



# Clear Lake

OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 2017

# NEWS

## TOWN OF CLEAR LAKE

I'm sure you'll agree summer flew by again this year. It's hard to believe fall has already arrived and it will also be a busy time at Clear Lake. Town Council has approved a contract with API Construction to raise, widen and repave West Clear Lake Drive from Penner Drive to the Round Lake bridge. This work will begin soon and be completed sometime in November.

**Leaf pick up** will begin the first week in October and run through the end of November. Since we have our own equipment, there won't be a set schedule. When Bob and Guy see the piles of leaves at the side of the road, they will get busy and get them picked up. Please remember the following guidelines:

- Pile your leaves close to the roadside, but not more than 3 feet high.
- Do not pile your leaves on the roadway or your gravel driveway.
- Make sure you only have leaves in the pile, no sticks, grasses, shrubs and plants, etc.
- Remember it is illegal to burn leaves in the Town of Clear Lake (Ordinance 91.16C, enacted 5-10-82).

As we head toward the snow season, it is helpful if residents place **plastic reflectors along the roadside**. This helps guide the snow plow around lake roads. Please do NOT use metal stakes as they can damage the snow plow.

If you are not using your cottage during the winter, please **winterize your grinder pump**. Before you leave your cottage for the season, it is helpful to flush out the system with fresh water. Filling and then emptying a bathtub a couple of times is an easy way accomplish this, or running a faucet for half an hour will also do the trick. This will help with the start up in the spring and increase the life of the pumps.

With the approach of winter weather, and the possibility of **power outages**, here are some important reminders. Our sewer system is powered directly from NIPSCO power lines. Therefore, if your house is without power, so is your grinder pump station. Each station has a limited capacity, so until the power is restored, the station cannot be emptied. You may have a generator to temporarily power your house, but unless your generator powers your G/P station, you have a limited number of flushes. The town does allow permanently-installed generators to power grinder/pump stations, however, an Improvement Location Permit (ILP) is required to install and connect a generator to your G/P station. Contact the Zoning Administrator at Town Hall for more information about these permits. ([zoning@townofclearlake.org](mailto:zoning@townofclearlake.org))

### **Clear Lake residents should have received a letter from the town covering several topics:**

1. Please review the information about **trash collection services for 2018** and complete the survey to express your opinion. A copy of the letter and the Survey Link are also available on the town's website. Please reply by October 15, 2017. We appreciate your input.
2. The Plan Commission continues to research opportunities to have more input into **zoning for areas that directly impact the lake**. The proposed ETJ request has been put on hold and options for less impact are being studied.

3. The Thomas **Garage Condo Project** in a wetland areas east of Clear Lake has again narrowly been defeated 3-2 at the Steuben County BZA.
4. A **proposed 36.5% sewer rate increase** by Fremont is being contested by the Town of Clear Lake. The increase would equate to over \$800,000 in increased costs. The Town has partnered with Steuben Lakes District and the matter is before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission.

Want to help? We need you! The Town of Clear Lake relies on community-minded residents to meet the needs of this wonderful place we call home. You must be a legal, full-time resident in order to serve in an official capacity. If you have an interest in learning more about supporting Clear Lake by volunteering your time, please us ([service@townofclearlake.org](mailto:service@townofclearlake.org)) and we will reach out to you. Thank you!

**Some notes about special people:**

Town Council would like to thank Emma Brown for her many years of service to the Town of Clear Lake. Emma and Alan Brown have been a vital part of the Clear Lake community for many years. They are moving to Indianapolis to be closer to family. Emma and Alan, you will be missed.

We would also like to thank Anita Thiel for her service as Ward 3 Representative. We welcome Darin Thorp as the new Ward 3 Representative. Darin and his wife Su live at 1236 Quiet Harbor Drive.

Kevin Kane, our Town Marshal, is retiring at the end of September. We wish him well and thank him for his service to the community.

To all the members of the Clear Lake Community, we hope you have a safe and happy fall and winter season.

Submitted by Bruce Spangler for Clear Lake Town Council

**IMPORTANT REMINDER TO ALL CLEAR LAKE RESIDENTS**

Please let me know of any changes in your postal or email addresses or phone number(s). I try to keep this information up to date in case there is a need to contact you for any reason throughout the year. There is a form available on the town's website ([www.townofclearlake.org](http://www.townofclearlake.org)) or you can contact me by phone (260-495-9158) or email ([billing@townofclearlake.org](mailto:billing@townofclearlake.org)). Thank you.

