



Mountain Lake Community Association Spring 2023 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

Tree Seedling Giveaway

April 22, 10 am-noon at Mt Lake Pavilion.
Liberty Tsp Environmental Commission

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

April 23, 8 am-noon at Landfill. Warren
County. More info at libertytownship.org

Residential Clean-up Week

May 1-6 at Landfill. Residents only.
Vouchers required. Liberty Tsp. More info
at libertytownship.org

Macroinvertebrate Stream Survey

Sunday, late April/early May. Date TBD. At
Jenny Jump Brook and Mountain Lake
Brook. More info at MLCAwag.org and our
Facebook page

Townwide Yard Sale

Saturday, May 20, 8 am-noon at Mt Lake
Firehouse and participating homes in town.
Rain date: May 21. MLCA & Ladies
Auxiliary. More info at MLCAwag.org and
our Facebook page.

Litter Clean Up

Date TBD. Targeting Lakeside Drive. MLCA

Town Beach Opens

Mid June. Liberty Tsp.

Board of Trustees

Robert Ballou	President
Daniele Nevins	Vice-President
Nancy O'Leary	Treasurer
Buffy Harrison	Secretary

Trustees

Patricia Hoffman
Barbette Johnston
Brad Russo

Spring Membership Meeting Set for Thursday, April 20th

The Spring Meeting of the Mountain Lake Community Association will be held on Thursday, April 20 at 7 pm at the Mt Lake Firehouse. The agenda will include a look ahead at our proposed plans and activities for the year, our proposed budget, and brief presentations/discussions on lake monitoring, weed management, drone surveying, goose control, new grant funding opportunity, and other matters of interest. There will be opportunities for input from our members and the community, so if you have suggestions or questions, the floor will be yours. If you would like to add an agenda item prior to the meeting, email us at mlca.wag@gmail.com. The final agenda, draft meeting minutes from our last meeting, and other meeting materials will be posted on our website prior to the meeting.



Photo Courtesy of Fran Salerno

The meeting is open to the public, and we welcome everyone with an interest in the lake. On voting matters, only members can vote. If you are not yet a member, please join. You can do so at the meeting, or anytime after, using the form on the back. We need your support to help steer the Association forward in its mission to protect Mountain Lake.

Mountain Lake Strong!

Goose Control Program

The Lake Association's Canada goose control program is underway for 2023. The spring focus is on nest and egg control. Two nests have been identified so far. Joe Bello, a Liberty resident — and awesome guy — who operates Geese Chasers, is monitoring the nests and humanely adding the eggs to prevent them from developing. If anyone knows of other nests on the lake, please contact the Lake Association asap at MLCA.wag@gmail.com. Other aspects of the control program, which will continue throughout the year, include discouraging intentional feeding, promoting shoreline barriers, particularly natural riparian areas, and promoting deterrence.



The goal is to establish and maintain a smaller, healthier population of geese at the lake, consistent with wildlife management standards and recommended practices. An integrated wildlife management approach, involving a mix of control methods applied consistently throughout the year, is the most effective way to control geese. So that's our strategy. Observations conducted last year revealed a decrease in the number of resident geese compared to 2021, so it seems the program may be working. Goose management will be further discussed at the April 20 meeting, and info on the program will be uploaded to the Lake Association's website.

Summer Fun

We sense growing interest in having more lake-oriented activities & events — fun stuff. We agree. We have some ideas, including boat parades and races, swims, scavenger hunts. We look forward to further discussing these at the meeting. Share your ideas with us on Facebook or via email, and stay tuned.

MLCAWAG.org

Follow us on Facebook



@MLCAWAG

New Monitoring Meter Will Track Water Quality in Mountain Lake

The Lake Association has acquired a new state-of-the-art meter for monitoring water quality in Mountain Lake. The new equipment was made possible thanks to a generous donation to the Lake Association provided by Russo Law Offices. Touted as the most advanced handheld meter on the market, the YSI ProDSS meter enables simultaneous measurements of temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, conductivity, and algae. With two full years of intensive lake monitoring under our belts, we are thrilled to launch our 2023 monitoring season with such a huge boost. Pending approval of the proposed 2023 budget, the Lake Association plans to combine the data from the meter with sampling and lab analysis of phosphorus and cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) levels in the lake. All information on the status of water quality conditions in the lake will be summarized and conveyed to the community throughout the monitoring season (April – October) via our website and Facebook page.



1st Annual Fishing Derby a Hit

On Saturday morning, April 8, the Lake Association hosted a fishing derby for kids under 16. It was a great morning — a bit chilly, but beautiful. We had a total of 19 young anglers who participated, ranging in age from 20 months to 11 years, all joined by family and friends. A total of 13 fish were caught, all bluegills. (The trout played hard to get.) Most important were all the smiles and joy -- there's nothing better than seeing kids having fun at the lake! We plan to make this an annual event, timed with opening day of trout season. Congrats to all the participants!



Townwide Yard Sale on May 20

The 3rd Annual Townwide Yard Sale is set for Saturday, May 20, 8 am-noon at the Mt Lake Firehouse. Rain date is Sunday, May 21, same time. There are 3 ways to participate: 1) register for a table (\$10) and sell at the Firehouse, 2) register to be on the town-wide map (\$10) and set up your own table at your house (Liberty Tsp residents only), or 3) donate your items and the proceeds will support the Lake Association. Those with tables at the Firehouse can leave behind what doesn't sell for donation. Food and drinks will be available at the Firehouse. Contact us now if interested in registering or donating, and mark your calendars if interested in attending. More info at MLCAwag.org.

Weed Harvesting

The Lake Association is collaborating with Liberty Tsp and the Liberty Tsp Environmental Commission to plan for up to three days of weed harvesting in Mountain Lake this spring and summer. High-resolution photos of the lake, taken during monthly drone flights, will be used to track the effectiveness of the weed control efforts, and plan for future activities. The drone surveys are being conducted by Warren Community College's Unmanned Aircraft System Program. Separately, shorefront property owners seeking the services of a weed harvesting contractor may contact the Lake Association for assistance. We will help to coordinate (but not pay for) those services.

MT. LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 2023 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Mountain Lake Community Association
P.O. Box 275
Great Meadows, NJ 07838

Send form with check made out to MLCA.
Or send form and use Paypal on our website.

Your \$30 annual membership donation helps to support the many activities and projects undertaken by the Lake Association. Those wishing to contribute more than the annual membership amount help to boost our effectiveness as an all-volunteer organization. A Lifetime Membership is available for a donation of \$1,000; this includes corporate funds matched in your name. MLCA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all donations and memberships are tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Street

Town

State

Zip

Email: _____



I would like to receive future newsletters via email, recognizing it reduces costs for the Lake Association and is the green thing to do