



Clear Lake

NEWS

APRIL-JUNE, 2016

TOWN OF CLEAR LAKE

Greetings! Spring has come early this year. The ice was off the lake by March 9th and the grass is starting to green up. We did not have much snow this winter, but we still appreciate those property owners who put reflector stakes along the road to help guide the town's snow plow.

As a reminder, the Fremont Community School Property Tax Referendum passed in the November 3, 2015 election. This increase will impact your property taxes by approximately 23% beginning May, 2016.

Here are some important dates to mark on your 2016 calendar:

- Spring leaf pick up will occur May 2-6 and May 23-June 3, weather permitting. Fall leaf pick up will begin October 3 and continue through December 2. If you use a commercial lawn service, please inform them of these dates.
- Heavy trash pickup is scheduled for Saturday, May 21, and Saturday, August 27. Please have your items available for pick up by 6:00 am.
- The Clear Lake Directory will be available for residents to pick up after May 2 at Town Hall, 111 Gecowets Drive, during normal business hours, noon-4:00 pm, Monday through Thursday or by appointment (260-495-9148). A drop-off box is available for payments or correspondence.

Please remember that the Town of Clear Lake's website (www.townofclearlake.org) is your source for official announcements postings, meeting agendas and minutes, as well as an up-to-date calendar of town events. Additional items include the town's Code of Ordinances, Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), and official forms. A list of email addresses for town employees and departments is also included.

Residents are asked to remember and also inform guests or renters of the **Animal Control Ordinance** which applies to all areas within the town limits, including KASOTA ISLAND. The ordinance:

- Prohibits animals running at large unless the animal is properly on a 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 or keeper.
- 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 property or private property of another, unless the owner/custodian possesses the necessary tools and equipment to remove the defecation, and requires immediate removal of defecation.

Let's make summer, 2016, another great year of Clear Lake enjoyment.

Submitted by Bruce Spangler for Town of Clear Lake Town Council

SPRING CLEAN-UP GUIDELINES FROM DISTRICT WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District (NISWMD) wishes to assist you during your spring clean-up events. Many items not taken during your clean-up can be handled by NISWMD. Unwanted items such as paint (oil base or latex), microwaves, appliances, propane tanks, fire extinguishers, tires, antifreeze, car batteries, TVs, computers, fluorescent bulbs, automotive fluids, used oil, household cleaners and chemicals, tar, aerosol cans or other granular and liquid do have a recovery point. Let the District handles those materials properly to avoid items being left at the curb.

The above items can be recovered only on Friday mornings from April 15th-November 18th. Items are to be brought to the District office in Ashley, located on State Road 4, one mile east of I-69. Check the website (www.niswmd.org) for charges that apply. We also take hardback and paperback books, DVD's, VHS tapes, audio books and shoes for free.

This service is offered to the rural and urban residents in your community. If recovery is necessary for items not listed, contact us for assistance (800-777-5462). By working with the District, your community will be cleaner.

Submitted by Kay Kummer for Pam DeCamp (pdecamp@niswmd.org), NISWMD Program Coordinator

"SPRING INTO ACTION" TIPS FROM THE CONSERVANCY

The ice is off of Clear Lake earlier than usual this year and it is time once again to prepare for the summer season at our beautiful lake. We will continue our "clear" legacy only if we become a total "*Community of Stewards*" as we all do our individual part to contribute to the health of our waters. You've heard it before, but here are some important things that each of us can do to:

If you choose to fertilize your lawn and do an early spring application, please remember:

- Use *only phosphorus free* materials.
- The *middle* number on the bag indicates the amount of Phosphorus. This number should be *zero*.
- *Request phosphorus free* fertilizer from lawn application services. Of all the minerals and elements that feed into Clear Lake, *phosphorus* is the factor most responsible for accelerating algae and weed growth.

Other Tips for Early Spring Clean Up:

- If you fertilize leave a strip of *unfertilized* lawn along the lake edge
 - Keep leaves, grass and other yard waste out of the lake
 - Keep *all* yard waste out of the Wet Areas around the lake. They are the "kidneys" of Clear Lake.
 - The Clear Lake Marina will dispose of old motor oil. Don't pour any chemicals into the lake. Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District (NISWMD) can take care of almost any disposal need. Contact www.niswmd.org for locations and hours. (*See previous article.*)
 - Consider installing natural glacial rock at your water's edge to break up wave action.
- Let's make it our goal this year to become a "*Community of Stewards.*" It is time to *Spring Into Action.*

MARSHAL'S REPORT

As we welcome spring and say good bye to winter, I want to remind everyone of some things that come with the spring weather. It not only marks the return of seasonal residents, it is also the return of severe weather possibilities. The first week of spring, March 20-26, was Severe Weather Preparedness Week. The county tested

tornado sirens during that time to make sure they all activate properly and also that both points of activation work correctly. The city of Angola dispatch and the county 911 center both have the ability to activate all county tornado sirens. They can activate just one area or all at once, depending on the situation. Both centers tested their systems and all tornado sirens during the preparedness week.

