



# East Georgetown Shores Lake Association Newsletter

December 2015, Volume 8 Number 1

Check out our Web site on the Net.

It can be found at

<http://www.georgetownshores.org>



Your support makes the community  
special!

## EDITOR'S NOTE

*By Randy Plaisier*

As I sit here writing this Newsletter it is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of 2015. We want to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. There have been many events that have occurred in the lives of people who live in our neighborhood; some personal and others more public, some births in families and some families have been touched with death. But in this God has been good and Georgetown Shores is truly a great place to live.

## ASSOCIATION VOTING 2016

Our board is made up of 6 residents at this time. The board members are: Dave Young (Phase 1) Secretary, Mike Ply (Phase 1), Shawn Hamacher (Phase 2), Randy Plaisier (Phase 4) President, Trent Rappuhn (Phase 5), and Doug Holtrop (Phase 6) Treasure. These guys have served as the Interim Board since the association was turned over to the residents a couple of years ago. Since that time we tried to set up annual residents meetings in March but were unable to get a quorum in order to conduct legal business as our association. Because of this we have found a way to set up on-line voting in order to conduct the association voting.

We will be voting on some items in the first part of 2016 and notification of those items will be send out after the first of the year. We are also looking to increase the board to 7 persons and so we have asked for nominees that would be interested in running. Each seat will be for a three (3) year term and they will be staggered with two or three seats up for election each year. This year we will elect three seats with two existing members who are willing to run. We have had Jim Roskam (Phase 3) volunteer to be up for the next election and if others would like to be considered to be on the ballot, please send information via e-mail to [egsla@georgetownshores.org](mailto:egsla@georgetownshores.org). The board holds monthly meetings at 7:00 am on the second Tuesday of the month.

EGSLA Board



## ICE INFORMATION

- **Four inches of ice will generally hold an average-sized person on foot. Snowmobiles and ORVs need at least eight inches of solid, consistent ice.**
- **Ice does not form with uniform thickness on any body of water. Underwater springs or currents can wear thin spots on any body of water.**
- **Clear ice is the strongest. Ice formed by melted and refrozen snow appears milky, is very porous and very weak. Ice covered by snow should always be presumed unsafe.**

## SEALANT OF LAUNCH AREA

*Update from EGSLA Board*

This summer we will be resealing the Boat Launch area and parking lot. This will comprise of cleaning and filling any cracks with Hot Polymeric Sealant. We will notify the residents when the time for this work is scheduled.

---

## MAKING A SKATING RINK

*By Randy Plaisier*

A great way to enjoy the winter months on the lake is by creating a skating rink. The key to a good rink is diligence. It is important to continue to keep the snow off the rink surface in order to enjoy a hard smooth skating area. Every time it snows you need to get the snow off before the sun has a chance to melt the snow at the surface of the ice. This will cause slush that will freeze again when the sun goes away.

### Tips for a good Rink

- 1) First remove the snow from the ice.
  - a) Use a steel shovel; plastic does not have enough strength to get down to the smooth ice.
  - b) If there are more than a few inches of snow on the ice, use a small snow blower to remove the snow first, then shovel it.
  - c) Lake ice is subject to slush; differential freezing and sunshine will ruin your ice.
- 2) After clearing the snow off the ice, you may want to flood the ice in order to make a smoother surface. Follow these steps:
  - a) The perfect temperature for flooding is between 5 and 10 degrees Fahrenheit for ice to solidify smoothly. If the temperature is not cold enough, or if you use too much water, a condition called "shell ice" can result. This is where the top layer of ice crumbles very easily. A rule of thumb: The warmer the temperature, the lighter the application of water.
  - b) Flooding is a problem out on a lake because it is difficult to get enough hose to reach the best location for a rink. I have found that a small utility pump works well for flooding.
  - c) Clean every last bit of snow off the ice before flooding (some will shovel, then broom clean)
  - d) Using a small amount of water, flood your edges. This will create a border or edge to keep a puck in the rink.
  - e) Enjoy the cold when you are out flooding, which is when you get the best ice.

That's about it, best of luck to all you dedicated skaters out there. The key, again, is timely snow removal.

---

## JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

We have set up a private group on Facebook. Request to join our group by searching East Georgetown Shores Lake Association.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/egsla/>

---

---

## COMMON RESIDENT MAILBOX

When residents purchased their lot in the development they were told that a common mailbox was required and since that time there has been a migration away from this common mailbox. We discussed this at the Association informational meeting in March 2015 and asked for a showing of hands on the desire to require a move back to the requirement of a common mailbox. The desire was almost unanimous at this meeting. The Board has been discussing this a number of times since the member meeting and we are in agreement that a uniform Mailbox on the road is our desire. We are notifying our residents that we will be requiring adherence to this existing requirement and it needs to be accomplished by Memorial Day 2016.

