MLCA & WAG NEWSLETTER



Spring 2015 Edition
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Welcome spring! It has been a long, cold winter. MLCA & WAG is gearing up for some exciting opportunities to the Mountain Lake community! Over the winter, the Board of Trustees took the first steps towards establishing a lake management plan for Mountain Lake – our community lake survey! Enclosed is a copy of the survey for each household and member. We ask that you please fill out the survey and send it back to us by June 30th. Our goal is to understand how people use the lake for recreation and how the quality of the lake is perceived. Your opinion is so important to helping us establish a long term plan on how to manage the lake and involve the community. A lake management plan for Mountain Lake will identify any issues pertaining to the lake, i.e. water quality, weed control needs; necessary improvements, studies; and ensure that future boards can continue to efficiently and effectively use funds to maintain the health of the lake.

Thank you for your time and support!

MLCA & WAG 2015 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Please detach, complete form on back and mail with the enclosed survey to: MLCA & WAG, P.O. Box 275, Great Meadows, NJ 07838 or via email at mlca.wag@gmail.com. Annual dues for 2015 are due by June 30, 2015 and are good through December 31, 2015.

A \$30 contribution for membership dues helps to support various activities, projects and educational opportunities. Here are some current and past supported MLCA projects/sponsorships:

- Herbicide Treatment & water monitoring at the lake to ensure health and recreation opportunities
- Community Education opportunities Moth Night, Birding 101, Septic Management just a few examples
- Canoe/kayak storage to be donated by MLCA & WAG to Liberty Twp. making the lake more accessible!
- Annual newsletter mailings Option to go green and receive newsletter via email
- Sponsorship of Liberty Twp.'s Community Day
- Scholarship Program
- Lake Management Plan for Mountain Lake

MLCA & WAG CALENDAR

April 25th – Arbor Day at Liberty Twp municipal building; Free trees

May 7th – ML Fire Co. Annual Golf Outing

June 5th – ML Fire Co Annual Barrel Fight

June 13th – Liberty Twp. Community Day

July 22nd – Moth Night at Liberty municipal building @ 8pm-11pm

July 31st - MLCA & WAG General Meeting at 7pm

*ML Fire Co – Breakfasts every 3rd Sunday of the month

RECAP: BIRDING 101 WORKSHOP

A huge THANK YOU to John Parke of the NJ Audubon Society for an amazing class on beginner birding! Thank you also to all those in attendance.

Some helpful tips from the workshop:

Equipment: Good pair of binoculars & a field guide with range maps and descriptions, not just pictures

Shapes: Get familiar with silhouettes & shapes-wings, beaks & tails Size it up - compare size of bird to something you know

Some things don't change – Shape of beaks and feet dictate food and habitat Look for certain colors & patterns – color around the eyes/on the wings, patterns in the wing/on the tail, behavior patterns and habitat.

Want to see more

in learning about?

Want to volunteer?

ideas:

Contact us with your

mlca.wag@mail.com

activities? Is there a

topic you are interested

Pick up a free birding trail maps at the Liberty municipal building. Happy Birding!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 2015

Join us on Friday July 31st at the Mountain Lake Firehouse at 7pm for our annual general membership meeting. We will be reviewing the community lake survey responses, discussing progress on the management plan, and also identify workshops/classes of interest for future.

There will also be a special presentation on Boating Safety provided by the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, aka America's Volunteer Guardians. In 1939, Congress created the Coast Guard Auxiliary to serve as a volunteer, civilian partner to the US Coast Guard; living and working in the communities they serve.

Volunteers from the Lake Hopatcong Flotilla will provide a free presentation about making boating safer – accidents and prevention, paddle craft/board safety, cold water immersion/hypothermia, and using the right life jacket. All ages are encouraged to join us!

^{*}Some people wish to contribute more than the amount of their dues. A **Life Time Membership** is available for a donation of \$1000. This includes corporate funds matched in your name.