

**CLA Mission**  
*To protect the interest of the members of this Association in the real property owned by them; to endeavor to maintain the natural level in said lake; to protect against water pollution and unhealthy conditions; to secure adequate protection against fire, theft and pilfering, to secure improved roads leading to and around the lake; to protect and promote good fishing condition in said lake; and for such other purposes as shall be beneficial to the interests of said members and the community.*

### Coming Events

**Nov 5<sup>th</sup> Fall Craft Show**  
**Crystal Lake Community Church, 9:30 – 2:30**

**Feb 11, 2017**  
**Winter Festival**

**April/May 2017**  
**CLA Membership Drive**

**Have a safe**  
**Holiday Season**  
**See you in 2017**

### Special Thank You

The CLA is a volunteer driven organization. As such, the many activities put on each year require hundreds of volunteer hours. Water quality and invasive weed treatment has expanded in recent years and without the numerous hours donated by Bonnie Kanitz this program would not be the success that it is. Without Bonnie's willingness to devote a substantial amount of her time to water testing, meeting with contractors, reviewing bids and speaking with members of the Crystal community about the program, the program would not exist. This is just one of a number of activities Bonnie works on and the CLA board recognizes and thanks Bonnie for all her contributions.

# Crystal Lake Association

Established June 5, 1932    [www.crystalonline.org](http://www.crystalonline.org)

## Water Quality Program 2016

The water quality program undertaken by the CLA over the past several years is one of the most crucial the organization has ever taken on. As a result of boats being launched without proper cleaning, several species of non native weeds have been introduced into Crystal lake. If the issue had not been addressed, the native plant life would have been choked out and the weed growth in the lake would begin to impede boating. The weeds have begun to grow in a number of areas throughout the lake. (see the illustration showing the pretreatment scan)

As can be seen the growth of the invasive plants was quite extensive throughout the lake. The CLA has taken a proactive approach to dealing with the problem. As soon as we learned of it we started working with Restorative Lake Sciences to complete a survey of the lake to determine the extent and location of the problem. Once that step was completed we contracted with PLM Lake and Land Management Corp. to apply the treatment. 2016 marks the sec-

ond season of treatment and the response has been excellent. Unfortunately, since there is no way to prevent the reintroduction of invasive weeds, the treatment process will need to be an ongoing one for the foreseeable future. The good news is that now that we have begun to systematically manage the problem the costs have decreased and we believe they will remain at this years level or lower as we go forward.

September 20<sup>th</sup> was the last water sample taken for this year. Water samples for fall phosphorous, and chlorophyll-a were taken and turned into the DEQ labs for analysis and comparison to past years to note any changes

which would affect our lake in the future. These tests are part of the Cooperative Lake Monitoring Program, a



Pretreatment Scan June 2016

volunteer program. By participating in this program, the CLA is saving thousands of dollars which a contractor would charge to do the same. The CLA is seeking volunteers to take weekly tests throughout the summer. If you are interested and can help, please contact Bonnie Kanitz, Water Quality Chair, 989-283-9339.

**Board of Directors**

2016- 2017

**Board President****Steve Meinhardt**

steve@casair.net

**Vice President****Bonnie Kanitz**

kanitzb@msn.com

**Treasurer****Nancy Ayres****Secretary****Roxy Eaton****Newsletter Editor****Bill R. Hepburn****Directors:****Fred Engle****Joe Kopchick****Mike Manning****Kim Morgan****Deb Moomey****Crystal Township News****Kim Morgan**

The Township board is continuing to work on the ordinance known as Garbage and Refuse Ordinance of Crystal Township Montcalm County, Michigan draft 8-10-2016. The board has approved the draft ordinance and are having the Townships attorney review the document before taking final action.

Be sure to Keep your eyes on Crystal Park for new signs. The Crystal Downtown Development Authority and the Crystal Township board have agreed to and approved a new sign for the park. New rule signs will be placed throughout the park as well.

This year's Winterfest will be held on February 11, 2017. The day will be filled with many fun activities

indoors and out. There will be a craft show, chili cook off, ice skating, sledging, bonfire and the polar dip plunge just to name a few. There will be a raffle for an ATV 4-wheeler again as well as 50-50 tickets and sale of sweatshirts and hoodies and a fireworks show to cap off the festivities. Be sure to save this date as it should be a great time for everyone young and old.

If anyone wishes to purchase sweatshirts or hoodies with the Winterfest logo, please feel free to contact me, Kim Morgan at; 989-235-6959 and I can put that order in for you when you are ready.

Best wishes to all for a wonderful Holiday season!

**Membership Report**

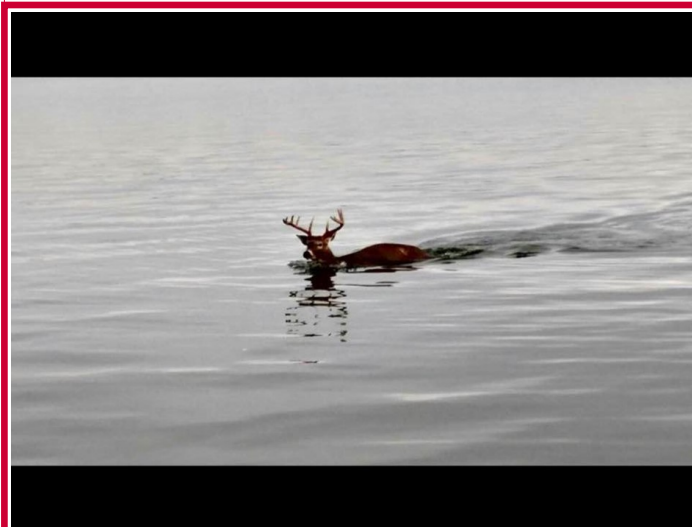
2016 Membership remained strong with 274 members. There were many new members this year and we welcome you to the Crystal Lake Association! We are encouraging members to keep their email addresses updated for all CLA communications. This helps defray costs of mailing newsletters and enables your CLA Board to communicate on timely ba-

sis when important issues arise. We promise, you will not get more than the 3 newsletters each year and just a few emails when absolutely necessary! A good way to keep in the loop of news, like our Facebook Page, and stay informed with local events and pictures. There is always something happening at Crystal Lake!