The Town of Clear Lake is fortunate to have tornado sirens that service this area. However, you can't depend on the sirens for all severe weather situations. I would recommend you purchase a severe weather radio that notifies you of the potential of severe weather and when a warning is issued. The radios allow you to choose what weather you want to be notified of, select warnings issued to surrounding counties such as a bordering county of Hillsdale, Michigan, and is designed to give you time to get to a safe location in the event of severe weather.

I would also recommend all residents **sign up for a text notification** system through one of the local television stations or weather apps for your phone. If you are out enjoying the lake, you would still receive notification of the severe weather threat and can get to a safe location off the lake.

I hope you all have a great spring season and we look forward to seeing you as the weather brings everyone out to enjoy this beautiful community.

Submitted by John Gonya, Town Marshall

CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION

Last year our spring newsletter said that on March 30 we still had 20 inches of ice on the lake. What a difference a year makes! The ice is gone, spring flowers are coming up and the grass is turning green.

Your Clear Lake Association annual membership letter will be mailed to all property owners in May. Your **membership dues and donations** not only support the annual fireworks display, but also provide financial support to organizations which provide services to our community. Last year some of these included the Fremont Fire Department, the Steuben County Humane Society, the Steuben County Sheriff's Department Lake Patrol and several other groups. Your continued support is appreciated.

The Clear Lake Association will once again sponsor the State of Indiana-approved **Boater Safety Class** conducted by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. The program is scheduled for Saturday, June 11, 8:00 am-3:00 pm at the Clear Lake Town Hall, 111 Gecowets Drive. There is NO CHARGE for the class. A pizza lunch and beverages will be provided to all attendees. All Indiana boating laws and regulations will be covered. Last year all attendees successfully completed the course and received their Boater Safety certificates. To register go to: <https://www.register-ed.com/programs/indiana/104-indiana.../agency:25>. (Note: As of March 21, 2016, our event was not yet listed. The DNR assures us it will be included soon.)

A few dates to note....

- If you have a **swim buoy**, please make sure you get it in the water by Memorial Day.
- The annual Holiday **Fireworks** will be held at dusk Saturday, July 2. The rain date will be July 3.
- Clear Lake Association **annual meeting** is scheduled for Saturday July 16th, 9:30 am, at Town Hall.

Please join your Association and help us keep Clear Lake the great place we all enjoy. Looking forward to summer!

Submitted by Bruce Spangler for The Clear Lake Association

CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP LAND CONSERVANCY

Spring! CLTLC stayed busy over the winter. As spring begins, we are looking forward to our upcoming 25th Anniversary celebration, implementing our three-year strategic plan, and unveiling our new website and logo!

Mark your calendars and help us celebrate 25 years of Clear Lake conservation with our upcoming *Creating a Clear Future* events on **Saturday, Aug. 6th and Sunday, Aug. 7th**. More details can be found in the next few issues of *Clear Thinking*. To sign up for the e-version, email: info@clearlakeconservancy.org.

Our strategic planning process identified an opportunity to use working committees to leverage volunteer resources to accomplish our mission. Want to join in on the fun? Call our office (260-316-1397).

We would like to thank our wonderful webmaster, Rick Eckert, for 25 years of committed volunteerism. We look forward to sharing our new website and logo very soon.

The dredging project on Clear Lake will not resume until after Labor Day. The dam rebuild and dredging project on our Koeneman Lake Nature Preserve will start this spring.

If you are planning a special event or **overnight** stay on **Kasota Island** please call our office (260-316-1397). While on the island, don't forget to clean up after your pet, leave the rocks at the island, refrain from bringing glass ashore, and, please, no fires outside of designated locations.

Our annual Board of Directors meeting will be on **Friday, July 22nd** at 4:00 pm at Town Hall. We look forward to this opportunity to hear from you. I hope you have a lovely spring!

