



# Clear Lake

# NEWS

APRIL – JUNE 2013

**LET'S GET READY FOR SUMMER:** Here is a reminder of some important Clear Lake ordinances.  
If you rent your cottage out during the summer please post the following for your renters:

## **FIREWORKS ORDINANCE**

Fireworks legal in the State of Indiana (Class C) can be detonated during these hours:

- June 29 & 30, July 1 thru 3 and July 5 thru 9: 1:00 p.m. until two hours after sunset
- **July 4: 10:00 a.m. until two hours after sunset**
- Memorial Day & Labor Day: 1 p.m. to 11 p.m.

## **ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE**

This applies to the area within the town limits including Kasota Island:

- Prohibits animals running at large unless the animal is properly in leash, with the leash not to exceed ten feet in length;
- Requires confinement of every animal so that it cannot stray beyond the premises of the owner, keeper or harborer;
- Prohibits keeping or harboring any dog or other animal which barks, yelps, howls or creates disturbing noises which disturb the peace, quiet, and good order of the town;
- Prohibits defecation on public or private property or another unless the owner/custodian possesses the necessary tools and equipment to remove the defecation and requires immediate removal of defecation.

## **GOLF CART ORDINANCE**

See Marshal Gonya's article on the next page regarding the new Golf Cart & ATV Ordinance.

## **KASOTA ISLAND**

Bill Geiger and the volunteers on the Kasota Island maintenance committee have worked very hard last year and this spring cleaning up the island and improving its appearance with lots of new plantings. The committee invites everyone to visit the island and enjoy the improvements. Please follow these rules during your visits:

- Please keep all pets on a leash and clean-up after them,
- Leave nothing behind---everything that you take to the island should be taken with you when you leave,
- Keep all glass in your boat,
- Do not move any rocks as they are in place for erosion control,
- Fires must only be in designated locations and fully extinguished before you leave. Please, be considerate of others when using firewood by using only what you need.

## **CLEAR LAKE TOWN COUNCIL**

We started 2013 with several appointments to the Plan commission and Board of Zoning Appeals:  
Bonnie Brown---Plan Commission & BZA, Roger Dammeier---Plan Commission, Ron Walters---BZA, John Wilhelm---BZA and Ken Wertz---BZA Alternate.

After many years using a sound system that was sometimes unreliable we now have a new sound system that will take care of all our needs. We thank the Clear Lake Association for their donation of \$2000.00 that helped make this happen. Not only will you be able to hear us better but we will be able to coordinate presentations with computers and many other options.

Finally, as of January 31<sup>st</sup> 2013 we have completed the restructuring of our Sewer Bond Debt. As of this date our Bond Indebtedness is \$1,510,000. We decreased our years by three with a final payment December 31<sup>st</sup> 2019. This was a savings for Clear Lake of approximately \$365,000.

We will be having a onetime spring leaf pickup in May. Please check the Clear Lake Town Website for the pickup days. Have your leaves ready and across the road like we did in the fall.

Have a safe and fun summer here at Clear Lake.

Bob Lewis, President, Clear Lake Town Council

### **GARBAGE BILLING POLICY CHANGE FOR 2013**

The Town of Clear Lake will be mailing garbage bills out by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. Payments will be due by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. If payments are not received in the town hall by May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013 there will be a late fee of \$13.50 added to the delinquent accounts.

IF you think there may be a conflict with your mailing address on file, please notify our office (260-495-9158) to ensure that you receive your bill in a timely manner.

For those that pay their garbage bill with our Auto Draw program, payments will now be drawn on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

### **MARSHAL REPORT**

Last year, as I typed the Marshal's Report for the Clear Lake News, the weather was warm and the seasonal residents had come back early to get things ready for summer. This year, I am watching the radar to see how much snow we are going to get in late March. Hopefully, this will mark the end of winter and spring can begin.