The approved mailboxes can be purchased or repaired from one of our residents: Jim Frieswyk, 5949 16<sup>th</sup> Ave, 457-1832

The requirement is the mailbox seen at most resident's locations today. If a deviation from the standard Brown is desired, approval from the ACC will need to be obtained. Contact them at [archreview@georgetownshores.org](mailto:archreview@georgetownshores.org)

---

## CALL FOR TASK FORCE MEMBERS

### *Update from EGSLA Board*

We have finalized the 2016 budget and are looking to 2017. The board is asking for volunteers to work on a task force to bring to the Board a recommended proposal for new entrance signs. We are proposing the removal of all our existing GS signs (4) and replacing them with some landscaping and new signage in three (3) of those locations. These will be placed on the south side of 14<sup>th</sup> and Ponstein, east side of 16<sup>th</sup> and VanBuren, and at 18<sup>th</sup> and Edson. These locations the association has easement for signage. The forth location will need to have the landscaping upgraded but we are not planning on a new signage for that location.

If you are interested in serving on this task force, please send us an e-mail to [egsla@georgetownshores.org](mailto:egsla@georgetownshores.org)

---

## THE COVE IS A NO-WAKE ZONE

### *Update from EGSLA Board*

In case there is some questions about this, the entire cove area is a no-wake zone. This includes the channel and the cove area itself.

---

---

## REPAVING OF BIKE/WALKING PATH ALONG VAN BUREN AND 14<sup>TH</sup> AVE.

*Update from EGSLA Board*

Some of our residents may have noticed that the bike path along VanBuren and 14<sup>th</sup> Ave is getting in need of repair. We have been getting bids from contractors in order to repave this path. Due to the cost of this repair, we have been talking with the Township in order to get assistance in the funding of this work. Right now we are proposing that the Association pay half and the TWP pay half. Stay tuned to find out the results of this project.

---

## BOAT STICKERS /GATE ACCESS

*Update from EGSLA Board*

We have seen a number of boats on the lake that are not registered. Some of them are residents who have not taken the time to get their registration sticker. Others are either friends or individuals who have gotten the gate code somehow. This is causing us to look into changing the access method at the launch. Access will be changed to a card swipe method in the spring. We hope to get this done before the busy use time. Stay tuned for more information on this project.

Just a reminder that any boat that is required to be registered by the State of Michigan needs to be registered with the association.

This registration can be easily done by bringing a copy of your state boat registration to Randy Plaisier (1742 N. Bay Dr.) or by e-mailing a copy of your registration and a photo of your boat to [boat@georgetownshores.org](mailto:boat@georgetownshores.org). You will receive a teal colored sticker for the starboard (right) window or side of your boat.

Remember that the Bylaws allow for a maximum of two registered vessels per lot and that the vessel needs to be owned by the lot owner. This means it is not allowed for your friends nor you to take your friend's, brother's, sister's or parent's or anyone else's boat but yours on the lake.

Finally, remember to always be courteous with the volume of music you are playing from your boat. Sound travels on the water.

---

## PHOSPHORUS PHACT

“every **pound** of phosphorous that actually gets into the lake will produce one **ton** of algae”



## RESPONSIBILITY CODE

Be aware that there are elements of risk in boating, skiing, and riding that common sense and personal awareness can help reduce. Know your ability level and stay within it.

TO INCREASE YOUR ENJOYMENT OF THE SPORT FOLLOW THE  
“WATERSPORTS RESPONSIBILITY CODE”.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO:

- Familiarize yourself with all applicable laws, the risks inherent in the sport, and the proper use of equipment.
- Know the waterways where you will be skiing or riding. Do not ski or ride in shallow water, near shore, docks, pilings, swimmers, or other watercraft.
- Always have a person other than the boat driver as an observer and agree on hand signals before starting.
- Always wear a U.S. Coast Guard type III (PFD) vest.
- Read your owner's manual and inspect your equipment prior to use.
- Ski or ride within your limits. Always ski or ride in control and at speeds appropriate for your ability.
- Always turn ignition off when anyone is near watercraft power drive unit.
- Avoid CO poisoning! Never drag within 20 feet behind a moving watercraft.
- Not operate watercraft, ski or ride under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Water Sports Industry Association

---

## FISH AS PETS?

*by Scott VanderVeen*

One great way to enhance your fishing or fish watching experience is to bring the fish to you. Feeding the fish around your dock is a fun way to ensure that you'll always catch something and even if you're not fishing its fun to see the different fish that come around to the dinner table.

