



Spring 2016

Working, Educating, and Advocating for Quality Lake Living Since 1963

PCLA President's Letter CRISIS ON THE LAKE!

Nope, not here, for now! However, we do have a critical problem....and that is MEMBERSHIP! Our membership is the strength that gives our advocacy and effectiveness the legitimacy to speak with one voice, find allies, summon volunteers and follow our PCLA mission! Lakeshore owners, neighbors, area businesses and community citizens are our base, and many of you have NOT renewed for 2016! Your all volunteer PCLA board needs your support as we track and fight invasive species, monitor water conditions, find shoreline solutions, bird-dog governmental permits and watershed legislation, maintain a viable organization, and represent you!

We would like to thank our 2016 members as of the time of printing, and ask that if your name or organization is NOT included on this list that you JOIN TODAY! Due to privacy concerns we will no longer produce a membership directory, but will be publishing an annual Thank You list of members. If your name has been erroneously not listed, please contact me.



As to our Board, you are being represented by an extremely talented, skilled and committed group of 12 Directors and several volunteers (who regularly attend most of our meetings). While we may not be experts in water management, invasive species, legal concerns, communications, organization, biology or other professional pursuits, WE are willing to find the experts, look for solutions and chase down the best practical answers for our Lakes. We have several members and current Directors interested in running for the four expiring Board seats at this summer's annual meeting (August 6, 2016); and would be happy to add your name to the ballot (contact me or any Board member). All Board seats are for three years, and four Directors' terms expire each year (in accordance to the PCLA by-laws).



One of the goals for the PCLA Board is to have approximately equal representation from Pickerel and Crooked Lakes; and from the various shorelines on these lakes. Lake levels, water depths, watershed location, wind/ice driven waves, fishery conditions, and weed and bottom environment make our North-South and East-West lake outlines very different from one property owner to another. Having representation from your shoreline is important for "crafting" our responses and policies.

There are several other opportunities for getting involved with the PCLA that may allow you to spend more time on the water and getting to know your neighbors better. We have a Lake Monitor for Pickerel and Crooked lakes (guided by TOM-Watershed Council training), 10 shoreline zone monitors, 10 boat launch monitors, many volunteers working with our standing committees, and a few members participating in government and advocacy organizations that keep us abreast of current issues. Interested? Give us a call!

Go to our website: www.Pickerel-CrookedLakes.org, for more information and a membership form which can be paid via PayPal if so desired. See you on the Lakes!

Darlene and Dudley Marwin Crooked Lake



- There is no hunting season for this bird
- Their range is expanding farther north
- They have few natural predators and live to be 20 years old
- They are extremely fast swimmers and can feed efficiently to depths of 90 feet
- A Cormorant will eat 1 to 1.4 pounds of fish (all species) per day
- Nesting takes place mostly on remote islands in the Great Lakes
- Cormorants reverse the migration from the Great Lakes in the fall and stay until some time prior to ice-on dates
- Cormorants habitation is devastating and the cause of ill affects on local communities

(www.beaverislandform.com; www.michigan.gov/dnr)

The Lake's fishing is, without a doubt, going to be negatively affected by the greater number of Cormorants that we are seeing this year. I have been in contact with the DNR Fisheries and Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians and have made them aware of the significant number of Cormorants on Crooked Lake.

The photo, to the left, was taken on May 2, 2016 at 1:00 PM. I counted at least 75 birds in the tree, as well as many birds were dispersed out on the lake feeding. I thought to myself, "There are 75 birds (with full bellies) resting in that tree who have devoured 1 to 1.4 pounds of fish from Crooked Lake for their daily meal. Now that is a lot of fish in one day!"

Please take time to educate yourself on Cormorants, and if your concern is as great as mine, contact the DNR. The squeaky wheel gets the grease!

Wayne Blomberg

CORMORANTS

Crooked Lake is being visited by a large population of Cormorants. These fish eating birds arrive shortly after ice-out and do not leave till the end of May. What is disconcerting to me, as a lake resident who cares about our fishery, is the very large number of birds we are seeing this year.

For those who are unfamiliar with these birds, here are some facts:

- Cormorants are a federally protected bird native to the United States



Lock Schedule Decal For 2016

Ever since I moved to this area and started taking boat trips down the river, I've always worried about not getting back before the locks closed.

The question, "What time do the locks close, again?" would be on my mind the whole way back from Burt Lake! Now, everyone who purchases a seasonal lock pass will be given a complimentary PCLA lock schedule decal. No more worrying about getting stuck on the wrong side of the lock! These decals are removable, and hopefully you will affix it somewhere on your vessel in order to proudly display our logo. These complimentary decals were paid for by our association. We hope they will generate more awareness of the PCLA mission: Working, Educating, and Advocating for Quality Lake Living, and encourage residents to visit our website and ultimately encourage new members who wish to become involved. We hope you find them useful.