With spring comes golf cart weather. There are changes on the way with the golf cart ordinance and it will not include ATV/UTV style vehicles such as Rangers, Mules, etc. Instead, the town is drafting an ordinance that will allow that style of vehicle to be driven within the town limits but they must be registered with the DNR. The DNR registration is good for 3 years at a cost of \$30. The Town Council is considering changes to the golf cart ordinance to keep the fees and registration periods similar. State statute prohibits the town from including ATV's in the golf cart ordinance so this change had to be made. To register your ATV/UTV, go to the DNR website at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/outdoor/4278.htm>. Click on "Registration renewals can be completed online" for online registration or print out the required forms.

The state has also made changes to the gun permit application process once again. The entire process, including fingerprints, is done electronically now. The application can be found online on the state police website at <http://aries.in.gov/firearms/permit.aspx>. After completing the application process and getting your fingerprints done electronically by L1 Solutions, you can set up and appointment with one of the officers to have your application reviewed. A background check will be done by our office and then the application will be transmitted to the state police.

The address change was put in place one year ago and I have received a lot of positive feedback from police, fire, and EMS about addresses being easier to find. I hope none of you ever need these services but if you do, the change made the response times much shorter so you can get the help you need.

I applied for the LARE grant through the DNR once again this year and was granted the money for lake patrols. They increased the amount for this year after much urging by both government officials and residents. The Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol will once again be assisting us with lake patrols on the weekends.

Have a safe and fun summer season and thanks for letting us serve you. John Gonya, Town Marshal

### **BOATER SAFETY CLASS SET FOR JUNE 8, 2013**

The Clear Lake Association will once again sponsor the Indiana approved Boater Safety Class conducted by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. The program is scheduled for Saturday June 8 from 8:00am to 3:00pm at the Clear Lake Town Hall 111 Gecowets Drive. There is NO CHARGE for the class. A pizza lunch and drinks will be provided to all attendees. We are happy to have Jim Kidd back to conduct the class. Jim does a terrific job with educating attendees on the importance of boating safety and common sense boater operation. All Indiana boating laws and regulations will be covered. Last year all 45 attendees successfully completed the course and received their Boater Safety certificates.

Many of you are already aware that anyone who operates a motorboat or PWC (Personal Water Craft- i.e. - Jet Ski) on any of Indiana's public waters must have a valid driver's license. Those without a license but who have reached the age of 15 may operate a motorboat or PWC if they have successfully completed an Indiana APPROVED Boater Safety Education Course. You must also carry *on board* an ID issued by the BMV. No one under the age of 15 may legally operate a motorboat greater than 10 Horse Power or a PWC.

While there are no age restrictions for the class, we request that anyone 11 years old or younger be accompanied by a parent or an adult responsible for the attendee. This is a GREAT OPPORTUNITY for ALL boat operators in the family to get a REVIEW of what's needed for a Safe Boating Summer!

This year registration must be completed through the DNR website given below and on the back of this newsletter. Please note that as part of the Registration Process a Liability Form must be filled out and signed by a parent or guardian for any participant under the age of 18. Download and print the form and bring the SIGNED form to the class.

Also, we ask that everyone call the Clear Lake phone number listed below the website and give the Name and Age of the attendee plus a contact number. All DNR classes are open to the public but space is limited.

SIGN UP EARLY to RESERVE YOUR SPOT

Go to this DNR Website: <http://www.register-ed.com/programs/Indiana/agency:25>  
*Scroll down to "Boater Education"; click on "View Upcoming Events "; scroll down to June 8, 2013; click on "View Event"; click on "Register Now" (Editors note: As of March 31, 2013 our event was not listed. The DNR assures us that it will be soon)*

**In addition please call Kit Tyler at 260-495-9709 with the Name and Age of the Attendee plus a contact number.**

### **PROPOSED 2013 UPDATE TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**

The Town of Clear Lake, through its Plan Commission, has been working over the last year to update the existing 2006 Master Plan. A draft of the Update is now available on the Town of Clear Lake's website ([www.townofclearlake.org](http://www.townofclearlake.org)) for the public's review. Please take some time to review the proposed Update. It includes results from last summer's Values Survey as well as Policies and Objectives regarding residential and other types of development. While reviewing the Update, it is important to keep in mind that a comprehensive plan is intended to set direction with regard to growth and development for a community; it is NOT a set of regulations or ordinances.

