and other invasive shrubs and saplings. Along with years of trash! You could barely walk through it. It is a great example of what happens when these invasive shrubs and trees are allowed to take over. Simply put, nothing else grows. It is now very bare, but will be seeded this year and we will continue to replant it over the years.



## Schwerman Park upgrades

Schwerman Park upgrades have officially begun! New baby swings have been installed as the first small step. Over the next few months, and with significant time from Sylvan Lake volunteers, several more significant changes will be constructed. A 16 ft. tall rope spider climber will be installed around clean-up day. Several stainless steel slides are being restored and are planned to be installed in the summer. The race car, ducky, and slide hood will be restored once the best method is identified. The logs near the volleyball court will be dug in vertically to

become stepping stones. Finally, more pea gravel will be spread to cushion the ground at the playground. The goal is to make significant progress on clean-up day, so meet us at the park!



## Sylvan Lake Sunshine Group

We live in a community that helps our neighbors in need. We are focused on how we can expand and improve what is happening naturally already, neighbors helping neighbors. We are developing plans to better communicate with our volunteers when we become aware of needs in our neighborhood. We are hoping to expand our list of volunteers to better meet those needs as they arise.

If you are aware of anybody in our community with an illness or emergency that may need some help, in a variety of different ways, we are available. Please call Frances Pacheco, 847-989-6862 or Denise Goldblatt 847-650-8644 or Renee Del Missier 847-643-6684. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please let one of us know also.

As neighbors please reach out to our more elderly neighbors from time to time. That gives us an opportunity to know them better and be aware of their potential needs or concerns. If you become aware of any neighbors that the Sylvan Sunshine Group could be of benefit to, please contact one of listed point persons.

Thank you,  
Kimberly Del Bene and Sarah Owen



## Dam Project Update

Fremont Township hopes to put the project out to bid early May for a May 26th bid opening, which was determined to be the absolute latest we can go in order to complete the work this year. Construction would start at the beginning of July.

All of this happening depends on:

1) If the bid paperwork can be completed and reviewed by Lake County legal in time to advertise for the bids.

2) The bid prices are not unreasonably high.

With this timeline, the lake would not be lowered until late June, early July. If they fail to meet any of the needed deadlines, the project would be postponed.

**Dan Trahan**  
SLIA President

## Keep Up Your Personal Safety Vigilance

Thankfully, the alerts and warnings of the past few years have receded. However, remembering to wash your hands often and carefully will help protect you from many types of illness. With little ones, you can hold "hand washing parties" from time to time during the day. Be creative, and be safe!

## Sylvan Lake 100th Birthday Video

To celebrate Sylvan Lake's 100 year birthday, a video will be shown the night of Oktoberfest.

To help make this video special we are asking for old photos, special stories and/or photos from families who have lived here for 40+ years (group photo and year moved in).

You can send a copy of the photo to  
[tammie.trahan@gmail.com](mailto:tammie.trahan@gmail.com)



# Sylvan Lake Egg Hunt and Bake Sale



The Egg Hunt and Bake Sale was a big hit! Thank you to the bunnies Tammie Trahan and Dave Benedeck. This event wouldn't have happened without Nancy Hanson, Lauren Rollinger, Jen Scharff, Kelly Dickenson, Nancy Brashear and Debbie Pomazal for coordinating the events of the day.







NEW THIS YEAR

## ART IN THE PARK!

All Sylvan Lake neighbors, friends and family are welcome to join in the fun.

1. We will be unveiling the murals created for the benches.
2. We will have areas set up for adults and kids to do art projects.
3. Free CUPCAKES to celebrate the 100th Birthday of Sylvan Lake.
4. Walk around and see the art show! Display your talent!

\*\* If you have a special talent we want to see it.

Looking for adults and kids who would like to display their creative side. Please bring an easel or let us know how you'd like to display your special item(s).

Art work, photography, art made from recycled materials, crafted art, designed cards, jewelry makers, guitar makers, wood workers, metal art, paper art,

crochet art, quilters, cartoons, authors/ illustrators bring that special book you created...

Please contact [tammie.trahan@gmail.com](mailto:tammie.trahan@gmail.com) or [SheriellenLiss@gmail.com](mailto:SheriellenLiss@gmail.com)

**Hope you can make it!!**

Note: We can not be responsible for anything brought to the park so please be aware. All items must be taken home at the end of the event. There will be tables set up to show art. Please bring art between 11:30- 12:30 to setup before the event.

Thank you!

**Tammie Trahan**

### SLIA Board

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