Hess Lake Improvement Association Newsletter

P.O. Box 239 • Newaygo, MI 49337-0239 • www.hesslake.com Fall 2026

Here we are at the end of another busy and fun summer on Hess Lake!

It was another great year! We kicked things off with a wonderful Meet & Greet, enjoyed a Band Party and Cornhole Tournament, and had our best turnout yet at the Annual Membership Picnic!

Our Neighborhood Watch is back up and running strong, thanks to the many volunteers who have stepped up to help keep our community safe.

The Association continued its efforts to manage the goose population through the egg destruction program. We also had the opportunity to partner with the Hess Lake Board to stock fish in the lake this fall. Both of these efforts are funded entirely through our Wildlife Fund, made possible by the generous contributions of our residents. Thank you!

We're always looking for volunteers to help with events, new ideas for activities and programs! If you have suggestions, please reach out to your zone representative or any Association board member. Contact information can be found at www.hesslake.com.

Brian Meyer, HLIA President
(517) 243-8764
brianrmeyer@comcast.net





A lake community is like a family, connected by the shared love and care for the water that unites us. Together, we can build a safe and thriving environment for everyone to enjoy .

News from the Hess Lake Board

The Hess Lake Improvement Board has had another busy year working to protect and improve the health of Hess Lake! Throughout 2026, efforts focused on aquatic plant control, fisheries management, fish habitat improvements, water quality monitoring, and education.

Aquatic Plant Control
The goal of our aquatic plant control program is to reduce invasive species, such as Eurasian milfoil and curly-leaf pondweed, while protecting beneficial native plants.
In June, 12.25 acres of Eurasian milfoil were treated with herbicides, providing control throughout much of the growing season. During the July survey, two native plant species, Illinois pondweed and Chara, were observed in areas where they had not previously been documented. This is encouraging news for the health of our lake!

Septic System Pumping Incentive
The Hess Lake Improvement Board offered a $100 septic pumping rebate to the first 100 residents who applied. More than 40 residents have already taken advantage of this program! Proper septic system maintenance is an important part of protecting our lake's water quality.

Fish Stocking
Working with recommendations from DNR fisheries biologists, the Hess Lake Improvement Board is continuing efforts to diversify our fish population and help control carp reproduction.
This fall's fish stocking includes: **1,950 Yellow Perch** (5–7 inches), **1,950 Black Crappie** (4–6 inches), **2,250 Bluegill** (4–6 inches), stocked by the Hess Lake Improvement Association on October 2. These efforts are an investment in the long-term health of our lake and its fishery!

Fish Habitat Improvements
A demonstration project is underway to install woody fish habitat structures along two Hess Lake properties this fall. These structures are intended to help reduce wave action and water turbidity while creating valuable habitat for fish and aquatic plants. They will be designed so they do not interfere with boat navigation.
With assistance from MSU Extension and Progressive Companies, the project team will also apply for a grant through the Fremont Area Community Foundation. Once completed, residents will be able to see these improvements firsthand!

Water Quality Monitoring
Water quality sampling took place in August at three of Hess Lake's deeper basins. Testing included water temperature, dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll-a, water clarity, and total phosphorus. This information helps monitor the overall health of our lake and guide future decisions.

Looking Ahead
An annual report summarizing the aquatic plant community and water quality findings will be provided to the Hess Lake Improvement Board and posted this winter at www.hesslakeimprovementboard.org.

Thank you to everyone involved in these projects and to our residents who continue to support efforts to protect and improve Hess Lake.

Keeping Hess Lake healthy takes all of us!

Bart Calvi, President
Hess Lake Improvement Board



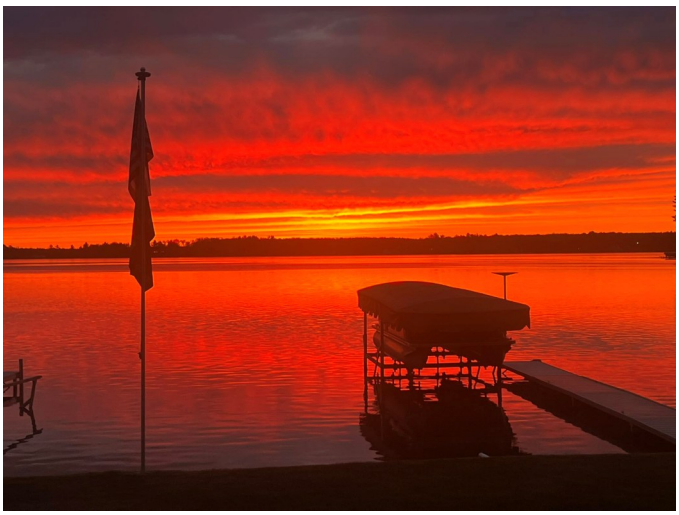


- Highlights of Summer 2026 -









Hess Lake Community -
Making Memories Together!

Hess Lake Improvement Association

2027 Monthly Meeting Dates

Tuesday, April 6 @ 6pm
Tuesday, May 4th @ 6pm
Tuesday, June 1st @ 6pm
Tuesday, July 6th @ 6pm
Tuesday, August 3rd @ 6pm
Tuesday, September 7th @ 6pm

Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 12th @ 9am

HLIA Meetings Location:
Brooks Township Hall - Newaygo, MI

Save the Date!

HLIA MEET & GREET EVENT

Saturday, May 29, 2027
9:00am - 11am
Location - Smuggler's at North Shore

- Pay your Membership Dues
- Receive Membership Sign & Decal/Sticker
- Meet the Leadership Team and your Zone Reps
- Continental Breakfast

HESS LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



Hess Lake 2027 Events

Save the Date

Proposed events – subject to approval at the April 6, 2027 meeting.