Comments on the proposed 2013 Update to the Comprehensive Plan are welcomed and encouraged before April 15, 2013. All comments should be made in writing via email ([zoning@townofclearlake.org](mailto:zoning@townofclearlake.org)) or by mail (Attn: Zoning Administrator, Clear Lake Town Hall, 111 Gecowets Drive, Fremont IN 46737). Additionally, the Clear Lake Plan Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2013 Update to the Comprehensive Plan on May 6, 2013 at 7 PM in the Clear Lake Town Hall, 111 Gecowets Drive, Fremont IN 46737. Written comments that are filed with the Plan Commission prior to the hearing will be considered. Oral comments will also be heard at the hearing.

Amy Schweitzer, AICP, Zoning Administrator

### **LIONS CLUB DISCONTINUES ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION**

The Clear Lake Lions Club is no longer collecting aluminum cans. Our collection area is no longer available and the Town of Clear Lake now offers roadside pick-up of recyclables twice a month. We thank you for your past support. The Steuben County Humane Society continues to collect aluminum cans and both Fremont and Angola have recyclables collection points.

## CLEAR LAKE 4TH OF JULY BOAT PARADE

The Clear Lake Association is sponsoring the 4th of July Boat Parade. This event will be held Saturday July 6th, 2013.

All participants and their decorated boats will meet in front of the Yacht Club at 1:30PM with the parade beginning at 2:00PM. There will be awards and prizes for the first, second & third place winners. Judging will take place on the water during the parade.

The boats will be led from the Yacht Club to Paradise Point, then South around the East bay, and finishing at the East side of Kasota Island for the awards presentation.

Registration forms are available on the Clear Lake website [www.clearlakefun.org](http://www.clearlakefun.org). For additional information contact Rick Behnfeldt 260-495-9906 or email me at [raclearlake@hotmail.com](mailto:raclearlake@hotmail.com)

## WHAT'S IN YOUR RUNOFF

A major concern of water quality is storm water runoff. When runoff flows across our watershed, it collects whatever the land doesn't absorb and deposits the debris into our lake. This runoff often includes sediment, nutrients and other pollutants.

Our springtime concern is nutrients from fertilizers. Whether the nutrients are from agricultural fields or residents' lawns, their cumulative impact degrades the water quality of Clear Lake. The agriculture industry is highly cognizant of the environmental impact of fertilizer runoff on water quality. For the farmer it only makes good environmental and economic sense to keep his fertilizer in the planted field.

As property owners along a lake shore we need to be equally as vigilant about the runoff from our lawns, driveways, walkways and downspouts.

For those who choose to fertilize your lawn...PLEASE be aware of

### **What is in your Runoff to Clear Lake?**

- Nitrogen and Phosphorus are two of the three nutrients in lawn fertilizer that support a green, lush lawn. They will also feed the plants in Clear Lake and produce those summer weeds and algae blooms.
- Take care of our lake: use only **Phosphorus-Free** fertilizer. If you apply the fertilizer yourself, the middle number on the bag should be zero. If you use a lawn care service, make sure they only use **Phosphorus-Free**. It only takes ONE POUND of PHOSPHORUS to produce 10,000 lbs of weeds.

### **Other Tips for Early Spring Clean Up:**

- If you fertilize leave a strip of UNFERTILIZED lawn along the lake shore
- Keep Leaves, Grass and other Yard Waste out of the lake
- Make sure to clean up after your pets. Animal feces are phosphorus rich and contain e-coli
- Keep ALL Yard Waste out of the Wet areas around the lake. They are the Kidney's for Clear Lake
- Keep areas such as driveways and walkways free of any spilled oils or chemicals
- The Marina will dispose of motor oils. Don't pour any chemicals in the lake
- Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District (NISWMD) can take care of almost any disposal need. Contact [www.niswmd.org](http://www.niswmd.org) for locations and hours.