Submitted by Brenda Eby, Utility Clerk, Town of Clear Lake

**CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION**

The trees are putting on their fall colors. The water is getting very clear again. As we close the book on another summer, I would like to thank everyone who supported the Association this past year. We would like to give a HUGE "Thank you!" to Alan Brown. Alan has been Secretary/Treasurer of the Clear Lake Association for many years. Browns are the leaving the lake and will be greatly missed. We will be looking for a new person to fill this position. If you would like to know more about the responsibilities and/or would like to be considered for Secretary/Treasurer of the Association, please let me know. (Bruce Spangler - email: [clearlake222@yahoo.com](mailto:clearlake222@yahoo.com) or phone: 260-495-3954)

If there is a swim bouy in front of your cottage, please make sure to get it out of the water this fall. If you close your cottage for winter and don't return until spring, here is a tip to keep your grinder pump in good shape. Run clean water in your sinks or flush your toilets numerous times just before you leave. This fills your

grinder pump with clean water for the winter. Taking a few minutes to do this simple chore will help preserve our sewer system and save all of us money. Thank you.

Here are a few dates to mark on your 2018 calendar:

**June 30**, Saturday, dusk – Clear Lake Association Fireworks

**July 21**, Saturday, 9:00 am – CLA Annual Meeting at Town Hall

June (date to be announced in January newsletter) – Boater Safety Class

Everyone, be safe and come back to Clear Lake as often as you can. Winter is also a beautiful time here.

Submitted by Bruce Spanger, President, Clear Lake Association.

### **FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP LAND CONSERVANCY**

Our Clear Lake Nature Preserve and Brennan Woods have been the site of much activity this past spring and summer. A prescribed fire was completed in late spring and shortly after a selective tree harvest. Both support the long-term restoration goals of converting this property back to its former prairie and open oak woodland state. The fire removed a thick leaf litter layer and the selective harvest opened up the canopy, both changing the structure in a way that will support natural oak regeneration. We planned out a trail and marked it with orange flagging. Four very well-attended hikes were offered earlier in September and we encourage you to contact our office for a guided hike to see the proposed trail. A map is available on our website at <https://clearlakeconservancy.org/uploads/76/bw-map-v2.pdf>. Additional trail improvements will be necessary for safety and improved access. Please reach out with your feedback or if you'd like to help with the project. Volunteers will make trail installation possible! Workdays will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

If everything goes as planned, construction on the Kasota Island Shoreline Protection project will begin this fall. The project has gone out to bid and once a contractor has been selected, work will begin. We hope to keep the community well informed about the project and encourage you to periodically check our website, Facebook, and our newsletters. If you'd like to be added to the email list to receive project updates, please contact our office. ([info@clearlakeconservancy.org](mailto:info@clearlakeconservancy.org))

As we continue to raise the necessary funds for the Kasota project, we are happy to report that the generosity of a small group helped to bring in \$2,500 for the project! The Sunday Fun Day pirate flag was auctioned off and, after much back and forth bidding, the flag found a few good homes! Thanks to the continued support of this community.

Finally, stop by Town Hall or see Don Luepke to buy your 2018 calendar. You will enjoy Don's lovely nature photography through all seasons next year. They make great gifts and a portion of the proceeds benefit the Conservancy!



Bridget Harrison,  
Executive Director  
[clearlakeconservancy.org](http://clearlakeconservancy.org)

## FALL TIPS FOR A HEALTHY LAKE



*Fall* describes exactly what we expect to happen with all of our leaves over the next several weeks. The convenient option is to dispose of leaves (and other lawn waste) into the lake, but it is truly damaging to the lake ecosystem. **Please keep leaves, grass and other yard waste out of the lake**, wetlands and inlets to the lake. If you hire individuals or a company to assist with your leaf clean up, please help them understand that putting leaves into the lake is damaging. Also consider these other fall tips:

- If you (or your lawn service) apply a fall lawn fertilizer application, do so sparingly and only use non-phosphorus fertilizer (the middle number on the bag should be zero).
- Leave a strip of unfertilized lawn along the lake edge.
- Use the Town of Clear Lake's Leaf Pick-Up Program.
- Refrain from feeding ducks, swans, and geese; waterfowl waste is a big lake polluter.
- Pick-up pet waste.

### Ways to Dispose of “Non-Mulchable” Yard Waste

- Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District (NISWMD) accepts “non-mulchable” yard materials such as grass clipping, leaves, and brush, but no stumps or land-clearing materials. The site is located at CR 175 N, NW of Angola, adjacent to the Steuben County Fairgrounds. Check their website at <http://www.niswmd.org/> or call 260-587-3063 for more information.
- Fremont Water Treatment Facility accepts leaves, grass clipping and other **non-woody** yard waste at their compost site located west of Fremont on SR 120. Call 260-495-2504 for information.

