

Welcome to



Wall Lake

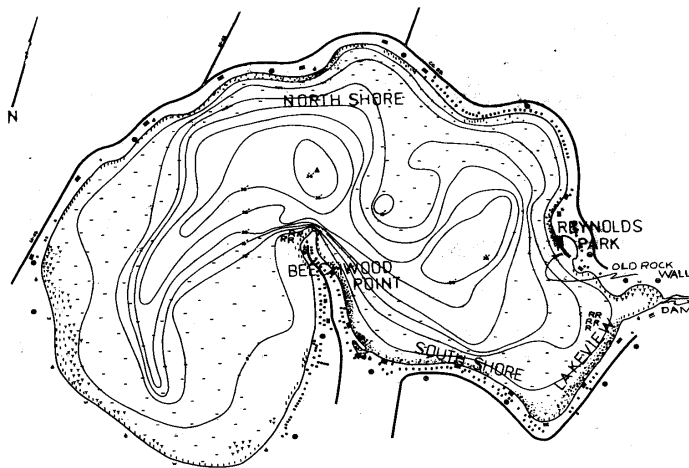
WALL LAKE is a resource that is shared by many people. Consequently, the preservation of its beauty is a responsibility to be shared by everyone young and old.

Shape. Size. Depth

WALL LAKE is a beautiful, crescent-shaped body of water that lies in Hope Township, Barry County, Michigan. Its size is approximately 540 acres and its average depth is about fifteen to twenty feet. There are some locations in the lake with a depth of about thirty-six feet. Approximately three-hundred twenty homes surround the lake.

Why the Name

Legend has it that the lake derived its name from the Pottawatomie Indians who had built a wall to aid in harvesting fish. The Indians would drive fish through openings in the wall into shallow water, thus making the catching of the fish easier. The wall, located on the northeast shore, was removed in 1963.



Greater Wall Lake Association

In 1961, the GREATER WALL LAKE ASSOCIATION was formed to foster a spirit of cooperation among the lake residents, to encourage the preservation of the natural beauty of the lake, and to promote safe and enjoyable use of our valuable, common resource.

The Association has been involved in legal matters such as blocking a major channel dredging project; successfully convinced Hope Township to adopt a "keyhole" ordinance; treatment of lake weeds and yearly trash pickup for all residents.

Another recent project was to bring a sewer system to Wall Lake by working with neighboring lake associations. Those who have lived on the lake can see a noticeable improvement in water clarity and quality

The Association is governed by a sixteen-member Board of Directors who are elected for two-year terms at the annual meeting of the Association held in June each year. The sixteen directors elect the officers of the Association. Elected officers are president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

Membership to the Association is open to any property owner on or adjacent to the lake. The lake is divided into two sections for membership representation:

- 1. NORTHWEST SIDE** - Beginning at the outlet dam, that area along the North Shore, Cordes Road, M- 43, and ending at Old Brickyard Road.
- 2. SOUTHEAST SIDE** - Beginning at the outlet dam, Lakeview Drive, Harrington Road, Eddy Road, ending at Old Brickyard Road.

Each of the above-described areas have eight representatives to the Board of Directors.

Dues

Dues are established in June for the following year at the Association annual meeting. Dues take effect on January 1 and are payable by March 1. At present (2003), annual dues are \$35.00 . Dues must be paid to be eligible to vote at the annual meeting!

Fishing on Wall Lake

Wall Lake offers fisherpersons a variety of pan-fish, bass and walleye. In the late 1970's our "Fish Committee" stocked the lake with walleye. They continue to grow into nice catch-able (and edible) size.

Weed Control

Beginning in 1989, the pesky weed, Eurasian Milfoil, found its way into Wall Lake. If left unchecked, this weed would have quickly taken over large sections of our lake and made them unusable for any form of recreational activity.

A committee was formed to study the problem and as a result, lakefront residents / riparians agreed to create a Special Assessment District (SAD) to fund this program. The SAD is currently billed through tax assessment for 3 years. Please do your part by limiting nutrient input into the lake and using ONLY environmentally safe fertilizer.

Controlling the Milfoil is a long-term lake management issue. The committee will continue to monitor the weed situation and apply treatments as needed.

Courtesy to other Boaters

Rules and regulations governing the use of the lake are dictated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Because lake residents, guests, and renters have used the lake in a courteous, friendly, and cooperative manner in the past, no special regulations applying to WALL LAKE have been necessary.

The Association has the following suggestions concerning lake usage:

1. Powerboats should take care that they do not interfere with sailboat races or fishing boats.
2. When the lake is crowded, powerboats should follow the DNR recommendation of moving in a counter- clockwise pattern, especially when pulling skiers.
3. Renters of vacation houses and guests of residents should treat the lake with respect.
4. Since sound travels much farther over water, be aware of the fact that loud noises (radios, barking dogs) may be more annoying than usual.

Most important, be courteous to everyone.



Wall Lake Loon - April 20, 2003

WALL LAKE YACHT CLUB

The WALL LAKE YACHT CLUB has been in existence since 1953. The purpose is to promote the fun and friendship of sailing. Currently two classes of boats participate in races held Saturday (11:00 A.M.) and Sunday (1:00 P.M.) from Memorial weekend through Labor Day weekend

-Sunfish and Snipes.



Sunfish Class



Snipe Class

Several non- sailing social events are also planned during the summer season. Dues are \$10.00 for a family social membership and \$15.00 per boat.

