

# SYLVAN & OTTER LAKES

www.sylvanotter.org

## ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

### 2009

**New website gets positive feedback from lake residents.** Last year many residents commented about our new website and found the links and information useful. Establishing the site proved to be a cost effective means of keeping citizens informed and updated about matters around the lakes. Revisit [www.sylvanotter.org](http://www.sylvanotter.org) for highlights from past newsletters, general lake information, and other important links. Find out the new rules for operating personal watercrafts, updates on weed treatment and goose round-up programs.

**Sylvan Otter Lakes Association Meeting.** SOLA has scheduled a meeting to be held on July 13 at 7:00 pm at the City of Sylvan Lake Community Center located at 2456 Pontiac Drive. The purpose of this meeting will be to answer any questions residents may have of our association or about the Lakes.

**PayPal.** Residents also used PayPal for the first time last year to send in donations. Go to our website, click on the donations link, and you will be taken to our secure online location. Our user name is [donations@sylvanotter.org](mailto:donations@sylvanotter.org).

**Do we have a weed problem or a funding problem?** Nobody needs to be reminded of the current economic situation. Despite these difficult times, some investments can't be overlooked. Preservation of our lakes and our investment in our homes is still very important. Your \$75.00 donation to the SOLA is one of those important investments. Your \$75.00 donation at one time may be difficult. Three payments of \$25.00 works just as well. Mark your calendars to remind yourself to make your donations, as our association does not have the means to send out reminder notifications. SOLA is managing the weed issue the best we can based on available funding. We will continue to treat the areas used by a majority of boaters, skiers, and swimmers first and then concentrate on the areas that will minimize the spreading of the weeds as our next priority. SOLA can assist in managing the weeds for our safe summer enjoyment but not without your help. Your donation is tax deductible. To those of you who have voluntarily increased your contributions in past years, we especially thank you.

**In case you didn't know.** Otter Lake has a state approved waterski course for recreational use. The course is in very shallow water and has a cable running the length of the course. The water depth is not deep enough for outboard or inboard/outboard boats and motors. The water depth and cable may ruin your prop or worse. Additionally, it is illegal to swim, fish, or anchor in the ski course. The Oakland County Sheriff on the lake can and will issue you a ticket if you are in violation of the course's use.

**New laws for operating personal watercraft.** Make sure you know the new laws on the legal age to operate PWC's. Find the new laws on our web site under the Oakland Lakefront link.

**Weed treatment signs have new watering restrictions.** This year you will see “Indef” as to when you can water on the 24D category line only. Indef means indefinite, as it may affect some exotic plants. 24D is a granular chemical used only in the center of the lakes. Look at our website for more information about the weeds and chemicals.

**The City of Sylvan Lake boat docks.** The City of Sylvan Lake received DEQ approval this year for their boat docks. The ruling grants the residents of the city to install 3’ wide docks and have 2 boats per slip. SOLA attended a City of Sylvan Lake Council Meeting and requested that the city assist SOLA in the collection of the \$75.00 donation from the dock users. The City of Sylvan Lake decided against increasing the dock slip fees to cover the \$75.00 donation to boat slip users and forwarding that money to SOLA as they have done in years past. However, the City of Sylvan Lake has agreed to donate what they can from the collected fees from boat docks to our association. Therefore, I am asking, that if you are one of the fortunate residents to have a city boat dock, please send in your \$75.00 donation.

### **Donation Schedule for Sylvan and Otter Lake Association:**

**LAKEFRONT, CANAL FRONT, OR BOAT OWNER Minimum of \$75.00**  
**BEACH PRIVILEGES Minimum of \$20.00**

#### **Treasurer's 2008 Report:**

<b>Beginning balance</b>	<b>\$ 5,829.00</b>	
<b>Donations</b>	<b>\$ 27,725.00</b>	
<b>Weed Control</b>		<b>\$ 22,978.00</b>
<b>State fees and permits</b>		<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>
<b>Postage costs and printing fees</b>		<b>\$ 1,352.00</b>
<b>Goose Management Program</b>		<b>\$ 380.00</b>
<b>Misc. fees</b>		<b>\$ 38.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 26,248.00</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 7,306.00</b>	

**New fireworks display this year.** This year we are in for a real treat on July 5<sup>th</sup>. The night skies will again be filled with the color and sounds of fireworks. However, this year’s fireworks will be launched from a barge anchored out in the lake. This will allow for larger displays. **New date: July 5<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Sylvan / Otter Lakes Association Officers:**

We welcome your comments. Please feel free to contact any one of us or send us an email at “president@sylvanotter.org”. We will be glad to answer your questions.

President	Phillip Thomas	248 - 682 - 2894
Vice President	Louis Schimmel	248 - 682 - 8893
Treasure / Secretary	Todd and Shelly Eddy	248 - 683 - 4207
Goose Round - up	Al Payson	248 - 681 - 5564

Please mail your **TAX DEDUCTIBLE** check or use PayPal to send us your \$75.00 donation. You may make checks payable to:

**Sylvan / Otter Lake Association**  
**P.O. Box 136**  
**Keego Harbor, MI 48320**

Thank you,  
Phil Thomas  
Sylvan Otter Lakes President