### Used Motor Oil and Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

- Clear Lake Marina will dispose of used motor oil. Call 260-495-4915 for off-season hours.
- Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District (NISWMD) has a program to properly dispose of residential hazardous waste materials including paint, light bulbs, batteries, and other items. Details can be found at [http://www.niswmd.org/hhw\\_residential.htm](http://www.niswmd.org/hhw_residential.htm).

### Stop the Spread of Invasive Aquatic Plant Species

- Thoroughly rinse all water craft and trailers **BEFORE** entering and **AFTER** exiting any lake, river or stream.

## MARSHAL'S REPORT

Fall is upon us. Please remember a few things when at the lake to keep everyone safe.

The Clear Lake Town **Marshal's contact information** is the following:

Email: [marshal@townofclearlake.org](mailto:marshal@townofclearlake.org)

Phone: 260-495-9158 (same as town office)

**Police services** (*if you are not able to reach one of the on-duty marshals through the town offices*):  
260-665-3131 (This is the Steuben County Communications non-emergency number. A police officer will be dispatched for your complaint.)

If you have a question about golf cart registration updates, vehicle identification or boat hull identification check, call Clear Lake Town Office (**260-495-9158**). Please leave a message for us, giving your contact information, and the next officer on duty will get in touch with you.

As always, please remember safety when driving around the lake, whether in a vehicle or golf cart/UTV. The Speed Limit is 25 mph within the town limits, but – even though this is a posted speed limit – in most places safety would sometimes warrant a slower speed. Please familiarize yourself with town's Golf Cart/UTV Ordinance which is available on the town website. Be sure to check your golf cart/UTV registration for the expiration date. Fees have not changed and are also listed on the town website ([townofclearlake.org](http://townofclearlake.org)) or you may call the town office (listed above).

For the upcoming fall and winter months, please remember to make sure all doors, windows and points of entry to your residences are secured. If possible, please get to know neighbors and have them check your property regularly. Make sure the town office has your current contact information in case of an unwanted situation at your cottage/residence.

Submitted by Kevin Kane, Clear Lake Town Marshal

### A LOOK BACK

### IN TIME

*1929 Ford*

*Model A Roadster*



Quoted from Friday, Sept. 13, **1929** *Angola Herald*, submitted by Clear Lake resident Joyce Lomont Crowl

A SERIES OF DRIVES WHICH WILL REVEAL MILES OF BEAUTIFUL SITES TO THE MOTORIST (31 miles)

Go North from Angola public square, turning right at Shell Filling Station about eight miles from Soldier's Monument. Turn left at first corner and follow main gravel road to Fremont. Turn right at electric traffic signal, turn left on angling road at edge of the

city limits. Turn right at first three corners and follow main road to Clear Lake. Turn right at first road past Caldron hotel and dance hall and follow winding road near cottages around lake past Terrace Garden. Turn right following narrow road, then left, south and west and south to main gravel road. Turn left at four corners on angling road to school house. Turn right and follow main gravel road southerly to US 20 at Powers Corners. Turn right on US 20 to Angola.

**POINTS OF INTEREST:**

Fremont: Thriving town of about one thousand population, serving northeast portion of county. Good school, churches, fine library, offering free camp site. Rose Hartwitch Thrope lived in this town on a site just south of the Fremont "Eagle" office and here received pay for the famous poem, "Curfew Shall Not Right Tonight."

Clear Lake is the second largest and one of the most beautiful of the Steuben county lakes, having the most elaborate summer homes in the county. Kasota Golf Course at Clear Lake. Turn right at Lakeside Hotel, following narrow road for a short distance. Caldron Hotel, one of the finest in the county, drawing on patronage from a wide range. Finest bathing beach in county. Dance pavilion. Terrace Garden on east side and a large dance pavilion, slide and other features. Power's Corners, one of the earliest settlements of the county. Interesting old graveyard. Vicinity has extensive maple groves and is the center of a large maple syrup and sugar industry.

**CLEAR LAKE TOWN CALENDAR**

<b>October</b>	<b>2017</b>
2	Leaf Pickup Begins Through December 1, 2017
9	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
31	Halloween Trick-Or-Treat, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
<b>November</b>	<b>2017</b>
6	Plan Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
13	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
23/24	Town Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
<b>December</b>	<b>2017</b>
1	Leaf Pickup Ends
11	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Town Hall
18	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
25	Town Offices Closed for Christmas Holiday
26	Trash pick-up (delayed due to the Christmas Holiday)

*The members of the Clear Lake Association provide the funding for the publication and distribution of the "Clear Lake News." The purpose of this publication is to communicate activities of Clear Lake Town government and other Clear Lake organizations to all property owners. If you would like to receive CLA News, please send your email address to [azbrown2@frontier.com](mailto:azbrown2@frontier.com) or P.O.BOX 38, FREMONT, IN 4673.*

