

# Galway Lake Campers Association, Inc.

25 Washington Road, Scotia, New York 12302  
A Privately Owned Membership Lake Located in Galway, New York

June 12, 2023

Dear Member,

Welcome to the 2023 summer season at beautiful Galway Lake. The 2022-2023 drawdown was successful, and refill was completed in May, and we have a full lake to enjoy. Regaining a full lake in the spring is the principle responsibility of the lake level committee and I would like to thank Kurt Ladu, who volunteers his time and effort to monitor and control the level of Galway Lake. Due to Kurt's diligence we all will enjoy a full lake this year. I would also like to remind you that if you leave a dock or boat on the lakebed you do so knowing it may be damaged or destroyed during the annual refill process.

## **Lake Preservation**

Protecting our lake is at the forefront of the GLCA's Lake Preservation Committee efforts. Bruce Rowell and his committee dedicate a great deal of time throughout the year to ensure the health of Galway Lake. For further information on the work that is in process and suggestions on how you can help in protecting the quality of Galway Lake please be sure to read the Lake Preservation Committee Report provided by the Committee as an enclosure to this letter, on the GLCA website and attend the Annual Meeting of the Association on July 8, 2023.

## **Nutrients**

We dedicate a great deal of time and focus towards controlling weeds within the lake. This control is only part of the solution, reducing the total amount of nutrients allowed to enter and remain in Galway Lake is critical to our lake's future. Each of us can positively impact the health of the lake by maintaining an effective septic system, eliminating the use of fertilizer on our property, not disposing of leaves and yard waste into the lake and by discouraging waterfowl from making Galway Lake their home.

Please take note of the Septic Pump Out program that was initiated last year will continue in 2023 - 2024. This program was initiated to provide homeowners with an incentive to have their tanks pumped and to receive a system observation from the pumper that can help them to better understand the condition of their current system. This program is proving to be successful, but we need to continue to pump. You are eligible every other year to have your system pumped and we ask that you take part in this program. You will

gain a better understanding as to the health of your system and you will be helping with the future of the lake.

### **Reminders**

While you and your family enjoy the lake this season please remember to abide by all laws when operating a boat on the lake. Please remember that a life preserver must be in the boat for each person on board. For your own safety a life preserver should be worn at all times you are in a boat. Boats with electric motors must be licensed with the State of New York. Identify your boat(s) and raft with your camp number if they are found adrift, they will be easily identified as belonging to you.

We all value the peace and quiet of Galway Lake, so please be considerate of your neighbors while preserving this special place.

It is especially important that you have your home identified with numbers and letters that are at least three (3) inches high and clearly visible so that emergency services can find your home in the event of an emergency. Any Grove where year-round residency exists has the responsibility for maintaining its roads to allow year-round access of emergency vehicles and personnel. The Galway Lake Fire Department needs a **minimum clearance of 14 feet** to navigate its equipment to your home. If your road is not maintained with the proper minimum clearance you are greatly increasing the likelihood of disaster.

To control our operating costs and provide more frequent communications the GLCA would like to use email for regular communications. Each mailing costs the GLCA approximately \$600, making it prohibitive to send regular communications. As email has almost zero cost to the Association, we will be able to communicate with you on a regular basis. If you are interested in regular emails, please let us know by signing up on the GLCA website. You can access the sign-up form at the following link <https://galwaylakeassociation.com/sign-up-for-glca-email-list/> the form is available as a link under the Contact Us menu item. We will continue to send the annual letter via the U.S. Postal Service.

### **2023 – 2024 GLCA Budget**

This year the Board has approved a tentative assessment per camp of \$275. This assessment will provide for a prudent budget that includes funding for the capital reserve fund to meet future capital expenditures. Following is the tentative budget for 2023-2024. If this budget is approved at the Annual Lake Association Meeting that will be held at the Ruback's Grove Pavilion on Saturday July 8, 2023, at 7:00PM, the assessment per camp will be: \$275.

**2023-2024 Budget**

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Taxes  | \$34,000.00       |
| Legal  | \$15,000.00       |
| Audit & Tax Preparation                                  | \$2,000.00        |
| Donations  | \$1,500.00        |
| Pump Out Program   | \$10,000.00       |
| Insurance  | \$29,000.00       |
| Maintenance  | \$5,000.00        |
| Clerk Office Expenses                                    | \$5,500.00        |
| Federation of Lakes Dues                                 | \$650.00          |
| Capital Reserve Fund                                     | \$20,000.00       |
| Water Testing  | \$7,500.00        |
| Engineering Study – (to address<br>DEC Dam Requirements) | \$10,000.00       |
| Waterfowl Management                                     | \$2,500.00        |
| Membership Engagement                                    | \$500.00          |
| Fish Study   | \$11,000.00       |
| Contingency  | <u>\$8,000.00</u> |
|  | \$162,150.00      |

I would like to encourage you to attend the annual meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup> to understand more about the lake and present any questions or concerns that you may have regarding Galway Lake. If you are unable to attend please use the proxy provided below to designate someone else to represent your interest. Please send your proxy to Ms. Lois Seyse, Clerk, 25 Washington Road, Scotia, New York, 12302.

