



**Adirondack White Lake Association**

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# Winter 2024 Newsletter

The Adirondack White Lake Association (AWLA) aims to conserve, protect, monitor, and safely regulate the precious resources of White Lake



Photo by: Robert Thomas

Happy New Year, Fellow Members and White Lake Community!

As we bid farewell to another year and welcome the New Year, we want to extend heartfelt thanks to our incredible AWLA community! Your efforts make our lake a truly wonderful place. Wishing you and your loved ones a healthy and joyful 2024. Keep sharing those fantastic photos on our [AWLA Facebook page](#) — our lake is enchanting in every season.



Photo by: Derek Davey

## WHAT MAKES WHITE LAKE SO SPECIAL?

There's nothing like an early morning kayak as fog lifts off the lake and the sun rises over the trees. Many mornings, you can see a loon family frolicking or kingfishers feeding their young. We each have those moments that make our time on White Lake so special. Perhaps it's teaching your children to waterski or watching them scream with delight as they hold on while tubing. Or, in the winter, witnessing the quiet beauty of freshly fallen snow on the evergreen trees. The year-round sunrises and sunsets are a constant reminder of nature's wonders.

Our stunning White Lake stands out as one of the rare spring-fed lakes in the Adirondack Park, proudly remaining free of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) while boasting exceptional clarity and a sandy bottom. Spanning 240 acres, it features 6.3 miles of shoreline. While the lake has several deep pockets that can plunge to 85-90 feet, its average depth hovers around 30 feet. These deep pockets serve as cold water reservoirs, ensuring the survival of lake and rainbow trout. There's also a variety of other fish species, including smallmouth bass, perch, bullhead, sunfish, and rock bass, along with a rich avian population comprising loons, herons, kingfishers, hawks, and eagles.

With its modest size and a lack of public access, White Lake is a secluded private haven. White Lake Shore Association members, many of whom live behind the White Lake Inn, also make up our community. Due to the intimacy of our community, we have fostered a close-knit bond, where friendships endure or form anew. A friendly wave or a brief chat while sharing our common passion for White Lake is a common sight, strengthening our bonds.





Photo of Cazenovia Lake Eurasian Milfoil: Bruce Petronio

## CAZENOVIA LAKE AND INVASIVE SPECIES

Not only are Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) detrimental to our lake environment, but **eradication is nearly impossible**; control measures can cost tens of thousands annually or more. To put it simply, prevention is more effective and less expensive than dealing with the cure!

Take Cazenovia Lake, for instance, which is currently raising \$199,000 to control Eurasian milfoil. It has gripped their lake for over the past 15 years, causing them to already spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to date. We don't want to find ourselves in a similar situation!

You can play your part: When taking your watercraft or sporting equipment to another lake, ensure they are decontaminated with 130-140 degree water before reentering White Lake. **Clean, Drain, Dry.** If you rent your property, consider not allowing renters to bring outside boats — or insist on boat washing certification. **It only takes one boat to jeopardize the health of our pristine lake.**

## LAKE LEVELS

Once again, we faced challenges this season with our beaver neighbors, who decided to make their homes along the White Lake Outlet, from Stone Quarry Road to Bear Creek Road. This led to a significant increase in the lake level. Resolving the issue required the collaborative efforts of Courtney Wellar, Jeff Lyman, Joe Turczyn, our trapper, Marc J., TJ Entwistle, and the Town of Forestport Highway Department. Many thanks to everyone involved! Addressing the problem was not only time-consuming, but also posed risks, highlighting the team's dedication to maintaining our community's well-being.

We are actively seeking individuals residing on the lake throughout the year to help support the Lake Level Team in overseeing the outlet, particularly during the early spring and late fall. Prompt removal of debris from crucial areas helps to maintain stable lake levels. For more information, email [awlasecretary@outlook.com](mailto:awlasecretary@outlook.com).



Photo by: Robert Thomas

## BUBBLERS AND DE-ICERS

If you utilize a bubbler for your boathouse dock area, you must have appropriate signage **(DANGER THIN ICE)** to alert winter recreational users. While bubblers serve to protect boathouses and docks, individuals may not be aware of the environmental and wildlife impact, the associated dangers, legal considerations, or social issues linked to these devices. For proper usage guidelines, please refer to detailed information available on our Adirondack White Lake Association website:

<https://www.whitelakeadk.com/water-quality-1>

## AWLA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

In years past, AWLA has had a printed directory available to members. We are looking to update the directory and are exploring printed, PDF, and web-based options. We will send a survey (in February) to get your feedback on preferred format and what information you'd like to see included.



