

# Harper Lake Association Newsletter

## May 2021



### Harper Lake Day Events – July 4, 2021

Sunday, July 4, 2021 is the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Harper Lake Day. Events will again include a fishing contest and scavenger hunt for those 16/under, along with the popular float parade and twilight boat cruise. A full schedule will be posted at [www.harperlakeassociation.org](http://www.harperlakeassociation.org) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/HarperLakeMI](https://www.facebook.com/HarperLakeMI).

This year's theme is "Christmas In July" so Break out your decorations and dust off your elf hat!



If you'd like to donate cash or prizes for the float parade drawings, contact Dawn May at 616.292.1224 or bring them to the Spring Membership Meeting on May 29. We're also looking for dock captains to stamp cards during the float parade. Let Dawn know if you can host a dock when you donate your prizes.

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### 2021 Dues

To date, 70 property owners have paid dues for 2021. Thank you for supporting the association! If you would like to join, contact [harperlakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:harperlakeassociation@gmail.com) or visit the Harper Lake Association's website to download a dues form. Annual dues are \$45 and are used for communications with members, special events, fish stocking and administrative costs.

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### Lake Treatment Scheduled

PLM Corp will be monitoring and treating Harper Lake several times this year. Treatments will be occurring throughout the summer months. Please watch your shoreline for posting signs with specific restrictions.

You will see PLM on the lake many times this summer performing surveys, water quality testing, weed treatment, etc. The schedule may be adjusted as the season progresses due to permit restrictions, growth, weather, etc. Always watch for posting signs.

Apr 26: Water Quality  
Jun 14: Survey, Weed/Algae Treatment  
Jul 19: Survey, Water Quality, Weed/Algae Treatment  
Aug 23: Survey, Water Quality, Weed/Algae Treatment  
Sep 20: End of Season Survey

### Gypsy Moth Population

After consulting with an arborist about the current gypsy moth outbreak around Harper Lake, the Board has decided to monitor the situation this summer rather than contract for aerial spraying and to reassess after the growing season. Natural predators, weather conditions and viruses all play a part in keeping the gypsy moth population under control, and aerial spraying may actually prolong the outbreak by suppressing the natural controls. There are several things property owners can do to reduce and contain the spread of gypsy moths. The arborist report and mitigation information can be found on our website.

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### Harper Lake Directory

Harper Lake directories are included with this mailing. Thank you to Heather Davis for compiling all of the information. In the directory you'll find advertisements for several local businesses with services many of our members look for. Support our local economy!

If you've recently moved or know of new property owners on Harper Lake, please email [harperlakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:harperlakeassociation@gmail.com) so that we can update our files.

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### Fish Stocking Update



The HLA Board has again approved a delivery of 1,000 perch this spring. We've ordered 500 4-5" fish and 500 5-7" fish. The delivery will take place sometime in May or June. Thank you HLA Board member Kevin Storberg for working with the fish hatchery to make this possible! If you'd be interested in helping distribute fish around the lake when delivered, text Kevin at 517.449.6130.

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### August Ballot / Call for Board Members

Board members are elected by vote at the Fall membership meeting (Sep 4, 2021) at Elk Township Hall). If you're interested in having your name placed on the ballot for a two-year term on the board, contact Karen Brower at 616.460.6090 or [kkbrower@charter.net](mailto:kkbrower@charter.net). Ballots will be mailed to all current association members in August.

## Wildlife Spotlight: Loons

Common loons, with their eerie calls, are icons of northern lakes. These long-bodied birds are impressive swimmers and divers who can stay underwater for up to five minutes, its signature red eyes helping it locate prey while submerged. They need a long "runway" to take off for flight and can only do so from water.

During the summer, adults have a black rounded head, pointed black bill, black-and-white barred neck, white breast, and a black-and-white checkered back. From Sep to Mar, their throat is white and the rest of their body is gray. Loons reach of 28-32" long with a wingspan of about 46" and weigh 9-12 pounds.

Common loons breed on lakes surrounded by forests in Canada and the northern United States. They migrate to coastal ocean waters in the winter. Loons eat primarily fish and often consume their prey underwater, instead of bringing it to the surface.

Source: National Wildlife Federation



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## In Memory

The Harper Lake Association extends our sympathy to the family and friends of Jeff Toy, Bill Mullaly and former residents Gary & Karen Humfleet who all passed away in the last year.

## 2021 Dates

- May 29 HLA General Membership Meeting – 9 a.m. at Elk Township Hall, 8996 Bass Lake Rd.
- July 4 Harper Lake Day – Fishing Contest, Scavenger Hunt, Float Parade & Prizes (Christmas in July theme)
- Sep 4 HLA General Membership Meeting – 9 a.m. at Elk Township Hall, 8996 Bass Lake Rd
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## Board of Directors

Karen Brower, President  
Annette McCormack, Vice President  
Dawn May, Secretary  
Ann Storberg, Treasurer  
Heather Davis  
Craig Fazakerly  
Kevin Storberg  
Brian Ritsema



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