**CLA Membership****What you get:**

- **Fireworks**
- **Water Quality**
- **Sheriff's Patrol**
- **Goose Roundup**
- **Community Support**
- **Winterfest**
- **Township Report**
- **Lake Association Directory**

**Membership is easy**  
Go to our website [crystalonline.org](http://crystalonline.org) and sign up, or mail in your application or call us and we will pick up your application. Dues are only \$45 per year. Please support the Crystal lake.

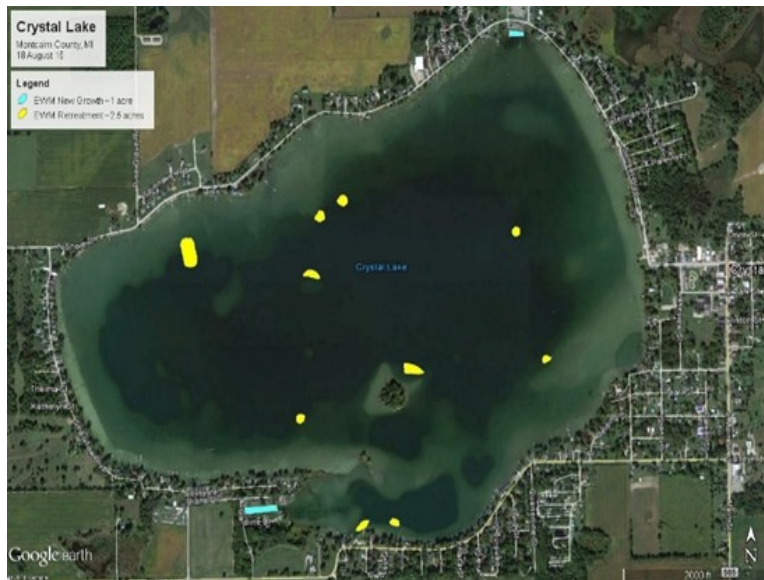


A large buck deer was spotted heading for the big island, evidently seeking refuge from hunters during hunting season. He must know that the law prohibits discharging a firearm within 400 feet of a home so he could enjoy the peace and quiet of the island for the winter. If so he will only have one neighbor, a bald eagle who seems to have taken up residence in one of the tall trees on the island.



## Water Quality Program 2016

Continued from page 1



Post Treatment Scan August 2016 – Please note the dramatic decrease in growth areas after the treatment was applied. A second treatment was done at no cost to address those remaining areas.

In August, there was some concern about massive floating weeds in the lake. With the dry, hot July/early August, the lake levels were down significantly this year. There are two possible explanations, 1) Eel grass may be causing the problem. Eel grass has a very shallow loose root system and can easily become uprooted from wind action or boating activity. Often when lake residents see floating mats of weeds during the summer it is Eel grass which is native to Crystal lake and 2) native aquatic plants grow to the surface when water levels are low and a mass is visible at the surface.

A recap of the cost of our Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) water treatment program is shown below:

Initial scan to locate areas for treatment and post treatment scan to determine effectiveness.

Cost \$3000.

Initial treatment for Eurasian Milfoil and Starry Stonewort. 11.75 acres.

Cost \$5,135

2<sup>nd</sup> treatment in August for new growth located and re-treatment (no cost) of existing beds.

Cost \$760

Total cost of AIS treatment: **\$8,895**

Total Contributions from CLA Members, \$5950 and CLA Fundraising Events \$1415. Program fund balance (\$1530). Funds from membership dues were used to cover the shortage. We expect costs to remain stable for the

coming years.

The CLA is committed to keeping Crystal Lake a premier all sports lake!

Your continued support of the Water Quality Program is very much appreciated. Thank you to all members who donated to this program in the past. This program can only be sustained through the continued generous donations from all those who use and enjoy Crystal Lake.



Did you know the best Walleye fishing is in the Fall? Mike Bennet shows off his 26 1/8" Walleye caught in late September!!

## CLA Membership Application and Donation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Crystal Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK HERE IF YOU WOULD LIKE FUTURE CORRESPONDENCE VIA EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

<b>WE NOW ACCEPT PAYPAL, CREDIT CARDS or ACH. Pay to: Crystal Lake Association</b>	<b>2016 ANNUAL DUES ( \$45.00)</b>	\$ _____
	Fireworks Donation (2016 Target \$9000)	\$ _____
	Water Quality Fund (2016 Target \$8000)	\$ _____
	Legal Defense Fund	\$ _____
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

Mail To:  
Crystal Lake Association ( CLA )  
PO Box 307, Crystal MI 48818

**Renew online at:**  
<http://www.crystalonline.org/renewonline.htm>

Crystal Lake Association

P.O. Box 307

Crystal, MI 48818

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