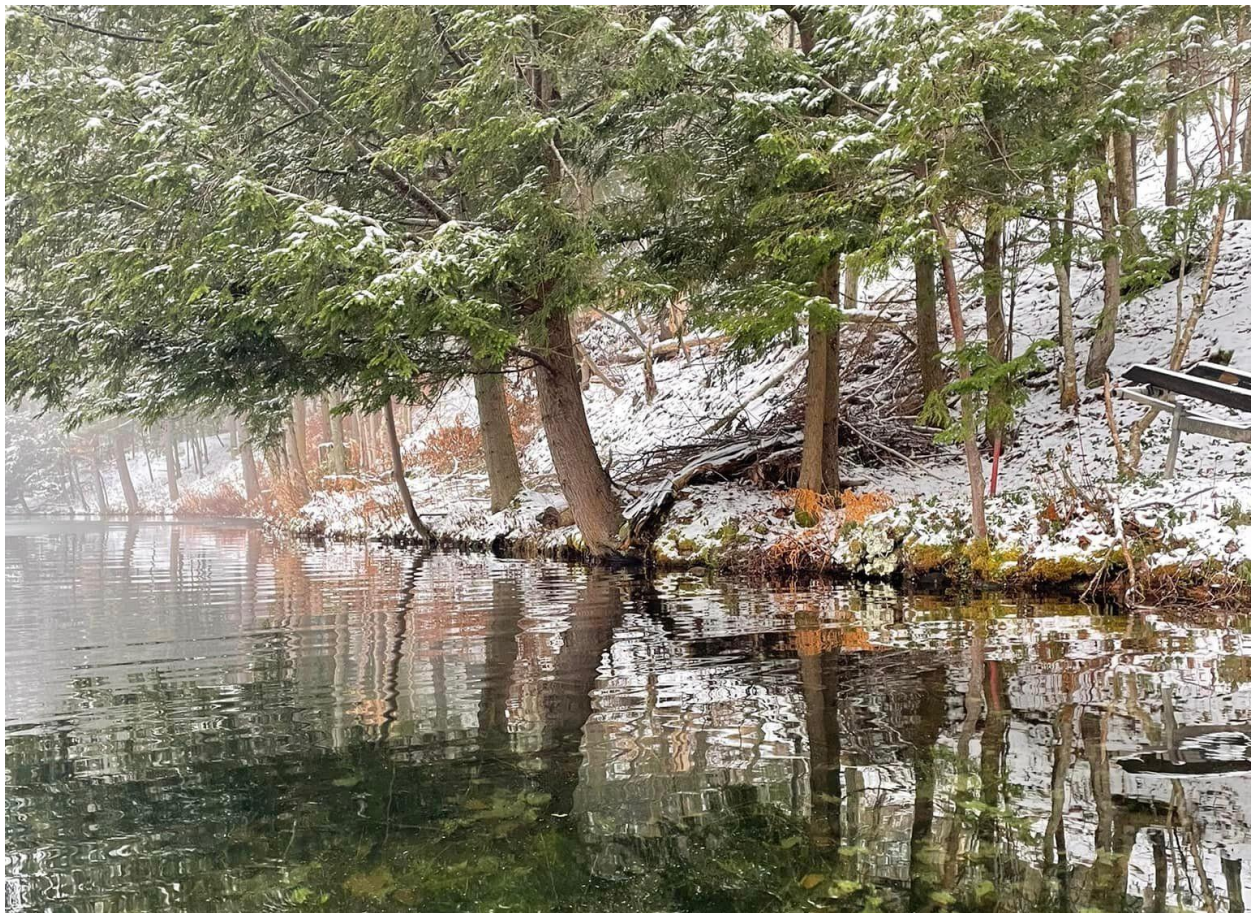


Photo by: Robert Thomas

## AWLA COMMITTEES

Volunteers truly make a difference! We invite any member interested in participating on our committees to express your intentions. We may not be aware of your interests or the skills you're willing to share.