Submitted by Bridget Harrison, Executive Director

CLTLC'S KNEE-HIGH NATURALIST - SUMMER 2016 PROGRAM

Wednesday, **July 6th** – LETS BE 'CLEAR'

Learn how & why to test for pollution in Clear Lake and ways you can help keep the lake clear.

Led by Bridget Harrison, Executive Director of CLTLC.

Wednesday, **July 13th** – GONE FISHIN'!

Join us at the Clear Lake Marina for a morning of dockside fishing and learn about the fish in Clear Lake! Bait and poles provided. Led by Ted Bohman, Ken Goekel, and our friends from Pokagon State Park.

Wednesday, **July 20th** – Sssss.....SNAKES

Learn all about snakes from a leading expert in the field. Led by Dr. Bruce Kingsbury.

Wednesday, **July 27th** – BEAUTIFUL BIRDS

Don't miss your chance to learn how to observe and identify birds. Binoculars provided. Led by Nature Interpreters from Pokagon State Park.

All programs will meet at the Clear Lake Yacht Club from **10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.**, except for July 13th when we will meet at the Clear Lake Marina. For more information, please contact **Dana Buehrer** (914-500-7938) or CLTLC (260-316-1397). This is a hands-on educational program sponsored by the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy.

YACHT CLUB GETTING READY FOR NEW SEASON

Commodore Sandy Ayres reported that letters and 2016 dues statements will soon be mailed to CLYC members. Many fun events are being planned for the summer, beginning with the first **TGIF May 27**, Pizza Night. To get the club ready for the season, all members are asked to help on Clean-up Day, **Saturday, May 7**, 10:00 am. Anyone interested in joining the yacht club is encouraged to contact Sandy (260-495-2198).

A LOOK BACK IN TIME

From the *Angola Herald*, published April 28, 1933:

Percy G. Robbins and Horace Seaman of Ft. Wayne have formed a corporation to be known as the Lakeside Mineral Springs Hotel, Inc., for the purpose of leasing and operating the Lakeside Hotel on the northwest shore of Clear Lake and are now putting the property in shape for the opening to be held May 30th. They announced that they have secured a permit to serve beer and that they will also serve mineral water from the rich mineral springs on the grounds; also that a beer garden will be built on the beach which is a fine swimming spot, states Mr. Robbins. Mr. Robbins has been connected with the WOWO radio station and Mr. Seaman with WGL station.

If you're interested in more Clear Lake History, a few copies of the CLEAR LAKE HISTORY book are still available (\$50). Please see Bridget Harrison at Town Hall or contact Bonnie Brown (260-495-9028 or bonniedon1@gmail.com)

NOT RECEIVING THE "CLEAR LAKE NEWS"?

Despite all of our efforts to keep our records up-to-date it is difficult to know exactly where you are when we make our mailings. You can avoid missing CL News (and help us reduce costs) by signing up to receive an email notification when the current "News" is available on the Town of Clear Lake website. You can update your owner information by sending an email to Brenda Eby at billing@townofclearlake.org or an email to the Clear Lake Association Secretary-Treasurer azbrown2@frontier.com.

Parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren can receive this email notification as well. It is the association's policy not to share your email address with anyone else.

CLEAR LAKE TOWN CALENDAR

April	2016
11	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, Town Hall
18	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7:00 pm, Town Hall
25	Plan Commission Meeting, 7:00 pm, Town Hall
May	2016
2	Leaf Pickup Begins Through May 6, 2016
3	Primary Election, 6 am - 6:00 pm, Town Hall
9	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, Town Hall
21	Heavy Trash Pickup, 6:00 am
23	Leaf Pickup Begins Through June 3, 2016
28	Clear Lake Lions Chicken BBQ, 9:00 am, Clear Lake Lutheran Church
30	Town Offices Closed for Memorial Day Holiday
31	Trash pick-up (delayed due to the Memorial Day Holiday)
June	2016
11	Clear Lake Association Boater Safety Class, 8:00 am, Town Hall
13	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, Town Hall
20	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, - 7:00 pm, Town Hall



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



BOATER SAFETY CLASS

Sponsored by the Clear Lake Association

Conducted by Jim Kidd

June 11, 2016

8:00 AM to 3:00 PM*

CLEAR LAKE TOWN HALL

You must enroll with the DNR for this class.

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

Mary Jo Fitzenrider 260-495-2180 or 260-243-0789 or Bruce Spangler 260-495-3954

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

