



"On The Agenda"

This newsletter was prepared and written by Jay Cassella, the President of Hidden Lake Association and may not necessarily express the opinions of the other Board members.

September, 2020

Next BOG Meeting

Is Scheduled for September 28th at 7:00pm. This meeting will be held on Zoom. Below is the invitation and password:

Topic: BOG monthly meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3739913487?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3739913487?pwd=V05UMXVyYk8wMWlJZEkwQ3laamRhQT09)
[pwd=V05UMXVyYk8wMWlJZEkwQ3laamRhQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3739913487?pwd=V05UMXVyYk8wMWlJZEkwQ3laamRhQT09)

Meeting ID: 373 991 3487

Passcode: September

Discussions at this meeting will include:

- Project Culvert
- Winter Drawdown
- Beach reclaim

Winter Drawdown

The members of the Lake Committee have been gathering information regarding the effects of a winter drawdown, both positive and negative.

Our By-Laws requires us to lower the lake in October on every even year. There is nothing in our By-Laws to indicate the length of time the lake is to remain at the drawdown level. There is also nothing in our by-Laws to indicate level in which the lake is to be drawn down to.

In the committees research, it is found that the opinion of local professionals differs as to the negative effects winter drawdowns has on the ecological balance of a lake. These professionals agree that every lake is different therefore the effects are different.

The Pond & Lake Connection is the company that has been chemically treating our lake for the past two years. The results of their treatment has been mostly positive. They feel that, for us it is not necessary for a winter drawdown because we treat the lake chemically. There is no mention of the negative effect for us, so if we want or are required to drawdown, we can.

For a Winter Drawdown to be effective, the level of the water needs to remain low to exposed the lake bottom thru the winter with the hope of a deep freeze. This typically does not happen until January or February which would leave the lake lowered for the entire winter season as we had done in 2016 and 2018.

In the spring of 2018 the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) conducted a study of Hidden Lake which states *"The reduction in plant density in 2018 may be due to the previous winter's drawdown"*.

What all of this is leading to is the question of whether to lower the lake strictly for members to work on their docks and to clean the unreachable areas when the lake is full or to lower the lake for the winter season.

The Lake Committee is planning on recommending the lake be drawn down for a 4 week period starting October 17th.

I am requesting that all Association Members who has plans to or contracted to repair or build a dock or if you have planned or contracted for brush clearing lakeside while the lake is lowered. You can contact me at: hlapresident1@gmail.com

Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers for some of the projects planned for this fall.

One project is to restore the beaches and reclaim the sand that has washed into the water. This is a project that should be done while the lake is lowered.

We seem to have the same handful of loyal volunteers who are willing to help when they can. It's time for some other Association Members to step up to the plate and do their share.

There appears to be quite a few newer and younger members that can join in on the fun. Please consider helping when a project is announced.