Sincerely, *Dave CV Harris*, PCLA



Crooked River Lock Schedule 2016

Fees: \$10 per day \$30 season pass



May 23-June 30.....	8:00 am to 9:00 pm
July 1-Aug. 14.....	8:00 am to 10:00 pm
Aug. 15-Sept. 5.....	8:00 am to 9:00 pm
Sept. 6-Sept. 30.....	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Oct. 1-2.....	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Oct. 8-9.....	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Oct. 15-16.....	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Oct. 22-23.....	9:00 am to 5:00 pm

CLOSED FOR THE SEASON at 5:00 P.M. OCT. 23, 2016



Invasive Species

It is tempting to believe once invasive species are well enough established to have been discovered they will become part of the landscape forever. And, it is tempting to think that there is nothing anyone can do about invasive species.

While it is unlikely that invasive species can be eradicated, there are things we can do and are doing to prevent them from becoming dominant in our environment and crowding out native species.

The PCLA Invasive Species Committee is well-informed about threats posed by alien plants and animals. We study media reports and have our ears tuned to the experts at Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. We have been leaders in taking action: Purple Loosestrife and Curly Leaf Pondweed are well under control. We search continuously and diligently for Eurasian Milfoil and are glad that none has been found.

Zebra and quagga mussels are another story. Both are here. We are on board with TOMWC to find solutions, and we may become aligned with the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to control their population and range. On a personal level, please get serious about following the



"best practices" for boating and fishing. These are now recommended nationwide:

- Wash your boat with bleach and let it dry before launching in a different body of water. If you trailer your boat, try using a power car wash and wash the trailer as well as the boat.
- If you trap your own bait, use it only in the lake where you trapped it from.
- Do not dump leftover commercial bait in the lake. Take it ashore and dispose of it upland.
- It's tempting, when you're a visitor, not to care about what happens after you leave. If you have renters or guests, educate them about the importance of prevention...if they want to return to a quality lake.

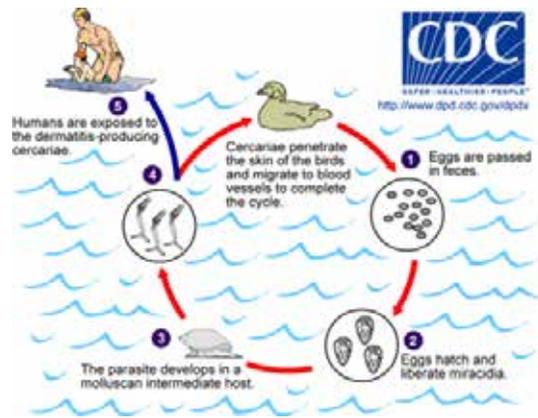
Respectfully submitted,
Ray McMullen

Wildlife Corner

Swimmer's Itch

by Dave Droste

I've Been Itching to Talk About This Subject . . .



Sorry, I couldn't resist. This newsletter's topic is cercarial dermatitis, or swimmers itch, which appears as a skin rash caused by an allergic reaction to certain microscopic parasites that infect some birds and mammals. These parasites are released from infected snails into fresh and salt water (such as lakes, ponds, and oceans). While the parasite's preferred host is the specific bird or mammal, if the parasite comes into contact with a swimmer, it burrows into the skin causing an allergic reaction and rash. Swimmer's itch is found throughout the world and is more frequent during summer months.

How does water become infested with the parasite?

The adult parasite lives in the blood of infected animals such as ducks, geese, gulls, swans, and certain mammals such as muskrats and raccoons. The parasites produce eggs that are passed in the feces of infected birds or mammals.

If the eggs land in or are washed into the water, the eggs hatch, releasing small, free-swimming microscopic larvae. These larvae swim in the water in search of a certain species of aquatic snail.

If the larvae find one of these snails, they infect the snail, multiply and undergo further development. Infected snails release a different type of microscopic larvae (or cercariae, hence the name cercarial dermatitis) into the water. This larval form then swims about searching for a suitable host (bird, muskrat) to continue the lifecycle. Although humans are not suitable hosts, the microscopic larvae burrow into the swimmer's skin, and may cause an allergic reaction and rash. Because these larvae cannot develop inside a human, they soon die.

What are the signs and symptoms of swimmer's itch?

