



PRESERVE PROTECT EDUCATE

Lime Lake Association

Leelanau County, Michigan

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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Our Mission

To be stewards of the environmental purity and beauty of Lime Lake.

Our Vision

The Lime Lake Association is dedicated to the conservation and preservation of Lime Lake and its shores and streams. To serve this purpose, the Association will promote environmental education, conduct scientific research and testing to safeguard water quality and abate health hazards, and collaborate with public and private entities.

Lime Lake Association Board

Dean Manikas - *President*

Mark Fisher - *Vice President*

Jeff Kane - *Treasurer*

Ron Reimink - *Secretary*

Lisa Genesen - *Fundraising*

Molly O'Toole - *Membership*

Mary Barss - *Hospitality / Merchandise*

Cathy Stocker - *Communications*



FROM THE BOARD

Welcome to the 2024 annual report of the Lime Lake Association. We are an all-volunteer board guided in our role by our vision and mission statements. Annually, the Board adopts a work plan and aligns our budget to meet the plan's objectives. **Our focus is on the protection of our water quality, monitoring for invasive species, and educating our community.**

Led by our biologist in collaboration with the Leelanau Conservancy, and with the help of riparian volunteers, we conduct regular water samplings and continue our work toward eradication of the Yellow Flag Iris. We also do eDNA sampling for the destructive invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil. **In addition, we continue to offer free greenbelt consultations.** This is a premium free offering for our riparians to take advantage of. The great news is that our water quality is outstanding and we have made significant improvements on the "Whole Lake Best Management Practices" survey, moving from near the bottom to near the top (with room left for improvement)!

In addition to our science objectives, we continue to strive toward 100% association membership. After all, our work benefits 100% of our riparians. We are grateful to so many of you who volunteered hours and made financial contributions in 2024. **We are a small association with a big responsibility to preserve and protect our lake for future generations.** Please consider making your 2025 donation soon to help us continue our important work.

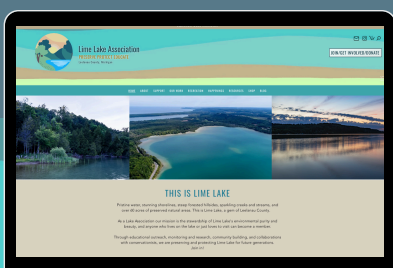
Save
the
date

Lime Lake Association 2025 Annual Meeting

July 26, 2025 at 9am

Cleveland Township Hall

PRESERVE PROTECT EDUCATE



LIME LAKE WEBSITE - LIMELAKE.ORG

In 2024, our online presence continued to grow, with over 2,000 visits to our website and an exciting increase in membership! Remember, LimeLake.org is your resource for events, lost and found, water quality updates, donation opportunities, volunteer openings, shoreline management, and more. You can also find our newsletters, purchase merchandise, and stay connected with everything Lime Lake. Check it out—we're always looking for new volunteers! And please share it with your family and guests.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES & FINDINGS

SHORELINE PRESERVATION

Greenbelt creation is an essential and manageable way to provide shoreline protection from erosion, to allow filtration of rain run-off and to protect our water quality.

From a 2024 survey, we can report that since 2019, we have increased the percentage of greenbelts and natural shorelines by 12%. **We are proud that 43% of Lime Lake riparian properties can now be designated as either greenbelt or natural shoreline.**

This is a huge celebration point for our lake and we hope it will motivate you to sign up for a free consultation (a \$100 value) with our biologist, Kelsey. We hope to see all riparians making efforts toward protecting our shoreline.

ERADICATE INVASIVE SPECIES

Invasive species drastically impact ecosystems. Our goal is always early detection and rapid response plans.

Lime Lake has a good diversity of native water plants. While we are currently spared the invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil, we do have Yellow Flag Iris (YFI).

With The Leelanau Conservancy, we host YFI summer dig events at our preserves, and Kelsey coordinates spot digs along property owner shorelines. We'll call for volunteers in early June, and Kelsey can assist riparians with YFI removal. Register your email at LimeLake.org to receive YFI alerts for your shoreline.



WE HAVE INVESTED IN THIS RESEARCH BELIEVING “AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS WORTH A POUND OF CURE.”

Lime Lake eDNA Study:

The 2024 Lime Lake eDNA monitoring by Freshwater Solutions LLC confirmed no presence of invasive species in the lake, reinforcing its ecological health. Water samples were analyzed for Red Swamp Crayfish, Eurasian Watermilfoil, Quagga Mussel, and other invasive species, with no detections.

 FRESHWATER SOLUTIONS LLC		INVASIVE SPECIES COMPARISON CHART					
LAKE		EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL	CURLY LEAF PONDWEED	YELLOW FLAG IRIS	PURPLE LOOSESTRIPE	PHRAGMITES	COLTSFOOT
GLEN LAKE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LAKE LEELANAU	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
LIME LAKE			✓				
LITTLE TRAVERSE			✓	✓	✓	✓	

Additionally, our grab samples tested for key health indicators, including human fecal pollution (HF183), Enterococcus, Mycrocystin, and Anatoxin. No human fecal contamination or harmful toxins were found, ensuring safe recreational water conditions. Enterococcus levels remained within acceptable ranges, and Mycrocystin levels were well below harmful thresholds. Ongoing data collection, including water temperature, turbidity, and pH, continues to support long-term lake health monitoring.