Sincerely,



J. Glen Rundell,  
President

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**--PROXY--**

To: Ms. Lois B. Seyse, Clerk  
Galway Lake Campers Association, Inc.  
25 Washington Road  
Scotia, New York 12302

I hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ to act for me in matters to be enacted at the July 8, 2023, Annual Meeting of the GLCA.

My Grove is \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
My camp number is \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please sign and return this proxy if you do not plan to attend the meeting.*

Galway Lake Campers Association, Inc.  
Lake Preservation Committee Report for 2022-23

General:

The overall health, safety, and recreational quality of our lake waters continue to improve. Long-term trends in Galway Lake water quality are very favorable for a shallow, warm-water lake based on data summarized by the NYS Citizens Statewide Assessment Program (CSLAP) over the past 30 years.

2022 CSLAP Report for Galway Lake

The Galway Lake Campers Association (GLCA) has been a participating member of CSLAP since 1990 due to the continuing efforts of Bruce Kniskern, Chair of the Lake Preservation Committee for the past twenty plus years. Ed Piotrowski has coordinated CSLAP mid-lake water sampling for more than a decade. Ed will be assisted this summer by J R Gaige.

Each year NYDEC prepares a summary report for each lake association participating in the CSLAP program. The report findings focus on the key indicators of lake water quality plus other factors that impact lake ecology. The key indicators of a lakes' water quality are nutrients, primarily Phosphorus and Nitrogen, plus algae (chlorophyll) and water clarity (Secchi).

Report Findings: The 2022 CSLAP Report for Galway Lake concluded:

1. Over the 30 years Nitrogen, Chlorophyll have trended lower.
2. Ove the past 10 years surface water and deep-water Phosphorus have both decreased significantly.
3. Annual surface and deep-water temperature trends are rising.
4. Conductivity is exhibiting a rising trend.

Interpretation:

Findings 1 and 2 are positively correlated with our nutrient reduction programs:

Hypolimnetic Withdrawal, winter lake drawdown, Revision of the town of Galway Septic Code, our Pump-out Program, plus regular shoreline surveys and water tests.

Finding 3 is correlated with observed global warming.

Finding 4 is most probably associated with the increased use of cement/cinder blocks in the lake by campers. NYDEC is recommending the use of granitic material over cement products to diminish this trend.

We must continue these programs and efforts in order to maintain the ecological and recreational status of the lake into the future.

The Lake Preservation Committee this past summer conducted an analysis of the Nitrogen and Phosphorus contributions from three influent streams to overall lake water quality. The study concluded that local streams are not the most significant contributed to lake nutrient loading as observed values are identical to in-lake observed values. The importance of effective on lot-septic systems thus continues to rise for both health and ecological reasons.

In cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture, the GCLA conducted a roundup of resident Canadian Geese this past summer. The result was a limited success, but the number of resident geese on the lake at this time remains small.

Plans for the 2023 Season

1. Continue all current lake management programs that contribute to the health, safety, and aesthetic quality of the lake.
2. Continue to address North Bay nutrient and bacteria issues with the Town of Galway.
3. Undertake a limited chemical study of a single fish species.

# Come Sail With Us! Enjoy an **INTRODUCTION TO SAILING**

**For ADULTS AND JUNIORS.**

*A hands-on sailing opportunity customized to fit your schedule and boating experience. By appointment, starting mid-June.*

*First session – Take the helm with your coach on board*



**Here's How it Works:** You and your assigned coach arrange for on-the-water sailing sessions according to the weather and availability. You will go out in a boat selected by the coach. Beginners will first learn to steer, keep the boat balanced, and handle the sail(s). Then on to learning how to “see” the wind, keep an eye out for swimmers and other boats, and some docking practice. Then, at the discretion of the coach, you might have an opportunity to take your first solo sail.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jesse Aronstein 518-882-9654 [protune@aol.com](mailto:protune@aol.com)**

**COME SAIL WITH US –  
FOR THE FUN OF IT!**