



Dear Fellow Association Members,

Fall will be here soon, and I am sure that all of you enjoyed your summer activities on our lovely lake.

In August, we had a successful **Annual General Meeting**, when you voted in two new Board members. We are pleased to welcome our new director, **Kelli Moyar and Sue Surducun**, who will continue to be our Vice-President.

Our **main topic was the dredging situation** for the lake, and we all had constructive discussions on the present situation. We advised the membership that the permit application for our plans to dredge Inlet #4 was not accepted by EGLE (Environment Great Lakes and Energy Dept.), because they measured water depth and sediments in the planned areas and see no harm to the navigation of watercraft in that area. We know, that EGLE will only permit dredging for “navigational purposes”, and, since they proved the easy access for boats into the lake in those areas, they rejected a permit. However, **they advised us to “revise”** this application for use in dredging other areas. Fortunately, EGLE personnel agreed to the physical inspection of those areas which we have planned to dredge in future.

This took place on July 24<sup>th</sup>, after which date the EGLE staff made various proposals for us to revise the next permit application.

The Board decided to apply for dredging certain areas in Inlet #2 and Inlet# 3 as the next step. Respective lot owners are willing to allow the dredged sediments being deposited onto their lots, as it was done in the past in other inlets. We are busy preparing the application through our contractor.

**Now a very important issue, where we need cooperation from all of you members/lot owners:**

EGLE has emphasized that “shoreline management work” needs to be implemented, if we want them to grant permission for navigational dredging needs in future. We would ask all of you **to consider** some of the following **practical, environmental steps** to carry out on your lots, in order to avoid the deterioration of shore lines and the spreading of detrimental organisms into the lake:

- Do not blow or rake leaves or debris into the lake. Control your lawn contractor!
- Consider emptying your septic system annually, if it is situated towards the lake. Thus, drain fields are not affected with overflows.
- Do not spray fertilizer or weed control chemicals near your shoreline.
- Plant native plants above existing seawall to avoid soil erosion,
- And any other practical measure for enhancing the environment of the lake.



There are some more comments with guidance advice to be found in these links:



- [Find Native Plants - Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership](#)
- [Low Energy BioEngineering Illustration \(michigan.gov\)](#)

On behalf of the Association Board, I would be very pleased, if all of you members would implement these measurements, so that we can prove to the EGLE authorities our cooperation with them.

The **Fish** Committee chairperson, **Mike Gustitus** reports that a good quantity of fish will be stocked into the lake during fall. Thank you, Mike, and a big thanks to the individual donors.

We are very grateful to **Gary and Teresa Waigle**, who have volunteered to continue with the arrangements for the **Annual Fishing Derby** in June, and we wish to thank **Steve Sczytko**, who inaugurated this social event and organized it for many years.

I would like to wish everyone a pleasant time during fall and lots of fun at our wonderful Lake Bel-Air,

**Karl**  
**Karl-Rainer Hermann**  
**(President LBAPOA)**

## From Dan Laws, Weed Committee, 2024 End of Year Report on lake condition:

Overall the lake is in excellent condition, however we do have a few phragmites

starting in the main body, just south of the dam. They will be chemically treated next year to prevent spreading in the future.

In Michigan, property owners can generally remove water lilies from inland lakes without a permit if they use mechanical tools and do not disturb the soil:

- **Mechanical removal**  
Property owners can use mechanical tools to cut plants above the lake bottom without a permit. They can also hire a team to use mechanical tools for them.
- **Hand removal**  
Property owners can remove small amounts of vegetation by hand, such as hand-pulling or raking a few plants, without a permit.
- **Unvegetated lake bottomlands**  
Property owners can hand-rake unvegetated lake bottomlands that are mostly sand or pebbles without a permit.
  - **Chemical treatments:** require permits for even small areas. EGLE only issues one permit per lake, and our lakes permit is issued to PLM.

**Dan Laws**



## **BUILDING COMMITTEE NEWS**

Thinking about building, or perhaps a new deck, shed, dock, or other outdoor construction?

The Lake Bel-Air Building Committee would be your first contact point, before approaching the government agencies.

Examples of construction or renovation requiring Lake Bel-Air building committee approval include (but are not totally inclusive):

- garages, sheds, gazebo's, lean-to's,
- docks, decks, patios, awnings
- swimming pools, hot tubs
- fences
- any concrete work such as driveways, fire pits, etc.
- building additions, sunrooms, four season rooms, porches

### **Building Committee contact:**

Neil Bendixen: 517-287-5093

**Lake Ladies Luncheons:** held on the last Thursday of the month. Contact Teresa Beres for more information:  
[teresaberes@yahoo.com](mailto:teresaberes@yahoo.com).



The North Adams Community Memorial Library put together a Lake Bel-Air Presentation for Heritage Day 2024. Click the link below to view,

[https://www.canva.com/design/DAGNAYzPE7A/LGf3grjhGb4IXieedB2gdg/edit?utm\\_content=DAGNAYzPE7A&utm\\_campaign=designshare&utm\\_medium=link2&utm\\_source=sharebutton](https://www.canva.com/design/DAGNAYzPE7A/LGf3grjhGb4IXieedB2gdg/edit?utm_content=DAGNAYzPE7A&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton)

## **Here's your 2024-2025 LBAPOA Board and how you can reach us!**

LBAPOA email address:

[LAKEBELAIRPOA@gmail.com](mailto:LAKEBELAIRPOA@gmail.com)

**President:** Karl-Rainer Hermann:

517-287-5893 [krhermann12@gmail.com](mailto:krhermann12@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Sue Surducun: 313-312-6238

**Secretary:** Katherine Cerne:

[lakebelairPOA@gmail.com](mailto:lakebelairPOA@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Laurie Mickiewicz:

[lbtreas20@gmail.com](mailto:lbtreas20@gmail.com)

**Director:** Gerry Brown: 727-771-5822

[gerrybr8@aol.com](mailto:gerrybr8@aol.com)

**Director:** Pat Giese: 978-549-1798

**Director:** Kelli Moyar

Please check the Lake Bel-Air Association Web Site [www.lakebelair.org](http://www.lakebelair.org) for updates to all of the lake activities and events as they become available!