



Hess Lake



Improvement Association Newsletter

P.O. Box 239 • Newaygo, MI 49337-0239 • www.hesslake.com

SPRING 2025

Greetings!

Welcome back to all our winter travelers, and for those of us who stayed, we made it through the season! It seemed like a long winter, so let's hope for a long, hot summer ahead.

We look forward to an active summer filled with the meet and greet, picnic, cornhole tournament, band party, and all the regular weekend activities around the lake.

We continue to explore new offerings and ideas for our association members. One item you'll hear more about in the coming weeks is the re-establishment of our Neighborhood Watch Program. If you have any ideas or events you'd like us to explore, please reach out to your zone representative or myself.

Along with the fun comes some work, too. As you return to the lake this Spring, please help keep leaves, limbs, and grass clippings from entering the lake, ensuring a pristine environment for everyone to enjoy.

Thank you for your continued support and membership. If you are new to the lake, we welcome you to join our association.

Brian Meyer, HLIA President

(517) 243-8764

brianmeyer@comcast.net

Please Pay Membership Dues

HOW TO PAY:

Online:

www.hesslake.com

Attend:

Meet n Greet Event on May 24th
Location: Smuggler's at North Shore

Call or Email:

Your Zone Rep

Send Payments to:

HLIA: Po Box 239 Newaygo, MI 49337



Membership Cost:
\$30.00

Additional donations are accepted
and appreciated for
Wildlife Projects, Special Events, etc

In Memoriam: Remembering Rick Rickner

We're saddened by the loss of longtime Hess Lake resident Rick Rickner, who passed away on March 27, 2025. Rick continued putting up Hess Lake Yard Sale signs each year in memory of his friend Ken Holtrop, who passed in 2008. Both friends were dedicated to our community and will be missed.

Rick's commitment to the yard sale event in honor of Ken will be long remembered by Hess Lake residents.

Many thanks to **JNR Waterfront Services** with their help of the lake's safety buoys. We appreciate your continued support!"



GOOSE NESTS

Geese have started nesting ~

If you see nests or eggs,
please contact:

Jerry Swendrowski
(231) 519-1139

LEAVES & GRASS CLIPPINGS

The **DNR** highly discourages dumping leaves and grass clippings into a lake, river, wetland, or other body of water. Leaves, grass clippings and similar debris add toxic nutrients to the water that use up precious oxygen as they decompose.

Aquatic organisms need that oxygen!!

**Please pass this information on to your
Lawn Maintenance Companies as well.



Hess Lake Improvement Association

2025 Monthly Meeting Dates:

Thursday, May 8 @ 6pm
 Thursday, June 12 @ 6pm
 Thursday, July 10 @ 6pm
 Thursday, August 14 @ 6pm
 Thursday, September 11 @ 6pm



Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 14th @ 9am

Hess Lake Board (HLB) 2025 Meeting Dates:

April 22
July 22
September 16

9:30 am

Drain Commissioners Office
 White Cloud, MI

HLIA Meetings Location: Brooks Twp Hall - Newaygo, MI
Brooks Township Hall - Newaygo, MI

HLIA Zone Representatives

	Rep Name	Phone #:	Email:	Term
Zone 1	Larry Hohs	517-410-0682	larry.hohs@gmail.com	2023 - 2026
Zone 2	Betty Pennington	231-452-6619	kimberlypreston@gmail.com	2022 - 2025
Zone 3	Grant Bryan	616-292-4383	bryanstv10@gmail.com	2023 - 2026
Zone 4	Mark Breen	616-570-3894	mdbreens@yahoo.com	2022 - 2025
Zone 5	Katherin Farwell	616-581-1771	thearkby2@gmail.com	2024 - 2027
Zone 6	Mary Spicer	616-780-1074	maryspicer21@yahoo.com	2024 - 2027
Zone 7	Dale Dozeman	616-307-8589	daledozeman@aol.com	2024 - 2027

OFFICERS

Term Expires:

Zone Rep Alternates 2024-2025

President	Brian Meyer	2027	Nancy Calvi	616-540-4095	nancycalvi813@gmail.com
Vice President	Mary Spicer	2027	Bart Calvi	616-340-7016	bartcalvi@gmail.com
Treasurer	Nanci Calvi	2026	John Eichler	734-368-0411	john.eichler@frontier.com
Secretary	Paul Dennis	2026	Paul Dennis	616-813-1188	pdennis1955@gmail.com
			Brian Meyer	517-243-8764	brianrmeyer@comcast.net
Media Coordinator	Mary Spicer	Ongoing			

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Hess Lake currently has an overpopulation of catfish, which means there are too many catfish living in the lake. This can lead to an imbalance in the lake's ecosystem, affecting the health and well-being of other aquatic species and their habitats. It's essential to address this issue to ensure that our lake remains a thriving environment for all fish and wildlife.



The HLIA recommends that fishermen catching catfish consider keeping their catch rather than releasing them back into Hess Lake. This suggestion is in line with guidance from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Fisheries Division, aimed at managing the lake's catfish population effectively.
 *Please know and understand the legal limits

SPRING CLEAN-UP

~ It's time to clean up around our Lake ~

Please consider taking time
 To help clean up trash along
 the road near your homes / cottages.