2025 BUDGET PROJECTION

We budget generously to meet all obligations, and with a \$15,000 annual budget, we need all riparians to contribute membership dollars. Membership year runs January through December.

ANNUAL SERVICE	FISCAL YEAR 2025
Merchandise	\$1,500
Shetland Creek Maintenance	\$800
Contributions to Leelanau Conservancy	\$500
Lake Biologist	\$6,000
eDNA study and other water testing	\$4,000
Printing, Postage, PO Box and Miscellaneous	\$1,765
Website Hosting & Domain Provider	\$419
TOTAL	\$14,984



Become a Member!

Visit LimeLake.org to join our online mailing list and renew your yearly membership via our secure link. Our annual operating costs, currently averaging \$15,000, are funded by membership dues and we depend on renewals to keep up with our work.

If you haven't yet renewed your membership or joined for 2025, please do so as soon as possible. If you prefer paying by check, a mail-in form is provided with this report.

Please Note: Our membership year runs January through December, and your donations are tax deductible. Thank you for your support.



Volunteer Spotlight

So much goes into making our LLA work possible behind the scenes. For two years, volunteer Tamryn Peterson has helped the LLA reach a wider audience and communicate with our members more effectively. She has volunteered over one hundred hours toward building our website and communication templates.

When asked why she volunteers, Tamryn replies: "Lime Lake is my favorite lake in the county, and I love creating tools that connect people to places they love. I'm happy to contribute to this important work."

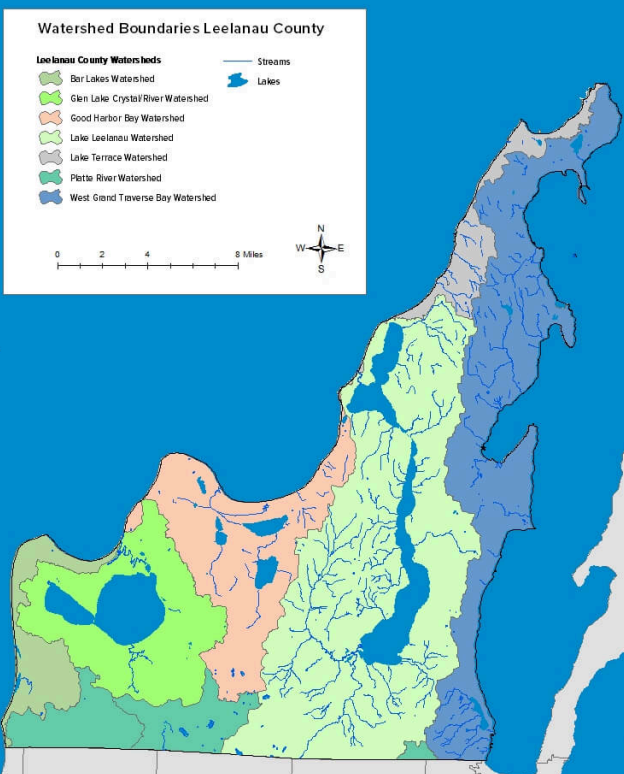
In addition to volunteering to LLA, Tamryn is a realtor with Coldwell Banker in Glen Arbor, helping people find their own special place in Leelanau County.

It's all Connected: The Good Harbor Bay Watershed Protection Plan

1 The Good Harbor Bay Watershed Protection Plan is a comprehensive document that coordinates the efforts of various partners to protect water quality with those of other watershed-wide groups to achieve designated and desired goals.

2 Our Good Harbor Bay Watershed is the only watershed in Leelanau County that **does not currently have the very invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil**. Keeping it that way is essential for the ecosystem and the water quality of Lime Lake.

3 The Good Harbor Bay Watershed includes 29,020 acres of land intersecting with the jurisdictions of five Leelanau County townships. Water flow does not follow township lines. This is why watershed maps and plans are essential to stewardship.



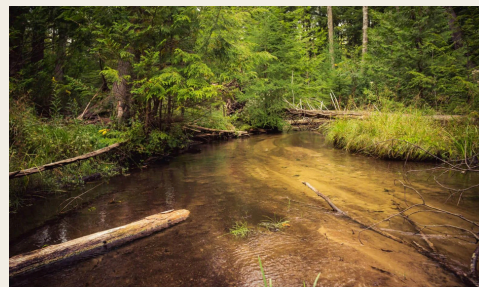
PAT'S PRESERVE

A big win towards our watershed goals that impacts the health of Lime Lake is the establishment of Pat's Preserve, owned and managed by The Leelanau Conservancy. The preserve opened to the public in 2024 and protects the wetlands and stream corridors feeding Lime Lake. Teischner Preserve at the northeast end of Lime Lake is also a highly treasured ecosystem that protects our watershed.