## KNEE-HIGH NATURALISTS SUMMER, 2013

Knee-High Naturalists is a program for children 6-12, sponsored by the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy to promote understanding and appreciation of our lake environment. Events are held each Wednesday in July from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 at the Clear Lake Yacht Club unless other noted otherwise. These events are free, though donations to the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy are greatly appreciated. Save these dates: July 3, July 10, July 17, July 24 and July 31. Detail for each Wednesday's program will be in the next edition of the Clear Lake News.

OTHER NATURE NEWS: On Saturday July 6<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. our friends at Soarin' Raptor Rehab return for a wonderful presentation of rescued raptors. This program is for adults and children and will be held in the Clear Lake Memorial Woods (across from 416 Point Park Drive). Please feel free to bring friends and family visiting over the holiday weekend. This is an awe inspiring event that you don't want to miss.

# CLEAR LAKE CALENDAR

## **APRIL 2013**

- 8** Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 15** Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall

## **MAY 2013**

- 6** Plan Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 13** Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 25** Clear Lake Lions Club Chicken Barbeque, 9:00 a.m. until sold out, across from Lutheran Church, Pre-order by calling 495-9458 or 495-9626
- 27** Town Offices Closed for Memorial Day Holiday
- 28** Trash pick-up (delayed due to the Memorial Day Holiday)

## **JUNE 2013**

- 8** Heavy Trash Pickup, 6:00 a.m.
- 8** Boater Safety Class, 8:00 a.m., Town Hall, lunch provided, sponsored by the Clear Lake Association
- 10** Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 17** Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall

## **JULY 2013**

- 4** Town Offices Closed for July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday
- 5** Clear Lake Association Fireworks Display, Dusk
- 6** Clear Lake Lions Club Chicken Barbeque, 9:00 a.m. until sold out, across from Lutheran Church, Pre-order by calling 495-9458 or 495-9626
- 6** Soarin' Raptors Rehab, 10:00 a.m., Clear Lake Memorial Woods, 416 Point Park Drive
- 6** Decorated Boat Parade, 1:30 p.m., in front of Yacht Club
- 6** Clear Lake Association Fireworks Rain Date, Dusk
- 8** Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
- 13** Clear Lake Lions Club 10K-5K Run, 2M Walk, Registration @ 7:00 a.m., Races start @8:00a.m., Across from Lutheran Church
- 20** Clear Lake Association Annual Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Town Hall

## **NEW MEMBERS WANTED**

The Clear Lake Yacht Club welcomes new members. A part of Clear Lake since the 1930's the yacht club offers activities for all ages. Yacht Club events are a great way to meet new Clear Lake friends. Thursday nights Mid June thru July, meet friends old and new for a cocktail and fellowship. Friday evenings Memorial Day thru Labor Day, enjoy our famous TGIF, cocktails, dinner, and fellowship. Saturday starts with Ski Club Meeting in the morning, followed by Sailing Races Saturday afternoon. You can also join our tennis club and play on the four courts. For those wanting to learn new skills, we offer both tennis and sailing lessons. On Friday June 28, we have the return of Dueling Pianos, a fun filled evening for members and their guests. Member application forms can be found on the Clear Lake web site then click on Yacht Club, email [clearlake222@gmail.com](mailto:clearlake222@gmail.com) or call me at 260-495-3954.

Bruce Spangler, 2013 CLYC Commodore



## **BOATER SAFETY CLASS**

*Sponsored by the Clear Lake Association*

*Conducted by Jim Kidd*

**June 8, 2013**

**8:00 AM to 3:00 PM\***

**CLEAR LAKE TOWN HALL**

**NEW RULES: You must enroll with the DNR for this class.**

Go to <http://www.register-ed.com/programs/Indiana/agency:25> AND also call Kit Tyler 260-495-9709

**Enrollment is limited. This class qualifies as a boating education class for those under age 16.**

**Take the class, pass the test, and leave with your certificate. Open to everyone 11 and older. We encourage parents and Grandparents to attend. \*All materials and lunch will be provided FREE.**

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 Clear Lake Town government and other Clear Lake organizations activities to all property owners.



CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION  
P. O. BOX 38  
FREMONT IN 46737

Return Services Requested

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