



A Great Read
... Cover to Cover!

Webster Lake Fall 2018 Newsletter

www.lakewebster.net



The President's Corner

Another lake season is just about over. How time flies! I hope you and your family enjoyed your summer days on Lake Webster and made many happy memories. What a pleasant place to be, half naked and carefree, boating, swimming, and fishing! Right?



Webster Lake would not be as pretty and as navigable as it is without the support and contributions of WLCA members. **Thank you to all of the Webster Lake property owners and residents** who are partnering with WLCA through their membership and extra contributions to the weed and fireworks funds. You make this a great place to live and play.

If you own property or play on Webster Lake and are not a member of or contributor to the WLCA, before the season is over please remember to extend a sincere **Thank You** to your neighbors who are members of the WLCA. **Why?**

Because only their dues, contributions, and a grant to WLCA paid the following lake maintenance expenses to help make your summer season at Webster Lake more enjoyable:

- \$37,413.08 of the \$65,213.08 spent to kill invasive & shoreline weeds to make the lake navigable (the balance of \$29,800 was paid by a DNR LARE Grant)

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"IN THE WEEDS"

The **lake shoreline and channel weed treatment** (60.5 acres) was applied on June 13, following the lake-wide **treatment for invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil** (175 acres) on May 23. Clarke Aquatic Services administered both treatments for a total cost of \$61,213.08. WLCA was awarded an initial LARE Grant of \$24,600 to offset the cost of the treatment for invasive species. WLCA will owe \$4,000 later this fall for the creation of the required annual vegetation management plan (AVMP) and Tier II survey of the biomass. An amendment to our LARE Grant will pick up \$3,200 of the AVMP cost. The net cost for weed treatment and AVMP to WLCA for 2018 will be \$37,413.08 barring any necessary late fall retreatment.



**Maps of Weed Treatment
Results available on
the website at
www.lakewebster.net**

WLCA is pleased with the results that we have seen from Clarke's treatments. Two weeks after the treatment for invasive Milfoil, there was no Milfoil to be seen, and thus far, it has not resurfaced. This differs from treatments in 2017, when the Milfoil was treated (not by Clarke)

both spring and fall and did not disappear, but came back hale and hardy this spring. Likewise, Clarke's shoreline and channel treatments have been effective.

We saw more weed chop in the Millers Landing area this spring due to the fact the DNR would not permit an early spring 2018 treatment of 16 acres of Curlyleaf Pond Weed in that area as they did in 2017. Thankfully, the life cycle of Curlyleaf causes it to sink down by mid-July.

With the exception of the annual onslaught of Duckweed, the lake has been in very good condition from mid-June through the summer. As we headed

COONTAIL



into August, we saw a native weed, Coontail, growing to the top of the water. Large mats of Coontail may break off and float through the lake driven by wind and current. Should one or more of these weed masses stop at your shoreline, please feel free to remove it, let it dry, and dispose of it. The DNR has not permitted WLCA to treat Coontail for the 2018 season. WLCA will be discussing this possibility for 2019 during our annual vegetation management planning session with the DNR later this year.

WLCA has been working with Clarke to find ways to control/manage the Duckweed. This will be an on-going process.

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER *Continued from front page.*

- \$8,275 of the \$12,600 needed for the fireworks show (local businesses paid \$4,325)
- \$731 for installation, maintenance & removal of safety buoys for hazards and shallow water
- \$220 in educational expenses for our volunteer board to learn more about about water quality & dam safety and control
- \$1,500 to clear trees and brush from the dam spillway
- \$3,000 towards the final phase of the Kline Island shoreline restoration project which will keep tons of sediment and weed growing nutrients out of the lake in the future

Your membership and participation would allow WLCA to do even more for Webster Lake such as dredging projects, saving more islands, and affording treatment for Duckweed.