Learn more about our watershed plan and goals at limelake.org/watershed-plan

WHAT IS A WATERSHED

Our mission is to protect our lake, but we must understand that water is always traveling. Our actions today impact the quality of water moving via Shetland Creek at our north into Little Traverse Lake (LTL). Decisions made by LTL riparians impact the water moving via Shalda Creek into Lake Michigan. The water entering Lime Lake at our south end originates in the forested uplands north of Maple City with quality impacted by decisions made in those areas. This is a watershed: An area of land that drains to a common point and includes groundwater springs, wetlands, and the lake itself. Lime Lake is part of the **Good Harbor Bay (GHB) Watershed**.



In 2015, together with Little Traverse Lake and The Leelanau Conservancy, we developed the GHB Watershed Protection Plan. Such plans are required of all the state's major watersheds by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. The plan allows for grant funding from various sources, and helps us to remember that **everything is connected**.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MONITOR FOR EWM

Community based monitoring (CBM) for Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) presents a cost-effective method for having all eyes on the lake for this dangerous invasive. CBM provides comprehensive surveillance through continuous monitoring during the entire EWM growing season.

Our vision is to engage at least one CBM volunteer for every 1,000 ft of shoreline around Lime Lake (note: each volunteer would only survey their shoreline, not the entire 1,000 ft). This amounts to roughly 20 volunteers. Of course, "the more the merrier" and each additional volunteer adds another layer of surveillance confidence!

Each volunteer would have access to a short training YouTube video, an EWM identification sheet, and a volunteer surveillance log with instructions. **Please visit our website for more information and to sign on as a CBM volunteer!**



2024 DONORS

IN THE LIMELIGHT: LET YOUR DONATION SHINE FOR CLEAN WATER!

We are proud to recognize the many individuals, families, and organizations that helped drive our success in 2024. Without your annual memberships and generous contributions, we wouldn't be able to support our essential water quality monitoring and educational programs. As we look ahead, we invite you to continue making a difference—please donate and renew your membership today!

2024 Total Giving:

\$500 – \$699

Michele & Jim Allen
Amy Devore
Wayne Ramsey & Mary Brezinski-Forster
Robin & Dale Johnson
Cindy & Jeff Kane
Molly O'Toole & Robert Kurtz
Marcia & Jeffrey Lee
Donald Martines Family Fund
Gretchen & Timothy Mizerowski
Linda & Ronald Reimink
Cathy & Richard Stocker
Julie & Warren Veltman
David-Maribeth Walker-Malecki

\$300 – \$499

Laura Ramus
Rebecca Lueken & Todd Stewart
Cheryl & Steven Grossmann

\$200 – \$299

Perry Abbenante
Mary Barss
Karen Douma
Erika & Dennis Ferguson
William and Pamela Frank
Marlene Gossett
Susan Guenthardt
Melissa & Gregg Hannah
Joan King & Eric Maloney
Darlene & Bob Martin
Robert McCubbrey
Monna Meyer
Dennis & Ken Nisch
Dan & Kellie O'Toole
Wanda O'Toole

\$200 – \$299 Cont.

Melinda & Steven Roznowski
Tracy & David Stachnik
Anne & Russell Steinman
Cheryl & Rodney Sturgeon
Jeannine & Thomas Villing
Krista & John Zientek

\$100 – \$199

Lisa Blouin
Elaine & Bob Chauvin
Laura & Chip Clark
Susan Cocciarellie
Diana & Daniel Darland
Marshall Dawson
Elizabeth & Tony DeLyria
Kelsey & Chris Froelich
Mary Such & Robert Garvin
Maribeth Heffron
Mark Kleiner
Bruce Knapp
Louis Lambert
Shari Leikertark
M. Pat Lora
Jill & Bill Lora
Kathy Marciniak & Bruce Barnes
Daina & Dennis Miller
Jeanne & Jim Montie
Kathy & Steve Pintar
Rebecca & Jerry Risser
Patricia Robinson
Elizabeth Rogers
Victoria & Michael Ross
Karen & Charles Sharkey
Magdalen Skiver
Kathi & Rob Thoreson
John & Sharon Woods

Up To \$99

Sharene Eichenberg
Nicholaas & Seychelle Engelhard
Betsy & Mark Fisher
Nancy & Jeffrey Forrest
Kelsey Testa & Joseph Goodsir
Lori & Mike Goryl
Kim Hayes
Gerd Anton Hornung
John Imboden
Clifford Jacobs
Doris & Gerald Jagosz
Linda & Kevin Kehrwecker
Karel Engstrom & Scott Lankton
Owen & Kori Lorenz
Linda & Bob Norris
Margaret O'Toole
Anne & David Petersen
Hans & Bernadette Pijls
Scott & Mary Raymer
Fran & Gregory Russell
Betty Stachnik
Denise & Ronald Strong
Nicole Szopinski
Geri & Nello Valentine
Tracy & Jered Wittkopp

We strive to acknowledge all our supporters accurately and apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact us at info@limelake.org to update our records.