



January 1, 2021

Dear Lake Sherwood Property Owner,

**Dues are \$385 this year.** Below is the 2021 Dues statement. These Dues cover the period from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. Your Dues pay for maintenance and improvements to Lake Sherwood as well as the area grounds. The 2021 budget was approved at the October 2020 General Membership meeting. The approved Dues for 2021 amount to \$385.00 per lot, an increase of \$50 over 2020 (primarily to fund replacement of the seawall around Skiers Island).

**New due date - February 28, 2021.** There will be no second notice. **Any dues not paid by March 30, 2020 will have late charges of \$50 applied.** As per the By-Laws, the LSA Board of Directors reserves the right to file a lien on any property with unpaid Dues and pass the charges on to the member. Further, ramp access to or from the lake will not be given to any homeowner who has not paid their Dues. If you want to launch your boat, you need to pay your Dues beforehand. Please allow approximately 1 week from the time you mail your payment until the payment is recorded with the Association.

**No Dues collection at the ramp.** Again this year, we will not accept Dues payments at the boat launch.

**New electronic payment option.** We recently implemented another option to pay your dues. We will be able to accept electronic payments in two forms, credit card or ACH, through our bank (PNC). A step-by-step process is available by going to <https://www.payerexpress.com/ebp/LakeSherwood/> or go to the Lake Sherwood web page ([www.lake-sherwood.org](http://www.lake-sherwood.org)). This option will be available on January 22 and after. A convenience fee will be charged. If paying by credit card, the total amount due is \$400. If paying by ACH/electronic transfer, the total amount due is \$388. It is your responsibility to pay the appropriate amount on the secured PNC website and assure funds are available.

**Lake front owners – Please submit your goose/swan management petition.** Original, signed petitions are required using the enclosed form (also available on the LSA website), and must be mailed to the LSA PO Box or hand-delivered to your Area Representative. (Sorry, our *government does not accept electronic petitions.*)

**Off-water property owners – The A-Lot registration form is attached.** Please submit your form to either the LSA PO Box or eMail it to Linda Gepper at [lwgepper@gmail.com](mailto:lwgepper@gmail.com). (Yes, we accept these forms electronically)

We appreciate the support of all property owners in the task of maintaining Lake Sherwood's assets and keeping Lake Sherwood a desirable place to live. Please help the volunteers by paying your Dues timely.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors  
Lake Sherwood Association, Inc.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Mail Payments to:  
Lake Sherwood Association, Inc.  
P. O. Box 63  
Milford, Michigan 48381

**2021 Amount Due: \$385.00 by check, \$400 if using a credit card, \$388 if paying by ACH/electronic payment**

## Lake Sherwood Membership Survey Update

Last year, you responded to a “satisfaction” survey. The results were highly encouraging, and your verbatim comments have provided valuable insight for methods to further improve your satisfaction.

You showed highest satisfaction for the Boat Ramp (91%), Fish Stocking (85%), Island Maintenance (80%), and Trespasser Control (75%). While satisfaction is highest in these categories, we continue to look for improvements. This communication will focus on the remaining categories, which also had positive satisfaction ratings (albeit at lower values) – Weed Control (70%), Shore Erosion (65%), Boating Rules (64%).

The verbatim responses under **Weed Control** reflect the challenging balance to provide habitat for fish and other wildlife versus the ideal to swim in clean, safe, and visually pleasing waters. To assist in managing this balance, the Board is restoring regular limnology testing and will be creating artificial structures for fish habitat.

The verbatim responses to **Shore Erosion** had numerous critical comments about large wakes and a handful of comments directed to the need to improve sea walls. A couple of years ago, the Board conducted discussions with wake/surf boat owners and with main lake front property owners. The result of those discussions was **guidance that wake/surf boat activities should strive to maintain operation no closer than 400 feet from shore and avoid circular, multiple runs. This means wake/surf surfing should occur in a linear north-south or south-north run through the middle of the main lake.** The survey comments indicate some compliance to this guidance has been noted. Continued and increased compliance is needed as shore/property damage is the legal responsibility of the boater, not the lake front property owner. Further, new sea walls are very costly (\$20-30,000 per property owner; approaching \$100,000 per small island), with no guarantee to abate the damage risks.

With respect to **Boating Rules**, the verbatim comments identify inappropriate use of docking lights, disobeying the No Wake zones, non-compliance with the counterclockwise traffic flow, and other navigation hazards (e.g., swim raft location) as the most common complaints. It is everyone’s responsibility to avoid tragedy and protect Lake Sherwood’s reputation.

You can help in the 1<sup>st</sup> two of our four-step engagement process to address the wake/boating rule issues:

1. **Education** – Our Lake Safety managers are developing a renewed education effort. When you see notification of their education forum, please attend and encourage others to attend... particularly new residents and other neighbors who may have previously displayed unsafe behaviors or disregard of No Wake zones.
2. **See something, say something** - If you observe non-compliant activity, say something. If possible, politely bring it to the attention of the surfer/boater/homeowner. If not possible or if the offender is not responsive, take a photo of the violation and the boat’s MC number or address. Give this information to our Lake Safety managers – Brandon Leslie (248-210-4492) and Nick Polcyn (248-863-8410).
3. **A Knock on the Door** - Repeat offenders will receive a neighborly knock on the door. Face-to-face dialogue has proven to be effective in the past.
4. **Escalation to Oakland County Sheriff’s Marine Patrol** – Non-responsiveness has consequences.

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So, this year’s survey boils down to one annual question: If you are not already receiving your dues letter via eMail or not receiving LSA eMail communications from Martha Klemmer, please check the appropriate box:

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not presently receiving my dues letter via eMail, but want eMail notice in lieu of USPS mail.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not presently receiving LSA eMail communications from Martha Klemmer, but want them.

If so, please provide your name \_\_\_\_\_ and eMail \_\_\_\_\_

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Your comments are welcomed and encouraged: \_\_\_\_\_