Date	Event
May 29	Meet & Greet
June 4 & 5	Yard Sales
June 19	Corn Hole Tournament / Band Party
July 4	Boat Parade
July 4	Ring of Fire
August 6 & 7	Yard Sales
August 14	Membership Picnic

GOOSE NESTS



Come Spring 2027 when geese start nesting,
if you spot any geese nests or eggs,
we kindly ask you to please contact:

Jerry Swendrowski
(231) 519-1139
swendog59@gmail.com

Hess Lake Neighborhood Watch Association (HLNWA) – 2026 Recap

Greetings from the Hess Lake Neighborhood Watch Association!

2026 has been another successful year for HLNWA! Our membership has grown to **313 members**, we launched **Operation Porch Light**, and our law enforcement partners provided a valuable safety training for our community.

Thanks to the involvement and support of our members, we continue to make a positive difference in keeping our Hess Lake community safe.

As we head into the fall and winter months, when some of our neighbors leave for warmer weather, we encourage everyone to remain vigilant. Keep an eye on your surroundings and report any suspicious activity to law enforcement.

If you're heading south for the winter, consider letting a trusted neighbor know and providing a contact number in case something comes up with your property.

A strong neighborhood watch starts with neighbors looking out for one another!

Thank you for your continued involvement and support. Stay safe and enjoy the rest of the year!

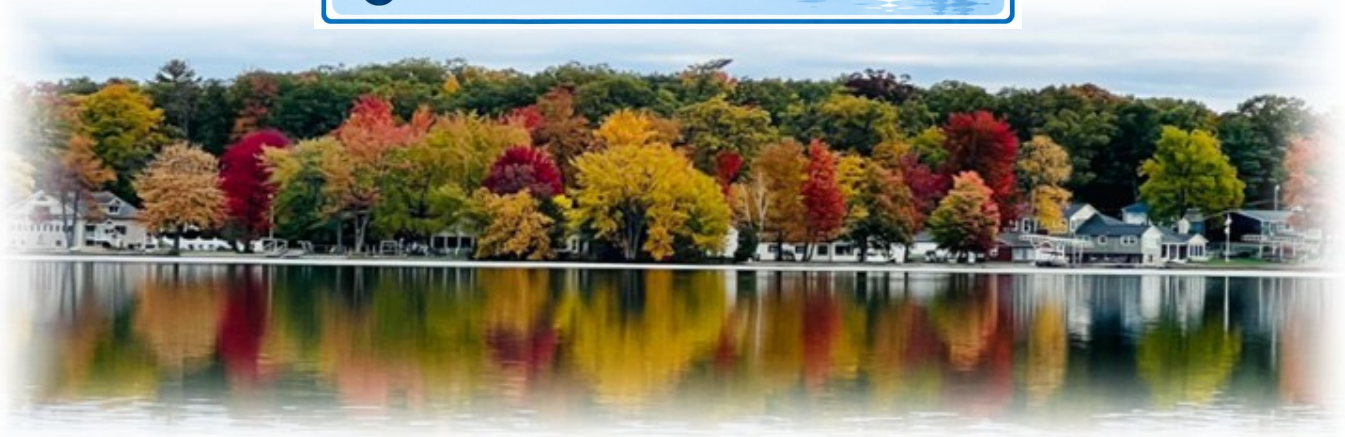
John Forner
HLNWA Director

"Good neighbors make a neighborhood. Caring neighbors make a community."



"Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much."

HELEN KELLER



HLIA Zone Representatives

Zone	Name	Phone	Email	Term
Zone 1	Larry Hohs	517-410-0682	larry.hohs@gmail.com	2026 - 2029
Zone 2	Barb Hemmeke	231-225-8065	barbarahemmeke@yahoo.com	2025 - 2028
Zone 3	*Open*	—	—	2026 - 2029
Zone 4	Jerry Swendrowski	231-519-1139	swendog59@live.com	2025 - 2028
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 (3 year terms)		Term Expires:
President	Brian Meyer	2027
Vice President	Mary Spicer	2027
Treasurer	Holly Coppock	2029
Secretary	Phyllis Sano	2029

Media Coordinator	Mary Spicer	*Ongoing*
Welcome Sign	Jerry Swendrowski	*Ongoing*

Zone Rep Alternates 2026-2027

Deb Coy	616-304-3866	dbvos@sbcglobal.net
Nancy Calvi	616-540-4095	nancycalvi813@gmail.com
Bart Calvi	616-340-7016	bartcalvi@gmail.com
Holly Coppock	616-745-2887	hcoppock@displaypack.com
Paul Dennis	616-813-1188	pdennis1955@gmail.com
Brian Meyer	517-243-8764	brianmeyer@comcast.net
PJ Bevelacqua	616-460-9019	pjjeep@gmail.com
Phyllis Sano	810-513-8536	psano514@aol.com
Grant Bryan	616-292-4383	bryanstv10@gmail.com
Janella Byrne	616-550-4766	janellahesslake@gmail.com

www.hesslake.com



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

HLIA COMMUNICATIONS
How to stay connected:

Hess Lake Welcome Sign
Look for the HLIA welcome sign at the lake entrances for community updates and important information.

Website: www.hesslake.com
Find the latest news, events, documents, and lake information.

Facebook: Hess Lake Improvement Association
Stay up to date with announcements, photos, and community discussions.

Newsletters
Get important updates, event details, and helpful information throughout the year.

Zone Reps
Your zone representatives help share information and keep our community connected.

A sincere
thank you
to the devoted HLIA volunteers
for your time and representation.
Your contributions are appreciated!
— Mary Spicer, Vice President