**Membership in the Wall Lake Yacht Club is open to all lake residents.
Come Join Us for a quiet peaceful sail !!**

Aids to Lake Preservation

Your Association offers the following items to consider to preserve the lake and your enjoyment.

1. **Do** trim tree branches overhanging the water.
2. **Do** respect the lake and your neighbors around the lake.
3. **Don't** fertilize your lawn using standard fertilizer, use ONLY environmentally safe fertilizers.
4. **Don't** put grass clippings and leaves into the lake – we have plenty of vegetation already in the lake.
5. **Don't** burn near the edge of the water, smoke and ashes will drop into the lake causing additional pollutants to be introduced into the lake.
6. **Don't** burn leaves or wood when the wind will carry smoke over the water.
7. **Don't** use soaps or detergents to wash your bodies, hair, dogs, screens, etc., in the lake.
8. **Don't** throw any items into the lake.
i.e. cigarette butts, beverage containers, glass, food wrappers, etc.
9. **Don't** leave docks, ice fishing houses, etc. in / on the lake over the winter, the ice will take it out in the spring and leave debris in the lake.
10. **Do** remove all docks and ice fishing houses in 'plenty of time', so the ice does not destroy them and leave debris in and under the water.

ABOVE ALL, DONT *DO IT* IN THE LAKE!

Lake Laws & Basic Safety

Excellent lake information is available at:

<http://michigan.gov/dnr>



THE COMPLETE Handbook of Boating Rules is available online at:

<http://boat-ed.com/mi/handbook/>

Who Needs to Take Boater Safety?

http://michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10365_10884-37311—,00.html

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

The following rules apply to boaters:

- A person who is 12 but less than 14 may operate a personal watercraft / jetski if he or she obtained a boating safety certificate before January 1, 1999.
- Persons born after December 31, 1978 shall not operate a personal watercraft / jetski unless they obtain a boating safety certificate.
- The operators of a personal watercraft / jetski must carry their boating safety certificate and display it upon the demand of a peace officer.
- Keep **100** foot distance from docks, swim rafts and anchored boats.
- DO NOT travel between rafts and docks / shoreline. You can not tell if kids are just beneath the surface or under a raft or dock.

To report problems or get information contact:

DNR District 12 Office
621 N. 10th Street
Plainwell, Michigan 49080
(269) 685-6851
<http://michigan.gov/dnr>

Basic Boating Rules

Power vs. Power, Power vs. Sail

Give way! Give way!

Give way!

Give way!

Give way!

Give way!

Give way! Give way!

Overtaking Another Boat

- **Power vs. Power:** The vessel which is overtaking another vessel is the give-way boat.
 - The vessel being overtaken is the stand-on boat.
- **Power vs. Sail:** The powerboat is the give-way boat.
 - The sailboat is the stand-on boat.

Environmental Considerations of PWC

When operating your PWC always be considerate of the effect you may have on the environment.

Do not operate a PWC in shallow water (less than 24 inches deep). Bottom sediments or aquatic vegetation can be sucked into the water pump and damage your PWC and the environment.

Avoid creating a wake which can cause erosion when operating near shore or in narrow streams or rivers.

Do not dock or beach your PWC in reeds and grasses. This could damage fragile environments.

Who May Operate a PWC / Jetski

No one less than 12 years old may legally operate a PWC (Personal WaterCraft).

A person who is 12 or more and less than 14 years of age may operate a PWC **only if:**

- He or she obtained a boating safety certificate prior to January 1, 1999

or...

- **All of the following conditions are satisfied:**

- The person is accompanied solely by his or her parent or legal guardian.
- Both the person and the parent or legal guardian have obtained a boating safety certificate.

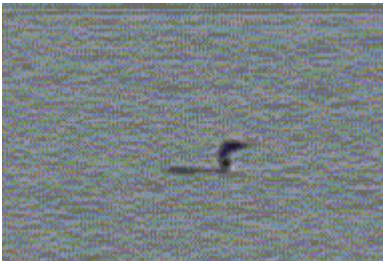
- The PWC is equipped with a lanyard-type ignition safety switch and the parent or legal guardian has the lanyard attached to his or her person, clothing or PFD (life jacket).
- The PWC is designed to carry at least two people.

Those 14 years of age or older:

- A person born after December 31, 1978, may operate a PWC only if he or she has obtained a boating safety certificate.
- Those born December 31, 1978, or earlier may operate a PWC without restrictions.

Common Courtesy for Everyone

1. Be sure any guest / renter knows the 'Rules of the Lake', ultimately it may be your responsibility.
2. Powerboats and personal watercraft / jetski should take care that they keep clear and do not interfere with sail boat races, fishing boats , or with other boats on the lake. KEEP YOUR (100 foot) DISTANCE!
3. Because we have many walkers, runners and children on roads surrounding the lake, please be courteous and observe care while driving the roads.
4. Noise on and around the lake travels great distances, please be considerate during normal 'quiet times" (11:00 P.M. – 7:00 A.M.)
5. Wash boat and trailer, check for weeds attached to boat, motor and trailer. The milfoil probably came into the lake as a dried weed which dropped off and began to spread.
6. Ask your guests and renters to also check their equipment.
7. Zebra mussels are becoming a major problem in many lakes. If you or a guest use other lakes, wash the boat and trailer, then allow time to COMPLETELY DRY before putting it into Wall Lake.



Created by the Wall Lake Association
for the Riparians of Wall Lake

Contact us at: GWLA
Delton MI. 49046
Or see a representative who lives near you.

Revised 2003