

MT. LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Fall 2020 Edition
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BOARD'S MESSAGE:

Happy fall! Last month Aquatic Analysts came out with their floating pontoon outfitted with a backhoe and rake attachment and removed a significant amount of plant material from the southern portion of the lake. More specifically they removed 971,250 pounds of plant material, that's roughly 107 elephants! What's better, their haul eliminated 2,913 pounds of nitrogen and 291 pounds of phosphorous from the water. Excessive nutrients like phosphorous and nitrogen promote the growth of algae, unfortunately contributing to the reoccurring bloom. Liberty Township and the MLCA jointly funded this \$20,000 project. Without the community keeping up with membership dues and donating to our fundraisers, this cleanup wouldn't have been possible. A very gracious thank you to Walter Menegus for accepting all of this biomass for composting!

Thank you to all of our members, volunteers, and this incredibly supportive community!

Respectfully,
Daniele Nevins, Vice President

What's Next?

- Enhanced Water Monitoring Program – expanded to include Dissolved Oxygen monitoring and nitrates.
- Continued development of a Lake Management Plan
- Proposing shovel-ready projects to apply for a 319h HAB grant for next year
- Continual support of the Lake Subcommittee and partnership with the Twp.
- Supporting efforts to work with the Highlands

Visit www.mlcaawag.org for results from our own volunteer water monitoring program!

Congratulations to Heather Wulf for winning the MLCA Lawn Sign Scavenger Hunt! Heather and her girls worked together to locate all of the strategically placed sign. She received a \$50 cash prize generously donated to the MLCA by Polar Freeze.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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TRUNK OR TREAT

Oct. 31st 1-4pm

Across from The Lodge

\$5 registration fee

Masks required/Costumes

Encouraged

All families interested in decorating a trunk should register by 10/26 - Spots are limited!

Set up 12pm

Trunk or Treat 1-4pm

Costume Parade 3pm

Prizes for Favorite Trunks!

RSVP: dnevins22@gmail.com or

(201) 230-1575

All proceeds benefit the Mt. Lake Community Association, a 501c3 organization.

Stewardship Spotlight: Meet Donna Wolfgang

My name is Donna Wolfgang and I have been a resident of Mountain Lake since 1984.

I am the one who designs and paints the Welcome to Mountain Lake sign.

I first became acquainted with the lake in the early 60's as my family were frequent summer weekend visitors. We would picnic on the Casino property and enjoyed swimming and fishing for sunnies. There was a series of Burma Shave signs (remember those?) on Rt. 31 before you got to Rt. 46 which I always looked forward to reading.

When I was dating my husband, Gary, he rented a small apartment from Vivian Lobb on what is now Center Street. The first time I visited him I was thrown back in time. I hadn't been to Mountain Lake in years! What great memories of those childhood visits.

We both fell in love with the lake and community. After we got married, the opportunity presented itself to purchase the house next to Vivian. We jumped at the chance and shortly moved in with our 2 year old son, Jesse and 5 month old daughter, Megan in July of '84. Sarah arrived 2 years later.

I have drawn/painted signs for years. In high school I created posters for class officer elections and sport boosters. Right after moving to this area, I was asked to paint a sign for the American Cancer Society.

My husband joined the fire company in 1988. Following his lead, I joined the Mountain Lake Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary in 1990. As a member I volunteered to paint signs for upcoming firehouse events. I even designed the logo for the auxiliary.

Years ago I was approached by the Mountain Lake Community Association to paint a Welcome to Mountain Lake sign- my first of 3. Sign painting is fun for me, from designing to completion. Having people complement my work gives me joy.

I always do the signs for cost of materials only. I feel it is very important to give back to your community any way you can. Mine just happens to be through what I love to do.



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS INSECT?

The Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive insect that is highly destructive to over 70 species of trees and shrubs, including fruit trees, grape vines and so many hardwood species.

Kill it! Squash it! Now that it's fall, the lanternflies are mating and laying egg masses with 30-50 eggs in each mass. Each female can lay 2-3 egg masses. Be on the lookout. The egg masses can be on almost any hard surface; firewood, vinyl siding, cement, trees, sheds, etc.

If you see an egg mass from now through May – scrape it off and destroy it!



Check out Penn State Extension for more info: <https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly-management-for-residents>

WATERSHED-FRIENDLY FALL LAWN TIPS

1. Compost your leaves, brush, grass clippings, and other yard waste.
2. Keep grass clippings and leaves away from drains, streams and shorelines.
3. Do not dump grass or yard waste onto a creek bank or area where it will be washed into creeks and rivers.
4. Mulch them into your lawns. Use your mower to “mulch in place” and chop the leaves into finer particles. Then, leave the desired amount of leaf particles on your lawn and move any excess leaf material into your perennial flower beds or compost to help replace the need for mulch and synthetic fertilizers in the spring.
5. Bag them and take them to a local recycling center.

In 2016, a study by the USGS in Madison, Wisconsin revealed the removal of fallen **leaves** can reduce phosphorus concentrations found in stormwater by 80%. Reducing leaf litter from entering our streams and lakes, can make a big impact.