Oh! Also, please remember to extend a **Thank You** to the 12 volunteer board members whose contributions of time, talent and personal finances help to manage all of the above accomplishments and additionally perform the following:

- **monitor** water levels & water clarity and remove weeds and debris from the dam controls
- **secure** permits from the DNR & Homeland Security and contract for & stage the Fireworks
- **secure** permits and LARE grants from the DNR for the weed treatments

- **secure** bids from herbicide applicators for the weed treatments
- **send** out invoices, receive all payments, pay all expenses & maintain accounting records
- **track** all members and non-members living on the lake and post directories on the Website
- **contribute** 30 man-hours mapping the weed biomasses in the lake and provide the boat
- **attend** seminars & special lake or dam related meetings
- **prepare** 3 excellent newsletters to keep all property owners informed & maintain a Website
- **present** the North Webster Town Council with an engineering/feasibility study for storm drain filters & **follow up** with the Council regarding street sweeping & storm drain cleaning
- **secure** information for all property owners regarding water circulators that move weed chop & duck weed from stagnant shoreline areas & conduct demonstrations of the circulators

It's not too late to step up and help out. Pay your fair share. Please complete and return the Membership Form printed in this newsletter with a check. **Do this and the Board of Directors will be THANKING you for your support of the WLCA and, more importantly, Webster Lake.**

~ Mike Wyrick, *President*

"IN THE WEEDS" *Continued from front page.*

In 2018, WLCA, through Clarke Aquatic Services, arranged for demonstrations and the purchase of "water circulators" by residents that move Duckweed and weed chop from coves and inlets around the lake where there is less wind and water action. These same machines aerate the stagnant water in those areas. Although they do not eliminate the Duckweed or chop, they have proven to be effective in keeping these areas open. Approximately 15 units were purchased by residents and installed on the lake.

Clarke has given us some hope that the Duckweed may be treatable and minimized. Until we can afford to treat Duckweed, here are some actions that might be taken to improve wind and water circulation conditions in those stagnant cove areas:

- Purchase and use the water circulator mentioned above.
- Place piers as far apart as possible to allow more wind and water action at shore.
- Extend piers, when possible, & tie boats farther away from shore. Same reason as above.
- Keep trash, leaves, weed chop, & other debris cleaned out from the shoreline.
- Keep your septic system clean and working properly.

As previously reported, the treatment for Duckweed is expensive. WLCA will need to see membership and participation in weed fund contributions substantially increase in order to afford to treat Duckweed. Rather than asking our current membership

to pay more, it seems only fair to ask those non-paying property owners on Webster Lake to step up and financially participate in lake management expenses. **If you are a non-member, please consider this one more reason to become a partner with the WLCA through membership.** 🌸

FEEDBACK ON CLARKE WEED CHOPPER

"I absolutely love my water circulator. The day it arrived it was totally socked in with floating cut weeds plus lots of duckweed on top. It was cleared out in no time at all. After a couple of days with it running, it had also cleared my lake bottom and I regained my sandy bottom. Neighbors were so impressed that two of them have installed them also. They sell themselves. Clarke Aquatic was very professional, friendly and accommodating."

"My Clarke water circulator has done a very effective job of moving weeds away from our shoreline...I definitely feel this is a cost effective solution to weed control."

"We have lived on Webster Lake for nearly 20 years and have always had a huge amount of cut weeds and Duckweed that would build up over the summer and create a big mess. Clarke Aquatic Control, who treat the invasive weeds on the lake, suggested using a water circulatory device that would clear out the weeds by stirring them up and keeping them moving. I decided to buy one and have been very happy with the results. Our beach area is now clear for the first time ever in July/August."

THE SAVER CARD

WLCA has sponsored a Saver Card program for use by residents of Webster and Backwater Lakes. Saver Cards were mailed to all lake residents with dues statements in April. WLCA encourages you to shop locally and use your Saver Card to receive discounts from participating local merchants. Please visit www.lakewebster.net for current information. 🍁



Participating Merchants and Offers are subject to change by the Participating Merchants at any time without notice. 🍁

THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 FIREWORKS DONORS!

