



Adirondack White Lake Association

Fall 2022 Newsletter

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



Photo by: Ralph Cossa

Dear Fellow Members and White Lake Community,

Our great community and all the fun AWLA summer events makes White Lake a truly special place to be! This year, after a two-year Covid hiatus, participation, laughter, and community engagement were at an all-time high! As the summer season comes to a close and fall approaches, we share important information and our gratitude.



Photo by: Louanne Cossa

AWLA WELCOMES NEW BOARD

We would like to welcome Camaron Cohen as Vice President, Deborah Dempsey as Secretary, and Tammy Jo Riedman as a new board member, joining Louanne Cossa, Sarah Cotter, Karen Dwyer, TJ Entwistle, Joe Foley, Tim Hulser, Joe Turczyn, and Ginny Vorhis. **Your volunteer AWLA Board works hard to ensure our private, pristine lake remains this way for generations to come.**

This was AWLA's **first** online, electronic vote, and due to this format, we saw a marked increase in voter turnout. Thank you for your participation!

AWLA SUMMER EVENTS

We had such a great time at our many summer events, and we hope you enjoyed the festivities! The Pancake Breakfast, Blessing of the Fleet, Boat Parade, Family Picnic, D.J. on the Dock, and Drinks on the Dock would not have been possible without the commitment of our volunteers and donors! It was wonderful to come together and share in music, drinks, meals, and conversation, and we were even able to raise \$1,000 for the White Lake Fish Stocking Program. Thank you to all who attended and took the time and effort to make all of our events and programs special. We can't wait to see you next season!

ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

Our association continues to look for ways to make participation in our social events, donations, and membership easier. We introduced Venmo at our Independence Day Picnic, with great success. To access our Venmo account, login to Venmo, and search for "AWLA" under business accounts. In addition to Venmo, AWLA accepts PayPal, Check, or Cash for dues, events, and "store" purchases.



Photo by: Wayne Niskayla

AWLA BOAT INSPECTION & STEWARD PROGRAM

This summer, due to the vigilance of our lake steward Sean Connolly, **razor-sharp zebra mussels were twice prevented from being introduced into our lake!** AWLA has hired boat stewards seasonally since 2016. This year, Sean staffed the program on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from May 29th to July 31st. Thank you, Sean!

In December 2021, NY State passed a new law requiring any boats entering Adirondack waters be decontaminated prior to launching. This law, along with White Lake's Steward boat inspection program, is extremely important in the fight to prevent aquatic invasive species from entering our pristine waters.

After Sean's departure at the end of July, a local citizen's group formed, staffing the program and providing much needed support for the remainder of the season. Thank you to all that participated; **your efforts to protect our lake have been invaluable!**

THE SEARCH FOR INVASIVE SPECIES

The Adirondack Research Vessel, in collaboration with the Nature Conservancy, searched for invasive species on our lake on July 6th. The research vessel is equipped with state of the art instruments to detect the presence of any unwanted plants or animals (Aquatic Invasive Species). We are fortunate to be part of this every three year study, and results will be posted on the AWLA website under the scientific studies tab when available. Note: our lake does have **non-invasive** pond weeds, something many of us old-timers have not seen in the past. According to researchers, this is due to warmer waters and perhaps introduction of fertilizers from lawns.



Photo by: Luciann Gould

REGIONAL BOAT WASH STATION

At the AWLA Annual Meeting held on Aug 6th, Town of Forestport Supervisor, T.J. Entwistle, announced that the Town of Forestport will be taking the lead on grant writing to fund the **RT 28 SW CORRIDOR ADIRONDACK BOAT WASH STATION**, which will be installed at the Forestport Town Hall. Thank you to the Town of Forestport for assisting with this endeavor! We will update you on any progress.

FISH STOCKING

Due to warmer temperatures, our annual fish stocking event took place on Saturday, May 21st, rather than the traditional Memorial day event. This year, we purchased 550 fish at a cost of \$3,000. Due to rising costs, this is less than half of what we have historically stocked since the Adirondack White Lake Association was formed in 1981. Our Fish Restocking Program is funded through a combination of the Pancake Breakfast and your generous donations to the Fish Fund. **Our goal for spring 2023 will be to purchase 1200 rainbow trout!**

AWLA 50/50 MEGA RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

Congratulations to our 50/50 Mega Raffle winner, Michael Hurd, who won \$2,985 on Saturday, September 3rd! Our White Lake Steward Program received the other \$2,985, which helps offset the nearly \$8,000 per season expense. The Steward Program is a critical part of keeping invasive species from entering our lake. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets - maybe next time you will be the winner!