Within minutes to days after swimming in

contaminated water, you may experience tingling, burning, or itching of the skin. Small reddish pimples appear within twelve hours. Pimples may develop into small blisters. Scratching the areas may result in secondary bacterial infections. Itching may last up to a week or more, but will gradually go away.

Because swimmer's itch is caused by an allergic reaction to infection, the more often you swim or wade in contaminated water, the more likely you are to develop more serious symptoms. The greater the number of exposures to contaminated water, the more intense and immediate symptoms of swimmer's itch will be.

Be aware that swimmer's itch is not the only rash that may occur after swimming in fresh or salt water.

Do I need to see my health care provider for treatment?

Most cases of swimmer's itch do not require medical attention. If you have a rash, you may try the following for relief:

- Use corticosteroid cream
- Apply cool compresses to the affected areas
- Bathe in Epsom salts or baking soda
- Soak in colloidal oatmeal baths
- Apply baking soda paste to the rash (made by stirring water into baking soda until it reaches a paste-like consistency)
- Use an anti-itch lotion

Though difficult, try not to scratch. Scratching may cause the rash to become infected. If itching is severe, your health care provider may suggest prescription-strength lotions or creams to lessen your symptoms.

Can swimmer's itch be spread from person-to-person?

Swimmer's itch is not contagious and cannot be spread from one person to another.

Who is at risk for swimmer's itch?

Anyone who swims or wades in infested water may be at risk. Larvae are more likely to be present in shallow water by the shoreline. Children are most often affected because they tend to swim, wade, and play in the shallow water more than adults. Also, they are less likely to towel dry themselves when leaving the water.

Once an outbreak of swimmer's itch has occurred in water, will the water always be unsafe?

No. Many factors must be present for swimmer's itch to become a problem in water. Since these factors change (sometimes within a swim season), swimmer's itch will not always be a problem. However, there is no way to know how long water may be unsafe. Larvae generally survive for 24 hours once they are released from the snail. However, an infected snail will continue to produce cercariae throughout the remainder of its life. For future snails to become infected, migratory birds or mammals in the area must also be infected so the lifecycle can continue.

What can be done to reduce the risk of swimmer's itch?

To reduce the likelihood of developing swimmer's itch

- Do not swim in areas where swimmer's itch is a known problem or where signs have been posted warning of unsafe water.
- Do not swim near or wade in marshy areas where snails are commonly found.
- Towel dry or shower immediately after leaving the water.
- Do not attract birds (e.g., by feeding them) to areas where people are swimming.
- Encourage health officials to post signs on shorelines where swimmer's itch is a current problem.



Cedar Creek

(Tributary-Berry Creek)

Flows into Pickerel Lake

If you haven't been to Camp Petosega and stood on the foot bridge to gaze at the rippling waters of Cedar Creek; you have missed a special moment to appreciate our creeks and lakes. Better yet, take off your shoes and wade into the very cold water, averaging about 50* F. Remember, Brook and Brown Trout like that temperature.

About a mile east of where you are standing (with cold feet) Berry Creek circles west to join Cedar Creek. Both creeks originate in the hills, remnants of glacial moraines, in Mentor Township, Cheboygan County. Whereas Berry Creek flows northward through upland forests, traveling somewhere shy of 10 miles, the waters of Cedar Creek, before confluence, flow a quarter of that distance.

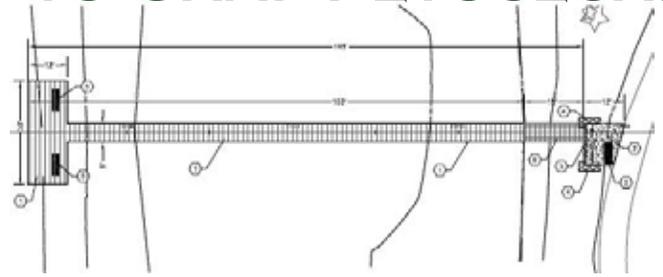
Stream water is mostly from snow melt and rain run-off from the saturated soil as gravity pulls the water into rivulets, brooks, and creeks. In this region year around ground water gives Cedar Creek its coldness, mediating water temperatures when the July sun beats down on a still pool, allowing fish to survive.

Cedar Creek is known to have Brook Trout and probably Brown Trout. Keep in mind that Brook Trout like cold water and can withstand rapidly moving water; however, they often hide in pools. If you're fishing, don't wade upstream and disturb the water or stand so that your reflection can be seen. Brown Trout seek out coverage of logs, rocks, or overhanging bushes.

On a "What should we do?" day, go explore the regions through which Cedar Creek flows, OR-get your fishing pole and go to that special, quiet, fishing hole.

Kay Winslow, Crooked Lake

NEW DOCK COMING TO CAMP PETOSEGA!