Now there's a couple different ways to accomplish this. First you need the food. Believe it or not, Purina makes a “Game Fish Chow” that is available at the Hudsonville Co-op. It's a pellet type food that floats which makes easy to see the fish as they come to eat. Next comes the method in which you want to feed these guys. Most will settle for the common method of feeding by hand. You start by throwing just enough for them to eat in 15-20 minutes. After a week or so you'll start to see more and more fish start to show up. If you create a pattern by feeding twice a day for a few weeks, you'll soon notice that when you walk out onto your dock you'll have friends coming out of the weeds to see what you have to offer.

I've taken this a step farther and setup an automatic feeder that I hang on the end of my shore station. This allows me to feed every dawn and dusk which gives the fish a routine. I'm not kidding when I say that the fish are actually waiting for the feeder to go off at those times.

You'll be surprised at how fast the bluegills grow and if you fish for them, how well they fight. The food comes in a big bag (I think its 40lb.) so it can easily be shared among a few neighbors. It's something fun for kids to do and ensures that their fishing is always successful. Any questions contact Scott VanderVeen @ 669-6314 or [veener@sbcglobal.net](mailto:veener@sbcglobal.net).



---

## AM I A GOOD NEIGHBOR?

by *Randy Plaisier (aka. Mr. Rogers)*

With the weather getting warmer and all of us outdoors more often, we are encouraging you to keep in mind to be courteous to your neighbor this summer.

Thus far we have had complaints about Music on boats being too loud (sound travels extremely well on the water), Beer bottles showing up on residents shoreline & cans being thrown in the lake, Residents allowing dogs and cats to roam away from their homes, and concerns of people infringing on property owners' rights by walking on their property.

We all need to think about "MY RIGHTS" and "MY NEIGHBORS' RIGHTS". We live in a community where we share a common area (the entire lake area), and there are many different priorities when it comes to what we value when living on a lake...

- ✓ skiing
- ✓ tubing
- ✓ wakeboarding
- ✓ surfing
- ✓ fishing
- ✓ ice fishing
- ✓ snowmobiling
- ✓ cross country skiing
- ✓ scenery
- ✓ wildlife
- ✓ swimming
- ✓ paddle boating
- ✓ paddle boarding
- ✓ quiet boat on the water shore

... and so many others.

We all need to think about some questions...

Do I have a legal right to do this?

1. Is my behavior respectful of my neighbors?
2. Are my demands on my neighbor reasonable?
3. Do my demands (or behavior) infringe on my neighbors' rights or preferences?
4. Have I personally talked—politely—with the party responsible for irritating me?
5. Can I change a little to help my neighbor a lot?

Please be a good neighbor and above all be safe this summer.

---

## E-MAIL ADDRESSES

by *Randall Plaisier*

Occasionally we send out information about the neighborhood. Please get us your e-mail address by sending an e-mail to [newres@georgetownshores.org](mailto:newres@georgetownshores.org). Tell us your names, lot and phone numbers or you can go to our web site discussed below and click the link on top called "Mailing List".

We also have a resident's discussion Forum and Blog at our resident's only web site.

<http://www.georgetownshores.org>

Username: atthelake

Password: atthelake

The web site also now has a forum for residents to post their questions, comments and general discussion items. This area is only available to residents and the username/password are listed in the article about e-mail addresses order for you to gain access.

We encourage you to voice your opinions on the forum located at <http://www.georgetownshores.org/private/forum>

This forum site is password protected and posting can be done by just creating an account and logging in.

We are also open to community interest articles that residents may submit to us for placement into a future newsletter publication. Send proposed articles to use by e-mailing to [egsla@georgetownshores.org](mailto:egsla@georgetownshores.org).

---

## UPGRADE SPRINKLING ON BURM

*Update from EGSLA Board*

We will be upgrading the sprinkling layout along 14<sup>th</sup> Ave and Van Buren where the bike path is as well. The trees along there have grown and we will change the way the sprinkling sprays. This is to continue to have a uniform look along the largest exposed frontage to the roadway in our association. Work for this should start in the spring.

---

## DRIVING SPEED AND SAFETY

*From the EGSLA Board*

Speeding continues to be an issue in the development. Please remember that this is a **residential community** and there are many young children who play outside. The speed limit on all streets except Van Buren is 25 MPH. Please **do not** push the upper edge of this limit.