Photo by: Camaron Cohen

BUBBLERS & DE-ICERS

As you prepare to close down for winter, remember: **IF YOU USE A BUBBLER FOR YOUR BOATHOUSE DOCK AREA, YOU MUST HAVE PROPER SIGNAGE (DANGER THIN ICE) TO ALERT WINTER RECREATIONAL USERS.** When purchasing or replacing a bubbler, choose the smallest size possible to maintain an ice free zone around your dock. Use a thermostat and timer to run the bubbler device **only** when air temperature drops below the freezing point and for only a few hours a day. For proper usage, please see detailed information on our AWLA website at <https://www.whitelakeadk.com/water-quality-1>

QUARRY UPDATE

This week, New York State Judge Bernadette Clark ruled against our Article 78 action against the APA and Red Rock Quarry Associates, LLC and dismissed our Petition. Our legal team is reviewing options for an appeal to the Appellate Division. One of the reasons the judge cited for not granting an adjudicatory hearing was due to the lack of scientific testing that would prove the quarry would cause harm. In other words, the burden of proof falls on our community, not the quarry operator, to show there would be an impact on our community via the environment, noise, and traffic etc. Our independent mining expert was not enough, in the view of the court. We disagree, as there are other factors that still have not been addressed. Therefore, we will weigh all our options going forward. This, of course, will place further financial burdens on our community.

Previously, with the help of Attorney Ken Ayers, private landowners and AWLA were able to temporarily stop the Quarry owner from using Stone Quarry Road as a commercial access. The applicant withdrew his permit application from the Town of Forestport in May 2022. We do not know the quarry owner's future intentions, although we can tell you he has purchased a wooded lot on the east side of Rt. 28 bordering the quarry about 5 lots up from the Stumble Inn. We will keep our membership informed as we learn more.



Photo by: Ralph Cossa

INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF WHITE LAKE

The White Lake ADK Association, Inc. (WLADK) has recently been created as a sister non-profit (501c3) organization dedicated to preserving and protecting the environment in and around the White Lake community. **All donations** to the various **AWLA special funds**, Fish, Environmental, and Legal/Quarry Action Funds, will now be routed through WLADK, making them **fully tax deductible**.

Please consider making a tax-deductible, year-end gift. Among the ways you express your love for White Lake, your support of AWLA is especially meaningful. And please consider making a planned gift when estate planning and taking your IRA Required Minimum Distributions. Using any one of the charitable vehicles to donate to your lake association is a win/win for all of us.

Because our lake is private, maintenance and preservation are in our hands alone. Our dues do not cover the substantial monies needed to cover these expenses. Your generous donations make a huge difference! We would be happy to help you make a gift plan that will benefit you, your family, and ultimately, White Lake. For more information on tax-deductible contributions and planned giving, please contact Ginny Vorhis, AWLA Treasurer, at vvorhis@outlook.com.

AWLA COMMUNICATIONS

Welcome new Secretary, Deborah Dempsey! All White Lake emails will now come from “**AWLA Secretary**”, and the email address AwlaSecretary@outlook.com. Please save this to your electronic address books. Information sent will always have AWLA first in the subject line. If any questions arise, or you need assistance, don't hesitate to email Deborah at the provided email address.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I sit here writing to you, I am struck by how quiet the lake has become following Labor Day Weekend. Families with children have returned to their school year routine, and seasonal campers have closed down their properties. The year-round residents remain, punctuated with visits from lake members who visit periodically throughout the colder months. Gone are the families enjoying a day on the lake, jet skiers, boaters, and all the summer frolicking. Once again, the leaves are turning their rich shades of jewel tones, as we move through fall towards the slumber of winter.

I am grateful to know White Lake in all of its seasons. We are fortunate to share this beautiful lake, and I want to once again give thanks to all who have volunteered your time and efforts to enhance our community. And thank you to all who have generously donated to our various funds, which allow us to protect this resource, our lake, for generations to come.



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 who have and continue to support AWLA. We appreciate your ongoing service and generous contributions!