News from the Hess Lake Board – HLB 2025

Watershed Management: In 2024, several lake board members accompanied county drain commissioner Dale Twing on a tour of the Wheeler Drain. Although there is some farming activity near the drain, much of the land along the drain is wooded or fallow and not being actively farmed. While erosion is occurring in the lower stretches on the drain near the lake, the drain office is conducting periodic clean-outs of the large sediment basin at the mouth of the drain to prevent sediment wash into Hess Lake. Overall, the drain does not currently appear to be having a major adverse impact on lake water quality.

Fisheries Management: We are planning to stock bluegills to improve fishing and to help reduce the carp population (bluegill eat carp eggs).

Aquatic Plants: Rooted plants are important in that they help sustain a healthy fishery and stabilize bottom sediments. To evaluate plant growth in Hess Lake, biologists from Progressive Companies will be conducting plant surveys in May, June, July, and August.

Water Quality Monitoring: Samples will be collected this year over the deep basin in the lake and compared with historical sampling results. Phosphorus and chlorophyll levels (an indirect measure of algal abundance) will be tested.

To find out more about lake board activities, visit www.hesslakeimprovementboard.org.

2025 Dates to Remember

Saturday, May 24th

MEET & GREET

9am - 10:30am

Location: Smuggler's of North Shore (Patio)

- Pay your Membership Dues
- Receive Membership Sign
- Meet the Leadership Team and your Zone Reps

THANK YOU!



Saturday, June 21st

Corn-hole Tournament & Band Party

Corn-hole Tournament : **1pm**
 Location: 1622 E 88th St (Coppock)

\$10 per person

To Register:

Email: contacthesslake@gmail.com
 Text: **Nancy Calvi (616) 540-4095**

Band Party (Sonimanic): 6pm

Location: 9046 Wellington (Heinz)

*LOOK FOR EVENT SIGNS (ROAD SIDE)

RING OF FIRE - Friday, July 4th @ 10pm

Flares will be sold at the All American North Country Store
**Proof of HLIA Membership not required*

BOAT PARADE - Friday, July 4th @ Noon
 ~ Choose your own Theme ~
 Register by - July 3rd to be eligible for a prize

To Register, Contact: **Brian Meyer**
brianmeyer@comcast.net (517) 243-8764

Hess Lake Yard Sales

June 6th & 7th

&

August 8th & 9th

Saturday, August 16th

HLIA Membership Pic-Nic

12pm - 2pm

Location: TBD

Hess Lake Improvement Association - 2025 Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
MAY			
Thursday, May 8th	6pm	HLIA Monthly Meeting	Brooks Twp Hall
Saturday, May 24th	9am-10:30am	Meet & Greet	Smuggler's at North Shore (Patio)
JUNE			
June 6th - June 7th		Hess Lake Yard Sales	
Thursday, June 12th	6pm	HLIA Monthly Meeting	Brooks Twp Hall
Saturday, June 14th	9am	HLIA Annual Meeting	Brooks Twp Hall
Saturday, June 21st	1pm	Corn-hole Tournament	1622 E 88th St (Heinz / Coppock)
Saturday, June 21st	6pm	Band Party - Sonimanic	9046 Wellington (Heinz/ Coppock)
JULY			
Friday, July 4th	12pm	Boat Parade	Meet at the Dam 11:45am
Friday, July 4th	10pm	Ring of Fire	Flares sold at: All American North Country Store
Thursday, July 10th	6pm	HLIA Monthly Meeting	
AUGUST			
August 8th - 9th		Hess Lake Yard Sales	
Thursday, August 14th		HLIA Monthly Meeting	Brooks Twp Hall
Saturday, August 16th	12pm	Membership Picnic	TBD
SEPTEMBER			
Thursday, September 11th	6pm	HLIA Monthly Meeting	Brooks Twp Hall

HESS LAKE ZONE BOUNDARIES

Zone 1:	East 88th Street: 1605 to 1844 Catalpa Ave: 9035 to 9593
Zone 2:	Hess Lake Drive: 1717 to 1989 Kathleen Street
Zone 3:	Hess Lake Drive: 1411 to 1661 Clearwater Steet & Peninsula Drive
Zone 4:	Hess Lake Drive: 941 to 1390
Zone 5:	Hess Lake Drive: 615 to 925 Redwood Drive: 9016 to 9394
Zone 6:	Redwood Drive: 8872 to 9011 East 88th Street: 745 to 1154
Zone 7:	East 88th Street: 1157 to 1596 Graves Drive, Parkwood Drive Lockwood Drive, Wellington Drive
<i>*If your address is missing from this list please please email: contacthesslake@gmail.com</i>	

HLIA COMMUNICATIONS

How to stay connected:

- ◆ Hess Lake Welcome Sign
- ◆ Email - Contacthesslake@gmail.com
- ◆ Website: www.hesslake.com
- ◆ Facebook:
[Hess Lake Improvement Association](#)
- ◆ Newsletters 



THANK YOU HLIA VOLUNTEERS FOR YOUR TIME AND YOUR REPRESENTATION!

PRE-SORT
STANDARD
NEWAYGO, MI
PERMIT NO. 8
ZIP CODE 49337

A LAKE FOR ALL SEASONS 

Hess Lake Improvement Association
P.O. Box 239
Newaygo, MI 49337-0239