Emmet County Parks and Recreation was awarded \$50,000 by the Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund which is funded from oil and gas royalties. The dock design is in the final stages of the design and bid specification process and should be completed early this summer.

The Dock will be ADA (American Disabilities Act) compliant and extend 150 feet over the water.

The dock will be 6 ft. wide with a 12ft. x 30ft. fishing pier with benches at the drop off. A concrete deck with a bench will be on land accessing the ADA path just west of the park recreation hall. The dock will feature wheels to enable easy removal in the fall. The dock can be used for fishing, viewing and unloading of vessels but boat mooring will be prohibited.

- Dan Plasencia



The new playground at Camp Petosega

CAMP PETOSEGA is a 300-acre forested campground and park on the shores of Pickerel Lake, with over ninety campsites, modern restrooms and showers, seven rental cabins, a swimming beach, hiking trails, and open field game areas. Emmet County recently installed a new playground after receiving grant funding from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Local Revenue Sharing Board. The park also has a recreation hall/multi-use building which can accommodate family reunions, weddings, receptions, and meetings and an open-air pavilion where movies are played on Saturday nights through the summer season. - See more at the new website: www.camppetosega.org



The third Boater's Safety Class sponsored by the CLYC and PCLA will be held on Saturday June 25th and Saturday July 23rd at the Crooked Lake Yacht Club. The classes will be taught by the Marine Division of the Emmet County Sheriff's Department. Please call the Sheriff's Department at 231-439-8900 to reserve your spot. Bring a bag lunch. A minimum of 10 people are required or the class will be cancelled.

Michigan conservation officers and Michigan county sheriffs encourage all persons operating boats in Michigan to enroll in a boating safety course.

PLEASE JOIN THE PICKEREL AND CROOKED LAKE ASSOCIATION

The PCLA board decided to mail the 2016 spring newsletter to all residents of Pickerel Lake and Crooked Lake. It is their hope that after you have read this publication, you will see the importance in being a PCLA member.

If your 2016 membership payment was not received as of this mailing, a red dot has been posted next to your address label.

I am a proud and dedicated member of the PCLA. I would think every resident living on Pickerel Lake or Crooked Lake believes this is the best place to have a home, raise a family, enjoy the beautiful pristine lakes and possess many grand memories and look forward to making many more wonderful memories.

I was elected to the board in 2015 and volunteered to chair the Membership Committee. I am an active participant in the PCLA as well as being a father, husband, traveling company rep, and soccer coach.

Please visit our website, www.pickerel-crookedlakes.org. There is a wealth of information for you to check out, including our Mission Statement.

I continue to make PCLA a priority. After reading the PCLA newsletter and visiting our website, I hope you see the importance of being a yearly member of the Pickerel-Crooked Lake Association, and agree that being a member is well worth \$25.00!

Sincerely, *Dave CV Harris*, PCLA

2016 US Marathon Kayak National Team Trials

June 11th & 12th

Sponsorship Opportunities:

\$500
company logo on kayaks & t-shirt
listed as title sponsor on media releases booth space at finish line

\$100
Booth space at finish line
listed in media releases & t-shirt

\$50
listed in media releases

Saturday 11th:

8:00am K-1/ c-1 Race start
11:00am Rec open fun race starts
12:00 noon Lunch @ Crooked River Lodge
1:00 pm Kids race @ Crooked River Lodge

Sunday 12th:

8:00am K-2/ c-2 start
3:00pm Open water tour of the bay
(Surfskis, SUP's, Outriggers, and sea kayaks)

Top two finishers in each category are eligible to represent the US at the World Championships in Brandenburg Germany.

For the **FIRST** time, the NATIONAL CANOE AND KAYAK MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS will be held in the State of Michigan. "The Boat Club" and Emmet County is proud to host this exciting event. Racers from around the country will be vying for their spot on this years National team. The race is a grueling 30km course complete with 5 portages. The racer will start at Camp Petosega on Pickerel Lake and finish at the Crooked River Lodge in Alanson.

The proceeds to this race will help us start a local paddling club that will help introduce this sport to our community.

TAX Deductible !!!