Here's a list of our committees:

Lake Level

Fish

Finance

Nominating Committee

Social Events\*

Lake Ecology/Environmental

Communications

New Membership Meet & Greet

Bylaws

\*Includes the Pancake Breakfast, Boat Parade, July 4th Picnic, DJ on the Dock, and Drinks on the Dock (now called Dock Hopping). We always need pontoon boats and drivers to assist the board in visiting members' docks!

Additionally, we have the following one-time projects happening this summer: Organizing a roadside litter pick-up on Route 28, and helping enhance the AWLA/Paternoster Recreational Area by staining the picnic tables, improving the boat launch, and adding perennial plants. Your involvement in either or both of these initiatives is greatly appreciated! Please email [awlasecretary@outlook.com](mailto:awlasecretary@outlook.com) to express your interest and for more information.





Photo by: Robert Thomas

## THANK YOU, SHEILA & RON CUCCARO!

We would like to take a moment to acknowledge Sheila and Ron Cuccaro for their invaluable contributions to White Lake. Throughout the years, they have actively participated in the protection of our lake and the surrounding environment. Thanks to them, Boy Scout/Kraft Island will remain forever wild. Quietly and without fanfare, they have invested their time, energy, advice, and generous financial contributions to many environmental projects. They made possible the link between our WLADK non-profit and the Community Fund of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, helping to make your donations grow. We consider ourselves fortunate to have Sheila and Ron as integral members of our White Lake community, and we extend heartfelt appreciation to them for their remarkable philanthropy.





Photo by: Robert Thomas

## NO INCREASE TO 2024 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Everywhere you look, it seems prices have increased dramatically...except your AWLA membership dues, which only cover the most basic of operating expenses: insurance, postage, committee activities, and the website.

Instead of increasing membership dues this year, we are encouraging everyone to please donate generously to our various funds, which include:

- **Environmental Fund**, which hires the boat stewards to prevent aquatic invasive species, in addition to water quality tests, and lake level/beaver services;
- **Fish Fund**, which supports the stocking of fish for a healthy and living lake; and
- **Legal Action Fund**, which helps ensure that all State and Park laws are appropriately applied in protecting our lake and surrounding environment.

Please consider a generous gift alongside your \$60 membership renewal. **All donations to our various funds, through our sister non-profit, WLADK, are tax-deductible.**

Unlike most Adirondack lakes, White Lake is private and sustained entirely by you, our White Lake family. Your dues and contributions play a vital role in our collective efforts to safeguard White Lake.

Your ongoing and invaluable support is sincerely appreciated!

# AWLA MEMBERSHIP 2024 – Join or Renew!

We are so grateful to you, our White Lake family, for getting involved and staying involved! **Membership renewal is available online starting January 1st.** You can submit your membership form in one of two ways: fill out the membership form electronically and pay online - or - download the membership form from our website, print, and mail it to the specified address, along with your check(s). Membership dues are currently \$60. There is a \$10 late fee for payments made after May 1st. Please join or renew your membership and consider tax-deductible donations to our Environmental, Fish and Legal Funds today!

Please note: this year we are asking for separate payments to AWLA for dues and payments to WLADK for tax-deductible donations. If paying by mail, please write two checks: one for your AWLA membership dues and one for your WLADK donations - you can put both checks in the same envelope.

To join or access membership renewal online, please visit:  
[www.whitelakeadk.com/membership](http://www.whitelakeadk.com/membership)

## Message From the President

In 2024, my hope is that we stay dedicated to our lake's protection and our community's well-being. Let's keep working together, fostering a strong sense of stewardship and camaraderie for each other and future generations! Your support and active involvement drive our success – let's bring ideas, enthusiasm, and dedication to the table for another great year!

Wishing you all a joyful holiday season, a restful break, and a fantastic start to the new year. Together, let's make 2024 a year filled with shared accomplishments and continued progress for our cherished White lake community.



Louanne Cossa, President  
Adirondack White Lake Association

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[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

To learn more about AWLA, please visit our website. You will find information in regards to our programs designed to conserve, protect, monitor, and safely regulate the precious resources of White Lake for today's enjoyment and future generations. Thank you to those that have and continue to support AWLA. We appreciate your ongoing service and contributions!