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| Ace Hardware of North Webster
Ace Pest Control, Inc.
Bart's Water Sports
Bourbon Street Pizza
Clarke Aquatic Services, Inc.
Clark's Marine Service
Dave's Electric, Heating & Cooling
Dixie Haven Resort
Dixie Sternwheeler, Inc.
Epworth Forest Conference Center
Fisherman Cove Resort
Freedom Oil LLC
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Hartley Builders LLC | Heart of the Lakes Antique Mall
Lake City Bank
Lakeland Pier LLC
Lakeland Spinal Health PC
Lakeview/Pizza King
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Mary Kay Cosmetics & Jan Osborn
Metcalf, Payne & Bell Plumbing
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North Webster Fire Department
North Webster Tippecanoe Township
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Subway
Sue's Creations
The Lodge at North Webster
The Papers, Inc.
Thompson Concrete
Todd Realty of North Webster
Tom's Truck Repair
WLCA Members
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WLCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Wyrick, <i>President</i>	Tom Jones, Jr.
Dawn Meyer, <i>Secretary</i>	Steve Kemp
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WLCA MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of WLCA is to control the inlet and outlet of Webster Lake; endeavor to keep the lake clean and safe for fishing, swimming and boating; and encourage the property owners and members to work together for the improvement of the lake in order to make the region healthful, restful and attractive, in the belief that doing so will help to enhance enjoyment of the lake and maintain and/or increase lake property values as well as benefit local businesses and the community as a whole. 🍁

Visit the WLCA website @ www.lakewebster.net

2018 WLCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Please return this voucher with your payment)

Name(s) _____	E-mail Address _____
Lake Address _____	
Mailing Address _____	
Contact Phone(s) _____	E-mail Statements <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Membership Dues	\$	100.00
Fireworks Fund	\$	_____
Weed Fund	\$	_____
TOTAL:	\$	_____

Checks Payable to WLCA

Mail to: WLCA
 P.O. Box 79
 North Webster, IN 46555

Code: Newsletter Fall

WLCA is a Not-for-Profit Charitable Corporation Under IRS Section 501(c)(3).

A LITTLE ABOUT WEBSTER LAKE DAM

Webster Lake's water level is controlled by what is called an "earthen dam" that contains two spillways equipped with gates to release water as needed. These spillways allow water to flow over the top of the gates when the lake is above a certain level, even with all gates closed, as the Webster dam is a pass-through dam, not a retention dam. The water level for Webster Lake was determined



and set by court order. The gates were closed on May 23, 2018, after the first weed spray and only partially opened a few days in June of 2018, due to a predicted large rain, then subsequently closed again and have remained closed since. If you, or anyone, would like more details on the dam operation or have any questions/concerns, the board members of the WLCA would be more than happy to discuss these with you. Please feel free to contact us through the WLCA website at www.lakewebster.net or attend one of our monthly meetings as scheduled on the website. Meetings are held at the North Webster Community Center, unless otherwise indicated. 🍁



NEW HERBICIDE APPLICATOR



Clarke Aquatic Services, INC is a global environmental products and services company. Our mission is to make communities around the world more livable, safe and comfortable. We do this by pioneering, developing and delivering environmentally responsible aquatic services to help create healthy aquatic environments. Clarke has developed an integrated environmental management approach that takes into account specific habitats, environmental sensitivities and budget considerations.

Clarke understands that each body of water is an environment of its own, and thus requires a management strategy of its own. Our services include:

- > Preferred applicators for the LARE program
- > Lake management, surveys and aquatic vegetation mapping
- > Invasive weed and algae control
- > Phragmites control utilizing our company owned Bell 206B-III Jet Ranger helicopter
- > Aeration, including fountains and diffusers

When you work with Clarke Aquatic Services, you work with a knowledgeable partner, completely invested in protecting the environment.

STAY CONNECTED...

...WITH
www.lakewebster.net



About Us

Events

Membership

Saver Card

Directory (On Line)

Contact Us

Meetings

Information Links

WLCA 2019 Calendar of Events

Saturday, June 15

Annual Dixie Ride & Carry-in Brunch

Please join us for a cruise on beautiful Webster Lake. The Dixie will leave from the Dixie Park Pavilion promptly at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, July 6

Webster Lake Fireworks

Starting time is approximately 10:00 p.m. ~ (Rain Date: Sunday, July 7, at 10 p.m.)

Saturday, August 10 ~ Annual Meeting/Election

9:30 a.m. - Community Center Party Room. 🍁

Thank you. . .

WLCA extends a very special "Thank You" to The Dixie Sternwheeler, Inc., for this year's annual Dixie Ride for the membership brunch. There was a total of 61 attendees—more than in years past. WLCA encourages property owners and members to work together for the improvement of the lake and we hope to see the number of attendees continue to rise from year to year. 🍁