For More Information:
Steve Corlew
(231) 420-2381
steveausable@yahoo.com
Website: www.usack.org
Register at: <https://paddleguru.com>
[Scorlewtheboatclub.wix.com/2016](https://www.scorlewtheboatclub.wix.com/2016)

BLACK HOLE TIDBITS

- A big "Thank You!" to Jan Quaine for the many hours volunteering her time entering Tip of the Mitt Plant Study Project data. We enthusiastically are awaiting a final report. Good news is that there is no indication of Eurasian Milfoil!
- Ray McMullen and his hearty Invasive Species Committee will be working this summer to treat Curly Leaf Pondweed on Crooked Lake. Ray, committee, and our many shoreline and boat launch monitors are constantly on the lookout for invasive species!
- The PCLA has been trading newsletters and bulletins with Burt Lake Preservation and Douglas Lake Improvement Association.
 - * Mullett Lake Area Preservation Society, P.O. Box 517, Topinabee, Mi. 49791
 - * Burt Lake Preservation Association, P.O. Box 632, Indian River, Mi. 49749
 - * Douglas Lake Improvement Association, P.O. Box 472, Pellston, Mi. 49769

Our Business Members provide additional support to the P.C.L.A. Please utilize their services and thank them!!

- Breezy Shores Property Owners Association
- Coldwell Banker Fairbairn Realty www.fairbairnrealty.com
- Conway Storage
- Countryside Realty
- Crooked Lake Yacht Club www.crookedlakeyc.org
- Crooked Vine Vineyard & Winery www.crookedvinewine.com
- Edward Jones Investments-Dan Ledingham www.edwardjones.com
- Key Printing and Design www.keyprintinganddesign.com
- Little Traverse Conservancy www.landtrust.org
- Maple River Resort
- Music Makers of Petoskey, Inc dward@charter.net
- Northern Periodontics & Implant Dentistry www.nperio.com
- Onaway Family Dentistry www.onawayfamilydentistry.com
- Ryde Marine www.rydemarine.com
- Stafford's Crooked River Lodge www.staffords.com/CrookedRiver
- Tigerlillys www.tigerlillysflowers.com



PCLA

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To Honor & Remember



Plasencia, Dan & Karen in memory of Chuck Bayless
Timothy Welcer in memory of Chuck Bayless
Ryde Marine in memory of Merrick McCarthy
Mary Ann Tubbs in memory of Morris & Patricia Tubbs
Nannie Turrell in memory of Jean Flach Turrell
Michael & Jennifer Sturgis in memory of Delores & Fredrick Leaman
Dale N LePage, in memory of Rose Marie Lepage
Mitchell D & Janet M Quaine, in memory of Chuck Bayless
Ken & Brenda Tewel, in memory of Billie & Ray Montgomery
Robert & Melinda Sherman, in memory of Joseph Rippe
Charles G & Christine N Kneese, in Memory of Dave Williams
James L & Corrinne, Jr. Niland, in memory of Don Ryde
Susan Bayless, in memory of Chuck Bayless
Kathleen Kurtz, in memory of Wayne Fairbairn Jr & Sr
Douglas W & Mary C Fry, in memory of Chuck Bayless & Dee Rohelie
Susannah M Goff, in memory of Richard E Goff
George & Mary Stancel, in memory of Karl & Helen Wiepking
Gail & Daniel May, in memory of Frank & Jessie Lambert



Support PCLLA

LICENSE PLATE

As you can see we have updated our license plate. The price will be \$11 or \$16 to have it mailed. We are excited about this new product because it represents our 50th Anniversary logo. The price has been changed on our renewal form.



PCLLA LOGOWEAR

It is still possible to order shirts and hats with the PCLLA logo on it. You can go to <http://www.personalgraphicsonline.com/> Pick out a shirt or hat you like and ask them to put the PCLLA logo on it. You can also contact Personal Graphics at 231-347-6347 they can help you by phone.

Shrink-Wrap Recycling

Remember that it is good to recycle your shrink-wrap after taking it off of your boat this spring. Be sure to remove any wood or metal items from the plastic as well as any leaves or other plant matter before bundling the plastic for recycling. Nylon strapping, tape and plastic zippers can stay with the shrink-wrap. The shrink-wrap should then be bundled up in a sleeping bag shape. Strips of the shrink-wrap can be used to tie it up. For more information contact Lindsey Walker at the Emmet County Recycling Center at 231-348-0648 or talk to your local Marina.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The annual membership meeting will be held at the Inland Water Route Historical Museum on August 6, 2016, at 9:00 AM. Coffee and snacks will be served at 8:30 AM. We hope you will join us to hear an overview of what we have done and hope to accomplish. It is your time to talk to the board about your concerns and present questions you may have. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

We will have our annual Meet and Greet sometime this summer. Details will be posted on our website as soon as it is scheduled. We will also, be sending this information to all members that have provided their email address to us. This is a nice opportunity to meet and get to know your neighbors who have a common interest in the preservation of our two lakes.

If you would like to be added to our email list, please send your request to Gail May (danielmay@sbcglobal.net).