



# Spring 2011 LOLA Newsletter

*Concerned citizens for a better lake community*

*www.LOLAinfo.org*

## **LOLA Board of Directors**

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## **Visit the web site:**

<http://www.LOLAinfo.org>

## **Contact the board at:**

LOLA Board of Directors  
Box 446  
Lake Orion, Mi. 48362

Or e-mail to:  
[LOLA@LOLAinfo.org](mailto:LOLA@LOLAinfo.org)

## **Contact the Oakland County Sheriff's Dept., Marine Division**

Patrol hours- - generally weekends from Memorial Day thru Labor Day.

For jump boat:  
Call Oakland County Dispatch at 248-858-4950

Dial 911 in case of emergency.

## **For local enforcement:**

Orion Township County Sheriff  
248-858-4950  
Village of Lake Orion Police  
248-693-8321

## **Boater Safety Classes** through Marine Division

Class schedule available at  
[www.oakgov.com/sheriff](http://www.oakgov.com/sheriff)  
Click on Safety Tips and Courses

New boating laws at Michigan DNR  
Phone 517-373-1230

## **Oakland County Sheriff Marine Division Patrols**

During the 2010 boating season, marine patrols were maintained under a contract negotiated between the Township and Oakland County Sheriff's Department based on Township financial resources. At a November meeting with Matt Gibb, Township Supervisor, Mike Gingell, County Commissioner, and Sgt. Matt Snyder of the Sheriff's Department, the consensus was that patrols had been very effective, with schedules managed based on weather and boating traffic conditions. Based on action taken by the Township Board on March 7, patrols will continue on the same basis in 2011. A viable long-term solution is still needed. The Association believes marine patrols are essential, with costs borne by all lake users, not just riparian owners.

## **Association Activities- -Looking back to 2010....Going forward to 2011**

Last season, a number of activities were conducted to support the Association's motto....Concerned citizens for a better lake community.

In late August as part of Dragon on the Lake festivities, a Lake Orion tradition was reinstated with a lighted boat parade. Led by the fire-breathing Orion Marine Dragon Boat, the parade included over 20 boats registered for a chance to win the Dragon Cup for most creatively decorated boat plus historic woody cruisers and two Village Police boats with flashing blue lights. Dozens of other boats joined in and residents lined the shore as the parade wound its way around the lake to an afterglow at the Lake Orion boat club. This year the parade will be held on August 26 to again kick-off the Dragon on the Lake weekend.

Also, a boat safety inspection was held at the DNR launch area in conjunction with the Marine Patrol. The activity proved successful, with boaters discovering short comings in their equipment before meeting a patrol boat on the lake where citations would be issued. In 2011, the activity is set for June 4 to help boaters ensure equipment is ready to go. Stickers are issued to boats passing inspection.

To help support local government agencies impacted by tight budgets, several cleanup activities were conducted at the DNR launch area and in the Village from the dam to Children's Park. Volunteers cleared up debris ranging from the usual plastic bags, worm containers, tree branches, used tires and chairs to a hatch cover lost from a classic boat during a lake outing. These events will be scheduled later in the 2011 season.

**[www.LOLAinfo.org](http://www.LOLAinfo.org), the Association's website** is continuously evolving.

Questions, comments and suggestions about the website or broader issues related to lake living can be e-mailed to the Board at [LOLA@LOLAinfo.org](mailto:LOLA@LOLAinfo.org).

## **2011 Membership Dues are Due**

Dues support activities, including the no-wake buoy program, water quality testing, communications on issues affecting lake owners, special events and web site development. Please fill out the attached form and forward it with a check for \$20 payable to LOLA or complete the process through the website.

Interested in volunteering to be part of association activities on Lake Orion? Please check the appropriate boxes on the form. Thanks for your support.

**The Lake Association's Annual Meeting will be held on April 27 at 7:00pm at the Eagles Club, 317 W. Clarkston Rd.** Matt Gibb, Orion Township Supervisor, will provide an update on developments for Lake Orion and the Township. Tom Bisset and Kevin Brandon will provide an overview of the DNR/DEQ and how these state governments work with riparian owners to manage lake resources. Please plan to attend and be part of the process.

#### **No-Wake Buoy Program**

Based on state permits, buoys are placed at specific sites around the lake to serve as reminders of local ordinances and to encourage courteous boating near shore and in narrow channels. Survey data indicates the buoys are viewed as effective. Careless boaters continue to damage buoys, making costly repairs or replacement necessary. This year the Association must replace at least 6 buoys and repair the graphics and/or the anchor system on several others.

#### **LOLA participation in State of Michigan's Cooperative Lake Monitoring Program.**

A state-wide lake water quality monitoring effort is conducted with volunteers. Testing runs April thru September, with test parameters including water clarity as well as phosphorus and chlorophyll levels. Search for Lake Orion data at [www.micorps.net](http://www.micorps.net). Last year, other local lakes conducting testing included Deer Lake and Lakeville Lake.

#### **Neighborhood Self-Help Groups for Weed Management- -2011 season**

On March 3, neighborhood coordinators met with representatives of LakePro, Inc, the firm that conducts the management program on Lake Orion. Discussion covered 2010, including program results as well as concerns regarding some areas of treatment and process effectiveness, and plans for 2011. (See attached summary note.)

There was general agreement on changes to be made, including treatment of areas around docks, incorporating species of weeds not previously treated and greater focus on managing algae, including chara which is an issue in several areas. In addition, Starry Stonewort, an aggressive invasive algae species, has been identified in Lake Orion. It previously had been a problem in Indianwood Lake. Pre-treatment survey data will be available on the website.

Coordinators will begin contacting their neighbors shortly. Cost and process will be similar to 2010, with April 30 targeted as the final sign up date. Four monthly treatments will take place from early May thru August. Have input or questions? Contact your neighborhood coordinator or e-mail [neighborhoodcoordinators@vahoo.com](mailto:neighborhoodcoordinators@vahoo.com)



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**Lake Association Annual Meeting - -April 27- -7:00pm- -Eagles Club, 317 W. Clarkston Rd**