

Silver Lake Management District Spring Newsletter – 2025

As we welcome spring and eventually summer that we are all ready for, the SLMD Board would like to share a few things from last year and a few that will be occurring in the future.

As you know, we now have a wonderful website www.wautomasilverlake.com that has a wealth of information. Take some time to look around on it sometime. Some things you will be interested in and some things not so much but it is there for the viewing. Thank you to Todd Chesbro for keeping it up.

The biggest news from last summer was the AIS issue. Early in June of 2024 the areas in the Lake with the high milfoil activity were treated with ProcellaCor. This was not the same chemical that was used in 2016 and is currently the darling of the DNR and Onterra (our Lake management firm) due to its safety, efficacy and the fact that it disappears relatively rapidly. As we all found out, the results were amazing! You can look at the **Executive Summary** and/or the **Detailed** report on the website under **Aquatic Plant Management Page**. At this point there is essentially zero milfoil present. We do realize that we will never get totally rid of this invasive species and it is likely to slowly return as it did after the 2016 treatment. Based on future surveys of the Lake, we are prepared to treat areas with DASH if necessary.

We will be doing the Clean Boats Clean Waters program again with 200 hours at the 21/73 landing. We obtained a \$4K grant from the DNR for this and will be adding the other necessary funds. This program seeks to teach haul-in boaters how to eliminate the spread of invasive species.

SLMD has joined the Wakesports Reform Coalition. See the rationale for this on the website under the **Current Information Page**. We believe there needs to be uniformity and reasonableness throughout the state on this issue. As these Wake-Boats become larger and more numerous, it has been proven that they do damage a lake of our size.

With the generous donation from the Town of Marion of \$3K and a match from SLMD, there were 6000 perch (1.5 to 5 inches) stocked in the Lake last September. Hopefully they will thrive and those of you who fish can enjoy catching some (and release them??).

The Town of Marion has passed a Power Loading Ordinance for all lakes in the Township. This was done to prevent erosive issues at the landings that were occurring. It is on the website on the **Regulations Page** tab so take some time to read it.

The Town has contracted with the City of Wautoma for the staffing of this summer's water patrol. Previously it was with the County Sheriff's Department but they did not have the available staff to manage it. While we all might like to have patrol out 24/7, that cannot happen, and the target will be weekends and busier times.

We will be holding the usual AIS School Tour again this September (Primary date 9-10 with rain date 9-12). This is where the entire 7th grade class from Parkside School comes to the Lake in groups and after a short indoctrination spend about an hour on the Lake on pontoon boats with a biologist (from either Golden Sands or the DNR) learning about Lake issues and care. There are three group tours with the day starting at 8AM and ending by 2:30PM. We will need four good-sized boats to do this. We have some regulars but need to replace one boat from last year as the owner no longer is on the Lake. We also need a couple of back-up boats just in case something happens to one of the regulars. (We can't make the students swim.) Contact me if your boat will be in the water then and you can help. Information is also on the website under ***Programs Page***.

The Lake rummage/garage sale will be on June 6th and 7th this year.

The SLMD Spring Board Meeting is scheduled for May 24th and the Annual Meeting for August 23rd. Both are at the Marion Town Hall at 9:00AM.

Looking forward to a Great Summer and seeing you all enjoy the Wonderful Treasure we have in Silver Lake.

Jim Morgenroth

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